



Winnetka Congregational Church

May 31, 2015

ANNUAL MEETING

Table of Contents

Report of the Chair.....	Page 3
Annual Meeting Minutes, May 3, 2014.....	Page 4
An Update to the Bylaws.....	Page 5
MINISTRY GROUP REPORTS	
WORSHIP GROUP	
Liturgics.....	Page 6
Music.....	Page 6
Design and Environment.....	Page 7
NURTURE GROUP	
Care and Calling.....	Page 7
New Members.....	Page 7
Woman’s Society.....	Page 8
EDUCATION GROUP	
Children’s Ministries.....	Page 9
Confirmation.....	Page 10
Servants.....	Page 10
Adult Enrichment.....	Page 10
SUPPORT GROUP	
Buildings and Grounds.....	Page 11
Financial Management.....	Page 12
Personnel.....	Page 12
Annual Giving.....	Page 12
Planned Giving.....	Page 13
OUTREACH GROUP	
Mission Doing.....	Page 13
Interfaith/Ecumenical.....	Page 14
Mission Giving.....	Page 15
Centennial Loan Fund.....	Page 16
CLERK’S REPORT.....	Page 17
FINANCIAL REPORTS	
Budget Summary.....	Page 19
Budget Review and Analysis.....	Page 20
Statement of Condition.....	Page 21
Cumulative Investment Reserves (CIR) Report.....	Page 22
LAY MINISTRY.....	Page 23
ORGANIZATIONAL CHARTS.....	Back cover

2015 Annual Report of the Chair

May 31, 2015

This year has been one of considerable transition and planning as we move toward the selection of our new Senior Pastor who can help us build on our 2020 Vision to “grow WCC through Faith”. What has been particularly remarkable over this past year has been the level of commitment and engagement shown by the congregation. It has been rewarding to see members (and prospective members) step up and into gaps to strengthen the fabric of the church during this transitional period. Perhaps most remarkable is that our pledge commitment actually went up this year!

Senior Pastor Search: The Senior Pastor Search Committee (SPSC) was formed in March 2014 and became very active starting last summer after Joe retired. They have been tireless in their quest. First, they spent considerable time talking to all of us via surveys, small groups, and one-on-ones. This information was assimilated into a Senior Pastor search spec and a search consultant was hired to advise and help. They have made great progress to date and deserve our thanks, and our children’s for that matter as our next pastor will have as much effect on them as us.

In terms of next steps, once the SPSC has decided on a candidate they will work with our HR committee and Executive Committee to frame an offer, then seek Council approval and Congregation ratification at special meetings that the clerk will call. This could happen over the next few months.

2020 Vision: One year ago, under the auspices of the Strategic Planning Steering Committee we collectively approved our 2020 Vision, Mission, and Strategic Plan. We are activating it now with our words and deeds ranging from more engaged special fellowship events to broadened outreach projects, with our “Jesus Has Left the Sanctuary” events.

Transitions: We have welcomed Ben Bishop as our Interim Senior Pastor. We have embraced Sarah Walker Cleaveland as an Interim Associate, and now a fully-called and ordained Associate. We have celebrated Jenny Gleichauf’s pastorate and her move north, Mallory Moore’s two year internship and Char Lilliquist’s pending retirement. More somberly, we collectively shared in the loss of some revered church members.

Council and Leadership: This group has been especially committed and resourceful during the year, taking responsibility for and actively engaging in moving WCC ahead. Many, many thanks for your time and efforts.

In closing, I want to express our gratitude to our generous pastors: Rev. Ben Bishop, Rev. William Mueller, and Rev. Sarah Walker Cleaveland. Their guidance through this year of transition has been immeasurable. We are also grateful to Dr. Robert Harris and Elaine Clemens for the superb music that enhances our worship experience each and every week. We were also blessed with the gifts shared by Mallory Moore working with our Youth and Church School children. And thank you to our wonderful staff: Floy Schrage, Ray Koch, Mark Dudek, Doug Coulter, Charlotte Lilliquist and Waldek Ziolkowski who keep our church running smoothly and looking beautiful.

Thanks also to each of you for all the ways you have and continue to contribute to making WCC a “power in the service of God and Humanity”.

Brad L. McLane

Annual Meeting Minutes

WCC Congregational Meeting Minutes 5-3-2014 - Draft

The meeting was called to order by Chair Judy Archambault at 11:20 am. An opening prayer was offered by Rev. Jenny Gleichauf. A quorum of 77 people being present the meeting proceeded to the reports.

Treasurers Report – Treasurer Nick Schoewe presented a current status of the church's financial condition. Our current financial condition is good. A detailed report is included in the annual report. Nick was thanked by the chair for his outstanding service.

State of the Church – Senior Pastor Joseph Shank delivered a report on the status of the congregation and thanked the congregation and the lay leadership for their support.

Strategic Plan 2020 – Jeanne Ebersole presented the final version of the Strategic Plan 2020. The committee moved the plan be adopted. The motion carried on a voice vote without objection.

Senior Pastor Search Committee – Co-Chair Ken Guy reported on the progress of the search committee to date. Ken laid out plans and a prospective schedule. Co-chair Susan Gillette spoke on the need to be together in support during this time of searching for a new pastor.

Nominating Committee Report – Peter Egan moved to accept the recommendation of the committee (Egan/Guy). The motion was passed on a voice vote without objection. A list of the slate is attached.

The gavel was passed from outgoing chair Judy Archambault to Brad McLane and accepted by Jeanne Ebersole, incoming Vice Chair in his absence. Judy was acknowledged for her excellent leadership.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Rev. Bill Mueller and adjourned.

An Update to the Bylaws

Summary: The Centennial Loan Fund Committee (CLFC) has grown its principal balance substantially over the past decade. It has a balance that far exceeds the loan demand it currently receives from Christian churches in the Chicago area. The CLFC recommended to Council that \$100,000 of the funds be allocated for making outright grants to the same churches. The Council approved this in March. Today we seek Congregation approval to amend the WCC by-laws to allow this to happen.

Establishment: The Centennial Loan Fund Committee will allocate \$100,000 from the Centennial Loan Fund after May 31, 2015 to a companion Grant Fund (“CLF Grant Fund”). The Grants will be for Chicago-area Christian Churches, consistent with the precepts of the Loan Fund. The CLF Grant Fund is self-liquidating. The fund is limited to \$20,000 per year in grants over a maximum of five years with a sub-limit of \$5,000 per church over the life of the Grant Fund. The funds are to be granted on an annual timeline similar to other WCC grant programs, with the ability to distribute emergency (ad hoc) funds on an as needed basis.

Process: The CLF committee will solicit applications starting in March, deadline to submit in June, review applications July to October, make decisions in November, distribute funds in December. The CLF committee will have final authority on grants. Coordination with Mission Giving and Benevolence will occur throughout the process, specifically including after grant applications have been received so that WCC has one outward face to all potential recipients.

Next Steps: Amend the WCC Bylaws to allow the CLF Committee to provide grants to Christian Churches, and not just loans to Protestant Churches by way of two motions and two votes at the Annual Meeting.

(a) Motion: To amend the Mission of the CLF to add: “To establish a companion Grant Fund (“CLF Grant Fund”), which will be used to provide grants to Chicago-area Christian Churches for the purpose of altering, repairing, improving and extending physical facilities of such churches.”

(b) Motion: To amend Article II (General Powers and Authority) to provide: “(g) to allocate \$100,000 from the Centennial Loan Fund on May 18, 2015 to a companion Grant Fund (“CLF Grant Fund”). The Grants will be for Chicago-area Christian churches as determined by the Committee, and consistent with the purposes of the CLF mission. The CLF Grant Fund is self-liquidating. The fund is limited to \$20,000 per year in grants over a maximum of five years with a sub-limit of \$5,000 per church over the life of the Grant Fund. The funds are to be granted on an annual timeline similar to other WCC grant programs, with the ability to distribute emergency (ad hoc) funds on an as needed basis.

Worship Group

LeAnn Pope and Dinny Cosyns

The Worship Group is comprised of the Liturgics, Music, and Design and Environment committees. Working together, it is the responsibility of these committees to foster an environment that provides the central and centering experience of joyful, enriching, and spiritually uplifting worship for all members and visitors of WCC. Worship councilors have met with the pastors on an as-needed basis to ensure that the worship experience at WCC continues to be positive and uplifting.

We are blessed to have these dedicated and gifted committee members working with us in the Worship Group. We say good bye to several people as we will be welcoming new committee members in several posts next year.

LITURGICS

Tom Evans and Corinne Krebs

The Liturgics Committee is responsible for recruiting, organizing and training usher/host teams, greeters, lay readers, communion servers, and lay baptism participants. Additionally, the Liturgics team administers our Name Tag program which is intended to help us be a more nurturing, friendly congregation. This involves working with many members during the course of a program year. There are eight usher/host teams, about twenty-five greeters, three communion teams and a group of forty-five people who have volunteered to read scripture, by arrangement, from time to time. There are seven people on call to serve as lay baptism participants as needed. We are pleased to report that a number of new people have volunteered to participate in these opportunities this year. A number of members step forward when asked at a moment's notice to fill in when short of ushers/hosts and greeters. We are very grateful for these engaged members. These many services to WCC are crucial to our positive faith community worship experience. We extend heartfelt thanks to all those who have contributed their time and talents, and encourage those of you still searching for a "niche" to contact one of us so we can "select your spot" together. New this year, the ushers and greeters are working with Nurture/Membership to help identify first time attendees/visitors. They are also pointed out to the pastors for further welcoming.

Sadly, this past year saw the death of Jodie Stewart, a lifelong WCC member, choir member and co-chair of the Liturgics Committee. She is very much missed. Thanks to Corinne Krebs for her service this year.

MUSIC

Julie McConnell and Liz Butler

The music committee orchestrates our many and varied musical offerings as a part of Worship and, more broadly, for the community.

Under the leadership of our Director of Music, Dr. Robert Harris, and Director of Children's Music and Organist, Elaine

Clemens, WCC continues to be blessed with two talented and dedicated musicians.

The Chancel Choir, directed by choirmaster Dr. Harris performs an integral role in our worship services. The Choir's musical offerings comprise a diversity of musical styles and composers from the 16th century through the present day, thus providing our congregation with a variety of choral offerings. The Choir includes eight semi-professional singers, and Dr. Harris continues to recruit new members from our congregation to join the Chancel Choir.

We are fortunate to have a superb organist, Elaine Clemens, who plays with impressive range and musical initiative to complement the singers and contribute to the quality of worship each week.

Under Ms. Clemens' guidance, the Cherub Choir (JK- 2nd grade) and Alleluia Singers (3rd – 5th grade) sing in service once per month. Their contribution to service is truly a blessing as well as being a definite learning experience for the children involved. This past December, Ms. Clemens led the 99th Annual Christmas Pageant, a wonderful WCC tradition with a cast of 100+ children and youth. She also continues two newer musical ventures, the Bell Choir for high school youth and adults and the WCC singers, a contemporary singing ensemble for high school youth and adults, which now has more than twenty members.

Special concerts this year included Be Uplifted, a program of jazz and readings featuring jazz vocalist Tammy McCann and Father Michael Pfleger. All proceeds from the event benefited St. Sabina's Outreach Programs in Chicago. On Sunday, June 14, we will celebrate Music Sunday during our regular morning worship with a special presentation of Schubert's Mass in B-flat. As in the past, this service will include outstanding instrumentalists in the form of a small chamber orchestra. Finally, as part of the 98.7 WFMT radio Bach Project, Nathan Laube presented a wonderful organ recital at WCC on Saturday, September 27, 2014. The event took place from 10am to 2:30pm, with Nathan performing and talking about the music of Bach. WCC was honored to have been selected as one of ten organ recital venues in the Chicago area.

The WCC Music Committee strives to support our excellent musical leadership and bring a wide variety of choral and instrumental music to our church both during worship and in special musical presentations.

DESIGN & ENVIRONMENT

Liz Paul and Susan Davis

The D and E committee is responsible for the interior and exterior design elements that complement our worship experience. This includes the beautiful new Easter banners, designed with the help of Waldek Ziolkowski, to hang in the front of the sanctuary.

The Urns out in front continue to be planted by Edwards three times a year, fall, winter and spring. We continue to use Anton's florist in Evanston for our Easter and Christmas deliveries to decorate the church. Ingrid Anderson Grace continues to do an amazing job with the Sunday flower donors.

Heather Smith has been a huge help to our committee this past year. A special thanks to Tammy Ehlers, Susan Temple and Heidi Law for helping out with Easter and Christmas decorating. And we say good bye and thank you to Liz and Susan for their several years of dedication to Design and Environment.

Nurture Group

Teresa Anliker and Fred Gougler

CARE & CALLING

Co-Chairs: Nancy Phair, Sally Wille, Alice Kepler, Sue Bush-Wilcox, Mary Reynolds and Ann Walper

Pastoral Leadership: Bill Mueller

- The Care and Calling Ministry focuses on providing support and comfort for our church family and friends during times of need.
- Care and Calling has a group of church members who visit nearly 40 homebound church members and can be called upon to prepare and deliver meals.
- Bill Mueller set up a website called "Take Them a Meal" which allows WCC members to sign up to take meals to those who are ill or in need.
- Fred Gougler, on behalf of the Care & Calling Committee, regularly sends notes of friendship to church members and friends who have had surgery, an extended illness, or family loss.
- One of two social events was held on April 10, 2014. CC hosted the annual Spring Luncheon for the committee of callers and church staff. Held in the Centennial Room, approximately 16 people attended. The speaker was Brit Holmberg from the Samaritan Counseling Center. Bill Mueller arranged the contact.
- Care and Calling sponsored an Advent Prayer Vigil on December 3rd and a Lenten Prayer Vigil on February 18th in the Little Chapel..
- The second social event was the annual Poinsettia Party held December 2nd, 2014 at Sally and Tom Wille's home to celebrate the Christmas season, sign Christmas cards and take poinsettias to those members we call on. Callers were invited and it is a pot luck.
- After the Easter service, we deliver the chancel flowers to homebound members.
- In May we recognized our Long Term Church Members dur-

ing the church service. Those who have been members for 40 years or more were honored.

- Care and Calling asks for the responsiveness of the entire congregation in making sure that C&C becomes aware of anyone who is suffering and would benefit from the support of our ministry.

NEW MEMBERS

Co-Chairs: Elsa De Jaegher and Carrie Alt

Team Members: Jane Dowding, Susan Brewster, Jill Olson

Co-chairs Elsa De Jaegher and Carrie Alt met in the early summer of 2014 along with Jane Dowding to review the roles and action associated with the New Member Committee. The group discussed what was working well currently at WCC, where changes could be made and who would be on the committee moving forward. Elsa also shared the spreadsheet of visitor information that we had to date and broke these names into categories based upon each individuals or family readiness to join level.

We decided to stop using the pew pads due to some of the challenges associated with this practice (labor intensive to maintain/collect, inconsistent use and replacement of pads in the pews after a funeral/wedding service). Instead, we created a visitor's table in the Narthex where non-members attending the service could sign in, create a temporary nametag and pick up a brochure with some general information about WCC, upcoming new member orientations and join dates. The committee worked with Jenny Gleichauf to develop an Orientation/New Member Sunday schedule. The hope was if prospective members had this information up front they could plan/prioritize accordingly. Ushers and greeters were encouraged to direct new faces to the visitor sign-in table each Sunday where they could log their name, address, email address and phone number.

Elsa agreed to be the one from the committee to track this information and communicate with the rest of the committee and church staff to assure appropriate follow up with these individuals occurred. We chose to maintain a similar visitor follow-up protocol as last year, which included a home visit by a New Member Committee member within a few days of their visit to deliver a folder of information about WCC, a special treat (store bought cookies) and an invitation to visit again, answer questions, and gather any other information about the individual or family (email address, number of children, interests, etc.) If an email address was provided at sign-in, Ben Bishop would send a welcome note and if the family had children, Sarah Walker Cleaveland would reach out about the youth programs. Also William Mueller was requested to send an invitation to upcoming Adult Enrichment programs. Waldek Ziolkowski was also sent the email address to include them on the electronic distribution of the e-Messenger. Elsa also sent a personal email on behalf of the committee chairs to these individuals inviting them to have coffee, learn more about the church, ask questions, etc.

This church year, we had 14 adults join WCC. There were 3 joining dates: June 6, October 19 and February 22. Our committee was fully engaged preparing for these services: writing bios, ordering the cake for the welcome reception, creating nametags, passing out directories, ordering flowers, taking pictures to display in Tolman Hall and for the directory, introducing the new members during the service, and also assuring that one of our co-chairs was present at the orientation sessions prior to New Member Sunday.

As our committee looks forward to the coming year, we will continue with the visitor sign-in process as we feel it is working; however, we are asking for more support from the ushers/greeters/ministers to help us welcome and direct visitors to this sign-in table. We have also begun a “silent” mentor program— a member from the congregation who can support the engagement of new members by welcoming them and helping them find their niche within our church family.

We have defined two phases of new membership: The first phase occurs when someone or a family is considering membership and the second is immediately after joining the church. Activities that can support a potential new member during phase 1 include providing information about the church, making them feel welcome without pressuring, inviting them to attend activities that align with their interests. In phase 2, the emphasis is on engaging new members by inviting them to participate on a committee (perhaps one with limited time commitments at first such as fellowship, greeter, usher), join a spiritual life group and invite their children into the youth programs (servants, seekers, confirmation). Contact information on new members needs to be available to all committee chairs, and good communication amongst church leadership as to if/where new members are engaging is important.

Currently we hold an orientation session for prospective members. This is now being scheduled at a mutually agreed upon time between the ministers, committee chairs and prospective members. Until we have numbers large enough to warrant a monthly or every other month regularly scheduled session, we believe this is the way we need to continue to host these. We have talked about calling them information sessions vs orientation sessions and enhancing these with a video presentation about the church. The idea of creating a DVD with information (history, mission, outreach, opportunity, etc) has been discussed and is strongly supported by our committee and we see various ways this could be used throughout the church (youth education, new member sessions, etc).

Our committee has asked for administration assistance from the church staff in the form of helping us fill in demographic gaps for potential new members (email addresses, home address, phone numbers, # of children. etc), collecting information for the bios that are included in the church bulletin on new member Sunday, and some logistical support (example: send the email invitations and track RSVPs for orientation/information sessions)

Overall, we are pleased that in a time of transition for our church, we have been able to attract and engage new members. With the support of the church staff, congregation and the stability a full time minister will bring, we feel that we will continue to attract new people to WCC. We hope our committee’s focus on identifying, welcoming and engaging these individuals will continue to result in new membership for the church.

WOMAN’S SOCIETY

Eileen Baumgarten

The Woman’s Society continues in its mission to “foster opportunities for Christian fellowship and personal mission service among members and friends of the church.”

There are many highlights of the past year to include in this annual report. The board of the Woman’s Society consists of over 40 women who chair various committees and operations of the Woman’s Society. We meet monthly from September to May as a board to review programs and events of the month. Our membership has always included every woman member of the church, and we continue to encourage active participation of all in our activities.

Our mission outreach this year included a variety of projects from the providing of Cuisinart cookware to New Life Interim Housing at Good News Partners to the \$205,000 distributed from the Rummage Fund and Chicago Community Trust to over 40 Chicago charities. We have a Benevolence Committee that reviews all charities yearly and determines the amounts given to these charities. We are always so grateful to our dedicated Rummage Committee that works year round on the Spring and Fall Rummage Sales.

Other outreach activities include flower delivery after services on Sunday to people suggested by the staff, providing supper for the Maundy Thursday service, and sending condolence cards and get well cards to members (with beautiful photo cards made by Betty Carbol). One of the most important services provided by the Woman's Society is the hosting of Memorial Receptions for members who request a reception. Through the hard work and leadership of Fleury Linn, these receptions are lovely and a very valued service.

The Scholarship Committee was happy to award three seniors with \$1,000 scholarships last June. We hope to give two scholarships this year. These are funded by the bake sales we sponsor each year, and we really appreciate everyone's support.

We also maintain the Tyrell Library and dedicate a book each year in memory of all the women who have passed during the previous year.

To continue to provide opportunities for fellowship among the women of WCC, the WS hosts programs and luncheons

from October to May. This year we heard from a director of Concordia Place in Chicago, a presentation of "Mollie's War" about a WWII WAC presented by her daughter, Christmas caroling in the sanctuary, and a spellbinding story of Lincoln's Watch. These programs were followed by a catered luncheon in Tolman Hall. The programs are always interesting and the fellowship is friendly and a wonderful way to spend a few hours each month. We always hope for more people to take the time to join us for these luncheons.

We have noticed a slight uptick in donations to our group this year, and we are very grateful as that is the sole way we fund the things we do. To save money this year, we decided to print our Board of Directors and Program in the last pages of the church directory rather than print our own directory. Please take note of these pages at the back of your directory.

A special thank you and blessings to all who support our group and to all who serve on our committees.

Education Group

Anne Kelly and Bill Hayes

The WCC Christian Education program aims to meet the spiritual development needs of a broad span of church members, from Pre-K through Adult Enrichment. Thanks in part to 2020 action planning steps, a pastoral leadership transition for Children and Youth Education, and continued focus on Adult Enrichment, the overall program benefits from ongoing review, reflection, and enactment according to emerging needs and interests of the congregation.

This year, Children and Youth Education transitioned pastoral leadership from Jenny Gleichauf to Sarah Walker Cleaveland, assisted by many involved parents as well as a committee of nine church members, including two members of WCC's Servants group to ensure student voice in decision-making. This group met monthly and served as a planning and decision-making resource for Pre-K to grade 12 programming. Members included Teresa Anliker, Elizabeth Dziersk, Lisa Funke, Anne Kelly, Kate Laible, Theresa Law, Richard Santi, Eliza Tilson, and Sarah Woodburn. In addition, the hours of Youth Director Mallory Moore were increased from fifteen to twenty-five hours to help facilitate an orderly transition of youth programming responsibilities in 2015.

On the Adult side,...

Highlights of the year according to age group follow:

PRE-K - 6TH GRADE SUNDAY SCHOOL continued to structure classes in 2-year groupings (Pre-K/K, 1/2, 3/4, 5/6) to deliver WCC- appropriate curriculum and balance attendance among an average of 30-35 attendees. The overall theme for this year's Church School was Faith on the Move, mirroring that of Worship. The Church School program is built around the efforts of fifteen adult members of the church who volunteer to teach the Sunday classes and this group would welcome additional help. Over the year, Pastor Sarah Walker Cleaveland oversaw the paid nursery staff as well as the coordination of Church School, including purchase of materials, classroom set-up, and communication with volunteer teachers and assistants. In January, Servant Caroline Kelly took over the teaching of the JK/SK class from Pastor Sarah

and was assisted by Kris Kelly for the remainder of the year.

In addition to curriculum development work over the summer by a dedicated group of experienced Church School teachers, the Children and Youth committee reviewed the scope of the curriculum to ensure coherence and development through the grades. This process led to better understanding of children's learning goals, evaluation of five new curricula identified by Pastor Walker Cleaveland, and a decision to purchase and implement the Dwell curriculum for the upcoming year. The 5th and 6th grade monthly Seekers program continued to attract increasing numbers of participants, with attendance ranging from 15- 25 children. Managing relationship and faith building with a high level of attendance continues to be challenging and the pastoral staff worked diligently to enlist

increased numbers of committed church members to support their efforts with this age group. They also experimented with the timing and format of Seekers gatherings in order to optimize the experience of those involved.

In addition to these regular programs, several special events involved children of the church. The Christmas Gift Fair, organized by Shelli Brown, Betsy Lewis, Lisa Funke, and KC Simon, provided an opportunity for 50-60 children to make gifts for their families. The 99th annual Christmas pageant, lead by Elaine Clemens, involved roughly 100 participants, aged JK through grade 12. On January 9th, the Children and Youth Committee organized a family movie night to promote fellowship among families with Church School-aged children. Beginning in March, Church School children helped collect change and coins in tin buckets for the monthly Noisy Offering during worship to purchase milk for St. Sabina's food pantry and experienced mission giving themselves. May 10th will be Children's Sunday, an event we have held for five years, during which WCC honors Church School teachers and participates in worship led by the 5th and 6th grade students as well as the youth choirs.

CONFIRMATION involved 12 eighth graders and 22 seventh graders this year. Pastor Jenny Gleichauf and Youth Director Mallory Moore coordinated and oversaw the various activities as well as taught classes for the 8th grade Confirmands, and Pastor Walker Cleaveland taught the 7th graders. In addition, parent leaders Theresa Law, Chuck Lawless, and Carrie Alt helped facilitate small group sessions for the large 7th grade class while 8th grade was taught as a whole group. Meetings/classes were held six Sunday nights in the fall and another six Sunday nights in the winter. The curriculum continued largely unchanged from the past: 7th graders studied the Old Testament in the fall and the New Testament in the winter, while 8th graders studied Theology and Spiritual Disciplines over the year. Meeting on Sunday evenings with dinner first continued to yield good attendance. Program requirements continued to include participation in classes and retreats; worship attendance at both WCC and at alternative sites; as well as service hours at both WCC organized opportunities like the Night Ministry or other community projects of interest to Confirmands and mentors. In addition, parents planned and led monthly fellowship events for the Confirmands.

Special events for this age group included three "Family Nights," organized to include parents and siblings for a potluck dinner. While Confirmands attended class, parents met with a pastor and siblings spent the time with hired high schoolers in Alsdorf. Once again, families actively participated in these well-received evenings. Instead of a fall retreat, a Friday "late night" was held with a theme of prayer. On April 25th, eighth grade Confirmands and their mentors participated in a spring retreat. In lieu of a spring retreat, each seventh grader met individually with Pastor Walker

Cleaveland and the last meeting for both classes was May 3rd. The program year culminated with Confirmation during worship on Sunday, May 17th, with Council hearing faith statements on May 12th.

Servants' participation level ranged from 10-20 students most weeks and was overseen by Mallory Moore. Servant meetings continued to take place on Sundays from 4:30-6:00 pm and included discussion, fellowship, fun outings, and service opportunities. This fall, Mallory coordinated a monthly worship pilot for both Servants and Confirmands from 5:30-6:15 pm as a way to introduce a new worship experience to these age groups. Once again Servants handled the administration and coordination of the congregation's annual Wish Tree event. The annual spring mission trip (the eighth trip) to the Dominican Republic attracted 18 students and 7 adult participants, including Mallory, Pastor Sarah Walker Cleaveland, church members Katie and Andrew Shook, and Garrett seminary students. As part of the pastoral leadership transition, Servant parents stepped up and took over organization of critical elements like the Servants Auction in March (Susan Snyder and Susan Temple), and the Fiesta del Sol feast (Heather Crimmins). Trip participants planned and led Youth Sunday worship and thanked the entire congregation for its generosity at the Fiesta del Sol celebration on April 19th. Self-funded through Servant-led fundraisers beginning in the fall and continuing until just before the trip, the trip remains a significant focus of WCC's volunteer mission doing and giving activities for this age group.

Finally, WCC will recognize Mallory Moore for her efforts in leading the youth of our church in grades 6-12 these past two years during worship on May 31st.

ADULT ENRICHMENT

Not Just for Breakfast and Adults Anymore!

Rev. William A. Mueller, Pastoral Liaison

Adult Enrichment includes both weekly Sunday morning sessions as well as other seasonal and special and FOCUS (Focus On Community UnderStanding) offerings. We endeavor to provide weekly Sunday morning programs, as well as to augment other ministries and populations in the church and community, and to learn from and work with each other to further God's realm on earth as it is in heaven.

This past 2014-15 program year, Sunday mornings continued the popular format of beginning in the Centennial Room with Fellowship and Refreshments at 8:45, immediately followed by Program at 9:00 which typically includes both audiovisual and/or other presentations followed by conversation.

Fall/Winter Quarters 2014-15 included:

• ***Sunday mornings included:***

- 5-week Animate DVD series on the Bible, centering on Canon, History, Testaments, Gospels, and Interpretation

- 10-week DVD series on Experiencing the Bible Again for the First Time, presented by the late Marcus Borg
- 2-week FOCUS series on Immigration, presented by students and faculty of Loyola University Chicago: Graduate School of Social Work. We are thankful to Kitty Moeller for her devotion and inspiration in this growing concern.
- Three-week Advent series on the history and liturgical season presented by Rev. Ben Bishop; and its seasonal music, presented by Peter Cosyns

It is further noted that many of the above programs are facilitated by Adult Enrichment leaders, including our Dinny Cosyns and Linda Davis

• Wednesday evenings:

- Fr. Michael Pflieger and St. Sabina Social Service team presented on October 1 on FOCUS topic of Poverty. This gathering included WCC members as well as the wider community. Our friendship with St. Sabina continues and has rippled into worship and mission as noted by recent Church School Noisy Offerings Dairy Drive and Spiritual Life Group Jazz Concert Benefit for Social Service Outreach in the Auburn Gresham community of Chicago
- Fred Gougler facilitated a 3-week spirituality series on Henri Nouwen's classic book *Reaching Out: The Three Movements of the Spiritual Life*. The Spirit gathered 20 participants each week, including men and women
- Dr. Thomas Mockaitis presented 3-week FOCUS series in November on FOCUS topic of Current events in the Middle East and Around the World. These gatherings included WCC members as well as the wider community

Spring Quarter 2015 included:

• Sunday mornings:

- 3-week DVD Discovery Channel series on *Who Was Jesus?: Childhood, The Mission, and The Last Days*
- 5-week DVD Lenten series on Embracing Forgiveness:

What It Is and What It Isn't

- 4-week series on Cursor and Blessing: Technology, Social Media, and the Church:

Week 1: Panel discussion led by laity, Mel Schwartz, Pete McNerney, Education Councilor Bill Hayes, and this pastoral liaison on centuries of technology

Week 2: Panel discussion led by Servants, Richard Santi and Eliza Tilson

Week 3: Presentation by Dr. Brent Waters, Professor of Social Ethics at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

Week 4: Presentation on technology and the church facilitated by this pastoral liaison

- FOCUS presentation by the Rev. Dan McNerney of Presbyterian Frontier Fellowship on the topic of Christians and Muslims. It was enthusiastically favored that we invite Rev. McNerney to return shortly.

It is further noted that many of the above programs are facilitated by Adult Enrichment leaders, including Dinny Cosyns and Linda Davis

• Wednesday evenings:

- We celebrated the eve of Abraham Lincoln's birthday on February 11 by viewing and discussing the PBS Ken Burns program on *The Address*
- By popular demand, we returned 3-week Lenten Movie Nights, followed by conversation, on *Amazing Grace*, *12 Years A Slave*, and *Philomena*. We plan to present movies occasionally throughout the year, as soon as Wednesday, May 20, when we view and discuss Calvary, suggested and facilitated by our Connie Casey
- FOCUS presentation welcomed the return of the Rev. Dan McNerney to further the conversation on the topic of Christians and Muslims, and how we might become acquainted and work with each other. This gathering included WCC members as well as the wider community

Support Group

Harry Grace and Lyn McKay

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Chuck Dowding and Bob Ebersole

- 1) Worked with Floy Schrage to mitigate concern over lack of bicycle parking by purchasing an inexpensive, lightweight, storable stand for use during the summer. Will it be found after its winter hibernation?
- 2) Worked with Dave Carbol and Floy Schrage to improve drainage in the east Church Yard by providing drainage ways

through the urn walls.

- 3) Investigated with Dave Carbol adding ramps to the in the circular sidewalk to the front ramp. This modification may not be possible and still meet code.
- 4) Investigated with Dave Carbol modifying the ramp to the north entrance to improve its user friendliness. No progress has been made on this project.
- 5) Developing a plan for re-carpeting on a sectional basis, beginning this calendar year.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

David Woodburn, Bill Sholten

The Financial Management Committee (FMC) met throughout 2014 continuing the review and management of the Cumulative Investment Reserves (CIR): essentially, WCC's endowment fund. Portfolio rebalancing was completed quarterly as stipulated in the Investment Policy Statement (IPS) adopted in 2006. Our meeting agenda material and the IPS are available for viewing via the Church Office. Through the use of Vanguard index funds, we have kept portfolio costs to less than 0.2%. 2014 performance was +6.79% with an asset allocation of 70% stocks, 25% bonds and 5% cash.

PERSONNEL

Janet Van Zuiden, Peter Egan and Steve Huels

This past year has been very eventful regarding personnel at WCC. We saw the departure of Joe Shank and Jenny Gleichauf, both long-serving pastors, and the arrival of Rev. Ben Bishop as Interim Senior Pastor.

Sarah Walker Cleaveland joined us in the fall as our Director of Youth Ministry and Sunday School teacher for Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten. With Jenny's departure at the end of January, Sarah was appointed to the role of Acting Associate Pastor. In this role, she has taken on most of Jenny's responsibilities. In March, Sarah was ordained as a minister in the Presbyterian Church, USA. She is an excellent addition to our pastoral team.

In July, Rev. Bishop started his interim senior pastor ministry with us. We have benefitted from Ben's guidance and experience, and he has laid a solid foundation for the new senior to build upon.

Mallory Moore, our Director of Youth Ministry, will leave us at the end of May. Mallory recently graduated from Garrett Theological Seminary and has accepted a position as Chaplain for Youth Ministry at United Methodist Campus Ministries in Bloomington. Mallory took on more responsibilities with Jenny's departure and has done a wonderful job. In April, she led a very successful Servants Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic.

Char Lillquist, Assistant to the Pastors, announced her retirement in April. She will be with us through the end of June. She has been a key part of the staff since 2010 and a wonderful resource to the congregation. We will hire temporary coverage for Char's position until the arrival of the new senior pastor.

We want to recognize Rev. Bill Mueller, Dr. Robert Harris, and Elaine Clemens for all they have done this year to keep things running smoothly during this time of transition. They have worked closely with Rev. Bishop to guide and shape our Sunday Worship Services, creating continuity with our past as we transition to our future.

We continue to work closely with Floy Schrage, Business/Facilities Manager, on the monitoring of all personnel-related budget items. As personnel expense continues to be the largest portion of our annual budget, this is a continuous process. Finally, we are supporting the Senior Pastor Search Committee as they work to identify and call our next senior pastor. We are also working with Pastor Sarah to staff the Director of Youth position. Our intention is to make this a full time position, increasing our resources devoted to this important area of our mission.

ANNUAL GIVING

Steve Huels, Sharon King, Christy Shellenbarger

We had a very successful 2015 pledge drive. To date, we have received 232 pledges totaling \$966,000. That's \$4,000 better than last year at this point. It's also \$16,000 better than the 2015 budget amount for pledged contributions. The total number of pledges is up by 23 from last year, including 45 new pledges. It is a strong testament to the strength of the congregation to see increases the number of pledges and the amount of pledges during this period of transition.

This year's campaign benefitted by motivating testimonials and articles by Bob Knight, Kelly Anderson, Mike Meiners and Brad McLane. After the testimonials, all communication was done with members directly through letters, emails and phone calls. Most members responded quickly to the invitation to pledge. We sent personalized, handwritten Thank You cards to every pledging member/family, emphasizing the importance of pledges to WCC and expressing appreciation for support of the Church and its mission.

We continue to seek a balanced approach that keeps the congregation informed about the importance and mechanics of pledging and the importance to the health of our church. Your feedback is always appreciated.

Summary of 2015 pledges to date:

1. 111; were the same in 2014
2. 36 have decreased from 2014
3. 40 have increased over their 2014 pledge
4. 45 new pledges in 2015
5. 21 pledges from 2014 have stopped because of moves, deaths, etc.

Summary of current pledge distributions:

Pledge Contribution	# Pledges	\$ Value	% of \$ Value	% of Pledges
\$10,000 or more	20	491,275	51%	9%
\$5,000 to \$9,999	27	159,300	16%	12%
\$3,000 to \$4,999	45	157,670	16%	19%
\$1,000 to 2,999	85	137,890	14%	37%
Less than \$1,000	55	20,290	2%	24%
Totals	232	966,425	100%	100%

The distribution of pledges improved slightly over 2014. WCC is blessed by the generosity of a few members that provide over half of the pledged contributions. As a con-

gregation, our long term health will depend upon increasing contributions from more of the membership.

Annual Giving Committee: Christy Shellenbarger, Sharon King and Steve Huels

PLANNED GIVING

Clyde McGregor and Paul Van Zuiden

WCC has committed to a vision for the future that builds upon the great legacy of past and current generations. Planned Giving supports that vision financially through gifts from WCC members as provided in their wills, trusts and other estate planning documents. We help congregation members understand the importance of planned gifts and the planned giving options that are available. Congregation members who name WCC in their estate plans become members of the WCC Covenant Society.

Our initial long-term goal is to build total investment reserves

to four to five times core operating expenses, but as those core expenses grow, so too must our investment reserves. Beyond that financial security goal, incremental gifts will enable us to better serve our own faith community and the broader community, which has long been WCC's legacy.

To heighten the awareness and importance of Planned Giving, our committee focuses on communication. We provide bi-annual information in *The Messenger*, make annual presentations from the pulpit, hold semi-annual Covenant Society luncheons and have one-on-one meetings with congregation members as they contemplate their estate planning. We will also be upgrading the Planned Giving portion of WCC's website and touching base periodically with Covenant Society members to get their feedback and guidance.

If congregation members would like more information about WCC's Planned Giving Program, they should contact one of the Co-Chairs.

Outreach Group

Xerxes Bhote and Mike Jakob

MISSION DOING

Laurie Morse and Patti Van Cleave

The role of the Mission Doing Committee is to facilitate opportunities to connect the skills and resources of our congregation through active ministry and outreach to those with the greatest needs in our community and the greater world. Over the past year, the Mission Doing fellowship members have coordinated a number of opportunities enabling WCC members and families to make a difference through hands-on ministry

A Just Harvest – (formerly Good News Community Kitchen) Good News Community Church (GNCC) - In addition to providing a financial contribution to A Just Harvest (Mission Giving committee), WCC continues to be a hands-on mission partner:

a. WCC continued to purchase, prepare and serve dinners to 175 plus people the first Monday of each month at A Just Harvest in Rogers Park. Bob & Jeanne Ebersole purchase and deliver the food and Laurie Morse coordinates the four volunteers needed on a monthly basis and would like to source a new chair for this activity.

b. Wish Tree – Many families participated in buying gifts and fulfilling Christmas wishes for approximately 300 children. In addition, 30-40 church members helped to deliver the gifts for these children and their families providing refreshments and crafts for all.

c. Backpack / school supply drive – School supplies were purchased for GNCC Church School youth again this year using money from the Mission Doing budget and donations. The backpacks were delivered directly to GNCC to hand out 12

at the end of their one-week bible school program. This event was ably led by our now departed Pastor Jenny Gleichauf and will be evaluated for future participation by WCC.

Mission Trip – Eighteen of our Servants high school youth group completed a spring break mission trip, returning to the Dominican Republic. Mallory Moore, Director for Youth, and Sarah Walker Cleveland, Acting Associate Pastor, led the trip and recruited a number of new chaperones this year. The chaperones were impressed with the cohesiveness of our youth group and their dedication to the work completed. Further, the congregation was very generous in their support of the trip, allowing us to raise almost \$25,000 in support required of the trip.

Family Promise – Our relationship with Family Promise Chicago North Shore, an interfaith social service agency to provide help to families in homeless situations, continued the past year. The network now comprises 21 host and 7 support congregations in the North Shore who are committed to host families in homeless situations in their facilities for a week at a time. WCC has provided facility, meals and volunteers to host 3-4 families in our church for 1 week at a time on 3 separate occasions over the course of last year. Our coordinators this year included Jeanne Ebersole, Meg Hayes, Jen Lawless who dedicated much time to wonderfully support this mission. Although, this initiative continues to be an excellent opportunity for "Hands-on" mission work for WCC members of all ages right in our WCC facilities, we continue to struggle to fill the volunteer resources and would welcome anyone interested in participating in this very rewarding mission. Congregation member Brek Peterson, continued his support of Family Promise as a member of their Board this year as well.

A Concerted Ministry – soliciting for donations for the NTT Food Pantry on the first Sunday of each month. We provide donated canned goods, paper goods as well as 50-60 pounds of fresh fruit and vegetables, largely purchased by the Mission Doing coordinators. An addition beginning in March is our Noisy Offering, asking congregation to throw coins or bills into metal pails to provide dairy products for St. Sabina's Ministries. In the two months that we have done the Noisy Offering, we have raised about \$500 each month.

Jesus Has Left the Sanctuary – The second annual Jesus Has Left the Sanctuary (JHLS) event was held on November 16, 2014 with a focus on renewing our energy for all church Mission Doing activities. The day featured a wide variety of activities geared toward a wide variety of ages. The overall event was captained by Mission Doing Co-Chairs Laurie Morse and Patti Van Cleave.

a. HOC/Rummage-- Captains, Brian Homans and Dennis Wellington. The volunteer group painted hallways, one stairway, and the rummage sorting room at Harkness Outreach Center. HOC Board members stopped by during the project, and afterwards sent thanks for the very high quality job that was done. HOC was very pleased with the project, and have asked to partner again with our church painters!

b. Letters to Armed Forces - Captains, Ray and Susan Gillette. US Armed Forces members were written over 100 holiday notes and thank you letters and sent care of "A Million Thanks" agency.

c. Card Making for Care and Calling - Tom Evans captained this project with the able help of Betty Carbol.

Our Sunday School provided most of the materials. This was a family-centered project, and more than 50 cards were made.

d. A Just Harvest Lunches - Pastor Jenny Gleichauf was the captain on the day. The lunches contained a meat and cheese sandwich, fruit (banana), a sweet (fruit snack), and a granola snack, plus the brown bags. This was a busy assembly line, and with many hands, over 200 lunches were made within 30 minutes!

e. Night Ministry Stockings - Carrie Alt was captain. The church asked for donations for the list to be included in the stocking, and people were very generous. Over 50 Christmas Stockings were made and delivered to The Night Ministry.

f. Thanksgiving Gift Baskets - Fleury Linn and Lois-Eve Anderson were team captains. WCC provided a 25 beautifully decorated and sealed Thanksgiving baskets to clients of the New Trier Food Pantry. The baskets had useful and seasonal items included, as well as a \$10 gift card for purchasing groceries or toiletries.

g. Fleece no-sew hats - Christy Shellenbarger and Elaine Clemens captained. There were about 50 hats made that were delivered to A Just Harvest, and one hat was put in each coat pocket for the coat project already underway at the soup kitchen.

h. Asian Youth Services - Elsa De Jaegher captained. Volunteers visited this non-profit on the north side and spent four hours assisting with organizational tasks.

i. A Just Harvest Painting & Cleaning Project - Mike Jakob captained. A group of ten adults and teenagers spent 4-5 hours at the A Just Harvest facility in Rogers Park helping clean and renew several areas, including: shampooing the office carpets, painting and cleaning a vacant back room to prepare it for an after-school study program, and cleaning and organizing in the kitchen and dining room areas.

WINNETKA INTERFAITH COUNCIL

Junia Hedberg, Pat and Bob Hastings

The Mission of the Winnetka Interfaith Council (WIC) is to bring together diverse faith entities to encourage interfaith communication for the enlightenment of all, share programs and other activities of common interests, encourage on-going relationships among clergy and laity, and work together in service to area communities. WIC met five times this year in various faith communities in Winnetka and neighboring communities. WIC members currently are: Baha'i Community, Christ Episcopal, Church of the Holy Comforter, Congregation Hakafa, First Church of Christ Scientist, Muslim Community Center of Morton Grove, Saints Faith, Hope and Charity Catholic Church, Saint Philip the Apostle Church, Samaritan Counseling Center, Temple Jeremiah, Winnetka Congregational Church, Winnetka Covenant Church, Winnetka Presbyterian Church.

At each meeting of the WIC, a representative of the host congregation discusses that faith and the nature and activities of the congregation, and leads us in prayer. If the meeting is hosted by a faith based member organization like the Samaritan Counseling Center, a representative describes their activities. We normally also hear from a representative of an area social service organization, or we hear a more detailed discussion of a particular faith.

Several committees also support the work of the WIC (deletion) – Thanksgiving, Special Needs, and Interfaith Understanding. This year the Special Needs committee has facilitated congregations' participation in providing fresh produce and other foods for the New Trier Pantry, which WCC collects at each month's Communion Service. The Interfaith Understanding committee will host a forum on June 2, 2015 at Temple Jeremiah, titled: *Our Spiritual Progress in a World of Misunderstanding: What Do the Sacred Texts Teach?* Another highly successful WCC Thanksgiving service is expected in the fall, possibly again in conjunction with the similar Wilmette organization.

Thanks to the Internet and other information sharing, we are able to publicize other congregations' special activities, as well as our own. For example, WCC has distributed through the WIC information regarding the Afternoon of Jazz and Readings on Sunday, April 12th, 2015 at 4:00pm in the WCC Sanctuary Featuring Jazz Vocalist Tammy McCann and Reader Father Michael Pflieger of St Sabina.

A new WIC website is nearly complete. It is hoped that WCC and other WIC members will link to that website and vice versa to increase interfaith understanding and dialogue.

MISSION GIVING

Sue Wellington and Susan Snyder

Committee Members: Joanne Baker, Elsa De Jaegher, Ray Gillette, Bill Mueller (pastor), Bill Sholten, Patti Van Cleave, Anne West and Shari Felty

Mission: MGC funds programs that provide creative solutions in addressing basic human needs: education, food, job training, clothing, shelter, health, basic human rights. We focus on: Chicago metro area, small (<\$1mm in revenues). In 2014 we gave 28 grants ranging from \$2000 to \$11,000. Total amount given in 2014 was \$118,000. Funds are sourced from pledges and sharing of Chicago Charitable Trust Fund with Benevolence. Applications for 2015 funding are due June 1st. Funds will be allocated in December 2015. The agencies receiving funding in 2014 were as follows:

FOOD:

A Just Harvest

A Just Harvest is one of the few places in metropolitan Chicago where hungry persons can go any day of the year to receive a free, hot nutritious meal. A Just Harvest places no restrictions on the geographical location of its patrons or their level of income. This agency receives our largest grant, \$11,000.

Common Pantry

Common Pantry is dedicated to providing emergency food and social services to our neighbors in need on Chicago's North Side while addressing the root causes of food insecurity and poverty.

Holy Sanctuary Community Church/Greater Rose Hill Outreach

We help support a weekly free lunch program open to anyone in the community. Over 300 meals are served weekly.

Hope Community Outreach

Hope Community Outreach: A free weekly meal provides through volunteers at the Hope Community Church in the Austin neighborhood. Provides nourishment to the needy and provides opportunity for Christian fellowship.

Hunger Resource

Aid in the alleviation of hunger by helping meet the needs of food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters.

Meals at Home

This organization fosters health and contributes to individual well-being and independence by delivering nutritious meals, medically prescribed diets, and providing other supportive services to the homebound, elderly, disabled and others temporarily unable to care for their nutritional needs.

Star of David Ministries

House of David Outreach Ministry provides food, clothing and basic necessities for the poor, unemployed, underserved and homeless individuals in the West Division / Central Ave. neighborhood of Chicago.

Uptown Baptist Church

The goal of the church's Monday Fellowship Dinner is to feed the hungry and provide spiritual support. With the help of volunteers, the ministry provides a healthy meal to the needy each Monday night.

JOB TRAINING:

Career Resource Center

CRC is a re-employment resource that empowers and helps job seekers navigate the job search process.

Streetwise

Streetwise helps the homeless by providing an array of social services and by publishing a weekly magazine that is bought wholesale by its client vendors and resold at a profit. The model combines the opportunity for gainful self-employment with supportive services to assist the vendors on the road to financial self-sufficiency

JUSTICE:

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates)

CASA provides trained advocates for children who are wards of the state due to neglect and abuse. The advocates receive intensive training and are appointed by the court to represent the child.

EDUCATION:

Dorothy Stang High School

Dorothy Stang Popular Education Adult High School is the only bilingual high school completion program serving Latino adults, ages 25 or older, in the Midwest. Graduates of the program receive a state-certified high school diploma through Aspira Inc. of Illinois or Josephinum Prep School—both accredited Illinois high schools.

Lakeview Academy

Lakeview Academy is a small, diverse, private alternative high school which offers a high-quality state-recognized diploma program for students who have "fallen through the cracks" in other high schools.

Literature for All of Us

This organization's goal is to engage adolescent girls and teenage mothers in book groups in order to help young women free their imaginations explore their strengths and build their self-esteem.

Sembrando El Futuro

Serving West Humboldt Park, Sembrando provides a safe place for children to come to do homework, get tutoring and have fun.

Third Unitarian Church

Serving the Austin neighborhood, the church offers \$500 scholarships to qualifying college-bound high-school seniors.

Madonna Mission

Provides education and resettlement support programs for refugee individuals and families. The agency is located in Rogers Park.

SHELTER/CLOTHING:

Evanston School Children

Evanston School Children's Clothing Association (ESCCA) provides school clothing for all Evanston/Skokie District 65 K-8th grade school children in need. Each year we provide a full wardrobe of clothing and shoes to 500-600 children. Our clothing assistance services are performed efficiently and discreetly and always keep the dignity of the families in mind.

Family Promise

Family Promise Chicago North Shore provides families with young children who are homeless, or at risk for becoming

homeless, with a supported pathway to self-sufficiency. By providing both day and night time havens, nutritious meals, transportation, and social services to address issues that may have contributed to the situation, Family Promise gives parents a chance to focus on finding employment and provides guidance to create a plan to return to permanent housing. Winnetka Congregational Church three times a year houses families in this program at our church.

Housing Opportunity Development Corp.

HODC's mission is to expand the stock of fair housing that is affordable to low- and moderate-income households throughout the northern suburbs. It purchases, develops and rehabs rental and owner-occupied affordable housing units on its own and through joint ventures with other housing developers.

Interfaith Housing Center/Open Communities

The Interfaith Housing Center advocates for fair and affordable housing. It serves individuals facing housing discrimination, foreclosure and other housing issues. It also provides education and advocacy for fair and affordable housing. We are a member congregation.

Sharing Connections

brings together community members by enabling families and businesses to share their gently used furniture and household items with families needing assistance. This is a unique opportunity for the community to directly make an impact by passing on something they no longer need to make a difference in the life of a family.

HEALTH:

Haven Youth and Family Services

Haven helps youth and families in crisis by offering 24-hour crisis intervention and emergency housing for adolescents, as well specialized programs on crisis prevention and intervention.

Fenix

Provides accessible low cost walk-in health care.

Samaritan Counseling Center

SCC provides a unique kind of psychotherapy that incorporates faith and spirituality in its counseling.

COMBINATION SERVICES:

Asian Youth Services

Provides after school tutoring and a safe haven for youth.

United Church of Rogers Park

The church provides an after-school program that provides a safe environment with activities and enrichment programs for children in the neighborhood.

New Life Baptist Church

New Life Baptist Church serves the homeless, needy, ex-offenders and troubled individuals.

CENTENNIAL LOAN FUND

Barbara Malmquist, Chris Ball and John Tilson

The Centennial Loan Fund was established in 1974, WCC's centennial year, to create a perpetual and revolving loan fund to benefit Protestant churches in Chicago and suburbs. Loan applications and supporting financials from churches seeking funds for capital improvements to church property or to finance church-related programs necessary to the existence

or growth of such churches are reviewed by CLF committee members followed by on-site inspections. Approved loans are typically made for a five year time period at low interest rates, secured by a mortgage note on the property. Currently, the Fund has five loans outstanding. One to Peoples Church at 941 W. Lawrence, in Uptown, with a balance due of \$9,011; a second to Ravenswood Presbyterian Church, 4300 N. Hermitage Ave., Chicago, with a balance due of \$980, a third, to New Life Baptist Church, 11026 S. Indiana Ave., Chicago, with an outstanding balance of \$37,454 which includes the 1/8/2015 extension of additional financing of \$25,580 for facility repairs and improvements. A fourth loan was extended on 7/9/2014 to 1st Congregational Church of Downers Grove with the current balance of \$33,607 to be used for facility repairs and improvements. A new loan to 1st Progressive Church, 7259 S Wabash Ave, Chicago IL was extended on 3/31/2015 in the amount of \$9,000 for a new furnace. All outstanding loans are current. As of 5/1/2015, the CLF had total loans outstanding of \$90,052 to deserving churches in the Chicago-land area.

The major initiative for the CLF committee this year was the creation of a new pool of funds that will be distributed as grants to assist a larger pool of churches. Specifically, the Centennial Loan Fund Committee will allocate \$100,000 from the Centennial Loan Fund on May 18, 2015 to a companion Grant Fund ("CLF Grant Fund"). The Grants will be for Chicago-area Christian Churches, consistent with the precepts of the Loan Fund. The CLF Grant Fund is self-liquidating. The fund is limited to \$20,000 per year in grants over a maximum of five years with a sub-limit of \$5,000 per church over the life of the Grant Fund. The funds are to be granted on an annual timeline similar to other WCC grant programs, with the ability to distribute emergency (ad hoc) funds on an as needed basis.

The CLF Grant Fund will follow the following process: The CLF committee will solicit applications starting in March, deadline to submit in June, review applications July to October, make decisions in November, and distribute funds in December. Coordination with Mission Giving and Benevolence groups will occur throughout the process, specifically including after grant applications have been received so that WCC has one outward face to all potential recipients.

The gift of Space

Besides the Mission Giving and Mission Doing outreach of WCC, we often open our doors to community groups that just need a space to meet. When the Boy Scouts, Open Communities, Women's Exchange, or Samaritan Institute need a place to hold a meeting they contact Floy Schrage and a meeting space is arranged. Women of Note meets here Wednesday mornings Sept - Nov and Feb - April. NAMI meets here twice a month on Tuesday evenings. AA holds a meeting here every Thursday morning. Most recently The Floured Apron, a new NFP providing job training and mentoring to disadvantaged women, has set up a training area in our under-used kitchen. WCC has long had the privilege of being the church with the open doors and hearts.

Clerk's Report

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

Information correct as of May 26, 2015

	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
	968	851	863	873	858
ADDITIONS:					
Confirmands	0	16	18	0	27
Baptism/Confession of Faith	0			1	0
Reactivation	0	0	0	1	0
Reaffirmation of Faith	5	20	2	3	4
Transfer of Membership	1	8	9	1	10
Total Additions:	6	44	29	6	41
RELEASES:					
Transfer to Associate	0	0	0	0	1
Transfer to Friend	0	1	0	0	0
Letter of Transfer	3	7	2	0	0
Transfer Inactive	98	1	0	8	27
Withdrawals	0		0	0	0
Deaths	22	23	17	13	13
Total Releases:	123	32	19	21	41
Net Change:	-117	+12	+10	-15	0
Active Membership (year end):	851	863	873	858	858
PERSONAL SERVICES:					
Baptisms	5	8	5	7	9
Weddings/Vows renewals	3	9	5	11	6
Memorials/Interments	28	33	29	35	38
Total Personal Serv:	36	50	39	53	53

Baptisms

Brileigh Archambault.....	11/9/2014
Miles Robert Beeman.....	4/4/2015
Avery & Nicolas Garcia.....	9/21/2014
Summer Nielsen.....	5/25/2014
Brantley & Zack Ryan.....	8/17/2014
Charles & Andrew Steinback.....	11/9/2014

Weddings

Robert Cunningham/Caroline McKay.....	6/28/2014
Jacob Atchley/Lisa Brown.....	9/13/2014
Chris Baggett/Emily Egan.....	10/4/2014
Michael Goeldi/Shannon Clemmons.....	10/25/2014
Paul Finelli/Lisa Polydoris.....	12/31/2014
Peter Picchietti/Kristine Healy.....	2/14/2015

Deceased Members

Art Dampts.....	5/15/2014
Larry Burns.....	4/27/2014
Richard Donat.....	10/29/2014
Larry Gougler.....	3/4/2015
Marilynn Greable.....	4/18/2015
Jolene Greene.....	2/13/2015
Ken Guy.....	2/17/2015
Marjorie Hagenah.....	12/16/2014
Florence Hollweg.....	10/14/2014
Suzanne Kenly.....	8/13/2014
Sally Jo Mitchell.....	1/7/2015
Victor Sidhu.....	9/17/2014
Jodie Stewart.....	7/5/2014

Interments

Marion Agnew.....	9/10/2014
Liz Anderson.....	6/28/2014
Larry Burns.....	6/8/2014
Arthur Dampts.....	5/17/2014
Richard Donat.....	11/4/2014
Richard Doss.....	8/26/2014
John Easterberg.....	9/13/2014
Mary Ellen Frissell.....	5/16/2014
Fred Gougler.....	4/25/2014
Jolene Greene.....	5/15/2015
Suzanne Kenly.....	8/27/2014
Kay Lindsay.....	8/16/2014
Sally Mitchell.....	2/28/2015
Kroy Ostergaard.....	3/21/2015
Joanne Stewart.....	7/12/2014
Marilyn Thomas.....	10/25/2014
Keith Wellin.....	10/25/2014
Richard Whiting.....	6/10/2014
Alexander Wood.....	6/13/2014
Gertrude Wood.....	6/13/2014
John Yoder.....	7/22/2014

Memorial Services

Arthur Dampts.....	6/7/2014
Richard Donat.....	11/4/2015
Richard Doss.....	8/26/2014
John Easterberg.....	9/13/2014
Mary Ellen Frissell.....	5/17/2014
Fred Gougler.....	4/25/2015
Marilynn Greable.....	5/1/2015
Kenneth Guy.....	2/24/2015
Florence Hollweg.....	10/17/2014
Suzanne Kenly.....	8/27/2014
Kay Lindsay.....	8/16/2014
Sally Mitchell.....	3/28/2015
Joanne Stewart.....	7/12/2014
Marilyn Thomas.....	10/25/2014
Keith Wellin.....	10/25/2014
Alexander Wood.....	2/26/2014
Gertrude Wood.....	2/26/2014

Transfer of Membership to WCC

Jim Benson.....	2/22/2015
Susan Brewster.....	6/8/2014
Phil Brewster.....	6/8/2014
Bill Brink.....	6/8/2014
Dian Eller.....	10/19/2014
Julie Johnson.....	10/19/2014
Joseph Romic.....	10/19/2014
Kimberly Romic.....	10/19/2014
Andrew Shook.....	10/19/2014
K.C. Simon.....	2/22/2015

Affirmation of Faith

Rory Kelly.....	6/8/2014
Kathryn Raysses.....	2/22/2015
Mary Alayne Swartz.....	6/8/2014
Melvyn Swartz.....	6/8/2014

Confirmation 2014

Jacob Alagel
Jessica Alt
William Crimmins
Claire Gould
William Gourley
Ethan Jakob
Lauren Laible
Laura Leonard
Emily Lewis
Clarissa Nayman
James Nayman
James Snyder
Kara Struckman
Ryan Struckman
Eliza Tilson

Confirmation - May 17, 2015

Lily Bhote
Tori Blair
Ethan Eldring
Sarah Healy
Emma Katzman
Emma Kirkpatrick
Maggie Leonard
Caroline Palasz
Madison Smith
Sam Tomlinson
Margaret Woodburn
Hunter Wray

Financial Report

BUDGET SUMMARY

	2013 Actual	2014 Actual	2015 Budget
	(Audited)	(Audited)	
Revenues			
Operating Revenues			
Total Offering Income	\$1,043,173	\$1,029,168	\$1,020,000
Total Investment Inc Unrestricted	\$74,100	\$99,800	\$119,824
Total Other Income	\$47,691	\$6,937	\$9,500
Total Invest Funds-Specific Purpose	\$31,500	\$53,832	\$71,010
Total Program Income	\$54,947	\$70,545	\$60,500
Total Operating Revenues	<u>\$1,251,411</u>	<u>\$1,260,282</u>	<u>\$1,280,834</u>
Expenses			
Total WORSHIP	\$37,801	\$63,952	\$69,750
Total NURTURE	\$7,959	\$7,324	\$10,500
Total CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	\$30,919	\$18,165	\$24,550
Total OUTREACH	\$164,734	\$178,963	\$166,184
SUPPORT			
GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE			
Total SUPPORT: Office Expense	\$61,517	\$62,660	\$64,950
Total SUPPORT: Building & Grounds	\$129,070	\$122,244	\$143,500
Total SUPPORT: Annual Giving	\$1,429	\$1,048	\$600
Total SUPPORT: Transition Expenses	\$0	\$33,792	\$76,250
Total GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE	<u>\$192,016</u>	<u>\$219,744</u>	<u>\$285,300</u>
Total SALARIES & RELATED	<u>\$781,007</u>	<u>\$743,053</u>	<u>\$793,764</u>
Total SUPPORT	<u>\$973,022</u>	<u>\$962,798</u>	<u>\$1,079,064</u>
Total COUNCIL	<u>\$23,968</u>	<u>\$8,004</u>	<u>\$7,850</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$1,238,403</u>	<u>\$1,239,206</u>	<u>\$1,357,898</u>
Net Total	\$13,008	\$21,077	(\$77,064)
Other Revenues/Expenses			
Total Other Revenues	\$99,687	\$18,868	\$0
Total Other Expenses	<u>\$642,051</u>	<u>\$479,768</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Net Operating Total	(\$529,357)	(\$439,824)	(\$77,064)

2015 BUDGET REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

2014 ended up having a small operating surplus of \$21,000 compared to a budgeted operating loss of almost \$79,000. Although income was slightly under budget, expenses were less than budgeted primarily because of open positions and lower transition expenses than budgeted.

The Balance Sheet strengthened again in 2014 with increases in WCC's investment reserves. Cumulative Investment Reserve (CIR) assets increased modestly from \$4.2 million to \$4.3 million. The CIR had \$144,200 in investment income and gains, a return of 6.79 %. During the year, \$181,000 was distributed from the CIR in support of WCC's operations. Of the \$4.3 million in investments, 55% are restricted as to their use and 45% are not restricted.

The 2015 budget is very close to the 2014 budget. An operating loss of \$77,000 is budgeted for 2015. Expenses total \$1,358,000 and offering income covers only 75% of the expenses. Investment income and other income provide the remainder. The 2015 budget was previously approved by the Congregation. The 2015 pledge campaign was successful resulting in \$966,000 in pledges which is over the \$950,000 in the 2015 budget.

STATEMENT OF CONDITION 2013-2014

Assets	<u>12/31/13 (1)</u>	<u>12/31/14 (1)</u>	(1) From audited statements
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$373,060	\$450,832	
Total Accounts Receivable	\$28,167	\$25,517	
Total Loans Receivable	\$206,871	\$68,821	
Total Other Investments	\$9,965	\$0	
Total CIR Investments	<u>\$4,178,400</u>	<u>\$4,322,591</u>	
Total Investments	\$4,796,463	\$4,867,761	
Total Prepaid Expenses	\$10,595	\$3,022	
Total Property and Equipment	<u>\$6,563,331</u>	<u>\$6,130,742</u>	
Total Assets	<u>\$11,370,389</u>	<u>\$11,001,524</u>	
Liabilities, Fund Principal, & Restricted Funds			
Liabilities			
Total Gift Annuities Payable	\$9,965	\$4,138	
Total Accounts Payable & Accrued Exp	\$39,633	\$17,972	
Total Intransit Accounts	\$96	\$2,963	
Total Liabilities	<u>\$49,694</u>	<u>\$25,073</u>	
Fund Principal			
Unrestricted Funds			
CIR Discretionary	\$1,612,577	\$1,649,104	
General Fund	<u>\$6,372,745</u>	<u>\$5,867,473</u>	
Total Unrestricted Funds	\$7,985,322	\$7,516,577	
Designated Funds			
Other Designated Funds	\$3,994	\$1,248	
Pastors' Discretionary	\$13,440	\$12,055	
Program Service Fund	\$10,385	\$10,385	
CIR Churchyard	\$147,034	\$155,743	
CIR Heritage Trust	<u>\$105,596</u>	<u>\$126,713</u>	
Total Designated Funds	\$280,449	\$306,144	
Temporarily Restricted Funds			
Youth Mission Fund	\$27,890	\$21,401	
Other Temporarily Restriced Funds	\$5,469	\$5,469	
Prepaid Pledges	\$374,148	\$374,678	
Prepaid Mission Trip Deposits	\$7,450.00	\$7,450.00	
Robert Thomas Fund (Peace)	\$9,518	\$7,118	
Centennial Loan Fund	\$354,327	\$355,398	
CIR Retirement Benefits Fund	<u>\$389,985</u>	<u>\$401,302</u>	
Total Temporarily Restricted Funds	\$1,161,338	\$1,165,366	
Permanently Restricted Funds			
CIR Blatchford Endowment Fund	\$90,268	\$92,201	
CIR D & R Jones Music Internsh	\$306,133	\$321,332	
CIR Churchyard-Perm Restrict	\$30,000	\$30,000	
CIR Christian Ed. Fund	\$385,494	\$391,984	
CIR Mission Endowment	\$376,927	\$385,297	
CIR Jadel Restricted Income Fu	\$226,846	\$223,386	
CIR General Restricted Endowmn	<u>\$477,919</u>	<u>\$544,166</u>	
Total Permanently Restricted Funds	<u>\$1,893,587</u>	<u>\$1,988,366</u>	
Total Fund Principal	<u>\$11,320,695</u>	<u>\$10,976,452</u>	
Total Liabilities, Fund Principal, & Restricted Funds	<u>\$11,370,389</u>	<u>\$11,001,524</u>	

WCC CUMULATIVE INVESTMENT RESERVES (CIR) REPORT: Fund Balances Income/Expense Allocations											December 2014
Year To Date	Market Value	Share	Purchases	Exchanges	Sales/Fees	Capital Gain/Loss	Market Value 12/31/2014	Actual Inc/Exp	Closing Share		
ASSETS	12/31/13										
UNRESTRICTED:											
VANGUARD:											
Growth Index Fund Adm (0509)	0.00	0.00	2,544.29	628,732.41	0.00	28,117.95	659,394.65	2,544.29	0.03		
Growth Index Signal (1347)	654,708.16	0.16	3,840.31	(706,732.41)	0.00	48,183.94	0.00	3,840.31	0.04		
LT Inflation Prot Bond Idx (5119)	194,394.88	0.05	4,939.06	7,000.00	0.00	3,345.07	209,679.01	4,939.06	0.06		
Inter-Term Index Adm (5314)	0.00	0.00	2,638.84	212,823.01	0.00	(1,849.97)	213,611.88	2,638.84	0.03		
IntTerm Bond Index Fund (1350)	197,279.80	0.05	4,660.55	(210,823.01)	0.00	8,882.66	(0.00)	4,754.89	0.06		
LT Bond Index Fund (0522)	197,804.31	0.05	9,002.03	(15,000.00)	0.00	29,845.84	221,652.18	9,002.03	0.10		
Mid-Cap Index Fund Adm (5859)	0.00	0.00	5,589.66	421,214.88	0.00	19,980.14	446,784.68	5,589.66	0.06		
Mid-Cap Index Signal (1344)	428,840.90	0.10	85.14	(458,214.88)	0.00	29,288.84	0.00	85.14	0.00		
Prime Money Market (0030)	198,337.50	0.05	18.70	184,000.00	(137,023.79)	0.00	245,332.41	18.70	0.00		
Short Term Bond Index Adm (5132)	0.00	0.00	1,837.78	421,314.02	0.00	(2,800.70)	420,351.10	1,837.78	0.02		
ST Bond Index Signal (1349)	395,061.38	0.09	3,862.45	(401,314.02)	0.00	2,390.19	0.00	3,862.45	0.04		
Small Cap Growth Index Fund (086)	212,688.81	0.05	1,873.97	500.00	0.00	6,507.17	221,569.95	1,873.97	0.02		
Small Cap Value Index Fund (0860)	217,221.64	0.05	3,594.46	(13,500.00)	0.00	18,392.30	225,708.40	3,594.46	0.04		
Total Intl Stock Ix Admiral (056)	0.00	0.00	6,574.43	814,006.15	0.00	(18,986.54)	801,594.04	6,574.43	0.08		
Total International Stock (1769)	828,745.81	0.20	20,051.47	(808,006.15)	0.00	(40,791.13)	0.00	20,051.47	0.23		
Value Index Fund Adm (0506)	0.00	0.00	3,964.56	623,229.19	0.00	29,718.62	656,912.37	3,964.56	0.05		
Value Index Signal (1346)	653,316.58	0.16	11,059.54	(699,229.19)	0.00	34,853.07	0.00	11,059.54	0.13		
TOTAL:	4,178,399.77	1.00	86,137.24	0.00	(137,023.79)	195,077.45	4,322,590.67	86,231.58	0.97		
PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED:											
Blatchford Fund	90,267.66	0.02			(4,000.00)	2,533.63	3,399.27	92,200.56	0.02		
D & R Jones Music Intern Fund	306,133.55	0.07			(5,436.35)	8,864.23	11,770.37	321,331.80	0.07		
Churchyard	30,000.00	0.01						30,000.00	0.01		
Christian Ed.	385,494.19	0.09			(19,200.00)	10,924.67	14,765.45	391,984.31	0.09		
Mission Endowment	376,927.00	0.09			(16,800.00)	10,720.36	14,449.62	385,296.98	0.09		
Jadel Restricted Income Fund	226,845.68	0.05			(18,587.04)	6,289.51	8,838.14	223,386.29	0.05		
Gen Restricted Endowmt Fnd	477,918.82	0.11			(22,000.08)	14,454.23	18,740.50	544,165.72	0.13		
TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED:											
Retirement Benefits Fund	389,984.82	0.09			(15,089.01)	11,367.57	15,038.38	401,301.76	0.09		
UNRESTRICTED DESIGNATED:											
Churchyard (360)	147,034.13	0.04			(7,382.50)	5,157.27	6,934.32	155,743.22	0.04		
Heritage Trust	105,595.83	0.03			(59.99)	3,462.15	4,814.58	126,712.57	0.03		
Discretionary	1,612,577.06	0.39			(72,163.47)	45,434.15	63,256.26	1,649,104.00	0.38		
SUBTOTAL:	4,148,778.74	0.99	0.00	71,952.25	(180,718.44)	119,207.77	162,006.89	4,321,227.21	1.00		
Due to WCC	29,621.03	0.01	0.00		(28,257.60)	Trrf to Disc	Trrf to Disc.	1,363.43	0.00		
TOTAL:	4,178,399.77	1.00	0.00		(137,023.79)	119,207.77	162,006.89	4,322,590.64	1.00		

2015-16 Lay Ministry

Date indicates Term Expiration.

Persons in bold are new to the position.

EXECUTIVE

Chair Brad McLane²⁰¹⁶
Vice Jeanne Ebersole²⁰¹⁶
Clerk **Christy Shellenbarger**²⁰¹⁹
Treasurer Bob Linn²⁰¹⁸

WORSHIP GROUP

Councilors Dinny Cosyns²⁰¹⁸, LeAnn Pope²⁰¹⁸
Liturgics Tom Evans²⁰²⁰, **Sue Hartemayer**²⁰²¹
Music Liz Butler²⁰²⁰, Julie McConnell²⁰²⁰
Design **Maggie Meiners**²⁰²¹, **Jill Olson**²⁰²¹

EDUCATION GROUP

Councilors Bill Hayes²⁰¹⁹, Anne Kelly²⁰²⁰
Children and Youth **Shelli Brown**²⁰²¹, Elizabeth Dziersk²⁰²¹, **Jennifer Earl**²⁰²¹, Kate Laible²⁰¹⁹,
Theresa Law²⁰²⁰, Sarah Woodburn²⁰²⁰
Adult Enrichment Dinny Cosyns²⁰¹⁷, Linda Davis²⁰¹⁸, Pete McNerney²⁰¹⁹

OUTREACH GROUP

Councilors Mike Jakob²⁰²⁰, Xerxes Bhote²⁰¹⁹
Mission Doing Laurie Morse²⁰²⁰, Patti Van Cleave²⁰²⁰
Mission Giving Susan Snyder²⁰¹⁷, Sue Wellington²⁰¹⁷
Interfaith **Pat and Bob Hastings**²⁰¹⁸, Junia Hedberg²⁰¹⁸
Carol Jansson²⁰²¹, **Andrew Shook**²⁰²¹
Centennial Loan John Tilson²⁰²⁰, **Joe Romic**²⁰²¹

NURTURE GROUP

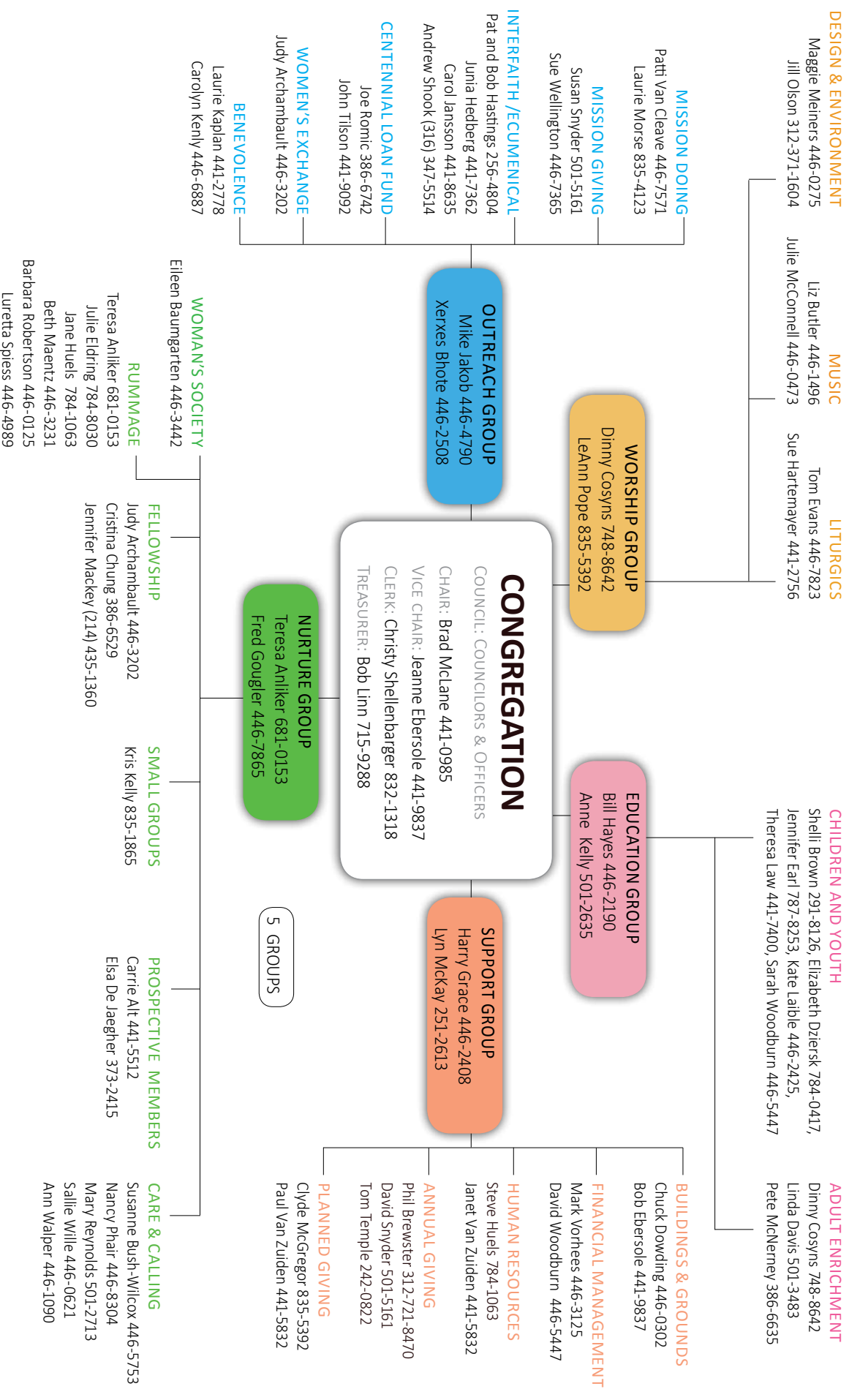
Councilors Teresa Anliker²⁰¹⁹, Fred Gougler²⁰¹⁸
Small Groups **Kris Kelly**²⁰²¹
Care and Calling Sue Bush-Wilcox²⁰¹⁷, Nancy Phair²⁰¹⁷, Mary Reynolds²⁰¹⁷,
Ann Walper²⁰²⁰, Sallie Willie²⁰¹⁷
Fellowship Judy Archambault²⁰²⁰, **Cristina Chung**²⁰²¹, Jenny Mackey²⁰¹⁹
Prospective Members Carrie Alt²⁰²⁰, Elsa De Jaegher²⁰²⁰

SUPPORT GROUP

Councilors Harry Grace²⁰¹⁹, Lyn McKay²⁰¹⁸
Building and Grounds Chuck Dowding²⁰²⁰, Bob Ebersole²⁰²⁰
Financial Management **Mark Vorhees**²⁰²¹, David Woodburn²⁰²⁰
Human Resources Steve Huels²⁰²⁰, Janet Van Zuiden²⁰²⁰
Annual Giving **Phil Brewster**²⁰²¹, **David Snyder**²⁰²¹, **Tom Temple**²⁰²¹
Planned Giving Clyde McGregor²⁰²⁰, Paul Van Zuiden²⁰²⁰

The Lay Ministry of Winnetka Congregational Church

2015-2016



* Covenant Group ** Coordinates with Outreach Group but reports to Woman's Society Board

Area code is 847 for all phone numbers, unless otherwise noted.