

**WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CEDAR RAPIDS, IA**



**Annual Meeting
28 January 2024
(Postponed to Feb. 18)**

**Annual Report to the Congregation
For the Year 2023**

Table of Contents

Agenda for the Congregational Meeting

Pastor's Report

Minutes of the January 29, 2023, Annual Congregational Meeting

Receive annual reports from boards and committees:

Report of the Clerk

Session Statistics

In Memoriam 2023

Report of the Treasurer

Revenue and Expense YTD

Comparative Balance Sheet

2024 Budget

Finance & Stewardship

Reports of the Committees and Ministry Teams

WPC Foundation Report

Personnel Committee

Property Committee

Board of Deacons

Worship Committee

Communications

Adult Education

Sunday School

Hospitality

Mission Committee

Loaves & Fishes Report

Memorial Committee

Nominating Committee

AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Cedar Rapids, IA

In Service of Our Lord, 28 January 2024 - 11:00 am

Call to Order with Prayer

Affirm Presence of a Quorum (10% of active membership)

Approve the Docket

Pastor's Report

Approve the Minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting of 29 January 2023

Receive annual reports from boards and committees:

Report of the Clerk

Session Statistical Report for 2023

In Memoriam 2023

Report of the Treasurer

Treasurer's Report (2023 Financials & 2024 Budget)

Finance & Stewardship

Reports of the Committees and Ministry Teams

WPC Foundation Report

Personnel Committee

Property Committee

Board of Deacons

Worship Committee

Hospitality

Mission Committee

Loaves & Fishes Report

Memorial Committee

Nominating Committee

Elect Officers - The Nominating Committee puts forth these persons as candidates:
to the ordered ministry of **Ruling Elder**:

Terry Perkins Class of 2027 (second 3-year term)

Brad Lock Class of 2027 (first 3-year term)

John Henderson Class of 2027 (first 3-year term)

to the ordered ministry of **Deacon**:

Barb Mumford Class of 2027 (second 3-year term)

Sherryl Hoeppner Class of 2027 (first 3-year term)

Gloria Kromminga Class of 2027 (first 3-year term)

Nancy Evans Class of 2027 (first 3-year term)

to serve on the **Congregational Nominating Committee**:

Ed Mumford Class of 2027 (first 3-year term)

Maggie York Class of 2027 (first 3-year term)

Those presently serving:

Elders: Class of 2025

Brian Read (second 3-year term)

Jim Patterson (first 3-year term)

Jan Kosowski (first 3-year term)

Elders: Class of 2026

Jim Fine (second 3-year term)

Warren Feerer (first 3-year term)

Barb Schultz (first 3-year term)

Deacons: Class of 2025

Pam Feerer (first 3-year term)

Glenn Lane (first 3-year term)

Gary Teig (first 3-year term)

Sara Tyler (first 3-year term)

Deacons: Class of 2026

Linda Cosgrove (first 3-year term)

Jan Kupka (first 3-year term)

Veronica Ndungu (second 3-year term)

Joyce Sedlaceck (first 3-year term)

Nominating:

Bonnie Keiper (Class of 2024)

Jim Patterson (Class of 2024 Session Representative)

Ann Buckheister (Class of 2025)

Kathie Lane (Class of 2025)

Barb Read (Class of 2026)

Larry Cooper (Class of 2026)

Elect Board of Foundation Trustees – The Session puts forth the following person to serve as trustee on the board of the Westminster Church Foundation:

David Basler (first 3-year term)

Thank you to the following for their service as Trustees, Elders and Deacons whose term expires in 2024:

Elders: Class of 2024

Doug Horton (second 3-year term)

David Liljedahl (second 3-year term)

Terry Perkins (first 3-year term)

Deacons: Class of 2024

Jan Walton (second 3-year term)

Joan Charters (first 3-year term)

Barb Mumford (first 3-year term)

Foundation:

Bill Moss

Steve Allsop

Motion to Adjourn and Dismissal with Prayer

Pastoral Report Annual Report 2022

On February 1, 2023, I will have been here for four years. It hardly seems possible. Much has happened over these years, but my reflections will primarily focus on 2022.

Whereas Covid still is around (and many in our congregation caught it in 2022, despite the vaccines), we have not had disruption in having in-person worship, coupled with our live stream. (Covid related issues took major space in the 2021 Annual Report). Our combined 10am service is now around 20 months old.

Aside from the people in our congregation, our greatest missional asset has been our building. We were delighted to welcome another worshipping body to call this place home: The Evangelical World Pentecostal Church who hold their services in the Old Dining Hall in Swahili. Stop in some Sunday afternoon and just listen to their worship. It is a bit more animated and louder than ours. On Saturdays they spend about 5 hours in prayer and fasting.

We are still richly blessed to have the Beacon of Light congregation call our building home as well. Not only do they have Sunday afternoon worship services, but they are very involved in the neighborhood. We have been delighted to combine services with them, and for both Pastor Marcy and Pastor Dedric Roundtree fill our pulpit when I have been gone. We also joined forces to host a Back-to-School Giveaway before school resumed this fall. Our congregation rallied around this endeavor, so we could provide laundry detergent (and laundry bags), plus give out a host of gift cards to help the students buy new shoes. Another gift given at this event was prayer for each family.

If you look closely at our calendar, you will see the variety of groups and activities, we are able to host. Not only will you find the above churches listed you will see Women in Action (a women's AA Group) Building Better Bridges (Bridge club), A large community choir that meets to practice, and a diverse group of other organizations that use it periodically like a condo association, NA, having area wide spring and fall events, and this year a New Year's Eve celebration and Valentine Party. We have training going on for African Americans seeking to own a home (a Beacon of Light, Collins Community Credit Union, and a Neighborhood Housing Alliance endeavor). Session approved in December for Kingdom Community Center to hold a fundraiser in our parking lot, hosting a Car Show. The list goes on.

Collaboration and partnering are key for churches today, and we have been privileged to embark on many. Another exciting endeavor has been leaders from Westminster and First Presbyterian meeting to see if there are areas where shared ministry makes sense. At our last 2022 meeting in November, we decided to propose to our sessions that we have shared worship on February 12 & 19, with each church hosting one of the services.

It was further a joy for Jill and I to lead pottery this fall/winter with the neighborhood youth group lead by the Roundtrees. Our project was making pottery crosses. We now wish finally in the New Year to have a class for those from WPC (along with friends).

Personally, I continue to enjoy serving at Loaves and Fishes on a somewhat regular basis, getting to interact with many whose life situation is different than mine, particularly the homeless. I look forward to 2023 to see what kind of opportunities he will lay before us. I hope you do, too. Please do not hesitate to call or email me if you have any questions, needs or ideas. Together we can make a difference!

Pastor Roger

MINUTES FOR THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
AND THE CORPORATION MEETING

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Cedar Rapids, IA

In Service of Our Lord, 29 January 2023 - 11:00 am

Call to Order with Prayer

Rev. Roger Grandia called the meeting to order with a prayer.

Affirm Presence of a Quorum (10% of active membership)

The clerk confirmed there was a quorum.

Approve the Docket

Motion was made to approve the Docket. **MSA**

Pastor's Letter

Rev. Grandia reviewed his letter to the congregation.

Approve the Minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting of 30 January 2022

Motion was made to approve the minutes. **MSA**

Receive annual reports from boards and committees:

Report of the Clerk

Session Statistical Report for 2022

In Memoriam 2022

Report of the Treasurer

Treasurer's Report (2022 Financials & 2023 Budget)

WPC Foundation Report

Reports of the Committees and Ministry Teams

Finance and Stewardship

Personnel Committee

Property Committee

Board of Deacons

Worship Committee

Communications

Adult Education

Mission Committee

Loaves & Fishes Report

Memorial Committee

Nominating Committee

Motion was made to accept the Committee and Ministry Reports. **MSA**

Elect Officers

The Nominating Committee puts forth these persons as candidates:

to the ordered ministry of Ruling Elder:

Jim Fine	Class of 2026 (second 3-year term)
Warren Feerer	Class of 2026 (first 3-year term)
Barb Schultz	Class of 2026 (first 3-year term)

to the ordered ministry of Deacon:

Linda Cosgrove	Class of 2026 (first 3-year term)
Jan Kupka	Class of 2026 (first 3-year term)
Veronica Ndungu	Class of 2026 (second 3-year term)
Joyce Sedlacek	Class of 2026 (first 3-year term)

to serve on the Congregational Nominating Committee:

Ann Buckheister	Class of 2026 (first 3 year term)
Larry Cooper	Class of 2026 (first 3 year term)
Bonnie Keiper	Class of 2026 (second 3 year term)
Kathie Lane	Class of 2026 (first 3 year term)
Barb Read	Class of 2026 (first 3 year term)

Jim Patterson (Session Representative)

No nominations from the floor. Motion was made to accept the Nominating Committee candidates for Elder, Deacon and Nominating Committee. **MSA**

Session nominates the following to serve on the Foundation:

Joyce Sedlacek (Third 3-year term)

Steve Allsop (Third 3-year term)

Motion was made to accept these candidates for the Foundation. **MSA**

Those presently serving:

Elders: Class of 2025

Brian Read (second 3 year term)

Jim Patterson (first 3 year term)

Jan Kosowski (first 3 year term)

Deacons: Class of 2025

Pam Feerer (first 3 year term)

Glenn Lane (first 3 year term)

Gary Teig (first 3 year term)

Sara Tyler (first 3 year term)

Elders: Class of 2024

Doug Horton (second 3 year term)

David Liljedahl (second 3 year term)

Terry Perkins (first 3 year term)

Deacons: Class of 2024

Jan Walton (second 3 year term)

Joan Charters (first 3 year term)

Barb Mumford (first 3 year term)

Nominating:

Bonnie Keiper (Class of 2023)

Barb Mumford (Class of 2023)

John Swanson (Class of 2023)

Jim Patterson (Session Representative)

Rev. Grandia thanked those who were going off this year:

Barb Read, Tom Read, Bob Moore, Barb Moss, Sharon Dewey.

Pastor Roger thanked all those who serve on the various committees.

Motion to Adjourn and Dismissal with Prayer

With no further business, a motion was made to adjourn. **MSA**

The meeting was closed in prayer by Rev. Grandia.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathie Lane
Clerk to the Session

Rev. Roger Grandia
Moderator

SESSION'S STATISTICAL REPORT
Ending December 31, 2023

Number of Weddings		1
Active Member Deaths		7
Number of Funerals Conducted		4
Funerals of others associated with WPC		0
Number of Baptisms		0
Child	0	
Adult	0	
Number of Active Members 1 Jan 2023		154
Changes in Membership during 2023		9
Deaths	7	
Transfers out of membership	0	
Inactive by action of Session	2	
Adjustment		
Number of Members Gained During 2022		2
Transfer into membership	2	
Profession of Faith/Confirmation	0	
Reaffirmation of Faith	0	
Reinstated	0	
Number of Active Members 31 Dec 2023		147

IN MEMORIAM 2023

Members of Westminster Presbyterian Church:

Marcia Elhart May 20, 2023

Dorothy Harlan December 15, 2023

Tony Huebsch September 17, 2023

David Marner April 30, 2023

Marilyn Sweet June 5, 2023

Sherlene Van Fossen November 30, 2023

Claudia Warfel March 22, 2023

*I thank my God upon every remembrance of you.
Philippians 1:3*

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

PLEASE SEE FINIANCIAL DOCUMENTS

Finance and Stewardship Committee of Westminster Presbyterian Church

FOUNDATION PRESIDENT'S 2023 FISCAL YEAR REPORT

The members of the Board of Directors of the Westminster Presbyterian Church Foundation for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023, were Bill Moss, President; Jim Shanklin, Vice-President; Pam Richardson, Treasurer; Joyce Sedlacek, Secretary; Jim Fine; Jan Kosowski; and Nancy Evans. Ex-officio members who attended meetings during the fiscal year were Warren Feerer, Finance Committee Moderator; John Swanson, Church Treasurer; and Pastor Roger Grandia.

For the upcoming year, the Foundation has elected Jim Shanklin, President; Pam Richardson, Treasurer; and Jan Kosowski, Secretary. Bill Moss is recognized for his nine years of service to the Foundation as he has completed three consecutive three year terms. Steve Allsop is recognized for his four years of service to the Foundation. We also thank Joyce Sedlacek for her service as Secretary as she will continue on the Foundation as an at large member.

WPC Foundation Mission Statement:

"The WPC Foundation exists to serve the purposes and serve the ministries of Westminster Presbyterian Church of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The gifts and endowments to the Foundation (The Principal) shall be held in perpetuity. It shall be the duty of the Board to invest and manage these funds to earn as much total return as possible while safeguarding the Principal. A major portion of the "spendable income", as determined by the Foundation Board, shall be available to the session of the Church."

Our challenge this year was to provide \$22,500 quarterly in four equal payments for the church needs. This was especially challenging due to the continuing volatile economy in 2023. Please observe the figures supplied by our treasurer, Pam Richardson.

The Foundation Board feels incredibly good about our move to Capital Investment Services, Inc. We left our Family and Friends Fund with Greater Cedar Rapids which had a value of \$25,776.18 on December 30, 2023. Hills Bank is serving as our banker for receiving and expending funds. Counting all funds, our Current Value as of December 31, 2023, is \$1,670,726.29, a net change of (1.5%) in value since December 2020

If you desire to contribute to the Foundation, we have several options available for your estate planning. Talk to a board member about our options. Some of our legacy partners are giving an annual or semi-annual contribution to the Foundation, taking advantage of the growth of the stock and then making a one-time final gift. These contributions from the Foundation are used for everything including building repairs, maintenance, emergencies and supplemental general purpose and budget shortfalls.

All the investment data for this fiscal year is available for review in the church office.

The Board of Directors of the Foundation would like to Thank you, all the members of congregation, for their past, present and future support of Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Respectfully submitted,

James Shanklin, President

Pamela L. Richardson, Treasurer

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT
-2023-
BARB READ, MODERATOR

The Personnel Committee provides support to and serves in an advisory capacity to the Pastor/Head of Staff. Members of the committee this year were Jim Fine, Tom Read and Barb Read. Pastor Roger is an ex-officio member and attends all meetings. In 2023 the church corporation had ten paid staff with one full-time and nine part-time positions.

On Staff as of December 2023: Roger Grandia, Pastor; Gale Smetana, Communications Coordinator and Livestream Operator; Lisa Freeman, Office Manager/Administrative Assistant; Tina Mueller, Bookkeeper; David Liljedahl, Interim Director of Music; Deb Liljedahl, Accompanist; Antoinette Mukakabanda, Custodian; Lindsay (Meade) Hopp, Nursery Attendant; Jill Lorimer, Nursery Attendant; and JoEllen Ritchie Livestream Operator.

Actions in 2023

January:

Gale Smetana's full-time position changed to part-time as Communications Coordinator and Special Events Coordinator.

Lisa Freeman was hired as Office Manager/Administrative Assistant (part-time).

A.J. Plummer was hired as Interim Director of Music /Choir and Praise Band Director with other duties as needed for our music ministry (part-time).

David and Deb Liljedahl were hired as accompanists for Sunday Services and for the choir.

July:

A.J. Plummer, our Interim Director of Music/Choir and Praise Band Director, resigned his position as he and his wife would be moving to Colorado. We are extremely grateful for the time A.J. spent at Westminster over the years.

August:

David Liljedahl was hired for the Interim Director of Music position to include duties as Choir Director and Praise Band Director with other duties as needed for our music ministry (part-time). Deb Liljedahl agreed to continue in the accompanist position (part-time). We are thankful for the Liljedahl's exceptional talent and their willingness to serve at Westminster.

October:

The Personnel Committee regretfully recommended to the Session that at the end of 2023 the nursery be discontinued, and the Nursery Attendant positions be eliminated. We want to extend our thanks and appreciation to Lindsay (Meade) Hopp and Jill Lorimer for their faithful service to Westminster.

November:

Staff reviews were conducted.

Looking ahead to 2024:

Gale Smetana has decided to step away from her office duties here at Westminster but will continue to serve in our livestream ministry. Therefore, we will need to hire a person to take on duties and responsibilities performed by Gale in the office (part-time position).

Due to Tina Mueller's retirement, we will need to hire a bookkeeper (part-time position).

We want to extend our gratefulness to both Gale and Tina for their faithful years of service and for their exceptional work ethics and the excellent job they did in their assigned positions. They both will be sorely missed. We wish them the best in the future.

Thanks to the entire staff for doing a fine job with the “business” of Westminster. We also want to thank Pat Tieg and Maggie York for the time they volunteer in the office, and thanks to all who help out from time to time.

The Personnel Committee solicits your prayers as we endeavor to find people to join our staff here at Westminster. We look forward to the coming year as we serve God through our ministry at Westminster.

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Read
Moderator

2022 WPC PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Maggie York, Jan Kosowski; Brian Read and Terry Perkins Co-Moderators
The Property Committee would like to recognize **Mark Tyler** for his contribution, over many years, to the Committee’s work, as well as for his habitual volunteer efforts maintaining the building grounds.
We also acknowledge and appreciate that **Dave Cosgrove** has volunteered to assist with building general maintenance. Dave’s keen eye provides valuable and timely identification of issues to bring to the committee’s attention so that they can be evaluated and corrected before they become critical.

The Committee’s responsibility is management and oversight of the scope, budget, and execution of work related to regular maintenance and discretionary improvement of WPC’s property. Maggie York is instrumental in ensuring that the multitude of annual building inspections, required reports, and archiving of related documentation are done in good order.

Following is a summary of the 2022 projects.

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH

The room which was formerly the pastor’s study was restored: water damage was fixed with upgraded light fixtures and heat tape was installed to prevent ice dams on the roof above.

Jan Kosowski re-negotiated a recent invoice from Modern Piping to less than half of the original, recovering \$7,500!

APRIL, MAY, JUNE

As part of the Session’s sanctuary enhancement task force plan, the heavy railing between the choir and the platform was removed in order to provide expanded space for the Praise Band.

Damage to the satellite parking lot fences caused by the 2020 derecho resulted in a parking lot code violation. Much of the damaged fencing was removed but construction of new fences was postponed until 2022.

Remaining broken fencing was removed (**Doug Horton** and **Truman Johnson**) and new fencing was contracted and installed ahead of the pending sale of the parking lot property.

JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER

The Parking lot resurfacing and striping was completed.

In 2021 the entire alley sidewalk developed a horizontal crack which caused large sections of the curb to break into pieces. The cause was determined to be improper location of the reinforcing rods when the sidewalk was constructed. Additional deterioration of the sidewalk surface due to the same cause was discovered in 2022 after winter. The sidewalk was removed and replaced.

The Committee presented a **motion to the Session** to approve weekly use of the old dining room and youth room by Pastor Theo’s congregation. His congregation committed a tithe of their offering for this use, which covers the minimal cost to WPC. The motion was approved.

The Praise Band’s microphone and other electrical cords have been routed through the choir entry doorway and along the stage baseboard. As a result, the door could not be closed, and the cords presented a trip hazard. Ed Kosowski re-routed the cables through the back wall so that they pass directly into the equipment closet on the other side.

OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER

In support of the Building Exterior Maintenance task force, drone photographs of the Belfry, the highest (literally and figuratively) priority stonework task, were obtained, reviewed, and sent to the contractor. The first phase of this work begins in 2023.

Jan Kosowski secured a bid to repair the narthex outside stairs and railings which present a hazard. This bid is significant as previous requests for quotation resulted in no bids. The existing railings will be restored, with new posts attached and secured in new concrete without affecting the major portion of the steps which remain serviceable. This work could not be scheduled during the 2022 construction season and was postponed until spring of 2023.

Flat Roof leaks were discovered and were patched by DrySpace.

After reviewing the business case for installing solar panels on the south roof, the Property Committee brought this topic forward to the Session. The session noted that an alternative would be for the Church to purchase a share of a solar energy farm located elsewhere. Incentives include significant reduction in electricity costs and Government subsidies. The Committee later recommended that solar energy conversion not be considered at this time.

The **Session approved a motion** from the Property Committee for **replacement** of the broken sanctuary **pyramid window** with tinted glass, and approved solicitation of congregational donations toward this project. The Committee accepted a bid from Allied Glass for \$3,600, with 75% covered to date by contributions. The schedule is weather dependent.

The Committee participated in the annual review of the Church's 2023 property and liability Insurance policy with Rich Mohon, the agent from Assured Partners.

PROJECTS TO BE ADDRESSED IN 2023 INCLUDE:

- Canopy repair (low priority)
- Shingled (1904) roof: contractor to perform post-derecho inspection and advise if any action required.
- FLC light non-functioning light fixtures, conversion to LEDs; task to be included in the sanctuary lighting improvement bid request.
- Sanctuary pyramid window glass replacement
- Old maintenance room (basement): significant floor damage at the east wall
- Third floor classroom adjacent to balcony: significant deterioration of part of the east wall and ceiling
- Small parlor: northwest corner, broken ceiling recessed light fixture.
- The room which was formerly the pastor's study: There is still a need for carpet cleaning and ceiling repair, low priority.

Although it is not part of the Committees official work, when necessary, we perform a share, within our capabilities, of the heavy lifting necessary to accomplish our objective, which is to be good stewards of the gift entrusted to the Westminster congregation.

Respectfully submitted,
Terry Perkins and Brian Read, Co-Moderators

BOARD OF DEACONS 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Members of the 2022 Board of Deacons are Heather Wagner, Veronica Ndungu, Barb Mumford, Barb Moss, Joan Charters, Gary Teig, Glenn Lane, Pam Feerer, Jan Walton (Moderator) and Sara Tyler and Sharon Dewey as co-secretaries. Except for the winter months of January and February, the Deacons meet the first Monday of the month.

During the year of 2022 we continued:

Contacting both hospitals for church members' admittance for visits.

Visiting and contacting homebound members; and offering communion visits with Pastor Roger

Delivered Easter lilies at Easter, May baskets May 1, and Poinsettias at Christmas to the church's homebound members.

This year we added the following to our Deacon Ministries:

A "Care & Concern List" for our church members who had suffered a loss or illness during the year. They also received the same contacts and deliveries as homebound members.

Card Ministry: Thanksgiving and Christmas cards were mailed to homebound and the Care and Concern lists. Birthday, Sympathy and Get-Well cards were mailed to church members as the occasion arose. Thank you to Veronica Ndungu for this responsibility.

Bible Trivia: Thank you to Glenn Lane for providing the trivia questions (and answers) to the WPC monthly newsletter.

Meal Ministry: Thank you to Barb Mumford for organizing this ministry and making it possible. 16 meals have been provided by 6 members of the committee since we began May 1, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Worship Ministry Team Report 2023

The Worship Ministry Team members are: Ann Buckheister, Pam Feerer, Karol Cooper, Sharon Colton, Leanne Leeper and Maggie York.

The purpose of this committee is to plan and facilitate serving God through appropriate Worship under the direction of the Session and with the assistance of the Pastor and Staff.

Our responsibilities include following the liturgical calendar for Worship, utilizing the team members and other members of the Congregation when appropriate throughout the year. We assist primarily during the Advent and Lent seasons.

We change the paraments, provide seasonal decoration of Worship areas, set up the Christmas Eve candles, arrange to have the organ and pianos tuned and make schedules for serving, preparing, and cleanup for Communion services.

The Wedding Consultant Team, a sub-committee of Worship, consisting of Pam Feerer, Barb Moss and Ann Buckheister assists with any weddings scheduled for the church. There were no weddings during 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Buckheister, Moderator

SUNDAY SCHOOL 2022

Westminster's Children's Ministry is alive and well. Although we only have five children, they are loyal and their hearts are full of Christ's love.

Love was the word for the year. We focused on loving God, loving our earth, and loving our fellow man. Loving others was so exciting because once again we had a most successful mission project.

When we learned about Veronica Ndungu raising money to put an addition on a school in Kenya, we decided this would be the perfect mission for us, especially since Veronica's son, Jojo, is a member of our class. With the help of the Soul Sisters, we sewed dresses and toiletry bags. The congregation donated money and clothing for boys. With the money we purchased volleyballs, soccer balls and Legos. Dr. James Walker, a former member of Westminster donated toothbrushes and toothpaste. Pastor Theo of the Swahili church, came to our class and taught us words in Swahili so the children could make cards to accompany the gifts. Our bake sale to raise money for shipping costs and shoes for the children was the frosting on the cake. Veronica was able to purchase 78 pairs of shoes with our congregation's generous contributions. Although this monumental undertaking was spearheaded by the children's Sunday School class, it was the love and the support of the whole congregation that made it so worthwhile.

Respectfully submitted,

Val Neubauer
Jan Kosowski

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Our summer fellowship started with a Kernel's game on a Sunday afternoon in June, with seats behind home plate. We had a good turn-out. Hot dogs and popcorn were a favorite. Of course, Pastor Roger managed to indulge in ice cream!

In early August our committee provided an elegant farewell reception for long-time members Alice and Dale Crosier as they moved to Clive, Iowa to be near their daughter. They were very appreciative, and the congregation showed great support to these dear and dedicated members.

In late August, together with the choir members, we hosted yet another farewell reception for A.J. Plummer, our dedicated Director of Music who moved with his wife to Colorado. A.J. was a staff member years ago and more currently served as our Praise Band Director and then as Choir Director and Director of Music. He expressed many thanks to Westminster for the support shown to him over the years. We miss his beautiful voice and all he did to make our music ministry special.

September found us on the "links" – that is at the Twin Pines Mini Golf Course! In addition to the intense competition between our skilled golfers (and some not so skilled), we enjoyed lunch and lots of good fellowship on a lovely Sunday afternoon.

A chili dinner and trivia contest was held in October, headed up by Lee Anne and Butch Hataway. There were plenty of different chili recipes to taste and lots of good desserts. Stiff competition filled the afternoon with several trivia teams vying for #1. Prizes were given to the winning team. (Some of us are still arguing with Butch about how many bones there are in the body!)

Pastor Roger and Jill organized a Community Dinner which was held in November. Our guests were people from the Wellington Heights neighborhood. Our committee helped with various responsibilities including serving the food which was catered by Zio Johnos. The program for the evening was a chalk talk by Pastor Roger. The evening was a great success and Westminster members deserve a big thank-you for helping with this new mission endeavor.

Tom and I are retiring from the leadership of the hospitality committee which we have led for several years. We want to thank the members of the committee for their exceptional willingness to provide whatever was needed to make our fellowship events special. Thanks to Gale Smetana, Pastor Roger, Ann Buckheister, Glenn and Kathie Lane, Jan and Terry Perkins, Lee Anne and Butch Hataway, Brian Read, and Jim Shanklin. We will certainly still be around to assist with hospitality events, I guess because we're "party animals"! We invite you to volunteer for this committee. It's fun!

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Read

Westminster Presbyterian Church Mission Committee Report 2022

We reestablished the Mission Committee at the beginning of 2020. While still supporting missions abroad, our primary focus was with local mission causes.

We did this through funds distribution and workdays. We distributed funds locally to:

- Ecumenical Community Center
- Willis Dady Emergency Shelter
- Camp Wyoming
- Peace Camp at St. Paul's United Methodist Church
- Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry (See separate report)
- Pastor's Discretionary Fund (to address individual/family needs in the community)
- Neighborhood Meals at St. Paul's United Methodist Church
- Margaret Bock Housing
- Back to School Giveaway

We again had many from WPC involved in serving Neighborhood Meals, distributed out of St. Paul's United Methodist. We further helped distribute supplies and pray for families in the Back-to-School giveaway.

Our global impact came through our support of:

- General Assembly Missions
- Presbytery Missions
- Veronica Ndungu's project in Kenya (of building classrooms in a school, plus providing clothing, shoes, soccer balls and Volleyballs, and other school Supplies. Wow! What awesome congregational response to help in this endeavor!

We further made a difference both globally and locally through our special offerings:

- Peacemaking
- One Great Hour of Sharing
- Christmas Joy
- Pentecost

Our building is one of our biggest missional assets. Read the Pastoral report for details on this.

I am deeply grateful for those who served on the committee this year included Loren Neubauer, Leanne Leeper, Jan Kosowski, and Pastor Roger.

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Roger

2022 Annual Report **Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry**

Beyond Food:

L & F continues to operate out of the space in the Tanager building for \$800/month. This space has been a blessing for both the clients and for the volunteers. This year has seen an increase in the number of clients served, in particular there are many, many new faces. This has caused L & F to expand our offerings to pay particular attention to those who are struggling with homelessness, loneliness, and poverty. While we have continued to partner with CEC, Public Health nursing, Buffalo Ridge Orchard, and Cranksgiving, we have also conducted several drives for clothing such as t-shirts, socks, and gloves. We have had several clothing giveaways, as well as towels, blankets, and many household items for preparing, serving, and storing food. Some of these items have come to L & F through members of the congregations as they downsized or passed away. We continue to collect travel sized personal care items, can openers, and plastic utensils that are useful to homeless people. It is all good.

More importantly, the volunteers have come to realize that our personal connections to our clients, really our friends, and to each other, are what Loaves & Fishes is really about. Notes from some of our clients this year re-enforce that not just caring for, but about our clients makes the pantry the face of God in these troubled times. Some of the cards we received said "Thank you for showing everyone who comes to L & F God's true love." and "We can't thank you enough for all the help you've given us the past few years. Everyone has always treated us with dignity and respect, and we've seen you treat others the same way. Your dedication and many volunteer hours are so appreciated."

We are keenly aware of all the Saints that have gone before us in this mission, recognizing that their foresight is the foundation on which L & F exists. Please continue to support this mission of WPC into the new year with your donations of money, goods, foods, plastic bags, and any other items that may be useful to others who are struggling or simply have less than you do.

Yours in Christ,
Jan Kosowski, Director

2023 MEMORIAL ACCOUNT SUMMARY

Balance Brought Forward From 2022 \$ 5,140.45

Total Income Collected \$ 4,564.45

Total Expenses \$ (3,344.79)

Interest Collected - 2023 \$ 5.73

2023 Ending Balance \$ 6,365.84

Following memorials were used for remodeling of bathroom

Robert Allsop, Allen Berndt, Jerry Hewett, Claudia Warfel(Partial memorial was used)

Following memorial was for L&F per families request

Dave Marner Sr.(Partial memorial was used)

Following memorial was for Long View per families request

John Henderson

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT for 2023

The Nominating Committee presents the following nominees to serve as officers of the church for 3-year terms, upon election at the 2024 Annual Meeting and ordained and/or installed:

Elders: Class of 2027

Terry Perkins (2nd 3-year term)
Brad Locke
John Henderson

Deacons: Class of 2027

Barb Mumford (2nd 3-year term)
Sherryl Hoepner
Gloria Kromminga
Nancy Evans

Nominating Committee: Class of 2027

Ed Mumford
Maggie York

Presently serving:

Elders: Class of 2025

Brian Read (2nd 3-year term)
Jim Patterson
Jan Kosowski

Deacons: Class of 2025

Pam Feerer
Glenn Lane
Gary Teig
Sara Tyler

Elders: Class of 2026

Jim Fine (2nd 3-year term)
Warren Feerer
Barb Schultz

Deacons: Class of 2026

Linda Cosgrove

Jan Kupka
Veronica Ndungu (2nd 3-year term)
Joyce Sedlacek

Nominating Committee:

Bonnie Keiper (Class of 2024)
Jim Patterson (Class of 2024) Session Representative
Ann Buckheister (Class of 2025)
Kathie Lane (Class of 2025)
Barb Read (Class of 2026)
Larry Cooper (Class of 2026)

Submitted by:
Ann Buckheister