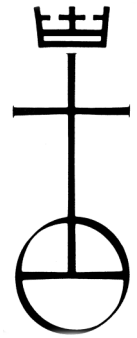

Union Congregational United Church of Christ



Annual Report for 2021

186th Annual Meeting



Union Congregational United Church of Christ

716 South Madison Street
Green Bay, Wisconsin 54301

920-437-9266
office@unionucc.com



Our Annual Meeting Sunday, January 30, 2022

The 186th Annual Meeting of
Union Congregational United Church of Christ
will convene via Zoom at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, January 30.

(Note: Dial-in attendees will need to vote via text/phone.
Instructions will be provided during the meeting.)

- Reports will be received, retiring Ministry chairs and vice-chairs will be recognized, elections will be held for new leaders of our congregation.
- The 2022 budget will be proposed, discussed and adopted.
- We will vote to renew our membership in JOSHUA for 2022.



Back row (l-r): Drew Ferry, Will Ferry, Olivia VerGiesen, Ezra Harkoff and Charlie Reese
 Front row (l-r): Grace Harkoff, Valentina Espinosa and Josie Flad Daniels

On the Cover

Olivia VerGiesen, Valentina Espinosa, and Grace Harkoff were angels in Union Church's 2021 Christmas Pageant. This scene and others (see photo above) were recorded in Union's courtyard on November 20 under the watchful eyes of **Christie Reese** (left) and **Kevin Sheier** (right). For a second year in a row, the pageant was a recorded service in order to incorporate as many families as possible in a healthy manner.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Agenda	2
The Clerk's Report	3
Minutes: 185th Annual Meeting	3-7
Moderator	8-9
Pastoral Annual Report.....	10-12
Wisconsin Conference Minister Report	13
Education Ministry	14-15
Faith Formation Leaders	15
The Peg Jaeger Church Library.....	15
Membership and Inreach Ministry.....	16-17
Women's Fellowship; Men's Fellowship; Priscilla Circle.....	17
Outreach Ministry	18-22
JOSHUA	20
EPH	21-22
Worship Ministry.....	23-26
Resuming In-Person Ministry Task Force	26
Stewardship Ministry	27-28
Memorial Garden	29
Nominating Committee.....	30
Membership Statistical Report for 2021.....	31-33
Financials for 2021.....	34-38
Balance Sheet.....	35
Treasurer's Report	36
Gifts and Memorials Ministry	37-38

UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Green Bay, Wisconsin

186th Annual Meeting
Convening via Zoom following the Worship Service
Sunday, January 30, 2022

NOTE: Please review the reports in this booklet *prior* to the Annual Meeting.

Call to Order and Approval of Agenda	Tim Harder Moderator
Constituting Prayer and Memorial Moments	Bridget Flad Daniels Senior Minister
Declaration of Quorum	Gail Hohenstein, Clerk
Opening Remarks	Moderator, Pastor
Approval of Minutes	Clerk
Annual Reports: Highlights, Questions	Ministry Chairs
Presentation of the Proposed 2022 Budget	Jeff Gibson, Treasurer
JOSHUA Membership for 2022	Jeff Gibson
Recognition: Retiring Ministry Chairs	Moderator
Nominating Committee Report	Sandy Polarek
Litany for Commissioning: New Members of Common Ministry and Committees	Moderator, Pastor, Congregation
Other Business	Moderator
Benediction	Pastor Bridget Flad Daniels

The Clerk's Report

The minutes of the monthly meetings of the Common Ministry have been recorded and approved. Copies of the minutes have been filed in the Minutes book in the main office and posted on the bulletin board across from the office and on the Church website for public access.

The minutes of the 185th Annual Meeting of January 31, 2021 have been reviewed by the Common Ministry and are included in this Annual Report for approval at the 186th Annual Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Hohenstein, Clerk

MINUTES OF THE 185th ANNUAL MEETING January 31, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: The 185th Annual Meeting of Union Congregational United Church of Christ of Green Bay, Wisconsin was called to order by Moderator Sandy Polarek at 11:15 a.m. virtually via Zoom.

CONSTITUTING PRAYER AND MEMORIAL MOMENTS: Pastor Bridget Flad Daniels led the congregation in prayer, based on "For a New Beginning" from John O'Donohue's book, *"To Bless The Space Between Us,"* asking us to remember the following members who died this past year:

Robert Koller	Julie Fahres	Richard Lathrop	Betty Brown
Marjorie Roshong	Jack Riopelle	Charles Smith	

DECLARATION OF QUORUM: According to the Constitution, as amended, a quorum consists of 6% of the active membership of the congregation. As of December 31, 2020, Union Congregational United Church of Christ had 534 active members. Clerk Gail Hohenstein declared that by visual observation, the necessary quorum to conduct business was present.

OPENING REMARKS:

Moderator Polarek noted that the Annual Meeting is a very important moment in the life of church, where we celebrate what we accomplished in the past (very different than expected) year and make plans for the future. She expressed gratitude for the leadership of Bridget Flad Daniels, who will be starting her 7th year as our Senior Pastor, for Jon Pahl's over two-year ministry among us, to the church staff for helping us through these uncharted times, and for those who have served, who continue to lead, and who have stepped up to new leadership roles for the coming year. She noted that none of us would have thought a year ago that we would be meeting virtually this year, rather than getting ready for a potluck upstairs after the meeting. She shared that we have indeed been the church more than ever this year; we have proven the church is more than a building—it is a community

which supports each other and find ways to “be the church” even during a pandemic. She thanked all for being here to continue our over 180-year tradition of being that church. Last, Moderator Polarek thanked Michael Lukens for serving as the Parliamentarian for this meeting.

Pastor Bridget Flad Daniels reminded us of this year’s stewardship theme, “We are Union . . . More than Ever” and expressed that we have been doing and being that more than ever; so many have stepped up and are truly living the faith. She expressed a huge thank you to Shaun Shouldeen. Because of his technical skills and commitment, we were able to hit the ground running with truly excellent virtual worship services. Shaun shared that it served him well to contribute in this way. Bridget also thanked everyone who has been a part of worship, especially the music ministry. She finds it amazing that outreach and in-reach have been stronger than ever. She also shared her gratitude to all who allowed her family leave amid pandemic, especially to Jon for leadership especially during that time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Jammie VerGiesen moved and Jeff Gibson seconded that the minutes of the 184th Annual Meeting be approved as written in the Annual Report. The motion carried by a voice vote.

ANNUAL REPORTS, HIGHLIGHTS AND QUESTIONS:

“How has each Ministry been Union More than Ever.”

EDUCATION

Nancy Gibson shared that Faith Formation has adapted with short videos and has experienced a large increase in participation. She also expressed gratitude to Helen Krueger, Jon Pahl and Bridget Flad Daniels, as well as the teachers, parents and other adults who have helped the Education Ministry’s efforts, and encouraged all to either consider joining into one of the Ministry’s offerings or perhaps joining the Ministry.

INREACH/NEW MEMBER

Denise Olson reflected that Inreach has made efforts to stay involved despite the pandemic. The Christmas cards to church members were well-received, and one new member class joined the church. They are looking forward to getting back to in-person church.

OUTREACH

Christie Reese reported that church efforts and the availability of Gifts & Memorials funds have allowed Outreach to help Union be God’s hands and feet in the community. She said she is honored and humbled to be a part of this community in which we have continued and increased our work. One new effort has been the Blessings Box. Many people have been involved from building the box, placing it, decorating it, and a dedicated group stocking the box. Many people have stepped up and taken on leadership roles. She reminded us of the “stock the box” drive the first Saturday of each month. It is one great example of Union serving the community.

WORSHIP

Betty Bienash said Worship Ministry has been committed to making the Christ spirit dominant in our lives for our church community by adapting to the demands of COVID-19 in a manner that helps us meet our spiritual needs while keeping us all healthy. Beginning with our March 15th service, we began streaming Sunday services. Thanks to a tech team composed of Clay Reese, Shaun Shouldeen, Jeff Gibson and Eric Harkoff, we have adapted to developing worship services

that are both creative and meaningful. By combining elements that are pre-recorded in various locations, our virtual services have united us in a way, as they represent the combined effort of so many, whether as pastoral leaders, musicians, readers, or special service participants. Pastor Bridget and Dr. Pahl have planned and developed creative services, including the Christmas Pageant, the Christmas Eve Drive-in and streamed service, and Heifer Sunday, which have responded to the needs of the church community. She noted that in some ways virtual services have been a benefit in that they have allowed some to participate who might have otherwise been unable to participate due to health situation or physical distance, and that streamed services will continue even after we are again able to meet in person.

STEWARDSHIP

Clay Reese reported that we had another successful stewardship campaign, and gave thanks to Bruce Shafer for organizing the campaign follow-up team. Clay reminded us that our building is very old and will need continuing attention. He expressed gratitude for the substantial work that Bill Johnson has been doing around the church, and that the sexton opening is expected to be filled soon. He also shared that the equipment for continued streaming of church services will be installed soon.

GIFTS & MEMORIALS

Nicole Polarek shared profound gratitude for the gifts made over time to the Gifts & Memorials Funds, which have allowed for continued church investment in the church's legacy of social action. We, as Union, continue to show up in many ways including continued support for an Associate Pastor position in a time which requires more ministry, contributions to We All Rise, support for the Christmas Eve Drive-in service. She noted the great care that the Ministry takes in responsibility for the funds.

IN-PERSON WORSHIP TASK FORCE: "COMMUNAL COVENANT"

Betty Bienash, representing the Task Force, shared the Communal Covenant developed by the Task Force with Common Ministry approval. She said it gives a picture of how it will be when we are able to safely gather together. Task Force membership includes Betty Bienash, Gail Carels, Heather Collins, Bridget Flad Daniels, Jeff Gibson, Steve Hartman and Sherry Warren. Bridget added that the Task Force is aware that there are church members who would like to understand the protocols for making the decision about a return to in-person worship, and noted that next Sunday after worship there will be an explanatory session (via Zoom) in which Sherry Warren will walk through the DPH data that will be used for decision-making on safe return to in-person services.

2021 BUDGET

Jeff Gibson distributed the proposed 2021 budget. He briefly reviewed year-end 2020 results, noting that through congregational giving, the final year of Gifts & Memorials support, receipt of PPP funds, and attention to control of expenses, we ended 2020 with a surplus of about \$1,000 rather than the anticipated deficit. He then turned to the proposed 2021 budget, and noted that due to the end of Gifts & Memorials grant, we continue to have a structural deficit. He shared the recommendation of the Budget Priority Committee, approved by Common Ministry, that in 2021 the Associate Pastor staffing will be full time through May and half time thereafter. The 2021 budget lowers pledge income and increases non-pledge income, reflecting giving patterns of recent years. Room rentals have been negatively impacted by the closing of Mayflower Nursery School, but the Brain Center has committed to leasing space for 2021. We anticipate using much of our surplus in 2021, which will leave issues to

be dealt with for 2022. Jeff moved that the recommended 2021 budget be adopted by the congregation. Gail Carels seconded. Two questions were raised about the PPP loan. Bridget responded with the information that we utilized all of the PPP loan on salary and benefits, so it will not have to be repaid, and further that we do not qualify for the second “draw” of the PPP. The motion was approved in a vote conducted by way of a Zoom poll.

JOSHUA MEMBERSHIP FOR 2021

Jeff Gibson shared information about JOSHUA activities in 2020. He moved that Union continue to support JOSHUA with a \$1,000 membership. Mark Smith seconded the motion and it was approved.

RECOGNITION OF RETIRING MINISTRY MEMBERS

Retiring members of ministries and chairs and vice-chairs were thanked for their service:

Sandy Polarek	Moderator	Bruce Shafer	Personnel Committee
Nicole Polarek	Co-Chair, Gifts & Memorials	David Hassel	Vice-Chair, Worship
Avonelle Weist	Communications Coordinator	Lou Norsetter	Nominating Committee
Helen Krueger	Vice-Chair, Education	Christie Reese	Chair, Outreach
Julie Harder	Pastoral Relations Committee	Achim Seifert	Vice-Chair, Outreach

Bridget added deep gratitude for Sandy Polarek’s service, and said her strong, faithful and wise voice is a remarkable witness to the faith. She added that as a way of thanking Sandy for her service, the church has made a donation in Sandy’s name to NEWCAP’s newly established family shelter

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Lou Norsetter gave the Nominating Committee report. On behalf of the Nominating Committee, she moved the following nominees be elected for two-year terms, and the motion was seconded by Jeff Gibson:

Tim Harder	Moderator	Paco Espinosa	Co-Chair, Gifts & Memorials
Gail Hohenstein	Clerk	Nicole Kinjerski	Vice-Chair, Membership & Inreach
Jeff Gibson	Treasurer	Betty Bienash	Chair, Worship
Benny Rieth	Vice-Chair, Education	Zoe Harkoff	Vice-Chair, Worship
Achim Seifert	Chair, Outreach	Sandy Polarek	Nominating Committee
Christie Reese	Vice-Chair, Outreach		

and that the following nominees be elected for the terms set forth below:

Jeff Gibson	JOSHUA Liaison
Ryan Rieth	Personnel Committee – 3 years
Bill Johnson	Pastoral Relations Committee – 4 years
Ruth Homrighaus & Mary Ann Hudson	Communications Coordinators – 1 year

COMMISSIONING NEW MEMBERS OF COMMON MINISTRY AND COMMITTEES

A Litany for Commissioning of the new members was conducted, after which Sandy Polarek (virtually) handed over the gavel to Tim Harder. He thanked Sandy for the peaceful transition of power and for the wise guidance during the last 4 years, especially during the last year. He hopes he will be able to serve with the same grace. There followed a virtual but heartfelt round of applause for Sandy.

OTHER BUSINESS

Bridget added the following:

Common Ministry is working to constitute two new teams. The first is a team to strategically, both in finance and mission, look at use of the space formerly utilized by Mayflower Nursery School. (Several organizations have inquired about the space.) The second is a generosity team. She reiterated that while we have the grace of a surplus this year, this is not a long-term structural reality. Relative to staffing, she noted that we are hoping to soon have a start date for a new sexton, and gave thanks to Mark Smith for his considerable effort in re-wiring a number of the overhead fixtures to increase energy efficiency. Last, she expressed appreciation to Ryan Rieth, who even before being elected to the Personnel Committee, has made great contributions in helping Bridget with human resource issues during this last year.

BENEDICTION

Linda Larson moved and Mark Smith seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried. Dr. Pahl gave the benediction, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail A. Hohenstein
Clerk

Moderator

What a long strange trip it has been ... and continues to be!

I am happy to report, however, that the pandemic has not lessened Union's commitment to love our neighbors. That love can be found in our advocacy for vaccinations and prudent health practices, which have been guided by the In-Person Ministry Task Force. The committee members have worked diligently to guide Union through these uncharted waters. I don't think any of the committee members realized how long their committee would be needed, but we appreciate the time and service they have spent on behalf of Union.

In a world where so many are struggling, Union's Outreach Ministry continues to love our neighbors in many tangible ways. Through the gifts of time, in kind, and monetary gifts of many generous members, Union has an impact on our community and our world. I am thankful for all involved and for all who help support our Outreach Ministry.

I am also thankful for all who have worked to return to in-person worship while still maintaining our online presence. Thanks to the time and generosity of members, we can reach those who need the in-person experience, those who prefer to worship from home, as well as many outside our community who otherwise would not connect with Union. Through this transition, the Worship Ministry has continued to be a creative force in our worship at Union. Worship is an important time in the week when we pause, center ourselves, and renew our commitment to love God and neighbor. I have learned there is nothing routine about our Sunday morning services. The amount of preparation, coordination, and number of people involved to make worship happen is something we should not take for granted.

We also should not take for granted the work it takes to maintain our beautiful building. The Stewardship Ministry has a very talented and dedicated group of individuals who see to the upkeep of our building and grounds. Given the many groups that use Union during the week, this is truly a ministry and another way we love our neighbors. In coordination with the Treasurer, Stewardship also oversees the financial wellbeing of the church. Thanks, too, to Gifts & Memorials Ministry which, through careful attention to our investments, is able to be the source of the grants that Union makes to groups aligned with our missional values.

Loving our neighbors, of course, includes loving those within our Union community. Our Membership and Inreach Ministry has shifted toward caring for those who have been more isolated by the pandemic. The Visitation Ministry matches volunteers to members who are looking for more contact with their Union family. Thank you for this vital ministry.

Speaking of more contact, the isolating effect of the pandemic on youth has been significant. The Education Ministry moved this fall to in-person meetings for the youth whose families feel comfortable with in-person classes and they continue to provide at-home resources for Faith Formation for families who choose not to gather at this time. Meanwhile, adult education has continued remotely. Remote contacts for many will never replace in-person contacts, but I understand that, thanks to an increased social media profile, we are reaching not only members, but also our neighbors. Many thanks to our Communications Committee for the social media and website work that has been ongoing!

The past year brought the resignation of Dr. Jon Pahl as our associate pastor after three years of ministry, and we thank him for his service to Union. This, of course, has greatly added to the day-to-day responsibilities of Senior Pastor Bridget Flad Daniels. The biggest revelation of my first year as Moderator has been the diverse responsibilities of our Pastor. She deals with everything from grease traps to public health, from personnel issues to building codes, from finance to waste disposal contracts. And somewhere in the midst of these diverse responsibilities, she manages to be a compassionate pastoral presence for those in need... and still finds time to preach a great sermon!

In medicine, we talk about practicing at the top of one's license, which means minimizing time spent on things that do not require a physician's training. I am convinced that Bridget is not practicing at the top of her seminary training! The more we as Union members can be actively involved in church life, the more time Bridget will have for the superb, compassionate, and wise pastoral care that we have all come to treasure.

As we head into the new year, hoping we'll eventually get some pandemic relief, our neighbors in need cannot wait. All of our ministries are vital to our efforts to love our neighbors. Worship and Education open our hearts and minds to hear God's call. Stewardship and Gifts & Memorials provide the resources needed to love our neighbors, and Membership and Outreach deliver tangible signs of love to our neighbors near and far. None of this can happen without the generosity of time, talent and treasure from our Union community.

In the coming year may we all be open to God's nudging to, in some way, love our neighbors, no exceptions!

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Tim Harder

Pastoral Annual Report 2021

In the following pages you will find stories of the work of our church - reports of audits and COVID mitigation protocols, generosity and our second Online Christmas Pageant. The thread that runs through all of these pages, the thread that ties them all together, can actually be summed up in the theme we used for our pledge campaign this fall: Love Your Neighbor. No Exceptions.

Our ministries continued to start each of our meetings with the question, "How does our work affect Union's commitment to social and racial justice?" This priority, rooted in Jesus' call to love our neighbors as lived out in our current time and place, substantially shaped our Adult Education in the spring, served as a touchstone for our Youth Group topics, informed how and with whom Outreach Ministry engaged projects, and inspired Worship Ministry to be careful, invitational, and nuanced as we strive to be an anti-racist community.

One service I am particularly proud of is the Gathered In Faith Together celebration of the National Day of Prayer in May. This group decided not to hold a service on Martin Luther King Day in January, but still wanted to lift up themes of justice and inclusion. At my recommendation, we invited Union member Michael Vinson to preach a service in honor of the National Day of Prayer in which we highlighted how relevant Dr. King's "The Other America" still is today. Mr. Vinson's reflection was so profound I asked him to reprise it in worship here at Union on Independence Day, which he did powerfully.

In yet another service in which we lived our commitment to love our neighbors without exception, Union co-sponsored an ecumenical PRIDE worship service in July with Pilgrim Congregational Church and St. Norbert College Parish. Over 100 people gathered to hear Dr. Craig Ford remind us of God's unfailing, non-discriminatory love, and since the service was outdoors, we were able to follow up with a potluck, even amidst COVID.

Speaking of COVID, the way this congregation has responded to the pandemic is perhaps the most telling story of how we have loved our neighbors in 2021. This was a year of tremendous loss, following another year of tremendous loss. From March of 2020 into June of 2021, Union's worship was conducted exclusively online, our meetings were virtual, as were our classes and Youth Groups. Throughout this time, our members have behaved with grace and compassion, consistently putting health and wellbeing at the forefront, even when that has meant personal sacrifice and loss. Innumerable members recorded content for worship each week which Shaun Shouldeen produced into marvelous, meaningful prayer experiences. Perhaps most tangibly, many families postponed Memorial Services for months, some even more than a year, after their loved ones died, in order to wait for a time when gathering would be healthier. Even those who chose not to wait engaged strong safety practices, even as they struggled with grief which was compounded by the isolation of COVID. In June, we returned to worship in the sanctuary with masks, pews roped off to promote social distancing, and the ability to livestream the services. In September, families of our children and youth decided to hold classes in-person, but to wear masks and forego eating together in order to mitigate risk. While many of the activities usually organized by Membership and Inreach Ministry were curtailed amidst the pandemic, their Visitation Ministry has flourished as a team of ten Union members make monthly visits to more than a dozen fellow congregants. Over and over and over again, our church has demonstrated love of neighbor.

Love of neighbor is also central to the ministry we do through the Parson's Purse. This is a non-budgeted account to which church members contribute funds which allow me to respond to the real, immediate human needs that cross our threshold. In a typical year, through the Parson's Purse, I am able to help people cover emergency needs such as prescriptions, utility bills, gift cards for gas, or a night in a hotel room when the shelters are full or unable to accommodate someone for some reason. With the creation of our Blessing Box, I'm delighted to report that we're actually getting fewer requests for help from the Parson's Purse. This ministry, which is anonymous in order to protect the recipients' dignity, is always a powerful way that our church loves our neighbors, and this year was no exception.

Parson's Purse — 2021

Beginning Balance	\$6,304.94
Donations	\$10,938.73
Disbursements	\$11,578.69
Ending Balance	\$5,664.98

*rent, transportation, medical, food, utilities, insurance

One Parson's Purse story bears sharing. Having heard early in the pandemic that there were people struggling to pay rent, this household asked me if I knew of anyone who was in need of rent assistance. I quickly identified a family in our community, and the generous donor then proceeded to send a \$400 check each month for over a year to help supplement the struggling household's rent. We're delighted to report that the receiving household is back on their feet and the donor household is supporting other meaningful causes. Here again, Union's commitment to love our neighbors is a humbling witness to how truly our congregation lives the Gospel.

Union also continues to strive to love our neighbors with the way that we utilize one of our biggest resources, our building. We were honored that our nonprofit incubator space served as the first home of the Brain Center of Green Bay as they worked to bring wholistic brain health resources to NE Wisconsin. At the end of December, the Brain Center moved to new accommodations which will help them to live their mission even more fully. We are also honored to continue to house On the Mark Dyslexia Clinic in our lower level. In 2021, OTM was a game changer in the lives of more than 70 students as they provided one-on-one tutoring as well as dyslexia education for parents, teachers, and the community. As we look to 2022, the "Space Force" (Union's task force established to discern how best to utilize the lower level of our building and beyond) will be looking at how we can make some renovations to the lower level to make it more conducive to both Union's Faith Formation ministries as well as these mission-aligned users. With the departure of the Brain Center, we are also searching for the next mission-aligned nonprofit that will help us to put our building into the service of loving our neighbors.

This report would not be complete without a shout-out to a few of the behind-the-scenes ministries that often go unnoticed, but that help build the infrastructure for our church to be as active as we are in loving our neighbors: our Generosity Team and our Communications Coordinators. In the spring of 2021, four Union members participated in a course entitled "Cultivating Generous Congregations" which was sponsored by the UCC. This course inspired the calling together of a Generosity Team. Emily Larson Smith, Les and Peggy VanVonderen, Jeff Gibson, Jeff Carels, Clay Reese, Ruth Homrighaus, and Tim Harder have met roughly monthly with me to implement creative best practices around congregational giving, all with a mind to helping our church have the financial health to be able to do the ministry we're called to. Getting the word out about Union's love of neighbors has been the call for our Communications Coordinators, Ruth Homrighaus and Mary Ann Hudson. From updating and maintaining our website, to posting content to our Facebook page, to getting Union started on Instagram, to writing copy for church communications, Ruth and Mary Ann are two more of the unsung volunteers whose time and talents help Union to be a bringer of God's love into our neighbors' lives.

Last, thank you to our moderator, Tim Harder. Stepping into the role of the lay leader of the congregation is not easy at the best of times, and stepping in amidst pandemic added numerous challenges. Throughout this year, Tim has given countless hours as he attended almost every ministry meeting and innumerable task force meetings. His wisdom, good humor, candor, and brevity are all worth their weight in gold, and even more importantly, he has helped me to keep my sanity by providing sage perspective and asking good questions. The congregation, and I, are indebted to you, Tim!

Reports like this always risk accidentally forgetting people who made meaningful contributions, so instead of thinking of this as a comprehensive list of our ministry, view this report as some snapshots of some of the meaningful ways we've lived our faith this year. In all of this, it is truly an honor to pastor a congregation that so deeply embodies Jesus' commandment to love God and neighbor as we love ourselves. There are many more stories of love of neighbor in these pages, and even more in the hearts of this congregation. Thank you, both to those whose stories are shared in these pages, and to all of you. As you hear me lift up often in prayer, I am so deeply grateful for ALL of the ways that you live your faith. May the world know God's love better by knowing us!

Yours in grace and peace,

Rev. Bridget Flad Daniels
Senior Minister

2021 Annual Report of the Wisconsin Conference United Church of Christ

"Surely there is a future, and your hope will not be cut off."

I recently came across this little gem of a proverb (Proverbs 23:18), which serves as a daily reminder that the future of the Church is less about the agility of our religious institutions and more about the movement of God's Holy Spirit in our midst. Our hope is rooted not in the preservation of structures and former ways, but in our trust that God's transformational grace is doing a new thing among us. Through Christ, we are empowered to make a profound difference in this world.

Despite the challenges posed by nearly two years of the COVID-19 pandemic, **Our Church's Wider Mission** continues to bring goodness and hope to a broken and fragile world. No sooner had we begun to anticipate a reprieve, than the omicron variant began spreading like wildfire. Yet, as one pastor put it, "Our congregation has advanced technologically two decades in two years!" By and large, our congregations have stuck together as the *body of Christ*, continuing to carry out incredible local missions, and providing tender congregational care and rich spiritual nourishment. Beautiful stories of adaptation and innovation abound!

Our Conference mission – **connecting, equipping, supporting and resourcing local congregations and leaders** – provides a strong witness to our UCC family throughout Wisconsin, as we guide congregations through searches and tensions, visioning and stewarding. 2021 presented the Conference field staff with an extraordinary volume of pastoral transitions. The Great Resignation has affected our pool of available ministers, and we have worked diligently to provide pastoral coverage by using retirees, student ministers, licensed pastors, and pulpit supply lay people. By the grace of God, we have kept pulpits filled with no pastors to spare.

The **Wisconsin Foundation of the United Church of Christ** has been a great investment vehicle for several congregations, and we continue to offer stewardship training and legacy planning. We are also working hard to cultivate additional Conference revenue streams that will secure this mission for years to come.

We've launched an online learning initiative called the **Damascus Project**, and we celebrate this new iteration of the Lay Academy as a way to widen our reach and expand our programming to include deeper faith formation for lay people, training for those who seek authorized ministry, and continuing education courses for clergy.

United Church Camps, Inc. has endured two challenging COVID years, but is well positioned for a robust post-omicron 2022. The renaming of Pilgrim Center – it's now Daycholah, the indigenous name for Green Lake – was a remarkable expression of respect for those who first lived along those shores.

Several energetic **Justice Working Groups** are resourcing local congregations' work around climate change, racial equity, indigenous justice, immigration, peace, sexual violence, and LGBTQ+ advocacy.

Finally, it is a remarkable gift to work alongside such talented and joyful **Conference staff** colleagues! In 2021 we celebrated the retirement of longtime Communications Director Deb Simon, and welcomed semi-retired journalist Mark Baldwin in a halftime communications capacity. In late fall, we bid farewell to the Rev. Lorraine Cenicerros, who was called to be the new Kansas-Oklahoma Conference Minister. This morning we extended a call to a very promising new ACM for our southern region! Finally, I want to thank you for the prayers and love many of you have expressed to the Rev. Rob MacDougall, whose beloved wife Wendy continues chemo treatments. The circle of love is a powerful thing.

Submitted with steadfast hope,
The Rev. Franz Rigert
Conference Minister

Education Ministry

The purpose of Education Ministry is to provide support, coordination and vision-keeping in the planning and administration of Christian education. Throughout the year, many Union members contributed their time and talents for the various programs and educational offerings.

Until September, Faith Formation leaders sent a weekly video to the families. YCA met weekly via Zoom and Pilgrim Fellowship used a combination of Zoom and videos. We experienced success with the remote options. This fall we returned to in-person. Some families have chosen to stay home until COVID numbers are lower, but the students and leaders that are participating are enjoying being back together.

Faith Formation has been divided into 4K – 1st, 2nd – 4th, and 5th and up. Currently nursery is not being provided. It will resume when COVID numbers decrease.

Pilgrim Fellowship has been working on a 4-week rotation: social justice book, service projects, spiritual, and a fun activity. This has been very successful.

Young Christians in Action has been struggling with numbers. They are currently thinking about joining PF at least part time. When numbers increase, they would resume being their own group.

- Seminary Secrets has been meeting on Wednesdays via Zoom, led by Julie Harder. It is topic orientated.
- Bible Study is held virtually on Tuesdays.
- Sunday Adult Education is held via Zoom on some Sundays. Topics have included Dietrich Bonhoeffer, several book studies, study of anti-racism, with guest speakers representing Native Americans, African Americans, and Somalis. We also heard from the UCC Wisconsin Conference Generosity Minister.
- The Pandemic Canvas Project was presented.
- We had a program on the symbolism of Light and Darkness in Christmas by Julie Harder.

We are currently looking for someone to coordinate Adult Education with Pastor Bridget.

Although education has been different than in previous years, we are happy to report that our programs are doing well. Thank you to parents, students, leaders, and ministers for helping this happen.

Thank you to the Education Ministry members: vice-chair Benny Rieth, Heather Collins, Helen Krueger, Ed Tucker. Also, thank you to Julie Harder for offering so much quality adult education and to Pastor Bridget Flad Daniels (and Jon Pahl during the first half of the year) and to Tim Harder, Moderator.

We meet on the first Tuesday of the month, currently at 3:30 via Zoom. We welcome you to join us.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Gibson, chair

Faith Formation Leaders — 2021-2022 School Year

Christian Education at Union Church could not be achieved without the help of our Education Ministry members and many volunteers. Thank you!

- Sunday Faith Formation Leaders
 - 4K – 1st Teachers: **Karen Hogan, Nancy Gibson**
Assistants: **Christie Reese, Julie Thiel, Zach Seibel**
 - 2nd – 4th Teachers: **Anna Gallagher, Sindy Oakley**
Substitutes: **Eric Harkoff, Linda Jerabek, Sandy Polarek**
 - 5th – 8th Teachers: **Ed Tucker, Tim Harder, Lou Ann Norsetter**
Assistants: **Jeff Carels, Gail Carels, Betty Hartman, Karen Ludolph**
- Pilgrim Fellowship Leaders: **Marty Berry, Heather Collins, Julia Delvaux, Leah Seibel, Cathy Putman, Ed Tucker**
- YCA Leaders: **Benny Rieth, Sherry Warren, Kathleen Caylor, Tim Harder**
- Librarian: **Cathy Putman**
- Seminary Secrets Classes: **Julie Harder**
- Adult Education: **Pastor Bridget Flad Daniels, Julie Harder, Anne Rakow-Weist, and others**
- Nursery: **Not currently open**
- Nursery Roll Coordinators: **Sue Tucker, Sylvia Garrido**
- Youth Music Director: **Not currently active**

The Peg Jaeger Church Library

The themes of 2021 echo those of 2020 – slowed usage and slowed acquisition for the church library.

While we added 38 books to the collection, many were gifts of the congregation. New this year was an effort to separate mysteries onto their own shelf with collections of the Louise Penny Inspector Gamache series and Jacqueline Winspear's Maisie Dobbs books. We are also growing a collection of science fiction/fantasy, which is shelved separately from general fiction. Our holdings include classics from Tolkien and Pullman and some newer works. Genre fiction is popular, and some authors speak powerfully to the social and moral quandaries of our time. We are certainly open to donations from the congregation in these areas.

In lieu of a Used Book Sale, a basket of recent donations was and will continue to be available for \$1 apiece in the library. It's a quick browse, and you might find something interesting or fun. Titles added will be published in the Friday email blast.

The library is self-service, so it is open for your use even though church gatherings are still limited at this time. Just remember to sign books out by using the borrowing card in the back of the book.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Putman, Librarian

Membership and Inreach Ministry

Mission

The mission of the Membership and Inreach Ministry is to welcome new members into our church and to make current members and visitors feel welcome and connected. We do this by greeting before worship and facilitating the integration of new members into our church family. We give jars of cookie mix as a welcome gift to church visitors. We organize opportunities for socialization, fellowship, and care for members of Union Church. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this ministry.

Membership Ministry Meetings

We are always looking for more people to help with our new member and current member events. Membership Ministry meets at 5 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month.

New Members

In 2021, Union Church added eight new members.

Jean Van Erem	Chris and Ruth Fameree	Stephanie Lazzari and Amanda Nelson
Lucas Weissshappel	Zak Krueger and JoHanna Beal	

Social

Church Picnic: Potluck lunch for Church Picnic was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Reunion Sunday: Bring your own potluck for Reunion Sunday was outdoors on September 19.

Fellowship

Retreat: A group gathered September 10-12 at Moon Beach Camp in northern Wisconsin.

Wednesday Night Suppers: These meals were not offered in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Groups

Men's Fellowship Breakfasts: This group met for breakfast twice (July, August) in 2021.

Women's Advent Event: This event was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ladies Lunch Bunch: This group met twice for lunch (July, August) in 2021.

Receptions – Receptions typically held throughout the year (King's Cake, Annual Meeting Potluck, Easter Breakfast) were canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Care

Visitation Ministry: The ministry provides outreach to congregants. By visiting regularly, we hope to nurture the spirits of our members and provide a means for them to maintain a strong connection to our church community.

Memorial Reception Ministry: Provided receptions before or after funerals held at Union Church.

Baby Afghans and Prayer Shawl Ministry: Members knitted or crocheted shawls that were given to persons who were ill, in the midst of crisis, or who had suffered a loss. Members knitted or crocheted afghans as a gift to babies/young children at Baptism. Thank you, knitters and crocheters!

Card Ministry: Provides an opportunity for everyone to join in sending cards to our shut-ins and church family with special concerns each month on Communion Sunday.

Cooks Who Care Ministry: Provides meals for our church family members during times when a prepared meal is helpful. Thank you to Joni Delwiche and Joan Dudek for taking on the role as coordinators for this ministry.

First Friends Ministry: This ministry was started in 2020 and was created to help familiarize new members to Union. First Friends are matched with a new member household and reach out to the new family to help answer questions, inform new members of upcoming events and, hopefully once it is safe to do so, get together in fellowship.

We invite anyone that would like to join our dedicated group.

Please contact a ministry member if you are willing to help.

Ministry members are: Denise Olson (chair), Nicole Kinjerski (co-chair), Traci Briggs, Laurie Beauchamp, Lloyd Schaefer, Joni Delwiche, Kathy Seifert, and Joan Dudek.

Thank you to the greeters and to all who have helped our ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Olson, chair
Nicole Kinjerski, co-chair

Women's Fellowship

The Women's Advent Reflection, a Union Church tradition since 2007, did not take place in 2021 due to the pandemic. We have joyful hope that this tradition will resume in 2022.

The Ladies Lunch Bunch, introduced in 2021, met twice—in July and August—before suspending meetings for the remainder of the year.

Men's Fellowship

The Men's Fellowship met only in July and August this year due to COVID-19 concerns. We hope to re-start our traditional breakfast on the first Wednesday of the month once infection rates drop to safer levels.

Ed Tucker

Priscilla Circle

Priscilla Circle did not meet in 2021 due to COVID-19 concerns. The group hopes to reconvene on the fourth Tuesday of the month once health guidelines allow in-person social meetings.

Helen Krueger

Outreach Ministry

Once again, the COVID-19 pandemic had a major impact on the activities of the Outreach Ministry in 2021. As an example, we shifted to monetary collections for George's Secret Elves project during November and December, raising \$411 from the congregation with an additional \$289 from the Outreach Fundraising efforts, for a total of \$700 donated to this cause which provides food for children during school breaks.

Three exceptions to monetary donations were:

1. The Christmas Giving Trees to benefit The Brain Center, On the Mark Dyslexia Clinic, We All Rise African American Resource Center, and Minoka-Hill School. Two Christmas Giving Trees were done in 2021 with a physical tree at the annual Christmas tree sale and one near the church office, with tags for donations to the organizations mentioned above.
2. Our reverse Advent calendar this year benefiting We All Rise African American Resource Center. Many items were collected and delivered.
3. Collecting diapers and newborn items that Love Life uses to put together layettes for families with new babies, which occurred in conjunction with the baptism of Josie Flad Daniels.

A highlight to in-kind giving this year was that between congregational giving and the Parson's Purse we were able to give every student at Minoka-Hill School a \$20 Walmart gift card just before Christmas. The staff at Minoka-Hill reports that having the personal agency to be able to spend a little money is more of a gift to students than many of us can imagine.

In 2021, Outreach continued the Blessing Box ministry with monthly food drives and financial support. The project has been a great success both as far as the congregation coming together to make it work and the demonstrated need in the community that it appears to be filling. The box is filled three or more times per week by Union volunteers, and individuals also place items in the box throughout the week. In addition to a robust response of food, hygiene, and household items, \$6,534 has been raised in monetary donations to support this important ministry in our local community. Mary Hemminger, Jean Van Erem, Claudia Doelger and Marty Berry have all been instrumental in keeping the box stocked and food items organized. Late in 2021, the group decided to have staples shipped to the church so that grocery store runs could be lessened. Between donated food and monetary donations, we believe we are providing over \$25,000 in annual needed food and hygiene items to the community.

Heifer Sunday was November 7, raising \$6,216 for the international program, which means we once again were able to sponsor an Ark! This year, the COVID-19 pandemic precluded an indoor event, so an outdoor event was staged and was very well received. Thanks go to Heather Collins and Sherry Warren for organizing this important annual event, and to Dr. Jammie VerGiesen and his contacts for bringing the animals.

In late summer, we started monthly food prep again at NEW Community Shelter following masking and distancing guidelines. Marty Berry coordinated the cooking (Souper Cooks) and serving for New Community Shelter this year. Typically, it is funded through various fundraising projects that Outreach Ministry conducts, including the church-wide rummage sale, as well as various donations from church members. This year, with the rummage sale and other Outreach fundraising events cancelled, it was

primarily funded through donations by church members and friends. A total of \$2,727 has been raised which will primarily be used in 2022.

Outreach Ministry had planned a Volunteer Fair but with a surge of Covid cases in the fall, it had to be canceled. We do hope to carry out this event in the future.

During the summer and early fall, we were asked to provide lunches for the Micah Center and a number of groups of congregants came forward and provided these lunches.

One of our mission partners, On The Mark Dyslexia Clinic, moved back to in-person tutoring with plastic barriers separating tutors and students. The program, run by Pat Shafer, continues to meet an unmet demand in the greater Green Bay area with great success.

The Immigration Advocacy Team, with leadership from Lou Norsetter, Heather Collins, and Barbara McClure-Lukens have refocused their efforts to welcome Afghanis who are resetting in Green Bay and a church-wide effort will be initiated in the first quarter of 2022.

The Outreach Ministry administered denominational financial collections in 2021: One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen the Church, Neighbors in Need, and the Christmas Fund. These collections totaled \$6,450 in 2021. The fifth offering, \$15,000 to Our Church's Wider Mission, comes out of the church budget. We also collected funds for EPH \$3,567 and Jubilee House \$1,776 in 2021.

The Outreach Ministry agreed to fund \$200 for a youth ministry initiative to provide Christmas baskets to seniors which occurred in December.

Sherry Warren agreed to be the liaison with EPH in 2021.

We realize that Union Church members engage in many charitable and advocacy efforts outside the church as well. If there are projects you believe in that you would like the church to engage in, please bring those ideas to the ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Achim Seifert and Christie Reese, co-chairs

JOSHUA

(Justice Organization Sharing Hope United for Action)

JOSHUA has two active task forces: Criminal Justice Reform and Environmental Justice. These groups meet at West Side Moravian Church and via Zoom. JOSHUA also has an active Religious Leaders' Caucus which Pastor Bridget chairs.

The **Criminal Justice Reform Task Force** is looking at an alternative vision for the Green Bay Correctional Institution. Our group is made up of formerly incarcerated individuals, family, friends, and loved ones of those incarcerated, and allies. Please consider joining our group and fighting for change and justice in the corrections system. The group has also been working with the Green Bay Police Department on gun violence interruption. This group meets every fourth Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. (live and via Zoom).

The **Environmental Justice Task Force** is continuing to supporting community composting projects and how our community can better support more sustainable lawn and gardening initiatives. It is also working with the Oneida Nation to learn more about natural agriculture techniques. Another focus for this year is addressing water quality. As the community looks to address the coal piles along the Fox River, JOSHUA is lobbying to have this done in an environmentally responsible manner. Current proposals aim to move the piles to environmentally fragile wetland near the mouth of Fox. JOSHUA believes that this is not acceptable. We are also working with indigenous groups who are working to stop pipeline construction that has endangered water supplies along their path. This group meets every fourth Wednesday of the month (via Zoom) at 6 p.m.

- JOSHUA continues to provide training, build partnerships in the community, increase its membership, and remain a respected, peaceful advocate in Brown County.
- JOSHUA encourages congregations and justice-minded individuals to financially support the cause of justice in Green Bay and the rest of Wisconsin. If you are interested, please visit www.joshua4justice.org and click the DONATE button.
- JOSHUA depends on help from many different avenues. Fortunately, Union Church is one of the churches that financially commits to JOSHUA each year. JOSHUA would like to see that commitment continue.
- The Religious Leaders' Caucus holds prayer vigils at the sites of violent deaths in the community. Invitations to these vigils are shared on the church's and JOSHUA's Facebook page.

For more information, contact Maureen Perkins – JOSHUA Community Organizer

Email: joshua4justice@gmail.com

Phone: 920-327-0251

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Gibson, JOSHUA liaison

Ecumenical Partnership for Housing (EPH)

Ecumenical Partnership for Housing (EPH) continues to fill a much-needed gap in Green Bay's battle against homelessness. By providing both transitional housing and long-term supportive housing, EPH gives families in the community residential stability so that they can address challenges to their housing and safety such as mental health concerns, debt and poor credit, and income insecurity.

Besides addressing the ongoing and increasing struggles associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, EPH responded to its own institutional changes. A new executive director came and went in 2021, and with that gap in leadership some new board members were lost in the shuffle. The former director stepped in to guide the organization and regather the board members, including our own new Union Congregational liaison to EPH, Sherry Warren.

Some of the highlights of 2021 include:

- Union's Jubilee House residents: The family (mom and five children) at this point feels they are ready to take the next step in self-sufficiency and will be leaving the Jubilee home in early 2022. It's been a long time since this family has been able to be excited about their future; we are blessed to be a part of their journey. They know they are not financially ready to buy a home, so that is where EPH's long-term supportive housing program comes in. The family will enter into a lease with EPH, and continue to have case management support along with continuing to pay off past debts. This family has come a long way, and although they continue to face barriers, transitional housing has helped them face them head on and continue to be successful.
- Serving a total of 54 families and 125 children with transitional and long-term supportive housing.
- Recruiting and onboarding a new Executive Director who started January 3, 2022.
- Successfully transitioning case management from The Salvation Army to EPH. To clarify, EPH was started as a partnership between a handful of Green Bay churches and The Salvation Army. EPH has grown to be supported by 20 area churches, and has begun providing case management to families directly, transitioning them slowly from The Salvation Army's services to the newly developed EPH case management program.
- Perhaps the most challenging part of 2021 was the impact of COVID on the families EPH serves. For families without extended family support systems, contracting COVID, dealing with virtual learning, children being sent home from school with symptoms, loss of work hours and, at times, even loss of employment, all contributed to an increase in mental health issues and setbacks in their goals toward self-sufficiency.
- Conversely, federal stimulus and grant funds combined with COVID-focused policy changes meant that fewer families actually lost their housing or suffered financial hardship, thereby decreasing the number of families and individuals statistically served by EPH as compared to the past. None of us should be fooled by this decrease in numbers, as affordable housing in the Green Bay area is an ongoing concern and the longer-term effects of the pandemic on at-risk families will continue to unravel as we head into a third calendar year of trying to outwit this adaptive virus.

Last, I am happy to serve within EPH on the Family Advocacy Committee, which utilizes my social work skills and desire to make change at the policy level. Our goal of addressing barriers in the community that affect family self-sufficiency means I get to help make systemic changes that improve Green Bay for everyone.

Union Congregational's continued support of Ecumenical Partnership for Housing through financial gifts and volunteerism upholds the church's mission of making the Christ Spirit dominant in our lives. I am proud to represent Union Congregational in this important endeavor that truly meets people wherever they are on life's journey.

Respectfully submitted,
Sherry Warren

Worship Ministry

Worship Ministry's role is to provide "support, coordination, and vision-keeping in the planning and administration of worship, rites, sacraments and music" (Constitution and Bylaws of Union Church).

The Worship Ministry team in 2021 included Betty Bienash (chair), Seong-Kyung Graham (Music Director), Zoe Harkoff (vice-chair, AV Coordinator, and Communion), David Hassel, Mary Hemminger, Gail Hohenstein (coordinator of readers), Sandy Polarek, and Glen Verstegen (coordinator of ushers). We have worked closely with Tim Harder (Moderator), Dr. Jon Pahl (Minister of Faith Formation and Community Engagement through May 30), and the Rev. Bridget Flad Daniels (Senior Minister) to fulfill the purpose of Worship Ministry.

Once again, the pandemic impacted our planning for worship services. Although the church year began with all services streamed to the congregation via Facebook Live and You Tube, it ended with those of the congregation who wished to do so once again gathered in the church sanctuary for in-person worship while following safe COVID practices, wearing masks within the church building and social distancing. At the same time, all worship services continued to be available through our streaming services so people could continue to participate in the worship services from their homes.

It is with the support of so many members and friends of Union that we can plan and carry out meaningful worship services. While we may miss naming some people who have contributed their gifts to our services, the Worship Ministry team wants to express gratitude to as many as we can.

- Streaming our services to those who wish to access them would not be possible without our AV team. Shaun Shoulden "produced" all the worship services until we resumed in-person worship and began streaming the services from our sanctuary. The AV team, which included Zoe Harkoff (coordinator), Gary Gierczak, Jeff Gibson, Eric Harkoff, Seong-Kyung Graham, Clay Reese and Tom Towill made streaming of the services possible.
- The ushers have served an even more important role this year as we have returned to the sanctuary. The team of ushers, coordinated by Glen Verstegen, not only greeted the in-person congregation and handed out bulletins, but they kept an eye on capacity within the sanctuary and reinforced the use of masks and social distancing. We appreciate the work of Joyce Anderson, Mary Boeselager, Marty Briggs, Jeff Carels, Tim Dantoin, Susan Forsythe, Zoe Harkoff, Gail Hohenstein, Bill Johnson, Barbara McClure-Lukens, Tom Martin, Clay Reese, Carter Reese, Christian Reese, Bruce Shafer, Kevin Sheier, Nick Sheier, Jim Smithback, Marty Thiel, and Jean Van Erem among others who stepped in to help as ushers.
- Zoe Harkoff organized Communion elements for in-person worship, including packets that are available at the entries to the sanctuary on Communion Sundays, as well as at the church office for anyone who wished to pick up a Communion packet prior to a Communion service while worshipping with us from their home. We also began inviting Visitation Ministers to bring Communion to celebrate on their visits.
- Gail Hohenstein organized the readers for our church services, including special services, and we have appreciated being able to listen to the many readers who read the scripture during services throughout the year.

- Finally, as we approached the Advent season, Ben VerGiesen decorated the church, and, as we moved closer to Christmas itself, Jason Pues decorated the altar area with poinsettias and Kathy Seifert watered the plants, just as she did throughout the year.

As we prepared to resume in-person worship, Worship Ministry, under the guidance of Pastor Bridget, began to think about how we could recognize and reflect on the significance of the pandemic for each us. As a result, we turned to Anne Rakow-Weist to help plan and organize a visual commemoration of our pandemic experience. She developed the blank canvas project, led an Adult Formation Zoom class during which individuals reflected on the pandemic as it was depicted in their completed canvases, and she created a semi-permanent installation of the canvases in Pilgrim Hall, together with the help of Tina Bechtel.

The continuing impact of the pandemic, despite the resumption of in-person worship, also meant that we could not have a traditional Christmas Pageant in the sanctuary with as many participants from our church community involved as possible. Shaun Shoulden once again agreed to “produce” the Christmas Pageant, which would then be streamed live via Facebook Live and You Tube. Christie Reese and Kevin Sheier directed the pageant, Gail Carels, Heather Collins, and Bev Lathrop organized the costumes and props, and many people from our church community of all ages were able to be part of the pageant by filming their segment of the story for us. The Christmas Eve services were followed by the December 26 service during which Michael Lukens, Lou Norsetter, Michael Vinson, and Phil Hauck reflected on the meaning of Christmas in their lives.

Music, of course, is an integral part of the worship services at Union. Under the guidance of Seong-Kyung Graham and Ray Thompson, we continued to worship through the beautiful and meaningful music they provide. We appreciate the glorious, often transporting music that the cantors, soloists, musicians and Bell Choir have contributed to the worship services.

Despite the impact of the pandemic, Rev. Bridget Flad Daniels and Dr. Jon Pahl developed creative, strong, meaningful services throughout the church year.

- The Martin Luther King service on January 17 service was followed by a table reading of Martin Luther King’s “Where Do We Go From Here” via Zoom on January 18.
- The season of Lent included an Ash Wednesday service, a Palm Sunday service with 14 recorded readings, a Maundy Thursday service featuring an agape meal, a Good Friday Tenebrae service via Zoom with nine readers, and concluded with a powerful, meaningful Easter service. Worship Ministry also initiated five Lenten Evenings with various guest speakers via Zoom.
- The service on April 28 included substantial segments from “I am a Witness for Change” developed by Kwame Alexander, resident NPR poet, and read by members of our congregation.
- We said farewell to Dr. Jon Pahl with a Service of Release on May 30.
- June 13 marked the return of worshippers to the pews when in-person worship resumed, although services continued to be viewed through Facebook Live and You Tube for those who preferred to worship with Union from their homes.

- Two projects, the prayer flags, which were displayed from a line strung from poles near the front of the church, and the blank canvas project led by Anne Rakow-Weist, provided worshippers with an opportunity to reflect on the significance of the pandemic.
- Heifer Sunday on November 7 once again welcomed animals into our sanctuary during Children Moments, followed by a Living Gift Market in the courtyard which raised funds for Heifer International.
- Memorial Sunday was a particularly meaningful service, when the lives of 12 people who had passed away during 2021 were celebrated. We also invited people to bring pictures and mementos of their loved ones to make an altar of remembrance.
- Advent services included a “produced” Christmas Pageant involving as many participants as possible and available only through Facebook and You Tube (December 19).
- We offered two Christmas Eve services, a 3:00 p.m. Children’s Service and an 8:00 p.m. traditional Christmas Eve Service. Both culminated by inviting caroling outdoors in the courtyard by members of the congregation. In order to encourage as many people who wished to worship in-person as possible to do so safely. Overflow areas in Bagby Chapel and Pilgrim Hall were provided, enabling in-person participation as well as social distancing.

As we continue to navigate the challenges posed by the pandemic and search for creative and meaningful ways to worship with spiritual integrity as well as reflecting our response to social issues and the needs of our congregation, Worship Ministry wants to thank each of you for your support and participation.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Bienash, chair

Resuming In-Person Ministry Task Force

The Resuming In-Person Ministry Task Force, which was created by Common Ministry at its May meeting in 2020, continues to develop and monitor approaches which allow our congregation to resume in-person worship in a manner that meets established safety protocols as well as reflects our commitment to protect one another, continuing our commitment to make the Christ spirit dominant in our lives and in all human relations. We have continued to consider the guidance of local, state, and federal authorities, including the metrics established by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) as well as the Wisconsin Conference UCC and the Wisconsin Council of Churches.

Although we began the church year with our worship services only available to our congregation via Facebook and You Tube, Common Ministry approved the task force's recommendation that we resume in-person worship on June 13 along with basic guidelines that are meant to protect the most vulnerable among us as we worship together. At the same time, all worship services continue to be available through our streaming services so that those for whom gathering together in-person to worship would not be possible or the most healthy choice.

Resuming in-person worship has meant that we, as a congregation, continue to be committed to protecting one another's mutual health. It is with our commitment to each other in mind that the Communal Responsibility Covenant is included in the church bulletin each week and that each Friday Blast includes COVID Exposure Practices for Union which have been approved by Common Ministry. We have also encouraged everyone who can be vaccinated to do so. Basic guidelines have made in-person worship possible, including social distancing as households within the sanctuary, wearing masks at all times while in the church building, cantors and instrumentalists leading us in our musical worship, using pre-packaged Communion elements, and outdoor coffee hours, weather permitting, or socially distanced coffee-less coffee hours indoors in the church building during inclement weather.

The Resuming In-Person Ministry Task Force also recommended, after talking with parents and church leaders, that in-person children and youth educational experiences be a priority if healthfully possible. At the same time, the task force recommended, with approval by Common Ministry, that adult education be online when possible in order to protect the health and well-being of participants. It was also decided that all meetings take place via Zoom/electronically for the time being.

The task force will continue to make recommendations that will lead us to more robust worship practices as the COVID guidance evolves from the CDC and the Wisconsin Department of Health for Brown County as well as guidance from our church leaders.

Betty Bienash (chair), Dr. Gail Carels, M.D., Heather Collins, Rev. Bridget Flad Daniels, Jeff Gibson, Rev. Steve Hartman, Dr. Sherry Warren, Ph.D.

Stewardship Ministry

*Union's purpose is to strive to do the will of God,
and to make the Christ spirit dominant in our lives and in all human relations.*

*Our church celebrates God's love by...
Creating a safe harbor for all,
Serving each at their point of need, and
Promoting personal and societal transformation*

Stewardship Ministry is responsible for providing support, coordination, and vision keeping in the planning and administration of stewardship of our church resources in the areas of: Operating Income, Building and Maintenance, and Capital Campaign.

Building and Maintenance

Building usage remains affected by the pandemic. Worship services in the sanctuary resumed in June. While in-person attendance remains lower than the year prior to COVID, online participation continues to grow and participation is up as a whole. Most meetings have remained online. Lower usage helped with Church facility staffing and budgeting in the first part of the year when we were operating without a dedicated sexton.

Early this past year, Christopher Nikolai was hired as our Building and Maintenance Supervisor. In short order, Christopher has taken ownership of facilities by catching up on cleaning and carrying out neglected maintenance chores. Despite Christopher's talents and dedication, opportunities abound for work projects. Painting projects abound for instance. Inquire with Christopher or Clay for more information. Special thanks to Bill Johnson for taking on many projects, including repainting the organ pump room.

Audit

Larry Rose conducted an audit of the church's books for the years 2019 and 2020 and reports that they are in proper order. He recommended that we contract with Advantage Bookkeeping, the firm through which we contract our Financial Secretary, to create an Accounting Manual. Advantage Bookkeeping is also working with us to create a new chart of accounts.

Space Force

With the closing of Mayflower Nursery School, Common Ministry convened a group to discern how best to use the spaces the school left vacant. This group determined that a combined usage by both the church and On the Mark Dyslexia Clinic would be the most faithful plan moving forward, and is now in the process of discerning what renovations will help both organizations to use these spaces well. We were sad to see the Brain Center leave our nonprofit incubator space at the end of the year. Pastor Bridget provides leadership to this team which is also dedicated to finding and attracting the right mission-aligned tenants for our building spaces.

Green Energy Task Force

Mark Smith continues to seek opportunities for Union to be more sustainable as leader of this task force. The main focus has been the possibilities of adding solar panels. Stewardship Ministry commissioned an engineering report for the roof of the Mayflower wing, which looks promising. Contact Mark if you would like to be a part of these efforts.

Garden Committee

The Garden Committee organizes volunteers for all regular maintenance of the gardens through the seasons. We thank all the loyal volunteers who assisted the Wednesday Weeders, Saturday Snippers, annual planters, mulch providers and spreaders, and garden plot adopters. The focus includes watering, plant replacement, and mulching. Special thanks to Jone Wood for heading up this committee.

Garden Revision Committee

The Garden Vision Committee continues to implement a renovation of the Biblical Gardens. Cathy Putman continues to provide vision and elbow grease as a leader of this team.

Information Technology

Jeff Gibson continues to improve connectivity around the church. We are grateful for Jeff's stewardship and guidance of all things related to IT at Union. Through a generous gift from a member, we were able to install a new camera system in the sanctuary which is allowing us to stream worship services beautifully. Worship Ministry is looking for additional technicians for this meaningful ministry.

Membership

Stewardship Ministry members this year included Jeff Gibson (treasurer), Mark Smith (vice-chair), Clay Reese (chair), Bruce Shafer, Tony Baldwin, Bill Johnson, David Thie, and Jammie VerGiesen. Special thanks this year to all the members for stepping up to the challenge of continuing to volunteer at church. Thanks also to Christopher Nikolai, Pastor Bridget, Tim Harder and the church office staff for their support, participation, and assistance with the Stewardship Ministry activities over the past year. 2022 will provide ample opportunities for us to increase the generosity in our church.

Respectfully,
Clay Reese, chair

Memorial Garden

The Memorial Garden was established in 2001 to provide a tranquil and attractive place for members and friends of Union Church to inter cremated remains in crypts or to honor an individual with a wall plaque.

The Garden is located outside the southwest corner of the church building. The Garden can be entered from the sidewalk on the south side of the church or from the parking lot behind the church. The Garden has terraced landscaping with in-ground crypts in the upper level. There are single crypts for individuals and double crypts for couples. Wall plaques are attached to the south wall of the church overlooking the Garden. During 2021, three double crypts were purchased by church members. There are now 29 crypts and 24 wall plaques in the Garden.

Crypts can be purchased at the time of death or before death to reduce final arrangement decisions for the family. Purchasing a crypt in the Memorial Garden is ideal for individuals or families who do not have a family burial plot in a cemetery or have not purchased mausoleum space.

The Garden has an endowment fund that is invested in the United Church Foundation. A portion of the proceeds from each sale of crypts or wall plaques is invested in the Foundation. Earnings from the Foundation can be used for the care and maintenance of the Garden.

Several years ago, Pastor Bridget established an annual tradition on Memorial Day weekend. At the conclusion of the Sunday church service in the sanctuary, the congregation is invited to convene in the Memorial Garden for the final hymn of the service. This provides an opportunity for church members to see the Garden, some for the first time. Unfortunately, this tradition could not be held for the past two years because of the pandemic. We look forward to resuming this tradition in 2022.

The Memorial Garden Trustees thanks the Riopelle and Meng families for providing funding for the summer landscaping in the Garden. They do this in memory of Katie Small and Dr. and Mrs. Hitch who are interred in the Garden and are the parents of Ginny Riopelle and Inky Meng.

The Garden Trustees invite and encourage church members to visit the Garden and to consider purchasing a crypt or wall plaque for themselves or for a family member.

Garden Trustees are:

Phil Hauck, Bob Fahres and Jeff Zahn.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee presents the following nominees* for officers of the church, chairperson and vice-chair of the church ministries, elected members of committees, and the elected representative to Ecumenical Partnership for Housing (EPH) and JOSHUA. Each has responded to the call to serve in leadership positions of our church's lay ministry. If elected, these nominees begin their service upon the conclusion of the Annual Meeting, January 30, 2022. Thank you to all who have served as our church's elected leaders and to those who continue to serve with their time and talents to ensure the ongoing ministry of Union Church. Thank you also to Heather Collins and Pastor Bridget Flad Daniels who assisted me.

*** indicates a person nominated for election**

Officers

Moderator	Tim Harder (1st term, 1 year remaining)	Clerk	Gail Hohenstein (6th term, 1 year)
Vice-Moderator	*Heather Collins (2nd term, 2 years)	Treasurer	*Sandy Polarek (1st term, 2 years)

Ministries and Committees

Education

Chair *Benny Rieth (1st term, 2 years)
Vice-Chair *Beth Lyman Piontek (1st term, 2 years)

Gifts and Memorials

Co-Chair Francisco Espinosa (1st term, 1 year)
Co-Chair *Daniel Pagel (1st term, 2 years)

Membership and Inreach

Chair *Denise Olson (2nd term, 2 years)
Vice-Chair Nicole Kinjerski (2nd term, 1 year)

Pastoral Relations Committee (4-year term)

Gail Carels (1 year)
Michael Vinson (2 years)
Bill Johnson (3 years)
*Elizabeth Delvaux (4 years)

Nominating Committee

Chair Sandy Polarek (1st term, 1 year)

Outreach

Chair Achim Seifert (1st term, 1 year)
Co-Chair Christie Reese (1st term, 1 year)

Stewardship

Chair *Clay Reese (2nd term, 2 years)
Vice-Chair *Jason Ferry (1st term, 2 years)

Worship

Chair Betty Bienash (2nd term, 1 year)
Vice-Chair Zoe Harkoff (1st term, 1 year)

Personnel Committee (3-year term)

Denise Olson (1 year)
Ryan Rieth (2 years)
*Julie Tetzlaff (3 years)

Other Positions

Delegate, Ecumenical Partnership for Housing

*Sherry Warren (1st term, 1 year)

JOSHUA Liaison

*Jeff Gibson

Communications Coordinators

*Ruth Homrighaus and Mary Ann Hudson

Respectively submitted by the Nominating Committee,
Sandy Polarek (chair)



Membership Statistical Report for 2021

ACTIVE MEMBERS ADMITTED:

By Reception:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 1. JoHanna Beal – May 9 | 5. Jean Van Erem – May 9 |
| 2. Christopher Fameree – May 9 | 6. Lucas Weissshappel – May 9 |
| 3. Ruth Fameree – May 9 | 7. Stephanie Lazzari Nelson – October 24 |
| 4. Zachary Krueger – May 9 | 8. Amanda Jean Nelson – October 24 |

ACTIVE MEMBERS REMOVED:

By Death:

1. **Janet Bilty** – 87 – died February 9; memorial service at the Neville Public Museum on August 22. Pastor Bridget Flad Daniels officiating.
2. **Ann Lulloff** – 80 – died February 12; private memorial service at Union Church on February 20. Pastor Bridget Flad Daniels officiating.
3. **Melvin Polarek** – 87 – died February 12; private memorial service at Proko-Wall Funeral Home on February 27. Pastor Bridget Flad Daniels officiating.
4. **Dorothy Jean Becker** – 92 – died May 2; memorial service at Union Church on May 29. Pastor Bridget Flad Daniels officiating.
5. **Margaret Hoffmann** – 87 – died May 28; memorial service at Union Church on June 8. Pastor Bridget Flad Daniels officiating.
6. **Lorene Christopher Berth** – 98 – died June 22; memorial service at Proko-Wall Funeral Home on July 23.
7. **Paul Kaminecki** – 80 – died June 26; funeral service at Blaney Funeral Home on July 1 with Pastor Bridget Flad Daniels co-officiating.
8. **Kenneth Mickle** – 97 – died August 9; memorial service at Union Church on August 13. Pastor Bridget Flad Daniels officiating.
9. **Sandra Dorothea Wise** – 81 – died December 4; memorial service at Union Church on December 18. Pastor Bridget Flad Daniels officiating.
10. **Betty Greenlaw** – 80 – died October 16, 2020; Union Church did not become aware of her passing until her husband, Byron “Buck” Greenlaw, called the church office on October 18, 2021.

* In addition to the above members’ memorial services, Pastor Bridget presided over services for William Cokins on March 27, 2021 and Kirk Becker on May 29, 2021.

By Transfer: (there were no transfers in 2021)

By Member Request:

1. **David Jagodzinske**
2. **Danielle Omgig**
3. **Byron “Buck” Greenlaw**

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Active Membership: December 31, 2020: **534**

Members added to Active Roll:

By reception 8
By confirmation 0
By reactivation.....0
TOTAL ADDED 8

Members removed from Active Roll:

By death 10
By transfer 0
By member request..... 3
By placing on Inactive Roll.....0
TOTAL REMOVED..... 13

Active Membership: December 31, 2021: **529**

BAPTISMS: Infants and Children

1. **Ezra James Harkoff** – born August 4, 2014 in Green Bay.
Grace Catherine Harkoff – born November 29, 2011 in Green Bay.
Both were baptized January 4 at Union Church by Pastor Bridget Flad Daniels.
Parents: Eric and Zoe Harkoff
3. **Macie Luella Holstead** – born February 28, 2020 in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin.
Baptized May 23 at Union Church by Pastor Bridget Flad Daniels.
Parents: Matthew and Katelyn Holstead
4. **Josephine Eleanor Flad Daniels** – born May 3, 2020 in Mequon, Wisconsin.
Baptized August 1 at Union Church by Pastors Beth Abbott, David Gaeth and Brittany Barber. Parents: Bridget Flad Daniels and Scott Daniels
5. **Mariposa Elizabeth LaMalfa** – born July 13, 2020 in Marinette, Wisconsin.
Baptized August 15 at Union Church by Pastor Bridget Flad Daniels.
Parents: Anthony and Alexa LaMalfa
6. **Lilliana Jean Nelson** – born January 9, 2020 in Green Bay.
Baptized November 14 at Union Church by Pastor Bridget Flad Daniels.
Parents: Amanda Jean Nelson and Stephanie Lazzari Nelson

NON-MEMBER MARRIAGE BY OUR PASTORS

1. **Carly Gaeth and Elizabeth Whalen** at the Concourse Hotel, Madison, Wisconsin, on September 25, 2021. Pastor Bridget Flad Daniels officiating.

Membership and Attendance Data for the Last 20 Years

<u>Year</u>	<u>Membership</u>	<u>Avg. Attendance</u>	<u>Easter</u>	<u>Christmas Eve</u>
2021	529	#61		186
2020	534	131*		
2019	545	121	277	303
2018	528	128	260	357
2017	530	136	291	410
2016	525	135	238	361
2015 ^{CM}	521	138	305	372
2014	555	139	316	387
2013 ^{CM}	550	149	318	346
2012	567	183	329	397
2011	539	184	329	359
2010 ^{CM}	528	204	402	357
2009 ^{CM}	580	207	367	310
2008	592	212	330	342
2007	581	208	452	310
2006	559	220	348	360
2005 ^{CM}	521	219	329	360
2004	642	222	313	360
2003	621	197	332	354
2002	607	206	257	377

^{CM} membership rolls reviewed by Common Ministry

* attendance average based on the 10 in-person Sunday worship services held in the sanctuary from January 5 through March 8. No in-person worship took place in the sanctuary after March 8, 2020 through the end of the year.

attendance average based on the 28 in-person Sunday worship services held in the sanctuary from June 13 through the end of 2021. The attendance figure listed does not reflect numbers for those who streamed our worship services online.

Financials

**for
2021**

Union Congregational United Church of Christ Balance Sheet

December 31, 2021

Assets

Cash

Associated Bank Checking	\$ 116,035	
Associated Bank Money Market	\$ 192,804	
Total Cash		\$ 308,839

Gifts and Endowments

UCF: Killoran Scholarship Fund	\$ 84,818	
UCF: General Gifts/Endowments	\$ 84,938	
UCF: Memorial Garden	\$ 79,584	
UCF: Cora Nelson	\$ 362,602	
UCF: Bagby Theological	\$ 12,232	
Associated Trust: Distributions & Donations	\$ 52,504	
Associated Trust: Principal & Earnings	\$ 597,117	
Total Gifts and Endowments		\$ 1,273,795

Condo Loans Receivable - Waitzmann Funds	\$ 84,464
------------------------------------------	-----------

Total Assets	<u>\$ 1,667,098</u>
--------------	---------------------

Liabilities and Fund Balances

Prepaid Pledges	\$ 33,194
-----------------	-----------

General Fund Balance	\$ 47,010
----------------------	-----------

Gifts and Memorial Funds

Principal & Earnings Fund	\$ 597,117	
Distributions & Donations Fund	\$ 52,504	
General Gifts/Endowments	\$ 84,938	
Cora Nelson/Outreach	\$ 362,602	
Killoran Scholarship Fund	\$ 87,503	
Memorial Garden Fund	\$ 82,158	
Bagby Theological Fund	\$ 12,232	
Total Gifts and Memorial Funds		\$ 1,279,054

Other Funds

Waitzmann Condo Loans	\$ 84,464	
Technology Replacement Fund	\$ 3,992	
Sabbatical Fund	\$ 14,089	
General Fund	\$ 46,365	
Specific Giving Fund	\$ 138,447	
Women's Ministry Fund	\$ 2,465	
Outreach Fund	\$ 745	
Blessing Box Fund	\$ 2,933	
Souper Cooks Fund	\$ 2,637	
Jubilee House Fund	\$ 5,639	
Hurley Fund	\$ 4,790	
Total Other Funds		<u>\$ 306,567</u>

Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	<u>\$ 1,665,825</u>
-------------------------------------	---------------------

Year 2021 Treasurer's Report

INCOME	2021 Budget	2021 Actual
Pledge Income	\$ 360,000	\$ 342,644
One-time Gifts	\$ 10,000	\$ 8,429
Non-Pledge Income	\$ 45,000	\$ 48,067
Loose Offering	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,078
Church School	\$ 25	\$ -
Prior Year Pledges	\$ 5,000	\$ 30,697
Investment Income	\$ 50	\$ 18
Room Rentals	\$ 7,500	\$ 20,255
Fundraisers	\$ 7,500	\$ 6,910
Non-Cash Donations	\$ 500	\$ -
ERTC Credit	\$ -	\$ 16,601
Total Operating Income	\$ 438,575	\$ 475,698

PROGRAM EXPENSE		
Worship Ministry	\$ 11,425	\$ 11,004
Education Ministry	\$ 6,565	\$ 4,446
Inreach Ministry	\$ 3,975	\$ 674
Outreach Ministry	\$ 18,780	\$ 18,453
Stewardship Ministry	\$ 3,900	\$ 3,856
New Member Ministry	\$ 100	\$ 15
Publicity	\$ 1,000	\$ 476
Total Program Expense	\$ 45,745	\$ 38,924

GENERAL EXPENSE		
Pastoral Staff Expense	\$ 193,170	\$ 169,289
Lay Staff Expense	\$ 155,847	\$ 176,721
Building and Maintenance Expense	\$ 73,550	\$ 60,714
Administrative Expense	\$ 22,167	\$ 23,235
Other	\$ -	\$ 250
Total General Expense	\$ 444,734	\$ 430,209

TOTAL EXPENDITURES \$ 490,479 \$ 469,133

NET INCOME (Operating Income Less Expenditures) \$ (51,904) \$ 6,565

2021 Outreach Summary

BUDGETED OUTREACH	\$ 18,070
NON-BUDGETED OUTREACH	
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ 1,905
Neighbors in Need	\$ 1,453
Christmas Fund	\$ 2,071
Strengthen the Church	\$ 890
Heifer International	\$ 6,216
Parson's Purse	\$ 10,939
Housing/Homeless	\$ 3,631
Other Outreach	\$ 775
Waitzmann Loan Foregone Interest	\$ 11,161
Gifts & Memorials Outreach Grants	\$ 10,150
Total Non-Budgeted	\$ 49,191
TOTAL OUTREACH	\$ 67,261

Gifts and Memorials Ministry

Union Congregational United Church of Christ has a long, rich history of giving in meaningful ways to support and advance efforts in the Green Bay community. Our committee is committed to building on this foundation of work and to taking great care of the gifts given.

The Gifts and Memorials Ministry was established by amendment to the church bylaws in January 2007, although this work was done for many decades prior. The Ministry has two sub-parts: the Distribution Recommendation and Review Committee, and the Asset Management Committee.

As background, the following is the G&M purpose:

The Gifts and Memorials Ministry “exists to promote and steward charitable contributions for non-operating budget purposes, with particular emphasis on projects initiated and supported by Church members that advance the local community, sustain the church’s physical resources, or support or encourage other initiatives that further the Church’s mission. The Ministry is intended to complement, but not replace or compete with the Church’s annual planned or special giving.” (As adopted, April 2007)

In 2021, Francisco Espinosa became chair of Distribution and Phil Enscoe remained chair of Asset Management. We are grateful for the continued and valued commitment of Gail Carels, Sue Whittemore, Kristi Zahn, Daniel Pagel, and Lloyd Schaefer (asset management ministry).

During 2021, the Gifts and Memorials received three requests. After due diligence using the guiding principles for distribution, the Ministry recommended the following disbursement that was approved by Common Ministry.

- On the Mark Dyslexia Clinic a grant of \$20,000 (\$10,000/year for 2021 and 2022) to fund an administrative position.

Two more requests are still pending to be discussed and possibly approved in the next upcoming meetings. We hope to continue to take a leadership role in service to our community while honoring the legacy of our members.

The Asset Management Committee of Gifts and Memorials ministry met with representatives of Associated Bank and the United Church Funds this year, to assess our asset management strategies. The biggest change you’ll see here is that we’ve changed the names of the two funds held at Associated Bank, to try to better communicate how the church uses these funds. “Principal and Earnings” is the new name of the account which houses the original \$334,000 invested from Gifts and Memorials’ predecessor structure (the Memorial Foundation) as well as additional undesignated gifts and the earnings those funds have produced. “Distributions and Donations” is the account where we will house a smaller amount of funds which will be invested more conservatively, primarily amounts which are already earmarked for the funding of particular projects.

Respectfully submitted,
Francisco Espinosa

2021 Total Gifts and Memorials Fund Activity Report
(This report is in process and will be shared at the Annual Meeting.)

Our Church Staff

(as of December 31, 2021)

Senior Minister Bridget M. Flad Daniels
Administrative Assistant Eric Goska
Financial Secretary Katrina Catteruccia
Building and Maintenance Supervisor Christopher Nikolai
Music Director Seong-Kyung Graham
Organist Ray Thompson
Handbell Ensemble Director Linda Cook
Youth Music Director Melissa Heffernan
Librarian Cathy Putman
Audio Coordinator Tom Towill
Nursery Attendants:

Kathy Johnson, Sylvia Garrido, Jenna Stevens

Office Phone (920) 437-9266

Church Office (Eric Goska) office@unionucc.com
Financial Secretary (Katrina Catteruccia) finance@unionucc.com
Sexton (Christopher Nikolai) sexton@unionucc.com
Pastor Bridget bridget@unionucc.com

Visit our website at www.unionucc.com
