

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



A WORD FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

Dear Friends,

Continuing to minister during a worldwide pandemic has brought its challenges and opportunities. It feels like it is three steps forward and two steps back. In 2021 we masked, unmasked, masked, and unmasked, and ... Our politics continue to polarize our nation. We are divided over masks, vaccinations, schools, voting, race issues, abortion, immigration, and border security. It is a hard time for everybody and a tough time to minister.

In 2021, we continued to try to connect with people during the pandemic. The staff offered daily videos and I wrote my daily ponderings. We also looked at ways to upgrade our in-person and online worship services. We were able to schedule celebrations of life for members who died in 2020. One of the nice blessings of online services is that families and friends in other parts of the country were able to watch the memorial services online. Fellowship groups and classes are meeting again. Sleep in Heavenly Peace is back in full swing providing beds for families in need. We were excited when vaccinations helped to open things up again, only to see new variants and new coronavirus surges and hospitalizations. Most of us were hoping that we were getting to the end of the pandemic and now we realize that no one knows how this will end.

In November of 2021, we said goodbye to Ann Marie and her family. What a gift she was for our church family for the past 17 years. We will miss her and know she will be a blessing for her new congregation.

Our staff continues to maneuver these uncharted waters with creativity and passion. Our ministry teams are looking at various ways to help us fulfill our mission. We have tried to make an extra effort to reach out to our members, especially those who are not connected online. Another challenge is reaching out to new folks when people are still apprehensive to attend in person because of health concerns.

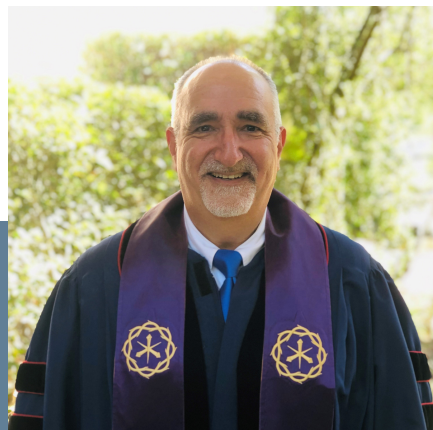
Even though we face difficulties and uncertainties, we are still moving forward. 2022 is the 50th Anniversary of our church. We have a 50th Anniversary Celebration Team working creativity behind the scenes planning for this wonderful celebration. We will be revealing our theme, logo, upcoming worship celebration dates, and ways you can help at during the Annual Congregational Meeting.

Even though this has been an incredibly difficult season, your faithful financial support has been remarkable. The Giving Tree Offering was the second highest ever received. Thank you for your generous and faithful support. You are truly helping us fulfill our mission – “We are Christ’s disciples, celebrating God’s grace, creating community, making a difference.”

With much love and appreciation,



Pastor Paul



ANNUAL FINANCE REPORT

INCOME	2021 Actual	2021 Budget	2022 Budget
Pledges	1,110,760	1,106,500	1,021,500
Non-Pledged	201,454	175,000	180,000
Plate Offering	1,039	1,500	1,500
New Member	100	6,000	5,000
Building Use	29,875	30,000	30,000
Miscellaneous	2,699	1,500	3,000
Carryover of 2021 Partial Surplus			60,000
PPP	148,465		
	1,494,392	1,320,500	1,301,000
Special Offerings	88,320	81,000	81,000
Total Income	1,582,712	1,401,500	1,382,000
EXPENSES			
Missions	149,440	132,050	124,100
Special Offerings	88,632	81,000	81,000
Personnel	839,372	865,940	815,525
Church Office	53,521	58,400	55,300
Worship	14,865	14,300	14,300
The Journey	411	3,575	1,000
Property	228,879	200,745	219,890
Congregational Care	1,258	2,400	2,100
Outreach	300	2,200	2,200
Children's Ministry	4,899	7,795	4,500
Youth Ministry	2,591	3,850	3,850
Adult Ministry	1,522	1,900	1,200
Church Life	3,483	7,525	41,785
Stewardship	8,651	15,950	11,950
Session	953	570	1,000
Child Care	1,462	3,300	2,300
Total Expenses	1,400,239	1,401,500	1,382,000
Excess of Income over Expense	182,473	0	0
CURRENT ASSETS	Dec. 31, 2020	Dec. 31, 2021	
Cash	77,541	385,756	
Other current assets	0	20,000	
Total Current Assets	77,541	405,756	
LIABILITIES			
Accounts Payable	79,516	145,306	
Line-of-Credit /Operating	50,000	0	
Funds from ELCP	2,451	9,887	
Internal Activity Funds	94,542	193,386	
Due to GEM fund	13,967	37,640	
Total Liabilities	240,476	386,219	
OPERATING FUND BALANCE	(162,935)	19,537	



MEMBERSHIP DATA

New members	12
Baptisms	5
Death	14
Transfers	-
Dropped	28

Membership	2020	2021
Female	585	571
<u>Male</u>	<u>409</u>	<u>393</u>
Total	994	964

NORTHWOODS STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Paul Nazarian – Senior Pastor
The Rev. Ann Marie Quigley-Swanson – Senior Associate Pastor
The Rev. Dr. David Puig – Associate Pastor
Maria Aguilar – Janitorial Facilities Assistant
Nicole Castillo – Executive Assistant
Norma Laughlin – Business Administrator
Joyce Leggio – Associate Director of ELCP
Bambi McWhorter – Director of ELCP
Anthony Mireles – Facilities Director
Todd Nolde – Organist
Armando Ramirez- Facilities Assistant
Jennifer Klein Salyer – Director of Music and Worship
Teresa Simpson - Interim Director of Children's Ministry
Heidi Smith – Financial Secretary
Mary Meghan Thomas – Director of Youth Ministry



NORTHWOODS SESSION

Class of 2022

Sam Andrews
Eunise Basquez
Roy Eggenberger
Jennifer Gutierrez
Robert McCracken
Connie Saint

Class of 2023

Tracy Bean
Bruce Green
Larry Hitt
Nancy Ingram
Sandy Roberts
Daniel Spencer

Class of 2024

Stephen Buggy
Suzan Burch
Bobby Gonzales
Virginia Herrera
Lecina Linehan
Tom Swisher

Clerk to Session

Roy Eggenberger

Treasurer

Bill Strange

WORSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

Team Members:

Connie Saint (Chair)

Jennifer Klein Salyer (Staff)



HIGHLIGHTS

We began 2021 with hope that worship and church life (and personal life) would return to “normal” and that the worst of the pandemic was behind us. Alas, Nature had other plans, and so worship pivoted into a new normal way of gathering.

This new normal included: one combined/blended worship service with both Choir and Band; single-serve communion elements; battery-operated candles for Christmas Eve; live-streaming of all worship, memorial and concert events, and some classes; and Advent Noel Concerts without lunch (including a bonus 4th Advent concert featuring Todd Nolde and Jennifer Klein Salyer).



Throughout 2021, we worshiped in a blended format, combining elements of traditional and contemporary services into one cohesive service at 10:00am. For the first five months of the year, live music was limited to hymns led by Director of Music and Worship, Jennifer Klein Salyer and Organist, Todd Nolde. The music of the band and choir remained in a virtual format, via pre-recorded videos that Jennifer artistically designed and created. For Easter, the Choir presented a beautiful and celebratory virtual rendition of Handel’s “Hallelujah Chorus.”

Beginning in May, the Band began to meet in person and lead live music in worship, and in the summer months, small ensembles met and prepared four anthems to sing live. With much excitement, the Choir resumed live, physically-distanced, masked rehearsals and worship leadership in mid-August. Both the Choir and Band shared in musical leadership for our one service, sometimes offering combined pieces. In December, the Band, Choir, and several members of our Youth Group joined forces to create a dynamic presentation of the musical cantata “The Thrill of Hope” during worship.

The other half of the new normal for worship was the continuation of our online live-streaming of worship services and other events in the sanctuary, including memorial services and concerts. Volunteer member Joe Foster learned, designed, implemented and managed our technology for the online services to create a seamless and visually-engaging online experience. Members Mike Browning, Lance Lincoln, Thomas Lincoln, Jason Dunmire, and RobTrennel, along with Joe, offered hours of their personal time to learn our audio and video technology and media needs and generously shared their time to keep our online offering humming smoothly.

HIGHLIGHTS

(WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED)

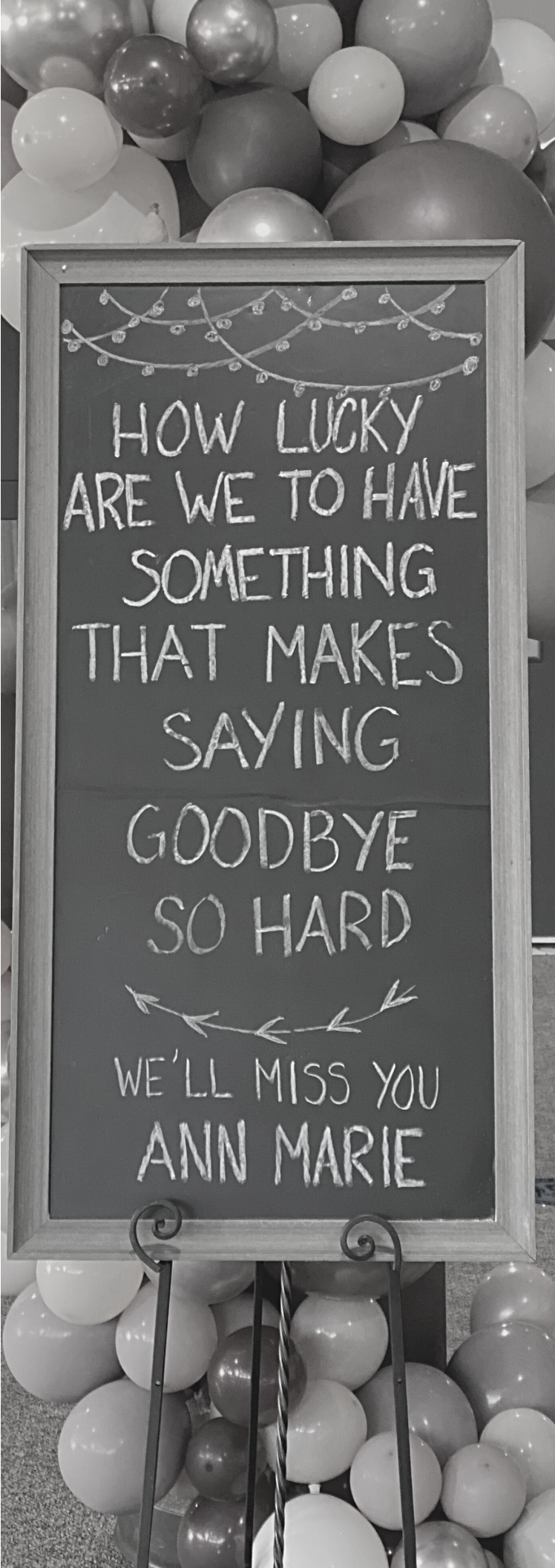
Executive Assistant, Nicole Castillo, also trained under Joe and weekly created much of the media content for our in-person and online worship. At the end of the year, David Serna, a graphic artist and creative service producer at Univision, joined the tech team, filling the newly-created part-time contractor position of Media Technician. In November, Jennifer applied for and was awarded a Technology Grant from the Presbytery of New Covenant to help offset some of the additional expenditures for equipment purchases related to our online presence.

The Worship Team continued to provide stage decorations to enhance the worship experience and sermon themes, including a larger-than-life Alexa device, road signs to show the “way,” and life-guard stand. Additionally, the flowering cross returned to the stage at Easter, and the table was adorned with flags and breads of the world for World Communion Sunday. At Thanksgiving, the Worship Team participated in Bountiful Harvest by providing an abundance of rice, grains and beans for table décor and later to be donated to NAM’s food pantry. Advent decorating and removal was made quick and efficient by a host of volunteers who stayed after worship to make for light work for all, and the decorations were hassle-free, as several new trees replaced the trees that each year gave all kinds of fits with lights not firing properly. Resch Gallery curator, Kathy Drover, renewed the Narthex gallery with changing art exhibits.

The year concluded with a beautiful, intimate, meaningful Christmas Eve service and an exuberant and spirit-filled College Sunday service. Christmas Eve featured the angelic voice of Courtney Jones, a live Nativity in the narthex replete with Mary, Joseph, baby Jesus, shepherds and angels, and a pilgrimage processional of Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus during the worship service. (Thank you to Jack Smith, Mary Ann Wiesinger, and Dante Wiesinger-Puig!) The Salyer Family provided music for College Sunday, and numerous college-age young adults participated live and virtually.

While this “new” way of hybrid worship is a big change for Northwoods, the ministries and traditions continue to thrive; and, with the online worship, Northwoods has extended its reach well beyond our walls.





PERSONNEL MINISTRY TEAM HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights for 2021

- Creative and hardworking staff ministering during a pandemic
- Longevity for staff
- Successful celebration for Ann Marie after 17 years of compassionate service
- Hired a new media technician to help with worship and online offerings
- Staff appreciations on a couple occasions in 2021 with breakfast/lunch
- Ability to give staff raises for 2022 (last raise was 2019)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TEAM

Team Members:

Tracy Bean (Elder and Chair)

Valerie Dunmire (staff)

Angela Gonzalez

Alice Green

Teresa Jones-Simpson (staff)

Jan Manchee

Erin Maxwell

Elizabeth O'Neil



HIGHLIGHTS

- Hosted virtual Sunday School, where kids learned about God every week
- Delivered Sunday school materials and activities each month to kids
- Created weekly Wacky Wednesday videos
- Hosted virtual Valentines Party for fellowship
- Delivered and hosted The Walk lessons and materials for Lent
- Coordinated “House Egging” for Easter where members hid eggs in participating member’s yards
- Jelly Bean prayers sent to Children and Youth for Easter
- Organized Butterfly Release on Easter Sunday
- Began in-service Sunday school in May
- Delivered Graduation packages to graduating 5th graders
- Hosted Adventure Island VBS for members with about 35 kids
- Hosted VBS Celebration Sunday where kids sang during worship in Sanctuary and had popsicles in courtyard following service
- Raised over \$600 for NAM during VBS
- Co-hosted Kickball nights with Youth Ministry
- Assembled approximately 200 snack bags for homeless community during Make A Difference Day and helped with Rise for Hunger assembly of meal bags
- Joined Church Life for Walk in the Park events
- Blessing of the Backpacks
- Third Grade Bible Presentation
- Held kids sermon for Day of Renewal
- Co-hosted Halloween/Fall Festival with Youth Ministry
- Co-hosted Christmas Party with Youth Ministry





YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM

Team Members:

Rob Trennel
Virginia Herrera
Paul Thompson
Zina White
Tanya Sims
Thomas Lincoln
Tami Jones
Stephen Jones
Mary Meghan Thomas





HIGHLIGHTS

- Confirmation: 8 members of our youth group confirmed. We were very thankful to have Johnie Wood leading our class.
- Our Student Leadership Team (Krew): 7 youth and 3 adult leaders serving. They plan our monthly RISE worship services, our youth retreat, and lead music and energizers.
- 3 youth and 1 adult serving on Presbyterian Youth Connection Council and our youth group attended Youth Rally in November
- 4 of our high school youth went on a mission trip to Brownsville and McAllen to volunteer with Team Brownsville, Puentes de Cristo, and helped many families at the Humanitarian Respite Center.
- Kyle Long served as our summer intern. He helped serve at Synod Youth Workshop, Summer Quest, VBS, and lead our middle school boys at Mo Ranch.
- Samantha Nodine, one of our high school seniors, served as our Youth representative on the Missions Ministry Team.
- Our Jr. high students traveled to Mo-Ranch for a four-day summer camp in July.
- Northwoods Youth Ministry hosted youth from Atascocita Pres., Woodlands Pres., Iglesia Latina Pres., and Holy Trinity Pres. as a part of Synod Youth Workshop's local, multi-locational format this year which we had 12 of our high school students participate in.
- We had 22 youth come out to volunteer for VBS!
- Our middle and high school youth served our community during our local mission week: Summer Quest. They worked in the food pantry at NAM, helped box up dinners at the Houston Food Bank, handed out grocery bags at Wesley Community Center, and volunteered at SHP.
- This fall, we were very delighted to have two of our youth complete their Eagle Scout projects here at Northwoods: Jered White constructed a GaGa Ball game pit and Roy Herrera built two picnic tables for us to enjoy meals together outside our youth building. A huge thanks to troop 401!
- Our youth ministry also participated in the Souper Bowl of Caring, helped with Stop Hunger Now, sent college care packages to our youth ministry graduates, sent cards to church members, and organized Youth Sunday & College Sunday.



CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY TEAM

Team Members:

Rev Ann Marie Quigley-Swanson (Staff)

Rev Dr. Paul Nazarian (Staff)

Roy Eggenberger (Elder and Chair)

Pat Justice

Judi Kenyon

Kara Norwood

Maria Potts

Jamie Shupe

Anne Swisher

Roxi Tyler

John Younker



HIGHLIGHTS

- Neighborhood Group callers made two sets of calls to members in the spring and in the fall
- The Prayer Chain was very active sending out almost daily prayer requests by email to over 190 people committed to pray and Prayer Chain note writers sent cards to those requesting prayers
- In February, connected with more than 150 members who last attended worship in the first quarter of 2020
- Sent bereavement notes and Christmas cards to members
- Made 30 gifts baskets for and visited 38 people in their homes on Make A Difference Day
- Volunteers visited 27 people in their homes delivering miniature loafs of bread and care notes in the fall.
- Our Care Meals team provided more than 20 meals to members
- Established a medical equipment loan program to match individuals with gently used medical equipment
- Transportation team provided transportation for members needing assistance to get to church or medical appointments
- Provided Christmas cookie treats to members following worship at the Northwoods choir concert on December 5th
- Offered a technical support for those having trouble connecting to Northwoods via the Internet or Facebook
- Offered a Building Resiliency Class to members in May
- Setup quarterly care connections providing members with note cards/stamped envelopes/labels who wish to send care notes to homebound members
- Hosted 10 memorial services



ADULT MINISTRY TEAM

Team Members:

Sam Andrews - Elder/Chair

Nancy Ingram - Elder

Rev. Dr. David Puig - Staff

Rev. Dr. Phineas Washer

Tom Franklin

David Gordon

Nancy Strange

Bill Calvert

Joyce Schnell



HIGHLIGHTS

The 6-week-Series Respond to Racism in February was a unique experience in our church where we had the opportunity to hear outstanding presentations which helped us understand the issue of racism in our country and how to respond as Christians.

Spiritual Day of Renewal on October 16th was again a beautiful, inspiring event led by Rev. Dr. Tom Tewell which helped our congregation grow in faith.



PROPERTY TEAM

Team Members:

David Shupe Mike Browning, Elder
Jane Van Nort Anthony Mireles, Staff
Bruce Cameron
Gary Akin
Russel Shelton
Joaquin Gay

HIGHLIGHTS

Repairs to Youth Building after the February winter freeze

- Replaced all copper tubing and replaced with flex pipe
- Repaired all damaged sheet rock
- Replace ceiling damaged ceiling fixture.
- Painted all damaged areas
- Removed damaged VCT floor tiles

Landscape

- Removed all damaged or dead plant after the freeze
- Beautified the Courtyard
- Mulched all the flower beds
- Performed preventive maintenance to the irrigation system

Parking Lots

- Restriped parking areas

Replaced two HVAC units in office building

Replaced security alarm system panel

OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM

Team Members:

Dolores Gay - Elder Chair
Margaret Rodriguez - Elder
Jim Brown
Yelitza Caraballo
Carolyn Farley
Rev. Dr. David Puig- Staff



HIGHLIGHTS

After we reopened our in-person services we have focused on creating a welcoming environment with the greeter program, as we promoted and advertised the church and its events through the website, Facebook, Instagram, signage and local media.

We started the project of a Hispanic New Worshiping Community led by Pastor David.

We continued to host our Get to Know Northwoods Luncheons for new visitors. Despite of the challenges of Covid 19, where still many people don't feel comfortable attending in-person services, 12 people have joined our church in 2021. We thank our Outreach team, especially Dolores and Margaret, for their hard work under these unprecedented circumstances.





MISSIONS MINISTRY TEAM

Team Members:

Chris Treleaven, Chair
 Eunise Vazquez, Elder
 Sandy Roberts, Elder
 Adrian Shelley, Treasurer
 Rev. Dr. David Puig-Staff
 Cindy Davis
 Bette Chenault
 Nancy Kral
 Kes Taylor
 Don Drover
 Linda Brown



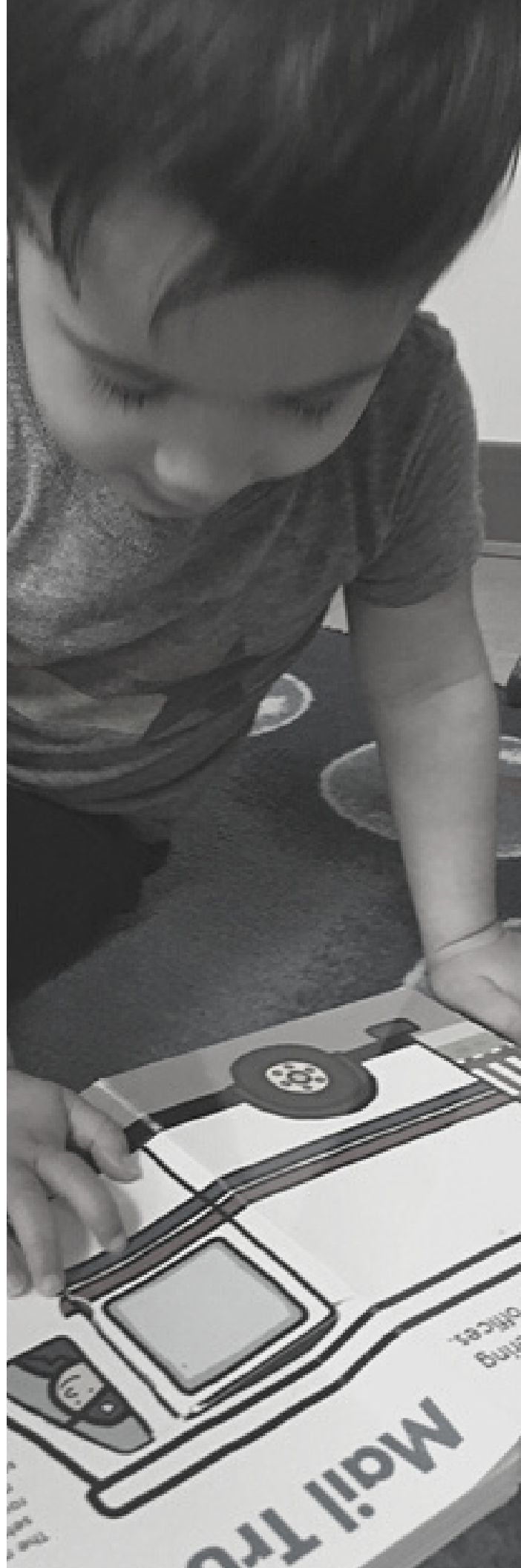
HIGHLIGHTS

- Our "Make a Difference Day" on September 11 was another success with nearly 200 Northwoods servants working on different Mission projects despite of Covid 19. Together we served as Christ's hands and feet to help others by assembling 35,000 meal packs for the world's hungry. Our church also contributed with \$11,200 to pay for the ingredients. We also built several bunk beds and made several quilts and pillowcases, Mana meal bags for people who are homeless, gift baskets for our members who are home bound. Miracles happen when we work together! A special thanks to our outstanding Missions team!
- The 2019 Giving Tree Project has been Northwoods the second most successful year in this century! Collectively, we collected a total of \$32,006 for our eight featured organizations. Because of you individuals were not forgotten this holiday season! Special thanks to all volunteers in our church who faithfully contribute with their time, talents and resources to make the difference in hundreds of people through all these projects.

EARLY LEARNING CENTER PRESCHOOL (ELCP)

Team Members:

Bambi McWhorter, Director
Tracy Bean, Elder/Chairperson
Nikki Akin
Lois Andrews
Sue Due
Elizabeth Jeter, Secretary
Ann Moore
Ashley Nelson
Adrian Shelley, Treasurer



HIGHLIGHTS

Graduation 2021: In May 2021 the ELCP Pre-K had a Graduating Class of 11 students. These graduates started Kindergarten at public and private schools in the fall. Several families have visited during 2021, sharing smiles and hugs as tell us all about their new school. The parents also told us about the transition into Kindergarten, noting that their child was well-prepared and is doing well. We are happy to know that we shared in building a strong foundation for the many years of learning ahead!

K-Club: Most of our graduating Pre-K students stayed through the summer and participated in K-Club. This new program is especially designed for children Kindergarten through 2nd grade. Sue Fitzgerald, one of our newest teachers, created and developed the class which included alumni students, siblings, and teacher-children out for the summer. After reading the story of Noah's Ark, the children used math, science, art, music and lots of creativity to bring the story to life and learn some important life-lessons along the way. The culmination was a sweet musical dramatization, "The Ark Adventure", starring the K-Club members as Noah, his family members, and even some of the animals. We finally sent our young friends off to a new school year with tears of joy and reminders to visit often!

Financial Update: We continue to strive to bring our finances back into the positive as we increase enrollment. As parents have realized the need for childcare in spite of COVID, our numbers have grown from 11 students when we re-opened mid-2020 to 60 students at the end of 2021. The church was able to secure a second Payroll Protection Plan from the U.S. government. In Dec. 2020, the staff offered to do a Saturday "Breakfast with Santa" fundraiser which brought in over \$600. The cost to keep our school properly sanitized and safe has been evident each time we purchased cleaning supplies, gloves and masks. Many parents helped by purchasing items on an Amazon Wish List. A few big expenses in 2020 included upgrading our entry security system, having our trees trimmed, and installing more efficient LED lighting in all of our rooms. In mid-2021 we raised tuition in order to give our staff a well-deserved and much-needed raise. Parents and church members also participated in the "Cards for a Cause" fundraiser, which brought in over \$2,500, planned to cover playground expenses. Both church members and parents have also made generous donations to the school during 2021.

Staff: The ELCP is currently staffed with 17 teachers, an Associate Director and a Director. When PTAC, the Houston annual training conference, reopened in 2021, the Payroll Protection Plan allowed our staff to attend. The vast majority of our staff are fully vaccinated and most have received their booster as well. Because most of our children are now staying beyond 2:30 each day, we are in need of one more afternoon teacher.

Scholarship Fund: Several of our families have been challenged with job loss due to COVID over the past year. Because of our own financial situation, the ELCP has not been able to offer scholarships to any of our families during 2021. We would like to rebuild this fund so that we are able offer help when needed.

Playground Upgrades: Through our Cards for a Cause fundraiser, the ELCP was able to raise funds to help us make needed improvements on our playgrounds. First we need to purchase mulch so that we stay in compliance with Licensing requirements for fall zones around our climbers. Also we need to level the grassy area on one playground to prevent ponding when it rains. Finally, we need to remove and/or replace wooden structures at a minimal cost.

Northwoods Dollars at Work 2021 Benevolences



Missions Budget

10% of Northwoods Income	149,440
Special Offerings	88,632
	238,072

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH USA

Presbytery of the New Covenant Support	32,050
PC (USA) Per Capita Apportionment	10,031
PC (USA) Worldwide Mission	3,000
PC (USA) Seminaries	4,000
Presbyterian Children's Home	2,066
Presbyterian Joy Gift	2,066
Presbyterian Missionary Support	2,000
Presbyterian Peacemaking Offering	750
Presbyterian Theological Institutions	1,000
TOTAL PC (USA)	56,963

LOCAL

Bonding Against Adversity	3,735
CanCare	3,000
Faith In Practice	2,310
Fe & Justica Worker Center	1,000
Habitat for Humanity (NWHC)	5,835
Hope Center	4,575
Interfaith Care Partners	3,000
Living Water International	1,760
Make a Difference Day	867
Northwest Assistance Ministries	7,000
Northwoods Early Learning Center Scholarships	2,000
Northwoods ESL Classes	1,635
Northwoods Mission Operating Fund	2,629
Northwoods Youth Mission Trip Scholarships	2,000
Pinecrest Presbyterian Church	1,800
Presbyterian Prayers of the People	3,000
Redeemed Ministries	2,730
Sleep in Heavenly Peace	4,855
United Campus Ministries -U of H	1,000
TOTAL Local	54,731

<u>STATE / NATIONAL / INTERNATIONAL</u>		
Amaanah Services		1,500
CEDEPCA - Central America		6,000
CUPS Mexico /U.S. Border Grant		2,000
First Presbyterian Church Havana		4,000
Hand in Hand School-Israel		2,000
International Seafarers Center		1,500
Northwoods Staff Trip Leadership/Mission Trips		1,127
Presbyterian Pan American School		2,000
Rise Against Hunger		11,619
Sidewalk School		1,000
Su Casa de Esperanza		2,000
Texas Impact		3,000
TOTAL State / National / International		37,746
TOTAL MISSION OPERATING BUDGET		149,440
<u>SPECIAL OFFERINGS & GIVING PROGRAMS</u>		
Giving Tree		
Bonding Against Adversity		4,765
Habitat for Humanity (NWHC)		2,665
Faith In Practice		3,190
Living Water International		9,740
Redeemed Ministries		2,770
Sleep in Heavenly Peace		5,245
NAM Shoes		4,785
NAM Toys		695
Christmas Eve Offering		
Presbyterian Joy Gift		1,716
Presbyterian Children's Home		1,716
SOS Food Drive		3,319
Soup-er Bowl of Caring - Food Pantry		2,019
One Great Hour of Sharing		27,902
NAM Back to School		4,205
Designated Mission Giving		7,965
Disaster Relief		5,935
Total Special Offerings		88,632
		238,072

2021 Benevolences

In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."
Acts 20:35

Our Missions Ministry Team funded the following grants for our Northwoods Benevolences on behalf of our congregation. Most of our Partner Ministries that receive financial support from Northwoods also receive direct, hands-on involvement by servants in our congregation:

1960 Hope Center- The HOPE Center was formed to offer basic human services to our homeless brothers and sisters. At the center they will find a welcoming atmosphere where they can relax and hang out. The facility offers shelter from inclement weather, clean restrooms, hot showers, a laundry, lunch and other necessities. Beyond the temporary basic needs, there are also mental health providers, support groups, and life coaches to help the men and women get out of homelessness.

\$4,575

Bonding Against Adversity – BAA was created as a non-profit Texas corporation to provide free and low-cost community outreach programs for disadvantaged residents with an emphasis on healthy living, safe living and reducing secondary school dropout rates. They help people in the United States who are here legally complete their path to citizenship. Our church supports BAA through our Giving Tree Offering. This amount represents funds sent from our operating budget.

\$3,735

CanCare - This ministry matches cancer survivors with those who are receiving treatment to provide support and hope. As a partner congregation, we provide benevolent support, and survivors in our congregation serve as CanCare volunteers.

\$3,000

CEDEPCA (Protestant Center for Pastoral Studies in Central America) - Presbytery of New Covenant and Northwoods have a long-standing partnership with this ecumenical ministry which is based in Guatemala. Our grant helps support its Women's Pastoral Program with courses that promote the dignity, self-esteem, and leadership of women, the elimination of violence against women, and biblical training.

\$6,000

CUPS Mexico/U.S.Border Grant – Funds will be used to repair a kindergarten classroom in Ensenada and for roof repairs at a special education classroom in Valle Hermoso. Years ago and before all the drug violence began in Mexico, Northwoods would send a Missions work group to this part of Mexico to build classrooms. These may very well be the classrooms we built back then. Repairs now would allow the building to continue to serve these two communities for years to come.

\$2,000

ESL Ministry – offer English classes to immigrants and other non-native speakers in our area to help them integrate into our society.

1,635

Fe & Justicia Worker Center – This ministry provides a safe place for low-wage workers to learn about their rights in the workplace and advocates to improve working conditions on the job. The center also attempts to obtain earnings that are due workers from their employers.

\$1,000

Faith in Practice – Funds will help to support the crucial medical and dental care of Guatemalans who live in extreme poverty stricken areas where medical care is virtually non-existent.

\$2,310

First Presbyterian Church of Havana – Our benevolence assists our sister church in Cuba to offer helping outreach ministries to poor families and at-risk children in its surrounding community.

\$4,000

Habitat for Humanity of Northwest Harris County - Our Habitat affiliate builds affordable housing for families in need, providing a no-interest mortgage in exchange for "sweat equity" hours. Our church supports Habitat for Humanity through our Giving Tree Offering. This amount represents funds sent from our operating budget.

\$5,835

Hand-in-Hand School – Northwoods is part of a presbytery effort with the Jewish/Presbyterian Dialogue Group to support a school in Israel that brings together Jewish and Arab children to build a more integrated society. Our funds help to provide a Peacemaking Ministry Associate to work at this school.

\$2,000

Interfaith CarePartners - This ecumenical ministry oversees congregation-based care teams that minister to families caring for older loved ones. Our grant helps to cover the costs associated with these caregiving programs such as our Golden Gathering and Second Family Ministry.

\$3,000

International Seafarers Center Houston - The Houston International Seafarers' Centers are a "home away from home" for seafarers visiting the Port of Houston. There is a team of ministers on duty, including two Presbyterian chaplains, and our grant helps to pay the salary of these two chaplains.

\$1,500

International Living Water – ILW exists to demonstrate the love of God helping communities acquire desperately needed clean water, and to experience living water – the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our church supports ILW through our giving tree offering. This amount represents additional funds sent from our operating budget.

\$1,760

Joy Gift – The Christmas Joy Offering provides assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges. Our Christmas Eve Offering is split between the Joy Gift and the Presbyterian Children Homes and Services. This amount represents additional funds sent from our operating budget.

\$2,066

Make a Difference Day – NPC's Annual Day of serving around our community as well as globally. We place great value on giving not only money to support ministry but giving our time and ourselves to service.

\$867

Northwest Assistance Ministries - Our ecumenical coalition provides services to meet the basic needs of persons in Northwest Harris County. In addition to our \$4,000 pledge as a Covenant Congregation, our \$3,000 grant for the Family Violence Center. The FVC offers a variety of services to victims/survivors of domestic violence and Sexual assault.

\$7,000

Northwoods Early Learning Center Pre-School – We provided scholarships for disadvantaged children of two families to attend our pre-school. Families go through an approval process and pay a portion of the tuition.

\$2,000

Northwoods Mission Operating Fund - Our operating account covers expenditures such as mission project supplies, study materials, and emergency help for members.

\$2,629

Northwoods Mission Leadership – Our Pastors provided leadership for our mission trips and international partnerships.

\$1,127

Northwoods Youth Mission Trip – Support for our Northwoods Youth on their summer mission trips

\$2,000

Presbyterian Pan American School – Is a Christian international, college-prep, boarding school in Kingsville, Tx. The school has strong relationships with several countries throughout the world who send their students to PPAS.

\$2,000

Peace and Global Witness Offering – Northwoods helps to support peacemaking programs and efforts of our Presbyterian Church (USA).

\$750

Pinecrest Presbyterian Church - This sister church is located in the Fifth Ward and developed the Youth Employment Program to provide at-risk youth with job skills. Ten youth are placed in jobs for 6 weeks, 24 hours a week, at \$150 per week. This benevolence provided the "salary" for two youth for six weeks of "employment" in a supervised work setting.

\$1,800

Prayers Of the People (POP) – The primary focus of Prayers of the People (POP) is providing spiritual care to patients, families and healthcare professionals in the healthcare systems with whom it partners. Lay Ministers are trained to provide spiritual care, and offer prayer and solace to those in need. The presence of God can provide peace and comfort to those coping with the challenges of illness such as disruption from daily life, varying levels of isolation, and suffering.

\$3,000

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) - As a connectional church, Northwoods helps to support the ministries, missions, and work of our denomination. Our funds support Presbytery of New Covenant; Synod of the Sun, and PC(U.S.A.).

\$46,080.64

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Missionaries – \$1,000 provided undesignated missionary support, \$1000 supported Leslie Vogel, who serves as Co-mission worker living in Guatemala. She supervises mission workers in Mexico and Guatemala.

\$2,000

Presbyterian Seminaries – Our grant of \$2,000 each supports the Austin Presbyterian Seminary and San Francisco Theological Seminary.

Redeemed Ministries – Their focus population is Domestic Adult Women Sex Trafficking Victims. Redeemed Ministries helps survivors of adult domestic sex trafficking by offering a safe environment for holistic healing. Our church supports Redeemed Ministries through our Giving Tree Offering. This amount represents additional funds sent from our operating budget.

\$2,730

Rise Against Hunger – The vision of this international hunger relief agency is to end hunger, and it distributes food and lifesaving aid to the world's most vulnerable. This money paid for the food, staff support, and transport of 35,000 meal packets which 120 of our volunteers assembled on "Make a Difference Day."

\$11,619

Sleep in Heavenly Peace – Northwoods accepted a new ministry partner for 2018. SHP is the only charity providing bunk beds to children who do not have a bed of their own. Gary Akin, started this chapter and many Northwoods members are helping to build and deliver beds including all the bedding. Our funds helped to start this worthwhile program. Our church supports SHP through our Giving Tree Offering. This amount represents funds sent from our operating budget.

\$4,855

Su Casa de Esperanza - This Presbyterian ministry improves the lives of families in the south Texas border region by providing prenatal education, after-school programs, parenting skills, health care, nutrition, and basic job skills. Our grant supports the Early Childhood Development Program to provide parent education and family support in order to give their children the best possible start in life.

\$2,000

Texas Impact – This statewide religious grassroots network works to advance state public policies that are consistent with universally held social principles of religious traditions, serving as a voice for the voiceless.

\$3,000

United Campus Ministries of Greater Houston – This campus ministry, sponsored by the Presbyterian Church (USA), the United Church of Christ, and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), uses our benevolence to help sustain this presence on area campuses as they minister to students, faculty, and staff.

\$1,000

