

**2017**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

### **WE CELEBRATE THE BAPTISM**

Scout Brown 06/24/2017

Elise Eisley 08/13/2017

### **WE WELCOME INTO NEW MEMBERSHIP**

Caroline Alben

Abbie Knapp

Susan Baron

Ellie Knapp

Scout Brown

Ally Pexa

Lars Carlson

Lydia Rice

Erika Carlson

Delaney Hammer

Karina Hammer

### **WE GRIEVE THE LOSS**

Rev. Dennis Hughes 04/16/17

Rev. Leroy Kelderman 12/03/17

Beverly Lang (non-member)

Rachel Williams (non-member)

**REV. DANI FORBESS, PASTOR**

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# **DOCKET**

## **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**Sunday, January 28, 2018, after Worship Service**

<b>Congregational Meeting</b>	<b>Rev. Dani Forbess, Moderator</b>
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	
<b>Discussion of the Report</b>	
<b>2017 Treasurer's Report</b>	<b>Rachel Van Noord</b>
<b>Presentation of Approved 2018 Annual Budget</b>	
<b>Congregational Vote of Terms of Call</b>	<b>Elder Katherine Voyles</b>
<b>Presentation of Pastor's Salary Change</b>	
<b>Pastor Returns</b>	
<b>New Business</b>	<b>Rev. Dani Forbess</b>
<b>Open of Corporate Meeting/Close of Congregational Meeting</b>	<b>Corporate VP Lars Carlson</b>
<b>Meeting Adjourned with Closing Prayer</b>	<b>Rev. Dani Forbess</b>



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## **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL AND CORPORATION MEETINGS JANUARY 29, 2017**

The Congregational meeting was called to order at 11:46 am with prayer by the Rev. Dani Forbess. A quorum was presented. Copies of the 2016 Annual Report and copies of the proposed revised Northminster bylaws were distributed. Dani outlined the docket for the annual; meeting.

Treasurer Rachel Van Noord reviewed the annual report, notably the local mission receipts and expenses, pointing out that expenses for the year 2016 exceeded receipts by \$11,558. She also noted that our outreach giving total was \$20,994. These figures indicate the generosity of our congregation.

The 2017 budget, approved by session, was then reviewed by the congregation, with explanations offered for the slight changes from 2016. The increase to the personnel total was explained by increased hours for our Christian Education leader, Ally Pexa, from 20 to 30 hours. The Leap of Faith line, a short term item, hopefully represents additions to our income from increased building usage and additional donations. The staff wellness line was explained as a match of two per cent of employee's salaries for their use as they see fit.

At this point, Dani excused herself so that the pastor's compensation could be adjusted. It was moved, seconded, and VOTED that the pastor's salary would be increased by three percent. This percentage represents a raise which will be extended to all staff.

At this point, Dani returned and closed the congregational meeting with prayer, adding her thanks for the work done on the 2017 budget. Elder Scott Monrad opened the corporation meeting with prayer, asking for vision and wisdom as we considered our business with the state of Washington.

Elder Becky Rufin offered explanation of the proposed bylaw changes, approved in the November 29, 2016 session meeting. These changes are to reduce the minimum number of social groups represented on the nominating Committee from 4 to 2, to reduce the minimum number of elders on session from 12 to 9, and to reduce the minimum number of deacons from 15 to 9. A motion to reduce these numbers, as stated, was made, seconded, and VOTED. It was noted that a stamp of the church's official seal has been returned to the bylaws.

No other new business being offered to the corporation, Rev. Forbess closed the corporate meeting at 12:14 pm with a prayer for all those who serve the church.

As is our custom, these minutes will be reviewed and approved at the February 28, 2017 session meeting.

Ann Wightman, Clerk of Session

## 2018 Local Mission Budget

		2017	2017	2018
		BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Manse rent		24,288	19,941	20,240
Local mission offering		190,000	190,000	195,000
Interest & Dividends		1,000	1,780	1,500
Loose Offering		2,500	1,748	1,700
Other Income (incl. building use)		19,680	7,682	2,200
Building Usage		-	10,399	12,600
Leap of Faith I		19,200	<b>11,170</b>	<b>26,193</b>
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>256,668</b>	<b>242,720</b>	<b>259,433</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
<b>Compensation</b>				
	Pastor	63,654	63,654	65,654
	C. E. Personnel	24,102	27,269	24,825
	Secretary	27,583	22,771	24,092
	Choir Director	12,360	9,060	11,100
	Organist	12,638	12,330	13,017
	Office Assistant	4,017	1,336	-
	Honoraria and Accruals	1,900	1,950	1,900
	FICA and Medicare	6,174	5,540	4,822
<b>Total Compensation</b>		<b>152,428</b>	<b>143,910</b>	<b>135,320</b>
Pension and payroll taxes		23,234	22,447	27,022
Industrial Insurance		1,633	1,525	1,800
Staff Wellness		1,500	321	1,500
	<b>Total personnel expenses</b>	<b>26,367</b>	<b>24,293</b>	<b>30,322</b>
Adult Education		100	68	100
Budget Finance & Memorials		50	-	-
Building & Grounds		16,000	15,138	15,200
Christian Education		750	1,364	1,000
Connections		2,500	1,490	2,000
Custodial supplies & services		14,000	13,342	13,800
Insurance		7,500	9,831	10,000
Library		250	99	250
Maintenance		-	15,372	10,000
Office expense		5,000	6,294	5,100
Pastor Professional Allowances		4,841	4,943	4,841
Per capita assessment		6,000	5,677	6,000
Session programs		200	138	200
Stewardship		50	-	-
Summer Intern		-	278	300
Utilities		18,500	19,450	20,000
Van Expenses		-	676	3,000
Worship & Music		2,000	1,456	2,000
Youth activities		100	360	100
	<b>Total other expenses</b>	<b>77,841</b>	<b>95,598</b>	<b>93,791</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>256,636</b>	<b>263,801</b>	<b>259,433</b>
<b>RECEIPTS LESS EXPENSES</b>		<b>32</b>	<b>(21,081)</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH</b>			
<b>2017 OUTREACH REPORT</b>			
DISBURSEMENTS			
Unpledged:			
	Presbyterian Disaster Assistance		400
	Peacemaking - G.A.		560
	Peacemaking - Presbytery		280
	One Great Hour of Sharing		1,218
	Christmas Joy		885
	Van for Church Use		800
	MMN - Dan and Kathryn		2,490
	Tyson Brown– Mission Support		4,028
	Alternative Christmas Fair		3,179
		Total Unpledged	13,840
Deacons disbursements			
			9,181
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS			<b>\$ 23,020</b>

## Local Mission Receipts and Expenses

RECEIPTS			
Local mission offering			\$ 190,000
Leap of faith giving			11,170
Loose offering			1,748
Per capita assessment			240
Interest and dividends			1,780
Manse rent			19,941
Building Usage			10,399
Other income			7,442
TOTAL RECEIPTS			242,720
EXPENSES			
Salaries & payroll taxes			119,097
Housing & utilities allowances			25,000
Car allowance			-
Pastor's professional expenses			4,943
Pension			21,900
Industrial Insurance			1,525
	Total personnel expenses		172,465
Adult Education			68
Budget finance and memorials			-
Building & Grounds			15,138
Christian Education			1,346
Connections			1,490
Custodial supplies and service			13,342
Insurance			9,831
Library			99
Maintenance			15,372
Office expense			6,294
Per capita assessment			5,677
Session programs			138
Staff wellness			321
Summer intern			278
Stewardship			-
Utilities			19,450
Van			676
Worship & Music			1,456
Youth activities			362
	Total other expenses		91,336
TOTAL EXPENSES			263,801
RECEIPTS LESS EXPENSES	<b>7</b>		\$ (21,082)

# 2017 Balance Sheet

		12/31/2017	12/31/2016
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash and bank accounts		\$ 168,637	\$ 211,910
Other assets			
	Mutual Funds	108,315	108,173
	CD / Bohrer Trust	1,000	1,000
	CD / VanFaasen Trust	12,000	12,000
Total other assets		121,315	126,173
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>			
		<u>\$ 289,952</u>	<u>\$ 333,083</u>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; FUND BALANCE</b>			
Accrued liabilities		\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Obligated to Special Funds:			
	Bequests	147,882	199,188
	Building	-	90,176
	Campership	1,253	1,616
	Campership Endowment	14,980	14,980
	Deacons	2,272	3,278
	Deposits	26,851	20,597
	Emerging Leadership Fund	4,500	-
	Garden	6,567	2,120
	Major Maintenance	(11,084)	(128,745)
	Memorials	-	16,106
	Office Equipment	(896)	(1,278)
	Outreach	6,753	4,045
	Pastor's Professional Ex-	7,150	5,222
	Payroll Taxes	713	1,045
	Restricted Property Fund	69,830	69,830
	Youth Activities	3,181	3,821
Total obligated funds		279,952	302,001
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>			
		289,952	312,001
<b>GENERAL FUND BALANCE</b>			
		-	21,082
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; FUND BALANCE</b>			
	<b>8</b>	<u>\$ 289,952</u>	<u>\$ 333,083</u>



## A Letter from the Pastor: 2017 In Reflection

The close of another year as a congregation gives us an opportunity to give thanks. As we travel this road together as a faith community, the congregational meeting provides a much needed chance to reflect and take stock of what we've learned over the past year.

I've noticed a few things that we have learned over the course of this year:

We've learned to listen to diverse voices. From the process of engaging the #BlackLivesMatter curriculum, to the Lenten movie project, to the invitation to have the Chaplain of the King County Youth Detention Center share with us, we have listened to many voices from around our city and nation. There have been times when this lesson has pushed us farther than we would have liked to go. There have been times when this lesson has made us uncomfortable. Yet, with tenacity and with determination, we have stayed the course of listening to these voices. The session recognized the importance of this work and commissioned a Human Rights Committee that drafted a document spelling out the intention and commitment of Northminster Presbyterian Church. This document was adopted by session in the month of October and will be part of the continuing work of the church as we put our faith into practice within the world.

We've learned to place great value on time spent together. From the well-attended Women's Retreat that was offered in April, to the wonderful Confirmation class, to the generous invitation to host BBQ's over the summer months, to the ongoing generosity of cooking for Community Night, to the numerous nights out for Pub and Trivia Night - this is a congregation that values its time together. We continue to open our homes to one another, forging new connections and friendships. We continue to learn together that a community is only as strong as its members, and this community is deeply valued to each of us.

We've learned that we can do new things! From the art that took shape in the sanctuary over the course of October and November, to the Intergenerational Anthem that we celebrated on Easter Sunday, to getting to know our summer intern from Texas, to inviting our campers from Creative Camp to lead in worship, we have explored and pursued new ventures. The work hasn't always been easy, nor has it been smooth, but we have embraced this invitation to become new.

Lastly, we've learned that we can overcome challenges. We've had some hard moments. We lost two choir directors in one year, for different reasons. We've had strong members move away. We mourned the passing of our last tenured pastor, Rev. Dr. Dennis Hughes. These challenges provided opportunity for grief and thanksgiving. We journeyed through those emotions together, doing just what a community of faith should do, hold on to each other and to God during our deepest moments of sadness.

As I reflect on each of these lessons, I feel a deep thanks that I have been able to be here to witness the identity of Northminster coming to life. Thank you for continuing to live into who you are, for continuing to embrace your faith boldly, and for allowing me to serve you as pastor for these last three full years.

Warmly,  
Rev. Dani Forbess

## **Personnel Committee**

In 2017 Personnel conducted annual reviews of all staff. The Pastor is reviewed every three years and was not reviewed in 2017. Personnel worked with the Pastor and Worship and Music to bring Miriam to our church on an interim role. We're so glad she's here!

We also had the happy/sad experience of celebrating Stacy's role as office manager, which came to an end at the end of the calendar year. Thank you to our wonderful church staff for the chance to work with you!

## **Communication**

This is a relatively new committee that is still finding its scope. The mantra is that even problems that don't look like a communications issue may be solved through communications. In 2017 year the focus was on getting oversight on the communications channels and platforms used in our church. Having this information in hand should get us in a position in 2018 where we can focus on strengthening existing lines of communication, bringing new ones online as necessary and doing so with greater focus on issues of data privacy and cybersecurity.

## **Stewardship**

2017 was a year of (re)establishing Stewardship as a vital and ongoing part of the life of the church. This meant more frequent announcements on Sunday mornings. Mostly, though, it is a chance to work on a monthly basis with Budget, Finance and Memorials and to thank everyone who gives in your own way of your own gifts when you share with Northminster.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Katherine Voyles, Chair  
Stewardship & Personnel Committee

## **Outreach Committee**

The Outreach group formed late this fall and has begun brainstorming ideas to interface with our community while continuing to serve the needs of our church. We held a visitor lunch in mid-January, and will work on other initiatives and events in 2018

Submitted by,  
Dana Hammer  
Outreach Committee

# Deacons Report for 2017

The deacons of Northminster serve in the following ways

~Set up and serve communion

~Ushering

~Friendship and fellowship (writing cards to those who are ill or have lost a loved one)

~Helping hands (driving members to church)

~Memorials and receptions

~Flowers committee that provides weekly flowers for sanctuary and other special events

~Connections and communications (sets up fun events like music at the locks, Mariners games or dinners out)

~Reading of intercessory prayers

~Raise deacons funds by asking parishioners to donate using the green envelope to disburse to the places listed below on the deacons treasury report.

~Visit members who cannot make it in to church and can arrange to serve communion if requested

Submitted by

Lisa Horowitz, Deacon co-moderator

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## Financial Secretary Annual Report 2017

We've had a great year at NPC where so many gave their time, talents and treasure to support our church and community. It's truly an honor to serve and grow along with you all. I am privileged to see how faithful our congregation is to NPC. Thanks to all of you who gave in some way!

As Financial Secretary, my job is to work, along with Rachel Van Noord and Rod Schmidt, to count and log the offering each week, maintain the giving database, create Contribution Statements and participate in Stewardship campaigns. Last September I invigorated my view of this job by attending a 3 day seminar on Stewardship. I learned so much about successful giving campaigns, but especially about how important it is to thank everyone who gives! I also learned about the role of the Presbyterian Foundation in providing support and guidance to churches.

We tried to have an Estate Planning seminar earlier this month, but it wasn't held because we didn't have enough people. Instead, Dani and I met with our Presbyterian Foundation representative, Rob Hagan, and had a great conversation. We will move forward with this conversation and reschedule the seminar with more warning and information.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 206-372-1664 or [finsec@northminsterpres.org](mailto:finsec@northminsterpres.org).

Stacy Kern

# REPORT OF THE DEACON TREASURER 2017

The Deacons of Northminster Presbyterian Church have the privilege of allocating the funds that are specifically earmarked for the “Deacons’ Fund,” which are monies used for activities to care for brothers and sisters both within and outside our Church. The Deacons determine allocations based on the mission articulated in the Presbyterian Book of Order – that the Deacons are to serve as the “caring arm of the church.” See generally Book of Order, Ch. 6, and G-6.0402.

In 2017, the Deacons administered the Deacons Funds as follows:

<b>Receipts of Deacons Fund contribution in 2017</b>	
Ballard Ecumenical Ministry	\$120.00
Ballard Food Bank	\$1,000.00
Mary’s Place <i>A shelter for homeless women and children.</i>	\$1,000.00
Mental Health Chaplaincy <i>Services for the homeless who suffer mental illness and addiction.</i>	\$1,000.00
Operation Nightwatch <i>A shelter for the homeless on Beacon Hill.</i>	\$1,000.00
Recovery Café <i>A community focusing on addiction recovery</i>	\$250.00
Presbyterian Gifts <i>Food baskets for refugees</i>	\$250.00
Camp Sealth <i>Scholarship giving for students to attend camp</i>	\$1,200.00
Upper Room– Monthly Subscription	\$350.00
Dan and Katheryn Smith-Dirksen <i>Peacemaking ministry in South Africa</i>	\$650.00
Whitman Middle School <i>Coordinated giving to homeless students.</i>	\$250.00
<b>Total Distributions from the Deacons Fund</b>	<b>\$6,570.00</b>

Thank you for your contributions to the Deacons Fund in 2017. We are honored to have the opportunity to concretely apply the love and care that this Church has for our neighbors.

Submitted by  
David Voyles, Deacon treasurer

# ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS FAIR SUMMARY

## Alternative Christmas Fair

African Team Ministries	\$311
Ballard Food Bank	\$80
NPC Sola Cards	\$42
Compass Housing Alliance	\$175
Habitat For Humanity	\$150
Heifer Project	\$1,162
Mary's Place	\$150
Mental Health Chaplaincy	\$291
Operation Night Watch	\$160
Palcraft Aid	\$148
Presbyterian Mission Agency	\$10
Youth Chaplaincy Coalition	\$260
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,179</b>

Submitted by Ally Pexa

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## Helping Hands

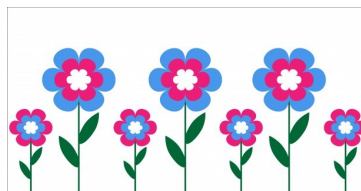
This was a quiet year for this committee. We did an inventory of available health equipment and provided a list of this equipment to the congregation.

We had no calls for meals or extra transportation however we did continue to provide rides to church events for members that no longer drive

## Flowers

With the flowers from members garden and the church garden and the arranging skills of some members we have been able to provide flowers for the Sanctuary.

In the coming year we hope to improve the grass area on the south side of the church.



Respectfully submitted by Sheila Striegl

## History and Archives Report

The rich history of Northminster awaits additional organization and appropriate storage. Tucked away in an upstairs room are old financial records dating back to early in the last century along with scrapbooks and minutes for various social and service groups, etc. The stories of Northminster's tradition of supporting missionaries and social causes will be emerging from these records. The story of how the bell tower came to be will be retold for our collective memory.

The work has started with a tour of the UPC archives ...how do other churches organize their records. The guidelines from the Presbyterian Archives in Philadelphia were obtained. Archival quality boxes and folder will be ordered and a record keeping system will be implemented. A group of detail oriented volunteers will be pulled together.

Submitted by Jan Olson

## LIBRARY REPORT 2017

We honor Elaine Boehmer for her many years of service as the Northminster librarian. She reports that she started working in the library the first week she walked into the church! That was shortly before Dennis Hughes became the pastor in Dec. 1995. To Elaine, working with books is what she loves doing. One member fondly remembers Elaine's help in tracking down just the right book for Bible study and Christian Ed. Her previous work included the library at Sheldon Jackson Presbyterian College in Sitka, Alaska. Before her library jobs, Elaine served as a social worker for the Red Cross. A memorable part of that job was working in Germany.

The library work will continue (with a crew of additional volunteers) to build on her strong foundation with a review of the collection and adding appropriate new material. Suggestions are welcome! Keep an eye out for some new C.S. Lewis/Tolkien materials which Earl Palmer suggested at a recent lecture at UPC. The magazine exchange and mini ongoing book sale will continue in the coffee hour side room.



Respectfully submitted, Jan Olson, Librarian

## Christian Education Report 2017

In 2017, the Christian Ed department was excited to launch new programs and rework old programs to best meet the needs of the children, youth, and family of Northminster. The committee continued to strive towards our program goals of asking ourselves “how best to teach children the stories of Jesus and the Bible, welcome families into our church, and bring children into participation in the church and the community that it serves.” In effort to best live out these goals, the Christian Ed committee, along with the support of many volunteers and community members, has:

1. Offered continued support to our Youth Group and Sunday School classrooms. Up through September, Ally Pexa taught the older children’s class every Sunday, utilizing both Dwell and Illustrated Children’s curricula, to walk with children as they explore the stories of Scripture. The younger program continued thanks to our wonderful group of teachers: Barb Reisma, Becky Ruffin, Sharon Steenrod, Sandy Coyer, Szu Yu Wu, Julia Miller, Rachel Van Noord, Leslie Duke, and Trisha Wirta. As of September, our middle and high school students are now invited to stay in worship, while Ally teaches one Sunday school class, with the assistance of Delaney Hammer, using the Godly Play curriculum. Our older children meet weekly for Youth group, which has given kids the space to ask questions and explore their faith through art and other community based projects.
2. Continued to encourage children, youth, and families to participate in the life of the church. Youth are encouraged and given space to participate in reading, choir, bell choir, coffee hour hosts, art installations, and other service opportunities throughout the year. In 2017, the children and youth hosted breakfast for Easter and other Adult Education classes, under the guidance of Bret Wirta. Youth are also given the responsibility, with guidance from Pastor Dani and other volunteers, to lead the congregation in worship on Youth Sunday as well as December 3<sup>rd</sup> during the Christmas pageant. Parents, teens, and other adults are given the opportunity to share their own faith with the youth during our weekly Children’s Corner.
3. Opened nursery in order to welcome new families and more little ones into our church soon! A wonderful team of adult and high school volunteers work in the nursery each week. Thank you to the volunteers who make this possible!
4. Offered an 8 week long confirmation class for students between the 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade in which students were encouraged to explore their faith and were exposed to other faith traditions. Andy Voyles, Delaney Hammer, Karina Hammer, Ellie Knapp, Abbie Knapp, Erika Carlson, Lydia Rice, and Scout Brown participated and the class and were welcomed into membership.
5. Utilized the “Start with Hello” curriculum to address issues of bullying and ways in which students can be a light in their school communities.
6. Supported the third annual Creative Camp at during the final week of August. This was a chance for us to welcome children between the ages of 3 and 10 for a week of worship, stories, music, and art. A special thanks to our wonderful volunteers, those who helped in classrooms, prepared and provided snacks, and lead the children in beautiful music. Campers were invited to lead Sunday worship with the songs they learned during the week. Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers who helped to make this camp happen!



Submitted by Ally Pexa

Christian Education Director

## 2017 WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE YEAR-END REPORT

At the beginning of 2017, the Worship and Music Committee looked back with satisfaction on the lovely services held in Advent and on Christmas Eve at the end of 2016. The committee members were

the Rev. Dani Forbess, chair Becky Rufin, organist Eric Johnson, choir director Jim Peterson, and members at large Nancy Ingle and Ann Wightman.

The end of 2016 saw the handbell choir perform, a delightful children's pageant, a very successful family oriented early Christmas Eve service, and our customary traditional Christmas Eve service of lessons and carols. In 2017, the bells also provided music during the Palm Sunday and Good Friday services. And on Easter Sunday the youths and children added their talents to the choir's rendition of "He Is Alive".

It was with regret that we accepted choir director Jim Peterson's resignation in early January. We were fortunate to be able to hire Kevin Gospel in March, who was with us until his resignation in the fall. Becky planned music and a choir directing schedule, and acted as choir director in the gaps between regular choir leadership. She also placed our choir library on the computer for easy reference. By November we had hired Miriam Anderson as choir director, appreciating her skills and her lovely soprano voice.

Our focus for Lent this year was on Confession, Psalms, and Lament, with artistic renderings of the Stations of the Cross placed on the sanctuary walls, and open to the public for viewing and meditation. We also observed African-American History month in February and Women's History month in March. Dani and other women members of the congregation covered their heads with scarves during worship. Our hopes for the new year included having more of our musical people become involved, and the families of Tyson Brown and Dana Hammer, among others, shared their talents during the year. During Lent we introduced The Lord's Prayer, sung in Arabic, and led by choir member Darian Pina.

We made the chancel a little safer, and we diagramed the choir seating and position of the piano so that outside groups using the sanctuary could replace items they moved to their correct spots. We also looked at ways to make the choir more of a fellowship group, including being sure to include prayer at the choir rehearsal's end.

We enjoyed the talents of a number of our choir and non-choir musicians during the summer, when the choir took a well deserved rest. Fall focused on celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. This celebration included a joint choir effort with nearby Woodland Park Presbyterian. We performed an elaborate new work by Woodland Park's music director based on A Mighty Fortress Is Our God. This included readings and a new accompaniment, and was performed at both churches.

And, despite snow, we organized a successful repeat of our two Christmas Eve services.



Respectfully submitted by Ann Wightman



# **BUILDING AND GROUNDS ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2017**

I'd like to thank the current members of the building and grounds committee: Doug Forbess, Tom Haff, Fred Kern, Stan Steenrod for their steadfast commitment to our facility and congregation. I would also like to recognize the past chair Signa Treat. I have appreciated the support and guidance they have provided as I assumed the role as committee chair last summer. On behalf of our congregation, I extend my heartfelt thanks to the many individuals who volunteer their time and resources to beautify and maintain our building and grounds.

## **Significant Events in 2017:**

- Gym heater replacement – The gym's space heater was replaced with a new unit and thermostat.
- Sewer replacement at Manse – A portion of the 1944 sewer collapsed and could not be cleared using traditional cleaning methods. The sewer was replaced at significant cost.
- Termination of Manse property manager – Following multiple events where the property manager provided very poor service, the decision was made to terminate his contract. The B&G committee has elected to serve in the role of property manager unless this becomes impractical and another property manager will be selected.
- Manse tenant turnover – The tenant of the past two years elected to move out in November. The property is now listed as available for rent.
- Removal of trespassers from Manse and repair of damage. – A few individuals were found to be occupying the vacant house. They were confronted and asked to leave. They appeared to comply but later returned. In the process, the back door was kicked in. A more secure door has been installed.
- Pest control contractor replacement – Due to the ongoing challenge and lack of success dealing with pests within our facility, a decision was made to switch to a different pest control company.

## **Current Business:**

- Find new tenant(s) for Manse.
- Proposal for landscape improvements along 77<sup>th</sup> Street sidewalk.
- Pest control in an ongoing challenge.

Respectfully submitted,

Lars Carlson  
Chair, Buildings and Ground Committee

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE 2017 Year End Report

This year the Nominating Committee met at the end of April 2017 to find candidates to fill the usual vacancies for the session and the board of deacons.

This year's committee members were Elder Myla Belston, chair; Elder Trisha Wirta; Sandy Coyer and Ben Woldseth, representing deacons; and Georgia Kurtz and Ann Wightman, members at large. The Rev. Dani Forbess was our adviser.

The committee presented a slate of candidates for elder and for deacon in a congregational meeting on May 21, 2017, which was voted as presented. The new elders for the Class of 2020 are Lars Carlson, Dana Hammer, and Jan Olson. The new deacons for the Class of 2020 are Lisa Horowitz and Dawn Thornhill.

A year ago, at our annual congregational meeting in January 2017, the congregation voted to revise our bylaws to reflect our reduced membership pool, which limits us when searching for new people to serve. This year, while the number of officers - a total of ten on each board - is somewhat reduced from previous years, we are in compliance with the new requirements of our revised bylaws.

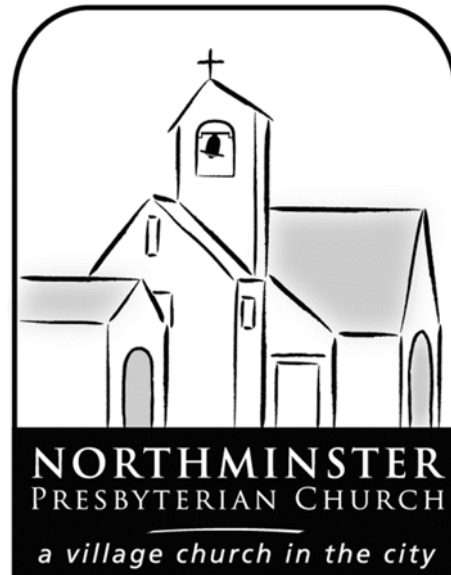
Our thanks to those who served on the Nominating Committee, special thanks to those retiring from the Class of 2017, and our gratitude to those newly elected to serve.

Ann Wightman,  
Nominating Committee Chair Pro Tem





**Proclaiming God's Grace,  
Creating Community,  
Serving our Neighbors**



**The Reverend Dani Forbess, Pastor  
Miriam Anderson, Choir Director  
Eric Johnson, Organist  
Ally Pexa, Christian Education  
Director**

**Ann Wightman, Clerk of Session  
Rachel Van Noord, Treasurer  
Stacy Kern, Financial Secretary**