The Annual Report for the Year 2020

Westminster Presbyterian Church

presented at

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation

February 28, 2021

The Annual Report
for the Year 2020
Westminster Presbyterian Church

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Westminster Presbyterian Church
Statistical Report
Membership Statistics for 2020

Total Communicant Membership as reported December 31, 2019 **270**

Additions during 2020

	Male		Female		Total
By Certificate	0		0		0
Reaffirmation	0		0		0
Profession					
Confirmation	0		0		0
Other					
TOTAL					0

Losses during 2020

By Death	0		4		4
By Certificate	0		0		0
Other	1		1		2
TOTAL					6

Total Communicant Membership as reported December 31, 2020 **264**
Affiliate Members Male: 0 Female: 0 Total: 0

Into the Church Triumphant
Clyde Brown, Cheryl Heilig, Barbara Hutton, Georgia Silliman, Bernita Sundquist

Child Baptisms 0
Adult Baptisms 0
Marriages 0

Attendance Figures

				2019	2020*
	Average Sunday (not summer)			85	
	Average Sunday (summer)			63	
		Total Worshippers		3848	
	Ash Wednesday			11	10
	Palm Sunday			73	
	Maundy Thursday			25	
	Good Friday			N/A	N/A
	Easter Sunday			218	
	World Communion Sunday			70	
	Longest Night			6	
	Christmas Eve			177	
	Christmas Sunday (Sunday After)			40	

*Due to the global pandemic, worship was moved online on March 15, 2020. See data on next page. *(continued….)*

(continued from page 4…)

On March 15, 2020, Westminster went to all remote worship following a shutdown due to the global pandemic. Westminster partnered with First Presbyterian Church, Hartford to create recorded worship services that were posted online. There is some available data through our video provider, Vimeo (see data below). Please keep in mind that the data from online viewership includes members of First Presbyterian Church, Hartford and any other friends of both church communities visiting our websites.

In person worship in January averaged 66, in February attendance averaged 71. Two worship services were held in person in the beginning of March, Westminster shared an online service from First Presbyterian Church, New Haven on Sunday, March 15 and began offering recorded Sunday worship on Sunday, March 22.

Video Analytics

Analytics Definitions
Views - # of sessions in which a person has hit the play button on a video
Finishes - # of sessions in which a video is played all the way to completion
Averaged % Watched – The furthest point in the timeline a video is played to in one session divided by the total length of the video.

Date	Views	Finishes	Avg. % Watched
Mar, 2020	406	112	51
Apr, 2020	1,068	376	59
May, 2020	880	308	61
Jun, 2020	523	225	65
Jul, 2020	469	219	68
Aug, 2020	1,051	376	67
Sep, 2020	579	230	64
Oct, 2020	469	202	67
Nov, 2020	464	243	74
Dec, 2020	546	217	63
Totals:	**6,455**	**2,508**	**64%**

- Easter Sunday was April 12, 2020

Additional Service Information

- July 12, Worship Video provided by PSNE via YouTube. Data Unavailable
- August 9, Worship Video provided by PSNE via YouTube. Data Unavailable
- December 22, Longest Night Service via Zoom: 37 in attendance. Service in partnership with Rev. Nancy McLaren, First Presbyterian Church, Hartford; Rev. J.C. Cadwallader, First Presbyterian Church, New Haven and Rev. Jinny Smanik, Hampton UCC
- **Christmas Eve (in partnership with First Presbyterian Church, Hartford)**
  Drive-Through Nativity/Parking Lot Service held at Westminster: 85 in attendance
  Christmas Eve Service via Zoom: 24 in attendance
  Christmas Eve recorded worship service included in video analytics
- December 27, Worship Video provided by PSNE via YouTube. Data Unavailable

Report of the Clerk of Session
For the Year 2020
Anne Carney, Clerk of Session (January – August 2020)

Members of the Session

Myles Altimus	Nicole Aronson	Tom Buckley
Anne Carney	Avery MacKellar-Nogueira	Heather McBride
David Hall	Barbara Riihimaki	Jenna Sheridan

Moderator: The Reverend Julie Emery.

Session began meeting by Zoom on March 12, 2020 due to the Covid-19 virus. We voted to suspend all in-church gatherings including meetings, worship and use of the building by outside groups through March 29, 2020. We later updated closing the building through Labor Day and then again through the end of the year 2020. Currently the building remains closed. Despite the many challenges posed by the pandemic including meeting virtually, we continued doing our work as the Leadership Team. Online worship services and many other virtual events happened throughout the year. Please see the individual team reports for details about their decisions and actions.

Other Session actions included:

- Approved a new Minister of Music job description and search committee
- Approved the application and acceptance of a Payroll Protection Plan to support our staff and ministry during the pandemic
- Approved Hammond-Iles Wealth Advisors and New Covenant Trust Company to manage our investment funds
- Approved the placement of a Black Lives Matter sign on Westminster's property

Throughout 2020 Session met faithfully and continually sought God's guidance and grace though a difficult year. Westminster is still alive! I am grateful to have served alongside Westminster's Elders who continue to feel called to lead as I move in a new direction. I am also grateful to the members of Westminster for your trust in me as Clerk of Session these last 3 years.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Carney, Clerk

Report of the Clerk of Session
For the Year 2020
Heather McBride, Clerk of Session (December 2020)

Members of the Session

Myles Altimus	Nicole Aronson	Tom Buckley
Anne Carney	Avery MacKellar-Nogueira	Heather McBride
David Hall	Barbara Riihimaki	Jenna Sheridan

Moderator: The Reverend Julie Emery.

Due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, Session continued to meet via Zoom from September through the end of the year. Worship continued to take place virtually using the Vimeo platform, with Rev. Julie Emery partnering with Rev. Nancy McLaren from First Presbyterian Church of Hartford. The church building was opened on a very limited basis in the fall to allow a few approved activities, including Boy Scout meetings, Alcoholics Anonymous meetings, 45+ Exercise group, YMCA youth basketball and bell choir rehearsals. Strict group size limits, social distancing, and masks were required for all groups. A new Elder, John Rhine, joined the Session in October, and David Hall re-upped as Myles Altimus and Anne Carney stepped down. In December, the Session voted to elect myself, Heather McBride, to the position of Stated Clerk of Session. Later that month, a socially-distanced Christmas Eve service was held in our church's parking lot; a virtual Christmas Eve worship service was offered as well. In spite of the pandemic, we continued offering weekly worship services, reaching out to stay connected with members, hosting virtual and socially-distanced in-person events, and working with the Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance (GHIAA) and mission partners. Please refer to the team reports for more details.

2020 was a year that put Westminster's faith and dedication to the test! Despite the unprecedented hardship of the COVID-19 pandemic, Westminster continues to be a community that seeks the will of God, reaches out in love and fellowship, gives generously of itself, and cries out for justice. I am filled with gratitude for the opportunity to be a part of a community that is as passionate as I am about living out God's call, and I am humbled at the opportunity to serve as Clerk of Session as we look ahead with hopeful hearts to 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather McBride, Clerk

The Rev. Julie Emery
Pastor/Head of Staff

Dear Westminster,

The year 2020 will certainly go down in the history books. As we look back, it is strange to see the 'business as usual' reflected in our calendars, photos, and meeting minutes from January and February of that year. We had started off with some great LIFT events that dug into the hard aspects of forgiveness and reconciliation and the story of Joseph. We had an optimistic stewardship campaign and had begun walking through the Lord's Prayer in our Lenten season.

And then the week of March 9, 2020, we began to hear alarming news of the new coronavirus "COVID-19" that was making its way into our country, into our cities. Session met quickly on March 12 and decided to cancel Sunday worship and shut down our building for the time being. At this point, we began to pivot, adapt and move our ministry online.

The good news was that we had already begun to experiment with this "new" technology called "Zoom" for Session meetings, due to the use of Zoom by the Presbytery of Southern New England and installation of our "Smart Room" in 2019. But moving worship online presented different challenges. Because of concerns and hesitation of using the Zoom platform by some members, we opted to begin producing a pre-recorded worship video to create an on-demand worship experience. Each staff member began crash courses in video recording, sound technology, movie making and more.

We thought it would only be a few weeks until we returned, hoping to be in our sanctuary for Easter Sunday, but days turned into weeks turned into months. Now as we approach our annual meeting, almost a year from the day we closed the church building, we continue to meet virtually or outside on our grounds. While vaccines are beginning to be available, still there are concerns around safety for the most vulnerable among us, and we are urged by our denomination to continue to be cautious.

If the trauma and crisis of this past year has done anything for us it has perhaps clarified our vision of what God calls us to do and be in the world. We have learned to adapt our worship, our ministry, and found new ways to answer God's call to us to ***build community, deepen our faith lives, and pursue justice.***

Building Community:
It is clear that Westminster understands our mission to be deeply relational, as we believe that God created us to be in relationship in our world. This was perhaps the most important and the most challenging mission this past year, as our need to socially distance and in some cases isolate ourselves made many of our usual ways of building relationships difficult if not impossible.

And yet, we have been able to continue this priority and invest deeply in our need to be in community. We have seen this through many of our outreach endeavors:

- The Care Team making regular phone calls to each and every member of our congregation;
- Zoom coffee hours and hymn sings;
- Opportunities to gather and connect (while staying safe) on our grounds (Sundaes on Sunday, S'mores Event, etc.);
- Outdoor pastoral care visits near our Memorial garden;
- Gathering together on Christmas Eve for worship in cars in our parking lot.

For each of these events we prioritized inclusivity, as we sought to make them both safe and accessible to all, regardless of the variety of vulnerabilities to the virus. We prioritized justice, understanding that in a public health crisis, every action we take to gather unsafely can adversely affect the most at-risk in our communities. We prioritized care, knowing that part of what we have needed most during this time is connection with one another.

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(Pastor Report continued…)

Deepening Faith:
As the pandemic continued, each of us experienced the ways that our faith has been tested and challenged. We also recognized that with the diversity in our congregation, we were each being tested differently. Our older members longed for the comfort and stability of our traditional faith touchstones: favorite hymns, a beloved sanctuary, regular Sunday morning worship. Our younger members longed for opportunities to connect and process what was happening. Our families, juggling work from home and children managing virtual school were simply maxed and exhausted, needing to be supported and cared for and to know they were not alone.

Still, with the vast variety of needs, we sought to help church members deepen and strengthen their faith despite the loss of our "normal," learned ways of doing so by offering:

- Twice weekly prayer moments on Facebook;
- Excellent worship videos to watch whenever it fit people's schedules;
- Creative children's sermon videos;
- Bible studies on Zoom;
- Online Summer Compassion Camp for children and adults;
- Liturgical season "DIY Faith Kits" for Lent, Holy Week and Advent;
- Ongoing, regular check-ins with members to assess needs and care for one another.

Nothing is perfect, and each adaptation takes extra time and energy, but we continue to seek inclusive, caring ways to help people deepen their lives of faith in these challenging times.

Pursuing Justice:
In 2020, we experienced the painful truth that there was another pandemic in our midst, that of the deep embedded and systemic racism in our country. We saw as the coronavirus adversely affected communities of color and the poorest and most vulnerable. As those who follow a Messiah who called us to seek justice for the oppressed and downtrodden, we could not ignore the need for us to speak out, stand up, and reckon with this truth. The Session began to grapple with this in early summer, voting to approve the statement, *"Westminster believes black lives matter and works to eradicate systemic racism."*

This statement was followed up with various ways to engage conversation and witness within our community:

- Weekly communication to our congregation about systemic racism and its impact in our lives;
- Opportunities for conversations on Zoom about Black Lives Matter;
- Continued work with GHIAA as they adapted campaigns related to the pursuit of justice in education, housing reform, criminal justice reform, gun control and healthcare;
- Marches for justice, joining in the campaign to declare racism as a public health crisis in our state, and continuing to prioritize our need to stand up and speak out for justice;
- Finally, in August, Session approved the signs that are now prominently displayed on our property declaring, "Black Lives Matter to God and to Us".

All of this we did alongside of working tirelessly to help feed and support those most in need through donations to the West Hartford food bank, Loaves and Fishes and South Park Inn. Our Serve team has made sure that even though we are not "in the building" still we are the church that serves and cares for our neighbor and pursues a just and abundant life for all.

This past year of challenges has also brought along its share of blessings including:

First Presbyterian Church, Hartford
As Presbyterians, we believe in a connectional church that can share resources and support one another in times of struggle. Because of this, we reached out early on to Rev. Nancy McLaren at First Presbyterian Church of Hartford to see if we might partner in worship as both of us and our congregations began to learn new skills of recording, movie production, music video integration and more. Throughout this year we have seen a re-kindling of our relationship with First Presbyterian Church of Hartford, our founding church and sister congregation. The support between our churches has been a gift, and we are beginning to look ahead to possible ways to partner in the future.

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(Pastor Report continued…)

Strong, Dedicated Staff
There is no question that without the talented and dedicated staff at Westminster, we would be in a much more challenging place after such a year. Each staff member has shown a remarkable ability to adapt, pivot, think critically and still be creative and generous with time and talents. We quickly moved to home offices, began meeting weekly via Zoom, and began thinking about how we could continue to build community and support our congregation during what was fast becoming a global crisis. The results were remarkable and we have each benefitted from their dedication and persistence this year. You can read more about each of their excellent ministries in those various reports.

As we look ahead, we will continue to face challenges that have to do with our financial stability, clarity of mission, and envisioning a way for us to be in worship and ministry together regardless of our various health concerns. We are beginning to understand that this pandemic has forever changed the ways we do ministry, both in good ways and challenging ways.

We anticipate needing to strengthen our online ministry while also planning to return to our building sometime later this year, caring equally for those who choose to return and those who prefer to stay home. While there may be no "return to normal," we can and will work now to tend and grow what we hope to be: a faithful, passionate community that works to build relationships, deepen faith, and pursue justice.

Ministry Areas

Worship

The Worship team supports our pastor in offering creative and vital worship that invites and engages people of all ages and backgrounds, welcoming the people of God into praise, lament, singing and prayer in the communal worship of God.

Guiding Scripture: Psalm 100, "Make a joyful noise to the Lord all the lands! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!"

Elders: Avery MacKeller-Nogueira and Jenna Sheridan

Barbara Riihimaki
Interim Director of Music

When 2020 started out, who would have thought the Westminster music program would quickly morph into what it became. Stuart Duncan resigned his position in January and I agreed to lead the program while a search team was formed to look for a new Music Director. When COVID-19 shut down the church building in March, we definitely started down the road less traveled and a short detour turned into a detour for the rest of the year.

Despite the detour, there were many opportunities for change, growth and joy. Some of those opportunities, activities, and people for which I am thankful include:

- Zoom becoming a constant friend, not great for hearing us sing or play music together, but as a way to learn new hymns and musical pieces remotely;
- The opportunity to learn the back story of many familiar and not so familiar hymns;
- Zoom helping us grow more connected and supportive of each other as a virtual choir that gathered weekly;
- Learning technology needed to record music for use in virtual worship services;
- Learning how to keep music simple and meaningful for virtual worship;
- The faithful core group of choir members and friends who took the leap to record themselves weekly in their own homes and produced a wonderful ensemble sound;
- Recording 75 pieces of vocal and instrumental music for our virtual library;
- The instrumentalists who played and recorded with me on various devices;
- Our very talented scholarship students who helped lead parts of rehearsal, were part of every recorded vocal piece as well as recording many solo pieces;
- Our two scholarship students, David Sirna and Ryan Mancini, who spent additional countless hours editing most of the recorded pieces on their own computers while balancing their school requirements;
- Janet Wade-Utay, who helped me identify instrumental pieces from the past 3 years of services that we were able to add to our library of recorded music as well as to record new pieces in the sanctuary setting;
- Hosting 5 general and one Christmas carols virtual hymn-sings with attendance ranging from 15 – 26 people each;
- Adapting our adult handbell choir from 11 down to 6 ringers to meet COVID requirements;
- The families and individuals who helped make the Silent Night video a joy;
- Working with Jennifer Fijal-Brevik, the Director of Music at First Presbyterian Church, Hartford, to pick music for worship, assign singers, record and edit pieces and appreciating the many skills she brings to making our music challenges turn out so well; and
- Appreciation of the space, musical instruments and support that Westminster provides to make the job of the Music Director satisfying and successful.

Heading into 2021, there will be additional challenges of learning the best ways to make music in hybrid worship services and what the future shape of the music program will be to keep the high quality of music at Westminster alive and well.

Worship Team
Jenna Sheridan and Avery MacKellar-Noguiera, Co-Chairs

Team Members: Rev. Julie Emery, Elder Nicole Aronson, Cyndi Brown, Chris Scigulinsky, Gary Holloway, Howard Sprout, Stacy Raney, John Rhine, Elder Barbara Riihimaki, Janet Wade-Utay
Usher/Greeter Team Leaders: Denise Noble, Nicole Aronson, Pam Rekow, Jean Summers, Sandy Fry, Carol Schramm, Ed Carney, Janet Stafford, Bob Raney, Janet Stafford
Audio Engineers: Jenna Sheridan, Janet Wade-Utay
Communion Coordinators: Jan Stafford and Heather McBride
Chancel Flowers: Nicole Aronson
Banner Coordinators: Carol and Craig Schramm

The Worship team assists the pastor and staff in planning worship services and ensuring the supporting elements of worship are coordinated and effective.

In our worship team model, interested Westminster members gather at various times during the year to plan worship services for a church season (Advent, Epiphany, Lent-Easter, Ordinary time, etc.) with the pastor. This includes any visual elements of worship as well as the readings, prayers, and hymns. Because we plan in seasons, people can join as they are able throughout the year and are not bound by a commitment to be at all worship planning team meetings.

The Lenten season began with an Ash Wednesday service on February 14. During our in-person worship in January, February, and March, we continued the use of worship stations during worship. The worship stations are available to all ages and are particularly helpful for our very young members who continue to use them frequently. We worshiped 'in-the-round' at this time as well, using this structure to strengthen and renew our relationships with one another. We also continued the once monthly integration of Worship and intergenerational Christian Education with beautiful LIFT services.

On March 22, along with First Presbyterian Church of Hartford, we launched our online worship videos to continue to worship throughout the duration of the Coronavirus pandemic. During Holy Week, Westminster Presbyterian Church (WPC) was joined by First Presbyterian Church of Hartford for an online Maundy Thursday Communion Service through Zoom at 7:00 pm. On Easter, we celebrated the resurrection of Christ with an asynchronous online worship service with the Rev. Julie Emery preaching. We had a wonderful amount of music accompanying the service as well.

We continued to enjoy the musical talents of our congregation. We had great musical leadership through 2020 with Stuart Duncan and Barbara Riihimaki. Our Todd Tilton scholarship students throughout the year, Rachel Lloyd (soprano), Vanessa Parre (mezzo soprano), Ryan Macini (bass), and David Sirna (tenor), provided strength of voice and shared solo talents, blessing our choir and worship in many ways. The Westminster Bell Choir played "social-distance" style this year, enhancing worship with music at Christmas. We are thankful for their commitment and the music ensemble they create.

Our traditional Christmas Eve Services were held virtually on December 24. The service included communion, a candlelight worship, and readings from The Reverend Julie Emery, The Reverend Nancy McLaren of First Presbyterian Hartford, Grace Woodward, our Yale Divinity Intern, and Ryan Joslin, First Presbyterian Hartford's Yale Divinity Intern. 2020 was a grace and spirit-filled year of worship at WPC, as we shifted to online and continued to adapt our services throughout the year. Our goal is to continue presenting meaningful worship that enriches the lives of our Westminster community and enables us to share God's love with each other and the world. We want to thank all the many wonderful volunteers and staff who work tirelessly to make our worship and musical experiences a blessing to all. This includes the audio-visual technicians, bell ringers, choristers, communion planners and servers, flower donors and arrangers, greeters, ushers, liturgists, musicians, video editors, pastors and lay preachers, our music minister, church administrator, prayer and scripture readers, sanctuary decorators, instrumental soloists and all other volunteers who enhance our worship.

Flourish Team

Flourish supports and encourages ALL people as they grow on their faith journey through community, Bible study, prayer, practice and service.

Guiding Scripture: Deuteronomy 6:5-7 "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise."

Elders: Nicole Aronson, and Heather McBride

Karen Hammond
Director of Faith Formation

In my annual report for 2019, I observed that Westminster was working hard to be come a more intergenerational church…a place where different generations authentically interact and share with each other. I believe that this is one of the unique opportunities available to a church (where else can you find so many different generations in one place?) and I am proud of Westminster for moving in this direction. Now it is time to write a report for 2020. As I look back at this most strange/unique/unprecedented year, I see that Westminster has continued to move toward the goal of becoming intergenerational. We certainly have had to reassess and do things differently, but God has continued to guide us along that path. For this I am so grateful.

As 2020 began we continued much of the good work we had started before. Our worship services included opportunities for all ages to engage together. Services included a Time for Children and also a variety of weekly hands-on Worship Stations designed to help our youngest members become active participants in worship services. We held LIFT (Living In Faith Together) mornings in January, February and March – each month focusing on a different human relationship themes with Biblical roots as we spent the entire morning worshiping, learning and interacting as a multi-aged group.

In late January I attended the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators annual conference in Little Rock, Arkansas. I'm very grateful for Westminster's Lester Senger Fund for Christian Education Leadership which allowed me to attend this wonderful 4-day event. I joined over 600 other Christian Educators for incredible workshops, engaging worship services, brilliant speakers and multiple networking opportunities. It was a truly energizing and inspiring week, and I returned to Connecticut full of ideas for our future.

And then "it" happened. In mid-March we made the decision to suspend in-person worship services in response to the then new COVID-19 pandemic. This radical shift to physically separated church has brought new and different challenges, as well as opportunities for creativity. As the months of physical separation have increased, Westminster has gone through a few different phases and our Faith Formation practices and programming have responded to each.

In mid-March, with the decision to suspend in-person worship for a month (ha!), the immediate focus was on giving people some familiarity and comfort while we all tried to understand this scary time. We provided worship opportunities that would be accessible to as many people as possible. We coached people on using technology to find us online. We worked hard to incorporate scripture, music, prayer and preaching into our recorded services. And because we are a multi-aged congregation, I felt it important that we also offer a weekly recorded children's message, aligned with the liturgy, theme and sermon for the week. We have heard from many that the opportunity to worship together at home is a touchpoint for the week and provides an anchor during chaotic times. It has been a special joy to hear from many adults who do not have children living with them that they also enjoy watching the recorded children's message.

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(Director of Faith Formation report continued…)

Our next pandemic phase happened in April as Easter approached. We could not celebrate this season together in person, but we still celebrated as a community. One part of this was providing Holy Week at Home kits. We developed an at-home kit of devotions, prayer, and activities, picked up at the church doorstep by some and delivered to home doorsteps for others. The kit was designed to be child-friendly but also adult appropriate, and the suggestion from our Care Team was that delivering these kits to older and more home-bound members would be a nice contact from the church. These kits were very well received by people of all ages. We were saddened that we could not hold our traditional Easter Egg Hunt on the Saturday before Easter. This has become something that both our congregation and our community enjoy and look forward to. Not wanting to let this go completely, we instead organized a community paper Easter Egg Hunt, inviting anyone in West Hartford to color a paper egg and post it outside their home. The community was alerted and encouraged to "hunt" for eggs all over town. This was a huge success and many happy faces were seen as eggs were spotted.

In late spring we focused on listening to our members. With great thanks to the Care Team and Elder Nicole Aronson, all members of our congregation were contacted on a regular basis. We heard that our families with school-aged children were feeling stretched very thin with parents trying to work from home, children getting tired of online school, and childcare being juggled. In response our Faith Formation took the form of parental support. We held Zoom meetings for children each week. These were times of connection, fellowship, and fun… with a little Faith Formation mixed in. Between 8 and 12 children gathered with me each week. The kids loved having a time "just for them", and parents loved seeing kids happy and engaged (and perhaps getting 30 minutes when someone else was watching the kids).

As we moved into summer a new phase began. First, it seemed clear that our "at-home" time would not be ending soon. Also, particularly for families with children, summer 2020 was going to be hugely different and this was causing a great deal of anxiety for some of our families. We decided to host a virtual Vacation Bible School program, but added a Westminster spin: "Faith Formation and Fun for All Ages". Compassion Camp (based on the curriculum from Illustrated Ministry) was held for 5 weeks (virtually!) and had 36 registered participants. This included families who chose to have just the children participate, families where parents and kids participated together, a few teenagers, several adults without children in their home, and even one adult who chose to participate with neighborhood children to help their parents with childcare. The camp was entirely virtual and consisted of 11 or 12 videos sent out each week. The videos – many produced by our congregation - each introduced a theme, taught a Bible story (with amazing home acting, stuffed animal and Lego theater), led craft activities, taught music, introduced a yoga flow and breathing exercises, and gave participants the opportunity to journal and have deeper exploration of topics. Participants were given a supply kit and then were able to watch videos on their own time and at their own pace. Each week we hosted a Compassion Camp Connection on Zoom so that participants could see each other's faces and talk about what they had experienced in our virtual camp. It was absolutely a joy to hear one adult say "I sign on each week just so I can see those cute kids" and to witness a 9-year-old boy and a 65-year-old woman discover they have a shared hobby and could spend time discussing it together. An enormous "thank you" goes to all of the volunteers who contributed to Compassion Camp: Jordan, Kylie and Myles Altimus and Denise Noble; Callie Boone; Anne Carney; Marcia and Mike DeBolt; Anna, Ava, Christina and Ken Garrison; Greg, Kelsey and Lindsey Hammond; Caleb and Madeline Myers, Joanna Sprout and Miriam Engel; Alan, Ashley, Jack and Libby Zapata. Your creativity, talent, time and videography skills made for an incredible summer together while we were apart.

As the year moved on, it felt more and more like we needed to find ways to focus on our intergenerational connections. This fall, we partnered with the Engage Team to find ways to safely bring our community together. A late August Ice Cream Truck event was such fun in our parking lot! We followed that with a September picnic and an October s'mores event. Each event was a wonderful opportunity for us to safely see each other and again be an intergenerational community.

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(Director of Faith Formation report continued…)

In late fall we turned our attention to Advent and Christmas and the Flourish team met electronically to discuss the best ways to celebrate these joyful seasons. We recognized our grief at not being together, but also creatively found ways to highlight hope, peace, joy and love in our lives. We offered our congregation (and the congregation of First Presbyterian Church of Hartford) Advent at Home Kits. These kits included the supplies to make a simple Advent wreath, a devotional (family and adult appropriate), and a paper chain to help mark the days in Advent. We also texted our congregation each day with an "Advent Word of the Day" to focus our thoughts and remind all of Westminster's presence in their lives. People were given the opportunity to pick up their Advent Kit in the church parking lot – a place to safely greet each other and church staff -which was a wonderful highlight.

Christmas Eve provided another opportunity for great creativity. We did not feel it would be safe to be inside our building, yet desperately wanted to be together to worship and celebrate. We partnered, as we have done throughout the pandemic, with First Presbyterian Church of Hartford, and offered three different worship experiences on Christmas Eve. A recorded "on demand" service was available electronically. An 8:00 pm in person outdoor service was planned at First Presbyterian (though weather forced this to move to a Zoom service) and a 4:30 p.m. Drive-Through/Drive-In Christmas Eve service was held at Westminster. The church building was decorated with Christmas lights and four live nativity tableaus were staged along the driveway. Close to 90 worshipers drove their cars past while listening to Christmas music we broadcast. Cars then parked in our parking lot and a service led by Rev. Julie Emery and Rev. Nancy McLaren (standing in a pick-up truck) was broadcast over an FM radio station. It was rainy and windy and it was certainly a unique Christmas Eve, but when we sang Silent Night and lit our glow stick candles together it was a truly holy experience. Great thanks to the Westminster volunteers who pulled this together: Aiden, Chase and Jason Emery; Gwen, Libby and Linda Geisler; Greg, Kelsey and Lindsey Hammond; Becky, Ella, Ian and Todd Kimberly; Jonathan and Lesley Morrey; Bob, Hope and Stacy Raney; John Rhine; Barbara Riihimaki; Cora, Ellen and Jeff Smith; Maya, Nancy, Nathan and Nicole Souza; Mike Stimson; and Alan, Ashley, Jack and Libby Zapata.

As I look back on this most unusual year I am grateful for the opportunities for change, experimentation and flexibility that have been sprinkled throughout. Many of us have increased our technological skills. We were able to take advantage of this learning and put together some special greetings for our congregation. An Easter "He Is Risen" video montage, a Back to School Blessing (recorded by teachers, students and parents) and a special Silent Night musical message have all helped us remember that we are a community – even when we can't greet each other in person. Visits on porch steps for a quick "hello" have lifted our spirits. And several all-church opportunities for Zoom Coffee Hour and even a Zoom game night have strengthened our ties as a community.

As we head into 2021 and the next phases of our life together, I am excited to find new vehicles for being together as God's children. Yes, things are different. And yes, they are not what we ever could have imagined or would have chosen. But we remain certain that God is moving among us all as we find ways to grow our faith and travel this road together.

Flourish Team
Nicole Aronson & Heather McBride, Elders

For the beginning of 2020, January-March, Flourish maintained its past programs including monthly Living In Faith Together (LIFT) Sundays (10:00-12:00), weekly Children's Sermons; Worship Stations; the Westminster Salon; Epiphany Star Word/Gifts; and a Lenten Devotional, Praying in Color.

On LIFT Sundays we continued our study of relationships. We explored the themes of generosity, jealousy and forgiveness as found in the stories of Zarephath and Joseph. Each morning included a mission/service activity, craft, puzzle and lots of discussion opportunities. In March, we welcomed Dwayne David Paul, a colleague in the Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance (GHIAA) to talk with us about criminal justice reform as proposed in Clean Slate legislation. Also in March, we watched the modern retelling of Joseph's story in the "Seasons of Gray" movie after worship and "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" after LIFT.

The adult Westminster Salon met each week excluding LIFT Sundays during January and February. Discussions were led by Peter Benner and John Berman predominately as well as some of the regular members of the group. Each week focused on an article or book related to living Christian beliefs and values in our current culture in West Hartford and more broadly.

Our Faith Formation ministries led by our Director of Faith Formation, Karen Hammond, went online starting the second week of March. Karen's dedication, enthusiasm, organization and wisdom were evident in the programming that she continued to lead and provide in this her fifteenth year in this position. She videorecorded a weekly Children's Message; led Zoom Parties for young people; organized a community Easter Egg Hunt of colored paper eggs; and organized Holy Week at Home kits, Advent at Home kits, and an intergenerational summer Compassion Camp. You can read more about them in her report.

In addition, Rev. Julie Emery and various Westminster members led midday prayer on Facebook twice a week from March 17-September 17. Nicole Aronson led Bible studies on "Where do we see hope today?", "Are you resilient?" and Exploring the Lectionary Psalms from April through May. In November for three weeks the Rev. Dr. Susan De George, Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Hudson River led a study of "Isaiah: A fifth gospel for our times?" And in December, Grace Woodward, Westminster's Yale Divinity School Intern led a "Journey through the Christmas stories" for three weeks. During Advent the "Advent Word of the Day" was presented on Instagram and on Facebook with a reflection.

Finally, June through August there was concerted effort, in conjunction with the GHIAA Core Team, to provide anti-racism education. We invited the congregation to participate in a 21 Day Anti-Racism Challenge, provided a number of articles and resources in weekly email messages and provided two sets of discussion opportunities. There were three conversations about Black Lives Matter in June and then in August two more Zoom conversations to discuss the statement approved by Session, "Westminster believes that black lives matter and works to eradicate systemic racism."

Despite being unable to learn in person, the Holy Spirit moved among us. We are deeply grateful for the volunteers who helped with all of these endeavors supporting all of us on this journey to learn more about ourselves, our faith, God, and how we can apply our beliefs into our everyday lives.

Youth Ministry
Nicole Aronson & Heather McBride, Elders

Youth Ministry committee members are Nicole Aronson, Adam Bender, Larry Carr, Avery MacKellar-Nogueira, Heather McBride, Jenna Sheridan and Nancy Souza

From January through June there were three regularly scheduled CHAOS (Christians Hanging Around on Sundays) events from 5:00-7:00. Each event featured games, food and discussion. There was also an initial planning meeting for youth and their parents interested in participating in a summer service/mission trip to New York City.

Westminster continued to be an active participant in the West Hartford Youth Group (WeHaYG), which is a collaborative gathering with two other local youth groups from First Church of Christ Congregational and St. John's Episcopal Church. WeHaYG met once a month during normal CHAOS meeting times, generally the first Sunday of the month. In January, there was a Christmas/Epiphany celebration held at First Church which included some discussion, lots of games and dinner. In February, youth and leaders went duck pin bowling. And in March, four Westminster youth helped serve the Community Meal at Center Church in Hartford.

Once the church closed due to the COVID pandemic there were no more in person events until the October all church S'mores gathering. Youth and their leaders gathered separately to enjoy the sweet treats and catch up with each other. In November, a group of youth and leaders gathered to assemble the Thanksgiving baskets for Westminster's Covenant to Care social worker's families. After the assembly youth decorated Christmas Carol lyrics for display at South Park Inn.

Engage Team
Barbara Riihimaki & Jolee West, Co-Chairs

The Engage Team strives to have all members involved in the ministry of Westminster through the offering of their God-given time, talents and treasures. We are committed to spreading our Christian message by making meaningful connections with the broader community.

Guiding Scripture: Romans 12: 4-8 "For as in one body we have many members, and all the members do not have the same function, so we, through many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another."

Engage Team Members; John Berman, Cyndi Brown, Ann Cox, Sandy Fry, El Harp, Stacy Raney, and Pam Rekow, Barbara Riihimaki (co-chair), Jolee West (co-chair)

The Engage Team had 3 major concentration areas in 2020: Communications, Stewardship and Member Engagement.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Committee Members: Rev. Julie Emery, Greg Hammond, Karen Hammond, Becky Kimberly, Pam Rekow (Chair)

The Communications Committee's mission is to develop effective ways for Westminster and our various committees to articulate the church's message within and outside our congregation.

In 2020, our work focused primarily on exterior signage. We created banners to communicate our move to virtual worship and we designed the purple Westminster Together yard signs that appeared on our members' lawns last spring.

We also designed and produced signage to communicate Westminster's position on key social justice issues.

Working closely with Session, we researched and designed options for the Black Lives Matter signs that appear on Westminster's property. We also designed the lamppost banner with the Progressive Pride flag and Westminster's Pride logo to convey Westminster's love and acceptance of our LGBTQIA+ siblings to all in our community.

We also began using text messaging to communicate to members about events and activities of interest.

STEWARDSHIP:

Committee Members: Rev. Julie Emery (Pastor), Cyndi Brown (Chair), Barbara Riihimaki, Jolee West, Becky Kimberly, and Pam Rekow

The Stewardship Committee is charged with supporting and engaging the congregation in an ongoing conversation regarding their commitment of time, talents and resources to support Westminster Presbyterian Church's ministries. The committee focuses on planning and budget oversight to ensure the church's financial resources are appropriately allocated to the ministry of the church.

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(Engage Team Report continued…)

Under Cyndi Brown's excellent leadership of the 2020 Stewardship Campaign, the team set up a Stewardship Communications plan with different themes each week in January through February. The themes were;

- Living Proof, Creative Worship with an email on Generosity/LIFT;
- Justice and an email on Electronic Giving;
- Every Pledge Matters and the email Why We need your Pledge;
- Extending our Reach with a reminder on Time & Talents: Specific volunteer needs;
- Campaign updates; and
- Per Capita.

We also asked several members of the church to "Share Their Westminster Moment". Each ministry leader was asked to share what their ministry had planned for the year, what was up and coming and how others could become involved with the ministry.

Among the highlights of the year for the Stewardship Committee were:

- Reached out to everyone on the membership roll either via phone or by note;
- Hand-written thank you notes were sent to everyone who pledged;
- Continued to clean up membership rolls;
- Customized thank you letters sent to the congregation based on pledge levels and consistency of giving;
- An educational meeting regarding Per Capita. This continued throughout 2020 to increase members per capita giving;
- Worked with the Presbyterian Foundation and the church Bookkeeper, Jeannine Stimson, to set up and educate members on on-line giving.

Our stewardship campaign resulted in the following:

- Achieved 100% pledging from the leadership of Westminster (Deacons and Elders);
- Received pledges from 89 out of 101 possible households for a total of $313,756
- Three households gave regularly but did not complete a written pledge form;
- Fourteen households gave over their 100% of their pledge; and
- A Per Capita total of $4014.90 was collected from members.

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT:

The goal of Member Engagement is to encourage new members and to facilitate members connecting with other members of our church family.

Activities that we began the year with quickly changed as COVID-19 regulations were enacted.

- February Valentine's party for the Getting to Know You group;
- Cancelled our annual June picnic and Christmas Party for Getting to Know You and the planned Faith and Family Day outing at the Yard Goats stadium in August;
- Coordinated with Karen Hammond to host 3 all-church outdoor events including an Ice Cream Food Truck gathering in August (95 attendees); an traditional picnic in September (36 attendees), and a S'Mores party with firepits in October (54 attendees), all while weather and daylight hours allowed;
- Food donations for the West Hartford Food Pantry were collected at the last 2 events;
- Encouraged existing small groups to meet to combat social isolation via Zoom or at COVID compliant gatherings in back yards if people were comfortable, but did not pursue formation of any new small group meetings due to fatigue with high online computer time for most people;
- Sent birthday cards to all church members; and
- Did not pursue planned new member classes due to church services being online only.

In 2021, we hope to restart many events to encourage member engagement as people obtain vaccinations for COVID-19 and gathering restrictions are eased.

Nominating Committee
David Hall, Chair

The Nominating Committee consisted of David Hall (Chair), Michael Seltzer, Ma'Lynn Feingold, and Becky Kimberly.

With help from the Church Pastor, the following positions were filled:

- Heather McBride agreed to be the Clerk of Session,
- JoAnne Berry agreed to continue for another year as a Deacon on the Care Team,
- Donna Morrison agreed to be a Deacon on the Care Team for three years,
- Linda Geisler agreed to be a Deacon on the Care Team for three year,
- Adam Bender agreed to continue for another year as a Deacon on the Serve Team,
- Ellen Smith agreed to be a Deacon on the Serve Team for three years,
- Ella Kimberly agreed to be a Deacon on the Serve Team for one year,
- David Hall agreed to continue as an Elder on the Sustain Team for two years,
- John Rhine agreed to be an Elder on the Sustain Team for two years.

Serve Team
Tom Buckley, Elder

The Serve team provides opportunities to experience and share God's love through serving others, advocating for God's justice, and educating our congregation regarding issues of social justice and community need.

Guiding Scripture: Isaiah 58 and Micah 6:8 "He has showed you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?"

Serve Team: Deacons Adam Bender, Ella Kimberly, Helena Offei, Nancy Souza, Nathan Souza, Michael Seltzer and Elder Tom Buckley

In the midst of a global pandemic, we are happy to report the Serve Team has had an active year providing opportunities for our congregation to get involved in service to others, continually demonstrating their overwhelming generosity.

We continue to serve at South Park Inn through the dedicated efforts of Michael Seltzer and Adam Bender who coordinate the numerous Westminster Volunteers. We started 2020 again serving monthly meals at South Park Inn, and then quickly switched gears in March to deliver food each month, after a "COVID socially-distanced" food drop-off in the Westminster parking lot. Our long-time partner South Park Inn has been recognized by the State of Connecticut for providing one of the best responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. They quickly relocated their residents to area hotels and delivered all their meals to them every day. They then restructured their facility to allow for more socially distanced living, and by the end of 2020 had welcomed back 88% of their residents. Westminster has also continued the Christmas tradition by providing Magi gifts (previously known as white gifts) to residents of South Park. This year we delivered 88 separate Magi gifts, which doesn't include multiple quantities of the same item. These were gifted to Clients in-house at South Park and to those families that have moved beyond South Park and been placed back into the community. Rest assured that the spirit of Westminster resides in many places of residence in the Greater Hartford area. For the coming post-pandemic year, we are coordinating additional volunteering opportunities to expand our partnership. These include expanding contacts to promote healthier food options, clothing donations, and skill building with South Park Inn residents. It is so gratifying to see the dedication of our many members to this longtime partnership.

Similarly, our ministry with Loaves and Fishes continues and led by Margaret Taylor and Nicole Aronson. Again, many members contribute to this effort to feed those in need, and the need this year is particularly acute, as food insecurity was designated as a focus for the Serve Team.

Nancy Souza maintained our wonderful relationship with our Covenant to Care social worker Nadia Pelaez. Thanks to the technology wizardry of Ashley Aronson, who set up an online sign-up system, and the assembling efforts of the CHAOS kids, we delivered 15 Thanksgiving bags to Covenant to Care families. Due to the financial generosity of our congregation, we had $1200 leftover from the Thanksgiving bag collection. Focusing on our area's food insecurity, we allocated 50% of the funds to Loaves and Fishes, 25% to the West Hartford Food Pantry and 25% to the South Park Inn food program.

The Christmas Angel tree gifts for our Covenant to Care families are a wonderful tradition that continued (this year without the tree), coordinated wonderfully this year by Nancy Souza, Helena Offei and Nathan Souza, and again utilizing the online sign-up system developed by Ashley Aronson. The amazing compassion and generosity was expressed again in allowing us to give our Covenant to Care social worker 14 Angel gifts for her families. In addition, we were able to provide our social worker $1000 in Walmart gift cards for distribution to her needy families.

Ann Cox has continued as a dedicated volunteer, coordinating and overseeing Jesse's Garden which grows vegetables on our grounds and then distributes the bounty to those in need. Thank you Ann!

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In addition to these activities Westminster partnered by making financial contributions to the following organizations: Foodshare, South Park Inn, Interval House, IRIS (Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services), My Sister's House, Operation Fuel, Prudence Crandall Center for Women, and Habitat for Humanity. Additionally, 10 volunteers led by Janet Wade-Utay, made over 1,000 facemasks that were distributed to the clients of Loaves & Fishes, South Park Inn, Hands on Hartford, Foodshare and the Hockanum Food Pantry.

Westminster is a founding member of the Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance (GHIAA), which had its founding assembly in October 2019. As of this writing, Westminster is one of 39 dues paying members of GHIAA, consisting of churches, synagogues, mosques and community organizations. The goal of GHIAA is to build a diverse organization of lay leaders and clergy from across bounds of race, class, gender identity, religion and geography to build relational power to address social justice issues in local communities and beyond.

In 2020, GHIAA declared racism as a public health crisis, and focused its racial equity policy agenda on equitable health care, public safety, education, housing, and criminal justice. In June, Rev. Julie joined over 100 clergy to march from Hartford's North End to city hall, calling for police accountability and had the Hartford mayor agree to fly a Black Lives Matter flag over city hall. Thanks to GHIAA's efforts, in July Governor Lamont signed an historic police reform law, increasing accountability for law enforcement whose actions do not represent the values of the state and to increase public trust with police officers. In the current legislative session, GHIAA is advocating for legislation to repeal welfare liens (only Connecticut and New York continue this practice) and Clean Slate legislation to expunge the criminal records of citizens who do not return to crime 3 years after misdemeanors and 5 years after non-violent felonies.

Each congregation that is involved in GHIAA has formed and trained a core team of lay leaders. The Westminster Core Team leaders are: Nicole Aronson, Peter Benner, Tom Buckley, Cindy Buckley, Heather McBride, and Nancy Souza. The role of the Core Team is to engage in individual meetings in each congregation, host house meetings to learn of congregants' social justice concerns, participate with other GHIAA members in determining the organizational priorities, keep their congregation informed of the movement and work of GHIAA, and represent the congregation during key decisions.

The Serve Team is Westminster's arm into the community, reaching with love, charity and justice. Perhaps never in Westminster's history has the needs of our community come into sharper focus, thanks to a global pandemic. Westminster's congregation has risen to meet these needs with inspiring compassion and grace.

We are grateful for the opportunities to serve and in the spirit of Micah... *to do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with God.*

Care Team

The Care Team seeks to be a caring presence in the lives of our members through nourishing body and soul and brings "Living Proof of a Loving God" to our members through one-on-one ministries of visitation, prayer, phone calls, meals, flowers, notes and other avenues of caring. We seek to show each member of Westminster that they are loved, remembered, prayed for, thanked and supported.

Guiding Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:12 & 26 "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ...If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it."

Deacons: Ashley Aronson, JoAnne Berry, Marcia DeBolt, Ma'Lynn Feingold and Jean Summers.

Care
Nicole Aronson, Elder

The beginning of 2020 saw a continuation of the Care Team's initiatives to provide care through coffee hour hospitality, delivery of chancel flowers, meals for those in need, distribution of prayer shawls, and prayers. With the closing of our church building in March, our ministry became more complex and even more essential. A team of dedicated volunteers contacted our members monthly via phone calls, emails, notes, texts, and socially distanced visits. There was also a group that shopped and ran errands for those who needed that assistance. Both of those groups have continued through the present.

The task of caring for our members is greater than can be provided with just one or two people. I eagerly took on the role of coordinating our volunteer efforts while dedicating many hours weekly in communication with our members, with particular emphasis on those most isolated. It is my belief that all of us are tasked with the care of our members in whatever way is accessible. "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:34-35

Throughout the pandemic there has been despair around quarantining away from friends and loved ones, loneliness, isolation, and face to face interactions. In one response to some of these feelings the Rev. Julie Emery set up meetings with members within our beautiful Memorial Garden over the summer and fall. With direction from the Director of Faith Formation, Karen Hammond, children in the congregation were asked to draw pictures that were sent to many older or housebound adults. Those pictures were enthusiastically received and some resulted in pen pal relationships. Additionally, each member, staff, and consistent visitor received postcards at Thanksgiving and Christmas with a hand written note.

Unfortunately, due to no volunteers, our Church Mouse program was not available for those students who started college in the fall. The Church Mouse program is an initiative to care for our young people as most begin their first experiences away from home and church family. Over the years there have been beautiful moments and relationships forged in this care.

Janet Wade-Utay forged and continues to lead a team of sewers who produced several hundred masks for Westminster friends and family.

This time, although difficult, has been one of abundant generosity. The care we have shown for each other and the relationships formed and deepened in this time of isolation have been extraordinary. I have felt overwhelmingly blessed to have shared in this ministry with you and will never regret the opportunities presented to celebrate, grieve, care and be cared for with so many of my Westminster family.

Thanks to the following individuals who were a part of one or more of our caring ministries this past year Ashley Aronson, Wanda Bender, Joanne Berry, Cyndi Brown, Cindy Buckley, Tom Buckley, Ann Cox, Alice Cruikshank, Marcia DeBolt, Nancy Dewey, Liz Doering, Ma'Lynn Feingold, Sandy Fry, Linda Geisler, Karen Hammond, Lindsey Hammond, El Harp, Elsie Harp, Donna Morrison, Denise Noble, Carolann Purcell, Stacy Raney, Art Riihimaki, Barbara Riihimaki, Jenna Sheridan, Ellen Smith, Nancy Souza, Janet Stafford, Jean Summers, Janet Wade-Utay, Karen Wagner, Sandy Walsh, Jolee West, and Sally West. My apologies to any I have unintentionally omitted.

Memorial & Meditation Garden
El Harp, Chair

The Memorial & Meditation Garden continues to be a resting place for the ashes of our members and friends. The location and landscaping provides a special place for reflection and thanksgiving for the lives of those remembered. This past year Barbara Hutton (May 29, 2020) joined other relatives, members and friends in the Garden. There are plans for Clyde Brown (December 15, 2020) to be interred in the garden in 2021, once it is safe for his children to travel (due to the pandemic). We also mourned the deaths of Cheryl Heilig (August 21, 2020), Georgia Silliman (September 25, 2020) and Bernita Sundquist (November 17, 2020).

Each spring on the Sunday before Memorial Day, following our church service, a special service is held in the Garden as a reflection of the love and caring from their families and friends. This year, the service was recorded due to the pandemic and was shared online for family and friends to view from the safety of their homes.

Committee members this past year were JoAnne Berry, Lynne Carey, George Dewey, El Harp, Gary Holloway and John Rhine.

Sustain Team

The Sustain Team supports Westminster's congregation and leadership teams by coordinating, managing, and leading Westminster's facilities, employee support, and finances for today's and tomorrow's needs.

Guiding Scripture: Matthew 6:2-4, 19-21 "But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing so that your alms may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

Leadership: Elder John Rhine, Anne Carney, Clerk of Session, Elder David Hall

Buildings & Grounds Committee: Scott Brown, El Harp and John Rhine

Building and Grounds Committee
John Rhine, Chair

The year 2020 was an unusual year. It began normally but by March the church was effectively shut down. This created both challenges and opportunities. Because the facilities were closed for at least 6 months, the rental income received was significantly reduced. It also changed the work schedule in that the daily cleaning regimen was reduced. However, this freed up time for our sextons, Mike McElroy and Paul Siglar, to focus on other projects on their "maintenance needs" list. Among these projects were: sanding and painting most of the exterior railings, replacing the "Stop", "Handicap Parking", "Do Not Enter" signs, painting the driveway fence along the Ridgewood Road entrance, touchup repainting the basement bathrooms and Fireside Circle storage areas, installing our two "Black Lives Matter" signs, as well as the routine grass cutting and bush trimming. Storm Isaias at the end of July also caused significant damage to the trees on the property, especially in the Memorial Garden. We were very fortunate that Troutbrook Landscaping offered to remove the fallen spruce tree as well as two truck loads of debris at no cost to the church.

There were also several significant improvements made to the property. At Mike's urging, we installed energy efficient LED lighting on all exterior fixtures (building, parking lot, and corner signs). This is projected to save the church several hundred dollars a month on electricity expenses as well as provide brighter and more reliable lighting. The church also installed a new cedar fence between the driveway and the former Manse. This replaced the old one which was rotting away. The entire cost of the fence was donated by generous matching gifts from the Matos family (owners of the Manse) and the Roosa Foundation. We also received a gift from the Old Guard (they normally use the Fellowship Hall for their weekly meetings) of $4,000 to help compensate for our lost rental income.

The church has continued to receive requests for the use of our facilities from our regular renters even during the pandemic. Julie formed a "Way Forward" team to vet each of these requests and after careful consideration and with a proper cleaning plan in place, we have approved limited use of the church for the YMCA, 45 + Exercise group and AA.

One other significant event of 2020 was the fact that our assistant sexton, Paul Siglar, was injured by a work-related accident. He sustained a serious concussion in July and has been unable to return to work since. Fortunately, he has greatly improved and we hope he will soon be able to come back to Westminster. We miss Paul and his enthusiastic spirit very much.

Ministerial Relations and Personnel (MR&P)
Pam Rekow, Chair

2020 Committee: Anne Carney, Chair (Jan. – Aug.), Pam Rekow, Chair, (Sept. – Dec.), Cyndi Brown, Russ Cormier, John Rhine, and Rev. Julie Emery

The Ministerial Relations & Personnel (MR&P) committee works closely with Westminster's pastor and staff throughout the year.

Director of Faith Formation Karen Hammond is recognized for 15 years of service to Westminster's children and families.

2020 was a year when the talents, creativity and dedication of Westminster's staff served our church in new and innovative ways and showed us how truly blessed we are as a community of faith.

When the pandemic hit in March 2020, Westminster's staff seamlessly transitioned worship to a virtual format. Throughout the year, the staff worked tirelessly and creatively to reimagine programming and ensure that our church family felt connected to each other and to Westminster.

In December, MR&P recognized Karen Hammond for her 15 years of dedicated service as Westminster's Director of Faith Formation. The Rev. Julie Emery presented Karen with a video with messages of appreciation from Westminster's children and families.

MR&P also worked with the search team for Westminster's next Music Minister, who will be starting in early 2021.

As we remember the activities and events of the last year that are captured in this annual report, we do so with deep appreciation for the many ways in which Westminster's staff serves as the heart of our church family.

Rev. Julie Emery and Karen Hammond, Westminster's Director of Faith Formation

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Congregation
Westminster Presbyterian Church
February 23, 2020

Moderator Julie Emery called the meeting to order at 11:37a.m. The opening prayer was the benediction and blessing at the end of the worship service.

The Clerk declared that there was a quorum of at least 29. Actual attendance was 51. The call for the meeting was read. Notice had been given on at least two preceding Sundays.

The congregation **VOTED** to approve the agenda.

The congregation **VOTED** to approve the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Congregation of February 24, 2019.

The congregation **VOTED** to approve the Minutes of the Congregational Meeting of June 23, 2019.

The congregation **VOTED** to receive the Statistical Report of the Membership.

The congregation **VOTED** to receive the annual reports of the Pastor, Clerk of Session, Minister of Music, Director of Faith Formation and the Ministry Teams.

Moderator Julie Emery presented an overview of a few of the major actions and activities Westminster accomplished in 2019. Each Elder chairing a leadership team presented ministry team highlights.

Moderator Emery presented revisions to the By-laws which were updated by Elder Art Riihimaki.

Moderator Emery reported on the breakdown of expenses in 2019 by ministry team and of income in 2019. She complimented the staff on their excellent work.

Moderator Emery and Elder David Hall presented the 2020 budget and reported on projected expenses and projected income for 2020.

It was **MOVED, SECONDED, and VOTED** to receive the 2020 budget.

The Chair of the Ministerial Relations and Personnel Committee, Anne Carney, for the Session, **MOVED** the Pastor/Head of Staff's terms of call for 2020.

The **MOTION** was **VOTED** by a secret ballot vote of 36 in favor, 3 against and 1 abstention.
The Pastor's terms of call for 2020 as voted are:

Proposed Pastor Compensation for 2020

Cash Compensation	$65,604.71
Housing Allowance (actual to be set by Senior Pastor)	30,000.00
Effective Salary	$95, 604.71
Medical (25% of effective salary)*	$23,901.18
Pension (11% of effective salary)	10,516.52
Disability (1% of effective salary)	956.05
Medical Deductible (1.5% of effective salary)	1,434.07

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Dental PPO (Actual cost)	
	1,632.36
Social Security - Employer (7.65% of effective salary)	
Retirement Match	7,313.76,
	1,434.07
Vouchered Expenses:	
Business Expense Allowance	
Education Allowance	3,000.00
	3,000.00
Total Compensation	
	$148,792.72

Number of working units per week __13___
Weeks of annual vacation __5__
Additional Sunday leave __1__
Weeks of annual study leave __2_
Number of paid holidays __10__
After completing 6 years of service, the Pastor is entitled to a sabbatical of 3 months.

It was **MOVED, SECONDED, and VOTED** to recess the Annual Meeting of the Congregation at 12:40p.m. to convene the Annual Meeting of the Corporation.

Following the Meeting of the Corporation, the Annual Meeting of the Congregation reconvened at 12:45p.m.

Moderator Julie Emery asked for a moment of silence in recognition of the following members of the congregation who joined the Church Triumphant in 2019: Mary Virginia Dumont, Shirley Taylor, Elaine Tilton and Kay Yale.

There was no Other Business brought before the congregation.

It was **MOVED, SECONDED, and VOTED** to adjourn. Moderator Julie Emery closed the meeting at 1:00p.m. with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Carney
Clerk of Session

The Reverend Julie Emery
Moderator

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Corporation
Westminster Presbyterian Church
West Hartford, CT
February 23, 2020

It was **MOVED, SECONDED, and VOTED** to elect Elder Art Rhiimaki and President Pro-tem of the Corporation.

Elder Art Riihimaki, President Pro-tem of the Corporation called the meeting to order at 12:40p.m.

It was **MOVED, SECONDED, and VOTED** to approve the minutes of the Corporation meeting of February 24, 2019.

Elder Riihimaki reported that the corporation had no new or outstanding debts to outside financial sources.

Elder David Hall, Chair of the Finance Team was nominated as President of the Corporation for 2020. The Clerk of Session was nominated as the Secretary of the Corporation for 2020. Art Riihimaki asked for nominations from the floor. There were none.

It was **MOVED, SECONDED, and VOTED** to close the nominations and elect the nominees**.**

No other business was brought before the Corporation

It was **MOVED, SECONDED,** and **VOTED** to adjourn. The meeting was closed at 12:45p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Carney	Art Riihimaki
Secretary	President Pro-tem

Minutes of the Called Meeting of the Congregation
Westminster Presbyterian Church
December 13, 2020

Moderator Julie Emery called the meeting to order at 9:43 a.m. with prayer.

A quorum was present. The quorum was 25 members.

The session has called this congregational meeting for the purpose of electing and installing new officers. The call for the meeting was published on 2 Sundays: December 6, 2020 and December 13, 2020.

Rev. Julie Emery proposed the following slate to be elected:

Ruling elders: John Rhine (Sustain Elder, 2 years), David Hall (Sustain Elder, extending term, 2 years), Michael Seltzer (Serve Elder, 3 years), Ken Garrison (Worship Elder, 3 years)

Deacons: JoAnne Berry (Care Deacon, extending term, 1 year), Linda Geisler (Care Deacon, 3 years), Donna Morrison (Care Deacon, 3 years), Ellen Smith (Serve Deacon, 3 years), Adam Bender (Serve Deacon, extending term, 1 year), Ella Kimberly (Serve Deacon, 1 year)

Moderator Emery asked if there were any nominations from the floor for Elders or Deacons.

Hearing none, the Moderator called for a vote and the nominees were elected unanimously by voting through Zoom chat.

A service of ordination and installation began at 9:48 a.m. Michael Seltzer and Ken Garrison were ordained as elders; and Linda Geisler, Donna Morrison, and Ella Kimberly were ordained as deacons. All officers were installed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m. with a closing prayer, a blessing, and the singing of the doxology.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather McBride	The Reverend Julie Emery
Clerk of Session	Moderator

Annual Report for the Endowment Fund By-Laws Review and Update Committee David Hall, Chair

In April, the Church Pastor asked David Hall to lead a group in reviewing and updating as needed the By-Laws for the Westminster Presbyterian Church Endowment Funds. Others selected to be on the team were El Harp, Dick Stafford, George Dewey, Sarah Ambrosino, and Liz Doering. The team was required to meet virtually for all of its meetings due to the restrictions on in person meetings caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The main document used by the team was the By-Laws document approved on February 6, 1989. There was another document dated June 2013 which described the Endowment funds but contained no guidance with respect to By-Laws. A third document, which was not dated, was also provided to the team but this document only described some rules for the Endowment committee and included a statement about Session approving the annual removal of 6% of the value of the Funds.

Some of the more significant updates to the 1989 By-Laws included:

- Updated the old By-Laws "Management" section to describe the current practice of using professional wealth management organizations.
- Updated the membership of the Endowment and Memorial Gifts Funds committee. The 1989 version had a Trustee as a member. That position title is no longer used at the church.
- Added that the Nominating Committee has the responsibility to identify potential membership of the Endowment By-Law committee. The 1989 version had no provisions for how the members are selected for the committee.
- Moved some items from another section of the By-Laws to be its own numbered Article. Specifically, for Committee responsibility which was part of the 1989 Management section. Also added more detail to the specific responsibilities.
- Updated sections IV and V of the 1989 By-Laws and the 2013 document to stipulate that the removal of money from the Unrestricted funds to be per current regulations, changed the amount above regulations that can be removed from 6% to 5%, and retained the requirement from the 1998 By-Laws and that any withdrawal be approved by Session.
- Added procedures for loans from the funds. None of the documents reviewed provided for loans or a procedure to re-pay any loans.
- Established a periodicity for review of the By-Laws which was absent from the 1989 version and retained the procedures for the how changes to the By-Laws are made and approved.

The document was submitted to Session for review in December and some questions were raised. Those questions have been addressed and in accordance with the version of the By-Laws in effect (the 1989 version), Session will vote to accept the revised By-Laws in 2 separate meetings that are in 2 different months.

Finance Committee Report
For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

The Finance Committee is responsible for overseeing the financial functions of the church with the various members responsible for different functions including bookkeeping, financial reporting and controls, treasury functions and budget development. The members of the committee include: David Hall, Kevin Morrison, Julie Emery, Jeannine Stimson, Art Riihimaki and Pam Torsiello.

Presented for the congregation are an Operating Statement, Statement of Funds Activity, Balance Sheet and Restricted Fund Balances. Accounts and activity have been consolidated where appropriate for ease of review. A detailed listing of Other Restricted Funds is included with the financial statements.

Financial Highlights for 2020:
Operations for 2020 resulted in a surplus of $30,118 compared to a deficit of $3,177 in 2019. The improvement from 2019 resulted primarily from an increase in gifts including a bequest of $63,596, a pandemic grant of $8,000 from the federal government and a $58,572 decrease in operating expenses. This eliminated the need for a loan from the endowment. Pledges were consistent with budget and last year while other receipts were down due to COVID-19.

Disbursements for the year totaled $438,884 which was significantly lower than 2019 and the budget. The primary reasons were lower buildings and grounds costs due to the Church closure and a reduction in staff expenses due to the resignation of the music director.

During 2020 the permitted amounts from housing and investment funds were transferred to operations. As noted, no other funds were loaned from the endowment. The Church received a boost in cash from the forgivable 'PPP' loan from the federal government in the amount of $68,158 from the CARES Act legislation. The loan will be fully forgiven in 2021 and will show up as income then.

The Statement of Funds Activity shows the cash activity in operations, restricted funds and investments for the year. Total cash and investments increased by $133,801 during the year to $982,309. The operating funds deficit of $37,438 was more than offset by an increase in the market value of investments of $97,332, the forgivable loan of $68,158 and a net increase in restricted funds of $25,749. The Church also made a $20,000 housing loan to the Senior Pastor from the Manse Housing Fund.

The financial audit for 2020 will have to wait until audit committee members can return to the church building.

Comparative Operating Statement—Actual and Budget
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019 and 2020

	12/31/2020	12/31/2019	Change from 12/31/2019 Fav(Unfav)	Annual Budget 12/31/2020	Change from Budget Fav(Unfav)
Receipts:					
Operating receipts:					
Pledged Contributions	$ 303,740.81	$ 304,672.20	$ (931.39)	$ 300,000.00	$ 3,740.81
Additional Contributions	4,180.45	3,579.87	600.58	5,400.00	(1,219.55)
Plate Offerings	800.50	4,322.56	(3,522.06)	4,080.00	(3,279.50)
Per Capita	4,654.20	4,498.95	155.25	5,100.00	(445.80)
Building Use	11,561.00	25,580.00	(14,019.00)	26,500.00	(14,939.00)
Mission Fundraisers	-	43.51	(43.51)	-	-
Total Receipts	$ 324,936.96	$ 342,697.09	$ (17,760.13)	$ 341,080.00	$ (16,143.04)
Gifts:					
Special Gifts toward Budget	$ 89,215.56	$ 27,946.55	$ 61,269.01	$ 20,000.00	$ 69,215.56
Memorial and Honorary Gifts	-	10,025.00	(10,025.00)	-	-
Pandemic Grant	8,000.00	-	8,000.00	-	8,000.00
Total Gifts	$ 97,215.56	$ 37,971.55	$ 59,244.01	$ 20,000.00	$ 77,215.56
Investment Income	$ 4,292.86	$ 3,174.32	$ 1,118.54	$ 3,000.00	$ 1,292.86
Transfers and Loans:					
Transfer from Investments	$ 23,200.00	$ 22,243.00	$ 957.00	$ 23,160.00	$ 40.00
Transfer from Manse Housing Fund	19,356.00	20,436.00	(1,080.00)	19,356.00	-
Loan from Endowments	-	67,757.00	(67,757.00)	95,071.00	(95,071.00)
Total Transfers and Loans	$ 42,556.00	$ 110,436.00	$ (67,880.00)	$ 137,587.00	$ (95,031.00)
Total Receipts	$ 469,001.38	$ 494,278.96	$ (25,277.58)	$ 501,667.00	$ (32,665.62)
Disbursements:					
Worship (Worship and Music)	$ 2,589.32	$ 2,452.73	$ (136.59)	$ 3,100.00	$ 510.68
Flourish (Christian Education)	1,732.47	2,469.11	736.64	2,900.00	1,167.53
Serve (Mission & Outreach)	22,790.52	23,995.51	1,204.99	30,668.00	7,877.48
Care (Christian Care and Spiritual Nurture)	154.65	704.96	550.31	384.00	229.35
Engage (Administration)	2,020.47	4,018.87	1,998.40	6,019.00	3,998.53
Sustain (Office Expense)	18,270.93	20,478.93	2,208.00	18,800.00	529.07
Sustain (Buildings & Grounds)	40,464.06	50,760.68	10,296.62	49,500.00	9,035.94
Sustain (Insurance and MRRF)	20,101.87	23,875.46	3,773.59	24,000.00	3,898.13
Staff Expenses	330,759.52	368,699.39	37,939.87	366,296.00	35,536.48
Total Disbursements	$ 438,883.81	$ 497,455.64	$ 58,571.83	$ 501,667.00	$ 62,783.19
Net Surplus (Deficit)	$ 30,117.57	$ (3,176.68)	$ 33,294.25	$ -	$ 30,117.57

Statement of Funds Activity
For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

	Webster Bank Checking & Savings	Investments	Total
Balance as of January 1, 2020	$ 3,793.72	$ 844,714.64	$ 848,508.36
Operating Receipts:			
Contributions	$ 293,835.95	$ 14,085.31	$ 307,921.26
Plate Offerings	800.50	-	800.50
Per Capita	4,654.20	-	4,654.20
Building Use	11,561.00	-	11,561.00
Interest and Dividends	0.14	4,292.72	4,292.86
Memorial and Honorary Gifts	620.00	63,595.56	64,215.56
Pandemic grant	8,000.00	-	8,000.00
Total Operating Receipts	$ 319,471.79	$ 81,973.59	$ 401,445.38
Operating Disbursements:			
Worship (Worship and Music)	$ (2,589.32)	$ -	$ (2,589.32)
Flourish (Christian Education)	(1,732.47)	-	(1,732.47)
Serve (Mission & Outreach)	(22,790.52)	-	(22,790.52)
Care (Christian Care and Spiritual Nurture)	(154.65)	-	(154.65)
Engage (Administration)	(2,020.47)	-	(2,020.47)
Sustain (Office Expense)	(18,270.93)	-	(18,270.93)
Sustain (Buildings & Grounds)	(40,464.06)	-	(40,464.06)
Sustain (Insurance and MRRF)	(20,101.87)	-	(20,101.87)
Staff Expenses	(330,759.52)	-	(330,759.52)
Total Operating Disbursements	$ (438,883.81)	$ -	$ (438,883.81)
Excess (Shortage) of Operating Funds	(119,412.02)	81,973.59	(37,438.43)
Transfer from Investments	$ 69,503.57	$ (69,503.57)	$ -
Restricted Fund Receipts:			
Interest and Dividends	$ -	$ 8,007.29	$ 8,007.29
Special Gifts	25,000.00	-	25,000.00
Major Repair and Renovation	7,200.00	-	7,200.00
Music	5,000.00	-	5,000.00
Prepaid Contributions	4,000.00	-	4,000.00
Pastor Sabbatical	2,000.00	-	2,000.00
Tilton Music	1,255.50	-	1,255.50
Deacons	458.72	-	458.72
Memorial Garden	427.00	-	427.00
Flower	300.00	-	300.00
Senior High Mission Trip	266.68	-	266.68
Prayer Shawl Ministry	50.00	-	50.00
Christmas Joy	5.00	-	5.00
Total Restricted Fund Receipts	$ 45,962.90	$ 8,007.29	$ 53,970.19

(continued…)

(Statement of Funds Activity continued…)

Restricted Fund Distribursements:			
Tilton Music	$ (8,095.00)	$ -	$ (8,095.00)
Allen and Willard	(7,900.00)	-	(7,900.00)
Major Repair and Renovation	(7,200.00)	-	(7,200.00)
Christian Education	(1,773.01)	-	(1,773.01)
Music Fund	(1,750.00)	-	(1,750.00)
Flower	(940.00)	-	(940.00)
Deacons	(562.66)	-	(562.66)
Total Restricted Fund Disbursements	$ (28,220.67)	$ -	$ (28,220.67)
PPP loan proceeds	$ 68,157.50	$ -	$ 68,157.50
Loan to Senior Pastor	$ (20,000.00)	$ -	$ (20,000.00)
Change in Market Value	$ -	$ 97,332.20	$ 97,332.20
Net Change in Account	$ 15,991.28	$ 117,809.51	$ 133,800.79
Balance as of December 31, 2020	$ 19,785.00	$ 962,524.15	$ 982,309.15

Comparative Balance Sheet
December 31, 2019 and 2020

	As of 12/31/20	As of 12/31/19	Change From 12/31/19
Cash and Cash Equivalents			
Webster Bank Checking	$ 19,223.31	$ 3,232.17	$ 15,991.14
Webster Bank Money Market	561.69	561.55	0.14
Total Cash And Cash Equivalents	$ 19,785.00	$ 3,793.72	$ 15,991.28
Schwab Accounts			
Charles Schwab & Co. Account - General	$ 163,234.41	$ 101,260.82	$ 61,973.59
Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Investments	44,730.80	21,668.22	23,062.58
Charles Schwab & Co. Account - Housing Fund	306,225.42	308,799.29	(2,573.87)
The Memorial Garden Fund	10,748.75	9,014.87	1,733.88
The G. T. Scoville Trust Fund Differently Able	7,491.26	6,485.50	1,005.76
The Scoville Scholarship Fund	7,378.80	6,309.85	1,068.95
Todd R. Tilton Music Scholarship Fund	13,517.75	11,333.25	2,184.50
Total Schwab Accounts	$ 553,327.19	$ 464,871.80	$ 88,455.39
New Covenant Trust Company			
Lydia & Richard Allen & Eleanor Willard Fund	$ 209,852.80	$ 199,740.35	$ 10,112.45
The Lester Senger Christian Education Leadership Fund	57,185.21	49,848.06	7,337.15
Westminster Endowment Fund	142,158.95	130,254.43	11,904.52
Total New Covenant Trust Company	$ 409,196.96	$ 379,842.84	$ 29,354.12
Account Receivable			
Due from Westminster Congregation	$ 9,397.74	$ 9,397.74	$ -
Deposit Receivable	1,450.00	1,450.00	-
Loan Receiveable - Senior Minister	20,000.00	-	20,000.00
Total Account Receivable	$ 30,847.74	$ 10,847.74	$ 20,000.00
Total Assets	$ 1,013,156.89	$ 859,356.10	$ 153,800.79
Liabilities:			
Due to Lydia & Richard Allen & Eleanor Willard Fund	$ 4,698.87	$ 4,698.87	$ -
Due to Westminster Endowment Fund	4,698.87	4,698.87	-
PPP loan	68,157.50	-	68,157.50
Total Liabilities	$ 77,555.24	$ 9,397.74	$ 68,157.50

(continued…)

(Comparative Balance Sheet continued…)

Equity:			
Endowment & Memorial Gift Funds			
Lydia & Richard Allen & Eleanor Willard Fund	$ 199,163.45	$ 196,951.00	$ 2,212.45
Westminster Endowment Fund	166,664.96	154,760.44	11,904.52
The Lester Senger Christian Education Leadership Fund	54,977.20	49,413.06	5,564.14
Todd R. Tilton Music Scholarship Fund	5,028.25	9,683.25	(4,655.00)
The Scoville Scholarship Fund	7,311.94	6,242.99	1,068.95
The G. T. Scoville Trust Fund Differently Able	7,558.12	6,552.36	1,005.76
Manse Housing Fund	303,689.09	299,315.39	4,373.70
Martha Richards Music Enrichment Fund	150.00	150.00	-
Memorial Gift Funds	16,775.46	16,725.46	50.00
Total Endowment & Memorial Gift Funds	$ 761,318.47	$ 739,793.95	$ 21,524.52
Restricted Funds			
The Memorial Garden Fund	$ 13,112.53	$ 11,001.65	$ 2,110.88
Deacon Fund	-	103.94	(103.94)
Other Restricted Funds	89,498.96	80,567.28	8,931.68
Total Restricted Funds	$ 102,611.49	$ 91,672.87	$ 10,938.62
Unrestricted Funds			
Net Operating Fund	$ (3,176.68)	$ -	$ (3,176.68)
Allowance for Unrealized Gain/(Loss)	44,730.80	21,668.22	23,062.58
Net Income (Loss)	30,117.57	(3,176.68)	33,294.25
Total Unrestricted Funds	$ 71,671.69	$ 18,491.54	$ 53,180.15
Total Liabilities & Equity	$ 1,013,156.89	$ 859,356.10	$ 153,800.79

Other Restricted Funds
December 31, 2019 and 2020

	12/31/2020	12/31/2019	Change from 12/31/2019
Other Restricted Funds			
Senior High Mission Trip	$ 18,837.13	$ 18,570.45	$ 266.68
Organ Improvement	18,358.07	18,358.07	-
Music	16,094.42	12,844.42	3,250.00
Pastor Sabbatical Fund	10,000.00	8,000.00	2,000.00
Capital Campaign	8,562.92	8,562.92	-
Prepaid Contributions	4,025.00	25.00	4,000.00
Refugee Mission Fund	3,411.42	3,411.42	-
Adult Mission Trip	2,937.46	2,937.46	-
Westminster Feeds	2,754.50	2,754.50	-
Pastor Discretionary Fund	1,806.08	1,806.08	-
Major Repairs and Renovations Fund (MRRF)	1,326.03	1,326.03	-
Other Restricted Fund	1,385.93	1,970.93	(585.00)
Total Other Restricted Funds	$ 89,498.96	$ 80,567.28	$ 8,931.68

Westminster People
2020: A Year in Photos

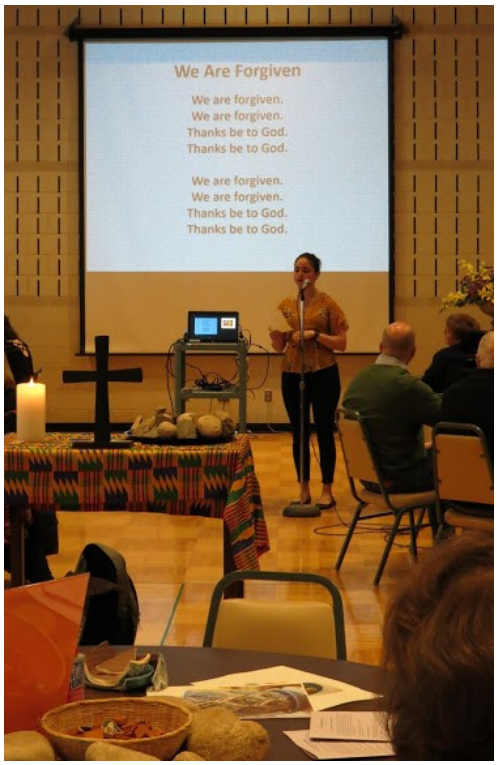
LIFT (Living in Faith Together) Sundays

January LIFT Sunday (Generosity)

(continued on the next page…)

February LIFT Sunday (Jealousy)

March LIFT Sunday (Forgiveness)

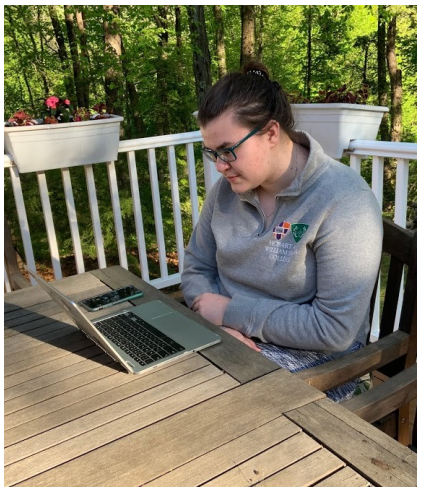


The Life of the Church During a Global Pandemic

Our LIFT Sunday on March 8, 2020, was the last time Westminster's church community gathered and worshipped together in person in 2020. The following photos reflect the ways our congregation has worshipped, shared Fellowship and served the community during a global pandemic.

#WESTMINSTER
TOGETHER
Westminster
WE MISS YOU!♡

Alternative
Easter Egg Hunt
a huge success!
Look where we found
some eggs hiding!
398



Compassion Camp: Virtual Vacation Bible School for Children and Adults

Black Lives Matter Protest/Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance

Sundaes on Sunday (August)

Parking Lot Picnic (September)

S'Mores Fun Event (October)

Christmas Eve Parking Lot Service with Live Nativity (December 25)

(continued on the next page…)

(Parking Lot Christmas Eve service continued…)

Westminster Presbyterian Church Vision & Mission Statements

Westminster is a vital, engaging, inclusive family of faith that serves God by: supporting each other on our spiritual journeys, sharing the gifts we have been given, and demonstrating the love and justice of Christ in our community and world.

Westminster offers living proof of a loving God.

Westminster Presbyterian Church Staff

The Rev. Julie Emery, Minister/Head of Staff
Dr. Stuart Paul Duncan, Music Minister
Karen Hammond, Director of Faith Formation
Becky Kimberly, Church Administrator

Mike McElroy, Church Sexton
Paul D. Sigler, Church Sexton Assistant
Wanda Bender, Security Coordinator
Jeannine Stimson, Bookkeeper

Leadership of Westminster Presbyterian Church

Care
Nicole Aronson, Elder
JoAnne Berry, Deacon
Linda Geisler, Deacon
Donna Morrison, Deacon
Jean Summers, Deacon

Engage
Barbara Riihimaki, Elder

Flourish
Nicole Aronson, Elder
Heather McBride, Clerk

Serve
Adam Bender, Deacon
Tom Buckley, Elder
Ella Kimberly, Deacon
Helena Offei, Deacon
Michael Seltzer, Elder
Ellen Smith, Deacon

Sustain
David Hall, Elder
John Rhine, Elder

Worship
Ken Garrison, Elder
Avery MacKellar–Nogueira, Elder
Jenna Sheridan, Elder

Westminster Presbyterian Church 2080 Boulevard West Hartford, Connecticut 06107
Phone: 860-521-6240 E-mail: office@westpresby.org Web: www.westpresby.org