

# Annual Reports for 2021

# Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church Hatfield, Pennsylvania

January 30, 2022

It is the Mission of Grace Lutheran Church:

To Glorify God To Grow in Faith To Give in Service Together in Christ

# Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church Congregational Meeting Agenda

January 30, 2022, immediately following the 10:30 am service

**Mission Statement -** It is the Mission of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church To Glorify God, To Grow in Faith, To Give in Service, Together in Christ

Meeting called to order – Peggy Schmidt, Council President

**Confirmation of Quorum** – 17 voting members

**Devotions** – Pastor Nancy Raabe

**Approval of Minutes from Annual Meeting 2021** 

Treasurer's Report - Tami Sarm, Treasurer, Bob Smryl, Finance Chair

# **New Council Member Nominations**

- Election to first term Cathy Farrell, Don Capanear
- Election to second term Laura Kratz

**Call Committee Team Recognition** 

**Altar Guild Recognition** 

**Questions on Written Reports Provided** 

Cemetery Business – Bob Reilly

# Gift of Time Recognition – Pastor Raabe, Peggy Schmidt

# **New Business**

- Potential Organ Replacement, Kevin Freaney Minister Of Music
- Constitutional Changes Tom Salter

# Adjournment

# **Report From Council**

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer – Romans 12:12

**Council Members:** Peggy Schmidt, President, Bob Smyrl, Vice President, Laura Kratz, Secretary, Tami Sarm, Treasurer, Jaime Kaler, Joyce Salter, Rich Woltmann, Jean Shaffer, Diane Ball, Carol MacDonald, Joanne Moyer, Jeff Krout, Pastor Janet Peterman and Pastor Nancy Raabe.

Council meets the third Tuesday of the month beginning promptly at 7 pm. Council meets in person, but at the beginning of the pandemic did offer a Zoom option. Throughout the month, Council communicates with one another through emails in order to stay abreast of any emerging issues. Congregation members are welcome to come and address Council at the beginning of Council meetings.

While Council is pleased to present numerous items of accomplishment in 2021, we truly are most proud of hiring our new Pastor and providing a safe environment for our members to worship and be together.

- The Call process is a challenging one but became even more so during the pandemic. There were numerous delays, changes in meeting procedure and Synod health protocols that needed to be followed. The Call Committee did an exemplary job and provided us with a fabulous candidate to interview by Zoom. After Council unanimously agreed to present Pastor Raabe to the congregation, arrangements needed to be made for an outdoor Meet and Greet as well as a congregational service and meeting outdoors. The congregation unanimously agreed to call Pastor Raabe! Additional work then needed to be done with the Synod in order to complete the paperwork as well as review the transition process.
- As Council did its year in review the other item that came up continually is that despite the challenges, we were able to keep Grace open. Health and safety protocols were designed and implemented and changed when situations warranted. But as one council member said, "We did not let COVID defeat us!" So despite COVID we were able to host the following: Hatfield Christmas Tree Lighting, Vacation Bible School, Yoga, Cub Scout Pack 510, Music Cafes, Trunk or Treat, Drive By Easter Egg Hunt, Stitch In, Sweets for Sharing, and Laymen Playmen. We returned to two in-person services and three Christmas Eve ones. COVID is still presenting us with challenges but it has taught us to be adaptable.
- In the spring we said a tearful farewell to our Interim Pastor Janet Peterman. Pastor Peterman lead us through some difficult discussions that we needed to have before we were able to move forward. When she left, we navigated our path with several bridge pastors until we were blessed with retired Pastor Penman who was with us until Pastor Raabe joined us.
- With a recommendation from the Property Committee, we approved bringing to the congregation the potential sale of 22 N. Main Street. The congregation approved it and a Task Force was formed to move this forward with a sale hopefully to take place this spring.

- Two additional Task Forces were created a Nominating Committee to work on leadership issues for the future as well as an Organ Task Force which is working with our Minister of Music, Kevin Freaney on obtaining a new/used organ since ours is beginning to have issues.
- We continue to oversee the successful growth of Stepping Stones. Grace applied for and received forgiveness of the PPP loan that enabled us to maintain the staff during the shut down last year.
- The new generator was installed at the Wagner House and was hooked into our sump pumps in the basement.
- To improve our communication with Pastor Lee and the Korean Church, volunteers from Council frequently meet with him and a member of his church to discuss any issues that may arise.
- The other item Council felt was important for the congregation to know is that we worked this year with a real unity of spirit. Even though we all have our own opinions, and they differ on lots of subjects, Council was able to work together to reach consensus and move the business of the church forward (all within a 2 hour time limit!) So it is true, with God all things are possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Schmidt Council President

# Pastoral Acts and Statistical Changes

- **12.31.2020** 242 baptized 211 confirmed
- **12.31.2021** 243 baptized 208 confirmed

### Pastoral acts, 2021

# Gains

by baptism: 1.31.2021:	Chase Josue Tula
2.14.2021:	Ayla Grace Plawa
4.18.2021:	Aubree Jessica Reiss Zoe Grace Reiss
12.5.2021:	Luca John Plawa Embrey Lynn Edgar Eila Marie Edgar

#### Losses

by death:	
1.19.2021	Joan Amundsen
12.24.2021	Kathryn Elizabeth (Betty) Murray

#### by transfer: 4.1

#### Pastor's Report: July-December 2021

May I live this day

Compassionate in heart, Clear in word, Gracious in awareness, Courageous in thought, Generous in love.

An excerpt from John O'Donohue, "Matins," To Bless the Space Between Us (2008)

Beloved Grace family,

From the time that I was called as your new pastor in May, this morning prayer has never been far from my lips. Since I first walked into the office on July 5 (a holiday, but I couldn't wait to get started) the call to Grace has brought challenges that are new and fresh every morning. Of course Lynn and I have a pattern in the office for how the week typically goes, but I think she'll agree with me that no two days have even been remotely alike. One never knows what is coming down the pike - literally.

And why this joyful unpredictability? Because Grace is a vibrant community with a sincere desire to serve God through the spiritual gifts each of you brings, and new ways to exercise these just keep popping up. You are, in Paul's words, prophets, teachers, workers of miracles (yes), gifts of healing (most definitely), speaking in tongues (of a manner), interpreting (always). I have been dazzled not only by the expressions these gifts take on here, but by your eagerness to use them for the health and well-being of the body of Christ.

**Meetings.** At first I was a bit taken aback by the sheer number of meetings that take place at Grace in a given month. Coming from a more rural setting, it took me awhile to get accustomed to this level of activity among Grace's various ministry teams. But what I quickly realized is that you regard these not as obligations but opportunities. Each represents the sincere desire to serve our community and world using the best of what God has given you. I also want to add my observation that every one of these meetings has been well organized, lively, and productive. They always conclude on the high note of looking forward to the next time together. This is truly discipleship in action.

**Worship.** With some additions to the liturgy and other adjustments, I'm very pleased with the shape our worship service has taken on. It is liturgical, identifiably Lutheran, and typically does not run more than 45 minutes (length is a concern, of course, in these pandemic times). We have also made improvements to our bulletin, including the ever-

popular word search when there is room. In December we standardized our communion practice on the more customary schedule of first and third Sundays. That month we also experimented with a more reflective midweek worship experience at our "Blue Christmas" service.

**Staff.** I am greatly blessed by the hard work Pastor Janet Peterman did to allow your new pastor to enter into partnership with a superbly equipped staff.

- Lynn Fasick, our Office Administrator, is a joy to work with. Lynn is always able to muscle through whatever chaos is swirling around to clearly identify the tasks at hand and envision how to accomplish them before the clock strikes 12 noon. She is an extremely hard worker, an excellent communicator, a great proofreader, and keeps me on track in every way. In addition, Lynn is responsible for producing our good-looking bulletin each week, keeps Grace Notes in top shape, and does all the final edits to Parish News. (I might add that Lynn's idea of "free time" is to get caught up on jobs that have been waiting in the wings, while mine is to stare into space and take several deep breaths.)
- I know how grateful you all are for the deep giftedness that our Minister of Music, **Kevin Freaney**, brings to his calling here at Grace. One member recently exclaimed, "He makes the piano *talk*!" Kevin's sensitive leadership, virtuosity, and choral skills inspire us anew each week, weave us more closely together, and lead us into a deeper understanding of what it means to worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. I have enjoyed our weekly meetings, in which we not only plan for upcoming worship but range over a variety of topics.
- As Director of Stepping Stones, **Jessica Moran** remains a vivacious and engaging presence who is lavishly generous with her time in helping us sort out issues with office machinery or technology, from adding staples to the copier to formatting an Excel file to filling empty soap dispensers. Under her leadership this ministry of Grace continues to flourish even through all the challenges this past year has seen.
- And although our **Council** is technically not staff, I've been vividly aware from the time I first started discussions about this call of the outstanding leadership we have enjoyed past year. These folks led us confidently and expertly through a forest of challenges, and I am confident that the next generation of Council members will do the same.

**Déjà vu all over again.** As we know from those familiar graphs charting the pandemic, July 2021 saw the lowest incidence of the virus since the earliest days. I happened to arrive just at that time. With joy, we felt that we could remove our masks, and for a few glorious weeks we imagined we were back to "life as usual." Our summer picnics were delightful and worry-free. But it was not to be, and when we finally decided we had to return to masking in the building, you all accepted this decision with grace. We have not had a single incident of someone unwilling to wear a mask while in the building nor do I anticipate one. For communion, we moved back to receiving the sacrament where you are seated, and then when the incidence of the virus increased dramatically we shifted to the pre-filled kits. We know these are not ideal and hope to move away from them at least starting in Lent, if not

sooner. We are blessed with a spacious sanctuary and good air circulation, so we feel that inperson worship is as safe as it can possibly be.

We are live! One long-held hope finally realized in the fall was to broadcast our Sunday service live on YouTube. If you miss the actual livestream, you can watch later on our YouTube channel (find the link on Facebook or the Sunday Online Worship page of our web site). With extremely hard and diligent work by our technical crew, led by Harold Schaefer and Dan and Tami Sarm, and with help from John Stangl, we had our first livestream experience at my installation service on September 19 and began to broadcast regularly soon after. Every week this team works to improve the sound and production. We now have the bulletin available by clicking on a link in the YouTube description. Our views for the livestream are steadily increasing and we remain confident that this is an important channel for proclamation of the gospel. We are now encouraging viewers to prepare their own communion elements to celebrate with us from home on those Sundays.

We are online! Since the fall I have been making short sermon preview videos each week (find them on our YouTube page or check Facebook for the links) along with children's messages every few weeks, which Jess Moran has been kindly sharing those with Stepping Stones families. (I can't wait until I can get to know these kids in person!) More recently, we have been using Facebook Live for Morning Prayer three days a week and Compline (Night Prayer) on Monday evenings. I have also been working closely with Bonnie Stangl to learn how to update and edit our web site, gracelutheranhatfield.org. There is a lot that remains to accomplish but we've made good progress.

**Homebound ministry.** With the help of our InReach team I have been doing my best to stay in touch with faithful members of Grace who are no longer able to attend in person. When the risks from the pandemic increased we restricted our in-person visits, but the InReach team and I are keeping up with these folks by phone. We still bring communion when it seems feasible and safe. The Sweets for Sharing (InReach) and Christmas card shower (WELCA) were marvelous efforts that touched people deeply.

**Christian education.** I have been leading our **Confirmation** class of three since September. We meet late Wednesday afternoons on Zoom. I've been impressed by their faithful attendance, punctuality, and insightful answers to questions I throw at them. In the fall we worked through Luther's Small Catechism and are now immersed in major stories of the Old Testament. I've started using additional features of Zoom (slideshows, polls) to keep it lively. A group of Grace women participated in a bi-weekly **book study** this fall on Barbara Brown Taylor's *Learning to Walk in the Dark*. We enjoyed spirited discussion and good sharing.

### Dreams for 2022:

- An even better livestream setup, possibly with a camera mounted on the rear sanctuary wall that can be controlled remotely.
- A more practical location for our new projector. Ideally it would also be mounted on a rear wall and the image projected above the pulpit for use during sermons.
- Improve and publicize online giving options and planned giving possibilities.
- A new church sign on Broad St., possibly with lettering that can be changed electronically (by the way, a shout-out to Crystal Tula for the very hard job of keeping our existing signage fresh and up to date!).
- Switch our church database software to a less challenging and more friendly and intuitive program.
- Develop a regular rotation for our livestream crew to relieve those who end up having to do it every week thanks to those who have already stepped up.
- Continue to improve communication with our members through use of attractive (and free) software such as Mailchimp.
- A livelier and more engaging social media presence.

And why is "get more members" not a dream? Because this is the Holy Spirit's work, not ours. Yes, you can help by inviting friends, neighbors and extended family to visit in person or online. But our calling is not to "get" but to "go" -- specifically, to "go and make disciples." If we apply all the means and creativity at our disposal to this holy task, the church WILL thrive. You can count on it!

Yours in the confidence of eternal life in Christ, now and forever,

Pastor Nancy Raabe

### Congregational Meeting 1/24/2021

Peggy Schmidt called the meeting to Order at 10:15am.

Thanked everyone for staying here today. Confirm there is a quorum.

Pastor Peterman did the devotions and prayed for those who passed in the past year. Pastor then briefly spoke about working with INreach to update the prayer list.

Approval of the Minutes: Motion by Tami Sarm and seconded by Emily Woltmann. All in favor. Motion passed.

Tami Sarm Treasurer's Report: When March happened and when the Church was shut down and thinking of how to pay bills, the idea of a PPP Loan was brought up. This undertaking was led by Frank Stone II and Stepping Stones for an application for the PPP Loan in the amount of \$56,700. This allowed Stepping Stones to come back to work and continued to pay for Grace's payroll for that ten-week period. Giving for the year was at \$170,000 and Expenses were at \$293,000 including Stepping Stones payroll. There is now a surplus of \$27,806.58 in the budget and Grace is not able to end the year with the surplus and Bob will explain what we proposed to do with this.

Motion to Approve the Treasurer's Report: Motion by Kathy Stawasz and seconded by Dan Sarm. All in favor. Motion passed.

Bob Smyrl highlighted the Surplus:

10% missions to the Synod and some to Hatfield Pastors Fund \$2,780.
\$10,000 to the building fund for mortgage
\$10,000 rental properties
\$5,000 operating fund that is the reserve fund and rainy day fund.

Bob Smyrl added that last year we finished with a deficit so this will place some back in to balance the budget from last year.

Motion Surplus: Motion by Jean Shaffer and seconded by Kay Deussing. All in favor. Motion passed.

New Council Nomination: Diane Ball to serve the first of a three-year term on Council. Motion by Laura Kratz and seconded Rich Woltmann. All in Favor. Motion passed.

Re-election second term of three years Jaime Snyder-Kaler, Rich Woltmann, Peggy Schmidt. Motion by Carol MacDonald and seconded by Laura Kratz. All in favor. Motion passed.

Extraordinary Election: After a discussion at a Council Meeting, Council decided to write to the Synod that we would like an exception of the Constitution regards to council leadership that would prepare for new leadership and led to existing members and finish the call process. The Synod did grant requests but the congregation had to vote. Only for one year.

Bob Smyrl stated Council wanted to develop leadership and new leaders. We have a few vacant seats and may not always be able to maintain a council for twelve members. We felt as a Council we should have more than we have. Constitution allows fewer than 14, we felt needed more and wanted to fill more seats than were willing to serve. Still down one even with changes. This motion is to allow Joanne Moyer to serve an additional year on Council and Peggy Schmidt an additional year as Council President.

Tom Salter stated just to be clear this is not allowed in the Constitution and this is an exception to that.

Joanne Moyer Council additional year term: Motion made by Bob Smyrl and seconded by Harold Schaefer. Tom Salter is opposed. Motion passed.

Peggy President additional year term as President: Motion by Jean Shaffer and seconded by Dale Moyer. Tom Salter is opposed. Motion passed.

Have to confirm a second term on Council and forgot her name Joyce Salter: Motion by Jean Shaffer and seconded by Carol MacDonald. All in favor. Motion passed.

Recognize the Transition Team - thank you for your leadership. Gifts of thanks were given to the Transition Team Members present at the meeting.

Any questions about written reports provided by teams? None.

Frank Stone highlighted - please use major improvement fund envelopes.

Cemetery business: Bob Reilly stated that the Cemetery Board hardly had any meetings and not a lot of large decisions to be made. Important service to our church and we have had a few burials this year and running a little behind on finances but our capital funds have helped. One of the things we are considering doing is raising prices. Any member of the church or family's rates are very reasonable. It is open to the community and have had a lot of contact with people and have appreciated how the cemetery has reasonable pricing but looking to have a conversation about raising outside rates in 2021.

Order of business last year added two members to the board and one was to fill out a term for one year. Charlie Roney is up for a five-year term now.

Charlie Roney Five Year Term Cemetery Board: Motion was made by Bob Reilly and seconded by Laura Kratz for Charlie Roney to serve a five-year term on the Cemetery Board. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Gift of time recognition. Council selected a theme "Behind the Scenes" making things run smoothly at Grace. Frank and Kay Stone. Tami and Darn Sarm. Emily Woltmann. Bruce Schmidt.

New Business:

Bob Reilly Call Committee Report - Call Committee most challenging ones to serve on. Named Committee members. Bob highlighted the process of how we got the interview process.

Update on Child Protection Policy - posted in Narthex and in conjunction with Stepping Stones policy and corrections are in red.

Peggy - reinforced volunteering.

Next week going to have a joyous occasion here - 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination for Pastor Peterman. Thank you! God willing will stay with you until a pastor is called!

Pastor Peterman answered questions regarding why GLC is not currently live streaming meetings and thanked the Krouts and Laura Kratz for the donations for the sound in Fellowship Hall.

Community Relations Team is in the works: Pack 510 / Christmas Tree Lighting, Warming Center.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion by Emily Woltmann and seconded by Dale Moyer. All were in favor. Motion was approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jaime Snyder-Kaler Council Secretary

### FINANCE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

The 2020 Annual Report from the Finance Committee included notes about the PPP Loan that was secured. The finance team completed all the necessary documentation and steps, and that loan was forgiven in 2021. That was a great help in keeping both Grace and Stepping Stones open during the pandemic. While worship schedules were restricted and only "normal" for a few weeks of the year, our giving for the year was \$159,991 which is lower than our budgeted General Giving of \$170,000. Our total expenses for the year were \$307,051 which were again impacted by additional safety steps needed for COVID. For the year 2021, Grace had a deficit of \$59,853.

For 2022, the congregation approved a general, mortgage and other giving budget of \$251,400, This is an increase over last year and will require giving growth from our current and new members. Additionally, our budgeted expenses grew slightly to \$313,973.

For 2021, we made total mortgage payments of \$46,440 which lowered our principal balance on our building from \$640,087 to \$618,062.

# **Rental Property Update**

Rent for 30 N Main Street remained at \$750 per month. We collected rent for the property at 22 N Main Street for six months. That property is now vacant as the tenant was no longer able to live on his own. As discussed at our congregational meeting, that property is now being prepared for sale as soon as possible. There is a mortgage on 22 N Main Street with a year-end principal of \$38,475. The interest rate on that loan is 4.25% and will be paid off at the time of sale.

#### Grace Lutheran Church **Balance Sheet** December 31, 2021

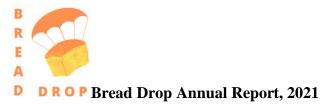
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ELCA San Antonio Youth Account       2,109.16         Petty Cash       75.00         Mission Investment Fund       108,089.09         Thrivent HY Fund (Parsonage)       61,592.24         LCF - Beder Bequest       53,854.83         Other Current Assets       329,167.17         Fixed Assets       747,656.42         Total Current Assets       747,656.42         Total Fixed Assets       \$ 1,076,823.59         LIABILITIES, FUNDS & CAPITAL       Current Liabilities & Funds         Payable       \$ 665.55         Payroll Taxes-Employer       (1,491.94)         Debt Reduction & Improvements Funds         Major Improvement Fund       26,532.64         Operating fund       31,352.92         Property Funds       (30.00)         Wagner Property (15 W. Broad)       (30.00)         Rupert Property (20 N. Main)       12,756.49         Walker Property (21 N. Main)       28,021.26         Mission Funds       57.00         Sponsorship & Memorial Funds       62.00         Pator's Special Fund       1,53.50         Flower Fund       62.00         Pator's Special Fund       7,806.82         Power Sund       6,812.71         Misselianeous In & Out	Building MIF		943.89		
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Mission Investment Fund 108,089.09 Thrivent HY Fund (Parsonage) 61,592.24 LCF - Beeler Bequest 53,854.83 Other Current Assets 329,167.17 <i>Fixed Assets</i> 329,167.17 <i>Fixed Assets</i> 329,167.17 <i>Fixed Assets</i> 329,167.17 <i>Total Fixed Assets</i> 747,656.42 Total Fixed Assets \$ 1,076,823.59 LABILITES, FUNDS & CAPITAL <i>Current Labilities &amp; Funds</i> Payable \$ 665.55 Payroll Taxes-Employer (1,491.94) Debt Reduction & Improvements Funds Major Improvement Fund 26,532.64 Operating fund 31,352.92 Property Funds Wagner Property (15 W. Broad) (30.00) Ruper Property (15 W. Broad) (2,756.49) Watker Property (15 W. Broad) (30.00) Ruper Property (15 W. Broad) (30.00) Ruper Property (20 N. Main) 22,756.49 Watker Property (20 N. Main) 28,021.26 Mission Funds Grateful Grace 1,629.00 Bear Creek Camp 37.00 Lutheran Community (Envelope) 892.00 Pastor's Special Fund 62,00 Eternal Light 1,386.71 Memorial Fund 62,00 Eternal Light 1,386.71 Memorial Fund 64,00 Flower Fund 62,00 Eternal Light 1,386.71 Memorial Fund 745.00 <i>Sponsorship &amp; Memorial Funds</i> Flower Fund 62,00 Eternal Light 1,386.71 Memorial Fund 745.00 <i>Sponsorship &amp; Memorial Funds</i> Flower Fund 6,812.71 Other Fund 745.00 Evangelism 145.44 Other Funds Miscellaneous In & Out 2,010.27 Pastor CE (1,262.96) Generator Fund (1,015.73) Warming Center Grant 77.79 Thrivent Deposit Fund 16,767.02 Capital Campaign New Building 92,08.21 Building Fund 92,08.21 Building Fund 92,018.21 Building Fund 92,018.21 Building Fund 92,018.21 Building Fund 92,023.15 Loans & Morigage 8	ELCA San Antonio Youth Account		2,109.16		
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Other Current Assets       329,167.17         Fixed Assets       329,167.17         Fixed Assets       747,656.42         Total Fixed Assets       747,656.42         Total Assets       2         Total Assets       1,076,823.59         LIABILITIES, FUNDS & CAPITAL       Current Liabilities & Funds         Payables       \$         TSA Payable       \$         Payables       \$         Takes-Employer       (1,491.94)         Debt Reduction & Improvements Funds       (30.00)         Major Improvement Fund       26,532.64         Operating fund       31,352.92         Property Funds       (30.00)         Wagner Property (15 W. Broad)       (30.00)         Rupert Property (22 N. Main)       12,756.49         Walker Property (22 N. Main)       28,021.26         Mission Funds       1629.00         Bear Creek Camp       37.00         Lutheran Community (Envelope)       507.00         Pastor's Special Fund       153.50         Souper Bowl of Caring       57.00         Sponsorship & Memorial Funds       17,896.89         Youth & Church Activity Funds       2,335.68         Tree Lighting Fund       6,812.71	Thrivent HY Fund (Parsonage)		61,592.24		
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Payables         \$         665.55           Payroll Taxes-Employer         (1,491.94)           Debt Reduction & Improvements Funds         Major Improvement Fund         26,532.64           Operating fund         31,352.92         Property Funds           Wagner Property (15 W. Broad)         (30.00)           Rupert Property (22 N. Main)         28,021.26           Mission Funds         Grateful Grace           Grateful Grace         1,629.00           Bear Creek Camp         37.00           Lutheran Community (Envelope)         892.00           Pastor's Special Fund         153.50           Souper Bowl of Caring         57.00           Sponsorship & Memorial Funds         Flower Fund           Flower Fund         62.00           Eternal Light         1,386.71           Memorial Fund         68.12.71           Children's Garden         2,335.68           Tree Lighting Fund         745.00           Evangelism         145.44           Other Funds         (1,262.96)           Generator Fund         (1,015.73)           Waster Garden         2,35.68           Tree Lighting Fund         745.00           Evangelism         145.44           Ot					
TSA Payable         \$         665.55           Payroll Taxes-Employer         (1,491.94)           Debt Reduction & Improvements Funds         26,532.64           Operating fund         31,352.92           Property Funds         30000           Wagner Property (15 W. Broad)         (30.00)           Rupert Property (20 N. Main)         12,756.49           Walker Property (22 N. Main)         28,021.26           Mission Funds         37.00           Grateful Grace         1,629.00           Bear Creek Camp         37.00           Lutheran Community (Envelope)         507.00           Pastor's Special Fund         153.50           Souper Bowl of Caring         57.00           Sponsorship & Memorial Funds         17,896.89           Flower Fund         6,812.71           Memorial Fund         17,896.89           Youth & Church Activity Funds         445.04           Wath Schering Fund         6,812.71           Children's Garden         2,335.68           Tree Lighting Fund         745.00           Evangelism         145.44           Other Funds         (1,262.96)           Generator Fund         (1,015.73)           Warming Center Grant         77.7					
Payroll Ťaxes-Employer         (1,491.94)           Debt Reduction & Improvements Funds         (1,491.94)           Major Improvement Fund         26,532.64           Operating fund         31,352.92           Property Funds         (30.00)           Wagner Property (15 W. Broad)         (30.00)           Rupert Property (22 N. Main)         12,756.49           Walker Property (22 N. Main)         28,021.26           Mission Funds         (30.00)           Grateful Grace         1,629.00           Bear Creek Camp         37.00           Lutheran Community (Envelope)         507.00           Harvest Home (Envelope)         892.00           Pastor's Special Fund         153.50           Souper Bowl of Caring         57.00           Sponsorship & Memorial Funds         700           Elower Fund         62.00           Eternal Light         1,386.71           Memorial Fund         17,896.89           Youth & Church Activity Funds         745.00           Youth Gathering Fund         2,335.68           Tree Lighting Fund         745.00           Evangelism         145.44           Other Funds         (1,015.73)           Miscellaneous In & Out         2,010.27		\$	665 55		
Debt Reduction & Improvements Funds           Major Improvement Fund         26,532.64           Operating fund         31,352.92           Property Funds         (30.00)           Rupert Property (15 W. Broad)         (30.00)           Rupert Property (20 N. Main)         12,756.49           Walker Property (22 N. Main)         28,021.26           Mission Funds         (1,629.00)           Bear Creek Camp         37.00           Lutheran Community (Envelope)         507.00           Harvest Home (Envelope)         892.00           Pastor's Special Fund         153.50           Souper Bowl of Caring         57.00           Sponsorship & Memorial Funds         62.00           Eternal Light         1,386.71           Memorial Fund         17,896.89           Youth & Church Activity Funds         7           Youth Gathering Fund         6,812.71           Children's Garden         2,335.68           Tree Lighting Fund         745.00           Evangelism         145.44           Other Funds         (1,015.73)           Missellaneous In & Out         2,010.27           Pastor CE         (1,262.96)           Generator Fund         (1,015.73)		Ψ			
Major Improvement Fund         26,532.64           Operating fund         31,352.92           Property Funds         (30.00)           Rupert Property (15 W. Broad)         (30.00)           Rupert Property (30 N. Main)         12,756.49           Walker Property (22 N. Main)         28,021.26           Mission Funds         (30.00)           Grateful Grace         1,629.00           Bear Creek Camp         37.00           Lutheran Community (Envelope)         507.00           Pastor's Special Fund         153.50           Souper Bowl of Caring         57.00           Sponsorship & Memorial Funds         62.00           Eternal Light         1,386.71           Memorial Fund         6812.71           Children's Garden         2,335.68           Tree Lighting Fund         6,812.71           Children's Garden         2,335.68           Tree Lighting Fund         145.44           Other Funds         145.44           Miscellaneous In & Out         2,010.27           Pastor CE         (1,262.96)           Generator Fund         (1,015.73)           Warming Center Grant         77.79           Thrivent Deposit Fund         16,767.02			(1,101.01)		
Operating fund         31,352.92           Property Funds         (30.00)           Rupert Property (15 W. Broad)         (30.00)           Rupert Property (20 N. Main)         12,756.49           Walker Property (22 N. Main)         28,021.26           Mission Funds         (529.00)           Grateful Grace         1,629.00           Bear Creek Camp         37.00           Lutheran Community (Envelope)         507.00           Harvest Home (Envelope)         892.00           Pastor's Special Fund         153.50           Souper Bowl of Caring         57.00           Sponsorship & Memorial Funds         Flower Fund           Flower Fund         62.00           Eternal Light         1,386.71           Memorial Fund         17,896.89           Youth & Church Activity Funds         745.00           Youth Gathering Fund         6,812.71           Children's Garden         2,335.68           Tree Lighting Fund         745.00           Evangelism         145.44           Other Funds         (1,262.96)           Generator Fund         (1,015.73)           Warming Center Grant         77.79           Thrivent Deposit Fund         16,767.02			26 532 64		
Property Funds         (30.00)           Wagner Property (15 W. Broad)         (30.00)           Rupert Property (30 N. Main)         12,756.49           Walker Property (22 N. Main)         28,021.26           Mission Funds         (30.00)           Grateful Grace         1,629.00           Bear Creek Camp         37.00           Lutheran Community (Envelope)         507.00           Harvest Home (Envelope)         892.00           Pastor's Special Fund         153.50           Souper Bowl of Caring         57.00           Sponsorship & Memorial Funds         62.00           Eternal Light         1,386.71           Memorial Fund         17,896.89           Youth & Church Activity Funds         745.00           Evangelism         145.44           Other Funds         2,010.27           Pastor CE         (1,262.96)           Generator Fund         (1,015.73)           Warming Center Grant         77.79           Thrivent Deposit Fund         16,767.02           Capital Campaign New Building         92,108.21           Building Funds         92.03.15					
Wagner Property (15 W. Broad)       (30.00)         Rupert Property (30 N. Main)       12,756.49         Walker Property (22 N. Main)       28,021.26         Mission Funds			01,002.02		
Rupert Property (30 N. Main)       12,756.49         Walker Property (22 N. Main)       28,021.26         Mission Funds       37.00         Grateful Grace       1,629.00         Bear Creek Camp       37.00         Lutheran Community (Envelope)       507.00         Harvest Home (Envelope)       892.00         Pastor's Special Fund       153.50         Souper Bowl of Caring       57.00         Sponsorship & Memorial Funds       62.00         Eternal Light       1,386.71         Memorial Fund       17,896.89         Youth & Church Activity Funds       745.00         Youth Gathering Fund       6,812.71         Children's Garden       2,335.68         Tree Lighting Fund       745.00         Evangelism       145.44         Other Funds       (1,015.73)         Miscellaneous In & Out       2,010.27         Pastor CE       (1,262.96)         Generator Fund       (1,015.73)         Warming Center Grant       77.79         Thrivent Deposit Fund       16,67.02         Capital Campaign New Building       9,203.15         Building Funds       9,203.15			(30.00)		
Walker Property (22 N. Main)         28,021.26           Mission Funds         1,629.00           Bear Creek Camp         37.00           Lutheran Community (Envelope)         507.00           Harvest Home (Envelope)         892.00           Pastor's Special Fund         153.50           Souper Bowl of Caring         57.00           Sponsorship & Memorial Funds         62.00           Flower Fund         62.00           Eternal Light         1,386.71           Memorial Fund         17,896.89           Youth & Church Activity Funds         745.00           Evangelism         145.44           Other Funds         (1,015.73)           Warning Center Grant         77.79           Thrivent Deposit Fund         16,77.02           Capital Campaign New Building         92,03.15           Loans & Mortgages         9,203.15					
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#### Grace Lutheran Church Income Statement For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2021

		Current Month	Year-To-Date Actual	Year-To-Date Budget	Variance	Prior Year Actual
REVENUE						
Offerings						
General Fund	\$	19,088.88	\$ 159,991.28	\$ 170,000.00	(10,008.72)	\$ 157,822.00
Other Envelopes		3,045.00	4,967.00	5,700.00	(733.00)	5,902.00
Plate		150.00	1,425.55	4,000.00	(2,574.45)	6,391.00
Sunday School		0.00	80.00	100.00	(20.00)	88.00
Music Fund		320.00	2,502.02	2,000.00	502.02	2,415.00
Unbudgeted Receipts		0.00	217.00	0.00	217.00	56,700.00
Rental Property						
30 N Main Property rent		825.00	9,300.00	9,000.00	300.00	11,150.00
22 N. Main		0.00	7,506.00	14,160.00	(6,654.00)	9,650.00
Post Office Parking Lot		0.00	13,500.00	13,500.00	0.00	12,759.00
Architect Parking		0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
Other Ordinary Receipts						
Interest on Checking/Savings		53.37	680.73	1,000.00	(319.27)	1,510.39
Total Ordinary Receipts		23,482.25	203,169.58	222,460.00	(19,290.42)	267,387.39
Special Receipts						
Bulletins		0.00	433.00	250.00	183.00	187.00
Flowers/Eternal Candle		94.00	1,885.00	0.00	1,885.00	1,137.00
Stepping Stones Fair Share		3,720.00	22,320.00	22,320.00	0.00	20,460.00
Church Use		400.00	2,950.00	5,200.00	(2,250.00)	6,120.00
Building Campaign Transfer		2,740.00	16,440.00	16,440.00	0.00	25,250.75
Total Special Receipts		6,954.00	44,028.00	44,210.00	(182.00)	53,154.75
Total Revenue	-	30,436.25	247,197.58	266,670.00	(19,472.42)	320,542.14
EXPENSES						
Missions		1,017.38	12,744.67	13,708.56	(963.89)	12,609.78
Staff		10,288.37	134,961.96	146,850.44	(11,888.48)	128,827.79
Property Expenses		3,949.81	88,691.42	85,109.52	3,581.90	67,402.13
Administration		2,314.01	16,611.58	14,113.00	2,498.58	16,045.98
Programs		769.72	7,601.13	10,465.00	(2,863.87)	42,599.13
Mortgages		3,870.00	46,440.00	46,440.00	0.00	25,250.75
Suspense Account	-	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Expenses		22,209.29	307,050.76	316,686.52	(9,635.76)	292,735.56
Surplus/(Deficit)		8,226.96	(59,853.18)	(50,016.52)	(9,836.66)	27,806.58

Respectfully Submitted

#### Tami Sarm



Bread Drop continues to respond creatively to the needs of those who are hungry during these difficult COVID-19 pandemic times. In spite of the challenges inherent in attempting to meet the needs of hungry people, the Bread Drop crew has worked to build strong partnerships with food pantries, agencies and individuals who are able to help us focus our work.

Perhaps the biggest change for Bread Drop is that we are no longer a ministry of the Welcome Church. Early in 2021 we split with them, because our missions had diverged and we were no longer a good fit. Soon after we partnered with the E-Meal program at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Souderton PA. Working with E-Meal has allowed us to consolidate purchases, share deliveries and expand our offerings. They are good folks and easy to work with.

We now concentrate on three "products," peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, snack bags and fruit bags. Each are made to tightly defined product specifications. This is important, because our distributers appreciate consistency. Our production group has grown slightly over the past year. We still have about 70 working each week to make about 2,400 PB&Js, 200 fruit bags and 150 snack bags. What impresses me the most is the faithfulness of our crew. Most of the production group has been working consistently since April 2020, cranking out donations every single week. By mid-January 2022 we will have delivered 200,000 sandwiches.

We now deliver in three counties. Drivers travel 300 miles weekly making pickups and deliveries. E-Meal and Manna on Main Street supply areas in Montgomery County. Throughout the summer we worked to get food into two encampments in Norristown. The Community Food Program run by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia distributes into Kensington, Hunting Park, North Philadelphia, Upper Darby and other places as needed. Barry Haydt delivers to Project HOME who feeds people in Kensington and St. Mark's Episcopal in Center City. Joan Smith from St. Steven's Episcopal in Norwood, PA takes our food to Chester and Prospect Park, PA. I deliver a variety of things to Chester Eastside every Wednesday. We have two affiliates in Ridley Park, PA and Cherry Hill, NJ who are using our model.

Next year we plan to strengthen our partnership with E-Meal by moving much of the Bread Drop storage and sorting to Souderton. We were the recipients of a \$5,000 Forward in Faith grant and will use that funding to expand our refrigeration capacity in Souderton. That will allow us to work more closely with the Garden of Health food bank and provide a wider variety of fresh food. Additionally, I would like to have members of Grace become active participants in the E-Meal Program. We will continue to respond to the need that does not seem to be lessening.

Submitted with humility by Lou Farrell, Bread Drop Director, January 2022

# **Christian Connections 2021**

This year's events began with "Easter Egg Hunt To Go", a drive up "Egg Hunt". Pastor Peterman challenged the congregation to donate candy and plastic eggs to fill 200 bags to be given to children as they drove up to receive them along with Palms given out by Butterfly costumed volunteers, Pastor Peterman, Laura and Micah. The congregation overwhelminly met that challenge. 200 bags were filled with 6-8 plastic eggs filled with 1-2 pieces of wrapped candy (approximately 1200 pieces of candy). The bags included a butterfly craft and a schedule of Easter week services. We estimated about 50 cars that drove up with children to have this modified form of an Easter Egg Hunt. The extra bags were given to Stepping Stones and anyone in the congregation who wanted them to share with others.

In October Trunk or Treat returned with about eight cleverly decorated car trunks, with treats given out to approximately 30-40 costumed children. A costume parade was judged and prizes given. This event was partly supported by the Scout Troop. Members and Pastor Raabe were there to greet children and their families and invites to return to Grace for Sunday school and services were given out.

Thanks,

Tami Sarm

#### 2021 Communication Team Report

The Communication team met throughout 2021 (using Zoom) and continued to keep the Grace Website and Facebook pages fresh. We also are very thankful to Pastor Raabe for adding fresh content including adding webpages for various teams, the major organizations that Grace supports, frequent posts and the text for Sunday sermons. Overall, the website viewing was up slightly over 30% vs. last year. The Stepping Stones and Grace Notes pages continue to be the most frequently viewed followed by the Audio/Video (worship services) page and then the Staff and Church Council pages. The website was viewed between 1425 and 2740 times each month in 2021. Since Pastor Raabe joined us there has been over 2000 views each month. We currently have 410 people who are followers of Grace's Facebook page with an average of 18 user interactions each day in the last quarter. The page has 393 lifetime likes. If you are currently a Facebook user please share Grace's Facebook page.

The team started the year focused on improving the video worship services in quality and timing. Each worship video for a regular Sunday was viewed an average of 21 times. Our team sends a big thank you to the Sarms, who were the cornerstone of the online worship. Dan and Tami faithfully staffed the video recording each week with Harold putting the production together for viewing. Dan helped Harold with the research on how to make the Live streaming happen. The recent viewership is up to an average of 33 views per video.

We once again began the process of creating CDs for members that did not have internet access, but the interest was no longer there. We do still have the technology, so if you know someone that would use it, please let someone know that is on the Communication Team.

The current active communication team members are Harold Schaefer and Laura Slugg as well as council representative Joanne Moyer. Please let one of us know if you have any communication suggestions for 2022.

Respectfully,

Bonnie Stangl, chairperson

# **Giving in Service – INreach 2021**

#### Caring for Grace members with Christian love during life's challenging times.

Starting back up in 2021, after shutting down from the pandemic, Crystal Tula took over the team after Carol MacDonald's leadership ended. The team thanks Carol for all the hard work and dedication she gave to not only the team, but the care of the members even in difficult times. Meetings were held via Zoom (video conferencing) to keep members safe until vaccines and regulations were put in place, so everyone was able to meet in person.

INreach was reorganized to separate some of the events to the new ministry, HEART, to focus more on the care of the members. Some events were also cancelled due to the pandemic, which meant no flea market or Mother's Day dinner. Grace also welcomed a new Pastor who took more of a role in the care of the Homebound members with phone calls and home visits. A master list was made of Homebound members, and those 75+ to help all of Grace's teams be able to have the most up to date information.

In 2021, our energetic and compassionate team members, along with many wonderful Grace volunteers, came together often to collaborate, mourn, connect, and celebrate in the following ways:

- **Soupathon** In February and November, soup was made by members of the church, then sold to the congregation to help raise money for the generator fund. Leftover soup was also distributed to Homebound members or anyone in need of a meal.
- **Packages for Lent** In the packages, there were magnets, ordered by Kay Stone, 2 different daily devotional books, Pastor's Lenten prayer pauses, and soup. The 26 packages were delivered to Homebound members by Pastor and the team.
- **Rides for those in need** Emily organized rides for members who needed help getting to places whether doctor's appointments or physical therapy. She was there to make sure no one missed anything!
- **Call network** Team focused on making sure monthly calls were made to Homebound members to check up on or to see if any needs arose.
- **Tomato Plants-** Bruce continued to grow his tomato plants for the congregation even though Hatfield cancelled the Roll & Stroll. The cub scouts from Pack 510 and Stepping Stones were also lucky enough to receive plants too!
- Meal train- Carol coordinated meals for those in need throughout the year.
- Sweets for Sharing- In conjunction with WELCA who supplied Christmas cards and ornaments for Homebound members. The team made over 30 cookies tins which were handed out to members of Grace, Stepping Stones, Sunday School teachers and staff members.
- **Baskets of Cheer** Kay organized baskets for Pastor and Jessica from Stepping Stones from the congregation. Carol also organized a basket of gift cards to the Tula Family to help them in their move.

It has been a challenging year adapting to new leadership, the changes from the pandemic, loss of friends and family, but together this team has shown their strength and caring for others, to show how God works through us. Thank you to all the amazing volunteers who have gone out their way to care for others!

The Team meets the 4th

Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM, usually at Grace.

INreach Team Members:

Kay Deussing, Lou Farrell, Carol MacDonald, Tami Sarm, Bruce Schmidt, Jean Shaffer, Kay Stone, Crystal Tula, Barb Watts, Sue Weiland, Emily Woltmann, Fay Younger

Respectfully submitted - Crystal Tula

# 2021 Annual Report

# **Giving In Service – OUTreach**

Although 2021 continued to be challenged by the COVID19 virus, the Giving In Service Team continued our mission of supporting local agencies in our area. Your generosity for all these projects was wonderful. You have touched countless lives through your continued support of all our OUTreach projects.

- January and February We collected funds for Laurel House, a Montgomery County center for abused women and their children. Gift cards were purchased and given to the agency for distribution to their clients. These gift cards allowed mothers to shop for the necessary supplies they needed for their families.
- February We began our Rice Bowl project which benefited three agencies. We shared our funds with The Food Cupboard at Emmanuel Evangelical Congregational Church in Hatfield, which provides needed food to those in our area, Manna on Main Street, a Lansdale food service for the less fortunate in our area, and the World Hunger Appeal through the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. Your gifts in 2021 to the Rice Bowl totaled \$2255.
- During the month of *May* we held our annual **Mother's Day Carnation Sale** to honor and remember all mothers. Our funds from the sale of carnations were shared with Laurel House. Your gifts totaled **\$146.**
- September We helped those in need of food by celebrating Harvest Home Sunday. Our gifts were shared with the Hatfield Food Cupboard at our neighboring church, Emmanuel Evangelical Congregational Church, and with Manna on Main Street in Lansdale. In addition, through the Harvest Home offering envelopes we contributed funding to World Hunger through the ELCA project.
- October The North Penn Area Crop Walk was held the week of Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>. A virtual walk was held again in 2021. Participants walked at home and collected gifts from sponsors. Jean Shaffer and Kathy Stawasz walked in the event and collected \$1000 for CROP.
- November and December Our Adopt-A-Family project was held. All of you shopped for four families in the Hatfield area. Grace members did a wonderful job selecting special gifts for each member of our families. Our Scout group also participated in our project and purchased gifts for our four families. Thrivent Financial through an Action Team Project provided \$250 in extra funds for shopping for our families. In addition to shopping for gifts for our families, we also collected donations for angel gifts to go to

families. These angel gifts contained household and hygiene items that families cannot purchase with food stamps. In addition, we collected socks for the men and women of Bread Drop. The bags of gifts, angel gifts, and socks were delivered in time for Christmas.

The **Food Cupboard** project is year-round. Food for the Hatfield Food Cupboard is collected continually. Several of our members help out at the Food Cupboard by shelfing food, checking dates on food items, and serving as volunteers during distribution of food. Carol and Paul MacDonald organize the food gifts and deliver them to food cupboard.

Thank you for your participation and support of all the projects that our team sponsors, including those not mentioned that are ongoing throughout the calendar year. Only with your generous help do we accomplish our mission at Grace of *Giving in Service*.

Our team meets four times a year or as needed to accomplish our projects. Our meetings are open to anyone who would like to attend.

#### The Giving In Service Team

Jean Shaffer, Diane Ball, Mary Jane Moyer, Carol MacDonald, Barbara Watts, Kay Deussing and Kay Stone

Respectfully submitted,

*Kay Stone* 

#### **Giving to God Team**

This past year has seen the continued changes at Grace, from the in person and remote options to worship, meet, and stay in touch with one another, to live streaming our service to worship together although we may not be in one place. The Stewardship team was re-energized with the call of Pastor Raabe, as we headed into the fall and started meeting in person again. We decided we needed a new name to better describe what we do, and thought the Giving to God team seemed to say it all.

Our fall initiative, "Falling in Love with Grace" was an opportunity for us to remind ourselves and others what is special about this place, this family, we call Grace. We were amazed by the amount of notes left on the tree about what people love about Grace. We are reminded that these are gifts from God, and we are grateful for them. Thanks to all who gave so generously in the donation box under the tree. A total of \$186.59 was received for the General Fund.

We completed our Fall campaign, which was a bit more difficult as some families are still worshiping remotely, so it was a bit more challenging reaching all of our members.

We continue our support of the Grateful Grace program, where the congregation provides financial gifts to share with another congregation that has suffered some type of loss. This has been in response to the generosity of churches and organizations that stepped up to help Grace in our time of loss from the fire, a way to share our generosity with others.

We look forward to working together as a team in 2022, exploring what it means to share our time, ourselves, and our gifts in response to God's amazing gifts to each of us.

Respectfully submitted,

Giving to God Team (Wendy Walter, Jaime Snyder, Ken Seiler)

#### 2021 Annual Report from our Minister of Music

Where do I start with my thoughts about 2021? The most obvious and wonderful moments in my mind for Grace was returning in person, having singing be part of our worship again, welcoming of a new Pastor. I have really enjoyed collaborating with Dan and Tami Sarm and Harold Schaefer on Sunday mornings as they manage sound and video recording for worship. It's quite good to see how we can produce what almost two years ago, seemed impossible. Kudos to all !! I've also enjoyed working with Harold on music for various services where he plays guitar and me on the piano. We're building a nice team together on music and music styles. In summary, I think it's right to say we are blessed in all these moments.

I have had a lot on my plate in ways I never imagined because of COVID. None of my experiences were negative but I realized the ability to find ways to make everything work. While we've been singing, we had to continue masking for many occasions. The choir returned and we are rehearsing mostly on a regular schedule of every other Wednesday at 1 pm. It was decided to have daytime rehearsals to accommodate concerns about evening travel. Rehearsals are also a bit shorter and our seating arrangement is varied all due to the COVID19 virus threat. We lost a very special person in choir on Christmas eve, Betty Murray. Our dearest Betty blessed Grace with her loving voice for many years. She loved singing and the people of Grace. *May Choirs of angles lead her into paradise.* 

Pastor Raabe and I meet weekly on Tuesdays to review plans for worship. We spend a lot of time on music! As you know, Pastor Raabe is a music composer and is probably the first Pastor I've worked with who has such passion for music. She and I both care greatly about our roles and together we seem to be finding our way to build on so much positive energy. We both have a lot of support from all of you, and I greatly appreciate everything Grace congregation does to encourage and support us.

I do have a word of reality to share about our Allen organ. The organ we have is from the mid-1980s and is on its last legs. We've had it looked it and the cost of maintenance and repair is greater than the actual value of the organ. Its components are old and failing. As of the end 2021, the business in Souderton who cared for it, is now out of business. The Allen organ company itself is still in business however the matter to focus on is looking at replacement options as the organ is around 45 years old. To give some background, the aging electronics such as the sound amplifiers occasionally stop working, make odd noises, and even overheat. I've had to shut off the organ or not use it because I can smell the walnut wood, resembling a campfire smell. I was told by the organ tech person that the amplifiers will just stop working. It could be weeks or months. That's just one matter among others due to age. The organ's components are simply wearing out.

Options: a new organ, a newer but used organ or a "virtual" pipe organ console. What "virtual" means is that real pipe organ sound samples could be played on the organ giving the results of a nice sounding pipe organ. This new technology is something I am very familiar with and I'm hoping to find something that is a hybrid between a newer used organ but one that could also function as a virtual organ, too. I would be happy to talk to anyone interested in learning more. It is my understanding there may be means of funding a newer organ, but I want to assure you that we can find a suitable option taking costs into great consideration. I know that most people probably don't have an ear for discerning organ sounds and options but have faith in me and my pursuits to help find a very nice instrument for Grace.

Many thanks to all of you who have been so helpful and kind in making music and for your time!

#### Kevin Freancy

### **Grace Property Team Annual Report**

Members of the Property Team include Barry Moyer, Paul MacDonald, Bob Reilly, Jeff Krout, Bruce Schmidt, Frank Stone

The Property Team is responsible for many areas of the physical upkeep and maintenance of the Grace physical plant and operations including:

From toilet tissue to Community garden cleanup, From roof inspections to fire extinguisher check ups, From rental property maintenance to setting timers for outside lighting, From cleaning the baptismal font to maintaining the HVAC systems, From replacing light bulbs to overseeing the cleaning service, From snow removal to lawn mowing, From narthex ceiling repair to painting Pastor's office, From a new parking lot sign to adding mulch to the playground, From ceiling repair in the classrooms to generator hookup to sump pumps, From new sidewalks on Wayne Ave to maintaining order in the basement, From repairing toilets to replacing soap dispensers.

The Property Team stays very busy.

If anyone is aware of a property issue that needs to be addressed, please advise a member of the Property Team.

There are numerous long- term projects on our wish list including new sanctuary roof, new signage on Broad and Main Streets, upgrade of rental property, chair rail in narthex, repair lighting on building cross on parking lot side of the building, repair of the pavilion, maintenance of our parking lot. These all take dollars. Please consider always giving to the Major Improvement Fund so we have the resources to tackle some of these projects.

# Stepping Stones Annual Report 2021/2022

The time has come for the annual year-end report to reflect on the year we've come through and to look forward to the end of the school year and what a year it's been thus far. Stepping Stones is going through some really exciting changes and we can't wait to see what is in store for us as the second half of the school year approaches.

Stepping Stones has one program this year; Daycare. Our daycare is still open from 7:00 am to 5:30 pm. The **Nursery School** is no longer part of the Stepping Stones program due to lack of interest. This will continue to be evaluated annually to ensure that we are still meeting the needs of the community.

Our **Daycare** has Five classrooms/age groups during the school year and offers a Summer Camp for ages 6-10.

(Infants) Little Lambs: Age 6 weeks to age 1; steady walking and off the bottle

(Transitional Toddlers) Tiny Turtles: Age 1; steady walking and off the bottle to age 2

(Two's) Busy Bees: Age 2-3 and potty trained

(Preschool) Fantastic Frogs: Ages 3-4

(Pre-K) Perky Penguins: Ages 4-6 These children will be going to Kindergarten in the Fall of 2022

(Summer Camp) Dancing Dinosaurs: Ages 6-10 These children join us for a 10 week Summer Program only

Our Stepping Stones Committee includes Jean Delmuto and Beth Krout as cochairs, Karen Seiler as treasurer, Laura Kratz, Tom Salter, Pastor Raabe, and Jessica Moran (center director). We meet monthly, in person, and discuss updates to policies, changes within the school, and anything and everything Stepping Stones. The Committee has been instrumental in ensuring that we have everything we need as our lives have changed so drastically. Policies are constantly being revised and we are always on the lookout for more news on the pandemic and having all of the extra eyes, ears, and perspectives has been amazing.

As of December 2021 our in-house Daycare enrollment is at 42 children with a waitlist totaling over 50 children across all age groups.

In 2021 we have welcomed additional growth to our program by incorporating a new daycare app for our families with the goal of taking our school to a paperless world and with that have rolled out tablets to each classroom; we have also introduced a new published curriculum through Kaplan called "Learn Every Day".

While we still haven't been able to bring visitors into the building per CDC guidelines, we are making the best of this new world by including spirit days in our calendar including, one of our favorites, Pretzel Day!

This year we were blessed with multiple opportunities to apply for grants both through daycare agencies and through the state and Stepping Stones was \$151,237.59 in grant funds to be used on staff retention, to offset the costs of COVID, and to be used to make improvements to our program like the published curriculum, daycare app, and tablets. We are still working through the grant processes and the individual requirements of each grant but it's well worth the work.

I can't wait to see what's in store for Grace and for Stepping Stones in 2022 and I can't wait to share it with all of you! Thank you for taking this journey with us!

Jessica Moran

Director

# Annual Report for WELCA

The WELCA group (Women of the ELCA) meets from September to June. Our committee normally makes soup for Ash Wednesday after the service. We are still doing cards for our Homebound members for various holidays. In December we put out a box in the Narthex for Christmas cards from the congregation and Welca to go with the cookies from INreach, also we give a small gift. This year we are doing a book called "Turning your Heart Toward God" as a basis to start us with Time with the Word.

We are sad that this year Kitty Heckler and Lori Pluda left our committee, they will be missed. We are fortunate to welcome Crystal Tula and Lisa Boyer to our committee, they are bringing new ideas to our meetings. Our members are: Kay Deussing, Bonnie Stangl, Mary Jane Moyer, Pastor Raabe, Sue Rowbottom, Mabel Hoepfl, Sue Price, Joyce Salter, Crystal Tula and Lisa Boyer.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Watts, President

### 2021 Worship and Music Annual Report

The Worship and Music Team meets each month to plan worship services, organize worship servers, plan music for worship, organize various activities including special events, decorate the church for special seasons of the church year, and order worship supplies.

Each of our team members organizes these various activities:

- Pastor Raabe shares her ideas and plans for worship with the team.
- Kevin Freaney, our Minister of Music, plans the anthems, hymns, and other music for Sunday worship services as well as leads choir practice twice a month.
- Emily Woltmann oversees the Altar Guild whose members prepare communion, change the paraments, and maintain the candles. Emily also orders the supplies needed and takes care of other worship items.
- Rich Woltmann is our council representative and brings items to our meetings from council.
- Kathy Stawasz organizes the servers for our worship services. Kathy also orders the altar flowers, the lilies for Easter and the poinsettias for Christmas.
- Kay Stone is the team leader, plans the agenda for the team meetings and prepares the minutes.
- Don Capanear represents the members who attend the 8 am services and adds valuable insight to the team. (Don is not an official member of our team but we keep inviting him to our meetings.)
- Frank and Kay Stone change the banners that are used at the front of the sanctuary.

The past two years have been very challenging for our team. Trying to continue to keep worship safe from Covid for our members sometimes changed weekly. We moved from no worship in March 2020 to outdoor service in July to indoor services in September of 2020. In 2021 our goal was to return to our 8 am and 10:30 am services, but that was delayed until December 2021. We continue to keep safety one of our major goals while providing meaningful worship services for everyone.

In January and February, Pastor Peterman was leading worship two Sundays a month. We had virtual sermons or a supply pastor on other Sundays. Lenten plans were in the beginning stages and we needed to consider how to do Easter safely. January 24<sup>th</sup> we held our annual congregational meeting following the service and on January 31<sup>st</sup> we celebrated Pastor Peterman's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her ordination. Ash Wednesday was observed on February 17<sup>th</sup>. We recommended to council that 8 am and 10:30 am services be scheduled for Psalm Sunday and Easter.

On March 7<sup>th</sup> we recognized the anniversary date of the "stay at home" order that began March 13, 2020. We created prayers and blessings which were displayed in church on ribbons. We celebrated Palm Sunday, Holy Week services and Easter services.

At our April meeting we began planning for the Trial Sermon that would take place on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Our team was tasked with planning the details for that day. The May 2<sup>nd</sup> service was held outdoors with 60 members present. Pastor Raabe was unanimously approved to become the next pastor of Grace. On June 6<sup>th</sup> we said good-bye to Pastor Peterman. Pastor Penman was our supply pastor for the remainder of the month of June.

On July 11<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated our first Sunday with Pastor Raabe. She and Bill moved into their new home and were exploring their new surroundings. At our July meeting we recommended to Council, that the mandatory mask rule should expire. In addition, we would try continuous communion. We scheduled three Wednesday evening picnics where Pastor Raabe and Bill could get to meet more of our members.

After only a few Sundays of no masking, we had to return to masking on August 15<sup>th</sup> due to the rise of Covid cases. We also returned to communion at our seats. We celebrated Pastor Raabe's installation service on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm.

Our team considered returning to our 8 am and 10:30 am services each Sunday in September but decided to wait until December. Planning in October began for Reformation Sunday, All Saints Sunday and the Thanksgiving service with Heidelberg.

In November we focused on the season of Advent and our Christmas Eve services. We planned to have three services on Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm, 6:30 pm and 9 pm. Approximately a total of 80 members attended one of the three services on Christmas Eve. Unfortunately, Pastor Raabe was unable to lead our services, however lay leaders stepped forward to lead these services.

We especially want to thank Pastor Peterman and Pastor Raabe for their leadership through another challenging year. We are grateful for Kevin and his creative abilities to provide music for worship. Also, we thank Harold Schaefer and Dan and Tami Sarm for their amazing work to provide worship online for those who are unable to attend in-person worship.

Members of Worship and Music: Pastor Raabe, Kevin Freaney, Kathy Stawasz, Rich Woltmann, Emily Woltmann, Kay Stone (Don Capanear has been volunteering to attend our meetings.)

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Stone

### **Youth Ministries - Annual Report**

Grace's Christian Education Programs were going strong through 2021.

**Sunday School:** During the winter/spring months, the Sunday School Class continued meeting virtually through Zoom. We had 7 regular attendees. Laura Slugg continued leading the large group activity each week and we used the breakout room feature of Zoom for small group instruction with Matthew Slugg and Charlie Roney. Our curriculum focused on the New Testament.

This fall we've been happy to be back in person. Playing the games and hearing the lessons is so much more fun when we are together. We continue to have a small but regular attendance of 6 students. Come visit us in the Fellowship Hall sometime to see what we are up to.

Vacation Bible School. A traditional week-long VBS event was not possible again this summer because of the coronavirus and safety concerns. Instead, the Hatfield Community VBS Team hosted a 1-night "Christmas in July" Event that was well attended. We were outside and socially distanced. The event had all the elements of VBS; music, a skit, food, crafts and a service project.

**Youth:** Busy schedules prevented us from having enough interest and availability to attend the National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis this coming July. However, we continue to find ways to have the youth engaged and active in the community. In 2022, the youth will work with the Congregation in directly participating and supporting the Habitat Humanity Faith Build Project on Cowpath Road. Their first order of business is the Drive-Through Spaghetti Dinner on January 13th!

	Hatfield Cemetery Annual Repo	rt- Year 2021	<u> </u>			
		6.5				
	emetery Board continues to overse					
The Bo	pard welcomes any suggestions fro	m the Congre	egation to	improve t	he operation of th	e Cometery.
At our	recent meeting in December, it was	s recommend	ed to incr	ease our g	grave prices from	\$200
	of for members of our congregation					
will be	effective after reviewing the prices	of other Chur	ch Ceme	teries and	reporting back to	Church
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	x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x					
The fo	llowing are the burials in 2021:	0				
Date	Decedent	Section	Lot	Grave		
1/8	Betty Manson	B	<u>1-5</u>	5		April 1
1/22	Cortney Prenkhahn	A	L-28	2		50.00
3/6	Lee Delp	B	J-9	4		
3/24	Elsie Shrawder	B	C-6	2		And the second
3/26	Cherry Ott	B	C-11	1	i	2000 - 2000 - 2000 - 2000 - 2000 - 2000 - 2000 - 2000 - 2000 - 2000 - 2000 - 2000 - 2000 - 2000 - 2000 - 2000 -
5/21	Kevin McCourt	Ā	L-31	1		
5/25	Lois Wolf	A	Q-27	2		
8/7	Ronald Gottshall	A	1-27	2		0.
8/31	Shirley Finnemeyer	В	I-11	6		
9/8	Durrell Delp	B	J-4	5		
9/11	Richard Cardell	A	M-1	2	1. <del>1. 1. 1</del> .	
10/29	Grace Freeman	В	P-1	3		-
12/16	Amelia Socki	В	P-6	6		
Sales f	for 2021					
<b>N</b> _4-						
Date	Owner Alizza District	Section	Lot	Grave	Amt Paid	4. <del>.</del>
1/18	Alice A. Drenkhahn	<u> </u>	L-28	1-2	1200	<u> </u>
3/24	Ruth and Stanley Mininger	B	E-6	2	600	
3/21	Jillian McCourt	Α	L-31	1-2	1200	0.000
	Total				\$3,000	÷
Mamb	ers of the Board					
		oilly Coord-	 			
		eilly - Secreta	iry (20 <u>23</u> )	1		
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			(1,776.75)	
	6,162.00	5,780.00	382.00	
rash Removal	296.79	688.07	(391.28)	
liscellaneous		33.00	(33.00)	
laintenance	690.00	0.00	690.00	
Total Expenses	7,148.79	6,501.07	647.72	
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