

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	<b><u>Page</u></b>
2023 Annual Meeting Minutes	2-3
Altar Guild Report	18
Auditor's Report	not submitted
Book Discussion Group Report	17
Budget 1/01/23-12/31/23 and Proposed 1/1/24-12/31/24	22-25
Christian Education Report	13
Church Council Report	8
Church Historian Report	16-17
Clerk's Report	19
Collector's Report	18
Cradle Roll Report	12
Diaconate Report	7
Hospitality Committee Report	17
Jamboree Report	not submitted
Ladies Benevolent Society Report	14
LBS Treasurer's Report	15
Memorial Committee Report	8
Music Committee Report	not submitted
Nominating Committee Report	5-6
Outreach Committee Report	9-11
Outreach Committee Treasurer's Report	11-12
Pastor's Report	3-4
Pastoral Relations Committee Report	not submitted
Refurbishment Committee Report	20-21
Society Committee Report	19-20
Stewardship Report	not submitted

**A great big heart-felt thank you to all the committee chairs who worked so hard to get their reports to me in a timely manner! I truly appreciate all your hard work.**

**Heidi Tucker  
Office Manager**

## **EWCC Annual Meeting** **Sunday, January 29, 2023**

The Call to the Annual Meeting was read by Kerstin Forrester, Moderator, at 11:02 am. Pastor Sue led the congregation in the Prayer for the Annual Meeting. Pastor Sue Foster read the Covenant for Working and Worshipping Together. There were approximately 40 people in attendance.

The **minutes** of the EWCC Annual Meeting from January 30, 2022, were reviewed. There was a comment to change from the word “acclimation” to “acclamation”. A motion was made by Christine Lessig and seconded. The minutes were accepted.

The **Pastor’s Report** –Report submitted. Pastor Sue expressed that she was extremely grateful to be the Pastor for EWCC.

The **Nominating Committee** gave their report and opened up nominations. Cherra Wheeler made a request to discuss the Nominating Report and John Davis seconded. Christine Lessig thanked everyone for volunteering and all the people who help on committees throughout the year. There is a need for people to serve on Nominating; Auditor, Society, and Christian Education. Mark Billings gave a shoutout to encourage people to serve on the Nominating committee. Kerstin Forrester stated that she would serve as an Auditor. After discussion, there was a vote to accept the slate of new committee members. **The Nominating Report was accepted by the congregation.**

Dawn Adiletta took over as the new Moderator.

**Deacons** – Report submitted. Jess Reed expressed thanks to Amy Hiller White. There is an opening for one more Deacon. Valerie Law asked if anyone would like to be trained as a videographer. It is not a big time commitment. Dawn Adiletta strongly recommended being a Deacon.

**Council** – Report submitted. Nothing to add.

**Memorial** – Report submitted. Nothing to add.

**Music** – Report submitted. Lynn Looby added a “thank you” to Nancy, Andy, Sarah Jo and the choirs for all of the time spent working on amazing music.

**Outreach Report** – nothing to add. Christine Lessig commented about the lengthy financial report and thanked everyone for their support to the committee throughout the year.

**Cradle Roll** – Report submitted.

**Christian Education** – Sherry Magnan thanked Jessica Weaver Boose for her hard work. She mentioned how Sunday school has been operating as a one-room schoolhouse including all ages together because numbers have been lower. There have been some brainstorming meetings to discuss strategies for increasing attendance. Anne Sorensen stepped down as the Youth Minister. Would like to have more youth activities. Would like to bring the Children’s Choir back and have more outreach activities.

**Youth Ministry** – Report submitted.

**Ladies Benevolent Society** – Report submitted. Kerstin Forrester made an announcement about the Holly Fair. She explained that the LBS’s mission is to acquire things for the church that aren’t in their budget. Kerstin invited everyone to join.

**Jamboree** - Report submitted. Lynn Looby put out a plea for help to run the Jamboree this year. The committee is looking for a chair, co-chair, or coordinators to plan the event. It is a wonderful opportunity for the church to shine and reach out and connect with the greater community.

**Historian** – Report submitted.

**Hospitality** – Report submitted.

**Book Discussion Group** – Report submitted.

**Altar Guild** – Report submitted.

**Collector** – Report submitted.

**Auditors** – Report submitted.

**Clerk** – Report submitted.

**Society** – Report submitted.

**Refurbishment subcommittee** – Report submitted.

**Budget discussion:** DeEtta Spalding explained that there are 2 new line items: 1. Subscriptions and 2. Outside Financial Review (this is not an audit. A report will be produced.)

**Motions:**

1. To accept the committee reports as presented. Christine Lessig made a motion. Jeff Wong seconded. **Motion was passed.**
2. To accept the budget as presented. Glen Lessig made the motion. Kerstin Forrester seconded. **Motion was passed.**
3. To allocate \$20,400 for housing allowance for Pastor Sue Foster from Feb. 1, 2023 to Jan. 31, 2024. Kerstin Forrester made the motion. Jeff Wong seconded. **Motion was passed.**

**VOTE:** The congregation was asked to vote on allocating the budget surplus in the amount of \$18,489.68. A motion was made by Glen Lessig to allocate \$3,182.77 to Outreach. Tom Stokes seconded the motion. **The motion passed.**

A motion was made by Glen Lessig to allocate \$15,306.91 to the maintenance reserve account. John Davis seconded the motion. **The motion passed.**

A motion was made by John Davis to adjourn the Annual meeting at 11:34. Seconded by Seth Spalding. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Armstrong, EWCC Council Clerk

## **Annual Report of the Pastor**

What will we remember from 2023?

- Will it be the soggy, rained-out Jamboree that evolved into a two-day event that nonetheless provided abundant fellowship and a significant boost to our budget? DeEtta Spalding, Judith Wong, Angela Young were among those listed as “not chairs” of the event, but they, together with literally scores of volunteers, made this beloved event a success.
- Will it be the record-breaking Holly Fair that is known not only for buckeyes, an amazing basket social, and abundant Christmas decorations but also for the warm feeling of hospitality and welcome. Donna Baldyga, Kerstin Forrester, and a host of volunteers and helpers made it all possible.
- Or perhaps the Arts and Crafts Fair organized by Karen McFarlin, making a welcome reappearance after being absent in the post-pandemic years. Both crafters and customers remarked on an uplifting atmosphere and the sense of joy that pervaded our building.
- Maybe we’ll remember our first ever “Breakfast Church” held in Fellowship Hall where we joined together to break bread and worship together. Anne Sorensen delighted us with her video recollection of the past year, and we enjoyed music from our bells and singers, thanks to the leadership of Andy Tomkins and Nancy Ducharme.

- Our annual women’s retreat reminded us that we are “Called to Grow” as we reflected on the parable of the fig tree in the beautiful setting of Camp Wightman.
- Perhaps the wonderful Christmas pageant comes to mind as a favorite memory – “Twinkle and the Bethlehem Star” highlighted the children of our church as well as our talented bell choir. Many thanks to Jessica Weaver Boose and Andy Tomkins for such a wonderful collaboration.
- Maybe our Christmas Eve services linger in your memory. It was a “marathon Sunday” with three services since Christmas Eve fell on a Sunday. Each service was unique and shared the hope and Good News of Christ’s birth. It was a pleasure to hear the children of the church share their musical talents and to welcome back “alumni” singers who filled our choir loft to overflowing. Our hard-working Deacons and Altar Guild were there to assure that everything ran smoothly, from the first joyous call to worship to the final candlelit moments of “Silent Night.”

Or perhaps there is not a single moment that stands out from the previous year, but rather a collective memory of the ministry of our church. Day after day, week following week, we endeavored to live and serve as the Body of Christ. We gathered for worship and shared one another’s joys and concerns. Weekly Bible study and weekly confirmation classes offered ways to learn, grow, and reflect on our faith. We offered one another support through our card ministry, prayer shawls, visits, prayers, and simply promising to be on the journey together. Our Outreach Committee ensured that meals were served through the Community Kitchen and groceries were offered through our First Friday Food Fair.

When there were times of sadness and loss, our congregation gathered to offer support, to host memorial receptions, and to stand as witnesses to God’s ever-present love. Our Quiet Christmas service acknowledged the reality of grief even during the holiday season and offered a reminder of God’s faithful presence and comfort. I give thanks and deep appreciation to our wonderful staff: Jessica Weaver Boose, Nancy Ducharme, Andy Tomkins, and Heidi Tucker. Their faithful effort, dedication, and creativity make it a pleasure to work together. And I am grateful to our congregation for living and working together to share the love and compassion of God in our Quiet Corner and far beyond.

**Additional activities of the pastor:**

- Member, Spiritual Care Advisory Committee at Day Kimball Hospital.
- Chaplain, Muddy Brook Fire Department
- Chair, Windham Association Committee
- Led a retreat to Iona, Scotland
- Led “Tuesday at Twilight” service at Roseland Park
- Shared reflections through my blog, [fosteringyourfaith.com](http://fosteringyourfaith.com)

Yours in Christ,



Rev. Dr. Susan J. Foster

# Nominating Report

## Officers for 02/01/2023 – 01/31/2024

**Council Chair:** Amy Hiller White

**Clerk:** Christine Armstrong

**Moderator:** Dawn Adiletta

**Treasurer:** DeEtta Spalding

**Assistant Treasurer:** Lynn Lobby

**Vice Chair:** \*Dorrie Scranton

**Assistant Clerk:** \*OPEN

**Collector:** John Davis

**Assistant Collector:** Kerstin Forrester

**Historian:** Mary Ellen Blake

## Committees for 02/01/2024 – 01/31/2025

Committee members may serve up to two 3-year terms (a total of 6 years) unless otherwise noted. Following is the list of current and proposed members for each committee noting which term and the year of that term they will be serving in the upcoming year.

Those who are in Term 1, Year 1 with an asterisk \* next to their name are being proposed as members for this year.

DEACONS (9)	Term	Year	SOCIETY (9)	Term	Year	STEWARDSHIP (6)	Term	Year
*Valerie Law	1	1	Chuck Warinsky	2	3	*Dawn Morin	1	1
Sherry Magnan	2	2	Rick Place	2	2	Jess Reed	2	3
Jennifer Griffin	2	2	Asa Scranton	1	3	Jaime Boisvert	2	2
Susan Converse	1	3	Judith Wong	1	3	Dee Harless (friend)	2	1
Mark Billings	1	2	Calvin Neely	1	2	Valerie Law	1	2
Anne Sorensen	1	2	*Glen Lessig	1	1	*OPEN	1	1
Taryn Tomkins	1	2	*Dawn Adiletta	1	1			
*OPEN	1	1	*Andy Heschles	1	1			
*OPEN	1	1	*Kerstin Forrester	1	1			
OUTREACH	Term	Year	OUTREACH (cont'd)	Term	Year	PASTORAL RELATIONS (6)	Term	Year
Diane Billings	2	3	Kerstin Forrester	1	3	Ed Baldyga	2	3
Pam Brown	2	3	Cris Waldron	1	3	Bob Rath	2	3
Andy Krofina	2	2	Donna Baldyga	1	2	Emily Murphy	2	2
Lynn Hescheles	2	1	Barbara Hackett	1	2	Mark Billings	1	3
Tom Stokes	2	1	*Peter Green	1	1	Valerie Law	1	2
Christine Lessig	2	1	*Karen Ryker	1	1	*Dorrie Scranton	1	1

MUSIC (5)	Term	Year	CHRISTIAN EDUC (6)	Term	Year	NOMINATING COMMITTEE (6) (Council appoints - max term of 3 yrs)	Term	Year
Lisa Reardon	2	3	Emily Nester (Friend)	1	3	*Bob Rath	1	1
Charlotte Davis	1	3	Karen McFarlin	1	2	Valerie Law	1	2
Dennis Kelly	1	2	*Emily Hayden	1	1	*Dorrie Scranton	1	1
Windsor White (Friend)	1	2	*OPEN			*Jessica Reed	1	1
*Jessica Reed	1	1	*OPEN					
Nancy Ducharme, Music Dir./Employee Andy Tomkins, Bell Choir Dir./ Employee			Jessica Weaver Boose CE Director/Employee					

ALTAR GUILD			AUDITORS (2) (Max one term of 3 years)	Year	JAMBOREE No Term Limit
Karin Tourtellotte	Term	Year	Jeff Wong	2	Donna Baldyga
Judy Schumacher			*Kerstin Forrester	1	Rob Brouillard
Laurie Edwards					Lynn Looby (Not Chair)
Mary Ellen Blake					DeEtta Spalding (Not Chair)
					Judith Wong
					Angela Young
					OPEN
					OPEN
HOSPITALITY			HOSPITALITY (Cont'd)		MEMORIAL COMM (no Term Limits)
No term limit at this time			Beth Baron		Judy Schumacher
Laurie Edwards (co-chair)			Charlotte Davis		OPEN
Diane Morin (co-chair)			Jill Sherman		
Nancy Young			Marilyn Rath		
Mary Ellen Blake			Barbara Hackett		
Marion Hallowell			Michele Connolly		
Barbara Morse			Windsor White (friend)		
Gail Lorentzen			Christine J Lessig		
Lynda Higgins					

# Annual Report of Deacons 2023

The deacons, under the guidance of Pastor Sue Foster, played an important role in supporting the spiritual and practical needs of the congregation while upholding the values and mission of the East Woodstock Congregational Church. This year brought the first full year of a return to normal after the pandemic. The deacons worked to increase engagement within the congregation and implemented the first annual "Breakfast Church" to promote fellowship and participation in the 2023 annual meeting. We took on a greater leadership role while allowing Pastor Sue to recuperate from a double-knee replacement by leading prayers, reading scripture, and assisting with special services when needed. Deacons also spent time this year evaluating the need for a larger security presence to keep our members safe at all times.

## Throughout the year:

- Provided both in person and online Sunday and special services.
- Assisted Pastor Sue in the administration of sacraments, particularly in the celebration of Communion on the first Sunday of each month and key holidays.
- Continued to support and make recommendations for the IT "crew" in order to provide the highest quality sound possible in person and online A/V experience for worshippers.

## January - March

- Hosted our first Breakfast Church in conjunction with the annual meeting
- Supported Jazz Sunday with great music, soups, and fellowship
- Assisted with Ash Wednesday
- Pastor Sue hosted over 90 people for women's breakfast at her home from January - March
- Assisted with the blessing of the prayer shawls
- Supported Tom Stokes on his mission trip to Guatemala
- Agreed that children who have made communion should stay during the service to receive. Sunday School should come in during the communion hymnal to avoid the distraction and noise when they enter.

## April - June

- Assisted with Easter Sunday services
- Supported Denise Esslinger who preached while Pastor Sue and members of the church attended the Iona Retreat April 19 - 29
- Combined meeting with First Church deacons to discuss summer schedule
- Memorial services for Bernice Sheldon, Dexter Young, Todd Looby, Holly Poh, Ethel O'Keefe
- Deacons would like society to look into security cameras for the church, Pastor Sue will look into active shooter training that may be combined with the First Church

## July - September

- Partnered with The First Congregational Church of Woodstock ("The Hill Church") for summer services.
- Supported Tuesday at Twilight on July 18 and July 25
- Assisted with Rally Day to kick off the start of the new Sunday School Year.

## October - December

- Assisted with the memorial services of Shirley Rapose and Devens Arnett
- Supported visiting ministers Tom Meyer, Marilyn Kendrix, and Denise Esslinger
- Assisted with Christmas Services including Quiet Christmas and Christmas Eve

**2023 Deacons include:** Mark Billings, Susan Converse, Jennifer Griffin, Sherry Mangan, Jessica Reed, Anne Sorensen, and Taryn Tompkin

We are grateful for the contributions of Jessica Reed as her Deacon term comes to a close.

## Council Annual Report 2023

During 2023, Council fulfilled its role as a “hub” for communication and collaboration between the committees of the church to best serve the needs of each committee, the congregation and the community. The council met approximately every six weeks throughout the year. Meetings were attended by each committee chairperson or representative. When attendance wasn’t possible, committee information was shared through on an online platform- (a Google document). Prior to each meeting, committee chairs were invited to add information to this “shared” document which all council members had access to and could read other’s contributions. This proved to be a very successful means to broaden communication between committees and to facilitate support of one another in the different aspects and areas of the church. Discussions included ways to achieve goals and addressed the needs of each committee. **THANK YOU** to all for your contributions to Council and for your role in our church life. Whether you are part of the spokes, the rim, or the hub - we are the wheels that make up our church. We journey together and are made stronger by our interconnectedness.

In gratitude,

Amy Hiller-White, Council Chair

### Memorial Committee Report

With love and appreciation, we acknowledge those members and friends listed in our Memorial Book in 2023:

Grace Harmon, Marilyn Sherman

The families have been notified of your gifts and a note of appreciation sent to the donors.

### EWCC Outreach Committee 2023 Annual Report

**The mission of the Outreach Committee is to share God’s love, hope and healing, and to support our neighbors. We serve as the outreach arm of our Church, soliciting, gathering, and distributing support of all kinds according to the needs of the members of our Church, the community, and the world. We believe in effecting change through hands-on community involvement, engaging our congregation to share in the joy and grace of generous giving.**

**(Outreach Mission Statement - adopted January 29, 2023)**

Each month, it is the habit of the Outreach Committee to start the meeting with some “food for thought.” Members volunteer to provide words from their reading/listening/ living. In January 2023, the following was offered by Karen Ryker at our meeting: ***“A person’s most useful asset is not a head full of knowledge but a heart full of love, an ear ready to listen, and a hand willing to help others.”*** (contemplative monk.com). The loving hearts, listening ears, and willing hands of our congregation make it possible for the Outreach Committee to fulfill its mission each year. For your compassion and generous giving, we thank you.

**One of the most exciting events of 2023 was that EWCC sent Tom Stokes and David Morse to Guatemala on a mission trip**, partnering with The South Woodstock Baptist Church and Hope for Tomorrow - Guatemala. Thanks to the generous giving of people in our congregation, we were able to provide \$1,000.00 for boots needed by the children and \$1,000.00 for medical supplies. We also have a fund set aside to help others who might want to join a future mission trip.



An amazing array of local, national, and international charities are supported by our church through the Outreach Committee. A listing of these can be found in the report of the Outreach treasurer, following this report. In addition to these gifts, Outreach's **on-going projects** strive to share God's love, hope, and healing.

Once again, in 2023, a great deal of energy and many resources were devoted to **food support** through the following activities:

**First Friday Food Fair** continues to be used by the community. After studying the patterns of our patrons, it was decided make the hours from 9-10. This change began in August. We appreciate the food donations from the congregation which keep this program in operation.

**Caring Continues** provides food for families of children in the Woodstock school system who need assistance. Dave Magee of The Evangelical Covenant Church is the coordinator of this program and requests specific foods as needed. Thanks to the donations of our congregation, we help keep the Caring Continues pantry well stocked. Lynn Hescheles and Donna Baldyga go every six weeks to pack the bags sent home with the children.

**Community Kitchen** - EWCC provides one meal a month for community kitchen at First Congregational Church. Since the guests started coming into the church to eat their meals, the number has been growing. We are now serving between 60 & 70 guests each week. Thanks to Kerstin Forrester, Barbara Hackett and their "crew" for coordinating and cooking.

**Freezer Meals** - Through our cooking nights and with the help of cooks in the congregation, Outreach maintains a supply of meals in our freezer that can be delivered to those experiencing illness or difficult circumstances.

**Take Them a Meal** - With the help of this web site, our congregation provided meals for two families who were undergoing challenging circumstances this past summer.

**TEEG - 'Supporting Wellness at Pantry' (SWAP)** - Our second annual 'Bring Your Cooler to Church Sunday' was held on May 7. Members of the congregation donated a total of 413.3 pounds of food. Outreach supplemented this with \$50 worth of macaroni and cheese and hamburger helper, as well as \$200.00 worth of dairy products. Thank you to all who participated in this amazing event.

**Thanksgiving Baskets** - Baskets full of food donated by the congregation and supplemented by Outreach were delivered to Covenant to Care (25) and local families (5). Well over 100 people were fed by the Covenant to Care baskets.

#### **OTHER ON-GOING OUTREACH PROGRAMS AND PARTNERSHIPS:**

**Covenant to Care for Children** - Liaison Pam Brown worked with social workers Jeanne Murphy and Matt Gilbert to facilitate a number of activities that provided for children and families in this program: - Easter Baskets were provided for 30 children - Thanksgiving Baskets were provided for 25 families - Christmas gifts were provided for 25 children Jeanne Murphy retired in December after many years of dedication to the children under her care. We will miss working with her, but look forward to partnering with her replacement, social worker Anna Rodriguez.

**WAIM (Windham Area Interfaith Ministries)** - Andy Krofina continues as our liaison with the organization and volunteers frequently at the office there. We had a workday on October 28 at WAIM staffed by our confirmands. Andy continues to bring items to WAIM from our congregation.

**Emergency Shelter/No Freeze Shelter** - Liaison Diane Billings continues to work with the shelter manager to help with their needs. There is a constant need for personal care items, so we appreciate items donated by the congregation. At Christmas the congregation provided gifts for 9 children/teens. Outreach provided gift cards to adults at the Emergency Shelter.

**Support Team** - Coordination of church member volunteers who assist church members with rides and other unusual or emergency needs.

**Domestic Violence Shelter** - The congregation provided Easter buckets for 7 children at Easter and gifts at Christmas for 7 children. They are still waiting for renovations to take place at the shelter. New or gently used towels can always be used by them.

**Prayer Shawls** made by members of our congregation continue to provide comfort and support to those going through difficult situations. Approximately 30 shawls were distributed this year. Thank you to Charlotte Davis for her leadership on this project.

**The Card Ministry** continues under the capable leadership of Pam Brown and Diane Billings. Approximately 35 cards per month are sent out to members and friends who are homebound, ill, mourning a loss, or just needing some cheer. Their encouragement is deeply appreciated by the recipients.

**TEEG** - In addition to the support provided on Cooler Sunday, we partnered with First Congregational church Woodstock and provided a whole carload of school supplies in August.

**LBGTQ** - This year our support of the LBGTQ community became more visible with the purchase of two banners - one hangs outside on our church building and the other on the inside in Fellowship Hall. In addition, we have a table in Fellowship Hall with a small lending library of books about LBGTQ issues.

**World Vision** - Our congregation continues the sponsorship of Alioune, a four-year old child from South Africa. Our contributions benefit both Alioune and his community.

**Kiva** - We continue to support four agricultural micro-businesses with \$25 loans through KIVA to low-income/underserved female entrepreneurs in Kenya, Sierra Leone, Guatemala, and Bolivia. These loans are paid back and reinvested to help alleviate poverty.

**PARR (Putnam Area Refugee Resettlement)** - The Afghan family has made good progress this year. The father is employed, has a great work ethic and has received a promotion. The children are enjoying school and doing well. The whole family is learning English. They also have a vehicle. The Russian family is doing well.

**IHSP (Interfaith Human Services of Putnam)** - Our church continues to support this all-volunteer organization, both financially and with clothing and food when possible. IHSP provides services and programs for people in need or in transition in Northeastern CT. Services offered by this organization include NU2U clothes closet, Daily Bread Food Pantry, Fuel Assistance, Pathway 2 Success and the Diaper Bank.

**St. Luke's Guest House** - Located in Southbridge, MA, the mission of this organization is to "provide short-term sheltering and to support guests in achieving self-sufficiency." Marie Stoker, director of St. Luke's was a guest at our May meeting and spoke powerfully of St. Luke's history and current projects. In addition to the guest house, St. Luke's also has the Finding Hope/Preventing Eviction outreach program, serving those at risk of eviction or becoming homeless.

The needs in our church, our community, our nation, and our world are real. We stand ready and willing to listen, to help, and to share God's love. Thank you to the congregation for partnering with us to make this possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Lessig, Co-chair, Cristine Waldron, Co-chair  
D. Baldyga, D. Billings, P. Brown, K. Forrester, B. Hackett, L. Hescheles, A. Krofina, T. Stokes

## EWCC OUTREACH Treasurer's Report for 2023

### **INCOME:**

	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>
Church Budget		
Individual Donations	\$ 12,300.00	\$ 12,300.00
Hope for Tomorrow Guatamala	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 3,700.00
CWS Blanket Program	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 859.00
OGHS		\$ 210.00
Ash Wednesday Collection - Daily Bread		\$ 460.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>		\$ 65.00
	<b>\$ 14,800.00</b>	<b>\$ 17,594.00</b>

### **EXPENSES:**

Blankets Program for Church World Services		
OGHS		\$ 210.00
Daily Bread (Ash Wednesday Collection)		\$ 460.00
TEEG - Woodstock Fuel Assistance Fund (and \$168 PJs in 2021)		\$ 65.00
ACCESS No Freeze Shelter & Homeless Shelter	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Hope for Tomorrow Guatemala	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Cathedral of the Beloved	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Quiet Corner Cares	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Back Bay Mission	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
IHSP	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
KIVA (As Needed)	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00
SWBC - Guatemala Mission	\$ 50.00	\$ -
Day Kimball Healthcare (Palliative Care, Hospice, & Homecare)	\$ 300.00	\$ 859.00
Holy Joe's Café - Memorial Day	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
World Vision (Luis Angel Gonzalez in Mexico)	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Camp Quinebaug	\$ 312.00	\$ 312.00
East Woodstock Cemetery Fund	\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00
East Woodstock Library	\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00
Scholarships (2 in 2020)	\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00
Treehouse Foundation (Tom Stokes)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 500.00
Why Me & Sherry's House	\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00
Putnam Area Refugee Resettlement	\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00
Laundry of Love (Startup)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 116.07
Lancaster Seminary	\$ 200.00	\$ -
The Underground CT	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Community Café at Putnam Methodist Church	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
NE CT Salvation Army	\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00
WAIM	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Gay-Straight Alliance Club at WA	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00
Heifer International	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Danielson Veteran's Coffee House	\$ 120.00	\$ 120.00
Flying Free Therapeutic Riding Center	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
LGBT (Hadwen Church)	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Northeast Placement Services (NEPS)	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Silver Lake Campground	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00

Thanksgiving Baskets	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Hospice (Tree of Life Ceremony)	\$ 750.00	\$ 477.48
Muddy Brook Fire Department	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Windham County 4-H Foundation	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Central Village Congregational Church (Community Kitchen)	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
St. Luke's Guesthouse (Southbridge)	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
First Friday Food Fair	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Community Kitchens, Inc. (EWCC)	\$ 100.00	\$ -
QCRR - Quiet Corner Refugee Resettlement & IRIS	\$ 1,900.00	\$ 1,429.32
Covenant to Care & Shelters (As needed)	\$ 200.00	\$ 100.00
Meal Ministry (As Needed)	\$ 150.00	\$ -
Miscellaneous, Postage & Cards	\$ 250.00	\$ -
Prayer Shawls (& Cards)	\$ 125.00	\$ 521.30
UCC Disaster Relief Fund (As Needed)	\$ 900.00	\$ 941.75
Woodstock Marathon	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
EWCC LGBTQ Books & Display	\$ 100.00	\$ -
Domestic Violence Shelter (As Needed)	\$ -	\$ 244.73
Homeless Shelter	\$ 125.00	\$ -
Community Gifts & Needs	\$ 500.00	\$ 625.00
	\$ 750.00	\$ 1,964.07

***TOTAL EXPENSES***

**Difference (Income less Expenses)**

Starting Balance

Ending Balance

<b>\$ 20,582.00</b>	<b>\$ 19,695.72</b>
<b>\$ (5,782.00)</b>	<b>\$ (2,101.72)</b>
<b>\$ 6,646.32</b>	<b>\$ 6,646.32</b>
<b>\$ 864.32</b>	<b>\$ 4,544.60</b>

**Savings Account: (Move to CD in 2024)**

Special Donation for Community Emergencies

\$ 10,000.00 \$ 10,001.77

*Submitted by Kerstin Forrester, Treasurer Outreach Committee*

**CRADLE ROLL REPORT 2023**

Our Cradle Roll includes all children under the age of 4 (as of the beginning of Sunday School) who have been baptized in our church. There are currently 4 children listed on the Cradle Roll. They are:

Hannon, Flint Grimm	08-07-20	Lurvey, Axel Hanson	08-14-21
Hannon, Wyatt James	07-08-23	Mondino, Jaxson Sky Myers	11-27-20

In late August, a letter is sent to the parents of all 4-year-olds to invite them to Sunday School. Parents are invited to come with the child to a Rally Day breakfast. There they can learn more about our Sunday School Program, register their child, meet the teachers, and talk with the Director of Christian Education.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heidi Tucker

## **Christian Education Annual Report 2023**

Teach the children.  
...rejoice as they learn to love this space they live in,  
Its sticks and leaves and then the silent, beautiful blossoms.  
- Mary Oliver

2023 was a joyful collection of noise and growth and even sacred silence.

January through June we often had 15 students in Sunday School, ranging from age 4 to 14. The pattern of the children attending communion on the first Sunday of the month and having children's chapel on the last Sunday of the month, was supplemented with a one-room-schoolhouse approach on most other weeks.

We offered a Vacation Bible School (VBS) in a new format that worked wonderfully! We met once a week in the evenings for six weeks. Partnering with the First Congregational Church of Woodstock, we had six experiential VBS gatherings, using the gifts of both congregation's members and the town itself. Attendees ranged from kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduates and in total there were 20 campers, over the 6 weeks.

This fall I have been leading more of a one room schoolhouse for our Sunday School. We have ages 4 to 13 gathering together and often the older kids help the younger kids. We have studied the sacrament of communion, prayer, and the Christmas story.

We have more people qualified with background checks, which is important for our church safety and demonstrates how the congregation understands the needs for intergenerational relationships. People have been volunteering for offering a nursery and we have more potential families who may want to use a nursery. On the other end of the age spectrum, the older students would appreciate having their own class regularly. The details of communication and connection are still being worked out.

For Children's Sunday in June, one VBS gathering, and the Christmas Pageant, I have partnered with Andy Tomkins, bringing the children and the bells together. There has been a wonderful creation each time, with appreciation from all the people involved. I hope to do more collaborations in the future.

Our EWCC Christian Education programming would not work without the input of many. Christine Armstrong, Sherry Magnan, Erica Hermonot, Vicki Noë, Angela Young, Christine Lessig, Cherra Wheeler, Jessica Reed, Nancy Ducharme, and Emily Nester. Their support, input, ideas, and time help teach our children.

Respectfully submitted with Joy,  
Jessica Weaver Boose, DCE

## **LADIES BENEVOLENT SOCIETY 2023**

LBS held seven meetings during 2023, with an average attendance of 16 women at each meeting.

In April Woodstock's Fire Marshall, Richard Baron made a presentation on fire safety.

At our May meeting we primarily discussed Holly Fair needs: collecting items for baskets, New & Like New items, making crafts, and baking. We also voted to spend \$50 for Children's Sunday flowers. Pastor Sue presented slides from the April retreat on the Island of Iona, Scotland. We enjoyed the slides depicting the rugged landscape and unique treasures along with the history of this beautiful Celtic island.

We held our annual meeting in June at Point Breeze Restaurant in Webster with a delicious and fun luncheon. No meetings were held in July and August.

At our September meeting we enjoyed a potluck dessert selection as we planned for our annual Holly Fair to be held on Saturday, November 4, 2024. Donna Baldyga again agreed to chair the Holly Fair with help from many volunteers. We also elected officers for the coming year: Kerstin Forrester, President; Mary Ellen Blake, Vice President; Marian Hallowell, Secretary; Susan Converse, Treasurer.

In October, Marilyn Rath did a very informative presentation about her time serving as a nurse in Vietnam. The presentation was in honor of all Veterans. We thank Marilyn for her service, especially during this controversial war. We also completed plans for the Holly Fair.

November 4 was a beautiful fall day and our volunteers were ready at 8 a.m. to ensure that all was in order. Visitors showed up early and lined up on the ramp outside Fellowship Hall by 8:30! We had a very successful day with a gross profit of \$9,857.22! Lots of time and hard work went into earning that profit and we thank everyone who participated in any way! It takes a village to make this happen.

At our November meeting we decided to appropriate \$3,000 to the EWCC General Fund; \$700 for a new upright freezer to replace the old one; buy kitchen utensils, commercial baking sheets, and two frying pans; buy seasonal 8-foot tablecloths; and fund Breakfast Church for annual meeting. We will decide later where to allocate the remaining funds.

Our Christmas party was held on December 13 in Fellowship Hall. Susan Converse and Pam Brown hosted the party, and we had a really fun afternoon singing carols accompanied by Marilyn Rath who played the accordion for us! We did have a formal vote on the appropriations made in November.

A big thank you to Marian Hallowell who continues to send cards to members of our community.

Please remember that *everyone* is welcome to attend our meetings. **No membership; only fellowship!!**

Respectfully submitted,

Kerstin Forrester, President, Mary Ellen Blake, Vice President, Marian Hallowell, Secretary  
Susan Converse, Treasurer

## **LBS 2023 Annual Report of Receipts and Expenditures**

### RECEIPTS:

Holly Fair Net Profit	\$ 9,857.22
Monthly Meeting Donations	99.00
<b>Memorial Fund in honor of Grace Harmon</b>	<u>1,200.00</u>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$11,156.22</b>

### EXPENDITURES:

EWCC General Fund	\$ 3,000.00
Sound System	3,991.36
Garden Gate Flowers	60.00
Children's Day Flowers & Ice Cream	160.68
Macks Catering for Breakfast Church	605.00
Nativity JOY Scene	<u>202.05</u>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 8,019.09</b>

**CD Value** **\$12,025.63**

### **The LBS has these commitments for upcoming year 2024:**

Donation for Annual Meeting Breakfast	\$ 600.00
General fund	3,000.00
Painting of Sanctuary	5,000.00
Refurbishment Committee	7,000.00
Purchase of upright freezer	approx.: 700.00
Kitchen needs	approx.: <u>300.00</u>
<b>Total Commitments</b>	<b>\$16,600.00</b>

Susan Converse, LBS Treasurer

## Church Historian Report – 2023

This year was a very wet one with lots of rain and not much snow. Our Sanctuary has welcomed a new sound system and it's great. The camera for services is now permanent and a big help for those that are unable to join in any other way, it even gets used for special services.

January started with the celebration of communion and a sanctuary still bright with poinsettias from Christmas. This is a busy time of year for our Outreach Committee as they provide for Covenant to Care, Homeless Shelter, WAIM, and other local community needs. Star Gift Sunday, or Celebration of Epiphany, found us getting our new stars for the year. This year we tried having a breakfast for the Annual Meeting with the meeting immediately following then the service. We continued our January collection of coats for WAIM. The church formed a Refurbishment Committee, that is to look at our current needs and try to imagine our future needs.

A short and quiet month, February started with communion. On the 19<sup>th</sup> the last Sunday in Epiphany, we had our annual Jazz Sunday with some instrument knowledge, they are very enlightening. The 26<sup>th</sup> was Ash Wednesday and we joined the Hill Church and Good Shepherd for service.

In March Communion Sunday was the beginning of Lent and we started Jesus' encounters on his journey. Tom Stokes and Davis Morse started getting ready for a trip to Guatemala with Hope for Tomorrow. Our outreach group provided money to purchase boots. Tags were available for the Covenant to Care Easter baskets that are given to those less fortunate. Women traveled to Camp Wightman for their annual retreat. On the 12<sup>th</sup> the students, with the help of Emily Nester, made snacks for fellowship after the service.

In April Palm Sunday and communion were celebrated together as we celebrated Jesus' coming to Jerusalem. The men gave us the beautiful song of the Palms to begin Holy Week. Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday had services with Easter bright and cool. The flowers brightened all and the music with the children was great. Tom and David returned from their trip to Guatemala, a nine day trip to bring food, shoes for children, and school supplies to villages in the mountains. They were a party of five, two of whom have done the trip before and were able to guide and teach. Pastor Sue and twelve others traveled to the isle of Iona in Scotland for a week. They joined a community that celebrates worship in the Celtic Tradition.

In May, along with communion, the trip to Iona was talked about by some who attended the trip. On Mother's Day the confirmands led worship and we renewed our contract with Covenant to Care. The men have started with breakfast again. Music Appreciation Sunday found the children taking part. The Jamboree committee is in full swing and looking for help. We celebrated the birth of Margaret Avis daughter of Alana and Chris Workman and granddaughter of Seth and DeEtta Spalding.

This June Children's Day fell on Communion Sunday and they chose to tell the story of Noah. This year we celebrated the graduation of five 8<sup>th</sup> graders, six high schoolers, and two college graduates. Confirmation was a delightful day and well attended. The final Sunday found us enjoying special music chosen by the congregation. The Attic Treasures group started requesting donations of good and different items. Jamboree was looking for help with set up and clean up. This being our big fund raiser we needed lots of help. The LBS ladies had their end of year luncheon enjoying food and friendship.

In July/August we enjoyed union services with Pastor Sue at the Hill Church and Pastor Downer at EWCC both celebrating communion and in August blessing of the school supplies. This year the two churches held Vacation Bible School together with different themes being used. The Fourth of July was a bit soggy but it came off in form. Our faithful volunteers, thanked many times over. The next day they returned for food and cleanup. Because of the weather the Attic Treasures was held two days and what a success, it gave all a time for extra time to reconnect with those we don't see often. In July Tuesday at Twilight, worship in the Celtic Tradition, returned to Roseland.

The first Sunday in September was the last union service with all joining in communion from both churches. Rally Day, the following Sunday, found us back to normal time for service and registration for Sunday School.

Our Outreach was busy with Community Kitchen, peanut butter and jelly collection, and school supplies. Men's Fellowship was functioning with good food and fellowship.

October began with World Communion Sunday with the confirmands talking about the different types of bread from other countries and the following Sunday we welcomed new members Barbara Fitzgibbons, Nancy and Peter Green, Emily Hayden, and Megan Lurvey. LBS was getting ready for the Holly Fair in November and looking for food and help. Part of the fair is the Basket Social, people get together to fill a container to sell. The Refurbishment Committee met with the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) to review the anticipated projects as they approved our original grant. Myron Stachiw's Historic Structures Report hopes to be completed by the Spring of 2024 enabling us to present historical information and complete a plan for congregational approval. Two important things noted were asbestos ceiling tiles and roof repairs. Asbestos testing found nothing. Evaluation of the roofs and development of a plan for future maintenance. We have installed additional wiring and outlets and refurbished the lights in the Sanctuary. Outreach is busy with projects, Food Pantry, Covenant to Care, Emergency Shelter, Transportation, and Refugee Resettlement. Sunday School has been learning about Holy Communion and the Last Supper, and made unleavened bread. The Lord's Prayer, a lesson from Jesus is being explored. Connor Bond and Erin Watson were united in marriage.

November Communion Sunday found us with a special day as the children have been learning about prayer. The Holly Fair was a great success and a thank you to all who helped. This month we welcomed guest pastors while Pastor Sue recovered from her second knee surgery. Jeans Sunday was a time for all to pitch in and give our church a cleaning with a light lunch afterwards. Several of the men worked outdoors to rake and clean up the leaves. It was also Pledge Sunday, a time when each one vows their part to support the church. The men continue to enjoy conversation and breakfast before church once a month.

In December we celebrated Communion on the first Sunday of Advent. A special meeting was held to discuss the failing audio system and approximately \$13,000 was allotted for it. An arts and craft fair was held with 24 vendors which was a fund raiser as well. Again this year a Quiet Christmas service was held for those who might be grieving or find the holidays a challenge. The usual Christmas Eve services, one early for the youth and the candlelight service at 11:00PM were held. Outreach did the Giving Tree for Covenant to Care and the shelters. The Christmas Pageant was joined by the Bell Choir. This year Christmas was on Monday so we got to enjoy the beautiful poinsettias longer.

As this year comes to a close we give thanks for dear ones that have been taken from this earth and entered another journey. Though they are dearly missed their memories linger for each of us. Those in our prayers and thoughts are Devens Arnett, Grace Harmon, Todd H. Looby, Steven Lincoln, Ethel O'Keefe, Holly Poh, Marilyn Sherman and Gordon Smith.

In whatever travels may await us, our church on the green wishes its community a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Respectfully  
Mary Ellen Blake, Historian

## **Hospitality Committee Report 2023**

The Hospitality Committee continues to serve our church family and community when the need arises. This past year we were asked to help with the funerals for Devens Arnett and Steve Lincoln. We are very appreciative of the members of our church who step up to offer their help with making food, helping in the kitchen, setting up and cleaning up. Many hands do make light work!

Thank you,  
Laurie Edwards and Diane Morin  
Co-Chair, Hospitality Committee



## Annual Report of the Book Discussion Group 2023

Here are the books we read in 2023. January: The Storyteller of Casablanca by Fiona Valpy, February: The Book Woman's Daughter by Kim Michele Richardson, March: Horse by Geradine Brooks, April: Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus, May: Forest of the Vanishing Stars by Kristin Harmel, June: Our Missing Hearts by Celeste Ng, September: Gem of the Ocean by August Wilson, October: Librarian of Burned Books by Brianna Labuske, November: The Book of Lost Friends by Lisa Wingate., We meet monthly for conversation and fellowship in the chapel of our church. We welcome new readers anytime for just one book that piques your interest or for several of the book selections.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anne Sorensen

## Altar Guild Report - 2023

Do you want serve your church in a minimal amount of time? A wonderful way to serve your church is by giving a couple of months during the year and at other times when Pastor Sue may need the help for a service or a special event. Working in pairs, the Altar Guild is responsible for the setup and cleanup of communion, the care of the candles used for various services and Sunday, changing of the paraments (altar and lectern cloths) for the different seasons, special services, ordering and set up of the flowers for the Easter and Christmas seasons, seeing there are flowers for the Sunday Service, and the use of the candelabras.

We oversee the Flower Calendar. This is used for individuals to place flowers on the altar for a Sunday Service. These flowers may be in memory of, or in honor of a loved one or a group of individuals.

Thank you to all who served and dedicated your time and energy to a special activity which is part of our church.

Respectfully submitted  
Mary Ellen Blake, chair

Members: Lucy Bousquet, Susan Converse, Laurie Edwards, Judith Schumacher, Karin Tourtellotte

## **COLLECTOR'S REPORT- 2023**

*For the period 1/1/2023 through 12/31/2023*

Pledges	\$ 160,208.94
Non-Pledged Donations	19,549.66
Loose Offering (cash in the plate)	5,033.37
Prepaid Pledges 2023	12,650.00
Memorials	225.00
Music	455.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 198,121.97</b>

*NOTE: Does not include Outreach donations, they are reported elsewhere. This may differ from Treasurer's report, since above includes checks dated in December 2023 which were received and deposited in 2024. Aggregate total is about \$2,000 less than last year (2022).*

Respectfully Submitted,  
John M. Davis, Collector

## **Annual Report of the Clerk - 2023**

Number of Members who joined during 2023: 7

By letter of transfer: 0      By Confirmation: 2      By Confession of Faith: 5

New Members: Barbara Fitzgibbons, Nancy & Peter Green, Emily Hayden, Megan Lurvey  
Confirmands: Grayson Magnan, Akira Newall-Vuillemot

Number of Members lost during 2023:

By letter of transfer: 0      By Death: 4      Other: 1

We give thanks for the completed lives of:

Devens Arnett, Grace Harmon, Steve Lincoln, Todd Looby, Ethel O'Keefe, Holly Poh,  
Marilyn Sherman, and Gordon Smith

Baptisms

Child Baptisms: Wyatt James Hannon

Weddings

Connor Bond and Erin Watson

## **Society Committee Annual Report- 2023**

The Society Committee continued to oversee the Church's finances and the physical plant and the Church owned Parsonage. The following is a partial list of Society's activities:

- With the diligent efforts and extensive knowledge of our Church Treasurer, DeEtta Spalding, the committee reviewed the Church's finances and personnel concerns on a monthly basis and have prepared the Annual Budget for 2024.
- Reviewed Church pledging and helped with improvements in online giving and set up numerous online mechanisms along with the Collector John Davis who implemented them with great efficiency.
- Coordinating renting the Parsonage and working with the tenants to repair and manage upkeep of the property throughout the year. This year we repaired many window issues, repaired the boiler, and some broken clapboards. Looking into upgrading the kitchen.
- Judith Wong organized Jean's Sunday again flawlessly with as many chores that could be completed. Seth and DeEtta Spalding for all their support with cleaning up all the leaves throughout the property.
- Managed and maintained Employee concerns and exercised updated contracts.
- Furnaces were cleaned and serviced in both the Church and Parsonage.
- Continue the work on the AV equipment with the expertise and help of Jeff Wong. To improve our online presence and access to our services who are unable to attend.
- The Refurbishment Committee, a subcommittee of Society headed by Judith Wong, has initiated many projects that will continue into 2024. Many lighting issues were repaired or replaced and upgraded with LED Lighting. More info in their report.
- Dishwasher in kitchen is being repaired, small window was installed in Pastor Sue's door, painting exterior of Chapel, updated our alarm and fire protection systems with the help of Charlie Goodrich.

The work of the Society Committee is enhanced by the efforts of many Church members and volunteers along with Society members- we Thank you! A special thank you to the following individuals that help make our Church a better place.

- DeEtta Spalding has done an incredible job as the Church Treasurer again in 2023 as she has for the last 19 years. She has worked tirelessly managing our accounting systems and handling all the income and

expenses. The Treasurer is an extremely important and time-consuming volunteer position at the Church. We are grateful and indeed fortunate to have a professional with DeEtta's knowledge and expertise donating her skills to us. Society is so grateful for her organization throughout the budget process and throughout the year!

- DeEtta and Seth Spalding for all their work cleaning up the leaves every fall and the many other projects that come Society's way.
- Glen Lessig is always available and volunteering to tackle many Society projects along with miscellaneous issues that arise on a daily basis. Also he mows the grass, shovels snow, organizes Parsonage repairs and many other efforts.
- Christine Lessig for her constant work on the plants, bushes, and flower beds around the church throughout the year keeping them beautiful.
- Heidi Tucker for her exceptional office management skills. Helping us with duties and responsibilities that come about throughout the year.
- Mark Billings and Dennis Kelly for always being there to plow when a snowstorm arrives and all the other little things they do that go unnoticed whenever they are asked.
- Pastor Sue for guiding us throughout the year to make the right decisions for the Church, supporting us, informing us and keeping us organized all year round.
- Jeff Wong for his unending work on our new AV equipment project that is still continuing as we navigate all the intricacies of the system. His expertise allowed us to start this project and now to continue to evolve.
- Everyone who has worked with us or with keeping our church facility in great shape and continue to keep our church vibrant.

Respectfully submitted:

Rick Place - Chairperson, DeEtta Spalding - Treasurer, Judith Wong, Asa Scranton, Calvin Neely, Chuck Warinsky

### **Refurbishment Committee, a subcommittee of Society** **Annual Report - 2023**

The Refurbishment Committee remains steadfast in its commitment to refurbishing the sanctuary and narthex, aligning our efforts with the mission of creating worship spaces that address both current and future needs, while preserving the historical essence and blended architecture of the East Woodstock Congregational Church. Our primary focus this year has been on completing audio/visual upgrades, addressing grant requirements, and writing and securing grants. We recognize that **the journey toward our goals is a multifaceted process** and remain dedicated to exploring avenues that align with our mission, ensuring that our worship spaces are inviting and welcoming.

In January, we met with the organ company servicing our pipe organ, gathering insights about potential dais refurbishments and its impact on the organ pipes and dais infrastructure.

February saw Committee members, joined by architectural historian **Myron Stachiw**, collaborating with the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) to discuss our potential refurbishment projects and grant opportunities. During this meeting, SHPO highlighted concerns about possible asbestos in ceiling tiles and the possible need for roof repairs. Both were investigated in order to comply with the Church's commitment to SHPO's historical grant that funded the exterior pillar restoration project and to apply for refurbishment grants. We conducted thorough asbestos testing in May, revealing no presence in the sanctuary and narthex spaces. Additionally, no visible glue was used under the carpet - another potential source of asbestos. Lead paint was found in limited areas. However, because the paint is intact in these areas, it can be handled appropriately by licensed painters adhering to federal OSHA standards.

Our collaboration with Society and external contractors to assess the Church roof's condition has shown no immediate need for sanctuary or narthex roof repairs. However, we will consider future work on the Chapel roof. Our roofing assessment will be documented for SHPO, with confidence that our findings won't impede our grant applications.

Behind the scenes, **Dawn Adiletta, Myron Stachiw, Glen Lessig, and DeEtta Spalding** combined their time and talents to develop the first of two refurbishment grant applications. Thanks to their work along with the congregation's vote, **SHPO approved the first grant**. This 50/50 matching grant authorizes up to \$5,000 and includes Myron Stachiw's generous donation of an Historic Structures Report and paint consultant Christine Thomson's paint analysis.

The completion of the Historic Structures Report in spring 2024 will provide important historical background information about our sacred spaces, and pave the way for a second 50/50 grant, supporting various repairs, painting, structural modifications, and required architectural drawings to support any structural changes. The Historic Structures Report and any potential grant monies received will enable us to develop relevant refurbishment recommendations that will be brought to the congregation for approval along with the potential need for a campaign to fund the plan.

Simultaneously, **Glen Lessig** updated a maintenance plan, fulfilling SHPO's requirements for our grant applications and establishing a basis for a long-term conservation plan for our church buildings that include planned and anticipated maintenance needs.

In the fall, we completed audio/visual updates, enhancing in-person and online worship experiences. Our A/V team, **John Davis, Val Law, and Karen Ryker**, played a vital role in implementing these improvements. They continue to learn about the expanded capabilities of our new hardware and hone their skills to provide upgraded audio and camera work for our worship services. We encourage you to connect with the A/V team if you are interested in joining the group who provide this important service.

With sanctuary and narthex lighting an ongoing priority, we continue to explore fixture options for both spaces including the balcony stairways and emergency lighting. Additionally, we are actively seeking historical items and photos to document and ultimately display our church's story, urging community members to contribute. We are mindful of the responsibility of being stewards of our Church, knowing that God is with us as we navigate the journey. Our gratitude to our faith community for continued support and interest. Special appreciation to historical consultant **Myron Stachiw** and Committee member and grant writer **Dawn Adiletta** for their ongoing and invaluable contributions to our successful grant applications. Thanks also extend to all our dedicated **Refurbishment Committee members** for their unwavering commitment to our mission. With God's love and guidance, we partner with you to learn from the past, celebrate the present, and shape the future of our beloved Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Wong, *Chairperson*

Dawn Adiletta, Donna Baldgya, Mary Ellen Blake, John Davis, Kerstin Forrester, Amy Hiller-White, Valerie Law, Glen Lessig, Asa Scranton, DeEtta Spalding

**East Woodstock Congregational Church**  
**Projected**  
**Giving and Expense Summary**  
**Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2022**  
**Proposed Budget Calendar Year 2023**

	2022 Jan - Dec Actual	2022 Approved Budget	Actual vs Approved	Proposed 2023 Budget
<b>Giving</b>				
Pledges	\$ 178,603.32	\$ 172,855.00	\$ 5,748.32	\$ 167,655.81
Non Pledged	23,012.99	21,000.00	2,012.99	23,500.00
May Fund	463.95	750.00	(286.05)	750.00
Rent Other	650.00	600.00	50.00	600.00
Fund Raisers	15,204.33	6,500.00	8,704.33	15,000.00
Interest	484.60	500.00	(15.40)	500.00
<b>Total Giving</b>	<b>\$ 218,419.19</b>	<b>\$ 202,205.00</b>	<b>\$ 16,214.19</b>	<b>\$ 208,005.81</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		97%		100%
<b>Christian Education</b>				
Designated Funds	\$ (290.55)	\$ (325.00)	\$ 34.45	\$ (325.00)
Childcare Sunday	-	-	-	861.20
Christian Ed Director	10,765.33	10,762.37	2.96	11,086.83
Religious Education	396.55	725.00	(328.45)	725.00
Sr. High Youth Group	7,418.75	11,359.80	(3,941.05)	4,510.36
SR High Supplies	-	345.00	(345.00)	345.00
Sunday School Supplies	675.20	1,410.00	(734.80)	1,410.00
<b>Total Christian Education</b>	<b>\$ 18,965.28</b>	<b>\$ 24,277.17</b>	<b>\$ (5,311.89)</b>	<b>\$ 18,613.38</b>
<b>Church</b>				
Designated Funds	\$ (6,000.00)	\$ (6,000.00)	\$ -	\$ (7,000.00)
Capital Funding	1,500.00	1,500.00	-	1,500.00
Cleaning & Supplies	4,048.48	3,335.00	713.48	4,050.00
Communication	1,995.52	1,775.52	220.00	1,995.48
Electricity	3,331.16	3,600.00	(268.84)	3,600.00
Heat (C)	7,606.92	5,809.00	1,797.92	5,981.25
Insurance	8,889.75	8,314.00	575.75	8,999.00
Kitchen	308.61	350.00	(41.39)	350.00
Lawn care	870.00	427.50	442.50	1,177.50
Repairs & Maintenance	4,107.19	4,000.00	107.19	4,000.00
Rubbish	1,399.65	1,146.60	253.05	1,452.12
Workman comp	706.44	652.00	54.44	675.00
<b>Total Church</b>	<b>\$ 28,763.72</b>	<b>\$ 24,909.62</b>	<b>\$ 3,854.10</b>	<b>\$ 26,780.35</b>

**East Woodstock Congregational Church Projected**

Giving and Expense Summary

Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2022

Proposed Budget Calendar Year 2023

	2022 Jan - Dec Actual	2022 Approved Budget	Actual vs Approved	Proposed 2023 Budget
<b>Music</b>				
Gift of Music	(300.56)	\$ (950.00)	649.44	\$ (810.00)
Bell Choir	209.21	425.00	(215.79)	600.00
Music & Dues	584.45	1,350.00	(765.55)	1,510.00
Music Director Salary	8,896.89	8,879.76	17.13	9,146.11
Music LRP	350.00	350.00	-	400.00
Organ & Piano Tuning	2,268.57	1,450.00	818.57	1,200.00
Organist Salary	9,647.75	9,666.53	(18.78)	9,940.36
Youth Choir	1,371.47	1,901.44	(529.97)	1,091.61
Substitute Organist	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Music</b>	\$ 23,027.78	\$ 23,072.73	\$ (44.95)	\$ 23,078.09
<b>Office</b>				
Designated Funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Office Manager	10,214.94	10,568.59	(353.65)	10,887.52
Postage	525.08	550.00	(24.92)	550.00
Outside Financial Review	-	-	-	900.00
Subscriptions	1,527.25	1,000.00	527.25	1,500.00
Office Expense	1,101.96	1,200.00	(98.04)	1,200.00
Office Equip. Maint.	799.86	350.00	449.86	800.00
<b>Total Office</b>	\$ 14,169.09	\$ 13,668.59	\$ 500.50	\$ 15,837.52
<b>Other</b>				
Designated Funds	\$ (7,634.19)	\$ (7,034.19)	\$ (600.00)	\$ (3,182.77)
Altar Guild Supplies	23.72	375.00	(351.28)	375.00
Basic Missions/NE Conferen	5,500.00	4,900.00	600.00	4,900.00
Diaconate	1,187.05	820.00	367.05	900.00
Miscellaneous	761.62	523.77	237.85	500.00
Outreach	12,300.00	12,300.00	-	12,300.00
Conference Outreach	-	-	-	-
Religious Supply	564.70	475.00	89.70	475.00
Stewardship	579.64	600.00	(20.36)	600.00
Supply Minister	900.00	600.00	300.00	900.00
Windham Dues	395.00	395.00	-	395.00
<b>Total Other</b>	\$ 14,577.54	\$ 13,954.58	\$ 622.96	\$ 18,162.23
<b>Parsonage</b>				
Designated Funds	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Rental Income	(14,970.00)	(14,400.00)	(570.00)	(15,600.00)
Real Estate	4,238.82	3,800.00	438.82	4,400.00
Maintenance	269.04	1,500.00	(1,230.96)	1,500.00
<b>Total Parsonage</b>	\$ (10,462.14)	\$ (9,100.00)	\$ (1,362.14)	\$ (9,700.00)

## East Woodstock Congregational Church Projected

### Giving and Expense Summary

Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2022

Proposed Budget Calendar Year 2023

	2022 Jan - Dec Actual	2022 Approved Budget	Actual vs Approved	Proposed 2023 Budget
<b>Pastor</b>				
<b>Designated Funds</b>	\$ -	\$ -	-	\$ (750.00)
Annuity Contribution	8,089.56	8,089.56	-	8,332.25
Health Insurance	29,294.00	29,194.00	100.00	30,807.00
Housing Allowance	20,400.00	20,400.00	-	20,400.00
Milage Reimbursement	2,999.88	3,000.00	(0.12)	3,000.00
Sabbatical	1,000.00	1,000.00	-	1,500.00
Salary	48,537.80	48,538.75	(0.95)	49,994.99
Seminars	567.00	1,200.00	(633.00)	1,950.00
<b>Total Pastor</b>	\$ 110,888.24	\$ 111,422.31	\$ (534.07)	\$ 115,234.24
<b>Total Expense</b>	\$ 199,929.51	\$ 202,205.00	\$ (2,275.49)	\$ 208,005.81
<b>Operating Net</b>	\$ 18,489.68	\$ -	\$ 18,489.68	\$ 0.00
<b>Extrordinary Expense or Capital Projects</b>				
Septic	(15,205.75)	\$ (15,570.00)	364.25	\$ -
Capital Setaside	15,875.13	\$ 15,570.00	305.13	\$ 6,800.00
Trees	(669.38)		(669.38)	
Chimney				\$ (6,800.00)
LBS Donation	3,991.36	\$ 4,200.00	(208.64)	\$ -
AV Equipment	(3,991.36)	\$ (4,200.00)	208.64	\$ -
Grant - Lily Foundation	5,352.17	\$ (10,567.43)	15,919.60	\$ -
Sabbatical Expense	(5,352.17)	\$ 10,567.43	(15,919.60)	\$ -
<b>Total</b>	-		-	-
<b>NET Surplus/(Shortage)</b>	18,489.68	\$ -	18,489.68	\$ 0.00

## East Woodstock Congregational Church Cash Balance Report

	Deposits/ Interest Income		Checks/ Withdrawals		Ending Balance Dec 31, 2022	December 31, 2022 Account Balance by Designation		
	Beginning Balance as of Jan 1, 2022	Jan 1, 2022 - Dec 31, 2022	Jan 1, 2022 - Dec 31, 2022	Dec 31, 2022		Undesignated	Designated	Total
<b>Cash Balances</b>								
Main Checking Account	\$ 58,940.71	* \$ 248,473.26	\$ (264,986.55)	\$ 42,427.42	\$ 32,255.87	\$ 10,171.55	\$ 42,427.42	
Petty Cash	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CD's								
Cox Fund - Peoples Bank	3,000.00	-	-	3,000.00	-	3,000.00	3,000.00	
Undesignated - Citizens (3 cd's)	34,499.58	* 68.82	-	34,568.40	34,568.40	-	34,568.40	
Rental Deposit	1,204.73	100.62	-	1,305.35	-	1,305.35	1,305.35	
Money Market Fund								
Choir	100.00	-	-	100.00	-	100.00	100.00	
Christian Ed Scholarship Fund	4,910.33	4.96	-	4,915.29	-	4,915.29	4,915.29	
Cox Needy Fund	2,819.14	2.87	-	2,822.01	-	2,822.01	2,822.01	
Friends of Common	9,294.89	9.39	(669.38)	8,634.90	-	8,634.90	8,634.90	
Heritage Savings	5,531.34	5.58	-	5,536.92	-	5,536.92	5,536.92	
Lily Foundation Grant	6,929.58	1.42	(6,931.00)	-	-	-	-	
Long Range Planning	19,902.43	1,520.11	(15,205.75)	6,216.79	-	6,216.79	6,216.79	
Memorial Fund	35,671.41	836.37	(290.55)	36,217.23	-	36,217.23	36,217.23	
Music LRP	1,402.29	351.54	-	1,753.83	-	1,753.83	1,753.83	
Old Fidelity Account	5,982.71	6.06	-	5,988.77	-	5,988.77	5,988.77	
Sabbatical	1,049.88	1,001.06	-	2,050.94	-	2,050.94	2,050.94	
Sunday School	1,406.36	1.42	-	1,407.78	-	1,407.78	1,407.78	
Sub-total	95,000.36	3,740.78	(23,096.68)	75,644.46	-	75,644.46	75,644.46	
Total Cash	\$ 192,645.38	\$ 252,383.48	\$ (288,083.23)	\$ 156,945.63	\$ 66,824.27	\$ 90,121.36	\$ 156,945.63	

Respectfully Submitted by DeEtta Spalding, Treasurer at the Annual Meeting, January 29, 2023