



2021 Annual Report
The First Presbyterian Church of Northport, NY
Founded 1785

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The First Presbyterian Church of Northport

Annual Congregational Meeting

March 20, 2022

11:00 AM

Docket

1. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum—Rev. Rachel Vione, Moderator
2. Opening Prayer
3. Approval of the Docket
4. Review of the 2021 Finances---Dennis Crowley, Finance Ministry Chair
 - a. Overview of 2022 Budget
5. Report of the All Church Nominating Committee—Deacon, Jeannie Obrien
 - Election of Ruling Elders
 - Election of Deacons
 - All Church Nominating Committee
6. Review of the 2021 Annual Reports
7. Amending the Bylaws
8. Voting on Pastor's Terms of Call --- Elder, Kim Gilbert, Personnel Chair
9. Pastors Remarks
10. Delegate Reading and Approval of Minutes to the Session
11. Prayer and adjournment

March 20, 2022

My Dear Friends at First Presbyterian Church of Northport,

My clergy colleagues and I often joke that we must have missed the class in seminary where they taught us how to pastor in a pandemic! Well-the truth is, of course, that there was no class in seminary about how to pastor in a pandemic. There's no manual, guideline, or roadmap to help us along the way. We just do it, trusting God to show us the way and shine light in the darkness. Thank you for your support, patience and most importantly, your prayers as we continue to emerge from the pandemic and grow into the people and the church that God would have us be. 2021 has been another year full of twists and turns that were impossible to foresee. We started this past year together worshipping remotely and doing our best to remain connected to each other during extraordinary circumstances. Our Deacons and Membership Ministries have found creative ways to reach out to church members to keep us connected while we were not worshipping together in-person. There have been numerous fire-pit get togethers, POLO outings (parents of little ones), card-writing, flower deliveries and Bible Studies. In July we returned to worshipping together in our sanctuary, albeit with reduced numbers and being fully masked. Our Sunday school and youth returned to their classes in the fall. In the season of Advent, we welcomed greater numbers of people back into the sanctuary for worship.

Just before Christmas, we had to pivot once again as our Session, Task Force and I made the difficult decision to suspend in-person worship through the remainder of the year. This time, however, we had our livestream equipment installed in the sanctuary and were able to livestream our services in real-time on Sunday mornings.

The highlight of the year for me was being installed as your Pastor on November 21. The installation service was held in the sanctuary and was a Spirit-filled celebration of God's blessings on our congregation. It was a wonderful time of celebration after having experienced such a tough year and so many losses. God is good!

I have been honored to participate in several events in our community throughout the year. On Easter Sunday, I participated in the Easter Dawn service. In September, I spoke at the "Overdose Awareness" event sponsored by the Drug and Alcohol Task Force of which I am a member. In October, I spoke at the Anti-racism rally held in Cow Harbor Park in the Village. All of these events were well-attended by the community and an important outreach for FPC.

Nothing has quite been the same this year and yet the very most important part of who we are has indeed remained the same. We are followers of Jesus Christ and together the Body of Christ. Even and especially when the path we share is unexpected and unforeseen we still travel in the same direction we have always traveled. We still walk in the direction generations of faithful Christians have trod. We follow the one who is ever leading us home to God.

I can't wait to see what God is going to do next and we reimagine who God is calling us to be in 2022 and beyond!

With much JOY in serving as your Pastor,
Rachel

Clerk's Report

2021. Another COVID year. Our annual congregational meeting was held in March 2021 via Zoom. Session has continued to meet on a monthly basis except for our usual break in the summer months. Our meetings open with prayer and devotions by Elders each month which this year included readings from a writing by Shelly Cunningham (Lutheran Pastor from Minnesota) about the need for people of faith; "Walking with God" by David Jeremiah; "Valley of Vision" from Collection of Puritan Prayers; devotion from the Pentecost Service at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in NYC; devotion by Lutheran Pastor Annabelle Markey based on Mark 9 v. 38-50; reading of 1st Peter 5; devotion on gratitude from the Reverend Marcus James. Additionally, Session members read and discussed The Post-Quarantine Church by Thom S. Rainer.

On January 24, 2021 the following Elders were ordained and/or installed for three year terms: Pat Bell, Cathy Coleman and David Ofsharick; Anita Stambouly and Cindy Mies for a second 3 year term; Julia Graziano (Youth Elder) for a 1 year term and Carole Gandy for an unexpired 1 year term in class of 2021.

Our corporate officers remained as Marcia Mercer, President; Carole Gandy, Secretary; Bob Spiller, Treasurer; and Marcia as Clerk for an additional one year term. Sadly we lost Carole this past year and Dennis Crowley was elected by Session to serve as Secretary in January of 2022.

We were deeply saddened to lose several dear and faithful members of our church family this past year: Robert Shevlin, Robert White, Jessie Clark Shaw, Charlene Cosman, Barbara Sanderson and Carole Gandy.

We thank outgoing Elders: Joan Armet, Dennis Hartin, and Christine Spiller.

Our Church reopened in July of 2021 and in-person worship services and other activities were back in the swing with livestreaming available for those unable to attend. Unfortunately, though, due to a new COVID variant we once again closed our doors starting with Christmas for several weeks for safety precautions. But thanks to diligent work by our Reopening Task Force and others we are once again back in our beloved sanctuary.

And last but not least, and at long last, Pastor Rachel officially become our "Installed" Pastor effective November 8th with her installation service being held on November 21st! Hallelujah!

I pray you all remain safe and healthy and hope that we can continue to worship and sing and pray together in our beautiful sanctuary.

Marcia Mercer, Clerk

Finance Ministry

The highlight of the year was the creation of our Endowment Fund with the Presbyterian Foundation in the Spring of 2021 with an initial deposit of 200,000. An additional 400,000 from the bequest of Charlene Cosman was added to the Fund in September, 2021. All of this was preceded by months of review and analysis by the Finance Ministry as to how to make the best use of our liquid assets. An additional 50,000 was added to the Fund by Finance in January, 2022.

There has been deep concern about the decline in both the number of pledges in the past two years as well as the amount pledged. We are, with some reluctance, presenting a budget for approval that is approximately 68,000 short of the Church's income, both in pledges and in other categories. We do this after a careful review of the upcoming expenditures for 2022, which we feel are both realistic and necessary for First Presbyterian to grow and meet the needs of all areas of the Church, including Sunday School and Mission activity. We are fully cognizant that it would be both irresponsible and poor stewardship to present a deficit budget several years in a row, and we aim to spend wisely and in line with current giving, and not relying on investment earnings to balance the budget.

Besides the hoped-for ending of the pandemic, we face the issues of inflation and the expected increased needs of the community. In the coming months, we, along with the Session and other committees, hope to reach out to our congregation to greater clarify our financial needs.

Our longtime chair, Peggy Denniston, retired from her position on December 17, 2021 and Finance member Dennis Crowley was elected chair. Our thanks to Peggy for her tireless work on setting up the endowment fund.

Dennis Crowley, Chair.

Board of Deacons

Pastor Rachel Vione

Class of 2021	Class of 2022	Class of 2023
Melissa Barasch	Jim Beyer	Sue Ebert Co-Moderator
Elizabeth Coleman	Marlena Dentrone	Carolyn Louis
Jack Fink	Tim Gladding	Jeannie O'Brien Treasurer
Marjorie Sundquist	Robin O'Neill-Gonzalez	Jeannie Reed
Tiffany Thomas	Shelley Pierce Co-Moderator	Alan Schorn
Lorelei Heuer (youth)		

~We gratefully recognize the contributions of Deacons Melissa Barasch, Elizabeth Coleman, and Lorelei Heuer (youth), who concluded their term of service in 2021.

~The Board of Deacons is a ministry of caring and service to church members, to the community, and to the world at large. Funds for our ministry primarily come from donations to the Deacons' Fund made from church members and loose plate offerings.

~We began 2021 still under Covid-19 restrictions. Events cancelled included: Officers' Retreat, Annual Pioneers Brunch, and Blood Drive.

~Easter plants, palms, and communion elements were delivered to the Pioneers and senior members of the church on Saturday, March 27th.

~In May, the Deacons donated \$500.00 to PDA for India.

~During the summer months, the Deacons hosted Coffee Hour each week. Small waters and packaged treats were served.

~On September 26th, Jesse Shaw's ashes were committed to the Memorial Garden and the Deacons served refreshments.

~On October 3rd, Steve Siegmann's ashes were committed to the Memorial Garden and the Deacons organized and served refreshments.

~On October 9th, Barbara Sanderson's Memorial Service was held and Deacons were called upon to serve.

~As of October, the loose plate offering will go to Mission.

~Coffee Hours going further will be hosted on a rotating basis between Deacons, Session, and Membership.

~A donation of \$1,000 was made to PDA for the Afghan refugees and for Hurricane IDA relief.

~In November, the Deacons hosted a farewell coffee hour in honor of Faye Michels, who moved upstate.

~In November, a Memorial Service was held in honor of Carol Gandy and the Deacons were called upon to serve.

~On November 21st, the Deacons hosted a reception in honor of Pastor Rachel's Installation.

~In December, poinsettia plants were delivered to the Pioneers and senior members of the church.

~ Christmas Eve was set to have two services, but due to Covid cases on the rise once again, in person church was postponed until further notice.

~The Deacons have a year-end balance of \$5651.00 in our account.

Sue Ebert (co-moderator)
Shelley Pierce (co-moderator)
Jeannie O'Brien (treasurer)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of NORTHPORT
TREASURER'S REPORT. DEACON FUND 2021

OPENING BALANCE: January 1, 2021 \$2,120.11

INCOME:

Donations \$6,681.00

TOTAL INCOME \$8,801.11

DISBURSEMENTS:

Christmas 2021 503.29

Note Cards 195.00

Pioneer's Lunch / Poinsettias 248.59

Hurricane Relief 500.00

Coffee Supplies 71.22

Services Memorial / Installation/ Etc. 922.93

\$3,150.36

CLOSING BALANCE December 31, 2021 \$5,650.75

Jeannie Obrien, Deacon Treasurer



**Annual Financial Report
Fiscal Year 2021
Budgeted Accounts**

Summary

Income	2021 Budget	2021 Actual
Pledged Giving	\$365,000	\$354,928
Other Income	\$40,100	\$39,096
PPP Loan Forgiveness	\$42,240	\$100,240
Gifts and Bequests	\$10,000	\$158,612
Total Unrestricted Income	\$457,340	\$652,876

Operating Expense Disbursements	2021 Budget	2021 Actual
Payroll and Insurance	\$274,905	\$275,317
Property and Maintenance Expense	\$107,600	\$167,297
Benevolence	\$39,843	\$39,183
Administrative Expenses	\$12,500	\$29,099
Ministries	\$11,350	\$9,384
Total Operating Expense	\$446,198	\$520,280

Restricted Accounts

Account	Balance 12/31/2020	2021 Income	2021 Disbursements	Balance 12/31/2021
P/M Capital Fund	\$14,067	\$900	\$0	\$14,967
Endowment Fund Seed Income	\$49,201	\$441,628	\$490,521	\$309
Memorial Fund	\$9,631	\$2,930	\$0	\$12,561
Music & Ministry	\$4,491	\$300	\$400	\$4,391
Memorial Garden	\$4,129	\$6,659	\$1,502	\$9,286
Rambo Endowment	\$8,399	\$49,399	\$3,200	\$54,597
Joy Offering	\$1,770	\$2,095	\$2,123	\$1,742
Congregational Dinners	\$503	\$0	\$0	\$503
Peacemaking	\$2,233	\$2,755	\$3,569	\$1,419
Pentecost	\$112	\$1,561	\$1,004	\$669
Sanctuary Guild	\$782	\$3,540	\$1,648	\$2,675
One Great Hour	\$200	\$2,085	\$2,285	\$0
Other Restricted	\$7,056	\$31,182	\$28,623	\$9,616

Account Balances

Account	Value 12/31/2020	Value 12/31/2021
TD Bank Checking	\$131,758	\$170,580
TD Ameritrade	\$198,929	\$111,438
Presbyterian Foundation Endowment [#]	\$0	\$703,892
New Covenant Funds	\$135,235	\$153,492
Total Unrestricted	\$317,104	\$322,774
Total Restricted	\$148,818	\$816,627

*Please note that the year-end balance does not include deposits or outstanding disbursements in transit. If you would like further information, please contact Bob Spiller, Church Treasurer.

[#] Funds in the Presbyterian Foundation Endowment are considered "Restricted" as they require 2/3 majority votes from the Finance Ministry and the Session for withdrawals.

Respectfully Submitted, Kevin McKerr, Financial Manager

Comparative Budget 2021/2022

	2021 Budget	2022 Budget
Income		
Pledged Giving	356,048	339,612
Bequests/gifts	10,000	15,000
Unpledged	10,000	10,000
General Use of Building	6,500	10,000
Weekday/Food Pantry Expenses Share	15,600	21,600
Shared Denominational Support	4,000	4,000
Loose Plate Giving	2,000	4,000
Investment Income	2,000	2,000
Total Income	406,148	406,212

Expense

Total Payroll & Insurance		
Salaries & Benefits - Pastor	154,877	160,997
Salaries & Benefits - Admin/Music Staff	110,334	129,400
Employer FICA/Medicare	5,943	6,357
Payroll Processing Expenses	1,250	1,250
Worker's Comp & Disab. Ins.	2,500	1,800
Total Payroll & Insurance	274,904	299,804

Property & Maintenance**Church Building****Utilities**

Electric	14,000	14,000
Gas	6,500	6,500
Telecommunications	6,200	5,100
Water	1,200	1,400

Total Utilities	27,900	27,000
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Liability/Property Insurance	27,000	35,200
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Church snow removal	14,000	14,000
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Repairs (Discretionary)	7,000	6,000
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Miscellaneous Expenses	3,000	3,500
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Elevator Inspection/Repair	0	3,250
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Supplies / Consumables	3,000	3,000
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Church refuse collection	2,400	2,500
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Landscaping	2,300	2,400
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Required Inspections	5,000	2,000
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Fire Alarm System	700	700
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Total Church Building	92,300	99,550
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Woodhull Manse Expenses**Utilities**

Fuel Oil	5,000	5,000
Cable/Phone	3,200	3,200
Electric	1,500	2,200
Water	350	350

Total Utilities	10,050	10,750
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Repairs/Supplies	4,000	5,000
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Lawn Maintenance/Pest Control	1,250	1,250
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Total Woodhull Manse	15,300	17,000
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Total Property & Maintenance	107,600	116,550
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Mission / Benevolence***Mission Committee**

Mission-Local & Global	6,000	10,000
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Iglesia Presbiteriana Hispana	6,000	6,000
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Total Mission Committee	12,000	16,000
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Presbytery

Basic Mission Support	16,000	5,000
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Per Capita Expense	11,843	11,843
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Total Presbytery	27,843	16,843
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Total Mission Committee-Benevolence	39,843	32,843
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Ministries**Worship****Substitutes**

Substitute Preacher	2,500	2,500
Substitute Organist	1,100	1,100
Substitute Choir Director	700	700

Total Substitutes 4,300 4,300

Music

Organ/Piano Repair & Tuning	2,500	2,500
New Music-Chancel choir	200	200
Copyright Insurance	0	300

Total Music 2,700 3,000

Sanctuary Supplies 350 350

Robe Cleaning 100 100

New Music-Youth choirs 0 0

Total Worship 7,450 7,750

Christian Education

Sunday School Supplies/Resource 1,200 1,200

Youth Ministries 1,200 1,200

Baptism/Confirmation 100 100

Adult Education 300 300

Celebrations 0 0

Family Ministries Events 0 0

Total Christian Education 2,800 2,800

Stewardship 400 300

Church Officers 500 500

Membership 125 250

Peacemaking 100 100

Pioneers 250 100

Total Ministries 11,625 11,800

Admin Expenses**Office Copiers**

Copier Lease 2,150 2,150

Copier Usage 1,700 1,700

Total Office Copiers 3,850 3,850

IT Expenses

Hardware 1,200 1,200

Software 0 200

Subscriptions 0 1,000

Total Office hardware/software 1,200 2,400

Subscriptions & Prof. Svc. Fees 3,300 3,300

Supplies-Office 1,200 1,200

Postage & Handling	1,200	1,200
Web/ Church Management software	1,750	0
Total Admin Expenses	12,500	11,950
Banking		
Credit Card Trans fee	1,000	1,200
Returned checks and fees	100	100
Total Banking	1,100	1,300
COVID Related Expenses		
Supplies	1,000	0
Total COVID Related	0	0
Non-Operating Income		
PPP Loan Forgiveness	42,240	0
Total Non-Operating Income	42,240	0
Total Expenses	447,572	474,247
Difference	-41,424	-68,035

* The Mission expenses are exclusive of the "Donated Space" and utilities for the ELC Food Pantry, YDA Program and Weekday Nursery School.

Membership Ministry

The Membership Ministry has continued to minister to our congregation throughout this second year of the pandemic with many of the same projects as last year. Designed to reach members of our church community safely and compassionately, we have tried make everyone feel connected to the church, remembered and valued.

Virtual and in-person activities have included weekly prayer meetings over Zoom each Wednesday, Saturday morning hikes at Sunken Meadow State Park, Firepit Fellowship gatherings and occasional POLO in the Park playdates for “Parents of Little Ones.” We are also supporting Deacons and Session with hosting coffee hours every third week (when it’s safe to gather indoors, that is). Membership sent Christmas cards to all church households in December and wrote personal cards of encouragement to all church members early in 2021 and again this past fall/winter. In late 2021, we began sending birthday cards to children of the church, and in February 2022 we began listing monthly birthdays of all members in the weekly email. The latest project we are sponsoring is a church-wide art project in which all church members are encouraged to help fold 1,000 Origami Cranes, writing prayers of hope and gratitude on each one. Membership will assemble the cranes into a piece of hanging “prayer art” to be displayed in the Hartt Room in the spring.

A new member class is being held in early March, 2022, and we anticipate, with great joy, the addition of some new members to our congregation. Despite the challenges of our world in 2021, people are finding our church which is certainly something to celebrate!

Libby Yoskowitz, Chair



Local/Global Mission Ministries

The 2021 discretionary funds received by Local/Global Mission Ministries were disbursed as follows: Donations were made to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) to aid victims of Hurricane Ida in Louisiana, to provide help to residents in Haiti following an earthquake there, and to provide aid to people living in Texas and the South West in the aftermath of severe winter storms and freezing temperatures that seriously damaged many of their homes and businesses. The Presbyterian Agency Living Waters for the World was the recipient of Mission funds as well.

Thinking locally, providing food for hungry people was once again a mission priority in 2021. Donations were made to assist the Helping Hand Rescue Mission in Huntington Station, the Deacons' “Love Offering” of Iglesia Evangélica Presbiteriana Nueva Vida, and Long Island Cares. Mission Ministries sponsored four HIHI dinners for homeless residents spending the night at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in South Huntington. Members of our congregation graciously

offered to help prepare meals for them. A donation was given to the YDA to assist this Youth Development Agency's general budget. The Presbytery of Long Island also received a donation in support of New Church Development ministries.

Money was donated to Doctors Without Borders to assist in their extensive Covid relief efforts in South India. In addition, we asked members and friends of FPCN to donate clean, empty pill containers to be mailed to Matthew 25 ministries in Ohio. This organization works closely with Doctors Without Borders. The pill containers will be included in bulk shipments of medicines that are sent to volunteer medical personnel serving in communities around the world. Doctors will use them to dispense medicines to patients in a sanitary, sensible way. Slightly over 100 containers were received from members of FPCN and mailed out. It is gratifying to note that those plastic containers did not end up in local landfills but, instead, were used to help bring healing to the sick.

In response to mission listings in the Presbyterian World Mission Giving Catalog, donations were made in support of the following programs: refugee families were provided with emergency life packs, and generous food baskets. Farmers were given "family nutrition starter packs" which contained seeds for kale, tomatoes, onions, cabbage, and okra. And rural families received the gift of chickens.

As in the past, Mission Ministries invited the congregation to donate to the three PCUSA special offerings. Here is the total amount of money received in 2021: One Great Hour of Sharing, \$2,085.00; Pentecost Offering, \$1,561.00; and the Christmas Joy Offering, \$2,017.00 -- gifts totaling \$5663.00.

We thank you all for your generous donations to these three special offerings.

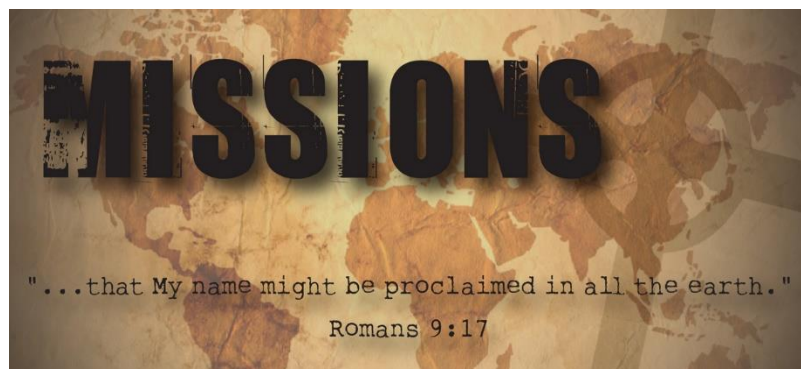
We are grateful to God that mission outreach programs continued in 2021 despite the challenges that were present throughout the year due to the ongoing Covid pandemic.

"Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in all ways."

"The Lord be with you all." II Thessalonians 3:16

Local/Global Mission Ministries

Marilyn Fox, Jane Hudson, and Florence Ogg



Peacemaking Ministry

Peacemaking has been busy, despite quarantine. The most significant effort we have done this year is finishing the application for our church to become an Earth Care Congregation. It was a complicated application requesting information on our facilities upgrades to decrease energy usage, our worship, our activities to teach the congregation about the environment and our work to improve the environment in our community. The application is complete, and it looks like we will be becoming an Earth Care Congregation.

We attended the Presbyterians for Earth Care Conference called Earth Care Buffet, which met on-line. The sessions included many good ideas on bringing Creation Care to the congregation in worship and education, as well as many ideas on the importance of working with our community to improve our environment. We also recorded a youth sermon on the environment for Earth Day.

Donations were made to several charities, including the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance fund in memory of Bob Shevlin, Equal Justice Initiative, Long Island Cares, Presbyterian Earth Care and Sierra Club. We also donated several books to church library on the environment. Titles included *Climate Emergency Atlas*, by Dan Hooke, *Climate Church*, *Climate World* by Antel, *What We Know About Climate Change* by Kerry Emanuel, *No One is Too Small to Make a Difference* by Greta Thunberg, *Climate Justice*, by Mary Robinson, *Is It Really Green*, by Georgina Wilson Powell, *I Love God's Green Earth*, by Michael and Caroline Carroll, *50 ways to Help Save the Planet (How You and Your Church Can Make a Difference)* by Rebecca J. Barnes, and *The Green Bible* with foreword by Desmond Tutu. Bob Van Deusen made and donated a lovely book cart to the Peacemaking Ministry so that books can be brought down from the library to be used in other areas of the church, making them more accessible to the congregation.

We are looking forward to opening in 2022 to do more educational activities and community projects on several topics including, but not limited to Earth Care, Discrimination, Gun Violence, Hunger and Immigration. Please feel free to join us! Contact us to learn more.

2021 Members: Elizabeth Coleman, Pat Reeves, Alan Shorn and Audrey Van Deusen
Cathy Coleman, Chair



Presbyterian Women Ministry (PW)

The year 2021 was a very different one with the coronavirus pandemic prevailing over, and limiting, most activities. The year therefore was a quiet one for PW. Nevertheless, quite a few good things happened.

A wonderful highlight was the PW Christmas Tea Luncheon in the Hartt Room, attended by 45 women. It was a great gathering. Stay tuned for the upcoming Spring Luncheon May 7th!

The Mariners' Committee is not operational at this time and the remainder of their treasury was turned over to PW. We were able to add that to our remaining money from fundraising done pre-pandemic.

Donations made last year include:

- ~ Iglesias Evangelical Presbyteriana N.V. (our sister church)
- ~ Presbyterian Disaster Association (for tornado victims' help)
- ~ We "adopted" YDA children at Christmas
- ~ We added to PW Birthday Offering and Thank Offering donations made by church women.
The Thank Offering and Birthday Offering are annual nationwide programs for families in need.
- ~ Presbyterian Giving Catalog for a freshwater drill, a privacy latrine, and a community garden.

We very much look forward to a healthy peaceful year ahead and hope you will join us in our activities. Watch the bulletins for book discussions. These are lively interesting talks, getting to know one another better.

Blessings.

The PW board: Peggy Denniston, Leah Fink, Andrea Gladding, Diana Montusi

**Presbyterian Women
Income Statement - 2021**

Balance	General Fund as of January 1, 2021		2,277.94
<u>Receipts</u>			
	Donation from Mariners Closeout	1,721.72	
	PW Birthday Offering Collection	474.00	
	PW Christmas Tea/lunch	600.00	
	PW Thank Offering Collection	665.00	
<i>Total Receipts</i>			3,460.72
<u>Disbursements</u>			
Mission			
	Iglesia Evangelica Presbiteriana N.V.	300.00	
	Presbyterian Disaster Assist - tornadoes	400.00	
	Presbyterian Giving Catalogue	665.00	
	PW USA Birthday Offering	500.00	
	PW USA Thank Offering	700.00	
	YDA Christmas families	361.27	
			2,926.27
Home Church			
	Horizons Magazine	24.95	
	Baptisms/Cheer	76.66	
	PW Christmas Tea/lunch	197.03	
	Northport Village Beach permit	25.00	
			323.64
<i>Total Disbursements</i>			3,249.91
Balance			<hr/>
-	General Fund as of December 31, 2021		2,488.75
	First National Bank of Long Island		
New Covenant Balanced Growth Fund			
	Balance as of Dec 31, 2021	\$3,426.18	

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Denniston, PW Treasurer

Sanctuary Guild

The Sanctuary Guild provides the flowers to beautify the sanctuary at worship on Sunday mornings. Dedications from individuals in the congregation for loved ones, births, in celebration of someone or in memory of someone are always welcomed. We also take orders at the appropriate time for Easter flower dedications and Christmas poinsettias and wreath dedications which decorate the sanctuary. If you would like to join us please contact Sharon Noonan or Sue Ebert. Our phone numbers are in the church directory. Thank you for your continued support.

Sharon Noonan, Chair



Stewardship Ministry

And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to dwell in. Isaiah 58:12
We have moved into the 2022 church year facing our normal operating costs even though we are in a pandemic. Current pledge information shows that we have received pledges for \$326,072 for 2022. This compares to \$364,758 pledged by this time last year. Our goal is to reach \$400,000 in pledges to plan for 2022. We are 82% of the way to our goal. You can still make your pledge. The Finance Ministry faces great difficulty in preparing an annual budget when adequate pledges are not made and they have to deal with estimated income sources.

The per capita assessment this year is \$38.08 per member. We encourage everyone to add these expenses to their pledge giving to help defray the costs.

The Stewardship Ministry has been working by Zoom and email to develop the pledge campaign and encourage Stewardship in the church. We recognize that continuing information regarding how the church is both receiving its revenues and how it is spending its money is not only meaningful but necessary.

Even though at times, the church has been closed to worship during the pandemic, we hope to remain open going forward. We still need funds to keep the church building functional, and to pay salaries. In addition, the missions of our congregation have continued, such as keeping the food pantry open and contributing towards disaster assistance. We urge each member of the congregation to accept his or her personal responsibility in providing the income necessary to permit our church to continue its work in our community as well as the world. Our ministry and mission calls for us to do this both joyfully and spiritually. We must all accept this responsibility seriously. All that we have is from God. This is a way for us to say "Thank You". We need to commit to the fact that giving to our church must be a part of our spiritual growth in response to

the gift of Grace we receive from our God. Giving of our time, talent, gifts and service is a way to serve our Lord.

You can now make your donations by text (text “fpcnpt” to 73256 click the link, and complete the gift) or on line (<https://www.fpcnorthport.org/give>).

We urge all of our fellow church members to increase their generosity in supporting our church's work by giving of your financial resources, time and talent. Consider participating in a group you haven't worked with before. Not only will you be assisting others, but you will feel in your heart the reward of giving time as well as giving money.

The Stewardship Ministry is not only involved in the yearly “estimate of giving” campaign, we also encourage giving of time, talent and money throughout the year. In addition, we try to have Minutes for Mission.

The Stewardship Ministry wishes to thank Barbara Kaifler and Karen Twitchell, Administrative Assistants and Kevin McKerr, Financial Assistant for their assistance in carrying out our work.

Members of the Stewardship Ministry in 2021 are Jane Hudson, Christine Spiller, Bob Spiller, Jack Coleman and Rev. Rachel Vione (*ex officio*).

Jack Coleman, Chair

Sunday School

Sunday School began 2021 much in the same way that it finished 2020. Since worship was still remote, we continued to host occasional online Sunday School Zoom lessons with Linda Dickman featuring stories and Bible lessons through the spring. Easter brought opportunities to carry on our church traditions via video to keep the children involved and allow the congregation to enjoy the presence of the children in remote worship. The kids “unpacked Alleluias” on video by shouting their joy and showing the beautiful butterflies they had colored. And the children and adults were invited to flower the cross on the front lawn during Holy Week so that this tradition could be a part of our online Easter worship.

Fall of 2021 brought our return to in-person worship, and with much joy, we welcomed children back to in-person Sunday School. We began with an outdoor class in September and then began regular Holy Moly, Mid High and High school classes later in September, all with masks required but happiness to finally be together. Attendance was light in the younger grades, but all who were there enjoyed their time together and learned the important messages in the Bible. Jeff Barasch was back with the high schoolers to continue his decades of service to these students, and there was a good core group of faithful youth. It soon became apparent that the mid high students greatly enjoyed his class as well, so the class has continued as a combined youth class for grades 6 through 12. We continued to observe family worship Sundays the first week of the month on Communion Sundays.

Also in the fall, we welcomed nursery caretaker, Mary Simon to our Sunday morning staff. She is a beloved staff member of Weekday Nursery School. Mary is in the nursery each week and her steady presence has helped a young, hesitant child become comfortable and happy to be in the nursery so her family can attend church! We look forward to welcoming other families with young children into the nursery, as Mary continues in her Sunday morning role.

Lisa Nikrant, Chair



Weekday Nursery School had a wonderful end to 2021 and a great start to 2022, despite all the changes and restrictions. Our goal throughout the pandemic has been to do our best to maintain the highest quality preschool education while adhering to state mandates. Our students and staff are always arriving with a smile on their faces, so it appears that we have succeeded!

We began 2021 with 115 students in all our two-year-old, three-year-old, four-year-old and Kindersteps classes. We began with all our specials classes, including Music and Movement, Spanish, STEAM, Yoga and Fine Art being taught virtually. However, we were able to transition to in-person specials classes beginning in March of 2021 to the delight of our students. We were still employing most of the same precautions from the pandemic, including using 4 different entrances and staggering the drop off and pick up times for our families.

We tried very hard to maintain our special events from years past. Some events were just not feasible with the ongoing pandemic. However, we were able to have our Annual Art Show outdoors, which showcased the amazing works of our budding artists. It was so successful that we decided to hold it outside every year. We also celebrated Earth Day by creating our own farm in the church parking lot! It was quite a sight to see our students and staff interacting with the bunnies, chickens, goats and even Muriel the alpaca. Our Moving Up and Graduation ceremonies in June also looked a bit different than in previous years. We held all the ceremonies at Scudder Beach and were thrilled that we had perfect weather! It was a wonderful feeling for all involved to have the ability to continue our tradition of special family days at school.

We also were able to hold our summer camp for 6 weeks during the summer of 2021. The teachers did a wonderful job of planning the weekly themes and making every day special for our campers.

We began our 2021/2022 school year with a full school! We felt so fortunate to have every class at capacity. We were able to hold our annual Back to School Fair and Halloween Parade and show for our families. All of our specials classes are in person and the students are thrilled to participate in every one. As this school year has unfolded, we have been able to relax certain COVID restrictions. At this point, masks are optional for all of our students and staff. We are hopeful that this is the start of a return to normalcy!

We are so grateful to the Weekday Nursery School Board and to Pastor Rachel Vione for all of their guidance and support during this difficult year!

Christine Mulholland, Director

Worship Ministry

2021 finally saw the return to in person worshiping. While we remained masked and separated in our seating, we were still able to resume with most of our regular service. However, we did make some accommodations so parishioners weren't sitting too long with their masks on. Here are some of the highlights of our year of worshiping in person: - Some of the verses for the hymns were eliminated. - The children's message was suspended as most of the children are not vaccinated. - Passing of the plate resumed in November. - A few additional banners were purchased as we continue to expand our collection. - Live stream continues as we have many who prefer to attend online. Video equipment has now been purchased. - Coffee hour was brought back but we are only using prepackaged food. - Similarly, Communion is handed out in prepackaging single units. - This fall we were able to have in person services for two large funerals as well as the Pastor Rachel's installation. - After opening in September we sadly had to revert to Zoom worshiping beginning Christmas Eve (for 6 weeks) due to an increase in viral spreading. - Our Christmas Eve service was a mixture of parts from last year's service and new messages from Pastor Rachel. - Our attendance remains strong from online and in person worshiping. - Vicki Field began organizing the ushers and making new schedules. Name badges were ordered. With our new video equipment and more people being tutored in the filming process, our worshiping remains technologically current. Our Zooming capabilities also helps us to remain flexible for any shutdowns that may need to occur.

Vicki Field, Chair

Music Department

2021 was an amazing journey in our music department as we have responded to year two of the COVID pandemic with resilience and a shared aim to bring the best of music to every service: morning worship, memorial service, or liturgical service, or celebration service.

From January through June I worked with Dana Warren, our Chancel Choir Director, Ariana Warren, Westminster/Carol Choir Director and members of their family to provide anthems, hymns, and organ music for the Sunday virtual services. For Easter the Chancel and Westminster Choirs recorded special service music for these holy days. It was highlight during this time as we were able to sing utilizing best PPE practices for singers.

The return to in sanctuary services in July positive marker in our church's journey. Members of the music staff and choir provided music through the summer until the return of the Chancel and Westminster Choirs to weekly singing in the morning worship services which was now simulcast through livestream.

We were honored to commemorate the life of longtime member Steve Seigmann through presenting two of his favorite anthems at a memorial service. A highlight of this time was joining in the Installation service for Pastor Rachel in the presence of members of Long Island Presbytery and our local community.

Further components include:

Organ/Piano music according to the liturgical year
Tuning of the organ April & December 2021
Tuning of sanctuary and Hartt Room pianos
Purchase of SAB music to support our continued presentation of a wider range of anthems. We thank the Seigmann family for a bequest to the department in his memory. We can hear him asking, "Will we take that from the beginning?" Yes we will and we look forward to 2022.

Brenda A. Clark, Director of Music & Organist

Youth Ministry

It goes without saying that the Covid Pandemic required us to create connection in some different ways through most of 2020. However, in the spring of 2021 we were able to meet in person for a fellowship/firepit gathering at church. It was a fun afternoon, the highlight being when the kids asked if they could go explore the church since they hadn't been inside the building for the better part of a year. Their travels ended in fellowship hall with rousing gym games. Pastor Rachel and I were truly touched by the laughter and "kid noise" after so many months of an all too quiet building.

In **March** the youth sorted and bagged all our shoe donations for **Soles 4 Soles**.

In **June** we participated in the **YDA Drug and Alcohol Awareness Beach Clean Up**. It was a productive and very informative program for our youth.

In **September** we started the school year off with another fellowship/firepit gathering. We enjoyed pizza and theater games that had us laughing until our stomachs ached.

In **December** we participated in the **Adopt-A Family** program and shopped together for gifts for our family.

Kim Gilbert, Chair



Ministry Leadership

Clerk of Session – Marcia Mercer

Assistant Clerk – Open

All Church Nominating Committee – Joan Armet

Board of Deacons Co-Moderators – Sue Ebert & Shelley Pierce

Corporation Officers

President – Marcia Mercer

Secretary – Dennis Crowley

Treasurer – Robert Spiller



Meaning of Membership in the Presbyterian Church (USA)*

Membership in the Church of Jesus Christ is a joy and a privilege. It is also a commitment to participate in Christ's mission. A faithful member bears witness to God's love and grace and promises to be involved responsibly in the ministry of Christ's Church. Such involvement includes:

- proclaiming the good news in word and deed,
- taking part in the common life and worship of a congregation,
- lifting one another up in prayer, mutual concern, and active support,
- studying Scripture and the issues of Christian faith and life,
- supporting the ministry of the church through the giving of money, time, and talents,
- demonstrating a new quality of life within and through the church,
- responding to God's activity in the world through service to others,
- living responsibly in the personal, family, vocational, political, cultural, and social relationships of life, working in the world for peace, justice, freedom, and human fulfillment, participating in the governing responsibilities of the church, and
- reviewing and evaluating regularly the integrity of one's membership, and considering ways in which one's participation in the worship and service of the church may be increased and made more meaningful.

*From *The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Part II. Book of Order, 2013-2015.*

2021 MINISTRY TEAMS

Finance

Dennis Crowley (chair) (elder)
Lisa Huntley
Kevin McKerr (staff)
Steve Nikrant
Bob Spiller (treasurer)
Rev Rachel Vione (staff)

Memorial Garden

Harry Newman
Sharon Noonan
Jim Denniston
Jane Hudson
Steve Keller
Gerry Walford
Krista Mellinger-DeRoma
Peggy Denniston

Memorial Fund

Jane Hudson
Art Shaw

Personnel

Kim Gilbert (chair) (elder)
Richard Huntley
Diane Lobaugh
Marcia Mercer

Property & Maintenance

Harold Armet
Jim Denniston
David Dickman
Steven Keller
Harry Newman
Bob Van Deusen
James Zima

Stewardship

Jack Coleman (chair)
Jeff Barasch
Jane Hudson
Bob Spiller
Christine Spiller (elder)
Rev. Rachel Vione (staff)

Children's Ministry

Lisa Nikrant (SS director)
Melissa Beyer
Marlena Dentrone
Christine Nastos Mitchel
Jeannie Reed
Jennifer Smith
David Ofsharick (elder)

Youth Ministries

Kim Gilbert (chair) (elder)
Rev. Rachel Vione (staff)

Membership

Marilyn Barker
Peggy Denniston
Susanne Haffner
Barbara Healy
Carolyn Louis
Diana Montusi
Shelley Pierce
Libby Yoskowitz (chair)
Rev. Rachel Vione (staff)

Pioneers

Sharon Noonan (chair)

Presbyterian Women

Diana Montusi (moderator)
Andrea Gladding
Leah Fink
Peggy Denniston

Local & Global Missions

Marilyn Fox (chair)
Jane Hudson
Florence Ogg

Peacemaking

Cathy Coleman (chair)
Anne Mateer
Pat Reeves
Alan Schorn
Gloria Valsamis
Audrey Van Deusen

Weekday Nursery School

Tina Berger
Meredith Byers
Amanda Carnesi
Jim Decker
Casey Lynch

Cindy Mies (elder)
Lauri Polio
Ali Troy
Kathleen Wansor
Christine Mulholland (director)
Rev. Rachel Vione (staff)

Sanctuary Guild

Sharon Noonan (chair)

Worship

Joan Armet (elder)
Vicki Field (chair)
Barbara Healy
Sharon Noonan
Brenda Clark (staff)
Rev. Rachel Vione (staff)

All Church Nominating Committee

Martha Keller
Cindy Mies (chair)
Jeannie Obrien (deacon)
Christine Spiller (elder)
Pegge Strella
Audrey Van Deusen

Reopening Task Force

Pat Bell
Cathy Coleman
Vicki Field
Wayne Louis
Lisa Nikrant
Robin O'Neil Gonzalez
Nancy Winkler
Brenda Clark (staff)
Rev. Rachel Vione (staff)

Ecumenical Lay Council

Vicki Field
Kim Gilbert
Shelley Pierce
Rev. Rachel Vione (staff)



Our Mission Statement

First Presbyterian Church of Northport is a welcoming community that invites all people to learn about and respond to the Word of God as found in the Old and New Testaments.

Our mission is to be shaped by, proclaim, and live out the good news of Jesus Christ. We are committed to supporting the spiritual development of our congregation by feeding the spiritually and physically hungry, caring for the sick and lonely, nurturing children, and reaching out to those in need in our local and global communities.