



## **LAKE NOKOMIS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**



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# **ANNUAL REPORT 2021**

# ORDER OF WORSHIP + ANNUAL MEETING

February 6, 2022

## GATHERING

Call to Worship

Song: *Gravity of Love*

Assign Note-Taker and Pitch for Clerk

Notice of meeting properly called

Quorum - 20% of active members

Prayer of Invocation & Confession

Scripture: Psalm 62

Homily: Pastor Kara

## ELECTION OF ELDERS

Slate of Elders: Andrea Domaskin, Rachel Farris

## ORDINATION & INSTALLATION OF ELDERS

## REFLECTING ON 2021

Group Conversation

- *What did I love?*
- *What was difficult?*
- *Thoughts about my involvement in the life and ministry of the congregation at this time?*
- *What spirit do I bring into this next year? (Hopes? Excitement? Worry? Ideas? Goals? Fears?)*

Capital Campaign Recap

Preschool Construction Project Recap

Treasurer Report

Questions and Comments about 2022 Budget

Sharing Gratitude: *Whom do I want to thank?*

Song: *Steadfast*

Prayer of Gratitude for 2021 and Blessing for 2022

(escape hatch for non-voters)

## ANNUAL BUSINESS

Nominating Committee:

Dismissal of 2021 Nominating Committee with thanks: Diane Hansen, Terry Gilberstadt, Brian Rainey

Nomination of 2022 Nominating Committee

Approval of minutes for 2021 congregational meetings

Consideration of 2022 Terms of Call for Pastor – Head of Staff

Moderated by Chair of Personnel, Sue Goodspeed, limited to discussions of compensation and a vote.

## CLOSING

Song: *Blest Be the Tie that Binds*

Closing Prayer & Benediction

## REPORTS

<b>ORDER OF WORSHIP + ANNUAL MEETING</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>LEADERSHIP OF LNPC</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2021 SUMMARY</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>WHERE DID WE SEE GOD AT WORK IN 2021?</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>PERSONNEL TEAM REPORT</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>CAPITAL CAMPAIGN REPORT</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>THE PRESCHOOL PROJECT</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>TREASURER'S SUMMARY AND FISCAL YEAR REPORT</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>TITHE REPORT</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>2022 BUDGET</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>STATISTICAL REPORT 2021</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>REPORT OF 2021 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING</b>	<b>26</b>

## LEADERSHIP OF LNPC

Pastor: Rev. Kara Root, Parish Associate: Rev. Lisa Larges, Sesson: Joyce Tesarek, Jason DeBoer-Moran, Sue Hensel, Amy Leafblad, Brian Rainey, Sue Goodspeed



Music Director: Erin DeBoer-Moran  
*2022 Title Change: Director of Music Ministries and Creative Arts*

Treasurer: Sue Goodspeed, *outgoing*  
*Incoming Treasurer for 2022: Kate Thompson*

Personnel Team: Linda Leicht, Terry Gilberstadt,  
Amy Leafblad & Sue Goodspeed



## 2021 SUMMARY

2021 was a year entirely inside the pandemic.

- In January we had a ground-breaking blessing and construction commenced on the preschool.
- Our annual meeting celebrated all we'd experienced in 2020 (with a 20 minute recap video).
- A group of us continued the Anti-Racism Pilgrimage (Sept - May) through the presbytery.
- In February our clerk of 5 years, Lisa Phillips Johnson, concluded her service. We celebrated her leadership with gratitude and joy.
- Barb Wilson died. (Memorial Service was held in the summer).
- We celebrated Ash Wednesday online with at-home ashes.
- We had Lent Kits with tiny boxes containing symbols for each week of Lent.
- Dennis Johnson was diagnosed with cancer and began treatment.
- We celebrated Good Friday with an online service with guest musicians the O'Briens, and lots of different readers, and Easter Sunday we found our Alleluias around the house. This was our second Easter Sunday online.
- We kicked off our capital campaign - raised all the money we needed in just a few months - and raised over \$37,000 additional funds for dreaming about changes to the main floor.
- Bobbe Larson died.
- Harriet Capetz died.
- Construction progressed with the preschool, with frequent updates and photos as the work unfolded.
- We began having occasional outdoor Patio gatherings, Coffee & Donuts, and Patio Thursdays.
- Norm Petrik was diagnosed with cancer and began treatment.
- Camilla Stork died. (Private service, a joint internment service with John who died in 2020)
- The youth cleaned up the sanctuary and flamingoed a lawn as a fundraiser for camp, which they attended in the summer in Kansas City as campers and Teen Staff.
- We had a church clean-up day in the Spring and got the building ready for use by groups, anticipating a summer return to building use. Delta hit and those plans were thwarted.
- We held a catechesis class on the Apostle's Creed online- adults overlapping with the confirmation kids, who had one on one mentors for the class. We read the Apostle's Creed book together and began using it in worship.
- We paired up kids and adults for prayer check-ins.

- Session had individual silent retreats all together (with a few other church folks) to pray for the congregation in June.
- We held an in-person- patio and Zoom Book Blessing ceremony when Kara's book came out.
- Jane Onken died.
- The construction was completed - the preschool moved in in July!
- A Celebration of Life service was held for Bill Hansen (who died in Dec. 2020, private service February 2021)
- On Rally Day we gathered in-person to kick off our resumption of Saturday contemplative services, and to dedicate the new preschool space.. We began our service inside, and had burritos and music outdoors, and our back-to-school hedgehog blessing. This gathering featured a surprise in-person appearance from Kelly, who joined the youth for mini-golf and ice cream after worship. (Several gatherings/outings with Kelly commenced before her return to CA). In Summer and Fall some of our coffee hours happened in-person on the patio, and some of the Connections gatherings were in-person.
- We had some bonfires outdoors on the patio in the summer and fall.
- In October our ministry with Every Meal resumed putting food in backpacks at Hiawatha Academy, this time partnering with Trinity Lutheran Church..
- On Halloween we came to church in costumes and worshiped outdoors on the patio with group teaching, singing and prayer, Jimmy John's to follow. ( Linda and Gary DeBoer from Washington joined us as well!)
- In November we pulled off an in-person retreat (with lots of care and safety measures!) at Clearwater Forest. This included a dance party, happy hour, marshmallow roasting in a snowstorm, immersing ourselves in a Psalm, games, puzzles, naps, delicious food, singing and hiking and playing and painting.
- Pat Niznick died. (Her funeral and Celebration of Life were held in December).
- We kicked off Advent with our second round of Advent bags.
- We were guided through Advent by Rabbi Levine, with videos each week giving background to the Christmas story.
- A whole crew assembled to set up (and then again to clean up) the sanctuary for Christmas Eve.
- We had a burst pipe and flood - and rapid response clean-up.
- Christmas Eve service was in-person and online, with the O'Briens on strings, ornament-making and blessing each other, and finishing up with outdoor caroling under our new patio lights and outdoor heaters.
- We continued praying with the Rainey's every week on Sunday nights, and Kara and Lisa prayed with them every morning and night.
- Session continued meeting online twice a month.



- Erin made us mix CDs of music to sustain us through each season.
- Postcards went out. Books went out. Meals were delivered to each other. Phone calls and texts and emails. Helping each other and praying together and sharing where we saw God at work in Kingdom of God sightings...

And in so many other ways we connected with each other and with God... see some reflections below!

## ***WHERE DID WE SEE GOD AT WORK IN 2021?***

### **Jennifer Rainey**

THANK GOD for LNPC. I felt this way both before and after cancer diagnosis, by the way. Thank you LNPC for being there for me and my family during this brutal and lovely time. The daily, consistent prayer and companionship from Pastor Kara and Pastor Lisa has literally walked me back from the precipice and I am so thankful. I loved our fall retreat time together, and the love that was demonstrated through mask-wearing and other safety precautions the entire time. I loved celebrating Kara's book. I loved going to donut hour with Ava. I loved the blessing of the backpacks. I loved the Christmas Eve service. I LOVE that littles are being cared for in our basement every day and we're supporting the families in our community. So much beauty and joy and connection. THANK YOU, congregation, for all the meals, notes, financial support, prayer support, and love. Thank you for being the church in such a tangible way. I pray miracles for every single one of us in the new year. Love to all.

### **Susan Hensel**

It was a difficult year, again. So many ups. So many downs. But we carried on. God was always HERE, in our zoom services where we see one another eyeball to eyeball! The care and love for one another comes through the screen every time. God resides in the twice a month session meetings. In the decision making? Yes. But most potently in the "going deeper" of our relationships with one another.

### **Rachel Farris**

So many blessings from this year: all the in-person gatherings (rally Sunday, Halloween & Christmas Eve as well as summer bonfires and coffee hours); the wonderful “kits” to help ritualize & anchor Lent and Advent at home; seeing the miraculous transformation of the basement into Mandala preschool; getting to be church with Kelly, Bill & Erica, and Linda in CA and WA on Zoom Sundays; the feeling of comfort, safety & relief in spending 45 minutes laying in a pew listening to Erin play on a Saturday night; the hedgehog blessing; a line from Lisa’s sermon about Jesus saying not to be alarmed (“With all due respect, I would like to say, “Alarmed!””); roles for kids that help them feel important & connected; alleluias continuing to be found between our couch cushions <3

### **Wendy Fortune Meyers**

I've seen God at work at LNPC by how you have welcomed us into your community. We have really enjoyed the contemplative services and the Sunday zoom worship. The retreat stood out to me where grief and joy were held side-by-side, not something that is easy to do. The lessons in "the way of God" vs. "the way of fear" feel important and relevant in our life right now. We are grateful and excited to be a part of LNPC.

### **Sue Goodspeed**

We are becoming more and more honest. Honest with joy; honest with challenge; honest with pain and grief. Honest with doubt and with faith. We have let our leaders be honest with their needs for time away and extra space. I have felt this in the ability to say ‘enough,’ and have that be seen and honored; in the vulnerability of Brian and Jen; in the joy of gathering at Clearwater without agenda and with openness. I love that we have a West Coast contingent. We built a school!

### **Amy Leafblad**

LNPC- Thank you God for this body of people. You all are such an important anchor in my life. I saw God at work in our congregation in SO many ways this last year. Each in person gathering was a major blessing. I loved the rally day and back to school blessing for kids and teachers with the hedgehogs. Seeing the dream of the preschool come together with the new basement and playground and imagining little kids running around. Halloween church was special with costumes and songs and meeting Dave and Caroline :). Thank you God for the gift of being able



to retreat together in person and for me the blessing of having Jim there to be a part of it. Reflecting on and letting the psalm speak deeply, face to face conversations, getting to know Wendy and Erik more, Brian and Jen time, Edie and Ava, epic dance party and Ping-pong-the Joy overflowed for me. Thank you God for bringing Kelly to us and for her willingness to hang out with my kiddos that weekend but also over check-ins and confirmation stuff. Even found a way to do Mom's night out at my house and sit out on the deck catching up on life. We continued to pray for Jen and Dennis and Norm. Jen and Brian your vulnerability and honesty in Sunday night prayer moves me to tears. God, in the midst of the difficulties of the year, you were alive and moving in our church. Thank you for the gift of face to face zoom and sharing milestones and prayers and kingdom of God sightings and sermons.

### **Sherri Dunham**

I appreciate the frequent reminders that "God meets us where we're at," which makes space for us to feel and be right where we are, even when life feels all wrong. When I know that God meets me where I'm at, I don't have to put on a happy face or shame myself into being grateful. When I'm reminded of God's loving acceptance, and feel it from those around me, my face naturally softens and gratitude naturally arises without force and control. Thank you LNPC for co-creating this space of loving acceptance.

### **Kristen Jeide**

There are so many ways/times/places I've seen and experienced God at work in and through LNPC. It is impossible to name them all! The connection with God and one another through worship on zoom - including friends across the country - has been so life-giving. I love the intergenerational nature of all that is done at LNPC and having all ages lead and lend their voices in worship. I have sensed God's deep presence in the honesty of sharing this human journey with God and with each other, remembering especially times of prayer with and for the Rainey's. I have sensed God moving in and through the messages of Pastor Kara and Pastor Lisa, each bringing their brilliance, honesty, humor, faithfulness, and compassion as they bear the word of God to/with us. Kara's book (and that the church supports her writing as outreach, which it is!). The Saturday Contemplative services with Erin's music and the space and invitation to rest with God. The Anti-Racism Spiritual Pilgrimage with the presbytery as an important learning and listening experience. I love living together with the questions, "Who is God?" and "What is God up to?" I so appreciate LNPC as a praying community, a community of spiritual practice, honesty, compassion and hope, that feels grounded in bedrock trust in the abiding love of God, made real and accessible to us in Jesus who goes with us and before us in it all! 2021

has been about resilience, flexibility, creativity, being human, trusting God and one another, enough-ness, and lifting our eyes to behold God at work in and through it all. I'm so grateful.

### **Kelly Soifer**

I enjoy being part of the West Coast contingent! I really enjoyed meeting with the youth for part of their confirmation prep, and the discussions around the Apostles' Creed. I was blessed by Kara's book, as it met me in some of my past challenges and disappointment. I have been blessed by LNPC allowing me to just show up with no expectations or strings attached. The intimacy of Zoom worship has been an unexpected surprise and I like it. Last but not least, my Labor Day weekend visit was a fun adventure and it was great to meet you all (and also taste some Sift donuts!) Thanks for being a safe place.

### **Terry Gilberstadt**

A few highlights of where I saw God this year were:

The Connections Coffee Group and how we support each other and have great conversations and friendships.

The Pre-School becoming a reality and the wonderful ways it has changed our building, though we are not there much.

Experiencing a Saturday Night service on a cold January night.

All the wonderful Zoom Services.

### **Jason DeBoer-Moran**

It is hard to believe we are at the end of another year. This pandemic has certainly played with my sense of time as things seem to be moving both quickly and slowly at the same time. It feels like ages ago that we welcomed the preschool into our building and yet at the same time, I know it felt like a distant dream a year ago. I have seen God working through the sense of life and activity around our building. Knowing that even though we aren't there as frequently, there is an entire group of kids and teachers who feel the blessing of the space we can provide them for learning and growing in community. I especially felt the presence of God this year in the Blessing of the Hedgehogs at the start of the academic year. It was so great to send people back to school buildings as teachers and students with something to remind them that as God cares for the hedgehog, God will care for them. I never realized how fitting the hedgehog is as an

example of faith until Kara taught us. God is doing wonderful things in and with our little church. I am so glad that I have the opportunity to be a part of it and witness it as it happens around us.

### **Joyce Eileen Tesarek**

Pre-pandemic, the idea of virtual church, sitting at home in front of a computer watching a church service, would have seemed impersonal and unsatisfying. Like watching a TV service. But instead, we were invited into each other's homes, saw people close up, face to face, and could even look at the listed names without having to peek at a live name tag. And it opened so many personal times to share concerns, joys, God sightings. I felt truly connected to our church family. We will need to work intentionally to keep this closeness as we joyfully return to worship in our church building.

### **Erin DeBoer-Moran**

It's a little unfathomable to me that we're doing another annual report with the pandemic still raging. Our music happenings have been a little more subtle this year, but maybe a little more sweet. It's been so heartening to hear how the music we sing together has sustained you - it has sustained me, too. Returning to in-person Saturday evening services has played a large role in that for me. It gives me such joy to be able to help create a meaningful and worshipful environment where people can just be. There's nothing like live music. And speaking of live music, singing silly critter songs with actions outside on Halloween with y'all was definitely a highlight! AND singing Silent Night and other carols outside on Christmas eve in candlelight was so beautiful and holy. God is still at work in this small but mighty congregation and I am so very thankful that I get to be a part of it all.

### **Pastor Lisa Larges**

In 2021 I've experienced God at work in so many places at LNPC, and what feels close to my heart right now is the way I've seen God at work through our Session. It has been an honor to serve alongside Kara, Erin, Krysta and our Session in 2021.

It was a privilege to learn more about the life and legacy of Bill Hansen, and help in honoring his memory with a service and celebration this summer. It was a privilege to have the opportunity to preach and lead worship and to work with Erin; and it is a privilege to continue our daily prayers for healing.

Finally, this last year I was again struck by the wisdom and compassion of our Session. How blessed we are to have this ministry within the circle of their care and guidance. I especially appreciate how they've grounded their decisions and guidance in discernment and attunement

to the spirit. Wonderful things have blossomed for us in this last year – despite so much difficulty and strangeness, and this is in part due to the strength of leadership we have at LNPC.

### **Pastor Kara Root**

God sustained, upheld and nurtured us through a strange and difficult year. I absolutely felt this. I can't overstate the trust, wisdom and faithfulness of your session. When I would get caught up in anxiety, pressure to be looking ahead, trying to figure out how to prepare for what might or might not be coming, they pulled me back to trust, back to the faithfulness of God, and back to our care for each other.

This year we paid close attention to our ebbing and flowing capacity. We held things lightly - plans happened, plans got canceled, and there was no judgment or comparison. We stayed close to the ground, listening to each other, listening to our hearts, listening to the Spirit. One particularly poignant moment for me was when, in a hastily-called session meeting, the group decided we absolutely should go forward with the Fall retreat we had already postponed - out of desire to be community with the Rainey's and each other in this time. Church, so many of you tested twice, wore masks, and followed all kinds of careful rules in order to open up space for sheer joy and connection that was a balm and heartsong for all who were able to be there. Our times together in person, particularly Rally Sunday and Halloween, felt almost difficult to contain, filled-to-bursting gratitude and joy and love. The Saturday contemplative services with Erin cushioning us in music as we pray are especially beautiful, offering soul rest and respite.

I loved the way the Apostle's Creed seized us, and after opening up our hearts and minds and connecting us to Christians gone WAY before, became part of our regular worship. I loved how Erin tended our souls with CDs of music each season that connected us to God and each other. I loved being led by children through parts of our worship, and laughing at all the wonderful show & tell videos we shared with each other.

I have loved all the folks that have wandered into this community and changed us irrevocably - Kelly, Sherri and Grand, Scott, Erik, Wendy, Dave and Coraline Meyers, and Kristen who found us early in the pandemic - without whom I can no longer imagine this community. And the grief of losing those who've died is poignant as well - Barb Wilson, Pat Niznick, Bobbe Larson, Jane Onken, Camilla Stork, Bill Hansen just before the year began, news of Harriet Capetz's death. This sorrow wove into our year, highlighting the love we share and how short life is, even while this pandemic feels long.

Supporting Jen and Brian and Ava, Dennis and Lisa, Norm and Joyce in their cancer and caregiving, were front and center to the many ways we supported each other. This little expression of Christ's Body checked in on and reached out to each other in so many ways they could not be counted: meals dropped off to each other (both planned and spontaneous), cards and notes, drop-ins and phone calls, delivering Advent and Lent bags, prayer partners with kids,

mailing little gifts of care to the teens, pitching in and helping each other out, rides and errands, support and conversations, laughter and tears, listening. We showed up for one another.

I saw God so profoundly in you, dear people of LNPC. Your love. Your honesty to share what you were really going through. Your courage to stand by each other no matter what. Your hope - I mean, against all odds, and with joy and wonder, this tiny church fundraised for, built, and welcomed in a preschool in the midst of a pandemic! And now, even as our time in the building is limited and sporadic, every weekday that space is teeming with life, bustling with activity and voices and neighbors coming in and out, fulfilling our dream of the building as a place of hospitality and welcome. Your commitment to God and each other feels strong and sure, fueled not by effort but by trust.

I feel that in 2021 God took us deeper, drilled down the well within this community where hope, trust, love and discernment bubble up and spill over. In a time of restrictions and limitations: an abundance of life.

# PERSONNEL TEAM REPORT

## 2021 ANNUAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

We approach the new year much as we did the last – with uncertainty, hope, and gratitude. **Uncertainty** as we continue to navigate a ‘way of being church’ that we thought would certainly be more clear by now. **Hope** that the ways in which we are with and for one another honor God and serve each other’s needs. **Gratitude** that we have amazing leadership and a congregation willing to embrace all that has been thrown in tumult by COVID, societal polarization, and recognizing that ‘what will be’ is not, and should not be, ‘what was.’

The Personnel Team appointed by Session has agreed that across-the-board increases in compensation are in order for 2022. We proposed 3% for each of our staff.

Session approved these increases for Erin (now ‘Director of Music Ministries and Creative Arts’) and for Krysta (Office Administrator and Bookkeeper).

It is the responsibility of the congregation to approve the Terms of Call for pastoral staff – Kara.

The rationale provided by Personnel to Session for all staff read: “do we really need any [rationale]? We have staff who nurture us, whom we trust, who are creative and insightful.

Also, Social Security COLA is increasing over 5%; folks who watch HR issues have shared with Commission on Ministry of the Presbytery that corporate America is looking at about 3% for employee increases; ELCA and UCC synods/regions are recommending *minimum* of 2.3% increases for clergy. COM will be recommending to presbytery that minimum terms of call be increased 3%, and will recommend that congregations provide 3% adjustments for all clergy and staff (neither COM nor presbytery have ‘control’ of this, but recommend strongly).”

The following compares our personnel expenses 2021 vs 2022:

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
PASTOR salary/hsg	58,850.00	60,615.00
- pension/med	21,774.50	22,427.55
- cont ed/book	2,000.00	2,000.00
- reimbursed exp	800.00	800.00
Pastor - total	83,424.50	85,842.55
MUSICIAN	15,840.00	16,315.20
ACCT/BKPR	25.00/hr	25.75/hr
- 64hrs/mo	19,200.00	19,776.00
TOTAL STAFF	118,464.50	121,934.44
<b>NET INCREASE</b>		<b>3,469.94</b>

**Session recommends** the following be approved by the congregation effective January 1, 2022:

	2021	<b>2022</b>
KARA: Salary + housing	58,850.00	<b>60,615.00</b>
Pension (37% of S+H)	21,774.50	<b>22,427.55</b>
Cont Ed/Book/Expenses	2,000.00	<b>2,000.00</b>
Reimbursed	800.00	<b>800.00</b>
TOTAL	83,424.50	<b>85,842.55</b>

We can do this – we should do this.

Gratefully, your Personnel Team:

*Sue Goodspeed, Linda Leicht, Amy Leafblad, Terry Gilberstadt*



## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN REPORT

**The Extraordinary Story of a Little Church that Could:**

**Raise over \$100,000 in 3 months time!**

We actually began the capital campaign in late 2020 with dreams and doubts! How could a church of our size manage this build-out for Mandala Montessori?

While we knew that the rent would cover most of the costs of a mortgage once things were built and running, we did not really know *how* to cover the interim!

In November 2020 we met with the James Company, a professional church capital campaign consultancy. We learned from the free meeting several things: Their fees were high for what we were doing, they doubted we could raise what we needed ourselves, and we needed to be very clear about WHY we were fundraising.

By the end of December 2020 we were very clear and organized about raising the money. Our goal was to raise \$100,000 in the first phase to cover the expenses of the build. Our stretch goal would add another \$40,000 to make our main floor more accessible and hospitable.

The extraordinary fundraising committee of Sue Hensel, Linda Leicht, Diane Hansen, Joyce Tesarek, and Terri Gilberstadt met six times between the end of November and the end of March 2021 when we met our first goal!

We are now in Phase 2 of the campaign, at \$38,000 toward our stretch goal of \$40,000.

Hearty thanks go to the whole congregation for giving so generously to this extraordinary project that few thought we could pull off!

# Opening a New Door

## LNPC Capital Campaign

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*Sue Hensel, Linda Leicht, Diane Hansen, Joyce Tesarek, Terri Gilberstadt*

## THE PRESCHOOL PROJECT

God spoke (through a rental inquiry from Mandala Montessori). We listened. We trusted. A project came to fruition. Glory be!

A note to the congregation from our building-sharer:

**It's officially been six months since we opened our classrooms here at Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church, and we enjoy having this space to provide our school services. Since moving in in July, we have celebrated the changing of the seasons, welcomed new families into our community, and enjoyed exploring the surrounding area. We love being able to walk to Minnehaha Creek, down the street to Sift Bakery, or to our adopted street drain on 44th Street. Our classrooms are beautiful, and our students really enjoy spending time learning and growing together here. We are looking forward to the spring when we get to be outside a bit more, but until then we'll keep warm and keep discovering new things to learn and appreciate here. Thanks for having us at LNPC, we're really happy to be here!**

**—Best, Mandala Montessori**

*Ross (and [added by Sue G] Wendy in the office, Kaisie as owner, and Linda as energy-in-charge of everything else!)*

### **How did all this come together?**

With a great team: tenant (the school, especially Linda Melom), architect (Gregg Graton), builder (Whole Builders, with Marcia and Jack Boethke, and project manager Charles Boigenzahn), legal crew from the Board of Trustees of the Presbytery (Roger Jensen and Rocky Rockenstein), and the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program as lender. And the LNPC crew: 'the Sues,' Jason, and always Gary.

What we thought might be a \$200,000 project actually bid out at \$443,000, plus architectural and engineering fees. A couple 'change orders' (primarily filling in the north door and lots of HVAC, but also storm sewer connections and other engineering realities) brought the total cost to... drumroll... \$532,652. We secured a mortgage for \$410,000 (thinking, earlier in the process when we needed to begin the winding road of securing funds, that our actual costs would be more in the \$450,000 area). YOU made the rest of it work!! **Thank you.**

**Summary of Costs:**

Architect/permits:       \$ 16,660

Engineering/preliminary work:12,710

Construction:

Original bid               443,190 (included the vestibule)

Change order #1         46,940 (filling in north door, HVAC, unexpected plumbing)

Change order #2         15,952 (structural and additional landscaping)

Construction total:     506,082

PROJECT TOTAL           \$ 532,652

# TREASURER'S SUMMARY AND FISCAL YEAR REPORT

2021

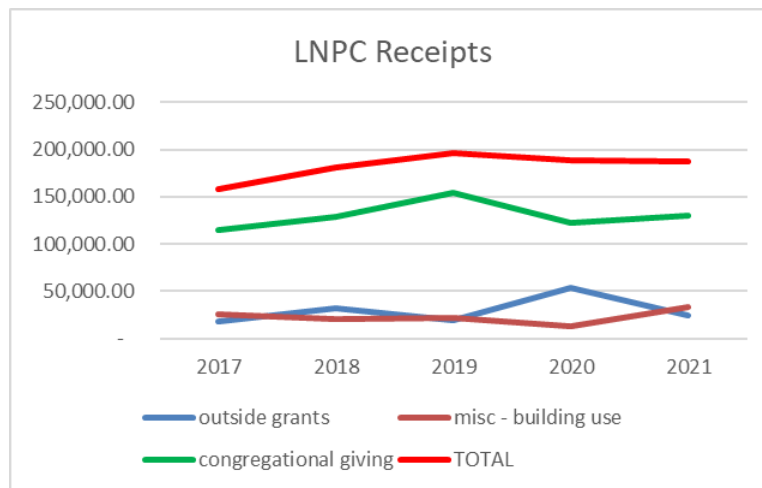
FOR LNPC ANNUAL MEETING FEBRUARY 2022

WE'RE OKAY!

Well, this continues to be “something.” The pandemic hovers around us, impacting so much of what we do in unpredictable ways. And still LNPC listens for God and hopes for the future that is stretching before us.

The presbytery continued to offer support, and we continued to be blessed by that. Untethered funds allowed us to offer staff ‘time away’ to retreat and restore. Tech funds allowed us to anticipate our still-(almost)-unexperienced “hybrid” worship with the purchase of video equipment.

The following provides a snapshot of our receipts this year. Congregational general giving (green) is strong. The ‘miscellaneous – building use’ (orange-ish) has been bolstered by the presence of Mandala Montessori – the tenant with whom we created the school space. FRNNG and Central Church have continued their financial support: FRNNG because they staff their office, Central because they love us. Note that it is congregational giving that enables the bulk of our ministry together.



The **blue bar**, outside grants, includes:

- PTCA TECH Grant \$2,500: restricted, combined with the \$5,000 from 2020, used for zoom fees and video production enhancements, under the direction of Brian.
- PTCA COVID Grant \$10,000 again, for 2021: unrestricted
- Ongoing support from Westminster Presbyterian – Minneapolis: \$10,000 unrestricted

We successfully received forgiveness for our 2020 PPP Loan.

The offsite, invested, Endowment/reserve fund currently sits at **\$55,000**. The generosity of members has covered our roof loan this year, and funds ‘tithed to the building’ or contributed to the Building Maintenance Fund were allocated to cover some of the construction costs related to the basement project (which also received the bulk of Capital Campaign funds). We still have offsite, invested Building Maintenance funds of **\$24,336**. We finished the year with just over **\$24,000** unassigned funds in our bank account, and remaining Capital Campaign funds of almost **\$38,000**.

Ongoing liabilities include about \$61,000 remaining on the roof loan, and \$407,390 of the original \$410,000 for the remodel loan. The monthly payment for the mortgage is \$2,194.04, which is being covered by our lease with the school of \$3,150 per month. We are tracking increases in utilities and insurance that might be attributed to the school, but are realizing some net income from their presence.

Krysta is an invaluable team member. During this Year #2 of COVID, she has not only maintained communications between the church office and we remotely gathered folks, but, as bookkeeper, continues to receive, issue, and reconcile funds and handle all aspects of payroll. And her sons mow and plow! Their family is a treasure. And as Kate Thompson takes on the role of Treasurer, even more tasks are being moved to ‘remote’ applications, for which everyone is grateful.

A note for the year: the **2022 per capita** is again **\$36.50** per member on our rolls as of January 2021. We make a commitment, as a congregation, to pay this completely, whether or not it is given by the membership. **In 2021, we received designated giving of \$332.50 for per capita, but paid out \$2,336.** The General Fund covered the \$2,003.50 which was not specifically contributed by members. For 2022, please attempt to contribute for each **member** in your family. Per Capita is the share each of us has in the functioning of our denomination – from staff to education to advocacy and our bi-annual Assemblies (which cost even when held remotely). It is helpful for all – congregation, presbytery, synod, and General Assembly – to have these funds submitted sooner rather than later.

I am so excited to hand the title and responsibility of Treasurer over to **Kate Thompson** beginning in 2022! Excited not so much for the ending, but for her ‘homecoming’ to LNPC, the gifts of stewardship and financial affairs that she brings, and the love of God and God’s people that she exudes.

I can’t express deeply enough my gratitude and love for this band of Jesus followers. Your support, of all of us as a congregation and me individually, feels overflowing. It has been a privilege to be Treasurer for this period.

*Sue Goodspeed, Treasurer*

## TITHE REPORT

We have pledged, as a congregation, to tithe (10%) of the 'General Giving' we receive. The past few years we have divided our tithes half outside the congregation and half to the building to support the groups that use the space. In 2020, with the beginning of the pandemic and the aftermath of George Floyd's murder, we were blessed to be able to respond to immediate needs in our community with our tithes and that was our first priority. In 2021, in gratitude for the preschool project and how we are able to partner to support such a needed community resource, session voted to give **8 months of our tithes to the preschool construction project, one month to LNPC roof payments, one month to Every Meal to help food insecure families with weekend meals, one month to TRUST for the many shared ministries it offers to South Minneapolis, and one month to Exodus Lending that helps combat the predatory cycle of payday loans.**

Jan-21	LNPC Building	1,291.15
Feb-21	LNPC Building	1,100.90
Mar-21	LNPC Building	896.00
Apr-21	LNPC Roof	705.60
May-21	LNPC Building	970.46
Jun-21	LNPC Building	814.90
Jul-21	LNPC Building	883.00
Aug-21	LNPC Building	1,639.00
Sep-21	<b>Every Meal</b>	<b>1,036.20</b>
Oct-21	LNPC Building	446.90
Nov-21	<b>TRUST Churches</b>	<b>1,240.10</b>
Dec-21	<b>Exodus Lending</b>	<b>1,945.15</b>
TOTAL 2021		12,969.36

# 2022 BUDGET

AS APPROVED BY SESSION

	Budget 2020	Ant. 2021	Actual * 2021	Anticipated 2022				
PerCapita	3,358	3,360	2,336	2,336				
Office Expenses	5,000	7,000	5,425	6,000	*anticipating ongoing tech upgrades - online gatherings			
Tech Replacement	500	500	0	500				
Building Maintenance	5,500	8,000	8,650	11,000				
PILP Reno Loan		26,329	9,740	26,329				
PILP Roof Loan	5,940	5,940	5,940	5,940				
Janitorial	4,500	6,000	600	12,000				
Taxes, etc	600	600	960	1,000				
Insurance	6,450	7,000	7,000	7,200	Pastoral allocation:			
Utilities	15,400	20,000	15,080	20,000	Worship: 50%			
Staff:					Outreach/congregational nurture: 30%			
Pastor	56,300	61,250	60,720	63,416	Education: 20%			
medical and pension	19,795	21,773	18,740	22,428	Pension: 37% of salary			
Assoc pastor	-			0				
Youth Director	1,200	1,200	0	1,200	Worship	\$51,023		
Music	14,750	15,600	15,850	16,315	Education	\$15,383		
Office Mgr/Bookkeeper	19,200	19,200	19,200	19,776	Outreach/congregatio	\$29,361		
Payroll taxes	2,100	3,000	2,770	3,000	Building	\$51,200		
Nanny	2,100	2,500	0	0	Office management	\$30,216		
Workers Comp	674	700	700	840				
Committees:					ministry and building	\$199,610		
Administration					plus loans	32,269		
Personnel	100	100	0	100	total expenses 2022	\$231,879		
Education	900	900	0	1,500				
Congr Cmty/Outreach	2,000	8,000	2,680	8,000	* anticipating ongoing covid/other response needs			
Worship	3,000	3,000	2,350	3,000				
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>169,367</b>	<b>221,952</b>	<b>178,741</b>	<b>231,879</b>				
RECEIPTS	- contracted and historically reliable							
Preschool Lease		37,800	20,070	37,800				
Ongoing rent (FRNNG)				5,400				
Grants - historic relationships		10,000	10,000	10,000				
Grants - presby COVID			15,000					
<b>TOTAL OUTSIDE RECEIPTS</b>		<b>47,800</b>	<b>45,070</b>	<b>53,200</b>				
REMAINDER PROVIDED THROUGH PLEDGES AND NON-CONTRACT BUILDING USE:								
PLEDGES   BUILDING USE   OTHER		174,152	133,671	178,679				

2022 Budget



- Worship
- Education
- Outreach/congregational nurture
- Building
- Office management



# STATISTICAL REPORT 2021

Understanding the Statistical Report:

## LNPC Membership and Participation

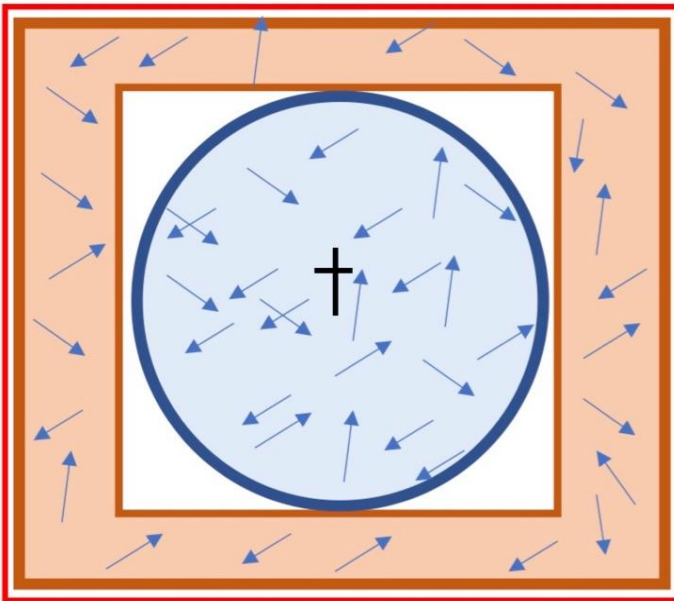
We all belong to God and we all belong to each other.

Being Church together holds us in, and enables us to live into, that reality.

“In Jesus Christ, God calls people to faith and to membership in the Church, the body of Christ. Baptism is the visible sign of that call and claim on a human life and of entrance into the membership of the church.” *Book of Order G-1.0301*

↘ = a person. Arrow represents direction of attention and action.

### PC(USA) Denominational Counting:

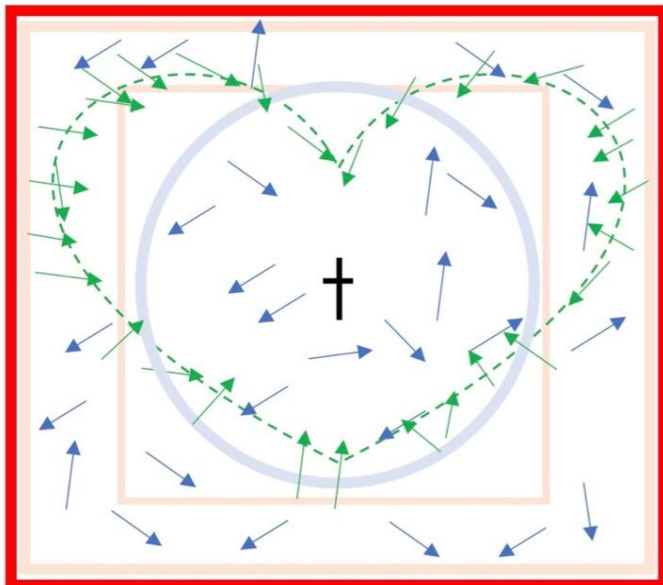


- Congregation
- Members
- Other Participants

Members: Baptized members (baptized and enrolled as members but not yet made a profession of faith), Active Members (“made a profession of faith, been received into membership, voluntarily submitted to the government of the church and participates in church work and worship”), and Affiliate Members\* (member of another congregation living out membership in this one, may participate fully except not vote or hold office). \*LNPC recognizes Affiliate Members also as those who retain membership at LNPC but are living out their membership in another congregation for reasons of proximity and community.

Other Participants: Persons who are not members of, or have ceased participation in, the Presbyterian Church (USA) (including Minister members of Presbytery). All are welcome and may participate in the life and worship of this church, and receive its care and instruction.

### LNPC Counting:



- Congregation
- Faith Journeymen

Congregation: The whole LNPC family. (Members, active participants, people who just want to stay connected in some way, kids we baptized who are not yet members elsewhere, etc).

Faith Journeymen: Those who shared life and faith together this year – living out our belonging to God and each other in concrete ways. (In whatever ways, big or small. eg., prayers, worshipping together, financial support, emotional and spiritual support, volunteering to help, allowing the congregation to share in struggles and joys, supporting others and seeking God together).

## Annual Statistics

### 2021 MEMBERSHIP & PARTICIPATION INFORMATION FOR REPORTING PURPOSES

(Number of members reported on the active membership roll as of January 1, 2021: 65 active members.  
LNPC Total: 137 people.

Denominational Membership Reporting Per PC(USA) Book of Order: G-1.04 (As of January 1, 2022: 147)		LNPC In-House Reporting	
2021 Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church Total	147	Congregation	147
Baptized Members	18	Faith Journeymen	94
Active Members	60		
Affiliate Members	2		
Other Participants	67		

#### 2021 Membership Additions (01/01/2021 – 12/31/2021)

By Profession of Affirmation of Faith	0
By Profession of Reaffirmation of Faith	0
By Letter of Transfer	0
Reinstated	0
Updated rolls to include Baptized Members	18
(Child Participants and Baptized Members previously counted as “Children participating in Church life.”)	

#### 2021 Membership Losses (01/01/2021 – 12/31/2021)\*

Deceased	3
Transferred	1
Other	3 (moved from Active Member to Other Participant)
<i>(Participant Losses, Deceased)</i>	<i>3)</i>

#### 2021 Pastoral Rites (can be members or not members)

Baptisms	0
Marriages	0
Funerals	5

Membership is one way in which we commit to being the Body of Christ with and for one another. As always, (and especially in this era of remote connectivity) we share worship and community as a church family that includes those who are not connected in formal LNPC church membership, but nevertheless are part of Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church and the Body of Christ as expressed by this community. The designation “Faith Journeymen” more accurately reflects the number of people who were involved in the congregation’s worship and ministry this year, actively sharing life and faith together as Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church.

#### Session Meetings and Leadership Summary

LNPC Session meetings were held mostly twice a month (except a couple exceptions where there was one less or one more meeting). Online weekly worship was held via Zoom platform until September, when 2nd & 4th Saturday services were reinstated in-person in the sanctuary with at-home asynchronous worship. Special in-person hybrid services with Zoom were held on Rally Day (9/6), Halloween 5th Sunday (10/31), and Christmas Eve (12/24), with some combinations of indoor and outdoor gathering. The church building opened to use by groups in August, with restrictions in place, with periodic Session review of pandemic situation for adjusting building use plans and restrictions.

In 2021, the Moderator was Rev. Kara Root (or Rev. Lisa Larges in Kara’s absence) and Session was composed of six ruling elders:

*Outgoing* Class of 2021, (term ending today): Sue Hensel, Joyce Tesarek

**Class of 2022: Amy Leafblad, Jason DeBoer – Moran**

**Class of 2023: Brian Rainey, Sue Goodspeed**

***Slate of Elders up for Election & Installation today: Class of 2024: Andrea Domaskin, Rachel Farris***

Sue Goodspeed served as Treasurer. In 2021 Kate Thompson was elected by session to serve as Treasurer beginning in 2022. Welcome, Kate! Lisa Larges continued to serve in an unpaid position as Parish Associate for Congregational Care. Krysta Niznick continued her position of Office Manager and Bookkeeper, and Erin DeBoer-Moran served as Music Director. *Her title changes at the beginning of 2022 to Director of Music Ministries and Creative Arts.*

#### Congregational Meetings Summary

There was one congregational meeting - Annual Meeting on January, 24, 2021. (Minutes below).

#### Other Business/ Information

Communion was served at least once each month, (weekly minus 5th Sundays until September, then twice a month). Two elders are rotating off session, and two more coming on after election and ordination/installation in this annual meeting. The ethnicity and age of elders serving on Session is representative of the overall congregational body.

Report compiled by Rev. Kara Root

## REPORT OF 2021 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING  
LNPC  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 2021

**I CALL TO ORDER;** Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM (first portion was conducted during worship portions of the ZOOM meeting for feedback by all. Agenda items for voting portion of congregational meeting included only active (voting) membership, as noted at the end of the agenda/ minutes).

Lisa Phillips Johnson served as Clerk.

It was determined that the meeting was properly called, and a quorum (20%) was declared.

Prayer was offered by Pastor Root.

Agenda (worship & congregational meeting combined; only active membership voted on items at end of meeting marked with \* )

### GATHERING

Call to Worship

Song: *We Praise you O God*

Notice of meeting properly called and Quorum - 20% of active members declared by Clerk

Prayer of Invocation & Confession

Scripture: Psalm 62:5-12

Homily: Pastor Kara

### REFLECTING ON 2020

Milestone Collection of responses via ZOOM "chat": *What was oddest communion element this year?, What was oddest thing you wore to online worship service?, Provide name of all pets participating in worship (planned or not) this year., What was your favorite moment in ZOOM worship this year?*

Video: "2020 in 20 Minutes"

### Group Conversation

- **What did I love?** *Larger (diverse across US and beyond) worship group, LNPC resilience, Kara, Erin, Lisa flexibility, creativity and skill, effective committee work, bonfire, faithful community, ZOOM and inclusive community, distant people participation, Holy Spirit @LNPC, session support*

*and meetings, a “live congregation” participating in real time virtually and being together in ZOOM and break out groups, outreach kits and postcards, kids participation in service*

- **What was difficult?** *Being without those in our church family that can’t or aren’t comfortable doing ZOOM meeting, physical touch, hearing others sing together( by Erin), the “being there” aspect of participation in life milestones of baptism, weddings, funerals, isolation and how to include others in future*

- **Thoughts about my involvement in the life and ministry of the congregation at this time?** *Keep doing digital CDs and keep ZOOM in some format to include our more “distant” faith community, use outside space more for worship and celebration, random breakout rooms let us get to know each other better, weekly prayer buddies with the kids, coffee time on Tues*

- **What spirit do I bring into this next year?** *Hopeful, anticipation, care and closeness, hopeful as a continuing community, discernment and hope for future*

### **Treasurer Report**

*Sue Goodspeed provided overview of documents provided in annual report including: odd year of 2020, with pandemic and building use impact, overview pandemic and preschool construction project grants and loan info, financials comparison to history, as well as 2020 budget vs 2021budget and 2020 income and expenses summary spreadsheet.*

### **Questions and Comments about 2020 Budget**

*Where are we with the construction loan and expenses for preschool and cost? Overview of progress to date and financials were discussed under preschool topic and capital campaign, as well as the preschool financial summary to date provided in the annual report.*

*Ground-breaking Blessing Video*

### **Capital Campaign Kick-off:**

*Sue Hensel shared website and described the campaign status, strategy and justification for the need for a capital campaign to raise \$100,000-140,000 from the congregation and friends, letters to be going out, calls to be made, pledge methods and timeframes, as well as coffee cups for participation at \$100 level or higher.*

### **Sharing Gratitude: Whom do I want to thank?**

*Gary for faithful church work, Erin for music, creativity & flexibility, Krysta for office & finance work, Kara, Lisa L, Erin for leadership & creativity, LNPC for hospitality, LNPC support of & Sunday prayers for Rainey's, LNPC support of Erin, Delivery of advent bags, Session leadership & clerk, Sue for treasurer & preschool project, helping out/ “jump in” attitude @ LNPC community, calling those who don’t do ZOOM or just to connect, technology (ZOOM) that allows us to include those far away or traveling, getting to see people in their little screen box during ZOOM,*

*Prayer for Nation and election prayers, involvement of kids in worship, Tuesday connection coffee hour, blessing to be included in our church community*

Song: Steadfast

LNPC “Show and Tell”; next one is Feb 28

Prayer of Gratitude for 2020 and Blessing for 2021

(escape hatch for non-voters)

**ANNUAL BUSINESS (LNPC active membership voting)**

**Nominating Committee:**

Dismissal of 2020 Nominating Committee with thanks: Amy Leafblad<chair>, Diane Hansen, Rachel Farris

Nomination of 2021 Nominating Committee(for Class of 2024): Brian Rainey, Terry Gilberstadt, Diane Hansen **(MSP)**

Approval of minutes for five 2020 congregational meetings in annual report and copied below **(MSP)**:

TOPICS OF INFORMATION/ APPROVAL
Approval of slate of elders for Session for Class of 2021(Joyce Tesarek) and 2022 (Jason DeBoer-Moran and Amy Leafblad )
Annual Congregational Meeting; Nominating Committee for Class of 2023 partially identified and Terms of Call for Kara Root approved
Approval of changes to LNPC bylaws to allow virtual (online) congregational meetings. Discussion and approval by congregation to allow submission of a loan application for construction to begin preparing the space for the preschool.
Discussion and approval by both LNPC congregation and corporation to borrow \$410,000 from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Investment and Loan Program, Inc. (Lender) to support remodel of basement for LNPC and preschool. Nominating Committee for Class of 2023 (Amy Leafblad <chair>, Diane Hansen, Rachel Farris) identified and approved.
Sue Goodspeed and Brian Rainey approved to serve as elders for Class of 2023 of Session

**Consideration of 2021 Terms of Call for Pastor – Head of Staff**

Moderated by Chair of Personnel, Sue Goodspeed, limited to discussions of compensation and a vote.

*Terms of Call are detailed and contained under Personnel Committee of the annual report and in official Terms of Call form read during the meeting **(MSP)**. Upon inquiry, Kara affirmed the compensation was adequate.*

CLOSING AND ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Song: *Blest Be the Tie that Binds*

Closing Prayer & Benediction at approximately 12:15 pm

Respectfully submitted:

Lisa Phillips Johnson, Clerk