

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022



CHURCH *of the* HOLY NATIVITY  
— *Clarendon Hills* —

A COMMUNITY OF CHRISTIAN LOVE  
CALLED TO GROW  
SENT TO SERVE  
EVERY MEMBER A PRIEST  
EVERY WORK A WORSHIP

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING & WORSHIP  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2022

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

|  |    |                                       |    |
|--|----|---------------------------------------|----|
| <b>Annual Meeting &amp; Sunday Worship</b> ..... | 2  | <b>Pastoral Care</b>                  |    |
| Rules of Order .....                             | 6  | Home Communion Ministry .....         | 17 |
| Nominations for 2022.....                        | 8  | Pastoral Care Committee .....         | 17 |
| Minutes from 2021.....                           | 9  | Prayer Shawl Ministry .....           | 17 |
| Current Vestry .....                             | 11 | Gabriel Ministry .....                | 17 |
| Necrology .....                                  | 11 |                                       |    |
| CHN Celebration.....                             | 11 | <b>Formation</b>                      |    |
| <b>Deacon &amp; Warden Reports</b>               |    | Adult Formation Committee .....       | 18 |
| Deacon Rose.....                                 | 12 | Children & Family Ministry .....      | 18 |
| Deacon Sandy.....                                | 13 | Youth Ministry .....                  | 19 |
| Warden Report.....                               | 14 |                                       |    |
| <b>Worship</b>                                   |    | <b>Outreach</b>                       |    |
| Acolytes .....                                   | 15 | Feed My Starving Children (FMSC)..... | 20 |
| Altar Guild .....                                | 15 | Green Team .....                      | 20 |
| Liturgy Committee .....                          | 15 | Outreach Steering Committee .....     | 20 |
| Music Ministry .....                             | 15 | P.A.D.S. ....                         | 21 |
| <b>Fellowship &amp; Community</b>                |    | <b>Assets</b>                         |    |
| Fellowship Committee .....                       | 16 | Building & Grounds Committee .....    | 22 |
| Grateful Hearts Auction & Dinner Dance .....     | 16 | Endowment Committee .....             | 22 |
| Social Event Committee .....                     | 16 | Sound & AV .....                      | 22 |
| West Suburban Dulcimer Group (WSDG).....         | 16 | Treasurer & Finance Report .....      | 23 |

## **ONLINE ANNUAL MEETING & SUNDAY WORSHIP**

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

### **I. Opening Prayer and Call to Order**

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with us as we take council for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **II. Appointment of the Secretary & Recognition of Quorum**

Seven Parishioners of this Parish qualified to vote as herein specified shall constitute a quorum at all duly called or scheduled Parish Meetings. (CHN Bylaws Article VII, Section 3)

### **III. Rules of Order for a Virtual Annual Meeting**

### **IV. Election Protocol**

Parishioners qualified to vote for the Wardens and Vestrymen and upon all questions coming before the Congregation at any annual or special meeting of the Parish shall be as follows (and those only): All baptized persons, male or female, of the age of eighteen years and upwards, who regularly attend the Public Services of the Church in the Parish, and are recognized as communicants of the Congregation by the Rector and at least one of the Wardens, or, if there be no Rector present, by the two Wardens, and who are contributors of record. (CHN Bylaws Article VII, Section 4)

## V. Introduction of Position and Nominees

- a. Nominee for Warden
  - 1) Jenni Garnett
- b. Nominees for Vestry
  - 1) Julie Bossert
  - 2) Tom Mendoza
- c. Nominee for Endowment Committee
  - 1) Kim Coogan-Rogers

## VI. Election

## VII. Liturgy of the Word & State of the Parish Address

### Opening Acclamation

*Presider* Blessed are you, holy and living One.

*People* **You come to your people and set them free.**

### Hymn of Praise

“Lord, make us servants of your peace”

*Hymnal 1982 #593*

### The Collect of the Day

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Let us pray.

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### First Reading

*Jeremiah 17:5-10*

*Lector* A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse—who can understand it? I the Lord test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

The Word of the Lord

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## The Psalm Response

Psalm 1

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, \*  
**nor lingered in the way of sinners,  
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!**
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord, \*  
**and they meditate on his law day and night.**
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; \*  
**everything they do shall prosper.**
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; \*  
**they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, \*  
**nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.**
- 6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, \*  
**but the way of the wicked is doomed.**

## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

*Lector* A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ--whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

The Word of the Lord

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn

“The Light of Christ”

My Heart Sings Out #80

## Gospel

Luke 6:17-26

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus came down with the twelve apostles and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

“Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

“Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.”

"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

"Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

"Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

"Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

Deacon      The Gospel of the Lord.  
People      **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## The State of the Parish

The Rev. Bradley A. Linboom

## The Prayers of the People

All-Knowing God, guide us through our darkest and weakest moments with the assurance of Your blessings, helping us to remain rooted deeply in faith with delight in Your law. O Lord, our Strength...

People      **We put our trust in You**

All-Knowing God, grant all who lead us in Your Church with wise and gracious spirits, as they guide each of us and themselves, toward the radiance of everlasting life in You. We pray especially for Michael, Chilton, Brad, Sandy, and Rose. O Lord, our Strength...

People      **We put our trust in You**

All-Knowing God, turn all leaders of government, across Your Creation, away from the false counsel of cursed mortals with wicked intent, toward choosing to prosper all of Your beloved, and standing upright when judgment comes. O Lord, our Strength...

People      **We put our trust in You**

All-Knowing God, embrace the hearts of all who are seriously ill, addicted, or life-weary, and give energy to those who see to their care. We now join our voices to pray aloud for those in need... *add your own petitions* O Lord, our Strength...

People      **We put our trust in You**

All-Knowing God, surround those who mourn with Your perfect peace, as the glory and joy of eternity now enfold those we have sent ahead to You. We pray especially for: *add your own petitions* O Lord, our Strength...

People      **We put our trust in You**

All-Knowing God, we *pause* in this moment to offer You our other heartfelt thanksgivings, intercessions, petitions, and memorials, aloud or silently... *add your own petitions* O Lord, our Strength...

People      **We put our trust in You**

*The Celebrant concludes the prayers with a collect.*

## The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## Hymn

"If thou but trust in God to guide thee"

Hymnal 1982 #635

## CONTINUATION OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

### VIII. Budget Presentation

- a. Budget and Finance Forum TBD
- b. Treasurer's Report with the FY2021 Budget

### IX. Responses from recent Parish Survey

### X. Sharing Stories of Ministry

### IX. Recognitions

### X. Closing Prayer

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

**XI. Closing Hymn** "There's A Sweet, Sweet, Spirit In This Place" *Lift Every Voice & Sing II #120*

### XII. Blessing & Dismissal

*Deacon* Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

## RULES OF ORDER FOR A VIRTUAL ANNUAL MEETING

### Church of the Holy Nativity, Clarendon Hills

*For Adoption at the Annual Meeting, February 13, 2022*

1. The Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of Chicago, the Bylaws of the Church of the Holy Nativity, Clarendon Hills, and Illinois law do not prohibit the holding of an Annual Meeting by remote communication ("a Virtual Annual Meeting").
2. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and state-mandated limits on the size of gatherings, the Annual Meeting of Church of the Holy Nativity, Clarendon Hills will take place using remote communication such as Zoom or equivalent platform.
3. These Rules of Order for a Virtual Annual Meeting are adopted pursuant to Canon 22 of the Diocese of Chicago. These Rules accede to the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church and of the Diocese of Chicago (collectively, "the canons"). Except where inconsistent with the canons or these Rules, Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, the latest edition, shall govern the business proceedings of the Annual Meeting. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Annual Meeting may, by unanimous consent, take any action not inconsistent with the canons.
4. To participate in the Virtual Annual Meeting, Members of the Parish ("Members") must have access to the internet with a device (laptop, tablet, smart phone, or desk top computer) that allows for connection to the internet platform. Members must also have an email address to receive materials about convention login

information. Members who do not have access to a device or internet can request support and assistance from the Convention planning team who will assist to the fullest extent possible.

5. Notice of the meeting, its day and time and the internet platform by which the Annual Meeting will take place, will be publicized in the weekly electronic newsletter and by email to Members at least 14 days before each meeting.
6. No later than three (3) days before each meeting, the Clerk or designee shall notify Members in the electronic newsletter the URL and codes necessary to connect to the internet meeting platform, and, as an alternative and backup to the audio connection included within the Internet service, the phone number and access codes that members need to participate aurally by telephone. A Member, however, cannot participate solely by telephone and must be connected to the electronic platform via the internet on their device.
7. Any Member experiencing technical difficulties can access support by using the technology support line or email publicized in the Annual Meeting materials provided in advance. However, each Member is responsible for their audio and internet connections; and no action shall be invalidated on the grounds that the loss of, or poor quality of, a Member's individual connection prevented participation in the Annual Meeting.
8. The Rector may cause or direct the muting of a Member's connection if it is causing undue technical interference with the meeting. All Members are asked to remain muted during the meeting unless they are addressing the meeting or invited to unmute by the Rector or meeting chair.
9. The presence of a quorum shall be established during meeting by recording the names of those listed in the participant screen.
10. Questions of order shall be decided without debate by the Rector or, at the Rector's direction, by the Clerk, subject to an appeal of the ruling upon motion.
11. To seek recognition by the Rector or meeting chair, a Member shall use the raise hand (or analogous) feature to indicate their desire to be recognized. The meeting Host will unmute the Member so that they may speak to the issue at hand. Any Member wishing to post a written amendment or post in-writing something germane to the business of convention must use the Chat feature or other feature designated by the President. The chat feature may also be used for non-business postings.
12. All motions, resolutions, or documents that are before the Annual Meeting for action shall be shared on the screen for all Members to view.
13. Except where otherwise provided by canon or Church of the Holy Nativity bylaws, by these Rules, or by Robert's Rules, a simple majority of those voting will carry a question. The Annual Meeting shall vote using Zoom online anonymous polling.
14. Elections for warden, vestry members, and endowment committee shall take place using Zoom online anonymous polling. Those elected will be those candidates receiving a plurality of votes.
15. Neither absentee voting nor proxy voting is recognized. Only Members present in person in the electronic meeting and voting in the affirmative or negative on a particular question shall be counted for that vote, and only such persons shall be included in the denominator used to calculate the percentage of support for the question.
16. Business may also be conducted by unanimous consent.

# 2021 Elections

We will elect one Warden, two Vestry Members, and one Endowment Committee Member.

The slate of nominations can be found below.

## QUALIFICATIONS FOR VESTRY NOMINEES

The nominee must be eighteen years of age, baptized, and a member in good standing, and must have been faithful in working, praying and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God. You must have the nominee's permission to place his or her name in nomination.

The Vestry and the Wardens, with approval from the Rector, have authority over all matters concerning the parish's property, including all budgetary and financial matters.

Although service on the Vestry is indeed an honor, it is more importantly a serious commitment of time and talent. If you are elected, you must be prepared to devote time to your parish for the next three years (two years in the case of a Warden). Service on the Vestry is an opportunity for those who love Mediator to build up and support the church.

Whether you are making a nomination or contemplating standing for election, please consider that there are certain expectations of Vestry members. Those expectations include:

- Regular attendance at and participation in worship.
- Supporting and participating in the parish stewardship program.
- Regular participation in the fellowship and work activities of the parish.
- Faithful attendance at and participation in all meetings of the vestry.
- Positive leadership.
- Serving on various committees and work groups, as needed.

Qualifications for the Endowment Committee are similar to Vestry, with a three-year commitment to service.

## NOMINATION FOR WARDEN

### Jenni Garnett

Jenni is a long time member of CHN. She was baptized and confirmed here at Holy Nativity. Over the years she has served on several committees from Buildings and Grounds to the Christian Education Committee. She has previously served on the Vestry and is a past Warden. Currently, Jenni is a member of Alter Guild and the Flower Committee and changes the drape on Jesus to the appropriate seasonal color, which is no small feat! CHN is home to Jenni and she is honored to be considered for the opportunity to serve as your Warden.

## NOMINATIONS FOR VESTRY

### Julie Bossert

Julie was born and raised in Barrington, Illinois. She grew up attending St. James Church, Dundee and St. Michael's, Barrington. After Junior College she lived and worked in Chicago. She and David were married in 1960. IBM moved them and their two sons to D.C. and Connecticut then brought them back to Illinois in 1968. That year they moved to Hinsdale and welcomed their daughter into the family. After 32 years in their Hinsdale home, they moved to their home in Burr Ridge and seven years ago to King Bruwaert, the Woods. Five years ago she lost her best friend and husband, David. She has been a member of CHN for 40+ years.

### Tom Mendoza

Tom was born and raised in Northern California, he has called Chicagoland home for over 30 years. Tom and his partner Ardie Ogg live in Westchester and have attended CHN for about eight years. Tom has worked in various positions in Information Technology, the latest with Hyatt Hotels. BC (before Coronavirus) Tom served as a Lay Eucharistic Minister at the 7:30 service and a lay reader. Tom has volunteered at P.A.D.S. and Family Farm Fest and is on the board of Magdalene House Chicago. In addition to cooking and baking, Tom likes to work in the garden, and combines the two when he grills. He feels a call to serve and looks forward to contribute by serving on the Vestry.

## NOMINATION FOR ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

### Kim Coogan-Rogers



## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

February 28, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

(via Zoom conference)

**Opening Prayer and Call to Order:** The Reverend Bradley A. Linboom called the February 28, 2021, Annual Meeting of the Church of the Holy Nativity to order at 9:35 a.m. and began with a prayer.

**Appointment of the Secretary and Recognition of Quorum:** B. Linboom appointed Terry Hodges as secretary for the Annual Meeting following no objections being raised. Upon identifying more than 50 separate screens participating in the Zoom meeting and indicating that seven parishioners of the Church of the Holy Nativity were required to be in attendance virtually (as required under the parish Bylaws Article VII, Section 3), he then declared a quorum present for the conducting of the 2021 Annual Meeting.

**Rules of Order for a Virtual Annual Meeting:** D. Siedlecki moved, with a second by M. Drobny, that the “Rules of Order for a Virtual Annual Meeting” be adopted as presented and included in the 2021 Annual Report previously distributed to all parishioners. Upon a poll of the participants and with no objections, B. Linboom declared that the Rules were adopted.

**Approval of Minutes of the February 2, 2020 Annual Meeting:** B. Linboom asked for consent to approve the prior Annual Meeting minutes as included in the 2021 Annual Report. Upon no objections being voiced, he declared the February 2, 2020 minutes approved.

**Election Protocol and Nominees for Positions:** B. Linboom referred all attendees to the voting qualifications for parishioners found in the 2021 Annual Report and then introduced the nominees for Warden and Vestry members:

Nominee for Warden (two-year term) –  
Jeff Dillon

Nominees for Vestry (three-year terms) -  
Matt Wissman  
Olga Frias-Basta

B. Linboom also introduced the nominees for Endowment Committee positions –

David Siedlecki (three-year term)  
Kathleen Simms\* (to fill the two years of the unexpired term of Jeff Dillon)

Receiving no objection to the Warden, Vestry, and Endowment Committee nominees, B. Linboom declared the slate approved by consent.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD and STATE OF THE PARISH ADDRESS

As his sermon during the liturgy, B. Linboom provided a State of the Parish address. He focused on the world in the past year as it has been changed by the COVID pandemic and called for a “time of inflection” in the coming year for the parish. His desire is that we reimagine the church in the post-pandemic times as a gathering and welcoming place that will promote connection and Good News for all in the community.

### CONTINUATION OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

**Bylaws Updates:** Upon conclusion of the regular service, B. Linboom presented a proposed update to Article VII of the parish bylaws to align with updated Diocesan Constitution and Canons:

**Be it Resolved** that *Article VII, paragraph 1* of the CHN Bylaws be amended as follows:

“The annual meeting of this Parish shall be held at such time and place in the month of January **or February** as the Vestry shall by vote appoint. Public notice thereof shall be given on two Sundays next preceding such Parish Meeting.”

Hearing no objections, the Rector declared the Bylaws amendment adopted by consent vote.

**2021 Budget Presentation:** Treasurer Jim Massie briefly reviewed from the Annual Report the 2020 end-of-year financial statement and the proposed CHN budget as approved by the Vestry for the 2021 fiscal year. He reported that the 2020 financials indicated both revenues and expenditures being below budget, but with assistance from the federal PPP Grant and the Diocese's Pension Fund, the final deficit resulted in only a \$700 loss. J. Massie noted that the balance sheet remains strong, and although the proposed 2021 budget indicates 14% lower revenues and 12% lower expenses, the deficit of approximately \$7,000 will be examined and adjusted as needed throughout the upcoming year.

To allow parishioners to reflect on the 2021 budget and provide comment, J. Massie indicated that a Budget and Finance Forum will be held on Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom for all interested.

**Recognitions:** B. Linboom first commended Alicia McCloud and Jeanne Crowe for developing events and ideas for fundraising both in 2020 and for 2021. He then requested that Vestry members present their recognitions.

- D. Park recognized the Outreach Committee;
- T. Johnson recognized all for continued church involvement and requested that the parish organize a celebration;
- P. Arce recognized the Social Justice Discussion Group; and
- B. Gabriel and L. LeBaron recognized both K. Fulkerson-Smith and K. Langley for their work with the youth.
- Warden M. Drobny called out the ReEntry Committee members who worked on the arrangements for the parish's physical return to the church building during 2020; and
- Warden D. Siedlecki commended the music offerings under Marianne during this pandemic year and acknowledged the work of the Adult Formation Committee.

From the staff:

- K. Langley recognized all of the church school and youth group assistants;
- K. Fulkerson-Smith thanked the families who participated and provided ideas for youth Christian education and those who assisted with projects throughout the year;
- M. Thompson thanked J. Brackett for his technical assistance in putting all choir music on flash drives, the choir who assisted with Lessons and Carols planning, and N. Congdon, J. Massie, and J. Miller for solo singing to lead the hymns while on Zoom.
- Deacon Sandy Siegel-Miller thanked B. Linboom and R. Cicero, her fellow deacon, and all of the parish for its support, especially of the new Social Justice Group and PADS.

B. Linboom recognized the parish staff: M. Thompson, K. Fulkerson-Smith, and K. Langley; Parish Administrator Karen Gull (who will be retiring in June); Deacons S. Siegel-Miller and R. Cicero; all Vestry members, the Treasurer and Clerk, and especially the retiring Warden and Vestry members; B. Capulli for his building expertise and gratis maintenance work; the choir for "hanging in" during the pandemic with M. Thompson; chair Eve Wood and all members of the Building & Grounds Committee

**Introductions and Prayer:** B. Linboom introduced new Vestry and Endowment Committee members, charged them with their tasks, and prayed for them.

**Closing Hymn Blessing & Dismissal:** The regular service and Annual Meeting concluded with B. Linboom leading the community in a final prayer and blessing.

B. Linboom declared the Annual Meeting closed at 11:36 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Terry Hodges, Clerk

# Current Vestry

## Members

### Warden, 2022

Mary Drobny

### Warden, 2023

Jeff Dillon

### Class of 2022

Blake Gabriel

Terry Johnson

### Class of 2023

Paola Arce

Dick Park

### Class of 2024

Olga Frias-Basta

Matt Wissman

Jim Massie, Treasurer

Brad Linboom, Chair

Terry Hodges, Clerk



## 2021 Necrology

Janice Munneke

\*

John Reis



## Church of the Holy Nativity Celebrations

Baptisms - 1

# 2021 REPORTS

## DEACONS REPORT

Deacon Rose Cicero

The year 2021 began with the hope of ending the pandemic and a return to our community life as we knew it before March of 2020. In order to keep us connected when we could not gather in person, Deacon Sandy and I began virtual “Coffee with the Deacons” to share our stories, laugh, and enjoy each other’s company for an hour each week. We continued weekly, took a break during the summer, and then began to meet bi-weekly. I have enjoyed all of our many conversations and feel blessed to be able to share this time in community. Deacon Sandy, Father Brad, and I also meet bi-weekly as your clergy to address any needs of the church, provide support for each other, and do parish planning.

During 2021, a group of parishioners continued our virtual meetings on anti-racism and social justice. Being part of this group has been enriching as we discuss important questions and struggle with trying to find solutions. Each group member took the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI), discussed the results and worked on designing our own intercultural development plans. During 2021, I’ve continued my work on the pastoral care and outreach committees at CHN. I’ve made numerous pastoral care calls as well as in-person visits to homes, nursing facilities, and hospitals. I have provided home communion when safety allowed.

In September of 2020, I began to split my time between CHN and St. Andrew’s in Downers Grove. In addition to serving at liturgies at St. Andrew’s, I am involved with pastoral care, and serve on the outreach and in-reach committees. I continue to participate in St. Andrew’s adult formation programs virtually. It was quite the challenge to get to know people at St. Andrew’s when I could only see their eyes due to masking. It was even more difficult during “Drive-through Communion” when sunglasses and sometimes hats were worn! Representing both churches, I attend monthly deanery meetings (grateful that both churches are in the same deanery!) and monthly diocesan meetings.

In addition to my two parish assignments, I continue my ministry at Bishop Anderson House, where my primary work is as a chaplain at Stroger Cook County Hospital, serving the units of Obstetrics, Labor & Delivery, and NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit). I continue to co-facilitate a monthly perinatal bereavement support group for families who have lost their children before, after, or during birth. I also organize activities for the Bishop Anderson House Spiritual Care Visitor Training Alumni group and co-facilitate group meetings. The group meets four times a year for support and sharing. Two of these meeting times include an educational workshop open to all in the diocese. As part of my work at Bishop Anderson House, I began my 4<sup>th</sup> and last unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) in September of 2021 and will complete the unit in March of 2022.

My diaconal ministry also includes my work with Magdalene House Chicago and CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) of Cook County. Magdalene House Chicago opened a home in January of 2022 for six women who will participate in a two-year program at no cost, where they will be able to

heal from abuse, trafficking, prostitution and addiction. I’ve served as a CASA volunteer for over 25 years and since 2017 I have been a CASA Peer Coordinator, mentoring CASA’s and supervising CASA cases for abused and/or neglected children in Cook County.

It has been a pleasure and privilege to serve as your deacon here at CHN and I look forward to continuing our ministry together.

“Will you look for Christ in all others, being ready to help and serve those in need?”  
 ---from the Ordination of the Deacon, Book of Common Prayer

I am blessed and honored to serve as one of the two deacons at CHN.

My diaconal ministries fall into two categories: those at CHN, and those that are part of my work outside of the parish.

At CHN, I have the following roles:

- **Serving in worship.**

Rose Cicero, and I share the diaconate. Rose serves on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays and I’m there every Sunday. When it’s a “Rose” Sunday, I serve as the deacon of the Word and she as the deacon of the table. I sing in the choir while she sets the table. On “my” Sundays, I am deacon of both the table and the Word.

- **Leadership.**

Chair of our **Adult Formation** committee and am currently co-leading our weekly Racial Justice discussion group on Zoom. Racial Justice has been meeting since July, 2020 and I hope to share and eventually hand-over leadership of that group. Similarly, after 12 years as chair of the committee, I hope to step out of that role.

Coordinator of **PADS (homeless shelter)** ministry, with huge help from Mimi Johnson. We coordinate monthly meal delivery to the PADS guest who are housed at the Red Roof Inn in Naperville. In 2019 I was asked to be part of the PADS leadership team at Redeemer Lutheran Church, which coordinates PADS service for about a dozen churches/organizations (including CHN), all of whom provide meals to the same shelter location. As part of that team, I attend monthly informational/planning meetings with the PADS administrative staff.

I **preach** whenever Fr. Brad asks me, which has averaged about once every 6-8 weeks.

**Deacon Coffee hour:** During the pandemic, in an effort to combat isolation and foster community, Rose and I initiated weekly (now bi-weekly) Zoom coffee chats. They have been fun and well-attended, and I think a crucial connection for some of our parishioners.

**Mentoring.** I’m meeting informally with two women who have asked for help in discerning God’s call on their life. I’m grateful (and humbled) to have been invited to join them on this journey.

Career outside of CHN:

**Clinical Child Psychologist:** I have a private practice in Hinsdale with a case load of about 30 children; I see about 20 patients per week

I work 30 hours per week as **Program Director, Good Memories choirs/Sounds Good Choirs, NFP:**

In 2016 Jonathan and I started a non-profit organization that provides choirs for older adults. It has grown rapidly and has expanded beyond our wildest imagination; before the pandemic we had 11 choirs in the Chicago metro area, with over 500 singers, including our two Good Memories choirs, which are the ministry of my heart.

Good Memories are choirs comprised of people with dementia, their care partners, and a team of volunteers – all singing together. It is a remarkable community of love, support, and great singing; truly God’s work.

One of my projects this year has been the launch of a research partnership with colleagues from both the Northwestern and Rush centers for Alzheimer’s. After three years of the hard work and patience that it takes to form a 3-way institutional research partnership, we are in the early stage of shepherding a research proposal through the Institutional Review Board at Northwestern, in hopes of having approval to begin collecting data this fall. It’s rewarding to bring together my academic background and my deep commitment to improving the quality of life for those who suffer from dementia.

It is my joy and privilege to serve as your Deacon and to work with such wonderful colleagues as Brad and Rose. God willing, I look forward to many more years of ministry at CHN.

Grace and Peace,  
 Sandy

## WARDENS

### Sr. & Jr. Wardens Report

Mary Drobny & Jeff Dillon

Dear CHN Friends,

Thank you for participating in the annual meeting and for reviewing the various reports and letters submitted by the CHN leadership group. This past year presented us with challenges and we are proud of the way we responded to them.

Masking, social distancing and a virtual participation option appear to be part of our worship experience for the indefinite future. The best practices for COVID safety along with guidance from the diocese continue to change as the virus and circumstances evolve. The compliance with the rules and respect we pay to one another is greatly appreciated.

One of the things we are most proud of is the way we continue to adapt to the limitations imposed on us by COVID. Take a look at a recent streamed Sunday service and think back to what the first Zoom service looked like. Dedicated volunteers who have mastered higher end video equipment along with practice have resulted in a polished product on Sunday mornings.

Throughout the year, we enjoyed holding virtual social events like the online scavenger hunt and trivia game. In August, we kicked off the school year with an all outdoor fun faire for families and kids. We continue to host Deacon's coffee hour, Men's Group and a Racial Justice discussion group, all on Zoom. Are any of these the same as being in the same room with our parish friends? No. But technology is keeping us connected and helps us continue to see CHN as a place of faith and loving relationships.

Along with building relationships, we said goodbye to two people who have been a tremendous support to us at CHN. In June, Karen Gull left her position as Parish Administrator after many years of dedicated service to spend more time with her family. We welcomed Allison Padley-Shapira as our new Administrator.

This past December, we said goodbye to Kelin Fulkerson-Smith as the leader of our Church School and Family Ministry. When we think of her name and tenure with CHN, the words that come to mind are; dedicated, passionate, fun, caring and creative. Kelin was a good servant to this church and its children for many years. She led a program with dedicated teachers who created a generation of kids who have a strong Christian foundation of faith that will influence them all of their life. We wish her well in what's next for her and the Fulkerson-Smith family.

Financially, CHN starts 2022 with a balanced budget, a welcome relief after the deficit budget of 2021. The generosity of this parish never ceases to amaze.

A welcome success for 2021 was the full and final fix of the water intrusion problem in the basement that has plagued the church for many years. Many thanks to Fr. Brad who did much of the heavy lifting to research the problem and vet the proposals. We can now enjoy our downstairs rooms more fully and safely.

Thanks to all who participated in the 3 question survey in December. Your responses have provided the vestry with good information on where our efforts should focus in the coming year. If you have not had a chance to fill out the survey, the link can be found in our weekly parish email.

All in all, we want to express our gratitude to each and every one of you for the ways, big or small, that you have helped keep CHN running and thriving through 2021. We look forward to many more accomplishments in 2022!

Your wardens,  
Mary and Jeff

## WORSHIP

### Acolyte Report

Mimi Johnson

During the first 10 months of 2021 we did not schedule acolytes due to their health safety and Covid restrictions. Our faithful acolytes worshipped online or onsite with our CHN family during this time. Beginning on All Saint's Day, each week 2 acolytes from the same family help lead the congregation and create a mood of dignified worship. Our members include: Luke Gabriel, Quinn Gabriel, Jackson Fulkerson-Smith, Lyndon Fulkerson-Smith, Lily Kaestner, Luke Kaestner, Caleb McCloud, Quinn McCloud, AG Wilcox, Anna Wilcox, and Gracie Wilcox. We welcome Charli Predovic and Sarah Gabriel who will be joining us in February. Thanks to each of you.

### Altar Guild Report

Martha Garnett

Covid changed our procedures many times during the last 2 years. Zoom kept us from working together. Zoom Sundays totally stopped the need for Altar Guild. I will think of it as a rest, a time to recoup. But each of us were pleased to bring back communion and togetherness.

Our procedures shifted with every season or week. We all adjusted to the various changes in setting up the table to celebrate communion on Sunday. Father Brad may have been surprised at times if something was missing, especially if there were no hosts set out in the bread box. We rolled with the punches.

Come join us if you have a desire to serve once a month for about 2 hours. Or just try out Altar Guild. It does not fit everyone, but if you like AG you will love it and the spiritual reaction that sets in. Kathy Lundvall, Olga Frias-Basta, Jeff Dillon, Ardie Ogg, Jenni Garnett, Sarah Card, Norma Hagstrom, Julie Bossert and Martha Garnett are your current members. Altar Guild wants you!

### Liturgy Committee Report

Marianne Thompson

No committee meetings were held during 2021. Brad & Marianne spent a lot of their meeting time discussing and planning music for Zoom and in-person services.

### Music Ministry Report

Marianne Thompson

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5-6*

Patience & trust are the key words for music at CHN. 2021 started much like 2020 ended, with church services on Zoom. John Brackett provided even more recordings of hymns & Offertory anthems for me to review and use for services. Eventually we were able to start in-person service in spring of 2021. I set up times for a soloist to record hymns we needed for Zoom. We learned 2 new hymns from our "Lift Every Voice & Sing" African-American hymn supplement: "Yield not to Temptation" and "O how he loves you and me" by having a soloist record them.

When Hilary Smith moved to England, Pam Goodrich asked me if I knew any of Hilary's favorite hymns. I did because she always told us at choir when we sang one of her favorites! I compiled a number of them and passed the list on to Pam. That also prompted me to send copies of solos to choir members who have sung solos over the years – they were happy to receive them!

In summer 2021, I restarted the "CHN Summer Choir". As we held services outdoors, the choir sang from inside the church. Special music was recorded & provided by Fred LeBaron, Caleb McCloud, Nancy Congdon, Jim Massie, & Jonathan Miller. Brad & I collaborated to create a Favorite Hymn database during the summer. Many members provided their favorite hymns to me, I was able to program about 99% of them over the summer and early fall. It was a fun project to help encourage congregational singing again!

As restrictions were eased & singing was once again permitted, the choir formally began to meet in September, always masked. Jim Massie found a singing mask online, and after discussion, it was decided the church would purchase them for the choir members. Singing through a mask is definitely not easy, but the resilient choir members carry on. Masks are not always comfortable to use, but we are following the rules in order to continue to sing.

In the fall, we said goodbye to William Liddle, son of Chris Prior. Bill moved to Iowa City, IA to be near his sister. He was able to keep his job, since he was working remotely anyway. We sent him off with our blessings, a gift card of our appreciation for his time with us, and I compiled a great number of hymns & anthems that his Mom sang. We all still miss her so much! Bill returned to sing with us on Christmas Eve night, as he was back visiting his relatives!

Throughout 2021, I attended all the webinars I could find to help with the challenges restarting the choir, use of masks, and finding easier but meaningful music to sing with a mask. It has been a challenge, but the choir members are extremely grateful to BE singing again!

We were able to present a live Lessons & Carols service this year. We welcomed Rachel Klippel, daughter of George Klippel, to sing soprano with us for the service. Susan Dillon also joined for Lessons & Carols. The service was well done & well received by all. Many thanks to Caleb McCloud & Bill Crosbie for providing the prelude this year. Special thanks to Bill Crosbie for accompanying several of the anthems.

As I do every year, I want to thank John Brackett for all of his help with sound and providing the wealth of hymns & anthems we have done over the years. Thanks to Brad & John for rearranging the choir mics to improve the recordings made. It also was needed for live-streaming the services, a most important addition to the church program!

Thank you to our choir members for their patience trust, and beautiful singing: Nancy Congdon, Susan Dillon, Joan Barry, Susan Parker, Terry Hodges, Deacon Sandy Miller, Yinka Phillips, George Klippel, Roger Youngs, Jonathan Miller, Jim Massie, & Dave Siedlecki.

After 20 years of service to CHN, it continues to be my honor & privilege to lead the Music Ministries with so many dedicated musicians volunteering their time & talents! Thank you all!

## **FELLOWSHIP & COMMUNITY**

### **Fellowship Committee**

Due to the restrictions of these past two years, formal activities were suspended. We are hopeful to be able to re-engage in the coming year and welcome any volunteers who are interested in engaging in this abundant ministry.

### **Grateful Hearts Auction and Dinner Dance**

The Grateful Hearts Dinner Dance and Silent Auction continues to be a holding pattern until we are able to gather again more freely and safely. In lieu of the regular fundraising we usually bring in during this event we will be looking to find opportunities for safe fellowship activities that might be able to support the ministries of CHN. If you are interested in helping or leading a potential activity, please reach out to Fr. Brad. We are hopeful that over the summer or in the fall we will be able to have some larger fellowship event for the community.

### **Social Event Committee Report**

**Blake Gabriel**

There were no meetings this year due to COVID.

### **West Suburban Dulcimer Group (WSDG) Report**

**Judy Brackett**

Our meetings have been rather spotty this year because of Pandemic. Because of the recent surge of cases of Covid we have decided to suspend our gatherings at least until March when we will re-evaluate and go month by month. We all love getting together to play music. It is fun and good for us both in body, mind and spirit. This has also been a great outreach to the community as we have several players that are not members of CHN.



## **PASTORAL CARE**

### **Home Communion Ministry Report**

**Brad Linboom**

The Home Communion Ministry assist clergy in distributing home communion to members of the parish who are homebound or hospitalized and unable to attend church and celebrate the Eucharist on Sunday. Due to COVID-19, this ministry was paused in 2020 and through much of 2021 but has now resumed. If you or someone you know would like to have a visit by one of the clergy or our lay eucharistic ministers, please contact the church office or speak to Fr. Brad.

### **Pastoral Care Ministry Report**

**Brad Linboom**

The Pastoral Care Ministry involves attending to the needs of the sick within our parish. Members commit to holding the public and private requests in regular prayer. Privacy is respected and confidentiality is strictly maintained by the committee. Pastoral care visitors assist the clergy with hospital and home visitations and occasionally help those in need of transportation, meals or just a phone call to check in.

The committee meets monthly to update each other on the current needs and to pray for all of those on the public and private prayer lists. During the past year we have been meeting via Zoom, but hope to be back together in person again soon.

If you have anyone you would like for us to add to the public or private lists for prayers, please be in touch with a member of the committee. For public requests, you may also contact the church office for them to be added to the bulletin and weekly announcements.

The pastoral care committee has also helped this year to assist in Gabriel Ministry needs with regards to meals and transportation.

### **Gabriel Ministry Report**

**Brad Linboom**

Gabriel Ministry provides meals to families in our church in situations of illness, crisis, emergency, or joy (such as the birth of a baby). Gabriel Ministry invites anyone who would like to be a part of this caring ministry to bring a lunch or dinner to people in our church when circumstances call for meals. These are usually short-term commitments that require only a few people for each need.

If you are interested in helping to lead or sustain this ministry, please notify Fr. Brad in person, via email: [brad@holynativitych.org](mailto:brad@holynativitych.org) or by phone: 630.323.6820.

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry Report**

**Joan Barry**

The PSM meets on the third Saturday of the months September through May in the Ford Room from 10:00a.m. to 12:00p.m. In 2021 we were limited to five meetings due to covid-19.

Our current members are; Joan Barry-chairperson, Julie Bossert, Judy Brackett, Pam Cianci, Amy Gabriel, Sheila Gorisch, Martha Garnett, Judy Gratt and Susan Parker. If you knit and/or crochet and are interested in joining our ministry, new members are welcome.

The thoughts and prayers that go into making a Prayer Shawl are important. A Prayer Shawl is more than a wearable, it is a constant reminder to the recipient that someone cares for them. We also knit and crochet Baptismal Blankets to welcome our newest members into our community of faith. Our ministry continues to participate in the Welcome Blanket project making blankets for refugees and new immigrants to the United States. We also have made hats and scarves for various organizations.

Since our first meeting in September 2016 we have provided Prayer Shawls for 66 recipients and 10 Baptismal blankets. I sent the most recent Prayer Shawl to a person in Wisconsin that contacted me by e-mail after finding CHN online. A Prayer Shawl was requested for comforting while struggling with medical issues.

We would appreciate it if you would let us know of anyone you're aware of that would benefit from receiving a Prayer Shawl from our ministry.

## FORMATION

### Adult Christian Formation Committee Report

Sandy Siegel Miller & Brad Linboom

Christian formation is the continual process that gives purpose and meaning to our lives as followers of Christ. The Adult Christian Formation committee strives to offer opportunities for learning and interaction as we at CHN support each other in the lifelong journey of growing in faith. Even with the challenges and interruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic, Adult Christian Formation continued to find ways of offering opportunities for formation at CHN in 2021. While most of these offerings were online through zoom, we did have the opportunity for some in-person formation during the Advent season.

Our Lenten series, “Come, Pray” was offered in an online format weekly throughout Lent and was well attended. Kelin Fulkerson-Smith, Kitty Langely, and Brad Linboom co-lead these sessions which focused on various modes and methods of praying and gave space to practice. We prayed with color, learned some simple contemplative models, used lectio and visio divina, and more.

Our Advent series is the first programmed in-person formation we have been able to engage in since the onset of the pandemic. This year we spent Monday evenings delving into our experiences of Advent in a series titled “Exploring Advent” led by Fr. Brad. There was time set aside to write and share our sense memories, and traditions, put our experiences in context, and to explore the ways in which we understand the season as a whole.

Started in 2020 our Racial Justice discussion group on ZOOM continued to meet regularly and has been very active. The group has explored issues of white supremacy and our legacy of racism through book discussion (books have included: *White Fragility*, *Caste*, *Dear White Peacemakers*, as well as movies/documentary films such as “I am not your Negro” and podcasts such as “Seeing White.” Members of the group also engaged in important conversation on cultural competency with Fr. Greg Morris from St. Andrews in Downers Grove using the model of Intercultural Development Continuum (IDC). The group continues to meet on 2nd & 4th Thursday evenings of the month and all are welcome to join in the conversations.

As a committee we continue to welcome suggestions by parishioners regarding areas of interest for study. The committee also invites and encourages all members of CHN to discern their calling to serve either as a committee member or presenter. The ministry of Adult Christian Formation at CHN thrives in large part because of the dedication, time, and talents of committee members: The Rev. Brad Linboom, Terry Johnson, Christine Massie, Martha Miller, Susan Parker, Sarah Card, Spencer Langley, and David Siedlecki.

We are grateful for their contributions and look forward to the happy day when we can meet again, in person!

### Children and Family Ministry Report

Kelin Fulkerson-Smith

This year, I was inspired by the language of our Godly Play story Knowing Jesus in a New Way. I felt that 2021 really captured the spirit of not only knowing each other in new ways, but knowing how to navigate our Children and Family Ministry in a new way.

**January 2021:** We found new ways of hosting an Epiphany Pageant online in 2021. It was such a gift to have the whole community present and willing to dress up for our pageant! It was also such fun to make sure everyone in our community had a special Epiphany gift bag to celebrate such an important gift of Christ and the recognition of Christ by those Wise Ones. Which was another wonderful community building experience—the traveling Wise Ones! We had our CHN community volunteer to take the Wise Ones on a journey throughout our land to find the gift of Christ in us all.

**February 2021-March 2021:** We hosted an online Lenten study with children which focused on types of prayer. We focused on Lectio Divina, Lectio Visio, and Praying in Color. We would learn about the prayer type and end with some fun music! We also continued our Faces of Easter Godly Play stories through video!

**April 2021:** We hosted a Holy Saturday service partnered with our Green Team! We created Resurrection Gardens inspired by the CHN Resurrection Garden made by Christine Massie. We talked about Creation and the beauty of new life that springs abundant, even from items that might be considered garbage. Special thanks to Jeanne Crowe for helping facilitate this service and all of the teachers that helped with the children during the service!

**May 2021:** We hosted another outdoor celebration! This time we celebrated Pentecost! We talked about some of the special gifts we have received and gifts we can give, but not necessarily gifts that can be seen! We talked a lot about gifts of service and love—which I think those Apostles from so long ago would have delighted in hearing about those gifts! We then lead a procession into our regular worship service full of bubbles, ribbon wands, and joy!

**June 2021:** We visited with Moses in the desert and traveled with him through the Red Sea! We learned a lot about faith in the unknown, which is pretty on par with all of the changes we saw with Covid! During our VBS we collected donations for Exodus World Service, a special thanks to Emily Teising for coordinating this project! There really couldn't be any better real world application of the Moses story than by helping a refugee family in need. Thank you to all our volunteers who taught lessons, who made meals, who served meals, and who donned ancient attire to lead our children on a journey of faith!

**September 2021:** Knowing a new school year in a new way! We had a pretty big shift in our start times this year. I am, once again, grateful for the flexibility and ability to pivot as needed in our community. We started our year outdoors when the weather permitted. It was lovely to be together in-person again! Once things became more open, we were able to return to our regular classrooms when the weather wasn't so great—which was such a wonderful gift! Thank you to all the teachers and committee who worked with me to make sure we not only kept folks safe, but kept the children engaged. Thank you: Liz Lebaron, Amy Gabriel, Eve Wood, Becky Wilcox, Mary Drobny, Brett Fulkerson-Smith, Rich Birch, Susan Dillon and Jeff Dillon. We also were able to open our nursery again, following all CDC protocols! A special thanks to Cassie Johnson and Amy Anderson who attended the nursery each Sunday making it a fun place for our children!

**December 2021:** We were able to celebrate with St. Nicholas in person again! What a wonderful time to come together and hear the story of St. Nicholas (and his trusty side-kick, Sir Chocula). Thank you, Fred Lebaron and Jackson Fulkerson-Smith for bringing this story to life. And thank you, families, for participating in such a wonderful project!

It was in this month that I asked the parish to know my family and me in a new way in this community. After 12 years, I stepped down from my role as Director of Children and Family ministries in order to focus on a different calling; a new way of being. I appreciate all the years of love and support I have received from CHN and I am looking forward to moving into a new way during 2022.

## **Youth Ministry Report**

**Kitty Langley**

2021 was a year of projects for Youth Ministries! We restored our fire pit with the help of many members of our congregation. The youth have enjoyed being able to get together there for regular EYC meetings as well as some special summer activities. We also began to update the Grotto (formerly the pit) and are excited to meet in the newly designed space. The Youth picked out all the furnishing and created an art piece that will be displayed on the wall.

We played some mini golf at Lost Mountain this summer and one of our group tied the low score of the day. This fall we were able to move our regular EYC meetings to a hybrid online and in person format where we played games, made crafts and explored our faith together.

Our Sunday formation class has been able to resume normal meetings in person and have resumed our trip through the holy lands as written in the gospels. There have been some interesting moments along the way, some including fish sauce. We are looking forward to another year full of fun and faith together.

## OUTREACH

### Feed My Starving Children Report

David Siedlecki

There were no meetings this year due to COVID.

### Green Team

Heidi Hartmann

In 2021, the CHN Green Team activities were somewhat few due to COVID and limited activities at the church. Styrofoam recycling has been our main activity. Thanks to the many CHNers who continue to drop off their Styrofoam, we have been able to recycle a large carload of Styrofoam each month. We plan to continue this activity in 2022. We could use a couple of volunteers for delivering the Styrofoam once or twice in 2022.

Jeanne Crowe of the Green Team led a great Easter project for our kids, helping them make Easter Mosaics out of compostable materials. We also started a Native Vegetation/Pollinator project with the youth group that we hope to continue this spring.

The CHN Green Team currently includes Jeanne Crowe, Terry Hodges, Christine Massie, Carol Park, and Heidi Hartmann. If you would like to join the group please contact Heidi (loffreod@prodigy.net or 630-673-2773). Our goal is to help educate our CHN family on how we can be good stewards of the environment, both at CHN and in our homes. We always welcome new ideas.

### Outreach Steering Committee

Dave Loffredo

The Outreach Committee's responsibility is to work with individuals and small groups at CHN to facilitate outreach idea generation and leadership development. Most ongoing outreach activities are managed by separate teams (PADS, FMSC, etc.), and these teams have reported 2021 summaries separately. Here are some additional highlights from specific ministries.

Magdalene House Chicago - Founded in 2015, based on the extraordinarily successful first Magdalene House in Nashville which was started by Rev. Becca Stevens more than 20 years ago. Magdalene/Thistle Farms in Nashville continues to help women survivors of sex trafficking, abuse and addiction heal, stay sober, and achieve stability. During 2021, Magdalene House Chicago has prepared for the opening of our house to welcome women who have survived sex trafficking, addiction, and abuse. The house is now opened, and we are in the process of accepting our first women into the 2-year rent-free program. These women will be able to heal and reclaim their lives. During 2021, three new employees were hired: Director of Development, Case Manager, and Program Director.

Sharing Connections - Located in Downers Grove, Sharing Connections is dedicated to helping individuals and families in crisis by providing needed furniture and household items. Clients are most often transitioning from a homeless shelter, relocating due to domestic violence/child abuse, recovering from a fire or flood, or moving forward from extended medical or mental health concerns which have caused a loss of housing. Sharing Connections partners with over 200 agencies and organizations to help those in need. Despite pandemic challenges, Sharing Connections continued to provide support to families. While no organized drive from CHN took place, individual parishioners made several donations of furniture and household items throughout the year.

Exodus World Service – Exodus World Service mobilizes the Christian community to welcome and befriend refugees. We do this by educating churches and individuals about the plight of refugees, connecting volunteers with refugees through practical service projects, and empowering people to be champions for refugees. CHN continues to support new and recently arrived refugees to the Chicago area, primarily through financial contributions to Exodus World Service. Individual CHN volunteers offer scholastic support to children and English conversation and companionship to adults who came here as refugees, as well as occasional administrative support to Exodus staff. Exodus pivoted quickly to providing socially-distanced assistance for refugees, collection of much-needed supplies and cross-cultural training for volunteers.

DuPage United - DuPage United is an inclusive, non-profit, fiercely non-partisan organization whose members are civil society institutions: churches, mosques, synagogues, non-profit agencies, and associations. This mix of institutions have come together to form public relationships and to act together to improve the quality of life for individuals, families and communities. DuPage United engages in democratic action in the public arena. CHN continues to participate in DuPage United's campaigns for mental health reforms in the criminal justice system

(increase in Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) de-escalation training for police, opening of Crisis Stabilization Units (CSUs) to encourage diversion from the criminal justice system and provide more effective treatment than emergency departments). Another key focus for CHN is DuPage United's activities to support affordable housing in DuPage County.

#### **P.A.D.S. (Public Action to Deliver Shelter) Report**

**Sandy Siegel Miller and Mimi Johnson**

"Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?" [Baptismal Covenant, *Book of Common Prayer*]

Throughout 2021 PADS has continued the motel housing that they began in response to the pandemic. CHN has maintained our commitment to deliver bagged meals to PADS guests at the Naperville Red Roof Inn once per month. PADS was able to obtain donated frozen microwave-ready entrees which were stored in a donated freezer at the Abbington Banquet facility in Glen Ellyn. We use those entrees and add individually wrapped fruits and desserts to make up the bagged meal.

Our volunteers are organized into 5-6 teams tasked with: picking up the frozen entrees, donating packaged fruit cups and desserts, assembling individual bagged meal servings at CHN, loading the bags to their vehicles, transporting the bagged meals to the motel and delivering the bagged meals to each motel room. This system accommodates the need for social distancing and assures the least possible risk of contagion for both volunteers and PADS guests.

CHN delivered an average of 50 meals each month at a cost below \$100 per month. Between 10-15 volunteers were needed for each month.

In fall of 2021, PADS purchased a building in Downers Grove and began renovations to create a permanent shelter facility, with a goal of opening the shelter in spring of 2022. There will still be a need for meals to be delivered, so we await information about how we can continue to serve.

At their request, Sandy continues to serve on Redeemer's PADS team, helping with planning and execution of PADS directives, as well as representing Redeemer Lutheran and CHN at county-wide PADS ZOOM meetings.

It is an honor and privilege to serve our homeless brothers and sisters at all times, but particularly during this challenging time of pandemic.

## ASSETS

### Building & Grounds Committee Report

Eve Wood

The Buildings and Grounds Committee resumed in person meetings and took on several large projects as well as completing countless small projects. We focused heavily on waterproofing the lower level.

Items addressed in 2021:

- Updating fluorescent lights to LED.
- Additional lighting added to choir area.
- Replacing damaged exterior door at rectory.
- Patching damage at rectory roof.
- Repairing lock on furnace room door.
- Lawn treatment.
- Waterproofing of classrooms including addition of new sump pumps.
- Repairing classrooms from water damage in time for fall formation.

Items to be considered in 2022:

- Foundation repair at rectory.
- Seal coating of parking lot.
- HVAC system maintenance.

Thank you to all the committee members. Building & Grounds is always in need of those who have skills in fixing, replacing, and installing things. If you have domain knowledge and skills in any of these areas, and would like to be contacted if a church project might require your expertise and ability, please contact the church office.

### Endowment Committee Report

Alisse Goldsmith-Wissman

The members of the Endowment Committee are Alisse Goldsmith-Wissman, Paul Predovic, Ron Price, David Siedlecki and Kathleen Simms.

The Church of the Holy Nativity Endowment Fund was established in 1998. Its purpose is to promote the Lord's work by financially supporting: CHN's capital improvements, the debt reduction of the church's physical facility; the education, spiritual growth and development of the parish; outreach; and other Christian programs. Upon reaching a threshold amount of \$100,000, the fund makes annual distributions of 4% to be used in line with the Fund's purpose.

The Fund is invested to achieve a "double bottom line," both financial and social returns. These goals are achieved by investing in the Vanguard FTSE Social Index Fund (a socially conscious fund that invests in companies that are environmentally friendly and does not invest in companies that produce firearms, tobacco, etc.) and is rated 5 stars by Morningstar. With the inclusion of an estate gift in 2021 along with extremely favorable market conditions and a well performing investment portfolio, the Fund has shown a 44% return rate (\$87,345) over the last 12 months. At the end of FY2021 the value of the Fund was \$287,253.

The committee met in May 2021 to discuss the current state of the Fund, but given the uncertainty of the pandemic in 2021, we held off on a full distribution as is allowed by the charter and bylaws, but 2022 will be an active year in terms of gifting.

If a parishioner has questions about the Endowment Fund or wishes to speak with someone about estate planning or the making of a gift to the Fund, please contact anyone on the committee.

### Sound and AV Ministry

John Brackett

Equipment additions:

A remote camera, with laptop computer & associated software has been added to the system. This allows for audio/video LiveStreaming of the 10:15am service. Currently thru Facebook, with hopes of expanding to YouTube. Always a work in Progress. We have been streaming this through Advent, with a few bumps & struggles thrown into the mix. This has included the 10:15 services & two memorial services.

As needed by our Director of Music, there have been a number of choir & solo recordings made to support the Zoom 8:30am services.

The sound crew consists of John Brackett (chair), Spencer Langley, & Blake Gabriel.

For those who find audio/video activities interesting, we are always in need of additional people to operate the system during the Nave service.

## **Treasurer & Finance Committee Report**

**Jim Massie**

### **Overview**

2021 was a challenging year for CHN finances. However, thanks to your amazing faithfulness and support we were able to successfully adapt financial plans to support changing parish needs, all without incurring additional debt. And, we enter 2022 with a balanced budget, restoring many budget categories to their pre-pandemic funding levels.

### **Contributions and other income sources**

2021 Total Operating Income was above budget by 4% [\$11,148], while Total Operating Expense was above budget by 11% [\$32,394], reflecting a total-year operating loss of \$21,246.

| <b>Income Categories</b>                   | <b>2021<br/>Budget</b> | <b>2021<br/>Actual</b> | <b>2022<br/>Budget</b> | <b>Budget<br/>\$ Change</b> | <b>Budget<br/>% Change</b> |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Pledge Contributions                       | \$246,836              | \$241,338              | \$274,842              | \$28,006                    | 11%                        |
| Non-Pledge Regular Support                 | \$10,000               | \$18,596               | \$5,000                | -\$5,000                    | -50%                       |
| Loose Plate Offerings                      | \$1,000                | \$1,841                | \$2,000                | \$1,000                     | 100%                       |
| Vestry/Donor Designated, Memorials, etc.   | \$12,000               | \$25,941               | \$10,000               | -\$2,000                    | -17%                       |
| Fundraising-net, Facility rental-net, etc. | \$11,500               | \$4,768                | \$11,600               | \$100                       | 1%                         |
| <b>Total Operating Income</b>              | <b>\$281,336</b>       | <b>\$292,484</b>       | <b>\$303,442</b>       | <b>\$22,106</b>             | <b>8%</b>                  |

### **Pledge Contributions**

Pledged income for 2022 is well above last year's thanks to your truly amazing generosity of time, talent, and treasure. Non-Pledge Regular Support, Loose-Plate Offerings, Fundraising, and other income sources also continue to substantially support needs within and beyond CHN.

### **Vestry/Donor Designated, Memorials, etc.**

Thanks to maintaining a financially strong Balance Sheet through previous years, your vestry was able to thoughtfully approve the transfer of selected Temporary Reserve funds during 2021 to help cover the costs of significant church basement water seepage prevention upgrades and repairs. All this was accomplished without incurring new debt or a special funding appeal.

### **Expenditures**

2021 Total Operating Expense was above budget by 11% [\$32,394].

Maintenance expenses related to church basement water seepage exceeded the budget by \$33,057. Thus, in aggregate, the other eleven expense categories completed the year slightly under budget.

The 2022 budget reflects increased funding levels in nine expense categories.

| <b>Expense Categories</b>      | <b>2021 Budget</b> | <b>2021 Actual</b> | <b>2022 Budget</b> | <b>Budget \$ Change</b> | <b>Budget % Change</b> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| For Outside Parish             | \$27,000           | \$25,923           | \$23,000           | -\$4,000                | -15%                   |
| Personnel - Clergy             | \$100,948          | \$98,594           | \$104,280          | \$3,332                 | 3%                     |
| Personnel - Lay                | \$69,017           | \$70,009           | \$72,883           | \$3,866                 | 6%                     |
| Parish Program                 | \$2,500            | \$2,998            | \$5,250            | \$2,750                 | 110%                   |
| Liturgical                     | \$1,839            | \$3,170            | \$5,250            | \$3,411                 | 185%                   |
| Administrative                 | \$9,387            | \$8,564            | \$9,833            | \$446                   | 5%                     |
| Maintenance                    | \$16,120           | \$49,177           | \$17,370           | \$1,250                 | 8%                     |
| Utilities                      | \$17,600           | \$17,694           | \$17,600           | \$0                     | 0%                     |
| Service Contracts              | \$14,897           | \$15,653           | \$16,898           | \$2,001                 | 13%                    |
| Insurance                      | \$13,727           | \$13,633           | \$14,268           | \$541                   | 4%                     |
| Mortgage                       | \$15,360           | \$15,374           | \$15,360           | \$0                     | 0%                     |
| Reserves                       | \$250              | \$250              | \$1,450            | \$1,200                 | 480%                   |
| <b>Total Operating Expense</b> | <b>\$288,645</b>   | <b>\$321,039</b>   | <b>\$303,442</b>   | <b>\$14,797</b>         | <b>5%</b>              |

### **Outside Parish**

The 2022 budget plans a 15% reduction in funding following dialogue with the diocese, and their appreciation that CHN will still remain one of the highest percentage contributing parishes. Contributions to other outside organizations, such as DuPage United, PADS, and Feed Our Starving Children will continue, as guided by CHN's Outreach Committee.

### **Personnel - Clergy**

This budget provides for clergy compensation, including health insurance, as guided by the diocese, pension contributions, continuing education, travel reimbursement, etc. Overall, these expenses are projected to increase by 3%.

### **Personnel – Lay**

This budget provides compensation and, where applicable, pension contributions for church staff, including our external Bookkeeper. Overall, these expenses are projected to increase by 6%.

### **Parish Program**

This budget provides support for: adult, youth, children, and family programming; fellowship & hospitality; and other ministries. Overall, these expenses are projected to increase by 110% [very few Parish Program funds were budgeted in 2021] as we transition to more in-person services and parish events.

### **Liturgical**

This budget provides support for the Altar Guild, worship materials, flowers, vestments, music, and audio-visual supplies. Overall, these expenses are projected to increase by 185% [Altar Guild funding was substantially reduced in 2021 and no funds were budgeted for flowers] as we transition to more in-person services while continuing to support online services.

### **Administrative**

This budget provides for church office equipment, payroll processing, postage, software, subscriptions, supplies, etc. Overall, these expenses are projected to increase by 5%.

### **Maintenance**

This budget provides for church and rectory building, grounds, and parking lot upkeep. Overall, maintenance expenses are projected to increase by 8%. Major water seepage-avoidance upgrades and repairs were funded and achieved during 2021.



However, experience has shown that accurately forecasting maintenance expenses for a 50+-year-old church building and rectory can be challenging. Accordingly, budget transfers during 2022 will help build CHN's Reserves: Property – General.

### Utilities

This budget supports the church and rectory electricity, natural gas, water & sewer, phone & internet usage. Overall, these expenses are projected to be essentially unchanged in 2022.

### Service Contracts

This budget provides for church cleaning services and pest control, organ, HVAC and elevator maintenance, fire alarm, and other monitoring and testing services. Overall, these expenses are projected to increase by 13%, primarily due to cleaning service fees as we transition to more in-person services.

### Insurance

This budget provides for property, liability, and Workers Compensation insurance coverage. Overall, these expenses are projected to remain about the same as in 2021.

### Mortgage

This budget provides for church building mortgage interest and principal debt reduction payments. These monthly payments of about \$1,280 are contracted to remain the same until the mortgage matures in August of 2024. In 2021, the mortgage balance was reduced by \$10,239 (9.2%). At year-end, the mortgage remaining balance was \$100,763.

### Reserves

This budget funds the transfer and accrual of monies in one or more Temporarily Restricted accounts (e.g., Property – General) for non-current year requirements.

### Summary

2022 balanced budget.

|                                  | 2021<br>Budget  | 2021<br>Actual   | 2022<br>Budget | Budget<br>\$ Change | Budget<br>% Change |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Total Operating Income           | \$281,336       | \$292,484        | \$303,442      | \$22,106            | 8%                 |
| Total Operating Expense          | \$288,645       | \$321,039        | \$303,442      | \$14,797            | 5%                 |
| <b>Net Operating Gain / Loss</b> | <b>-\$7,309</b> | <b>-\$28,555</b> | <b>\$0</b>     |                     |                    |

  

| Balance Sheet |  | 2021<br>Year End |  | 2021<br>\$ Change | 2021<br>% Change |
|---------------|--|------------------|--|-------------------|------------------|
| Total Cash    |  | \$169,687        |  | (\$29,189)        | -15%             |
| Endowment     |  | \$287,253        |  | \$87,345          | 44%              |

Church of the Holy Nativity  
Balance Sheet  
December 2021

Accounts

| Assets   |                       |                       |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Current Assets</b>  |                       |                       |
| <b>Cash</b>  |                       |                       |
| 1000-01 - Operating Checking (Unrestricted)                      | \$25,955.63           |                       |
| 1000-02 - Operating Checking (Restricted)                        | \$141,731.30          |                       |
| 1001-01 - Operating Brokerage Account                            | \$2,000.00            |                       |
| <b>Total Cash</b>  | <b>\$169,686.93</b>   |                       |
| <b>Total Current Assets</b>                                      |                       | <b>\$169,686.93</b>   |
| <b>Other Current Assets</b>                                      |                       |                       |
| 1200-00 - Prepaid Expenses                                       | \$1,330.10            |                       |
| <b>Total Other Current Assets</b>                                |                       | <b>\$1,330.10</b>     |
| <b>Non-Current Assets</b>  |                       |                       |
| <b>Investments</b>   |                       |                       |
| 1002-01 - Endowment  | \$287,253.43          |                       |
| <b>Total Investments</b>   | <b>\$287,253.43</b>   |                       |
| <b>Fixed Assets</b>  |                       |                       |
| 1003-01 - Equipment - Church                                     | \$54,880.00           |                       |
| 1003-02 - Equipment - Rectory                                    | \$4,101.00            |                       |
| 1003-03 - Buildings - Church                                     | \$1,977,334.00        |                       |
| 1003-04 - Buildings - Rectory                                    | \$193,211.00          |                       |
| 1003-05 - Land   | \$200,000.00          |                       |
| <b>Total Fixed Assets</b>  | <b>\$2,429,526.00</b> |                       |
| <b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>                                  |                       | <b>\$2,716,779.43</b> |
| <b>Total Assets</b>  |                       | <b>\$2,887,796.46</b> |
| <b>Liabilities, Fund Principal, &amp; Restricted Funds</b>       |                       |                       |
| <b>Liabilities</b>   |                       |                       |
| <b>Current Liabilities</b>                                       |                       |                       |
| 2004-00 - Other Payable  | \$1,753.82            |                       |
| <b>Total Current Liabilities</b>                                 |                       | <b>\$1,753.82</b>     |
| <b>Long-Term Liabilities</b>                                     |                       |                       |
| 2201-01 - Mortgage 4.75% Due 8/25/24                             | \$100,762.87          |                       |
| <b>Total Long-Term Liabilities</b>                               |                       | <b>\$100,762.87</b>   |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>   |                       | <b>\$102,516.69</b>   |
| <b>Fund Principal</b>  |                       |                       |
| 3000-01 - Beginning of Year Net Assets                           | \$56,089.66           |                       |
| Excess Cash Received   | (\$28,555.12)         |                       |
| <b>Total Fund Principal and Excess Cash Received</b>             |                       | <b>\$27,534.54</b>    |
| <b>Restricted Funds</b>  |                       |                       |
| Total Temporary Restricted                                       | \$141,731.30          |                       |
| Total Permanent Restricted                                       | \$2,616,013.93        |                       |
| <b>Total Restricted Funds</b>                                    |                       | <b>\$2,757,745.23</b> |
| <b>Total Liabilities, Fund Principal, &amp; Restricted Funds</b> |                       | <b>\$2,887,796.46</b> |





CHURCH *of the* HOLY NATIVITY  
— *Clarendon Hills* —

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