

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT TENAFLY
ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT TENAFLY

Docket

Annual Congregational and Corporate Meeting for 2022

February 5, 2023

Rev Dr Martin Ritchie, Moderator

- I. Opening Prayer
- II. Verification of the call of the meeting and quorum
- III. Minutes of the last Annual Meeting, February 13, 2022
- IV. Minutes of Special Congregational Meeting, December 11, 2022
- V. Report of the Nominating Committee, Joan Roselle
- VI. Report of the Moderator, Rev Dr Martin Ritchie
- VII. Report of Christian Education and Youth, Sherrie Reilley
- VIII. Clerk of Session Report, Mary Jane Eimer
- IX. Report of the Building & Grounds, Jon Teall
- X. Report of the Deacons, Melissa Rexroth
- XI. Report of Teams, Committees, and Boards
- XII. Presentation of the Budget, Rod MacKenzie
- XIII. Adjournment of Congregational and Corporate Meeting with Closing Prayer

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT TENAFLY
Minutes of the Annual Congregational and Corporation Meeting
Sunday, February 13, 2022

In person and via Zoom

Call to Order: At 11:02 a.m. Moderator Anderson called the meeting to order with a prayer.

Verification of the call of the meeting and quorum: Moderator Anderson asked Clerk Eimer if we had established a quorum present and if the meeting had been properly announced at least two times per the Book of Order requirements? The Clerk responded in the affirmative.

Designation of the Clerk for this Meeting: Moderator Anderson informed the congregation that Elder Mary Jane Eimer, Clerk of Session, had agreed to serve as Designated Clerk for the Congregational and Corporation Meeting of the Presbyterian Church at Tenaflly prior to today's meeting.

M/S/U: The docket for today's meeting was approved as distributed.

M/S/U: The minutes of the February 7, 2021, Congregational and Corporation Meeting of the Presbyterian Church at Tenaflly and the minutes of the Special Congregational Meeting of November 14, 2021, were approved as distributed.

Nominating Committee Report: Elder Roselle reported that the Nominating Committee was elected by a special Congregational meeting on November 14, 2021. Members who served: Joan Roselle and Ron Rexroth from Session; Deacon and at-large members from the Congregation: Melissa Rexroth, Dori Persson and Rick Bower.

The nominations for 2022 are as follows:

Session: Class of 2024

Mary Jane Eimer (accepted another term)

Christina Young (accepted another term)

Ron Rexroth (accepted another term)

Lily Lee

Deacons: Class of 2023 and 2024

Debbie Abitante (accepted another term, 2024)

Carole Bayley (accepted another term, 2024)
Melissa Rexroth (accepted another year, 2023)
Gaye Willis (class of 2023)
Nancy Smith (class of 2023)
Ellie Sturrock (class of 2023)
Indiana Diaz (class of 2024)
Dori Persson (class of 2024)
Treasurer/Co-Treasurer: Rod MacKenzie and Rick Bower

There were no nominations from the floor.

M/S/U: Nominations closed.

M/S/U: Nominees for Session, Deacons, and Treasurer and Co-Treasurer we elected as announced.

Elder Roselle thanked outgoing Session member, Robert Cooper, and outgoing Deacon, Barbara Silio, for their service in their respective roles.

Report of Children and Youth Ministry: Sherrie Reilley, Director of Christian Education, reported 2021 was a busy year despite the many challenges presented by Covid. Our child and youth participated in mission projects such as the Souper Bowl of Caring to support the Center for Food Action and sending Valentines and notes to our seniors.

We continued to meet for church school using Zoom through May. The Zoom format allowed children to meet together on a regular basis. We held several Family Snow Days events in February consisting of a day building snow people and snow creatures and a day of snow games and outdoor experiments. We also had Zoom Game Time. Kids received game bags which included dice, Bingo cards and silly props to make Zoom Game Time fun. Seasonal activity bags and packets were dropped off to homes to help stay connected during Lent, Easter, Thanksgiving and Advent.

In June we came back to in person classes, meeting in the Church House which allowed for more social distancing and ventilation. Church School families took turns planting and caring for the garden. The garden has turned into our happy place. Children and youth helped create videos for Palm Sunday, scripture readings and greetings.

In October we were excited to welcome our little ones, who were born just before or while we were required to quarantine, now, ages 18 months to three years. A fun and inviting space was created just for them in the Church House. It complements our future toddler room, “The Meadow,” where wonderful things grow.

Mrs. Reilley reminded the congregation that our Confirmation Class was confirmed on September 19, 2021, seven of our youth participated in the classes. Four were confirmed and 3 decided to wait. A new Confirmation Class will be forming this fall.

Our senior high school met occasionally through Zoom while we had restrictions and were able to meet in person this past July. We had to postpone Youth Sunday in 2021 and are looking forward to adding it back this year. Our college students stayed connected this past year via texts and Zoom. 18 care packages were sent out or dropped off. We arranged an in-person dinner in August before they headed to college.

While the 2021 year continued to be a challenge, we were able to find creative ways to stay connected, have fun and grow. Over the past several years we have heard a lot about the Mr. Rogers quote, “Look for the helpers.” During the past two years the children and youth have been my helpers and faithful examples to each other. Together we have learned how to navigate the Zoom world, brought each other joy and laughter and shared creative talents we didn’t know we had or needed.

Mrs. Reilley encouraged the congregation to take a moment to visit our website. Mrs. Reilley and our Business Manager, Nancy Bennell, have been posting pictures of our Christian Education activities. Anyone who has questions regarding our programs was encouraged to reach out directly to Mrs. Reilley.

Clerk of Session Report: Clerk Eimer shared the very good news that Session recently received. The congregation from Grace and Love has contributed \$5,000 as a gift to our technical upgrades and live streaming project for the Sanctuary.

She noted that 2021 started off on a high note having found a very suitable pastor, the Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie, to become our permanent minister. The Pastor Nominating Committee did a very thorough job in casting a wide net, interviewing viable candidates and recommending Rev. Ritchie as their top choice. We offered him the position, he cleared all of the many PCUSA hurdles

towards transitioning from another denomination, he was elected unanimously after preaching for us on January 10, 2021, and all that was left was the processing of his visa. We are still waiting for the issue of a VISA and work permit. It is our hope that after much effort on behalf of many he will be able to take up the office of pastor in early spring.

Elder Eimer reported that in the absence of a full-time minister, Session and our committee chairs took on more of the responsibilities of running our church, learning “what it takes” to complete tasks needed on a more operational level. She thanked her fellow Session Members: Diane Allen, Marilyn Coats-Thomas, Bob Cooper, John Coppolino, Mickey Diekjobst, Jeanne Lambert, Tim Patryk, Ron Rexroth, Joan Roselle, Jon Teall, and Christina Young. Each member shared their skill sets and commitment to our church family over the past year. They are task-focused and very creative in dealing with a variety of issues that impact our church. She reminded the congregation that we merged the Board of Trustees into Session, which adds another layer of responsibilities to the remit of the Elders as Trustees.

We were very fortunate to have Rev. Thiessen serving as our moderator and bridge pastor from January through most of July. We appreciated her commitment by reaching out to members of the congregation just to “check in,” her newsletters, her involvement in many of our committees, and, of course, her weekly sermons. We are delighted she is making a strong recovery from her illness and hope that she can one day soon be back in the pulpit.

We also have been fortunate to have been able to welcome and get to know a great variety of preachers as pulpit supply for our weekly worship due to the efforts of our Worship Committee. It has helped us and inspired us to think more broadly in the practice of our faith. She thanked the Reentry Task Force whose top priority has been to keep us and our staff safe. They did a terrific job developing new protocols and paying attention to the pandemic trends so we could return to worship in person during the summer and fall. She noted that it is a joy to worship in person as we are doing today. And it is good to have the option to view worship at home as well. Special thanks to Glenn Allen and Rob Paustian for all the time and energy they put in to record services and then to post them for viewing at one’s convenience. They make it look so easy, but the truth is that it takes considerable time and skill to record, edit, and post our services. We are very fortunate to have their expertise along with the previous experience of Rev. Ritchie so we can upgrade our systems to enable live streaming by Easter. All this technology takes a lot of research, time to install, requires internal upgrades, and training. It will benefit our congregation to keep

pace with technology and offer us new opportunities to reach out and grow our church.

Elder Eimer thanked our Co-Treasurers, Rick Bower and Rod MacKenzie. Their financial acumen got us two PPP Loans and then they filed the necessary paperwork so that both loans were forgiven. These funds kept our church running and our staff in employment. Their considerable other work and monthly updates to Session have ensured that our finances have been very well managed.

We also are blessed to have such dedicated and competent staff. Special thanks to Anna Lim, our Minister of Music; Nancy Benell, Business Manager; Sherrie Reilley, Director of Christian Education; Chris Schwab, Head Custodian; Band members Ray McCarthy, Peter MacDonald, Fred Munson; Jin Heo, Organist; and Garth Taylor, Baritone. All these professionals and many volunteers including our excellent cantors: Cathy Coppolino, Nancy Ringham Smith, Ann Van Cleave, Carroll Van Cleave, Gay Willis, and Douglas Wingerath, add to the smooth running of our church in public and behind the scenes.

She ended her report by thanking you, the members of our church. Your continued involvement and trust in your leadership is appreciated. We are all feeling the effects of Covid and its variants. It has upended our daily lives, business models, and in some cases our outlook on life. She noted that we are a resilient congregation that cares about one another. If you have ideas to share for mission projects, books for Presby Readers, music or poetry you would like to share in our newsletter, please do so. We once had a “soup squad.” If you know of a member of the congregation who needs some extra “TLC” let Nancy Benell know, and we will see that they receive some homemade soup.

Buildings and Grounds Report: Elder Teall noted that after the Congregation approved new church bylaws combining the Session and the Board of Trustees, a new committee of the Session, Buildings & Grounds, was created to conduct most of the work previously carried out by the Trustees. This work includes maintaining and managing our church buildings, grounds, equipment and other assets.

In 2021, the Buildings & Grounds Committee, or BGC, responded to the major damage in our church basement caused by Hurricane Ida in early September, as well as to a number of other unrelated repair issues. The committee also continued to work with our tenants who were still suffering from the economic effects created by Covid-19.

Hurricane Ida not only did substantial damage to our basement, but it also temporarily closed the daycare facility operated by our tenant, Jack in the Box. The overall cost of ripping out wet and mildewed floor tiles in a large portion of the basement, as well as replacing the tiles and rebuilding most of the classrooms used by Jack in the Box was roughly \$60,000. Our insurance carrier initially told us we were covered for the damage but, after repair work began, the company decided not to cover us. After several months of negotiations, we have been offered a settlement of nearly \$25,000 which we have accepted, while continuing to press our claim for the entire amount. Our lawyer, who is representing us at no charge, has found a clause in our policy that would seem to entitle us to more money. However, continued negotiations will probably take another year. Fortunately, Jack in the Box is back in business and is once again paying rent.

The Buildings & Grounds Committee addressed a number of additional repairs around the church. With the approval of Session, BGC has received bids for entirely replacing the roof, as well as repairing the steeple. We had expected the work to be completed last Fall, but local contractors were too busy, and we are now hoping to complete the repairs this Spring. We were able to complete the installation of a new air conditioning system in the Chapel which our tenant, the Grace & Love Congregation, asked us to do in 2020. We had put a hold on the project because of Covid but are pleased to report the system was finally installed last Spring and paid for by a gift from the Carter Family.

When covid first hit in 2020, BGC and the Session agreed to allow several of our tenants to pay a reduced rent because of the economic impact of the pandemic. We are pleased to report at this point, almost all of our tenants are back to paying full rent. We will continue to work to ensure everyone is back to full rent during the remainder of 2022. Elder Teall thanked his committee members: Ron Rexroth, Co-Chair; Howard Bryson, Brian Coats-Thomas, Rob Paustian, Harry Roselle, Chris Smith, and Christina Young.

Board of Deacons Report: Elder Melissa Rexroth reminded the congregation that the Board of Deacons of our church is composed of 12 members who strive to find ways to serve those in need in our congregation, in our community and in the world at large. Our focus is the care and nurture of those in our congregation. In ordinary circumstances, we meet regularly throughout the year following church services. We plan and host congregational events. Most importantly, we make in person visits to those who are shut-in, ill, grieving and to any other member of the church who may be in need.

This past year has continued to challenge the mission of the Deacons to serve our church family and the community. The pandemic has severely affected our ability to meet with one another and with members of the church. For the safety of our church members there were very limited in person visitations. Our Congregational events continued to remain on pause. We missed all our beloved events such as the Deacons Pancake breakfast, the Agape Dinner in Jim Henry Hall, and our Christmas Deacon's luncheon.

What we have been able to do is to reach out to members through cards and telephone calls. We all miss that human connection and are looking forward to returning to our church services and visiting our members in person.

We were able to conduct one "in person" meeting following church services on July 18th. We voted to make contributions from the Deacon's Fund to The Center for Food Action and the Food Pantry at St. Cecilia's recognizing the tremendous need during the pandemic. In addition, the Deacon's voted to set aside money for a new dishwasher to replace the old one in the church house.

She thanked all Deacons for making telephone calls and sending cards and notes during this challenging time. A special thank you to Joan Roselle, for managing our finances. She noted that the Deacons Fund began with \$8, 547.49. After receiving some funds from the budget and interest, and \$1,000 donations to the Center for Food Action and the Office of Concern Food Pantry St. Cecilia, they ended the year with a balance of \$7,001.35.

Committee Reports: All committee reports were included in the Annual Report. No oral reports were given during the meeting. The Congregation had the opportunity to raise questions, but none were forthcoming. The reports are as follows:

Re-entry Task Force: Elder Allen reported that as the number of Covid 19 outbreaks increased during January - April of 2021, the Re-entry Task Force recommended waiting to begin in-person indoor gatherings.

In May, when vaccines became more available and Covid numbers dropped and remained at the low risk level, we were able to implement the plans and protocols for returning to in-person worship. On June 6th we returned to in-person worship until December when cases spiked increasing the severe risk level due to the Omicron variant and in-person worship was again, suspended.

We are pleased that the numbers are down, and we are able to meet once again in-person. Elder Allen thanked the congregation for their patience and following protocols. She thanked her fellow committee members: Howard Bryson, Brian Coats-Thomas, Gillian Iappelli, Sherrie Reilley, and Jon Teall.

Worship Committee Report: Elders Marilyn Coats-Thomas and Jeanne Lambert noted that this past year has again proven to be a difficult one. The year began with in-person worship still suspended as there was no way to safely gather together. As the year progressed and vaccines became available and numbers of cases declined substantially, Session, as per recommendations from the Re-Entry Task Force, authorized a return to in-person worship June 6, 2021. The service continued to be recorded and posted on the PCAT website. After more than a year apart, we returned to the sanctuary with joy and gratitude. Strict safety protocols were followed - temperature checks, masks, social distancing. Plexiglass was installed at the lectern and pulpit and in front of the musicians. Although the choir did not return, the band and the cantors provided the music.

For the second year, 2021 was anything but normal. The Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie was called to serve as our permanent pastor and Rev. Fran Thiessen agreed to continue as pastor until he obtained the visa needed to begin serving, hopefully, by Palm Sunday. (At year's end Rev. Ritchie still awaited authorization to begin.) Rev. Thiessen led us in worship until July when she became ill and could no longer continue. For the rest of the year, we had to rely upon pastors willing to preach from Pulpit Supply. We were blessed with a diverse and gifted group of individuals who shared different approaches, perspectives and styles with us.

As mentioned earlier, the surge in COVID cases in December resulted in Session's last-minute decision to cancel in-person Christmas Eve services. Those involved in leading worship agreed to do so without the congregation present. The 5:00 p.m. service was recorded and later posted on the website. The 9:00 p.m. traditional service was live streamed. None of this would have been possible without Glenn Allen, Rob Paustian and the tech team. As always, we are forever indebted to them for their expertise, dedication and hard work, which allowed for a smooth transition from in-person worship to online worship and back again.

Elders Coats-Thomas and Lambert gave special thanks to Anna Lim for coordinating the music each week under difficult circumstances and to everyone - PCAT staff and volunteers - who kept things moving forward during trying

times. In normal times the purpose of the Worship Committee is to assist the pastor in the planning of worship services, to oversee the sacraments of baptism and communion, to review matters relating to the music during worship, and to coordinate all those involved - Chancel Choir, Handbell Choir, cantors, paid musicians, the Tech Team and the Worship Support Teams. We thank Rick Bower, former Chair of the committee, for his continued guidance in addition to committee members Glenn Allen, Rick Bower, Anna Lim, Sherrie Reilley, the Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie.

Mission Report: Elders Diekjobst and Patryk shared that although we have lived through this second year of the pandemic, PCAT members and friends have supported our Mission projects by giving \$8,810.00!

We have supported Family Promise, One Great Hour of Sharing, Blanket Sunday, Pentecost Offering, Virtual CROP Walk, Armenian Missionary Association, Christmas Joy, and the Church World Services. Several volunteers supported Table to Table by giving 3 days of their time to prepare 4,000 mailings for the annual fund-raising campaign.

PCAT also donated blankets, socks, underwear, and gift cards to RAP (Refugee Assistance Program) in conjunction with South Church in Bergenfield. Gifts cards were also given to Family Promise. Our “Cro-Knitters” continue to make baby items of hats, blankets and more for distribution in Armenia.

Congregational Life Committee Report: Elders Allen and Young reported that Congregational Life has held only two events for the 2021 Presbyterian Church at Tenafly calendar year. Due to the ongoing covid pandemic we have been limited with the gatherings that we normally enjoy with each other. We want to thank the members of Session as well as the members of the congregation who so generously gave of their time and talents to help with all of our plans.

On November 7th we celebrated Emmie Parsells 100th Birthday! It was a beautiful day to celebrate such a wonderful person that everyone admires, appreciates, and loves. Her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren were there to celebrate with her. Emmie holds a special place in everyone’s heart. She is truly an important person in her family and friends lives in addition to our congregation.

Our final get together was at Christmas time. We started the day with a nice group of us going around to some of our congregation that we haven’t seen in a while. Both the singers and the listeners enjoyed the experience. Then we finished the night with our 2nd Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony. It was great seeing the large turnout for this event. All this could not be done without the help of Sherrie Reilley

and Chris Schwab whom she thanked sincerely for their hard work. Once again Elders Allen and Young thanked Ann and Carroll Van Cleave for leading us in a few Christmas Carols.

Finance Committee: Treasurer MacKenzie noted we continue to remain financially stable despite the impact of the pandemic. He provided a snapshot that due to the two government PPP Loans and not paying for a full pastor, our income exceeded expectations we ended fiscal 2021 with an income over expense of \$53,690. Many of our program, utilities and other expenses were less since we did have the opportunity to gather in person. He will give a more detailed report when reviewing the 2022 forecast budget.

Stewardship Committee: Co-chairs Marilyn Coats-Thomas and Jeanne Lambert reminded that congregation that our current theme is “*Now More than Ever: Receive Hope, Be Hope, Share Hope.*” The job of the Stewardship Committee is to invite and to encourage our church members to invest in the mission of our church, to be part of a community of believers who work together and to be an extension of all those who have come before us in this endeavor. We do this by running an Annual Stewardship Campaign in which church members are asked to pledge to keep our church vibrant and financially stable. These financial commitments allow the Session to prepare the budget and to plan our ministry and missions for the new year.

Once again, this year has proven to be a challenging one due to the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic that forced PCAT to shut its doors in March 2020. We were fortunate to be able to resume in-person worship in June 2021 when infection numbers decreased enough to safely return to the sanctuary. We have been forced to discontinue in-person worship and return to online worship beginning with the Christmas Eve services due to an unexpected surge in Covid 19 numbers. Prior to this second closure, we presented several Minutes for Stewardship during Worship to remind people of the importance of annual giving. In October we sent out an initial mailing asking members to prayerfully consider completing a pledge form and to return it during worship or by mail in early November.

The results as of December 31, 2021, are as follows:

- Total Pledged for next year: \$149,981
- Total Pledges: 44
- New pledges: 2
- Increased Pledge: 10
- Decreased Pledge: 5
- Same as Previous Year: 27

Elders Coats-Thomas and Lambert gave special thanks to Rick Bower and all the information he so diligently prepares and shares and also to Nancy Benell, Office Manager, who developed materials for the campaign. With your continued generosity and support we hope our church will thrive for years to come and be able to reach out to a world in need.

Presby Readers: Elder Eimer reported that the Presby Readers met an astonishing 11 times in 2021. We continued to meet via Zoom with two exceptions when we gathered in person. She encouraged all members to recommend books and to attend the meetings; suggesting if time challenged, read the synopsis if you can't read the entire book. A listing of books read and discussed in 2021 is included in the Annual Report. New titles and dates are announced in the weekly emails and worship announcements. Join us!

Scholarship Committee: Elders Diekjobst and Roselle shared that scholarships of \$300.00 each were awarded to 11 recipients, who are listed by name in the Annual Report.

M/S/U: Items 6-10 on the docket were approved as reported. The congregation thanked the committee chairs, board chairs, and teams for their work over the past year as reflected in their reports.

2022 Operating Budget Forecast: Treasurer MacKenzie gave a quick recap of fiscal 2021. The budget and the actual income and expenses for the past year appear together with the budget forecast for 2022. The past year's activity for each income and expense account number are shown in the Treasurer's Report on page 41 and the details of the activity in each of our investment funds are reported starting on page 36.

Treasurer MacKenzie reported we ended the year with a large positive balance due in part by receiving two PPP Loans that were forgiven and the frustrating delay of having Rev. Martin Richie start here in Tenafly. He and Co-Treasurer Bower pulled some of our funds from our investments in December to increase the carryover at year end as a means of helping the 2022 budget. He noted that the Church sustained water damage from the storm in early September resulting in more than \$24,000 in unforeseen expense not yet reimbursed by our Insurance Carrier. This is an ongoing legal dispute.

Treasurer MacKenzie reported that our investments earned approximately 9% for the year. He also reminded the congregation that market performance in one year cannot necessarily predict returns in the future.

He then turned his attention to fiscal 2022. He reminded the congregation that Session had reviewed and approved the budget at their January meeting. Income projections remain relatively the same as the past year reflecting a slightly lower pledge number for 2022, use of facilities, as well as slightly lower rental income as the Jack-in-the-Box nursery school is still having some difficulties due to the pandemic. We are continuing to work with them.

Regarding expenses, the budget provides for a 4% pay adjustment for all staff. It also reflects a new budget line, hiring a technician to run our live streaming equipment once it is installed. We have been blessed this past year in receiving a number of gifts and two of these have been earmarked directly for upgrading technology so we can live-stream services. An additional substantial gift will be used in coming years to improve the appearance of the Church and thereby making it more welcoming. As Clerk Eimer mentioned, we received a gift from the Grace and Love congregation for our technology upgrades. Where before we were projecting a minor deficit, we now happily are projecting a modest income over expenses of \$3,152.55.

The Finance Committee remains sensitive to continuing maintenance costs for needed projects that are necessary to sustain our aging buildings and maintain our expansive grounds. These projects are a continuing financial burden so we will continue to monitor them closely and utilize investment funds judiciously. Treasurer MacKenzie shared that he and Co-Treasurer Bower, begin working on the budget forecast in December. Once they have a preliminary budget, they share it with the Finance Committee. He noted that Robert Cooper has retired from the Committee and that Brian Coats-Thomas was appointed at the new chair. To thank Mr. Cooper for his years of service as Chair of our Finance Committee, Session approved Mr. Cooper to be known as Finance Committee Chair Emeritus at their January 26th meeting. Treasurer MacKenzie asked that the minutes reflect the appreciation of the work done by his fellow Finance Committee members Rick Bower, Brian Coats-Thomas, Robert Cooper, Robert Lee, and Jon Teall.

Necrology Report: The Necrology Report was included in the Annual Report.

Adjournment: There being no other business, Moderator Anderson ended the meeting in prayer at 11:21 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Anderson, Moderator

Mary Jane Eimer, Clerk of Session

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT TENAFLY
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
Sunday, December 11, 2022

Call to order: The special meeting of the congregation was called to order at 11:53 a.m. The meeting was opened by Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie with a prayer. It was noted that the announcement for this meeting followed the form of the Book of Order and a quorum was present.

Rev. Ritchie reminded the congregation that the purpose of this meeting was to select our Nominating Committee whose work will be to nominate for vacancies on the Session and Board of Deacons. The Nominating Committee is comprised of 2 serving elders, 1 serving deacon and 2 members of the congregation-at-large along with the Pastor as an ex-officio member of the committee. There were no nominations from the floor.

M/S/U: The congregation approved:
Elders Ron Rexroth and Jonathan Teall to represent Session;
Deacon Christina Chan to represent the Board of Deacons;
Nancy Smith and Debbie Abitante representing the congregation-at-large.

M/S/U: There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:56 with a prayer given by Rev. Ritchie.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jane Eimer
Clerk of Session

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE 2022

The Nominating Committee was elected by a special Congregational meeting on December 11th, 2022. Members are: Jon Teall and Ron Rexroth from Session; Deacon and at large members from the Congregation: Christina Chan, Debbie Abitante and Nancy Smith.

We nominate –

Session: Class of 2025

Jeanne Lambert (accepted another term)

Christina Chan

Api Lee

Gillian Iappelli

Deacons: Class of 2025

Carolyn Rocco (accepted another term)

Christine Semsel

Noelle Perrin-Bryson

Ann Van Cleave

Treasurer/Co-Treasurer: Rod MacKenzie and Rick Bower

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Roselle and Ron Rexroth
Nominating Committee Co-Chairs

CURRENT CHURCH BOARD MEMBERS 2022

2023	2024	2025
SESSION	SESSION	SESSION
Diane Allen	Lily Lee	*Jeanne Lambert
Marilyn Coats-Thomas	Ron Rexroth	Christina Chan
Tim Patryk	Christina Young	Api Lee
Mickey Diekjobst	Mary Jane Eimer	Gillian Iappelli
2023	2024	2025
DEACONS	DEACONS	DEACONS
Ellie Sturrock	Debbie Abitante	*Carolyn Rocco
Gay Willis	Carole Bayley	Christine Semsel
Nancy Smith	Indiana Diaz	Noelle Perrin
Melissa Rexroth	Dori Persson	Ann Van Cleave

*Accepted another term.

MODERATOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

It is a joy to write this letter as your permanently installed Pastor. After all the struggles, uncertainties and impacts of the protracted visa process, we were able to move to a new chapter in June 2022 and to celebrate together at the presbytery service of installation in September. The whole experience has given me some insight into how it must feel for those in even more vulnerable positions such as refugees and asylum seekers. I am incredibly grateful for what members of Session and the Congregation of PCAT did to support and encourage me during the darker times since I was elected and called in January 2021. Special thanks to our Clerk of Session, Mary Jane Eimer and Elder Jon Teall who bore the greatest burden. The wider Session and our members were a constant source of incredulous support and kindness. In particular, I would like to thank Elder Jim Crook, who is a perpetual source of encouragement and was instrumental in unlocking the route to a work permit. Otherwise we might still be waiting!

As I have reflected on the particular role of being a pastor within presbyterian polity, the word that has repeatedly come to mind is “with”. I have become even more aware of travelling *with* the Session as leaders in our shared journey of faith. The Pastor is at the heart of things but in no sense “above” the Session. The hierarchies of other church polities and of the world of commerce don’t apply in the presbyterian church. Sometimes that can make us a bit cumbersome, but it does encourage us to work collaboratively. I pray that we can continue to develop that respectful “withness” that characterises the work of Pastor and Session in leading the congregation and managing our staff.

Returning from the “exile” of Covid, churches everywhere have suffered from a great interruption to patterns of life. I am incredibly thankful for the vision, talent, energy and spiritual depth of this congregation that has sustained it through very challenging times. As we seek to grow together for the future, already in 2022 we have proclaimed that we are alive and kicking with our return to in-person worship, significant renovations to our buildings, the formation of an Outreach committee that is on the front foot of making connections between congregation and community, and investment in our music team. All this in addition to the return to many valued pre-Covid patterns. By God’s grace, there is much more to come in the years ahead.

Finally, I would like to say what a joy it is to have a sister and tenant congregation in Grace and Love Church. Their congregation and Pastor Kee are amongst the most gracious and collaborative Christians I have encountered and we cherish our relationship. The joint bilingual communion service on World Communion Sunday was an incredibly symbolic and special occasion.

Look, how good and how pleasant is the dwelling of sisters and brothers together
(Psalm 133)

With my love and gratitude for every one of you.

Pastor Martin

Children, Youth and Family Ministry Report

Mission

It has always been important to find creative ways to support our favorite mission and outreach programs.

- Souper Bowl of Caring: to support the Center for Food Action we collected cans of soup
- Valentines and notes were sent to our seniors.

Church School

- 2022 began back on zoom until mid-February
- Seasonal activity bags and packets were dropped off to homes to help stay connected.
- Garden: Children and youth enjoyed planting and caring for the garden. The garden is our happy place.
- Tenafly 5K: Families enjoyed teaming up with friends from the mission committee to pass out water to the runners. We also had a table in the Health Fair. The theme for our table was, “Mindfulness”. It was a great opportunity to meet members of the community and share simple mindfulness practices.
- Pancake Breakfast: Our new church school year started with having breakfast together as a celebration of new beginnings.
- In October we returned to meeting in the Church School Classroom.
- Children and youth returned to participating in worship by sharing their musical talent, reading scripture and leading prayers.
- Intergenerational Worship was initiated by Pastor Martin.
- Fall Festival: The Children’s Ministry Team and the Congregational Life Committee hosted a fun afternoon for our congregation and the community. The event included music, games and hot cider on a glorious afternoon and a significant number of local families took part.

Toddlers:

- The Farm Room: Toddler - Pre-K are enjoying life on the farm and exploring God’s wonderful world with their puppet friend, Sabastian the squirrel. Just like the children Sabastian has many questions about God.
- Our little ones are enjoying making friends and learning how much God loves them.

Confirmation class

- A new confirmation class began in October 2022 and will be confirmed in November.
- Had a leadership role in creating and participating in the Christmas Pageant.

Senior High:

- Met occasionally through Zoom while we had restrictions.
- One of their favorite activities was making pizza at the Chan's.
- Youth Sunday: enjoyed being back in-person and contributing to the worship.

College Students

- Stayed connected with texts.
- 18 care packages were sent out or dropped off.
- In - person dinner in August before heading back to college.

In 2022 was a year of getting back to some of our old routines and at the same time creating new ones. We're looking forward to this new year and all its possibilities.

Respectfully,

Sherrie Reilley
Director of Children, Youth and Families Ministry

Clerk of Session Annual Report

Greetings Members of the Congregation,

Yea us! We did it! The Presbytery of North East New Jersey installed Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie, as our permanent minister, Sunday, September 18th. Thank you to elder Jim Crook, who reached out to his valued friend and Tenafly resident, Remberto Perez who enlisted the support of Senator Robert Menendez.

The Installation Service was a triumph for all of us. Clergy from our Presbytery and beyond, interfaith and ecumenical friends, some of those who preached for us during the vacancy, and our former pastor, Dr Lindner, were all in attendance and participated in the service. A lovely reception to welcome Rev. Ritchie, his wife Sarah and daughter Rowan followed thanks to the Congregational Life Committee, under the leadership of Diane Allen and Christina Young.

In the lead up to the installation, Dr. Ritchie had been working with the Session on a five- year Strategic Plan, which was the focus of a retreat at West Side Presbyterian Church, Ridgewood. Copies of the published plan are available in the Narthex.

During 2022, Session and our committee chairs continued to bear the responsibilities of running our church, learning “what it takes” to complete tasks needed on a more operational level. I want to highlight and thank my fellow Session Members: Diane Allen, Marilyn Coats-Thomas, John Coppolino, Mickey Diekjobst, Jeanne Lambert, Lily Lee, Tim Patryk, Ron Rexroth, Joan Roselle, Jon Teall, and Christina Young. Each member shared their skill sets and commitment to our church family over the past year. They are task-focused and very creative in dealing with a variety of issues that impact our church. Elders serving on Session are spiritual leaders as well as legal trustees. It is with gratitude and sincere appreciation that I personally thank John Coppolino, Joan Roselle, and Jon Teall who are completing their terms on Session.

Session addressed several new things this past year:

- The creation of a new Outreach Committee under the able leadership of Lily Lee with an outward facing agenda to make connections with the local community: Book talks with signing opportunities, wonderful concerts, and delicious dinners as a start.
- After much research and discussion which lasted for almost two years, we sold the lower parking lot to our long-standing tenant, Honda of Tenafly.

- Many much-needed repairs and upgrades were made to our buildings this past year thanks to the Buildings and Grounds Committee chaired by the very diligent Jon Teall. Session was advised and you all should be aware that member Chris Smith has been overseeing much of the repair required as our “clerk of works”. Please be sure and thank him for his generosity of time and sharing his skill sets with us to keep our facilities and grounds in safe, functioning, and inviting.

All of our committees have been active over the past year as you will read in this report.

Special thanks to Glenn Allen and Rob Paustian who continued to work closely with Rev. Ritchie, and Sam Yom, our Technical Anchor, to develop livestreaming of our worship services and special events. Session is actively supportive of developing our operations to embrace technology, thereby expanding our outreach to both our congregation and the community. Session is committed to the importance of attending worship in-person but understands that this is not always possible for some of our members. We are pleased that members and non-members can access our services based on their individual needs and time schedule thanks to our livestreaming service.

Another very big thank you to our Re-entry Task Force whose top priority was to keep us and our staff safe. They did a terrific job developing protocols and paying attention to the pandemic trends so that we could return to worship in person. During the January Session meeting, we discharged the Re-entry Task Force noting that for the most part, their work is done. We are most fortunate, that our ever-vigilant Jon Teall, has volunteered to monitor the number of COVID-related cases in Bergen County and will alert us if we need to take action. Please join me in personally thanking Sherrie Reilley, Chair, Diane Allen, Co-Chair and task force members Gillian Iapelli, Jon Teall, Howard Bryson and Brian Coats-Thomas.

I also want to thank this opportunity to thank our Co-Treasurers, Rick Bower and Rod MacKenzie. Their time and dedication to developing budgets; monitoring our income and expenses; paying our staff and bills, overseeing our investments; and working with the Finance Committee is a huge commitment to our congregation. Their considerable other work and monthly updates to Session have ensured that our finances have been very well managed.

We also are blessed to have such dedicated and competent staff. Special thanks to Anna Lim, our Minister of Music until December 31st, for her 18 years of organizing and bringing us inspirational music. It was with tremendous appreciation that we

thanked Ms. Lim with a special reception and how timely that her last time conducting and playing for us was Christmas Eve. Acknowledgement and appreciation to our other staff members: Nancy Benell, our Office Manager; Sherrie Reilley, Director of Children, Family and Youth Ministry, Chris Schwab, our Custodian; Band members Ray McCarthy, Peter MacDonald, Fred Mawson; Jin Heo, Organist; and Garth Taylor, Baritone. After a leave of absence Joy Hermalyn formally stepped down from the post of Soprano Section Leader. We now add Sherice Roberts, Soprano Section Leader and Joan Hofmeyr, Alto Section Leader to our thank you list. Tenor Christian Davakis will join us on February 5th, 2023. The music at worship continues to be at a high level due to these professionals and many volunteers including our excellent cantors: Cathy Coppolino, Nancy Ringham Smith, Ann Van Cleave, Carroll Van Cleave, and Gay Willis. We are very fortunate to have recently hired Jim Millar as our Interim Director of Music.

And finally, I want to thank you, the members of our church. Your continued involvement and trust in your leadership is appreciated. We are very much aware of the fine job Rev. Ritchie is doing to get more of you involved in church activities and in worship. I think his getting us to sing a few responses has given us insight to his determination to have us be active participants in our weekly service. Clearly, he is working diligently behind the scenes as will be evidenced in the committee reports. As Clerk of Session, I can tell you we pay careful attention to the docket and minutes of our meetings. We discuss challenges and areas for improvement and work to encourage and develop the participation of our members and staff.

There are many expectations from an active and involved congregation. If you have ideas to share and are willing to help in any area of our congregational life, please do so. We are in this together. I think we have delivered on our 2022 message, that 2023 would be a better a year for PCAT. I hope you will agree that 2023 is already off to a terrific start for you as a member of our church family.

Please stay strong and healthy. Wishing you a positive 2023!

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jane Eimer, Clerk of Session

Buildings and Grounds Committee

The Buildings & Grounds Committee was formed after the Congregation approved combining the Board of Trustees with the Session. The Committee works as part of the Session and is responsible for maintaining and managing our church buildings, grounds, equipment and other assets.

The Buildings & Grounds Committee initiated and completed a number of major maintenance projects around the church in 2022. We hired a contractor who replaced our Church House roof which was over 100 years old and which had not been repaired to this extent in decades. The Committee also oversaw extensive renovation of the church's steeple and the front of the Sanctuary building. This work was paid for by the Lee family in honor of their daughter, Kiira. We are grateful for the Lee's gift and believe the renovation makes our church look even better and more inviting.

The Committee engaged in a number of other projects inside and outside the church, installing new air conditioning units and repainting different areas such as some of our bathrooms and the Manse. We also did work around the Memorial Garden and the stairwell leading down from the Garden to Jack in the Box. Part of the reason JITB was flooded during Hurricane Ida in the fall of 2021 was because water rose up in the stairwell, filling it with water and shorting an electric circuit to our sump pump system. In addition to other steps, we moved the electrical outlet higher above the stairwell, so we will not lose power for that reason again.

A sub-committee of Buildings & Grounds looked into safety and security around the church property and is taking several steps to ensure everyone in the building remains safe. On recommendation of the sub-committee, the Session agreed to install a new door entry system at two key entrances and to upgrade security on three internal doors. The work will be paid for by an anonymous donor. We are grateful for this gift and will feel safer and sounder in our church going forward.

The Buildings & Grounds Committee oversees our insurance policies at the church. There are two developments to report. First, the church finally got a settlement for some of the damages caused by Hurricane Ida which totaled more than \$60,000. Our insurer initially told us the church was not covered but the Committee pushed back, pointing out our policy actually did cover this type of flood damage. Eventually, the insurance company agreed to pay \$40,000. The Committee accepted the offer because filing a lawsuit is expensive and we could not be sure a judge would rule in our favor. Instead, we looked for a new insurance broker. Ultimately, we stayed with our broker, Brown

& Brown, which is significantly less expensive than other brokers and also changed our insurance carrier from Mercer to the Philadelphia Insurance Company.

After more than two years of the covid pandemic, all of the church's tenants are once again paying full rent. Grace & Love began paying full rent last year and this year increased its monthly payments by 4%, as agreed in our current lease. Jack in the Box agreed to a new contract last fall which includes a clause requiring the daycare to pay town property taxes.

Board of Deacons Annual Report

The Board of Deacons is composed of twelve members who volunteer to serve those in need in our congregation, in our local community and in the world at large. Our primary focus is the care and nurture of those in our congregation. We do this by reaching out through visitation, making telephone calls, driving members to church, dropping off food or making donations. We also nurture our members through church events.

This past year has witnessed an easing of covid restrictions allowing the Deacons to better serve our members. The board welcomed the following new Deacons: Indiana Diaz, Dori Persson, Nancy Ringham Smith, Ellie Sturrock and Gay Willis. We were able to have our first in person event since the pandemic shut everything down. We planned a Strawberry Festival in June which was held in Jim Henry Hall. The event was well attended and allowed for congregants to enjoy one another's company. In addition, we were able to welcome our new Minister, Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie.

The Deacons assisted with the Easter flower delivery to members and this year Deacon Christina Chan organized a Christmas poinsettia delivery. This was much appreciated by the recipients, and we will do this again in 2023. We are looking forward to resuming our favorite social events including the Deacons' pancake breakfast, the Agape dinner and the Deacons' Tea. We voted to make contributions from the Deacons' Fund to purchase gift cards for the grocery store for members of our local community who are in need. We also organized and accepted donations for a member of our church community who needed the support of our church family.

Thank you to all of the Deacons for delivering flowers, making visits, telephone calls and sending cards and notes of support to our members. A special thank you to Joan Roselle, for managing our finances, and to Mickey Diekjobst, our liaison from Session.

We are looking forward to serving our congregation and community in 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Rexroth

Convener of The Board of Deacons

Deacons Fund Statement 2022

Beginning Balance \$7001.35

Income Total

 Earned Interest \$ 3.25

 PCAT \$1220.00

Total \$1223.25

Total Expenditures

 Family of I. Diaz \$1050

Total \$1050

Ending Balance 12/31/22 \$7174.60

Worship Committee

January 2022 began as December 2021 ended with a return to online worship due to a rapid resurgence in COVID cases during the holidays. The last minute transition to virtual worship would not have been possible without Glenn Allen, Rob Paustian and the tech team. As always we are forever indebted to them for their expertise, dedication and hard work. Special thanks to Anna Lim for coordinating the music each week under difficult circumstances and to everyone - PCAT staff and volunteers - who kept things moving forward during trying times. Thankfully, the situation improved and we were able to return to in person worship beginning February 13, 2022.

For the third consecutive year, 2022 remained a year in transition. Although the Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie had been called to serve as our permanent pastor many months earlier, the bureaucratic wheels moved excruciatingly slowly regarding his visa. We continued to rely upon pastors willing to provide Pulpit Supply for the first half of 2022. Fortunately, we were blessed with a diverse and gifted group of individuals who shared different approaches, perspectives and styles with us. At long last his work permit was approved and Dr. Ritchie was able to begin work as our permanent pastor beginning in June.

Christmas Eve services marked the end of Anna Lim's eighteen year tenure with PCAT as Director of Music. We were sad to see her retire but we are so grateful for her service and wish her the very best.

As in the past, the purpose of the Worship Committee is to assist the pastor in the planning of worship services, to oversee the sacraments of baptism and communion, to review matters relating to the music during worship, and to support all those involved - Chancel Choir, Handbell Choir, cantors, paid musicians, the Tech Team and the Worship Support Teams. We thank Rick Bower, former Chair of the committee, for his continued guidance.

We begin 2023 full of hope and enthusiasm with Martin Ritchie as our pastor. He brings new ideas, a different perspective and a lot of creative energy. It is an exciting time for PCAT! We are truly blessed to be part of this wonderful church family.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Coats-Thomas and Jeanne Lambert, Co-Chairs

Mission Report

During the year of 2022, PCAT has remained faithful to our mission projects:

One Great Hour of Sharing plus Fish Banks
Blanket Sunday
Pentecost
Hurricane Relief
Ukraine Relief
Tenafly 5k
Peacemaking
CROP Walk
Center for Food Action
Family Promise
Christmas Joy

We realized \$15,139.00 for distribution!

Also -

- The Cro-knitters completed over 75 baby items for distribution in Armenia.
- Food donations and clothing were distributed to various groups.
- More than a dozen members and friends of PCAT met in Jim Henry Hall and prepared 5,000 mailings for Table to Table's annual fund raiser.

A HUGE THANK YOU to all who participated in any way!

God's blessings on you all.

Respectfully submitted,

Mickey Diekjobst
Tim Patryk

Congregational Life Committee Report

Once again due to Covid, Congregational Life had planned only two events for the 2022 Presbyterian Church at Tenaflly calendar year. We want to thank the members of Session, as well as the members of the congregation, who gave so generously their time to help with our plans.

On Sunday, September 18th, we celebrated Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie's Installation. It was a beautiful service and a wonderful get together afterwards. We are so blessed to have Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie in our lives and as Pastor of this church.

The other event was the Fall Festival on October 22nd. It was a beautiful, sunny day. We had games, food, and we got to throw wet sponges at our Pastor. The kids enjoyed "Pelting the Pastor" but some adults had fun also! Sherrie Reilley set up fun games and crafts for the kids. If you missed it this year, give it a try next year. It was a very successful event and drew many members of the wider community.

Once again, being on the Congregational Life committee has shown us how loving, kind, and generous all of you are. We really appreciate everyone's help and support. We would like to thank our members of the church that always let us know they are there for us when needed.

Thank you also to Chris Schwab for his assistance at all our congregational events. He is always five steps ahead of us.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Allen
Christina Young

Finance Committee
2022 Annual Report

	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2022 Actual (See Note)	2023 Budget
Income	\$657,449	\$783,560	\$642,684	\$606,674
Expenses	\$659,297	\$734,870	\$602,994	\$608,909
Net Balance	(\$ 1,848)	\$ 48,690	\$ 39,690	(\$ 2,235)

Note: Adjusted 2022 Actual excludes major maintenance, insurance, and special purpose items

The budget and actual income and expenses for the past year appear above together with the budget projected for 2023. The past year’s activity for each income and expense account number are shown in the Treasurer’s Report along with the details of the activity in each of our investment funds.

The following are the highlights for 2022 and the proposed budget for 2023:

For 2022

- We ended the year with a positive balance due to the deferral of Rev. Martin Ritchie’s Relocation bonus under Terms of Call. Note that this has been deferred to 2024 with agreement from Pastor Martin.
- We completed the sale of our lower parking lot to DC Honda and those funds will be invested for the long term and a pre-determined amount will be withdrawn periodically to support our annual budget. Total proceeds received end of December to be invested: \$1,634,045.62. The Finance and Investment Committees will coordinate, with our Treasurers, how these proceeds will be invested.
- We finalized a settlement of \$40,000 with our Insurance Carrier for hurricane damages in 2021.
- Significant work was done to our Church buildings (Church House roof, Church Steeple and front, Chapel Air conditioning and Manse repairs and improvements). This work required draw down of our Major Maintenance Fund and was supplemented by gifts to our church.
- Our investment portfolio lost approximately 14.5% for the year – in line with the overall financial market. This was the worst year in financial markets since 2008.

For 2023

- We are projecting a slightly higher pledge number for 2023.
- A new investment line will appear under Income specific to the funds held and invested from the parking lot sale to Honda. Monies will be drawn annually to support our budget.
- We are providing a 4% pay adjustment for all employees.
- Two additional lead singers this year will be paid by draws from our Music Endowment Fund.

The committee remains sensitive to general economic forecasts and how that might affect our income for the coming year and are prepared to make financial adjustments during the year if deemed necessary to ensure our financial viability. The Session adopted a “red line” policy to ensure that we are aware of any situation where our investment funds approach a level that will require appropriate budgetary restraint. We recognize that it is also important that we look beyond this coming year to see how we may address financial challenges. The committee will develop a long range financial plan that will comprehend the recently completed Strategic Plan.

Respectively submitted,
Brian Coats-Thomas, Chair
Bob Lee
Jon Teall
Rick Bower
Rod MacKenzie

Stewardship Committee

Sharing Our Gifts and Talents

The job of the Stewardship Committee is to invite and to encourage our church members to invest in the mission of our church, to be part of a community of believers who work together, and to be an extension of all those who have come before us in this endeavor.

We do this by running an Annual Stewardship Campaign in which church members are asked to pledge to keep our church moving forward. These financial commitments allow the Session to prepare the budget and to plan our ministry and mission for the new year. **This year our emphasis went beyond financial support to include individual gifts, talents and expertise.** Everyone has a talent or a gift that they can give to our church to make it more vibrant, inclusive, and helpful.

In November we sent out an initial mailing asking members to prayerfully consider completing a pledge form and to return it on Stewardship Sunday or to the church office. This year we also included a form encouraging members to highlight their individual gifts and talents and to consider how these may serve the church community.

The results as of February 1st, 2023 are as follows:

Total Pledged for 2023: \$165,265.00

New pledges: 2

Increased Pledge: 13

Decreased Pledge: 1

Same as Previous Year: 28

A special thanks to Rick Bower and all the information he so diligently prepares and shares. Special thanks also to Nancy Benell, who developed materials for the campaign.

With your continued generosity and support we hope our church will thrive for years to come and be able to reach out to a world in need.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn Coats-Thomas and Jeanne Lambert - Stewardship Co-Chairs

Re-entry Task Force

As the number of Covid 19 outbreaks increased to severe high risk at the end of December 2021, the Re-entry Task Force recommended returning to online worship and activities.

In mid February of 2022, when the Covid numbers dropped, we were able to return to in-person worship. At that time we continued masking.

In October we went to masks optional and resumed more in-person activities. The committee would like to thank everyone for your patience and following protocols during Covid. It was a wonderful example of how much you care for one another.

Respectfully,

Diane Allen
Howard Bryson
Gillian Iappelli

Sherrie Reilley
Jon Teall
Brian Coats Thomas

Scholarship Committee

Scholarships were given to the following young people:

Caitlin Chan

Jonathan Chan

Zachary Chan

Johnny Coppolino

Anthony Moran

Theo Paustian

Michaela Schwab

Samanth Semsel

Luke Smith

Madeline Smith

Katherine Sturrock

Congratulations and best wishes for success!

Respectfully submitted,

Mickey Diekjobst

Joan Roselle

Tech Team Report

2022 was a significant year of technology upgrades for PCAT. Utilizing funds earmarked for new audio/visual and computer equipment, the routine live streaming of our worship services was implemented. We have been streaming all services since March 2022. Worship services can be viewed live, by visiting our church website, tenaflypresby.org or by visiting our YouTube channel, youtube.com/@presbyterianchurchattenafly7216 (this can also found by searching, "Presbyterian Church at Tenafly" within youtube.com).

All past worship streams can be viewed on the youtube channel as well; services since March 2022 have been archived. Please be sure to hit the "subscribe" button on the youtube channel for notifications and alerts.

The success of this technological capability has required the upgrading of our decades-old equipment, which has been masterminded by Rob Paustian. We have also been fortunate to have the services of an expert consultant to operate the complex live streaming process on an ongoing basis. Mr. Sam (Seyeoul) Yom, a member of Grace & Love congregation, is now our Sunday Technical Anchor. His knowledge and experience has been invaluable.

Each week, in addition to the development of the worship bulletins, the Pro-Presenter system slides are carefully prepared by Nancy Benell, which allows both the worshippers in the pews and those online to view the texts of readings, hymns and prayers. The balcony area was significantly modified (thanks to Rob Paustian and Chris Smith) to accommodate the equipment expansion. As a result, one front pew was removed, to facilitate easy access and two of our cameras were mounted on the face of the balcony. Finally, we are grateful for the dedication of all the members of the tech team, which also includes Glenn Allen, Rick Bower, Richard Chan, and Jun Motai.

Outreach-Engagement Committee Report

Outreach-Engagement is a new committee, which occupies the territory that was formerly “membership”. While we want to grow our membership, the broad aim of this committee is to connect in meaningful ways with the wider community in Tenafly and Bergen County and to build relationships that will strengthen the church. Outreach is working in collaboration with other committees such as Mission, Faith Nurture and Congregational Life to create and promote events and programs that build up and stimulate the spiritual exploration of the congregation.

Since the Outreach Committee’s formation in September 2022, the committee has hosted Jen Maxfield, a TV news reporter who grew up in our church, and authored the 2022 book *More After the Break*, in which she revisits ten most memorable stories from her career as a TV news reporter. Elder Jon Teall led a conversation with Jen, which addressed the moral challenges of her work, and revealed unexpected outcomes and life lessons.

To kick off the New Year, after a viewing of the PBS documentary *Beethoven in Beijing*, Elder Lily Lee discussed the film and 2022 book of the same title with director and author Jennifer Lin. Lin’s work tells the story of how Eugene Ormandy and the Philadelphia Orchestra play an integral part in the cultural diplomacy which paves the way for U.S.-China relations after decades of silence between 2 superpowers.

Outreach Committee also has plans for an author event with Nora Neus, a CNN reporter who co-authored *Muhammad Najem: How One Boy Put the Spotlight on Syria*, the only graphic novel on the NPR Best Books of 2022 List. Member Debbie Abitante will be in conversation with her on Sunday March 5th at 4pm.

Events purely for fun and community building included our Fall Festival, held outdoors on our front lawn. Our youth assisted with children’s activities including face painting and pumpkin decorating. Rev. Ritchie was a good sport, and succumbed to “Pelt the Pastor”, as folks were welcomed to throw a wet sponge at his face which was in a stockade-type board! Shout out to Carroll Van Cleave and Cathy Coppolino for providing music. We were blessed with perfect autumn weather for this event. There were neighbors, as well as many non-church members in attendance with their children.

In addition, our Advent Community Choir, led by Pastor Ritchie, brought community members together in song to celebrate this special season. Three Sunday afternoon rehearsals led to a well attended and beautiful candlelit service for Advent Sunday in the chapel. Many of these participants have come to subsequent Outreach Committee events, and one joined our church!

About 100 people attended our Carol Sing and Christmas Tree/Nativity Lighting outside the church and 85 sat down in Jim Henry Hall for the community Fish & Chips Dinner, which followed. The overall event drew together our congregation and local community in a very positive way.

The candlelight concert of Music for Advent and Christmas, in which Erin Schwab (daughter of Chris Schwab, our longtime custodian) was accompanied on piano and organ by Dr Ritchie was enjoyed by a chapel full of music lovers. It was good to hear the full potential of our organ, our new piano in action and the chapel looking amazing.

Thanks to our tenacious press liaison, Elder Jim Crook, PCAT made front page news coverage in the Northern Valley Press on three occasions, and PCAT had the only listing in the Suburbanite for Advent events. Furthermore, our events are regularly mentioned by Tenaflly Mayor Mark Zinna in his weekly email. The Outreach team are working hard on expanding our promotional reach through display of traditional posters, press, online event listings, and the increased use of social media such as Twitter, Facebook and Instagram. James Oruada has taken on the role of social media coordinator.

Outreach-Engagement Committee is glad for increasing attendance and participation at our events, and growing community awareness of PCAT. We look forward to continuing our arts outreach, promoting physical and psychological well-being, working with Mission, Congregational Life Committees and more. Please help us by inviting your friends and neighbors to our upcoming activities – and coming along yourselves. We need your help to put our church back into the heart of Tenaflly life!

Elder Lily Lee-Paustian, Chair of Outreach-Engagement

PRESBY READERS

The Presby Readers met 8 times in 2022. We continued to meet via Zoom earlier in the year and as COVID lifted a bit, we began to meet in person. We are a welcoming group of bibliophiles and hope you will join us in 2023.

In 2022 we read and discussed the following novels:

Lincoln Highway: A Novel, by Amor Towles

Leave the World Behind: A Novel, by Rumaan Alam

Cloud Cuckoo Land: A Novel, Anthony Doerr

Dear Edward, by Ann Napolitano

The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek, Kim Michele Richardson

Paris Seamstress, by Natasha Lester

The Sandcastle Girls: A Novel, Chris Bohjalian

More After the Break: A Reporter Returns to Ten Unforgettable News Stories, Jen Maxwell

We met this January to discuss *Horse*, by Geraldine Brooks. Her books never disappoint the Presby Readers. Lots of discussion threads to pursue and you come away learning a few things you didn't know before you read her book. Our next discussion will be *Lessons in Chemistry: A Novel* by Bonnie Gramus. Check the newsletter shortly for the February date and location. Our meetings are always on a Sunday at 4:00 p.m. Please join us and come with a question or two you would like the group to discuss.

We continue to have an eclectic reading list. Suggestions are made by members of the group. While not all of our selections are explicitly religious in content or tone, we find our shared reading provides an opportunity to explore questions of faith, hope, inspiration, forgiveness and spirituality. We try to select books that are easily accessible from the library and are under 500 pages. Please be encouraged to write to me at mjeimer@aol.com if you have a specific recommendation. I hope you can join us in 2023. You would be most welcome!

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Jane Eimer

MEMORIAL GARDEN ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance on Jan. 1, 2022	\$31,470.27
Deposits (Memory of Rick Awad)	\$ 5,000.00
Withdrawals Bost Landscapers	\$ 2,482.50
End of Year Balance on Dec. 31, 2022	\$33,987.77

PERMANENT MEMORIAL FUND

PMF MAIN FUND A/C 91A

(Facility Endowment Fund)

Beginning Balance January 2022	\$ 597,681.32
Receipts	
* Net Memorials deposited	\$ 1,000.00
Withdrawal	
Transfer to operating account	(\$ 47,311.34)
Earnings/Loss	(\$ 81,322.83)
Balance December 31, 2022	\$470,047.15

* **Charlie Ham memorial gift**

MAJOR MAINTENANCE FUND

PMF RESERVE FUND A/C 91B

(Major Maintenance Fund)

Beginning Balance January 2022	\$ 50,431.55
* Receipts	\$ 76,943.49
Withdrawals	(\$ 83,707.32)
Earnings/Loss	(\$ 6,476.13)
Balance December 31, 2022	\$ 37,191.59

* **Alan Diekjobst memorial gift \$64,443.49**

* **Anonymous \$12,500**

MUSIC ENDOWMENT

MUSIC ENDOWMENT FUND A/C 92

Beginning Balance January 2022	\$ 53,779.48
Receipts	\$ 0
Withdrawals	
Transfer to operating account	(\$ 3,286.00)
Earnings/Loss	(\$ 7,423.24)
	<hr/>
Balance December 31, 2022	\$ 43,070.24

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS A/C 93

Beginning Balance January 2022	\$ 33,464.80
* Receipts	\$ 5,355.00
Withdrawals	
Funds awarded for scholarships	(\$ 1,650.00)
Earnings/Loss	(\$ 5,477.84)
	<hr/>
Balance December 31, 2022	\$ 31,691.96

* Ruth Ham Memorial gift \$355.00

* Alan Diekjobst Memorial gift \$5,000

OPERATING RESERVE FUND

OPERATING RESERVE FUNDS A/C 95

Beginning Balance January 2022	\$ 14,792.42
Receipts	\$ 0
Withdrawals	0
Earnings/Loss	(\$ 2,175.77)
	<hr/>
Balance December 31, 2022	\$ 12,616.65

SPECIAL PURPOSE FUNDS

SPECIAL PURPOSE FUNDS A/C 96

Beginning Balance January 2022	\$ 167,097.74
Receipts	\$ 0
Withdrawals	(\$ 33,071.87)
Earnings/Loss	(\$ 19,761.16)
	<hr/>
Balance December 31, 2022	\$ 114,264.71

PROGRAM AND MISSION ENDOWMENT FUNDS

PROGRAM ENDOWMENT FUND A/C 97A

Beginning Balance January 2022	\$ 829,180.27
Receipts	\$ 0
Withdrawals	
Transfer to operating account	(\$ 65,636.38)
Earnings/Loss	(\$ 112,654.00)
	<hr/>
Balance December 31, 2022	\$ 650,889.89

MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND

MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND A/C 97B

Beginning Balance January 2022	\$ 152,255.94
Receipts	\$ 0
Withdrawals	
Transfer to operating account	(\$ 12,052.28)
Earnings/Loss	(\$ 20,682.67)
	<hr/>
Balance December 31, 2022	\$ 119,520.99

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT TENAFLY

NECROLOGY REPORT 2022

Date of Death

Name

04/28/2022

Patricia Nostrand

05/30/2022

Randy Michael Parmer

07/18/2022

Audrey Marshall

Psalm 48:14

“For this God is our God for ever and ever;

He will be our guide even to the end.”

OPERATING BUDGET FORECAST 2023 1-8-2023

ACCT #	A/C Items INCOME	Budget 2022	Actual 12/31/2022	Proposed 2023 Budget
901	Pledges	\$162,000.00	\$161,015.00	\$165,000.00
902	Pledges Prior Yr.	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,500.00
903	NonPledge Envl	\$7,000.00	\$13,429.00	\$8,000.00
904	Per Capita	\$3,000.00	\$3,048.00	\$4,000.00
905	Plate Collection	\$2,000.00	\$2,371.55	\$3,500.00
908	Other Ident. Giving	\$6,000.00	\$3,793.00	\$6,000.00
911	Flower Fund	\$1,500.00	\$2,115.00	\$2,250.00
913	Use of Facilities	\$7,500.00	\$5,300.00	\$5,500.00
920	Summer Music Program	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
915	Investment Income	\$125,000.00	\$125,000.00	\$125,000.00
916	Investment Income (2) (Parking Lot)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$61,900.00
961	Major Maintenance Fund	\$0.00	\$78,707.32	\$0.00
961a	Insurance Settlement	\$0.00	\$40,000.00	\$0.00
918	Special Purposes Fund	\$0.00	\$22,169.50	\$0.00
930	Carry Over Funds	\$53,649.15	\$53,649.15	\$48,689.85
	Sub Total	\$368,649.15	\$511,597.52	\$435,339.85
921	Rental Income	\$247,400.00	\$221,975.04	\$141,334.00
924	Music Endowment	\$2,000.00	\$3,286.00	\$16,500.00
925	Scholarship Endow.	\$0.00	\$1,650.00	\$0.00
927	Tech. (J.P. & Anon./RA memory gifts)	\$25,900.00	\$30,902.37	\$0.00
906	PCUSA Offerings	\$8,000.00	\$7,049.39	\$8,000.00
906A	CWS Mission	\$2,500.00	\$2,905.00	\$2,500.00
906B	Local Missions	\$2,000.00	\$4,175.00	\$2,000.00
909	Youth Ministries	\$1,000.00	\$20.00	\$1,000.00
	Sub Total	\$288,800.00	\$271,962.80	\$171,334.00
	TOTAL BUDGET INCOME	\$657,449.15	\$783,560.32	\$606,673.85
	TOTAL BUDGET EXPENSES	\$659,296.60	\$734,870.47	\$608,909.00
	NET BALANCE	-\$1,847.45	\$48,689.85	-\$2,235.15

OPERATING BUDGET FORECAST 2023

ACCT#	A/C Items	Budget 2022	Actual 12/31/2022	Proposed 2023 Budget
SESSION EXPENSES				
101	Pastor Salary	\$41,667.00	\$27,083.35	\$45,000.00
101B	Housing Allowance (bal. due cash)	\$50,000.00	\$18,910.70	\$4,036.00
101C	Soc. Sec./Medicare Offset	\$0.00	\$4,558.13	\$8,415.00
101D	Relocation Offset (* Foot Note Page)	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
102	Pension & Med. (2023-39%)	\$43,167.00	\$22,699.34	\$42,900.00
104	Professional Expenses	\$3,000.00	\$4,302.21	\$3,000.00
105	Continuing Ed.	\$1,800.00	\$1,049.78	\$1,800.00
111	Honorariums	\$5,000.00	\$7,249.63	\$1,800.00
	Sub Total	\$169,634.00	\$85,853.14	\$106,951.00
113	Sanctuary Supplies	\$2,500.00	\$4,116.47	\$2,800.00
114	Bulletins, Adver.	\$2,500.00	\$1,554.30	\$2,500.00
121	Choir Salaries	\$56,950.00	\$57,169.96	\$66,615.00
123&124	Music Supplies & Misc.	\$1,500.00	\$603.76	\$1,000.00
125	Instrumentalists	\$2,000.00	\$950.00	\$2,000.00
126&129	Piano & Organ	\$3,000.00	\$3,453.65	\$3,000.00
127	Band Salaries	\$28,550.00	\$28,518.77	\$29,700.00
128	Worship Technology Salary	\$6,500.00	\$10,850.00	\$7,800.00
	Sub Total	\$103,500.00	\$107,216.91	\$115,415.00
131	Adult Ed./Seminars	\$0.00	\$0.00	
132	Library	\$0.00	\$159.00	
136	Sr. Youth Ministry	\$0.00	\$289.76	
	Sub Total	\$1,000.00	\$448.76	\$500.00
150	Spiritual Life	\$0.00	\$167.86	
151	Congregational Life	\$0.00	\$1,766.82	
152	Church Growth	\$0.00	\$468.57	
	Sub Total	\$1,000.00	\$2,403.25	\$2,000.00
161	Church Picnic	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
162	Child Care	\$2,600.00	\$2,548.00	\$2,705.00
163	Receptions, Dinners	\$500.00	\$299.13	\$500.00
164	Misc. Group Activities	\$1,500.00	\$1,423.45	\$1,500.00
	Sub Total	\$4,800.00	\$4,270.58	\$4,905.00

OPERATING BUDGET FORECAST 2023

ACCT#	A/C Items EXPENSES	Budget 2022	Actual 12/31/2022	Proposed 2023 Budget
Session Expenses				
191	Per Capita	\$10,170.00	\$9,680.00	\$9,360.00
195	Session Expenses	\$7,500.00	\$35,766.35	\$5,500.00
198	Scholarship Awards	\$0.00	\$1,650.00	\$0.00
	Sub Total	\$17,670.00	\$47,096.35	\$14,860.00
Personnel Expenses				
201	Office Staff	\$39,139.00	\$39,288.96	\$40,860.00
203	Children's Ministry	\$34,518.60	\$34,518.60	\$35,900.00
205	Custodial Staff	\$52,900.00	\$55,094.54	\$57,718.00
209	Soc. Sec & Medicare	\$17,250.00	\$17,682.74	\$19,000.00
210A	Benefits 403(b)	\$4,000.00	\$3,999.96	\$4,000.00
210B	Medical Benefits	\$9,710.00	\$9,706.92	\$10,700.00
210C	Death & Disability	\$2,575.00	\$2,472.48	\$3,000.00
	Sub Total	\$160,092.60	\$162,764.20	\$171,178.00
	FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCTS	\$6,600.00	\$5,700.00	\$11,000.00
501	Project Exp. (Summer Music Program)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
700- 722	Church School Expenses	\$4,000.00	\$3,164.57	\$3,500.00
601	Sr. Youth Fund	\$500.00	\$122.69	\$500.00
TOTAL SESSION EXPENSES		\$468,796.60	\$419,040.45	\$435,809.00
MISSION DISRIBUTIONS				
181	PCUSA Missions	\$8,000.00	\$10,097.00	\$8,000.00
184	CWS Missions	\$3,000.00	\$3,305.00	\$3,000.00
185	Local Missions	\$2,500.00	\$480.00	\$2,500.00
186	Sr. Youth Outreach	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
	Total Mission Expenses	\$14,000.00	\$13,882.00	\$14,000.00
301	Stewards	\$400.00	\$288.85	\$400.00
401	Deacons	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

OPERATING BUDGET FORECAST 2023

ACCT#	A/C Items EXPENSES	Budget 2022	Actual 12/31/2022	Proposed 2023 Budget
BUILDING & GROUNDS EXPENSES				
Office Expenses				
211	Telephone	\$6,000.00	\$5,083.71	\$5,000.00
212	Office Supplies	\$2,500.00	\$2,516.78	\$3,000.00
213	Postage	\$4,000.00	\$2,993.86	\$4,000.00
214	Printer/Copier	\$7,500.00	\$7,526.54	\$8,000.00
217	Custodial Supplies	\$7,000.00	\$7,304.16	\$8,000.00
218	ADP Expense	\$2,300.00	\$2,482.57	\$2,800.00
219	Technology(Hardware & Software)	\$26,000.00	\$23,473.09	\$5,500.00
219a	Technology Licensing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,900.00
219b	Office Tech. Support	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Utilities				
221	Fuel - Gas	\$18,000.00	\$24,288.09	\$22,700.00
222	Electricity	\$20,000.00	\$16,750.11	\$16,400.00
223	Sewer Usage	\$1,000.00	\$959.27	\$1,000.00
224	Water	\$3,000.00	\$2,835.04	\$2,600.00
225	Manse Utilites	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,300.00
Building & Grounds Upkeep				
228	Contracts & Permits	\$4,000.00	\$5,095.50	\$5,000.00
229	Maint. & Repairs	\$10,000.00	\$13,165.60	\$12,500.00
230	Major Maint. Funding	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
231	Landscaping	\$15,000.00	\$15,450.14	\$15,000.00
232	Snow Removal	\$15,000.00	\$9,450.00	\$12,000.00
240	Major Maint.Expense Special Purpose Fund	\$0.00	\$84,994.00	\$0.00
245	Expense	\$0.00	\$22,169.50	\$0.00
240A	Storm Damage 2021	\$0.00	\$24,713.32	\$0.00
251	Office Furniture & Equip.	\$0.00	\$972.36	\$0.00
261	Insurance	\$27,500.00	\$21,461.30	\$29,000.00
279	Real Estate Tax	\$7,300.00	\$7,273.46	\$0.00
TOTAL TRUSTEE EXPENSES		\$176,100.00	\$300,958.40	\$158,700.00
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$659,296.60	\$734,169.70	\$608,909.00
NET ADJUSTMENTS (non-current year items)		\$0.00	\$700.77	\$0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES (including Adjustments)		\$659,296.60	\$734,870.47	\$608,909.00

FOOTNOTES

1 Relocation Offset obligation (Acct. 101D) per Terms of Call of \$25,000 currently deferred.

Memorial Garden	5000
Memorial Gifts Expense	-3690.77
Transfers Out	-6000
Transfers In	3990
Net adjustments	-700.77
	\$47,989.08