



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

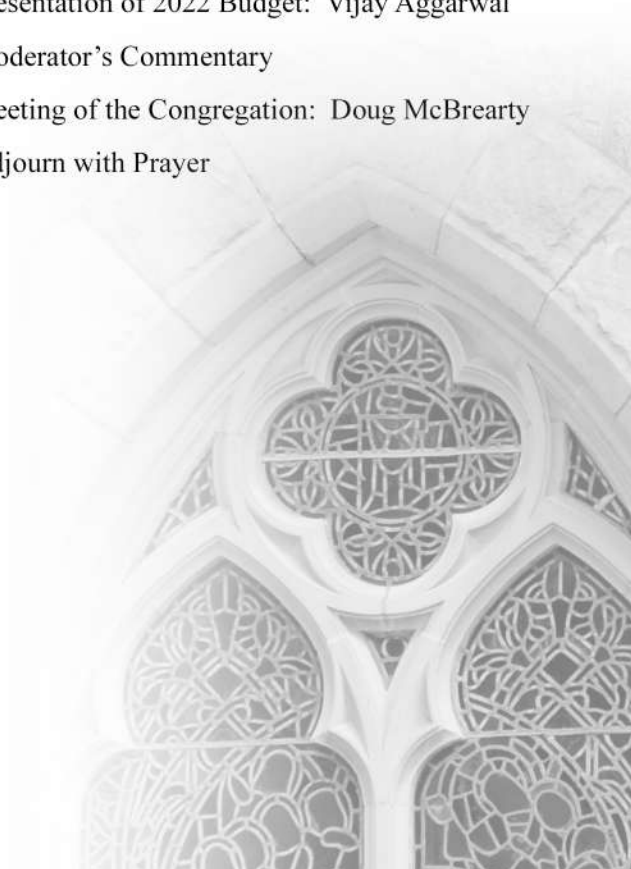
## **2021**

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## ANNUAL MEETING OF CONGREGATION AGENDA

Moderator Rev. Katy Shevel calls the meeting to order.
Opening Prayer
Declaration of Proper Notice and Quorum
Distribution of Annual Report
Approval of Minutes: Annual Meeting of January 31, 2021 and Special Meeting of December 12, 2021
Motion to Waive the reading of the Minutes
Election of Elders, Class of 2025: Meg Rosecky
Election of Deacons, class of 2025: Meg Rosecky
Election of Stewards, class of 2025: Meg Rosecky
Election of Nominating Committee At-Large Members: Meg Rosecky
Presentation of 2022 Budget: Vijay Aggarwal
Moderator's Commentary
Meeting of the Congregation: Doug McBrearty
Adjourn with Prayer





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## PASTORS' LETTERS

Dear Members and Friends of Wayne Presbyterian Church,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It has almost been two years since I began serving as your Executive Associate Pastor. I am pleased to experience how God is alive and active in the worship, mission, outreach, spiritual, and fellowship life of the church. As we have adapted by maneuvering around COVID concerns an overwhelming number of you have been colleagues and champions of support and care. We have a strong pastoral and program staff who remain committed to ministry, and they are among the finest colleagues I have had the privilege to serve alongside. I am pleased and grateful to serve as one of your pastors.

Like other years, we have had our share of transitions in 2021. We said goodbye to Monique Chico and Neil Hartman who both retired. We got to know Rev. Katy Shevel better in 2021 after she joined the staff in late 2020. Austin Ricketts joined our staff in mid-2021 to be our Youth Director, and most recently we welcomed the Rev. Elizabeth Wagner as our new Director of Finance. Liz is a unique individual who possesses both business and ecclesiastic skills. She understands the dynamics of a mission driven organization and is ready to assist in 2022. We also welcomed Jayne Grabowski, our new Administrative Assistant for Education and Marketing, and John Erbicella who is contracted to help us with audio/visual/livestreaming, and training for volunteers as we move into 2022. We also said goodbye to Rev. Casey Thompson and wished him well, thanking him for over a decade of service to Wayne Presbyterian Church.

I anticipate the church will live into more transitions in 2022. Even as I write these words a group is searching for an Interim Senior Pastor, and soon another Pastor Nominating Committee will be formed to seek the next called and installed Senior Pastor/Head of Staff. I look forward to continuing this journey with you as we walk together; listening and discerning where God is leading us.

**Rev. Dr. Richard Miller**  
*Executive Associate Pastor*

Dear Wayne Presbyterian Church family,

It is a blessing to serve you as your Associate Pastor for Congregational Life. When I began my ministry here in September of 2020, you received me with open arms---even over Zoom nonetheless! It is my pleasure to walk alongside you to provide pastoral support and direction for the vibrant program life in our church. In the wake of Covid restrictions, I have been so deeply impressed by this congregation's ability to quickly problem solve and subsequently provide all our classes, programs, meetings, worship services, and even our retreats virtually.

Fall of 2021 presented unique challenges in that we all had to put our heads together to: 1) learn how to pivot our programming and worship into a hybrid (virtual and in-person) format; 2) restart many of our church activities that had paused completely during the pandemic shutdown. Our Community Fellowship team innovatively brought us coffee outside under the Tent during the summer months and has since moved our Coffee Hour into the Connector in between Sunday worship services. (As fun as it was, we are happy to have a break from wheeling those big carts with coffee and supplies in and outdoors!)

Friends, I cannot possibly enumerate the many ways you have warmly welcomed my leadership during this time. It has been my honor to teach the Women's Word Before Work Bible study on Wednesday mornings--- and it was a joy to teach my first Sunday evening Adult Education Course "Companions in the Wilderness." Recently, I have stepped into the role of guiding the Communications team and our Hospitality Steering Committee has just finished their vital work of discernment. Be on the lookout for exciting ways to get involved in community outreach, the practice of hospitality, and building connections as a church family this spring!

Thank you for calling me to be your Associate Pastor. With God's help, I look forward to all we will continue to do together.

**Rev. Katy Shevel**  
*Associate Pastor for Congregational Life*



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## CLERK OF SESSION REPORT & CHURCH STATISTICS

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At the close of 2020, Wayne Presbyterian Church had 2211 active members and 23 affiliate members.

In 2021, we were faced and continued to deal with the Coronavirus pandemic, and the disease caused by the Coronavirus, Covid-19. The logistics in changing from in-person to streaming worship services, and then to “hybrid” worship, fellowship, committee meetings and the like, was a monumental effort of the pastoral and supporting staff, with support from Elders and Deacons, particularly the Communications and Technology Committee members.

Our Church and its Congregation nevertheless continued to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic. The early months of 2021 were marked by optimism in the context of effective vaccinations, with most of our Congregation receiving full vaccination of either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines by April. Nevertheless, worship services and committee meetings continued to be held via Zoom and then, in the summer months, by reopening in-person worship services, combined with continuation of streaming of the worship services.

The new schedule of 9:00 and 10:30 worship services has continued with the reopening “Out of the Wilderness” of the Church’s in-person activities in September. As 2021 comes to a close, the Delta and Omicron variants of the Corona virus have resulted in even vaccinated persons being required to wear masks when inside Church buildings. Nevertheless, our myriad of Church activities and programs have been restored and we are thriving in spite of the pandemic.

Indeed, although streaming of the 10:30 worship service continues on, in-person worship service attendance has continued to grow from September through December of 2021, as the vast majority of our Church members are now not only fully vaccinated, but also boosted.

In-person and streamed Christmas Eve services drew substantial attendees in person, with additional members participating via the streaming of the 7:00 Christmas Eve service.

With Executive Associate Pastor Rev. Dr. Richard E. Miller and Associate Pastor for Congregational Life Rev. Katy Shevel now fully and ably serving our Congregation “in person,” Senior Pastor and Head of Staff Rev. Casey Thompson

submitted his resignation in November, together with a request for approval of modified Terms of Call during the transition year of 2022. Session received and approved the request, and the Committee on Ministry of the Philadelphia Presbytery likewise approved the request. Session then called for a Special Meeting of the Congregation, to be held on December 12, at which time the request was overwhelmingly approved by the Congregation.

A reception for Rev. Thompson, celebrating his eleven years of service to Christ through our Church, followed the Special Meeting.

Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, Sarah Hostetter, continued to serve in that capacity until June of 2021, and thereafter, Austin Ricketts joined our staff as our new Director of Youth Ministries. Also, Jayne Grabowski joined our staff as Administrative Assistant for Congregational Life and Marketing.

The Church’s Finance Director, Neil Hartman, also retired this year and Liz Wagner has joined our staff as our new Finance Director.

While we are now anticipating the hiring of a new music program assistant, our Minister of Music, Tim Evers, continues to shepherd all of the multiple music programs for which WPC is renowned, and has reopened the Wayne Oratorio Society events for the 2021-2022 season.

Our pastors baptized 10 children during 2021. We brought in 12 new members, including 11 confirmands, many of whom had been baptized and came to faith in Christ at WPC.

59 members of our congregation moved or began worshipping at other churches. We wish them well in their new communities of faith.

*Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones. (Psalm 116:15)*

Cynthia Brown  
Twining Campbell  
Carole Chapman  
Donald Clarke  
Jean Gillespie  
May L. Holgren  
Ann Hyser



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Richard Jarden\*  
Marjorie Jensen  
Laura Johnson  
Eben Lang  
Harry Wesley Link  
Sheila Molloy  
Martin Myers  
John Nelson  
Elma Niesley  
William Ogren  
Richard Segermark  
Alden Smith  
Elizabeth Anne Stewart  
John Swope IV  
Joan Swope  
Robert Tiffany  
Barbara Tremblay  
James Wolfe

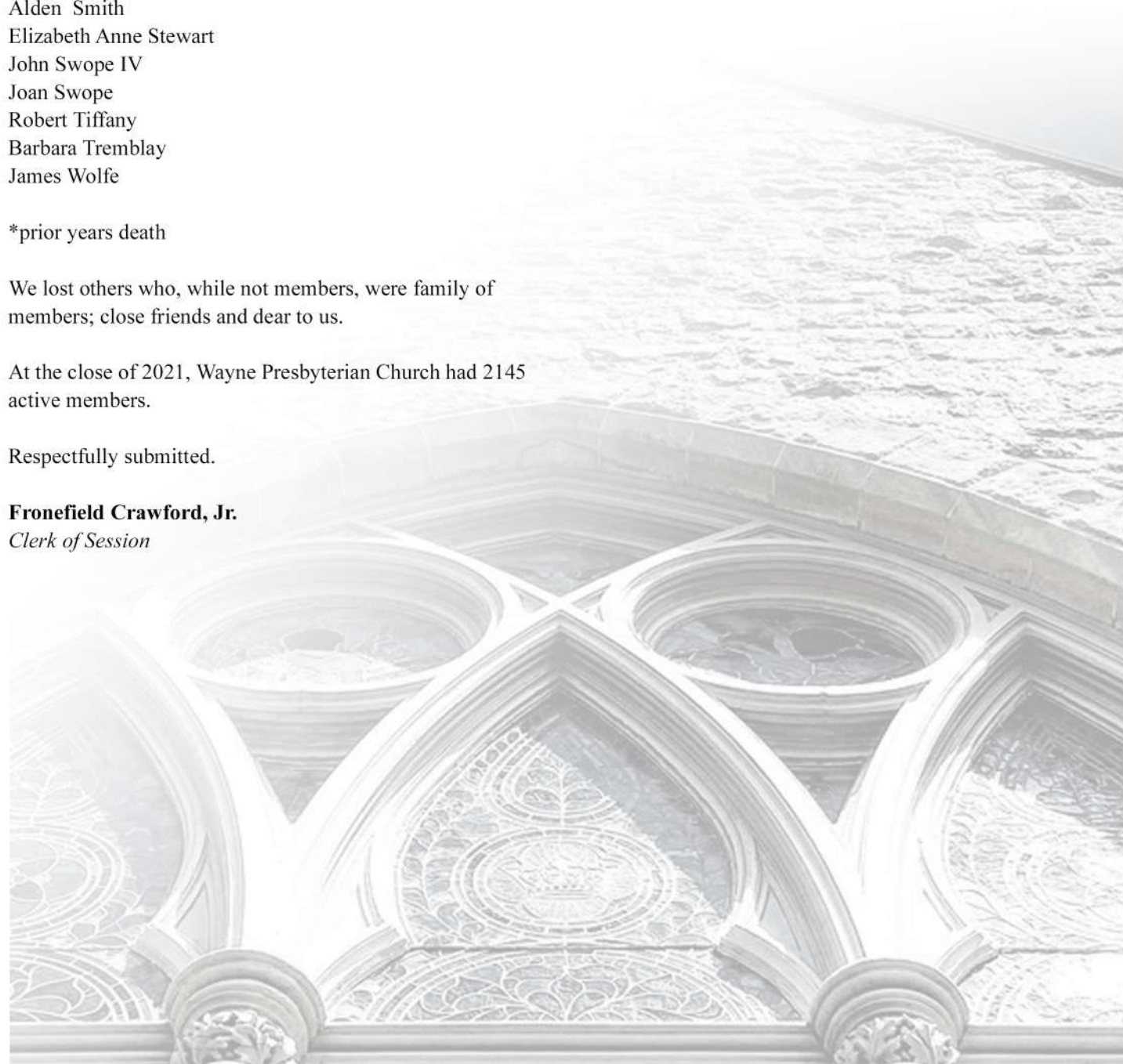
\*prior years death

We lost others who, while not members, were family of members; close friends and dear to us.

At the close of 2021, Wayne Presbyterian Church had 2145 active members.

Respectfully submitted.

**Fronefield Crawford, Jr.**  
*Clerk of Session*



# ANNUAL MEETING OF CONGREGATION

## January 31, 2021 (Via ZOOM)

The annual meeting of the congregation of Wayne Presbyterian Church was held on Sunday, January 31, 2021, in the sanctuary and, owing to the Covid-19 pandemic, via Zoom conferencing. The Moderator, the Rev. Casey Thompson, convened the meeting following the completion of the 9:30 worship service.

A quorum of members in attendance was declared. Rev. Thompson announced the purposes of the meeting:

- Distribution of 2020 Annual Report.
- Approve the Minutes of the Congregation Meeting of January 26, 2020 and the Special Meeting of the Congregation held August 16, 2020
- Elect a new class (2024) of Elders, Deacons and Stewards
- Elect the at-large members of the Nominating Committee
- Presentation of the 2021 Budget

The Call of the Meeting had been stated in the church bulletin and announced from the pulpit on the three preceding Sundays.

On motion duly made and seconded, the reading of the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Congregation, held January 26, 2020, and the Special Meeting of the Congregation held August 16, 2020 was waived, and the Minutes of both meetings were approved as printed in the 2020 Annual Report.

Likewise, the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Corporation, as printed in the 2020 Annual Report, were approved.

Rev. Thompson then called upon Ruling Elder Meg Rosecky, Chair of the Nominating Committee, to make a report of the Nominating Committee and to present the slate of officers as presented by the Nominating Committee for consideration by the congregation. Elder Rosecky noted that the slate of officers as nominated was printed on pages 27 and 28 of the 2020 Annual Report. She also recognized members of the Nominating Committee and thanked them for their work.

Elder Rosecky placed the names of the following persons in nomination for the office of Ruling Elder, as listed on page 27:

### Elders - Class of 2024

Elizabeth Pulver Castleman • James Clarke •  
Megan Roberts Mabe • Jonathan Monkemeyer •  
Buzz Mossholder • Chad Slate • Mary Ellen Smith

There were no further nominations and on motion duly made and seconded, the nominations were closed and the nominees as listed were duly elected.

Elder Rosecky placed the names of the following persons in nomination for the office of Deacon, as listed on page 27:

### Deacons – Class of 2024

Carolyn W. Berglund • Parker Blatchford • Roger Bollinger  
• Bernie Clark • Weezie Duff • Janet Eberlein • Bebe Forster  
• Becky Greenhow • Jill Keefer-Hugill • Carolyn Lolli •  
Anne McCrary • Susan O'Rourke • Ian Robertson •  
Lynne Samson

There were no further nominations and on motion duly made and seconded, the nominations were closed and the nominees as listed were duly elected as Deacons.

Elder Rosecky announced that the Nominating Committee had nominated two Youth Deacons to serve one-year terms. Elder Rosecky placed in nomination the following persons for the office of Youth Deacon:

Youth Deacons – (one year term)  
Samantha Armstrong • Gavin Slate

Elder Rosecky placed the names of the following persons in nomination for the office of Steward, the names of those set forth on page 28 of the Annual Report:

### Stewards – Class of 2024

Nancy Barnes • Beth Brake • Chris Carleton • Bernie Clark  
• Hans Coetzee • Patricia Donnelly • Weezie Duff •  
Mark Fabere • Carolyn Lolli • James Lolli • Renee Mackey  
• Scott Montgomery • Wendy Bostwick-Norman •  
Candace Pratt • Ron Race • Jim Rush • Dick Spillman •  
Joan Spillman • Bill Staples • Frank Tait • Angela Tait •  
Doug Wheeler • Maura Wheeler • Deb Wissel • Paul Wissel  
• Jason Woytowich

There were no further nominations, and upon motion duly made and seconded, the nominations were closed and the nominees for Steward were elected.

Elder Rosecky placed the names of the following persons in



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nomination to serve as at-large members of the Nominating Committee for the period May 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022, as listed on page 27 of the Annual Report, in addition to Elder and Chair of the Committee, Meg Rosecky:

Lindsay Belzer • Hans Coetzee • Terry Jarman • Lisa Hacker  
• Ron Race • Chuck Rueger

There were no further nominations, and upon motion duly made and seconded, the nominations were closed and the nominees for at-large members of the Nominating Committee were duly elected. In addition to the at-large members and Ruling Elder Rosecky, ex officio members of the Nominating Committee were noted as Ruling Elder Chad Slate and Deacon Representatives Debby Vogel and Mike Sieger.

Rev. Thompson as Moderator thanked Elder Rosecky and the Nominating Committee, and the congregation responded with applause. The Moderator also thanked all of the Elders, Deacons and Stewards retiring in 2021 for their service to the church, noting that this occurred in difficult times owing to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Rev. Thompson as Moderator then introduced Wayne Presbyterian Church Treasurer Vijay Aggarwal for presentation of the 2021 budget, noting, however, that the budget is to be approved by Session, rather than by the congregation as a whole.

Treasurer Vijay Aggarwal noted that the 2021 budget, along with the 2020 budget and actual income and expenses for 2020, are set forth on pages 10 and 11 of the Annual Report. He noted that the 2020 budget ended with a deficit of approximately \$38,000. While donations based upon estimates of giving remained consistent with years prior to the pandemic, unpledged contributions were lower than anticipated, owing to the closure of in-person worship services during the pandemic. A total of \$184,000 was received from the endowment (at the rate of 5% thereof). Parking lot income did increase. Total revenues from all sources were approximately \$1,855,000. With regard to expenses in 2020, maintenance and utility expenses were higher than anticipated, as were the costs of repairs and equipment. Office expenses also exceeded budget.

Turning to the 2021 budget, Treasurer Aggarwal noted that estimates of giving received for the coming year of 2021 total approximately \$1,192,000, and for the 2021 budget we

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estimate unpledged donations of approximately \$285,000. Further, the budget anticipates that the Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) Phase 1 loan of approximately \$275,000 should be eligible for conversion to a grant, which would greatly assist the 2021 actual revenues and expenses. He further noted that the Phase 2 PPP application has been filed. The 2021 budget also anticipates a distribution from the endowment of 5% thereof, in the amount of \$190,000. With regard to anticipated expenses for 2021, the personnel expenses should be down somewhat, as staff vacancies exist and have not yet been filled. He noted that the 2021 salaries for non-ordained staff have been increased, and that cleaning expenses will increase once church reopens for worship services. With regard to program areas, the budgeted items are similar to 2020, with the exception of communications and technology where expenses are increased in conjunction with improving the communications and technology facilities for the church.

Treasurer Aggarwal anticipates that the 2021 budget will result in a surplus of approximately \$38,000.

Rev. Thompson thanked Vijay for his work as Treasurer of the church and spoke briefly to the congregation with regard to the impact of the continuing Covid-19 pandemic on our church. He noted that all were hoping that the church would be able to return to normal operations and programs in 2021. He further noted that in spite of the challenges which prevent in-person worship service and in-person church activities, Wayne Presbyterian Church nevertheless accomplished many things in 2020, as noted in the committee reports contained in the Annual Report. Worship services continue to be streamed, so that members of the congregation and visitors can gather for worship at home. He did note, of course, that it is as yet undetermined when in-person services may be reinstated.

Casey further noted that we all have been learning to be patient and to rely on God such that we will all be ready when the time is right to resume in-person worship services and in-person events at the church. While the timing would not be guaranteed, he noted that it was hoped that church programs would be back to “in person” in the fall of 2021, perhaps with “hybrid” format with both in-person and via Zoom. He also hoped that the pandemic will have receded sufficiently to allow the church to celebrate the 150th anniversary, which had been postponed of necessity in 2020 owing to the pandemic. The streaming worship service will continue to be at 9:30, but upon initiation of the summer



schedule (which will continue thereafter as the permanent schedule), there will be two services (9:00 and 10:30). One of the two services (probably the 10:30 service) will continue to be streamed on-line.

Rev. Thompson thereafter adjourned the Annual Meeting of the Congregation of Wayne Presbyterian Church with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted.

**Fronefield Crawford, Jr.**

*Clerk of Session and*

*Secretary of the Meeting*

Attest: 

Executive Pastor, Richard Miller.

## MINUTES OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING December 12, 2021 (In-Person and Via Zoom)

At 11:25 a.m. on Sunday December 12, 2021, pursuant to appropriate notifications of the meeting both in bulletins and from the pulpit, Rev. Raymond Bonwell as Moderator called to order a special meeting of the congregation of Wayne Presbyterian Church for the purposes of (i) voting on the election of Salvatore Ambrosio to fill an unexpired term as a Ruling Elder on Session, and (ii) to consider the request of Rev. L. Casey Thompson, Senior Pastor and Head of Staff of Wayne Presbyterian Church, to be released from his ministry at Wayne Presbyterian Church effective January 1, 2022, subject to modified terms of call.

Owing to the continuing presence of the Corona virus, the meeting was held both in person and via Zoom, with Clerk of Session proclaiming that a quorum of the congregation was in attendance for purposes of this meeting. After explaining the procedures for voting on the two matters specifically noticed for this special meeting, Rev. Bonwell read the following motion from the Nominating Committee of Wayne Presbyterian Church:

“The Nominating Committee of Wayne Presbyterian Church nominates Salvatore Ambrosio to be elected as a Ruling Elder on Session to serve an unexpired term for the Class of 2024.”

Upon Motion duly made and seconded, the members of the congregation voted overwhelmingly in favor of the motion.

Rev. Bonwell thereupon read the second motion for consideration as follows:

“The congregation of Wayne Presbyterian Church approves:

Reverend L. Casey Thompson’s request, as a minister of Word and Sacrament in good standing with the Presbytery of Philadelphia, to be released from his ministry at Wayne Presbyterian Church as Senior Pastor and Head of Staff, to be effective January 1, 2022, subject to the following additional terms:

Approval of Modified Terms of Call for a transition period of one year for Reverend Thompson, whereby, utilizing only funds donated by members of Wayne Presbyterian Church above and beyond their respective estimates of giving, Wayne Presbyterian Church will continue paying Reverend Thompson at the same salary and housing allowance for 2021 for the transition period of twelve months, also continuing to pay SECA Supplement and Board of Pension dues for the same period of time provided that, if Reverend Thompson finds other employment that provides health care coverage during the period ending December 31, 2022, payments for the healthcare portion of the Board of Pension dues will be suspended from the date of healthcare coverage of that other employment. Further, Reverend Thompson’s request to use accrued vacation days from December 13, 2021 to December 31, 2021 will be recognized.

The Presbytery of Philadelphia’s Commission on Ministry approved this request at their meeting on December 2, 2021.”

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the congregation of Wayne Presbyterian Church overwhelmingly voted to approve the motion.

Whereupon Reverend Thompson re-entered the meeting (having not been present until this time), receiving an ovation from the congregation and closing the special meeting with a prayer of benediction.

Respectfully submitted.

**Fronefield Crawford, Jr.**

*Clerk of Session*



# MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CORPORATION

## January 31, 2021

Upon completion of the Annual Meeting of the Congregation, Moderator Rev. Casey Thompson called the Annual Meeting of the Corporation to order, calling upon Elder Doug McBrearty, Chair of the Administration Committee, to chair the meeting. Elder McBrearty noted that the Church is within the scope of a 501.C.3 non-profit corporation. He noted that a quorum of the membership (coinciding with the membership of the church itself) was present, and stated that he did not have further information to submit over and above that which was submitted by Treasurer Vijay Aggarwal during the Annual Meeting of the Congregation. Elder McBrearty solicited any questions from the congregation, and no questions were raised. Pursuant to a motion to adjourn, which was duly seconded, the membership voted to adjourn the Annual Meeting of the Corporation, with a benediction from Senior Pastor, Rev. Casey Thompson.

Respectfully submitted.

**Fronefield Crawford, Jr.**  
*Clerk of Session*

## OFFICE OF FINANCE

The Office of Finance, under the leadership of the Director of Finance, is responsible for overseeing and implementing the financial operations at Wayne Presbyterian Church and its ministries.

This year we are pleased to welcome Elizabeth Wagner as our new Director of Finance. She is an ordained pastor in the Presbyterian Church (USA) in addition to a prior career in various church and public accounting positions. We are truly blessed to have someone of her background and experience as our Finance Director. Liz has already made significant improvements to the functioning of the finance office.

The Director works closely with the Senior Pastor, Church Treasurer, and members of the Session to insure the sound financial management of the church. Finance also supports the annual Stewardship Campaign and maintains relationships with contributors to the church by recording

payments, sending reminder letters and letters of appreciation for gifts, bequests and estimates of giving. Ruth Wisniewski supports many functions of this office.

In coordination with the Facility Manager and Administration Committee, Finance oversees vendor relationships and maintains all building use permits. The Director serves as the primary administrator for all financial purveyors and systems including banking systems and payroll programs. The Office of Finance prepares and analyzes financial statements for each ministry area of the church. The Endowment Fund reconciliation is handled by the Office of Finance, as is the yearly external review of our financial records. All personnel files are held in this office, along with payroll system, accounting records and contracts for workers' compensation, property, and liability insurance.

The Director manages the payment of employment benefits. In consultation with appropriate committees of Session and the Facilities Manager, the Director and Treasurer solicit bids from service providers, health insurance providers and others that service the church to insure cost effective operations.

Staff credit card usage and payments are managed by Finance, as are payments to all vendors and contract employees, such as special event musicians, interns, artists, and designers. The careful management and monitoring of financial plans and annual budgets ensures that the church has designated the appropriate financial resources to achieve its mission and vision.

Respectively submitted,

**Rev. Elizabeth Wagner, CPA**  
*Director of Finance*

**Vijay Aggarwal, PhD**  
*Treasurer*



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## ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

The Administration committee is responsible for the oversight of the Church's physical plant, our endowment and along with the Treasurer the financial records including the operating budget. Sub-committees include Property (upkeep, safety, maintenance & improvement of the facilities), chaired by Howard Holden; Township relations chaired by Sandy Kheradi, Finance covered by our Treasurer Vijay Aggarwal and Endowment chaired by Bill Lawrence. Two staff members are active on the committee: our Executive Associate Pastor, the Reverend Richard Miller and our new Director of Finance Elizabeth Wagner. The committee and subcommittees meet on a monthly basis and report to the Session.

This year we welcomed our new Director of Finance Elizabeth Wagner. Liz joined us just as Neil and Vijay were finalizing the transition from our old accounting system (CMS) to Shelby Next, a task that involved much work but went very smoothly.

### Property

Committee members: Howard Holden (Chair), Sandy Kheradi, Weezie Duff, Mark Fabere, Vince Cappeli and Chris White

The year began with numerous heavy snowfalls which resulted in the property budget overage from the start. Last year the Property Committee under the direction of our part-time facilities manager, Chris White, contracted a firm to provide a thorough analysis of all HVAC systems, as a result this year we have replaced three roof top a/c units. The boiler in the Davidson Hall failed and had to be rebuilt. Our custodial firm continues to be very effective dealing with COVID protocols and has kept our Church thoroughly sanitized on a daily basis for all of our various programs including the nursery school, additionally they enhanced our air filtration systems.

In the Sanctuary a design and engineering study was completed for Chancel and Sanctuary lighting improvements. We have purchased the new Lutron lighting control panel in preparation for further improvements in the second phase and bids are being sought for that installation. A new booth was built in the Sanctuary West Transept to house cameras, equipment and personnel to enhance our virtual Sunday services. Also in the West Transept we are repairing the wood dryrot in the large stained glass window.

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A volunteer "tool belt" crew of several members has been formed who have performed minor repairs and painting throughout the facility.

### Endowment

Committee members: Bill Lawrence, Chair, Larry Berglund, David Webster, Craig Standen and Cristina Hug. Our Investment Adviser is Stillwater Capital Advisors, led by Doug Swope with assistance from Bill Hudson.

The Wayne Presbyterian Church's Endowment portfolio returned 7.86% for the year-to-date period through November 30, 2021. The favorable absolute returns for the portfolio were driven by strong appreciation of its U.S. Equity allocations, which accounted for roughly 62% of the portfolio. U.S. equities staged a strong rally for most of the year due to increased optimism about economic growth supported by the ongoing vaccination of the U.S. and global populations. Equity markets saw some profit taking in the fourth quarter as investors grew concerned that higher inflation might lead to tighter monetary policy by the Federal Reserve and an increase in interest rates in the U.S. In contrast, the portfolio's allocations to International and Emerging Market equities lagged the rally in the U.S. market and was the primary source of the portfolio's underperformance relative to its benchmarks. The portfolio's allocation to Emerging Market equities (roughly 5% of the portfolio), for example, returned -3.2% for the year-to-date period and was hindered by a less effective COVID response in emerging market countries and increasing hostility to free enterprise by the Chinese government. The market value of the portfolio at the end of November was \$6,519,157.

Our Endowment portfolio return of 7.86% for the year-to-date period through November 30, 2021, compares with 15.84% for its primary benchmark, which is a 70%/30% blend of the S&P 500 Equity Index and the Bloomberg-Barclays Aggregate Bond Index. In evaluating the 2021 investment results for the Endowment, the Committee notes the favorable absolute returns, but is particularly focused on the poor results relative to its benchmark. Much of this underperformance came in the fourth quarter and was driven by two primary factors. The first was the poor performance of the portfolio's Emerging Market Equity allocation, which returned -9.02% for the three-month period ended November 30. This compares with a +1.28% return for the S&P 500 for the same period. Additionally, several of the U.S. equity managers underperformed their benchmarks later in the year contributing to the adverse results. This included both Large



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Cap and Small Cap managers. In the months ahead, the Committee will be reviewing its Investment Policy Statement to see if any changes are necessary to its asset allocation parameters. The Committee will also be reviewing our fund holdings and the investment firms that manage them to assure our conviction.

The portfolio made some modest shifts in its allocations during the year including some regular rebalancing of its outperforming allocations to U.S. Equities and a reduction to its Emerging Market allocation. The portfolio made one notable change to its fund selections, eliminating the T. Rowe Price Blue Chip Equity Fund in favor of the Fidelity Growth Opportunities Fund. This was done following the retirement of the T. Rowe Price portfolio manager earlier in the year. The Endowment paid out over \$400,000 to fund various aspects of the Church's operations during 2021. The Endowment received roughly \$180,000 of additional gifts and contributions for the year. We are grateful for this support and thank those generous donors for thinking of the long-term financial health of the Church. Based on the performance of the portfolio over the last decade, the Endowment is well positioned to provide financial stability and support to Wayne Presbyterian Church's ongoing mission.

### **Township Relations**

Committee members: Sal Ambrosia, Stephen Bajus, Howard Holden, Doug McBrearty and Sandy Kheradi

Township Relations continues to monitor the Church's relationship with Radnor Township as it affects our Church operations and property. Parking lot revenues did not meet budget expectations. This was due to the Covid 19 Pandemic. Commuter and shopper use of parking was minimal. In March, Radnor Township gifted the church \$9,769 for the third and fourth quarter of 2020. The amount was based on pre-pandemic revenue averages. For the first and second quarters, the Township remitted \$8,448. This was our share of the actual revenue of the parking spaces. A 50% decrease in pre-pandemic revenue. Again this year the Township allowed free parking on the WPC lot, Thursday through Saturday from Thanksgiving through Christmas, and this will create a further short-fall in the budgeted revenue.

The township also has approved the erection of Wayne Business Association tent for spring, summer and fall months. This also decreases traffic and revenue to the

church's parking lot.

Active discussions continue around both our parking lot to enhance our parking lot income through engaging a firm to offer a higher and better use of the site. Schematic renderings and drawings were presented to the Administration, Property and Township Relations Committees by Radnor Properties Inc. The concept was then approved by Session and will be presented to the congregation in January 2022. Preliminary meetings are being held with Radnor Commissioners to get their input prior to a public presentation.

Respectfully submitted,

**Douglas C. McBrearty**

*Elder and Chair*



## 2021 BUDGET, 2019 to 2021 ACTUAL

Income	2022 Budget	2021 Actual	2021 Budget	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2019 Actual
Regular Offerings						
Pledged Offerings	\$ 1,230,000	\$ 1,216,205	\$ 1,191,627	\$ 1,260,464	\$ 1,417,703	\$ 1,437,914
Unpledged Offerings	220,000	186,467	285,000	220,877	320,000	330,146
Prev. Yr. Pledge Pymts		17,751		21,682		21,809
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,450,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,420,423</b>	<b>\$ 1,476,627</b>	<b>\$ 1,503,023</b>	<b>\$ 1,737,703</b>	<b>\$ 1,789,868</b>
Other Income						
Parking Lot Revenue	\$ 30,000	\$ 23,604	\$ 40,000	\$ 44,260	\$ 46,000	\$ 27,329
Gift from Nursery School	30,000	20,000	20,000	3,000	20,000	10,000
PPP Loan Forgiveness	275,206	275,206	275,206			
Interest Income	58,000	57,733	38,000	37,569	15,000	12,776
Endowment Income	204,212	190,173	190,173	184,310	184,310	281,000
Presby Assessment	7,000	2,665	7,000	6,388	10,000	7,532
Building Use Revenue	1,500	1,398	1,500	1,184	4,500	4,360
Bequests		6,000		56,553	53,000	38,425
Misc. Offerings	2,000	5,985	2,000	2,236	10,000	9,328
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$ 607,918</b>	<b>\$ 582,765</b>	<b>\$ 573,879</b>	<b>\$ 335,501</b>	<b>\$ 342,810</b>	<b>\$ 390,750</b>
Non -Budgeted						
One Great Hour		\$ 2,372		\$ 3,575		\$ 27,521
Alternative Gifts		8,245		13,866		17,576
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>\$ 10,617</b>		<b>\$ 17,441</b>		<b>\$ 45,097</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 2,057,918</b>	<b>\$ 2,013,805</b>	<b>\$ 2,050,506</b>	<b>\$ 1,855,965</b>	<b>\$ 2,080,513</b>	<b>\$ 2,225,715</b>
<b>Expense</b>						
Personnel	\$ 1,125,574	\$ 1,163,024	\$ 1,190,452	\$ 1,202,328	\$ 1,308,223	\$ 1,423,598
Maint. & Utilities	220,500	214,766	205,500	161,583	215,628	146,840
Equipment & Repairs	77,128	87,260	77,128	98,550	67,000	95,994
Office	86,000	77,413	73,000	76,994	69,000	76,455
Music & Worship	30,500	29,378	30,500	22,702	30,500	40,271
Library/AV	1,000	284	1,000	389	1,000	1,456
Children's Ministries	15,000	11,575	15,000	9,399	15,000	15,716
Child Care	10,000	2,354	10,000	2,604	10,000	10,265
Youth Programs	33,000	11,246	33,000	12,624	33,000	31,452
Congregational Care	3,000	-	3,000	70	3,000	5,926
Comm/Tech Committee	107,000	76,418	87,000	42,645	42,000	76,070
Faith in Action	188,900	170,341	188,900	159,183	188,900	201,322
Adult Education	12,500	12,528	12,500	7,396	12,500	9,864
Community Fellowship	14,000	2,996	4,500	1,274	4,500	457
Discipleship	7,900	2,021	2,000	1,446	2,000	994
Pastoral Care	5,500	5,078	5,500	2,193	5,500	4,135
Wings	4,000	4,091	4,000	3,130	4,000	2,918
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,941,502</b>	<b>\$ 1,870,773</b>	<b>\$ 1,942,980</b>	<b>\$ 1,804,511</b>	<b>\$ 2,011,751</b>	<b>\$ 2,143,734</b>
Other Areas						
Presby Assessment	\$ 66,000	\$ 69,640	\$ 66,000	\$ 68,040	\$ 66,000	\$ 66,339
Misc. Expenses	-	300	400	267	400	450
Stewardship Challenge	2,000	2,489	2,000	2,565		7,859
Session Expense	1,300	1,768	900	1,302	900	2,713
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$ 69,300</b>	<b>\$ 74,197</b>	<b>\$ 69,300</b>	<b>\$ 72,174</b>	<b>\$ 67,300</b>	<b>\$ 77,361</b>
Non -Budgeted						
One Great Hour		\$ 2,372		\$ 3,575		\$ 27,521
Alternative Gifts		8,245		13,866		17,576
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>\$ 10,617</b>		<b>\$ 17,441</b>		<b>\$ 45,097</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 2,010,802</b>	<b>\$ 1,955,587</b>	<b>\$ 2,012,280</b>	<b>\$ 1,894,126</b>	<b>\$ 2,079,051</b>	<b>\$ 2,266,192</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ 47,116</b>	<b>\$ 58,218</b>	<b>\$ 38,226</b>	<b>\$ (38,160)</b>	<b>\$ 1,462</b>	<b>\$ (40,477)</b>
Special Gift - Deficit Reduction						\$ 40,477
<b>Cumulative Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ 79,099</b>	<b>\$ 31,983</b>	<b>\$ 11,991</b>	<b>\$ (26,235)</b>		<b>\$ 11,925</b>



## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### 2021 Actual

Total income from regular offerings (pledged and unpledged) was below prior year by 79K primarily due to a drop off in pledged and unpledged offerings in November and December. Total income from regular offerings was 56K below budget. Unpledged offerings were below budget by 98K however, this was partially offset by pledged offerings that were 24K above budget. Given the constraints of the pandemic it is a true testament of faith that our members continued to fulfill their estimates of giving during the year.

Despite the government ordered shut down of church facilities, we were able to continue to pay our staff and maintain our facility partly due to receiving payroll protection funds (PPP) of 275K during the year. Nursery school support was at budgeted levels (20K) while parking revenues of 24K were 16K below budget. Other income was positive to budget primarily due to significant increases in interest income (58K).

Personnel expenses were below budget primarily due to vacancy in pastoral and youth director positions and replacing two youth directors with one individual rather than two.

Maintenance expenses were higher than budget due to excess expenses in building sanitation and snow removal. Equipment repairs were over budget primarily due to unexpected repairs to the boiler. Office expenses were higher than budget primarily due to installation of a new church management (Shelby) system.

Due to the limited access we had to the facility in 2021, all other expense items were generally at or below budget. Of note: without the PPP grant, we would have run a deficit of 217K. With the PPP loan and continued strong giving by our members we will end the year with a surplus of 58K.

In addition to operating funds, we utilized dedicated funds as follows:

Building repairs and equipment	\$103,231
Housing loan	10,000
Mission (Uncommon Individual Foundation)	7,950
Memorial garden	<u>2,366</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$123,547</b>

## 2022 Budget

The pledged income budget is based on estimates of giving that have been received by the middle of January and are budgeted at 1,230K. The budget for unpledged offerings is 220K, similar to what we received in 2020. Income from the parking lot is assumed to still be depressed by the pandemic and is budgeted at 30K. Since the Nursery School has received forgiveness of their second PPP loan, we anticipate a 30K reimbursement for utilities and cleaning in 2022. All other income lines are similar to prior years. Due to market gains, the 5% draw on the endowment is increased by 14K. Additionally, WPC has received forgiveness of our second PPP loan in the amount of 275K in 2022.

The personal budget assumes salary increases for full-time staff members who have been on board for a year or more. There is also provision for a mission coordinator in the second half of 2022. The budget assumes an interim pastor will be hired in March. All additional payments for Casey Thompson will be paid from the Session approved transition fund and will not impact the 2022 budget. Any additional bonus payments for 2022, if approved by Session, will also be disbursed from the transition fund. Additional payroll tax credits from the employee retention tax credit program are still to be determined and therefore not included in this budget.

Maintenance expenses are higher than prior year due to increased cost for room set ups as we reopen. This increased expense is partly offset by anticipated lower building sanitation expenses than we experienced in 2021. Office expenses are increased due to the new church management (Shelby) system charges as well as delayed completion of the review of our 2020 financial records.

Expenses for community fellowship and discipleship are increased for anticipated increases in these program areas. The communications budget includes 20k for additional live streaming support. All other expense categories are maintained at the levels that were budgeted in 2021.

This budget projects an additional surplus of 47K. Session has approved placing this surplus in a dedicated account to fund future budget shortfalls or new programming needs.

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## ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Adult Ed Team provided six programs this year with a total of 62 hours of programming.

***Sunday Bible Study Spring Semester- Gospel of Mark***  
14 Weeks, Zoom-based, led by Pro Joe Modica

***Book Club: Everything Happens for A Reason,***  
***by Kate Bowler***

two Zoom-based sessions. Casey led this Book Club discussion sometime in mid-April.

***Radical Witness: Theology and Practice***  
July/August, five events, Hybrid

Led by seminarian, David King, this five-week program looked at the lives of five twentieth century Christians whose theological grounding can help us understand ourselves and calls us into Christian life. Each week focused on the following theological thought leaders: Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Saint Oscar Romero, Dorothy Day (Catholic Social Union), Ida B Welles (anti-lynching journalist), and James Cohn

***One Book, One Church – This Tender Land***  
September/October, six events, Hybrid

We had interactive discussion events around William Kent-Krueger's novel, *This Tender Land*, including a presentation and discussion with the author himself. There was also a presentation from a historian on the Carlisle, PA Indian School. A fictional native American school figured prominently in the novel.

***Sunday Bible Study – Fall Semester – Malachi and Beyond***  
a study of the intertestamental period – 14 weeks, hybrid.

***Companions in the Wilderness***  
November/December – seven sessions, Hybrid

### **Reflection on Hybrid Delivery**

By the start of 2021, we had Zoom delivery down. The real challenge was hybrid class delivery. We wanted to give people the option of attending programs in person or online. David King's summer adult ed class gave us the opportunity to test the technology with a smaller group.

The use of the Owl, a motion and audio-sensitive camera/mic combo has been extremely successful and helped us reach a broader audience including out of state participants.

With an Attitude of Gratitude I can't thank the Adult Ed Committee and Katy enough for their spirit, enthusiasm, energy, creativity and adaptability to deliver exceptional programming.

Respectfully submitted,

**Todd Cameron,**  
*Elder*





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## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

This will be remembered as the year of trying new things, or at least trying old things in new ways. Children's ministry has continued to adapt and adjust in an attempt to reach children and families in meaningful ways during these unprecedented months. A walk through this past year will highlight some of the creative ways we have utilized in order to continue our commitment to a ministry that challenges, supports and encourages our children and families.

From January through May we continued with a virtual Sunday school program. Units were designed and created on The Parables, Holy Week, and Heroes of the Old Testament. Each unit included a 'take home' kit of resources and materials for Sunday school lessons to be done at home. The kits were designed to be the companion piece to a 30-minute video that was created each week and uploaded to YouTube. The videos included animated Bible stories, music, and messages from Mrs. M and Shep. We continued to have a great response to this virtual format, with at least 35 families participating in each unit.

Summertime gave us an opportunity to begin to meet together again. As the church began to gather for worship in the sanctuary, we began an in-person Kids Corner under the tent in the parking lot. Children were welcomed to a time of stories and crafts. Though only a few children attended in person it was wonderful to see them again.

September brought the return of our in-person Sunday school and the reopening of the church nursery. Due to staffing concerns and the anticipation of lower attendance during the relaunch, the decision was made to combine grade levels and offer only 4 Sunday school classes. Attendance in each class averages approximately 8 children each week. Each class has a team of 3 to 5 teachers. They have done a wonderful job of welcoming the children back. We hired a new Sunday morning childcare supervisor this fall. Samantha Claricia-Moore has done a remarkable job of creating a safe and inviting space for our littlest ones and their parents. We instituted a new Sunday school curriculum this year. The PCUSA "Growing in Grace and Gratitude" materials have been well received.

Another exciting September event this year was a KidZone day at the church. We collaborated with EarthCare and had a day of learning about native plants, hearing Bible stories about growing, creating crafts, and planting our new

Children's Garden. Special thanks to Joshua Cady for the construction of the planter box.

December saw the return of the Family Advent Celebration and the creation of a new format for the Children's Christmas Eve worship service. The overwhelming response to the Advent party was a clear indication that our families are eager to fellowship together again. We gathered for crafts, caroling and lunch. The 4pm Christmas Eve service will include opportunities for all children to participate and be engaged in the Nativity story.

We look forward in great anticipation to the New Year and the opportunities to gather, grow, and serve.

Respectfully submitted,

**Kelli Masters**

*Director of Children's Ministry*

**Pamela Clark and Megan Mabe**

*Children's Ministry Elders*





## COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Similar to 2020, 2021 has proven to be a year that has required the Communications and Technology Committee to continue to expand the church's abilities to communicate with the congregation and the community. Throughout the year, we have learned and grown in our ability to leverage technology to communicate with a variety of audiences as well as deliver virtual and hybrid worship and programs as pandemic concerns evolved.

### Communications Media

#### *Website*

The WPC website continues to be our primary digital platform for sharing important information regarding our church and its programs. It requires ongoing updates and upgrades to make sure it provides smooth navigation and accurate information. In early 2021, we rolled out a major website upgrade to the Shelby platform. This upgrade has many advantages including direct integration with ShelbyNext membership, improved options for Giving to the church, and access to a new Shelby Member Portal featuring a member directory.

#### *Social Media*

While we have used social media in the past, we continued to explore and expand ways in which to effectively use Facebook and Instagram to engage the congregation and the community. We steadily grew the number of followers on YouTube, Facebook and Instagram, with increasing views, likes, and clicks, signaling successful engagement. We also have a large and growing library of content on our YouTube channel, ranging from recorded worship services to music offerings and children's videos. Connie Beecher uses her graphic design expertise and innovations to create compelling graphics and videos to help bring our people, programs, and events to the attention of virtual audiences.

Jayne Grabowski recently joined the church staff as the Administrative Assistant for Congregational Life, Marketing, bringing valuable skills in the development and management of marketing and communications platforms. Her knowledge of social media management will be particularly valuable as we continue to expand the use of popular platforms and measure their effectiveness.

#### *Email*

While social media grew in importance as a marketing tool, email remained our primary platform for member

communications in 2021. We continued to broadly distribute the weekly News & Views and monthly Wayne Pres newsletter, and we are now using ShelbyNext to manage email lists to easily target specific groups regarding relevant events or announcements. We plan to continue to enhance program-specific email campaigns going forward.

#### *Wayne Pres*

The Wayne Pres has remained our monthly compilation of the news of the church, primarily reporting the events of the recent month. It is delivered electronically to members for whom we have an email address and printed and mailed to all others. During periods of particularly slow email delivery, the deacons established hand delivery to some communities.

### Events & Programs

By facilitating social and traditional media communications, event registration and payment mechanisms, and hybrid/virtual technologies, the Communications and Technology Committee supported many significant events throughout the year. We cooperated with a variety of program leaders to leverage technology to deliver many important programs.

- **Christmas Angels and Easter Eggs** – The committee collaborated with the deacons to publicize these major community support programs and implemented website registration to enable donors to select angels and eggs virtually.
- **Retreats and speakers** – The committee supported a variety of retreats and events that were held virtually or in a hybrid model (some participants in person, some on Zoom), enabling great participation and while securing safety.
- **One Book, One Church** – We worked to support the popular four-week book club that featured book discussions and remote speakers “visiting” via Zoom.
- **Adult Ed, Bible Studies, Youth, Children's and other ministries** - Many classes and programs for a variety of audiences were conducted in virtual or hybrid formats, often reaching a wider group than if conducted exclusively in person.
- **Town halls and congregational meetings** – The committee worked hard to navigate significant



challenges posed by the physical structure of the church as well as bandwidth and technology limitations to conduct virtual/hybrid meetings of the congregation, including the ability to cast virtual votes.

We now have excellent virtual and hybrid meeting capabilities in the chapel and the Fireside and Knox rooms. The sanctuary presents challenges, but we continue to upgrade technology and bandwidth to overcome those challenges.

### **Virtual Worship Services**

As 2021 began, we worked closely with the pastors to transition from recorded services to a live stream. This work allowed for a smooth transition to when people came to the sanctuary to attend the Sunday services. Through this process we started leveraging the new high-definition cameras to allow the services to be recorded and streamed with smoother transitions.

Throughout the year, we managed the process of installing a video control booth in the west transept with some major improvements to the technology and the appearance of the control booth. While the booth physically is mostly in place, there is some electrical work yet to be completed in 2022. In addition, we began the process of upgrading our video production software, which will also be completed in early 2022.

In addition, we trained several new volunteers to support the video and audio production of the live stream. While the volunteers have been able to provide the services each Sunday, we look forward to adding a part-time video producer into the mix, to provide some much-needed support, mentoring, and expertise. This person started managing video production in January 2022.

### **Hybrid Worship Services**

During the transition from being 100% virtual to having congregants back in the sanctuary, we implemented a seat selection system to provide safe distancing within the sanctuary for Sunday services. We used this system for several months.

### **Wayne Presbyterian App**

In addition to the website enhancements, there is now a Wayne Presbyterian mobile application for iPhone and Android. The app offers a variety of features, including one-click worship streaming and access to the member portal

with membership directory. For more information, visit <https://waynepres.org/website-2021-enhancements/mobile-app/>.

Many of the communication and technology activities would not have been possible without the dedication of our committee members. Many thanks to the team as we worked through these extraordinary times.

Connie Beecher • Mike Burnham • Frank Caruthers • Mark Fabere • Jayne Grabowski • Sally Hudson • Sharon Levitch • Katy Shevel • Angela Tait • Ruth Wisniewski

Respectfully submitted,

**Elizabeth Castleman and Eric Ziegler**  
*Elders*





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## COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

This year has not been what we had hoped for our Committee and our Church. We missed hosting Potluck meals for the annual Meeting, Ash Wednesday, and Maundy Thursday. We are struggling still with Covid worries about serving snacks with Coffee Hour. We are finding it difficult to recruit persons to serve at Coffee Hour and become Greeters. New Member classes, while being conducted virtually and reinforce our welcoming nature, are less personal and interactive that we would prefer. We missed being able to help celebrate the Church's 150th birthday, our traditional annual Picnic, and the Softball league. Our Second Saturday Dinner Groups are mostly dormant because of Covid concerns.

We did participate weekly in serving during the congregation at Coffee Hour from March 'under the tent' through Advent and Christmas. We faced transitions during this year. Kristin Laws stepped down from the Coffee Coordinator Role, Monique Chico retired, and Rev Thompson requested a change of call. We celebrated Miriam Hollingsworth's accepting the Coffee Coordinator's position and Reverends Miller and Shevel were installed as Associate Pastors. We have conducted several New Member Classes and hosted a New Member dinner. We continue to strive using the supportive spirit of this Church but we are in need of new blood Fellowship members.

Thankfully, we are anticipating a better 2022 with higher penetrance of Covid vaccines. We hope that this will achieve for our Church a "herd" immunity that will allow us to be un-masked, able to shake hands & embrace as the spirit moves us and be able to sit down while sharing a meal with our beloved community.

We understand that a responsible person must be careful and we are confident that WPC members have a great track record of "doing the right Covid things". And we know that, as you do these personal things, you will feel great about helping our Community Fellowship Committee continue to create a welcoming environment here at Wayne. Please join us.

Respectfully Submitted,

**David Robinson**

*Community Fellowship Elder*

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## CONGREGATIONAL CARE COMMITTEE

*The Congregational Care Committee's goal is to envision and implement programs that serve the spiritual, emotional, and practical needs that confront us along life's journey; and assist WPC members and the community to love their lives more abundantly by helping themselves and their loved ones.*

*The programs below represent a broad array of support and education for WPC members and the community during the various transitions in our lives.*

### **Marriage Preparation**

Once again, this year has been a different year for weddings, however Lori Dziedziak did an excellent job of navigating her way through all of the changes. There were three in person weddings and two counselling sessions that were held. Sarah Hostetter did one of the premarital counseling sessions and Lori Dziedziak did the other one. As the protocols continued to change throughout the year, there were some stressful moments as we kept creating a policy and then changing it. However, it all worked out and the weddings that were held in the sanctuary all went well!

### **Mental Health**

The mental health ministry at WPC continued to grow and flourish throughout the year. Under the leadership of Nancy Dever, there are over one hundred names on our mailing list and 10-12 people gather on zoom each week to support one another. Our goal within the mental health ministry is to continue to be the light for our church members and the community through education, support, companionship, and prayer. The support group for parents with children struggling with anxiety or depression (PSAD) continues to meet weekly (serving parents with children ages 12-24 with a mental illness diagnosis.) NAMI, Main Line, PA promotes this nondenominational peer support group. Members from our church and the community come whenever they can to share their struggles, navigating the complexities of mental health struggles within their own families. Once we transitioned to Zoom, it expanded its geographic reach outside the Main Line and even outside Pennsylvania. For now, the group is continuing to meet via zoom, so we can meet the needs of the struggling parents.

### **Looking forward to 2022**

As we look towards a new year, we are in the process of planning Adult Ed opportunities in both the areas of mental



health and caregiving. Watch the newsletter for upcoming events.

We are looking for new members to join this committee and innovative programs to correspond with the needs within the congregation. Please contact Alice Hood (alicesmu@aol.com) if you would like to share your gifts with us. We meet the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm. Many thanks to all our committee members, Diane Merry, Lori Dziedziak, Mary Ellen Smith, Matt Mabe, Nancy Dever and Richard Miller for all their hard work and dedication. We are a special committee whose members celebrate each other's joys and support each other throughout our health and other life challenges. I have felt very honored to chair this very special committee.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Alice Hood**  
*Elder*

## DEACON BOARD

The role of the Deacons, as described in Scripture, is to "fulfill a ministry of compassion, witness and service, sharing the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress".

Over the past 22 months, the pandemic has been center stage, jeopardizing lives and challenging the norms of social interaction, emotional health, and personal safety. As Deacons, our response has been to identify areas of growing need and to try and provide a greater breadth and depth of support to those in need - both within our church and in the community at large. While maintaining our traditional support programs, we have placed an increased emphasis on outreach to congregational members who were experiencing isolation and supporting those in the community suffering from food shortages.

Our deeper focus on community outreach this past year has helped us to better recognize the potential for closer coordination, partnership, and synergy with the Session Mission Committee. Thus, we hope to have a Deacon Community Services representative and a Session Mission Committee representative attending each other's meetings starting in early 2022.

From an operations management perspective, the Deacons have leveraged virtual meeting technologies extensively across all programs and shifted our Deacon meeting schedules to enable more frequent Deacon Board discussions and a wider cross-committee dialogue and decision-making platform. We hope to adopt a hybrid meeting protocol beginning in January 2022.

We carry out our congregational care and community outreach through the talents of our 42 committed Deacons and 2 youth Deacons serving a 1-year term. The Deacon Board's leadership is as follows:

- Richard Miller – Pastoral Staff Advisor
- John Larkin – Moderator
- Carolyn Lolli – Co-moderator
- Craig Stock – Treasurer
- Jennie Hagin – Chair, Care and Compassion Committee
- Tim Zaro – Chair, Congregational Service Committee
- Steve Fakharzadeh – Chair, Community Service Committee





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### **Congregational Service Committee**

The committee has four programmatic areas: Senior Events, Hosting Memorial Service receptions in the Chapel, providing rides to church/concerts, and assisting with live streaming of our Sunday church services.

Unfortunately with the pandemic, we've not been able to restart either the senior events or hosting memorial receptions. Hopefully each of these will begin again soon. We were able to start offering rides to church again in May of 2021. Bill Pentz oversees this ministry and we have eight drivers who take turns offering rides on Sunday mornings. We've continued to support the Sunday morning live streaming by assisting with audio production. We have a group of eight Deacons and former Deacons who take turns on a rotating schedule. Tom Evans manages this group and works with the church production staff as this new technology continues to develop more capabilities.

Lastly, we have the Deacon Compassion Fund which offers financial assistance to those in our church and community who are in need. We will make financial gifts available to the vendors people use for things such as car loans, rent payments, doctor or utility bills, and the like. The lifetime maximum benefit is \$1,500. Please make us aware of any needs you may know of so that the Deacons can be even more responsive to the Congregation and friends.

### **Care and Compassion Committee Visitation**

The Care and Compassion committee has worked hard over the past several years to develop a Compassion care list for the Deacons. This list serves to keep track of those members that have been brought to our attention with some sort of need so that we can keep in touch with each of these individuals all throughout the year. Each person(s) on this list is assigned to a Deacon. We currently have 53 people on our list and are always open to adding others who may be in need. We encourage anyone to bring these people to the attention of a Deacon or Pastor so that we can reach out to them.

Due to COVID we have been limited in our ability to visit in person, however, starting in April of this past year we were slowly able to start visiting again. Additional phone calls and thinking of you cards continue to be sent to these people to let them know that we are here for them and are praying for them. We remain hopeful that in 2022 we will be able to visit regularly again in person as we usually do!

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### **Meal Delivery**

This past year the Deacons had the privilege of providing meals for many people who were either recovering from surgery, suffering from the loss of a loved one, or not feeling well enough to cook. These meals were provided in most cases for months at a time which took us through almost the whole year. Rides to doctor's appointments were also provided to one of the persons we were providing meals to. While the meals are set up through the care and compassion committee, additional members of the Deacon board also help to provide the meals and sometimes other members at WPC.

### **Flower Delivery**

Typically, Easter and Christmas flowers are personally delivered to the individuals on our Compassion care list. Due to COVID we were unable to provide Christmas flowers in person in 2020 but in some cases, we were able to personally deliver the Easter flowers this past Easter. This Christmas, we are very excited to be able to deliver Christmas poinsettias again in person! To accompany both flower deliveries are cards which Connie Beecher helped us design with beautiful photos of the stained-glass windows of the church.

### **Birthday Cards**

80 birthday cards were sent out to those members of our congregation who had reached the golden age of 90 or above! Mary Hodge facilitates this ministry. This past year we updated the birthday card with another beautiful photo of a stained-glass window in the church with a verse from the book of Psalms.

### **Community Service Committee Christmas Angels**

The goal of the Christmas Angels program is to supply food and gifts to those in need at Christmas time. This charitable initiative is led by Carolyn Lolli and Kristin Laws. Given restrictions imposed by the pandemic, last year's event required pivoting to a fully virtual platform for selection of families, developed and supported by Mark Fabere. Based on the success of its implementation, the virtual platform was used again this year, and will be moving forward from now on. Moreover, as WPC re-opened for in-person worship, Carolyn and Kristin were kind enough to be stationed in the Connector between Sunday services in recent weeks to assist with on-line family selection for anyone wishing to do so at Church.



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This year, 100 families will be provided with Christmas food, gifts, and gift cards through our partnerships with the Salvation Army, Salt and Light, and the St. John AME Church in Wayne. Donation box/basket drop off is scheduled for the morning of Saturday, December 18. This is always a highlight on the Deacons' calendar and an event filled with Christmas joy, spirit, and fellowship!

### **Easter Eggs**

Providing meals to our partners in the local communities at Easter is as popular for the WPC congregation as the Christmas Angels event. The Easter Eggs program is also led by Carolyn Lolli and Kristin Laws. Following the success of the last year's Christmas Angels event, the virtual platform for selection of families was re-purposed for the Easter Eggs program. Donations supporting 150 families were provided by WPC through our partnerships with the Salvation Army, Salt and Light, and the St. John AME Church in Wayne in March of this year. Many thanks go out to Carolyn, Kristin, and all Deacons who participated in the Christmas Angels and Easter Eggs programs for their hard work and dedication, as well as to all who kindly provided donations!

### **Bible-in-a-Book-Bag**

The Bible-in-a-Book-Bag program provides a Bible, a book bag, and essential school supplies for each student at Cornerstone Christian Academy (CCA) in Southwest Philadelphia. This program is led by Ian Robertson and John Larkin. This year's effort supported 175 students ranging from grades K through 8. Moreover, Ian and John worked closely with teachers and staff at CCA to tailor the list of supplies provided to meet specific classroom and student needs. Fruitful fundraising efforts and the generosity of the congregation allowed for purchase of new high-quality bookbags and established a base of funds for next year's initiative. We extend many thanks to Ian, John, and all who donated money and time to the continued success of this program!

### **Blood Drive**

Despite the pandemic, WPC opened its doors to 4 very productive blood drives in March, June, September, and November of this past year, doubling the number of blood drives from the previous year. Utilizing the Connector and the Chapel, scheduled donors were able to give blood in a safe and socially distanced manner. Nearly 200 units of blood were collected (from over 200 donors). Given the success of this program under the leadership of Lynne Samson and Wendy Norman, the American Red Cross has designated WPC as a Premier Partner, prompting its expansion to

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conduct a total of 6 blood drives in 2022 on an every 2 month cadence. We are immensely grateful to Lynne, Wendy, the volunteers staffing the blood drives, and the many blood donors who make this program possible!

### **Career Networking/Joseph's People**

Given the uncertainties of a challenging job market, our Career Networking Group has maintained and grown its partnership with Joseph's People (a faith-based organization committed to offering support, guidance, and job counseling services to people throughout the region who are unemployed or are seeking full employment). Led by James Barnes and Bernie Clark, and with the support of a team of 15 facilitators from WPC, the Career Networking Group has continued to meet virtually on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month throughout the pandemic. Over the past 2 years, this program has helped nearly 50 people navigate towards new jobs and new career opportunities.

Furthermore, the Career Networking Group is expanding efforts to serve young adults seeking to pursue internships or jobs as they enter the workforce or seek alternative employment opportunities. Under Bernie's leadership, the Career Exploration And Networking (CEAN) program will be holding a virtual workshop on summer internships on January 5, 2022. The event will be facilitated by Austin Ricketts and include both younger and more experienced panelists from WPC sharing their employment journeys, tips, and guidance. In addition, a new WPC LinkedIn network has been established through the Career Networking Group. All WPC members who subscribe to LinkedIn are encouraged to join. We are greatly appreciative of the wonderful work by James, Bernie, and all who contribute to Career Networking/Joseph's People activities!

### **Great Valley Food Cupboard**

During the pandemic, the need for donations to charitable organizations, such as Great Valley Food Cupboard (GVFC), was accentuated. Amy Elliott and Wendy Norman led new efforts to enhance the relationship between WPC and GVFC and provide donations to address the needs of those less fortunate. In March, Amy and Wendy partnered with Youth Ministries to deliver specific requested items purchased by Youth Group members and their families to GVFC. As WPC began to open its doors again, efforts to collect donations continued at Wednesday evening devotions gatherings during Lent; donated items were then delivered to GVFC by Amy and Wendy. Opportunities to expand this program and collect and deliver donations on a regular basis in collaboration with other partners at WPC, are being explored.

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Many thanks go out to Amy and Wendy for their leadership on this important initiative!

#### **Deacon Treasury**

The work of the Deacons and their Committees is carried out with the financial support of WPC members. For 2021, Session budgeted \$2,900 for the Deacons' activities. In addition, Church members have donated funds for Funeral and Memorial expenses, the Easter Egg and Christmas Angel food baskets, the Bible in a Book Bag program for Christian Academy, and the Deacons' Mission and Care and Compassion funds.

We are updating documentation on the sources, uses, and approvals associated with the accounts. This should ensure that we meet donors' intentions for contributions and that, as new Deacons join the Board, they have clarity about the sources and expected uses of money entrusted to the Deacons' care for the benefit of church members and the broader community.

Respectfully submitted,

**John Larkin**

*Deacon Moderator*

## **FAITH IN ACTION (MISSION)**

While we have only recently returned in person to worship, those of us on the Faith in Action Committee have continued working with our Mission Partners. This has been facilitated by the generosity of our fellow members, who recognize that needs are great, especially during a year such as we have endured in 2020.

Our Senior Pastor, Casey Thompson, made the following observation:

"I am particularly proud of the way that our mission partners (including the ones that we began) have not only met the difficult times of the pandemic but have, in some cases, even expanded their ministries and even thrived during the pandemic. I'd especially lift up The Common Place, who pivoted quickly to provide both online care for kids in the after-school program but also began to provide a significant amount of food to families facing insecurity during the shutdown."

We invite you to read the following updates for our major mission partners, and heartily encourage you to join us in serving their needs in any way you are able. No level of participation is too small, and all manners of assistance are welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

**Sheryl Durham and Buzz Mossholder**

*Elders*

**Casey Thompson**

*Director of Mission/Faith in Action*



## NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

*"And who is my neighbor? (Luke 10:28) "The commandment we have is this: those who love God must love their sisters and brothers also." (1 John 4:20) "Is this not what I choose: ... to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house;" (Isaiah 58: 6,7)*

Frederic Buechner said that the place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet. Local Mission at WPC is our faith-in-action whereby neighbors are helping neighbors. Inspired by Scripture, we respond to help disadvantaged neighbors in the Wayne area:

- For hard-to-employ adults who are disabled, experiencing homelessness, recovering from substance use or are on probation or parole: **Baker Industries**
- For the healing of the spirits of children, families, and communities broken by trauma including violence, neglect, addiction, poverty, mental illness, racism, and other serious societal problems: **Gemma Services** [formerly Presbyterian Children's Village]
- For local families [households with minor children] experiencing homelessness: **Interfaith Hospitality Network of the Main Line**
- For youth that live in pockets of dominantly minority and economically under-resourced neighborhoods needing academic, social, and cultural mentoring and life skills coaching: **Main Line Mentoring and Radnor Township Civic Association** [African-American non-profit community center]
- For families in all age and racial ethnic categories in the Wayne area experiencing chronic food insecurity: **Great Valley Food Cupboard**
- For foreign seafarers docked in the Port of Philadelphia and restricted on board ship experiencing emotional and spiritual loneliness: **Mission to Chinese Seamen**
- For foreign refugees legally granted entry in need of support settling and assimilating into life in the U.S. in our area: **Main Line Refugee Resettlement Group**

- For senior citizens seeking to stay in their homes and remain healthy, and in need of household assistance and /or transportation: **Wayne Senior Center and Surrey Services for Seniors**

The pandemic caused all of our local partners to adopt innovative Covid-protective protocols to continue to operate without the benefit of in-person interaction between WPC volunteers and the above partners. Financial support continued, however, commensurate with WPC's overall finance made possible by annual giving, Bread From Heaven donations, and federal grants.

Since the church building was closed, donations of food in the cabinet in the Connector for the Great Valley Food Cupboard were replaced by external direct food donations and financial support through the Bread From Heaven initiative.

WPC could not host homeless families in our facility, so instead, IHN-ML re-configured their Norristown Center so that 2 to 3 families could stay there and another family or 2 in hotels. WPC volunteers donated three prepared or purchased meals and donated various hygienic supplies and other needs.

WPC volunteers supported Gemma Services by providing family fun-night baskets for the families who permanently welcome children into their homes. Also, WPC and Baker Industries teamed up to provide 300 tins of multi-colored stress relief putty from Crazy Aaron's Thinking Putty made in Norristown. This was used by children in all of Gemma's programs as an aid during remote learning sessions.

WPC volunteers helped Wayne Senior Center distribute bag lunches to patrons because inside meals had to be suspended. Home delivery of lunches was provided to patrons who could not come to the WSC to receive their meals.

WPC volunteers assisted Main Line Mentoring in preparing and maintaining Miss Mazie's Garden in Mt. Pleasant. This is a community garden that provides fresh vegetables to the Mt. Pleasant residents. Volunteers also supported an Afghan refugee family in Bryn Mawr with in kind donations, time and talent.

In addition financial support was provided to Mission To Chinese Seamen, Surrey Services for Seniors, Baker Industries, and RTCA, and FLITE.

Respectfully submitted,

**Scott Laird**

*Chair*

## HAMMERS WITH HEART CONSTRUCTION MINISTRY

The Construction Ministry service crews had an abbreviated year because of the global pandemic but 100% of the budgeted funding was delivered to our deserving partners to help local homeowners and institutions remain warm, safe and dry. Ministry Construction Partners were: Rebuild Together Philadelphia, The Common Place, Cornerstone Christian Academy, Good Works of Chester County, and Habitat for Humanity of Philadelphia. In addition to our annual funds, we used dedicated funds for PCUSA – Disaster Relief.

Our plans for 2022 include working with the individual Construction Partners in volunteer participation and fellowship. We will work with other churches/groups and our crews will be facilitated with funding if approved. In addition to our Construction Partners, the Hammers with Hearts may participate in service opportunities such as MLK Day of Service and helping the Radnor Township Civic Association as the local health safety restriction ease.

God continues to bless this important ministry and we look forward to another year of service to communities in the area. We are anticipating return of in-person work crews, assigning Construction Partner Coordinators, and increasing interest from the WPC community. Hey, come and help! We need eager minds, active bodies, and thankful souls.

Respectfully submitted,

**David Robinson**

*Chair*



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## THE COMMON PLACE

The Common Place celebrated its 8th year serving children and families in SW Philadelphia in 2021. COVID curtailed most programs during the first half of the year, but the food pantry continued to provide food for the most vulnerable in the community. WPC held two clothing drives this year to, collecting almost 200 bags of clothes for TCP to distribute to families in SW. The Scholars afterschool program resumed in September and enrollment has grown steadily.

The new, local leadership at TCP has hit the ground running with new ideas and programs. A Seed-to-Plate food initiative has quickly converted Bunny's Garden into a plan for growing vegetables locally, and selling them in a Produce Market at TCP. This will be combined with educational programs for both children and parents on nutrition and cooking. A vacant lot near TCP has been donated to increase growing capacity. Compass, a local consulting firm, donated their time to do the market research necessary to identify the best approach to implement the program. The program was begun this summer by growing vegetables in Bunny's Garden and selling them in the parking lot. Planning has also begun on a quality preschool program at TCP that they hope to implement in 2022, and a major expansion of the scholars program is also planned for the 2022-2023 academic year.

The Common Place initiated a three year \$3.25 million Capital Campaign to implement the Food Initiative and the Preschool Program, as well as expand the capacity of the Scholars Program. Please see the TCP website at [www.thecommonplacephilly.org](http://www.thecommonplacephilly.org) for more information on how The Common Place serves GOD and the SW Philadelphia Community, and how you can get involved and support this amazing organization.

Respectfully submitted,

**Buzz Mossholder**  
*Chair*



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## CITY LIGHTS

We are experiencing our 26th year serving in the Kingessing neighborhood of SW Philadelphia. Under the leadership of Rev. Cean James, relationships with our partners (over 30) continue to strengthen and we are exploring new avenues of reaching out to other groups in that neighborhood. Covid stopped the bi-monthly Saturday Partnership Network meetings which will likely resume in early 2022. Sadly, a few businesses and even churches have closed due the stress Covid restrictions placed on the community.

We continue to work with the **The Bartram Choice Neighborhoods Transformation Plan**, an opportunity to create a comprehensive plan to revitalize Bartram Village and the surrounding Kingessing area to improve the quality of life and attract additional investment. This plan has the possibility of transforming SW Philadelphia in a way that will bring needed resources to the community. It also could lead to the gentrification of the neighborhood and the displacement of current residents. One way to avoid this displacement is with our partnership with **Southwest Community Development Center (SWCDC)**.

WPC has provided funding for a housing initiative through a bequest given to the mission of the church by Martha Shalita. **SWCDC** is continuing plans to rehab three houses given to them by the Philadelphia Housing Authority for a qualified family to buy. The strategy is to keep continuing this process to help keep gentrification at bay so that housing remains affordable in this neighborhood. Although **SWCDC** has been closed during part of this time, they too have managed to support the neighborhood. Thanks to your support, WPC supplied 80 fans/air conditioners or money for them to distribute during the summer.

**Salt and Light Community Church** (formerly New Spirit) merged with Grace Community and despite Covid has welcomed approximately 100 new members.

**Cornerstone Christian Academy (K-8)**, was able to open on time and resume their mission of education and building a Christ-like character in their students. Currently, they are without an executive director and they have a new principle, Rishell Manigault. Deborah Lee, retiring principle is filling in as Interim ED. WPC member Meg Born is on staff at Cornerstone.

**Mitchell School** is back to full time learning. Wayne



volunteers are also back adding new books to the library, tutoring 4th graders who need to catch up with math and making cookies for staff holiday gifts. Last year's 8th grade graduation was supported by our congregation and others to provide calculators and other items needed for high school. Sadly, in the fall, Mitchell did not receive its full daily District food delivery for a short time, leaving many children without breakfast and lunch, an incident that made the front page of The Inquirer. Principle Stephanie Andrewlevich bought food for the children. As a result, she established the Family Basic Needs Fund to meet such crises and to help families in times of economic crisis.

We have strengthened our relationship with Outley House, a men's shelter, by continuing to serve in their kitchen periodically. We also provide the residents with small Christmas gifts such as hats and gloves.

**Sherwood Christian Outreach** has suspended their soup kitchen due to Covid restrictions but is giving out pre-prepared meals and non-perishable items to neighbors. But the day care is operating as usual. Because of your generous contributions, for Thanksgiving we provided 120 meals though **SWCDC** and **The Common Place**.

In response to Covid-19, CityLights is partnering with the **UPenn School of Medicine, Black Clergy of Philadelphia and Vicinity**, and the **Covid-19 Prevention Network** to offer information sessions to the community about treatments and vaccines. Susan Aggarwal chairs the CityLights Steering Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

**Susan Aggarwal**  
*Chair*



## GLOBAL MISSION

The Global pandemic has affected each of WPC's seven global mission partners in significant ways, both operationally and spiritually. The educational institutions we support in Egypt, Guatemala and **Pakistan** moved to online learning and then back to in person or hybrid instruction. The good news was that more people were able to study at the **Theological Seminary in Cairo** via distance learning than previously when it was only in-person, so the online trainings will continue into the future. Similarly, **CEDEPCA in Guatemala** held multiple online seminars for international donors and groups who had visited in the past, and the programs were so well received that those programs will continue into 2022 even as in-person programming resumes.

**The Emmanuel Hospital Association** in India was swamped with COVID cases and we sent funds to help purchase oxygen concentrators, which concentrate the oxygen from ambient air by removing nitrogen so that oxygen was available for the patients and long trips to buy expensive oxygen in short supply were avoided. Our partner in East Africa, **Water Is Life Kenya**, continued borehole drilling work that brought clean water to the Namelok community for the first time, helping with sanitation and better healthcare in the most basic ways. Unfortunately, the in-person aspect of the **prison ministry in Kirkuk, Iraq**, was placed on hold since the prison no longer allowed visitors due to COVID concerns. It is hoped that this ministry will start up again in 2022. Closer to home, our **missionaries** among immigrant Muslims in **northeast Philadelphia** were shut down early in the year, but now the ESL classes are operating at full capacity and their ministry team is helping some Afghani refugee families adjust to US culture.

Spiritually, all partners heavily relied on God to make it through the pandemic, and many have provided testimonies where God answered prayer in very real and tangible ways. All partners were able to thank God for specific blessings, even in the midst of heart wrenching, exhausting and confusing times of death and despair. As one mission partner said, "when we are weak, then God is strong." Thank you for supporting WPC so that we can continue to partner with ministries around the world to preach the Good News of Jesus Christ in word and deed.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Carol Diehl**, *Chair*



## SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVOCACY MINISTRY

Hunger, homelessness, racism, gun violence, public education, and preservation of our environment as a PC(USA) Earth Care Congregation are the major advocacy foci of this ministry. In 2021, we financially supported the following partners:

Bread for the World  
PC(USA) Office of Public Witness  
Heeding God's Call To End Gun Violence  
Pennsylvania Council of Churches  
Earth Care projects at WPC

As with so many other aspects of our church, including worship, the coronavirus pandemic restricted how we gathered and went about our work. Still, this committee is able to report the following:

**Gun Violence March in Wayne.** In April, WPC worked with Heeding God's Call and the Wayne Methodist, Central Baptist, St. Mary's Episcopal, and First Baptist Church of Mt. Pleasant to hold a vigil in Wayne urging an end to gun violence. Participants walked from church to church on Lancaster Avenue, with music and inspirational messages at each location, all outdoors. Four churches erected a Memorial to the Lost display of hundreds of t-shirts, each representing a person murdered by gun violence in Philadelphia in 2020. At the end of the march approximately 100 letters were signed and sent to federal and state legislators advocating for sensible reform of gun policy. Pastors Miller and Sheval participated in planning the event, Mark Beecher accompanied the walkers with his drum, and Beth Greenwood led the crowd in responsive singing. Her contribution led to her participation in a similar march organized by Heeding God's Call on the Lower Main Line in June.

**Earth Care.** The committee planted native flowers (black-eyed susans) along the front walk to our sanctuary, creating an entrance filled with color from June to October. We also continued to maintain the pollinator garden on the east side of the Chapel. Many small new plants were dug from the pollinator garden and, during the summer "Under the Tent" coffee hours, they were shared with church members to plant in their own gardens. Children's Ministry created a raised bed Children's Garden located to the right of the rear entrance. In a most rewarding collaboration with Children's Ministry, the Earth Care group donated

plants and helped teach the children how to plant their garden.

**Southwest CDC Housing Rehabilitation Project.** On August 20, 2019, the Session approved this committee's proposal to provide the Southwest Community Development Corporation (SWCDC) a grant of \$50,000 from the Shalitta Bequest for the SWCDC's plan to renovate 3 vacant houses for low-to-moderate income families in SW Philadelphia, which desperately lacks affordable housing. Due to both the pandemic and the change in administrations in Washington, approvals from the Philadelphia Housing Authority and federal HUD were delayed until June 8 of this year. The project has weathered several contractor and supply delays, but the good news is that a contractor has been hired and work on the first 2 houses began last month.

**Advocacy.** The committee phoned and/or wrote to legislators in support of issues identified by the PA Council of Churches and the PC(USA) Office of Public Witness. The issues focused on equitable funding for public education, gun violence protections, and fair districting in Pennsylvania.

Respectfully submitted,

**George Aman**  
*Chair*



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## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

### ELDERS

#### Class of 2023

Chris Bernholdt  
Meg Born  
Robin Herbert  
Dory Hoxie  
Tracy Jarman  
David Robinson  
Craig Standen

#### Class of 2024

Salvatore Ambrosio  
Elizabeth Pulver Castleman  
James Clarke  
Megan Roberts Mabe  
Buzz Mossholder  
Chad Slate  
Mary Ellen Smith

#### Class of 2025

Beth Brake  
Lynn Clouser  
Will Gillespie  
Becky Greenhow  
Greg Hagin  
Angela Tait  
Linda Teets

### DEACONS

#### Class of 2023

Larry Berglund  
Laurie Brown-Cross  
Kim Girard  
Sharon Girard  
Mary Hodge  
John Larkin  
Dee Rush  
Jim Rush  
Mike Sieger  
Erin Traineau  
Debby Vogel  
Lee Vogel  
Joan Wood  
Tim Zaro

#### Class of 2024

Carolyn W. Berglund  
Parker Blatchford  
Roger Bollinger  
Bernie Clark  
Weezie Duff  
Janet Eberlein  
Bebe Forster  
Jill Keefer-Hugill  
Carolyn Lolli  
Anne McCrary  
Susan O'Rourke  
Lee Pretz\*  
Ian Robertson  
Lynne Samson

#### Class of 2025

James Barnes  
Cam Billmyer  
Lee Billmyer  
Mary Bollinger  
Hans Coetzee  
Amy Barnes Elliott  
Steve Fakharzadeh  
Debbie Gillespie  
Carol Klauss  
Kristin Laws  
Margie McPherson  
Wendy Bostwick Norman  
Bill Pentz  
Craig Stock

\* filling unexpired term

### YOUTH DEACONS, CLASS OF 2023

Adam Bernholdt  
Parker Bruhns

### 2022-2023 NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Whit Beverly  
Leslie Dudt  
Jim Galasso

John Kauffman  
Linda Kurtz  
Lisa Packer

**Deacon Representatives:** Debby Vogel and Mike Sieger



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## STEWARDS

### Class of 2023

Shirley Albed  
Chelsea Anderson  
Ken Bajus  
Vicki Boettcher  
Linda Brewington  
Paul Brewington  
Doug Bruhns  
Susi Bruhns  
Ross Cochran  
Charles Haley Cross III  
Laurie Brown-Cross  
Jim Dalton  
Warren Eberlein  
Lani Fabere  
Beth Greenwood  
Terry Jarman  
Tracy Jarman  
Dan Koster  
Kristin Laws  
Andrew Lawson  
Paige McGuire  
Bill North  
Susan North  
Sally Richter  
Dee Rush  
Chris Smith  
Eric Ziegler

### Class of 2024

Nancy Barnes  
Beth Brake  
Chris Carlton  
Bernie Clark  
Hans Coetzee  
Patricia Donnelly  
Weezie Duff  
Mark Fabere  
Carolyn Lolli  
James Lolli  
Renee Mackey  
Wendy Bostwick Norman  
Candace Pratt  
Ron Race  
Jim Rush  
Dick Spillman  
Joan Spillman  
Bill Staples  
Frank Tait  
Angela Tait  
Doug Wheeler  
Maura Wheeler  
Deb Wissel  
Paul Wissel  
Jason Woytowich

### Class of 2025

Brooke Cheston  
Judie Elliott  
Rita Fisk  
David Hollingsworth  
Marian Hollingsworth  
Farokh Kheradi  
John Marsh  
Jane Martin  
Gayle Orczyk  
Lee Pretz  
Bill Riggs  
Connie Riggs  
John Rosecky  
Avis Rueger  
Chuck Rueger  
Mary Ellen Smith  
Steve Smith

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## PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

*The Mission of the Personnel Committee is to provide an orderly, focused and considerate way for the Session to build a healthy work environment; to recommend to the Session policies, procedures and practices that anticipate outcomes before they happen; to provide counsel and support for the staff; to develop shared expectations so there are no surprises and to provide a place where issues can be addressed before they become personal situations (Adapted from "Guidelines for Session Personnel Committees: A statement of the functions and accountability to the Sessions of a Personnel Committee", PC (USA) publication).*

### Committee Membership

Elder Brian Clapp stepped down as chair of the Personnel Committee in 2021 when his term expired. Replacing Brian as chair was Elder Tracy Jarman. We thank Brian for his leadership, insights, commitment to Wayne Presbyterian Church, and his ongoing work on the committee. Jim Clark rolled off the committee this year to become the next Chair of the Admin Committee. We thank him for sharing his wisdom with us over many years. Other members of the committee include Deacon Anne McCrary, Lynn Clouser, and Steve Smith.

### Staff Transitions

Austin Ricketts joined us as our new Youth Director in May. We sincerely thank Sarah Hostetter for carrying this program forward until Austin was on board. Sarah provided great continuity for our youth during another unsettled year.

Long-time staff member, Monique Chico, resigned this past summer for personal reasons. Through this transition we created a new administrative position to support the many Congregational Life programs that have been started under Reverend Katy Shevel. Jayne Grabowski came on board in October to fill this position and is working closely with Katy and the many committees that she supports.

We also said goodbye to Nancy Moffit, our Director of Children's Choirs for 25 years. Her resignation was due to personal reasons. Nancy has touched many families and children over her many years here at Wayne.

Another long-time staff member, Neil Hartman, retired after 13 years of service to Wayne Presbyterian Church. In

October, we welcomed the Reverend Elizabeth 'Liz' Wagner as our new Finance Director. Besides being an ordained minister, Liz is a CPA with over 25 years of experience in the accounting field. Doug McBrearty (Chair of Admin and Finance) and Vijay Aggarwal (Treasurer) were instrumental in bringing Liz on board.

We also said good-bye to our Senior Pastor, the Reverend Casey Thompson, in December. In Casey's letter to the congregation, he stated that he felt that his season as our pastor had come to an end. The session, the Philadelphia Presbytery, and our congregation accepted Casey's request to change his terms of call to Wayne Presbyterian Church. We wish Casey well as he discerns the path forward that God has planned for him.

### Navigating the Pandemic

The church building reopened on a limited basis in May of 2021, and we held our first in person service on May 16th. We continued to offer live streaming of the service so those not comfortable worshiping in person could continue to attend services. Through the technology updates that have been made, many committees were able to offer hybrid meetings and programs. The ongoing pandemic continues to highlight the use of technology to reach the congregation, have meetings, and collaborate. This has required the staff to learn new ways of working and collaborating to support of ongoing operational and congregational needs.

We were again able to secure Payroll Protection Program (PPP) funds that helped to provide funds for specific expenses.

### Committee Projects

In addition to hiring staff to fill vacated positions, the committee worked with the Executive Associate Pastor to update all job descriptions and the Employee Handbook. The handbook updates recognize the new structure of having an Executive Associate Pastor as well as clarifying key policies and adding appropriate new ones.

### Looking Ahead

Beyond our ongoing efforts to maintain effective communications with the church staff, the committee looks forward to continuing to support our ordained and non-ordained staff as they work to learn new skills, embrace technology, and explore new ways to meet the needs of our congregation.



In 2022, the committee will guide the process of hiring an Associate Director of Music, an Associate Director of Music, an Administrative Assistant for the Music department, and a Mission Coordinator.

We thank the pastoral, program, and office staff for their tireless work through another challenging year. They have continued to support the congregation and our community of faith and fellowship in every way possible.

Respectfully submitted,

**Tracy Jarman**  
*Elder and Chair*

## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Role and Purpose of the Stewardship Committee. The Stewardship Committee manages the annual giving campaign for Wayne Presbyterian Church. It is the generosity of our members and regular visitors that supports the majority of our church's operation, ministries and mission, and programs.

Current congregational members of the Stewardship Committee include:

- Park Blatchford
- Bill Lawrence
- Derek Pimlett
- Ron Race
- Craig Standen, Chair

**Reflections on the past year and the 2022 Stewardship Campaign.** The past year has been extraordinary on so many levels and the Wayne Presbyterian staff and volunteer leaders, along with many others who provided invaluable assistance, pivoted and turned to face the unknown of virtual existence and never missed a step in their tireless efforts to provide worship, spiritual nourishment, continued support to those in need and community during the extended period of enforced separation that continues for many out of necessity or desire.

The theme for the 2022 Stewardship Campaign is 'In God's Future' and we embarked on this collective giving journey on the heels of the most extraordinary and unprecedented time in the life of Wayne Presbyterian Church and our world, writ large. And while the future planned for and envisioned in early months of 2020 may be fundamentally different, the path forward is and will continue to be made known as God charts us toward His preferred future.

The Campaign continues apace, and I can say with confidence that we – the Stewardship Committee – and the broader Wayne Presbyterian community are in the final stages of what I believe will be viewed as a successful campaign; but work remains to be done.

Follow-up calls are being made by committee members to those we hope will continue their support of Wayne Presbyterian and help propel us to and beyond our fundraising goals for this year. And budgets are being prepared and plans made to advance the good works being undertaken



by Wayne Presbyterian each day that have made us a model church, as Casey so eloquently and passionately highlighted in his final sermon on December 12th.

As of this writing on December 15th, ~\$1.096 million pledges have been received from 234 members, which represents a little over 80% participation rate relative to last year. Last year's pledged income totaled ~\$1.2 million, so we are at ~91 percent of last year's pledged amount and I am confident we will more than exceed this figure. This year's goal is ~\$1.45 million and the current level of estimates of giving put us at ~75 percent of our budgeted goal, so we have some more ground to cover to achieve this year's goal.

**Thank you to the Stewardship Committee.** I am very grateful to all of the members of the Stewardship Committee noted above who contributed their time, talents, commitment and experience – all are former chairs of the committee – in support of our collective efforts to help Wayne Presbyterian continue the good works that make a difference in our world writ large. This campaign would have much more difficult and certainly much less fun without their unyielding engagement.

**Thank you to the members.** For those who have already given – we thank you. For those who intend to give – we thank you and encourage you to turn in your estimate of giving at your earliest opportunity. For those who are unsure of how much or if they will give, just remember that your generosity will help us individually and collectively position Wayne Presbyterian Church to thrive as we chart our way In God's Future.

Without the support of you – the members of Wayne Presbyterian Church – none of our past, current and future successes would be possible. For that I am grateful.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Craig Standen**  
Elder and Chair



## WINGS WOMEN'S MINISTRY

*WinGS – Women in God's Service – strives to nurture friendships through shared fellowship, the study of scripture, and outreach to mission partners at home and abroad.*

The WinGS Board meets on the third Thursday of each month (except for December and summer months) at 9:30 a.m. Current board members include Nancy Barnes; Lisa Gower (Fall 2021); Robin Herbert; Jeanne Kauffman; Lisa Packer; Avis Rueger; Rev. Katy Shevel; Angela Tait; Linda Teets and Debby Vogel. All women of WPC are considered members of WinGS, and many wonderful volunteers are involved in our various events. We welcome and encourage anyone who is interested in joining the board.

### Women's Bible Study

The WinGS Women's Bible Study, coordinated by Angela Tait, offers a wide range of classes, and, with Zoom in the Spring and hybrid delivery in the Fall, participants were able to make the classes to their comfort level. For early risers, the bi-weekly Word Before Work (Wednesdays at 6:30 a.m.) focused on *Widows to Warriors*, *Women's Stories from the Old Testament* by Lynn Japinga in the Spring, and *The Book of Psalms* in the Fall. Our weekly program, Women in the Word, met Wednesdays from 9:45 - 11:15 a.m. and offered two classes in the Spring semester: *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World* by Joanna Weaver and *Cappuccino with Colossians* by Sandra Glahn. In the Fall, Women and the Word studied *Into the Light; Finding Hope through Prayers of Lament* by P. Lynn Miller.

The MOMs Bible Study gathered every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month, met via Zoom at 9:30 a.m. In the spring, the group discussed *Only Love Today: Reminders to Breathe More, Stress Less, and Choose Love* by Rachel Macy Stafford and this Fall we met hybrid and discussed *The Better Mom: Growing in Grace between the Perfection and the Mess* by Ruth Schwenk.

We are grateful for the continued dedication and talent of our wonderful teachers, leaders, and facilitators: Pam Clark, Katy Shevel, Nancy Dever, and Angela Tait.

### MOMs (Ministry of Motherhood)

MOMs continued to meet weekly on Thursdays throughout the year. MOMs gathered on Zoom not only on Thursdays, but Mondays and Fridays for a quick check in and chat. Coordinated by Debbie Rothkopf, Pam Clark,



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Robin Herbert, and Courtney Bodnar, MOMs offers fellowship, prayer, devotions, practical parental caregiving and marital support, and mission work to women, children, and families. MOMs serves women raising children from birth through high school within our church and greater community. When possible, MOMs plans regular girl's night out events in and around downtown Wayne for Thursday morning regular attendees as well as working moms who can't join on Thursday mornings. New women are encouraged to join at any time!

### **Knitting Ministry**

Coordinated by Linda Teets, this is a ministry to comfort those suffering from illness or trauma and to celebrate the birth of a new baby within the congregation with the gift of a handmade prayer shawl, car seat blanket, or knitted cap. Dozens of people in our church and community have been comforted with the gift of a shawl and its accompanying prayer card depicting the laying on of hands of the women who created the shawl. Car seat blankets and caps for newborns at area Children's Hospitals and within our congregation are also given. These thoughtful gifts are available through the church office.

### **Walk with WinGS**

A new ministry began in the Fall 2021 with a group known as "Walk with WinGS". The group took to area trails including the Radnor Trail and Valley Forge Park every Tuesday at 9:30am coordinated by Robin Herbert.

### **Women's Retreat**

A sole day for our Women's Virtual Retreat was held on February 6, 2021, entitled "Exploring Spiritual Practices," by Rev. Katy Shevel. We are grateful for the participants and volunteers of this special annual event organized by Buff Barnes; Nancy Barnes; Betsy Girard; Jeanne Kauffman; Sharon Levitch; Lee Pretz; and Katy Shevel.

### **Sunset Social**

Fifty women gathered in person off campus at the Hilltop House in Devon for our first annual Sunset Social on Thursday, May 13th. It was nice to reconnect with many at this first of many gatherings as the Covid restrictions for outdoor spacing and masking had been lifted on this day!

### **WinGS Fall Gathering Event**

On Saturday, October 23rd, the committee planned our first Hybrid event in the Chapel: "Where is God in difficult times?" Due to the worldwide pandemic, we wanted to

focus our story of coming out of the wilderness. Marie Monville came to speak to 70 women and is the author of *One Light Still Shines*, for which she also sold her book. She is the former wife of the schoolhouse shooter of 10 Amish girls. Her dynamic presentation pointed us to both hope and light as she shared her story of the compassion and forgiveness she experienced during very dark days.

### **Christmas Tea**

On Thursday, December 2nd via hybrid delivery, 30 women gathered to usher in the Advent season. Susan Aggarwal and Ann Marie Gore spoke on the works of the Sherwood Soup Kitchen in Southwest. Charlie Niesley accompanied on piano and Barbara Cresswell led us in several traditional Christmas carols. Sweet and savory treats were consumed alongside our silver tea service and traditional decorations which filled the Chapel with good cheer!

### **Mission Partners**

WinGS has dedicated funds which are voted on annually to support mission partners that are faith based; support women, children and families; and are not otherwise supported financially by WPC. The following mission partners received funds in 2021:

Liberty Ministries  
Methodist Services  
Mitchell Elementary School Graduation Fund  
Naphtali, Lakota Tribe in South Dakota  
Presbyterian Foundation, Ethiopian Education Endowment  
Salvation Army, Red Shield  
Sherwood Soup Kitchen  
Sunday Breakfast Rescue Mission, Women's Ministry  
Zambia Mission Fund, South Africa

### **2022 Plans**

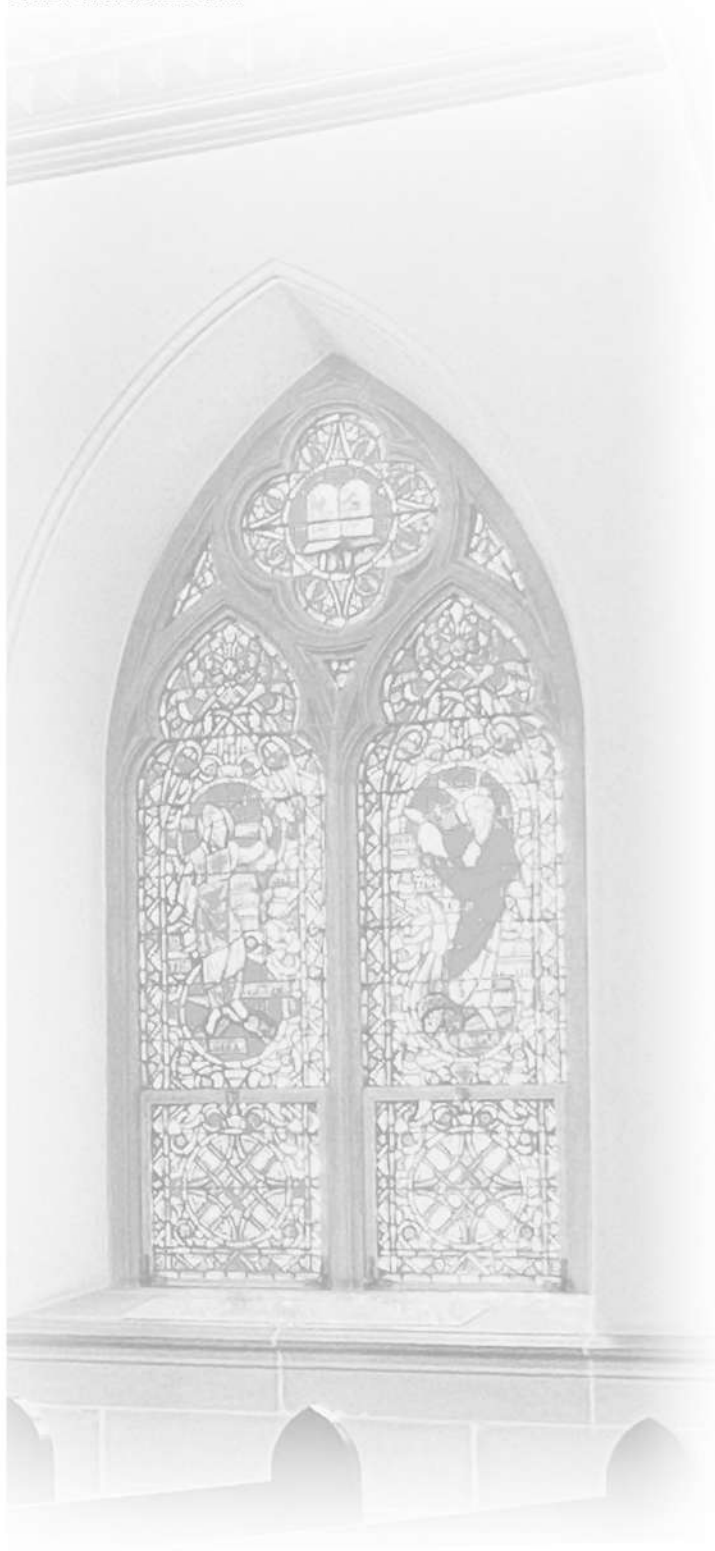
WinGS plans to continue its mission of fellowship, study, and outreach in the new year. Through our programs, we hope to reach women at all stages and seasons of life – single, married, with children, empty nest, retired, widowed, and older age. We are planning a Spring Dinner titled "Following God, Forging a Family, and Forwarding a Career" on March 25th to encourage building discipleship and offering a panel of WPC women to share their testimonies. We will hold our second annual "Sunset Social" off campus in May, and plan for the Pastoral and lay leadership transitions into the summer and fall months. We encourage all women of WPC to join us and welcome

any ideas you may have to further our mission.

Respectfully submitted,

**Robin Herbert**

*Elder and Moderator*



## MEN'S MINISTRY 2021

The men of Wayne Presbyterian continue their active participation in the life of our church on boards and committees, in teaching, worship leadership, mission outreach, music, bible study, and spiritual development. They continue to play a part in the deliberations and activities of our denomination at the Presbytery of Philadelphia.

The Men of Wayne remain particularly devoted to the projects undertaken by the "Hammers with Hearts" construction ministry. (See article in Mission area).

All WPC members and friends are cordially invited to the Thursday Morning Men's Ministry ("TM3") meetings. This gathering enters its 34th year in a hybrid mode. The majority of the weekly participants are Zooming in at 7:00 a.m. to enjoy the informal fellowship, prayer, and spiritual growth together. But the Fireside Room is open again for breakfast in person at the starting hour (bring your own breakfast).\*

This past year's 2021 Thursday programs featured an outstanding array of speakers including a searching discussion led by Dr. Bronkema on the Critical Race Theory and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in our society today, and how Christians should respond. Dr. Bronkema holds the Templeton Chair for Christian Service through Entrepreneurship and is former dean of Palmer Seminary.

Another series of challenging presentations has been lined up for the Spring 2022 term including:

**January:** **Rev. Tim Pretz**, "Understanding Forgiveness and God's Providence". Dr. Gary Jenkins. Eastern University, "Historic Relationship of the Calvin/Reformed church to Anabaptists". **Rev. Richard Miller**, our Wayne Presbyterian Executive Associate Pastor

**February:** **Dr. Steven Boyer**, Professor of Theology at Eastern University and authority on

**March:** Christian thought and World Religions.

**Rev. Cean James and Rev. Chris Holland.**

Rev. Cean is the dynamic pastor of the vibrant Salt and Light Congregation (SNL) and director of our WPC CityLights Ministry in Southwest

Philadelphia. Rev. Chris is director of The



- Common Place which is home to SNL
- April:** **Dr. Phil Cary**, Professor of Philosophy at Eastern and a theologian who has written three books on St. Augustine.
- May:** **Dr. Joe Modica**, Eastern's chaplain and Assoc. Professor of Biblical Studies who is our popular Scholar in Residence at Wayne Presbyterian.
- June:** **Dr. Walt Huddell**, Professor and Chair of the Math Department at Eastern who studies mathematics from a philosophical and theological standpoint.

Thursday morning sessions continue their tradition of affirming that "Christ is risen" and responding to the question, "Where have you seen Christ at work this past week." These concerns and celebrations always inform our prayers and include what is happening in our own lives and those of fellow members. They invariably cover the challenges faced by our brothers and sisters in Christ in Southwest Philadelphia such as The Common Place, CityLights, Cornerstone and Mitchell schools, Outley Men's Shelter, Gemma family services, and Southwest Community Development Corp.

The Thursday group regularly contributes to our WPC mission causes and supports two special outreach initiatives at Outley House Men's' Shelter: Weekly delivery of baked goods contributed by mainline bakeries, and the Smith/Curatola holiday luncheons for Outley residents.

\*For more information about TM3 programs and in person entry or access to the Zoom link for the Thursday meetings, please contact **Rev. Tim Pretz** (tpretz@eastern.edu) or **Sal Ambrosio** (sambrosio55@gmail.com)

Respectfully Submitted,  
**Edward Behr**



## WORSHIP AND MUSIC MINISTRY

The Worship and Music Committee did not meet for most of 2021 due to Covid restrictions, but Rev. Casey Thompson and the Session did make some decisions in the spring regarding worship at WPC. At that time we began one service in person at 9:00 am in the Sanctuary with seat reservation. The livestream of the service was continued. In the fall this was expanded to two in person services, one at 9:00 am and one at 10:30 am. The services remained accessible via YouTube with a link from the WPC homepage. The attendance at the 10:30 am service is approaching 200 with somewhat fewer in attendance at the 9:00 am service.

Rev. Casey Thompson, the senior pastor at WPC, resigned as of December 12th, 2021, at which time Executive Associate Pastor Richard Miller and Associate Pastor of Congregational Life, Katy Shevel, took over his responsibilities including preaching on Sunday mornings. A pastor nominating committee has been selected by the Session to begin the process of finding an Interim Pastor, hopefully by the winter of 2022.

Under the leadership of Tim Evers, the in person music program has been revitalized with performances on Sunday mornings by the Chancel Choir. Nate Zullinger led the Westminster Choir and Matt Lista has assisted with organ playing. There have also been several performances by the Orchestra and the Oratorio Society gave two concerts. In addition, this year there will be the resumption of the traditional in person Christmas Eve Services as well as a Christmas service on Sunday, Dec. 26th.

In person worship programs for grade school children on Sunday mornings have resumed as have programs for youth in grades 6-12. In addition, an in person and virtual adult education class has been offered by Joe Modica on Sunday mornings at 9:00am. On Sunday evenings Katy Shevel has hosted a class at 5:30pm which is also virtual and in person.

The church is slowly getting back to some semblance of normalcy, but with the uncertainty about the future regarding variants and their level of contagion, things could change quickly. For now, everything is in God's hands and we will pray that He leads us to make the wisest decisions regarding worship and music at the church going forward.

Respectfully submitted, **Dory Hoxie Elder**



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## DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

The Music Ministry continued into 2021 as it ended in 2020. Service music continued to be pre-recorded by **Nate Zullinger**, Interim Organist, **The Quartet** and **The Choral Scholars** and myself. The same music forces also continued to collaborate with me to produce programs for the **Tuesdays with Tim** series being livestreamed on YouTube (viewing stats below). Gradually we moved to returning to in-person worship. On Sunday, February 21st, the first Sunday of Lent, the staff (clergy, program and music) began livestreaming worship together. As vaccination numbers continued to rise throughout the community, we hosted our first in-person indoor event, an evening Maundy Thursday service, on April 1st. Attendees registered in small groups in time slots. The service told the story of the events of Holy Week with socially distanced stations beginning in the Courtyard, moving through the Sanctuary, Connector and concluding in the Chapel. This was an emotional evening for all as it was the first-time members were back in the Sanctuary since the church shutdown on March 12th, 2020. On May 16th there was a jubilant return to in-person Sunday worship in the Sanctuary. The pews were marked for ticketing and social distancing purposes, members made reservations to attend, and we held our first service in 62 weeks (or 434 days!).

While navigating the spring, the Music Ministry utilized the ever-evolving Sanctuary technology to produce additional content to be broadcast via YouTube. **The Wayne Oratorio Society** produced a spring orchestra-only concert that featured wind players for the first time since the pandemic started. The program featured *Mozart's Symphony No. 40 in g-minor* and Copland's *Appalachian Spring Suite* (Chamber Version). **The Quartet** presented Bach Cantata BWV 150, *Oh my Lord, I long for thee*. **The Choral Scholars** offered a two-part Festival of Hymns and Anthems based on Isaiah 40. And **Music Transforms** produced two spring concerts, Songs for the Soul featuring **Joe Kauffman** in February and Handel's Gloria in Excelsis Deo in April featuring soprano soloist **Melanie Sarakatsannis**. The Tuesday programming concluded the end of April with the combined music team presenting a program of Great Oratorio Movements.

The summer saw both transition and preparation for the upcoming fall re-launch. **The Chancel Choir** met for the first time in person for a Courtyard Sing on June 24th. They met again on July 29th as they moved to restarting

**Summer Choir** for worship in August. Joe Kauffman and I prepared a performance and sing-along at Wilson Farm Park on June 29th for both the church and general community. Despite an oppressive heat wave that week, it was well received and attended. As August ended, **Nate Zullinger** concluded his one-year contract and turned his focus back to his full-time work at Haverford College. **Monique Chico**, Administrative Assistant to Congregational Life and the Music Ministry, resigned her position to focus on health needs. In her absence, WPC member Bettie Ann Brigham graciously volunteered time on a weekly basis to assist with numerous administrative tasks. My job title was changed from Minister of Music to Director of Music. A search committee (members were: **Bettie Ann Brigham, Lynn Clouser, Jeanne Kauffman, Joe Kauffman & Charley Wheeler**) was formed to identify candidates and select the next Associate Director of Music. **Matt Lista** began to wind down his contract as Worship / Music Technologist and moved into interim directorship roles with the start of a new choir season.

In September, the Music Ministry restarted its entire program except for the Children's Choirs due to children not being vaccinated. Members of all ensembles were asked to be vaccinated and wear masks to participate. **Matt Lista** assumed interim directorship of **Te Deum Handbell Choir**, and the **Wayne Presbyterian Church Chamber Orchestra**. I resumed directorship of the **Chancel Choir** (adults), **Westminster Choir** (youth in grades 6 -12), **The Wayne Oratorio Society** and for the interim added **Selah Handbell Choir** and **The Choral Scholars** (members are: **Kayla MacKinnon, Ellen Carlson, Matt Lista & David King**). The worship ensembles began their rehearsals and resumed regular participation in the new Sunday worship model of two services (9:00am & 10:30am).

In September, Music Transforms produced its first in-person concert since February 2020. David Kim, concertmaster of the Philadelphia Orchestra, opened the season with a September 19th performance. This was followed up with a second program on November 21st featuring the international violin virtuosos from the studio of Eduard Schneider, professor at Temple University. In October, **Mark Hightower**, assumed the role of bass soloist in The Quartet (other members are: **Melanie Sarakatsannis, Kerry Ann Erickson-Felps & David Price**). They performed in both concert weekends of The Wayne Oratorio Society which presented *The Creation* by Haydn in November and *Messiah* by Handel in December.



Proof of vaccination and masking was required for all participants (sans wind players) and audience. All of these concerts were broadcast live by **John Erbicella** who subsequently joined the staff at the end of the year.

As 2021 ends, it is a time to rejoice in a successful continuation of music-making at Wayne Presbyterian Church during this continued season of Covid. The Music Ministry participants' diligence and flexibility enabled a very successful relaunch of the ensembles. Their continued dedication along with the congregational support encourages us all as we continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic. I am grateful and humbled by the many who care so passionately for the Music Ministry and Wayne Presbyterian Church.

Respectfully submitted,

**Tim Evers**  
*Director of Music*

Event Name: updated 1/19/2022	Event Date	Viewers on Livestream	YouTube Viewers as of:	Total Views:
TwT - Piano Meditations (Music of Ludovico Einaudi)	1/13/21			207
TwT - Patience, Peace & Promise (The Quartet)	1/20/21		148	
TwT - Piano Meditations Pt. 2 (Music of Ludovico Einaudi)	1/27/21			124
TwT - African American Spirituals (David Price, tenor)	2/9/21	55	166	285
Music Transforms: Songs for the Soul	2/16/21	92	304	571
TwT - Sing Anthems Live (The Quartet)	3/2/21	41	200	261
TwT - Everlasting God (Isaiah 40), pt 1 - The Choral Scholars	3/9/21	24		165
TwT - Everlasting God (Isaiah 40), pt 2 - The Choral Scholars	3/16/21	25		156
TwT - An Evening of Bach (The Quartet)	3/23/21			377
TwT - Anthems of Resurrection (The Choral Scholars)	4/6/21	25		122
TwT - Pre Concert Lecture (Mozart & Copland)	4/13/21	27	274	322
WOS: Orchestra (Mozart & Copland)	4/17/21	191		1331
Music Transforms: Melanie Sarakatsannis	4/20/21	87	456	666
TwT - The Great Oratorio Movements	4/27/21	52	269	357
Music Transforms: David Kim (livestream archived)	9/16/21	8		
WOS: The Creation (Saturday Concert Live)	11/6/21	130	846	1316
WOS: The Creation (Sunday Concert Live)	11/7/21	99	546	853
Music Transforms: Romantic Virtuosos	11/21/21	18	122	183
WOS: Messiah (Saturday Concert Live)	12/4/21	162	655	1151
WOS: Messiah (Sunday Concert Live)	12/5/21	114	659	986
TwT - From Baseball to Beethoven	1/11/22	39	125	251

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## YOUTH MINISTRY COMMITTEE

“Can God spread a table in the wilderness?” Psalm 78:19

“The new Director of Youth Ministries, Austin Ricketts, began his position on June 15th. In the past, the Youth Group has slowed down in the Summer, with the focus being on large group service projects and retreats. This year, with Covid affecting all operations, the Youth Group opted for a weekly, outside gathering in the Church’s courtyard.

With the goal of beginning and building relationships, this was a valuable time when Austin and a core group of youth were able to get to know each other. Time was spent eating food, studying the Bible, and playing games. The Bible study followed the Summer Sermon series on the Psalms.

When the Fall season began, the Youth Group amped up its operations. The number of kids doubled and we transitioned into the church building. Even with large numbers of kids attending each Sunday, the goal is to continue the focus on relationships and building a strong community where kids can feel safe with peers and adults whom they can rely upon, even especially in difficult times.

### Youth Ministry Activities

#### Youth Group

The goal for Youth Group is building community, strong friendships for good and bad times. There are at least two ways to foster community: common vision and common experience.

Toward a common vision: Youth Group Bible studies are geared toward looking out at everyday experience through the eyes of faith. Following the theme of A Way in the Wilderness, the Youth Group took a hard look at Ecclesiastes and asked questions about where to find meaning, even in difficult times. An answer comes in stepping back and gaining the perspective of God’s faithfulness to his covenant people through thousands of years of history.

Toward a common experience: It is the goal of the Youth Group to have one large activity once a month. September was Kick-Off Sunday with introductions and large group games. October was a Photo Scavenger hunt in The Willows Park Preserve. During November, the Middle School and High School had separate movie nights. December was Christmas Caroling and the Christmas Party.

Each of these events was a time to form friendships and memories.

### Confirmation

Confirmation class has 23 students, consisting of 8th graders and some 9th graders. The main themes of Confirmation are Head, Heart, and Hands. The Confirmands will learn more about their faith (Head), experience their faith in worship (Heart), and be guided by their faith to serve God by serving their communities (Hands).

The curriculum is based on exploring the Christian faith through the way that faith is practiced at Wayne Presbyterian Church. The Confirmands are working their way through the liturgical elements—e.g., the Call to Worship, Confession, Assurance of Pardon—and they are learning where these are based in the Bible as well as how to practice these in daily life. They are working toward writing a one page Faith Statement that they can present to the Session.

### Sunday School

Middle and High School Sunday school have been focused on two main themes: building Christian community and learning more about the life of Jesus. We went through 1 John to explore more about what a Christian community, built on love, can look like. Love is willing the good of another person, but you have to know what is good in order to will that. In order to get a better picture of the good, we took a closer look at Jesus’s life using Mark’s Gospel. In addition to Bible study, we play small group games to get to know one another better.

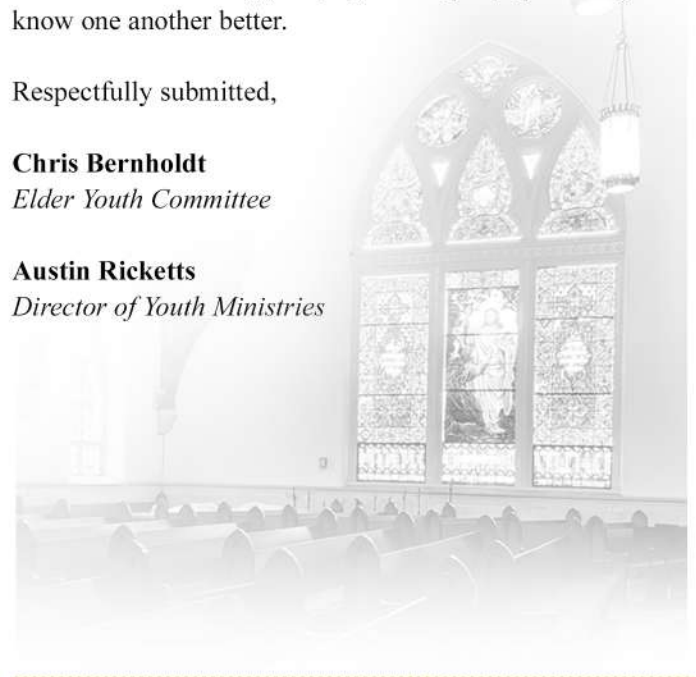
Respectfully submitted,

**Chris Bernholdt**

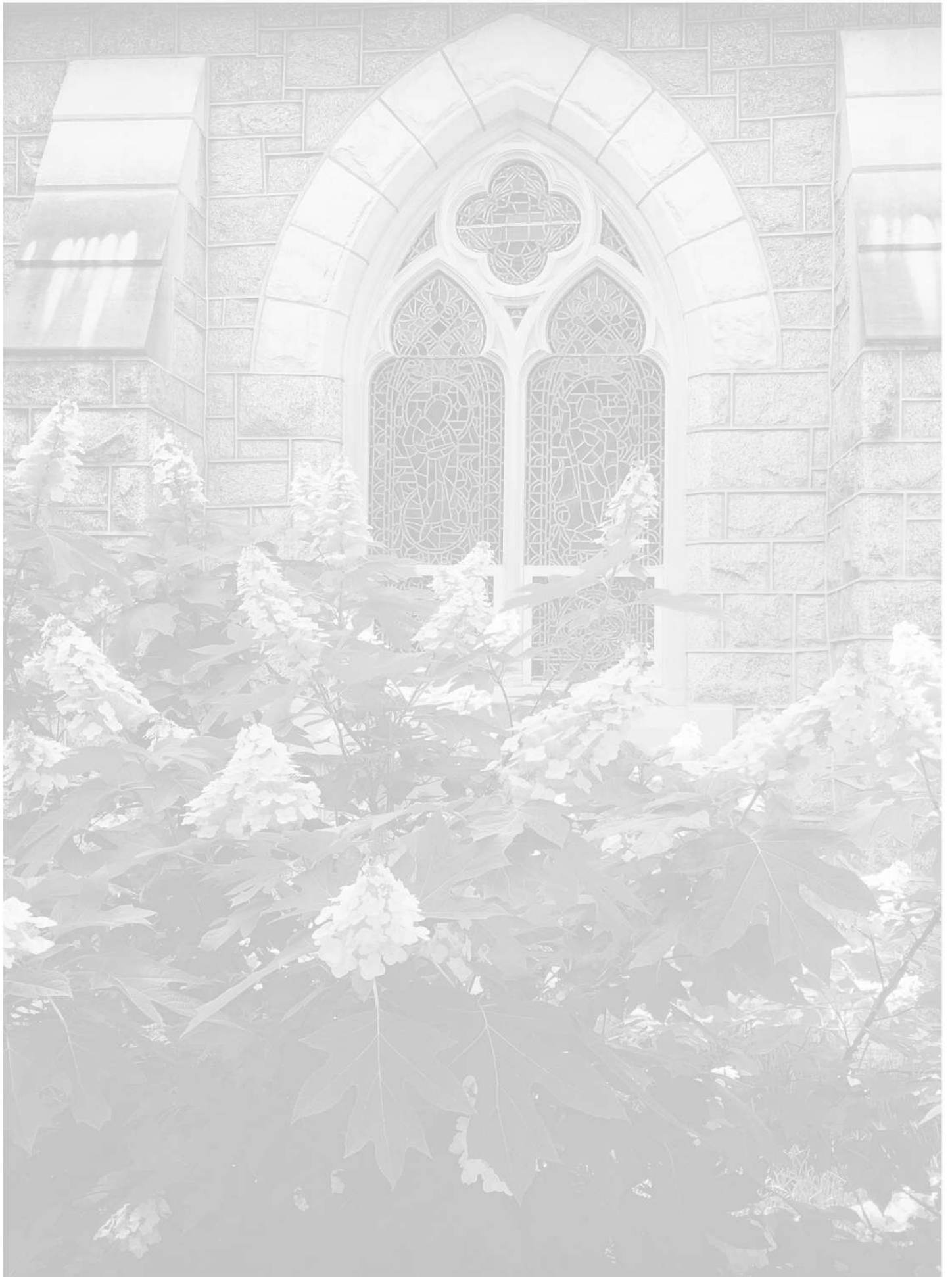
*Elder Youth Committee*

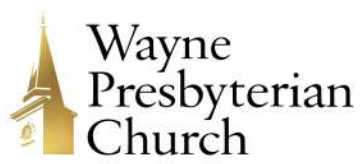
**Austin Ricketts**

*Director of Youth Ministries*









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