

Jackson's First Presbyterian Church

Serving God, Serving Others

743 W. Michigan Ave., Jackson, MI 49201
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www.jacksonfirstpres.org — [Follow us on Facebook](#)

133rd Annual Report 2016

Serving God...Serving Others



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133rd Annual Report

February 5, 2017

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**Jackson's First
Presbyterian Church**

Serving God, Serving Others

SESSION/DEACONS 2017

MODERATOR, The Reverend Dr. James D. Hegedus
904 Bittersweet Street, Jackson, MI 49203; (517) 740-2240

Clerk of Session, Russell Jacobson
1105 Wildwood Ave., Jackson, MI 49202 (517) 789-8658

SESSION — ELDERS

2018

Meredith Harvey
Randy Herrick
Greg Marsh
Sharon Vanderpool

2019

Bill Hestwood
Nancy Kinch
John Lawrence
Tom Leffler
Teri Ollila
Kurt Rudolph
John Wilcox

2020

Stephen Conley
Jay Ford
Jim Justin

DEACONS

2018

Karen Leja
Carole Loll
Chris Prokos
Mary Swan
Harvey Zook

2019

Edie Gilbert
Joyce Hasson
Jean Herrick
Jan Kaywood
Lynne Purcell
Tom Slater

2020

Marian Bliznik
Dorothy Fowler
Dorothy Graham
Kris Hegedus

Contact Information

DEACONS

| | |
|-------------------|--|
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| Dorothy Fowler | df715@hotmail.com |
| Edythe Gilbert | ediegilbert@yahoo.com |
| Dorothy Graham | dorothy.graham@gmail.com |
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| Mary Swan | 2swans848@comcast.net |
| Harvey Zook | zimzum@gmail.com |
| <i>*Moderator</i> | |

SESSION

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Elder Steve Conley | sdconleylaw@yahoo.com |
| Elder Jay Ford | mr@jayrford.com |
| Elder Meredith Harvey | meremer1@comcast.net |
| Elder Randy Herrick | senior@herrickmi.us |
| Elder Bill Hestwood | bjhestwood@comcast.net |
| Elder Jim Justin | jmjustin@comcast.net |
| Elder Nancy Kinch | nancykinch@hotmail.com |
| Elder John Lawrence | jjcllawrence@frontier.com |
| Elder Tom Leffler | taleffler@yahoo.com |
| Elder Greg Marsh | GMARSH@jpsmail.org |
| Elder Teri Ollila | ollilateri@gmail.com |
| Elder Kurt Rudolph | rudolphk@umich.edu |
| Elder Sharon Vanderpool | scvanderpool@gmail.com |
| Elder John Wilcox | jnzwilcox@comcast.net |

CLERK OF SESSION

Russ Jacobson

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NOMINATING COMMITTEE

*Elder Stephen Conley

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June Bayler

Marian Bliznik

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Nancy Jennings

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Jim Roberts

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Pastor Jim Hegedus

jimh@jacksonfirstpres.com

TREASURER

Ken Rudolph

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ASSISTANT TREASURER

Sue Wrzesinski

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2016 STAFF

Bookkeeper

Melissa Curtis

bookkeeper@jacksonfirstpres.org

Director of Christian Education

Dr. Lori Tate

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Director of Music

Sipkje Pesnichak

sipkje@jacksonfirstpres.org

Nursery

Maddison Gilbert

Orff Director

Jackie Livesay

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Parish Associate

Pastor John A. Toth

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Pastor

The Reverend Dr. James D. Hegedus

jimh@jacksonfirstpres.org

Preschool Teacher

Sharon Eiden

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Secretary

Jennifer McGinn

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Sextons

Fred Bennett

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Mike Childs

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Orff Music Intern

Shayla Williams

Youth Intern

Noah Rogers

Docket
The 133rd Annual Meeting
of the Congregation/Corporation of
The First Presbyterian Church of Jackson, Michigan
February 12, 2017

Call to Order Moderator, Reverend Dr. James D. Hegedus

Opening Prayer Moderator, Reverend Dr. James D. Hegedus

Determination of a Quorum Clerk of Session, Russell Jacobson

Approval of the Docket The Congregation

Approval of Minutes The Congregation

Committee Reports

Staff Reports

2017 Budget

Election of Nominating Committee Members at Large Moderator, Reverend Dr. James D. Hegedus

Recognition of Outgoing Elders and Deacons Moderator, Reverend Dr. James D. Hegedus

Reflections of Members

Adjournment Moderator, Reverend Dr. James D. Hegedus

Closing Prayer Moderator, Reverend Dr. James D. Hegedus

RECOGNITION AND THANKSGIVING FOR FAITHFUL SERVICE



The minister or other worship leader and those being recognized gather at the font. The congregation may stand. The minister or other worship leader addresses all present:

Nicholas Hirsch, Doug Meyers, Cami O'Dowd, Bonnie Otto and Lisa Rudolph *were* clothed with Christ in baptism.

**We remember with joy our common calling to serve Christ.
We celebrate God's call to all who minister among us.**

The worship leader addresses the congregation:

As we recognize the particular service of Nicholas Hirsch, Doug Meyers, Cami O'Dowd, Bonnie Otto and Lisa Rudolph, will you continue to share in ministry and service with *them* as you reaffirm your commitment to your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ?

We will.

An elder or deacon leads the following or similar prayer:

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Eternal God, look mercifully upon this church, and upon your servants, Nicholas Hirsch, Doug Meyers, Cami O'Dowd, Bonnie Otto and Lisa Rudolph whose particular service we recognize today. We praise you for joys and accomplishments and for your grace which has nurtured and sustained us. Bind us ever closer to one another and draw us nearer to our Lord Jesus Christ, that we may continue to minister in this community with patience and love, with wisdom and joy, until we come at last with all the saints to the place you have prepared; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
JACKSON, MICHIGAN
FEBRUARY 7, 2016

The 132nd Annual Meeting of the Congregational/Corporation of the First Presbyterian Church of Jackson, Michigan was held in the Sanctuary on February 7, 2016.

The meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Reverend Dr. James Hegedus at 11:18 a.m.

The Opening Prayer was given by Reverend Dr. James Hegedus.

The Clerk of Session stated that a quorum was present.

A motion was made and seconded, to accept the Docket as printed. The motion passed.

A motion was made and seconded, to accept as printed the minutes of February 8, 2015, June 14, 2015, November 15, 2015, and December 13, 2015. The motion passed.

A motion was made and seconded, to accept the Committee Reports. The motion passed.

A motion was made and seconded, to accept the Staff Reports. The motion passed.

A motion was made and seconded, to accept the 2016 Budget, which includes the Pastor's Terms of Call. The motion passed.

Election of the Nominating Committee Members. Elder Stephen Conley nominated Stephen Conley (of the Session), Marian Bliznik (of the Board of Deacons), June Bayler, Nancy Jennings, and Jim Roberts. A motion was made and seconded, to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for these nominees. The motion passed.

Recognition of Outgoing Elders and Deacons. Outgoing Elders were Doug Davey, Pam DeGolia, Mary Miller, and John Williams. Outgoing Deacons were Carolyn Culp, Jacob Jabkiewicz, Martha Mansfield, Carolyn Scott, and John Vanderpool.

Reflections of Members. Philip Borthwick asked if there were any mission trips around the world in the foreseeable future. Pastor Jim said to contact Elder Jim Justin of the Mission Committee.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 11:37 a.m. The motion passed.

The Closing Prayer was given by Reverend Dr. James Hegedus.

Respectfully submitted,



Russell Jacobson
Clerk of Session



Reverend Dr. James Hegedus
Moderator

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
JACKSON, MICHIGAN
NOVEMBER 27, 2016

A Special Congregational Meeting of the First Presbyterian Church of Jackson, Michigan, was held in the Sanctuary on November 27, 2016. The purpose of the meeting was to elect Elders and Deacons with a term ending in the year 2020.

The meeting was called to order by Moderator, Reverend Dr. James D. Hegedus at 11:07 a.m.

The Opening Prayer was given by Reverend Dr. James D. Hegedus.

The Clerk of Session stated that a quorum was present.

Elder Stephen Conley presented the Report of the Nominating Committee.

Elder Stephen Conley thanked the Nominating Committee, who were Stephen Conley, June Bayler, Marian Bliznik, Nancy Jennings, Jim Roberts and Pastor Jim Hegedus.

The nominations for Elder of the Session were Stephen Conley, Jay Ford and Jim Justin. There were no nominations from the floor. A motion was made by Sharon Vanderpool, and was seconded by Sue Wrzesinski, to close the nominations, and cast a unanimous ballot for the nominees. The motion passed.

The nominations for Deacon were Marian Bliznik, Dorothy Fowler, Dorothy Graham and Kris Hegedus. There were no nominations from the floor. A motion was made by Sue Wrzesinski, and was seconded by Don Mansfield, to close the nominations, and cast a unanimous ballot for the nominees. The motion passed.

The Closing Prayer was given by Reverend Dr. James D. Hegedus.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Russell Jacobson
Clerk of Session



Reverend Dr. James D. Hegedus
Moderator

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
JACKSON, MICHIGAN
DECEMBER 18, 2016

A Special Congregational Meeting of the First Presbyterian Church of Jackson, Michigan, was held in the Sanctuary on December 18, 2016. The purpose of the meeting was to approve the Pastor's Terms of Call.

The meeting was called to order at 11:25 a.m. by Reverend Dr. James D. Hegedus.

The Opening Prayer was given by Reverend Dr. James D. Hegedus.

The Clerk of Session determined that a quorum was present.

Elder Stephen Conley, Chairman of the Personnel Committee, presented the Pastor's Terms of Call.

A motion was made by Don Mansfield and was seconded by Sue Wrzesinski, to approved the Pastor's Effective Salary of \$67,179.00; with a total of Non-Salary Items of \$94,899.00. These terms are the same as last year. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 11:30 a.m. The motion passed.

The Closing Prayer was given by Reverend Dr. James D. Hegedus.

Respectfully submitted,



Russell Jacobson
Clerk of Session



The Reverend Dr. James D. Hegedus
Moderator

STATISTICAL REPORT

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|
| ACTIVE MEMBERS, December 31, 2015 | | 342 |
| GAINS DURING 2016: | | |
| Reaffirmation of Faith | +0 | |
| Letter of Transfer | +0 | |
| Profession of Faith | +15 | |
| Restore to the Active Roll | +0 | |
| Other | <u>+5</u> | |
| TOTAL GAINS | | +20 |
| LOSSES DURING 2016: | | |
| Letter of Transfer | -5 | |
| Deaths | -14 | |
| Other | <u>-70</u> | |
| TOTAL LOSSES | | <u>-89</u> |
| ACTIVE MEMBERS, December 31, 2016 | | 273 |

NEW MEMBERS: PROFESSION OF FAITH:

Tyler Eason
 Nicholas Hirsch
 Ronnie Madson, Jr.
 Michael O'Dowd
 Kristin Robinson
 Brian Soltis
 Natalie Schroeder-Soltis
 Lori Tate
 Randy Tate
 Jeffrey Tate
 Bret Taylor
 Susie Taylor
 Marshall Townsley
 Ian Wrzesinski
 Parker Wrzesinski

RESTORED TO THE ACTIVE ROLL:

John Cannon
 Jerry Hurni
 Robert Kiple
 Douglas Laing
 Carolyn Scott

BAPTISMS IN 2016

Ronnie Madson, Jr.
Kristin Robinson

ORDAINED IN 2016

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Bill Hestwood | Elder |
| Nicholas Hirsch | Youth Elder |
| Nancy Kinch | Elder |
| John Lawrence | Elder |
| Tom Leffler | Elder |
| Teri Ollila | Elder |
| Kurt Rudolph | Elder |
| John Wilcox | Elder |
| Ren Flagg | Deacon |
| Jean Herrick | Deacon |
| Lynne Purcell | Deacon |
| Joyce Hasson | Deacon |
| Jan Kaywood | Deacon |
| Tom Slater | Deacon |

WEDDINGS:

Lucas Meyers and Caitlyn Spencer

DEATHS IN 2016 (*=Elder)

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Ronald L. Laity* | 01/26/16 |
| Mary A. Youngdahl* | 02/06/16 |
| Robert Kendall | 03/03/16 |
| Carol A. Barbour | 03/04/16 |
| Helen L. Lake | 04/05/16 |
| Thomas Niessink | 05/12/16 |
| Elise Tellier | 05/21/16 |
| Renwood C. Flagg* | 06/14/16 |
| Ernest W. Gall* | 07/24/16 |
| Hildegard K. Opp* | 08/03/16 |
| Arlene M. Ford | 08/16/16 |
| Virginia L. Hanson* | 09/12/16 |
| Helen Louise Ryan | 10/03/16 |
| Helen L. Breitenwischer | 12/30/16 |

2016 Annual Report of the Pastors* The Reverend Dr. James D. Hegedus

2016 was a year of profound changes in our congregation. Included in this collection of annual reports are photographs of those persons who transitioned from the Church Militant to the Church Triumphant.

2016 was also my 17th year serving as your pastor. One of the many blessings of serving in a long-term pastorate is life's transitions with each other's families. You have been a blessing to me!

Our children have grown up during the time Kris and I have spent here with you in Jackson. You are my church family. We have wept with one another and we have laughed with one another. I am particularly grateful for the flexibility that you have given when I needed to visit and care for my own family.

For these 14 persons (and another 3 in January 2017) to whom we have said "goodbye for now", they were the fabric and lifeblood of this congregation. I too mourn their loss, however the goal of every Christian life is to live following Jesus through baptism, confirmation, Christian service, discipleship, and finally to follow him in death in the hope of a glorious resurrection like his!

I prefer to tell people that we are a spiritually mature congregation, we are not old. The Scripture tells stories that include people of all ages, all races, and all walks of life. Jesus came, lives, taught, healed, and died for all of us.

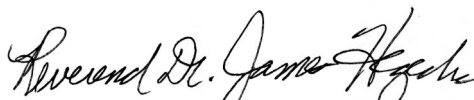
This year we saw 15 persons join us in profession or reaffirmation of faith. We also "cleaned the membership roll" and deleted 70 members. Many of these were persons who had grown up in our congregation and/or those who have moved away.

The highlight of the year for me was working with our very capable and caring church staff, Board of Deacons, and Session. Thank you all!

2016 brought us four new staff members—Lori Tate (no longer interim but now Director of Christian Education, Melissa Curtis (Bookkeeper), Sherry Eiden (Preschool Teacher), and Noah Rogers (Youth Intern).

As I close, I want to extend to you my appreciation and thanksgiving for the grace that you have given to me to serve the larger church through the Presbytery of Lake Michigan.

Serving God and Serving Others,



Reverend Dr. James D. Hegedus

***Rev. John A. Toth, Parish Associate — 2016 Report**

I thank the members of Jackson First Presbyterian Church and Rev. Dr. James Hegedus for the opportunity to serve as your Parish Associate in 2016.

The new *Book of Order* does not describe the position of Parish Associate. The Presbytery of Lake Michigan has voted to continue this designation and the language of the previous *Book of Order* G-14.0515 says a retired minister who wishes to maintain a relationship with a particular church or churches in keeping with ordination to the ministry of the word and Sacrament, may serve as parish associate. The relationship shall be established upon nomination by the pastor, between the parish associate, the session, and the presbytery. I am responsible to Pastor Jim Hegedus on an “as needed, as available” basis.

I continue to preach and serve Holy Communion with Session’s approval for non-denominational services once a month at Vista Grande Villa. This consists of a mini-service in the Health Wing and full worship service with Holy Communion in the Grande Room. I did 9 services there. Through these services our church is serving 50-75 people each month.

2016 ANNUAL REPORT CANDIDATE FOR THE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

December 9, 2016

Saludos from Colombia!

It's hard to believe that it's been three months since I left. The constant heat makes it seem as though it's still summer, but then I look at the calendar and realize it's December already. My first three months feel like an adjustment period, as I learn about the new culture and language, figure out how to do my job most effectively, and get to know the community. But just as I get settled in, we move into the Christmas season, which brings its own set of traditions, festivities, and challenges.

On December 8, we kicked off the season by celebrating Dia de las Velitas (Day of the Little Candles), known to Catholics as the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. I am excited to experience the many traditions my host community in the coming weeks as we celebrate Christmas, New Year's, and Three Kings Day. Though small, the village of Pital has a unique culture and the people take great pride in sharing it with me.

The Presbyterian church of Pital plays a significant role in the life of the town alongside the Catholic church. They welcomed me wholeheartedly into their community and I feel blessed to have this opportunity to be a part of their work and witness. I work primarily with the children of the community. On Saturdays I run the children's program, doing art and games and teaching basic English, and on Sundays I teach Sunday school. We are currently preparing for the Christmas Eve service, in which the kids will be singing and performing a short pageant. That day I will also be giving my first sermon in Spanish, for which I am both excited and nervous. During the week I alternate between working in a local daycare for low income children, and helping teach English at the middle and high schools. I am also currently working on a mural for the church, with the help of some of the kids, to be unveiled for the church anniversary on December 18.

I ask that you continue to hold not only myself and the people of Pital, but all of Colombia as well in your prayers. As you may have heard at the beginning of October the country narrowly voted to reject the Peace Accords that the government had negotiated with the FARC, the largest rebel group in the conflict. There are many complicated reasons it was rejected, but this was a serious blow to those who have spent many years working for peace, including the Presbyterian Church of Colombia (IPC). A new agreement was negotiated and recently approved by Congress, but there is still much work to be done both in carrying out the terms of the accords, and in healing the rift in the country between those who support and those who oppose the deal. In spite of the difficulties, our brothers and sisters in the IPC stands strong in their commitment to work for peace.

Thank you for all of your support and prayers. Wishing you a blessed Advent and Merry Christmas.

Ainsley Herrick
Young Adult Volunteer, Colombia

Annual Report of the Music Ministry
Jackson's First Presbyterian Church
Sipkje Pesnichak, Director of Music

The year 2016 was a productive year for the music program and those involved with making music at Jackson's First Presbyterian Church.

The season of Lent saw the return of the Wednesday afternoon midday organ recitals. The featured organists in 2016 were Dr. David Saunders, Dr. Gale Kramer, Emily Wheeler, Dominic Kryst and Sipkje Pesnichak. Winter weather had an impact on attendance at one recital and postponed another. No matter the weather, the recitals were each followed by a scrumptious homemade soup luncheon.

The Maundy Thursday service was held here at JFPC. The choirs and congregations of both churches joined forces for the Good Friday service held at Westminster Presbyterian Church. Easter Sunday was a joyous celebration at JFPC with music leadership provided by the Chancel Choir, the Orff Kids Choir, Sipkje on organ, the Presby Ringers and the Jackson Brass Works brass quartet.

Another beautiful summer of music making took place both at Church-in-the-Park and at Jackson's First Presbyterian Church.

Our first Arts Series event of 2016 was an Opera Club performance by two up and coming opera artists from southeastern Michigan. In collaboration with the Michigan Opera Theater, the Opera Club will present one free opera related performance each year in Jackson.

The monthly Taizé services continued to take place on the third Wednesday evening of each month during the academic year. We made the move from the Chapel to the Sanctuary and it added immensely to the acoustic and visual beauty of the service.

We are pleased to present flutist and JFPC native, Jeff Zook, in another marvelous performance with he and some of his colleagues from the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. Jeff was joined by Sheryl Hwangbo, violin, and David LeDoux, cello, for a stunning recital featuring works for trio, duo and solo instruments.

This year's Music Sunday was part of a larger series of events for our Arts Series. In November 2016, we invited Dutch-American composer and church musician, Iteke Prins, to work with our music ensembles and help lead Music Sunday. Mrs. Prins led a talk on Thursday night with members of JFPC about her life and career up to this point. Later that evening, she rehearsed with the Chancel Choir in preparation for Music Sunday. On Music Sunday we all had an opportunity to sing and listen to her hymn and choral compositions. Later in the afternoon on Music Sunday, we gathered for an organ duo recital given by Iteke and Sipkje (who just so happens to be Iteke's granddaughter!).

The next installment of our Arts Series was a performance in mid-December by the Presby Ringers and the Jackson Brassworks Quintet. This festive evening of Advent and Christmas music for handbells and brass quintet was well attended and much enjoyed by all.

The Christmas Eve service was one combined service this year, due to Christmas Eve falling on Saturday and Christmas Day being on Sunday. We were blessed to have the Orff Kids, Presby Ringers, Nativitatis Venti Quintet, and Chancel Choir all providing their talents for such a beautiful worship service.

I taught music to the MWF preschool class with Brenda Francis approximately two times per month. Our time together was spent learning songs pertaining to what the students were learning about each week. At the end of the 2015-2016 school year, the students presented five songs at their final program for the calendar year. I continue to teach the TTh preschool class taught by Sherry Eiden, approximately two times per month. We are working on preparing songs for their final performance in Spring 2017.

Outside of my duties as Director of Music here at Jackson's First Presbyterian Church, I continue to teach private oboe, piano and organ lessons in Ann Arbor and Jackson. At the beginning of 2016, I began as program intern at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, in Livonia, for the Hearts, Hands and Voices (HHAV) liturgical arts program for youth in Livonia. The program curriculum is designed and implemented by Dr. Michael Burkhardt. In addition to my work with HHAV, I continued my private organ studies with Dr. Burkhardt at Eastern Michigan University. I also continue to perform as an oboist with the ADVerb Trio and a guest musician with various area orchestras and chamber groups.

I continue to volunteer my time by serving on various boards with music organizations, both locally and nationally. In the late summer of 2016, I took part in training to become an Ambassador for the Opera Club for the Michigan Opera Theater in Detroit. This training allows us to hold one free Opera Club event per year in Jackson. I began my first official year as Dean of the Ann Arbor chapter of the American Guild of Organists. With that organization, I am in charge of overseeing a volunteer board of 12 members and guiding our chapter of over 100 members in bringing quality organ related concerts and workshops to the southeastern Michigan region. I continued on the Executive Committee for The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada as a Member-at-Large. With that organization, I serve as co-chair of the Membership Committee as well as a voting member of the Executive Committee. My series of four articles about performance for the quarterly journal of The Hymn Society, "The Hymn" were published in each quarterly edition this past year. These articles focused on techniques any church musician can use to arrange hymns for instrumentalists of varying ability levels.

This past summer, I attended two conferences to continue my education as a church musician. In mid-July 2016, I attended The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada's annual conference, this year held at the University of Redlands in Redlands, California. As a member of the Executive Committee, I, along with the other members of the committee, worked to help the conference run as smoothly as possible. I attended many enlightening plenary addresses, workshops and participated in five uplifting and creative hymn festivals. At the end of July, I attended a brand new choral workshop held at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York. The focus of this workshop was on unaccompanied singing, both chant and polyphony, and its history.

My duties as Director of Music here include attending weekly staff meetings, monthly worship planning meetings, monthly Worship Committee meetings and monthly Session meetings. I am also privileged to work with an amazing group of volunteer musicians, all of whom give of their time willingly and abundantly. These people give of their time in the following groups:

Presby Orff Kids

The Orff program continues on Thursday evenings under the direction of Jackie Livesay, this year joined by intern Shayla Williams. The children rehearse and prepare music to be sung in worship about once per month, as well as for such services as Christmas Eve and Easter Sunday. Jackie Livesay directed this group of young people.

Youth Instrumental Chamber Ensemble

This ensemble is comprised of instrumental music students in middle and high school from the surrounding school districts. These students rehearse once a week on Thursday afternoons and provide music during worship about once every six weeks.

The Presby Ringers

This accomplished handbell choir consists of about a dozen members who meet every Thursday to rehearse and prepare music for worship. They play for worship approximately once every six weeks. They also provide choral accompaniments on an as-needed bases and play for the Christmas Eve and Easter Sunday services. Sipkje Pesnichak directs this ensemble.

The Chancel Choir

This accomplished group of volunteer musicians gave much of their time and talents to glorify God through music. They rehearse every Thursday night for an hour and a half preparing music for Sunday worship. The Chancel Choir provides musical leadership most Sundays during the academic year. Many of the soloists who sing for worship services are also members of the Chancel Choir. Sipkje Pesnichak directs this ensemble.

Soli Deo Gloria,



Sipkje Pesnichak

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IN REVIEW 2016

Children

In the winter of 2016 I began to use Young Children in Worship curriculum for the MW2 evenings. Our numbers for MW2 have remained fairly consistent. In the fall I began to use the Presbyterian new curriculum called Grace & Gratitude – e-books, and other electronic resources for parents. This is being used for Sunday morning children's church. It is multiage and provides more options for the various age groups we work with. I am very pleased with curriculum.

Preschool Ministry – (May) Hired Sherry Eiden, a retired JPS teacher with over 25 years of experience. Designed logo, created signage, ordered business cards, created new enrollment and promotional material, and established a presence on the JFPC website specifically for the preschool. The preschool is operating two days a week with the confidence that we will grow and be open five days a week in the fall of 2017. The preschool financial goal is to be self-sustaining – covering salary, expenses, etc. ** Attended the preschool year-end program. Had over 90 people in attendance for the event. Recognized and gave a gift to Brenda Francis (\$50 gift certificate) as an appreciation to her service.

Youth The youth have been the most challenging of my responsibilities. Attendance is very sporadic. I had a consistent group of young men who went through the winter confirmation class.

Confirmation – Five students, Tyler Eason, Micky O'Dowd, Nathaniel Hirsch, Parker and Ian W. went through 6 weeks of confirmation class taught by myself and Pastor Jim. We also attended a Catholic mass, an Orthodox service and an Islamic informational class. Four young men were confirmed and accepted into the church on Easter Sunday, March 27.

In the fall Pastor Jim and I hired a young man from SAU, named Noah Rogers to be our youth leader. Noah was commissioned on November 13. We currently meet every other Sunday evening for dinner & discussion. The guys – Ian, Micky, Tyler, Nicholas and Nathaniel are consistently attending. We cook a meal together and then Noah leads the discussion. Randy Herrick attends as well.

Urban Plunge: October 11-12 Randy Herrick and Noah Rogers went to Paw Paw with three students.

Adults – Sunday Morning – In the winter months we used curriculum from “The Bible Project” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zy2AQLK6C5k>. Then moved to some Lent material from Renovare. Our five-week sessions on Embracing an Alternative Orthodoxy by Richard Rohr took us to mid-June and then through the fall until Advent. It was a great series. Our attendance has grown and we usually have 6-10 people.

Events –

June 20, 6:30-8:30 – Family Summer Solstice party – over 40 people came from various churches

June 27-30, 6-8pm – Egypt VBS – partnership with St. Paul Episcopal Church

August 2016 Toy Party – Over \$600 was given to purchase toys and resources for the kids. These items will be used in Playing Around Preschool as well as in the nursery room, keeping things fresh and different for the kids.

September 11 – Fall Kickoff – Great start to the fall programs. Heard lots of positive comments about the younger families mingling with the older couples.

September 16 – Peace Walk – JFPC and Soul Dig coordinated a community event of praying for peace by walking the labyrinth. Event attended by 30+ people from various communities

October 29 -Fall Family Fun –family evening of hot dogs and play. A nice mix of different ages came, thirty some people came, some with kids. Several new families attended.

November 20 – Kids Advent Art: Artist Sheryl Amburgey designed and created a Madonna and child art piece. Kids painted individual mini canvases and the center image. Sold notecards for \$1 each; raised \$192, kids bought 2 piglets, 4 sets of chickens and a set of garden tools from the Presbyterian Gift catalog.

Facilities – CLASSROOMS Each of the children’s classrooms have been painted and cleaned out. The nursery has been 80 percent cleaned out – old toys, broken items, etc. have been recycled and repurposed. There are details need to be completed in the nursery. Two to three hours of work would complete the entire project.

PERSONAL OFFICE Painted and cleaned. Removed years of out dated material. Repurposed various chairs and desks from the church. Office feels warm, inviting and a great place to work and meet with others.

CHAPEL The chapel has become an attractive, functioning gathering space for social and educational purposes. The stacks of extra chairs are conveniently stored on the main level, so that the chapel can be easily reset to hold 80 people.

Preached – February 28, May 1, June 19, August 28

Continuing Education & Personal Growth and Health – Calvin Symposium (January 2016); Enneagram training at the Dominican Center in Grand Rapids (April 29 & 30, 2016); Art & Spirituality Presbyterian Retreat (October 16 & 17, 2016); Webinar “Listening to Children with a SD’s heart” (October 19, 2016); Pete Rollins – Detroit (October 22, 2016); Meet monthly with my spiritual director; Meet monthly with a peer group of spiritual directors for accountability, growth, laughter and wine.

Dr. Lori Tate

ORIGINAL ARTWORK ON THE REPORT COVER

This original piece of artwork was designed by Essa artist, Sheryl Amburgey, and the kids of Jackson First Presbyterian Church painted the images.

Artists included:

Gabby Hall – 9 years old
Cora Harvey – 4 years old
Bennett Harvey – 7 years old
Eliana Melton – 14 years old
William Melton – 10 years old
Haiden Rentschler – 10 years old
Peyton Rentschler – 7 years old
Henry Soltis – 4 ½ years old
Lydia Soltis – 12 years old
Rosie Soltis – 9 years old
Anna Taylor – 3 years old
Johnny Taylor – 5 years old
Addie Wimsatt – 2 years old
Evie Wimsatt – 2 years old
Mira Wimsatt – 5 years old
Rhenner Wimsatt – 7 years old

Caring Deacons Annual Report 2016

Twelve members fulfilled the call to Serve God, Serve Others in 2016 as Caring Deacons. They were Marian Bliznik (who also served as Co-Moderator), Dorothy Graham, Edythe Gilbert, Jan Kaywood, Joyce Hasson, Kris Hegedus, Karen Leja, Bonnie Otto, Chris Prokos, Lisa Rudolph, Tom Slater and Harvey Zook. Administrative Deacon Carole Loll also took on a care receiver. Our mission was to create a caring ministry to two to five members each, and to also keep those unable to attend church assured that they are not forgotten.

The training retreat was led by Pastor Jim on January 23rd. Emphasis was on the Biblical background of being a Deacon, how it related to serving as a Deacon, and what our ordination vows meant. Holy Communion was shared and we learned how to administer Holy Communion to our care receivers and how to anoint with oil.

Caring Deacons and the Administrative Deacons met jointly on All Committee Night following dinner on the fourth Wednesday of every other month. After a time of sharing information with all the Deacons, separate meetings were held. Care receivers were assigned to Deacons at the first meeting. Five additional meetings took place which included prayer, sharing of ideas and experiences and thoughts on who might like or need to be contacted over the coming year. We are currently visiting and calling 27 members regularly and checking up on others who do not wish to have an assigned Deacon, but who would enjoy an occasional call or visit.

Caring Deacon's responsibilities to their care receivers included visiting at least once a month, and often more, serving Holy Communion four times throughout the year, and delivering poinsettias and Easter lilies at the holidays. Sanctuary flowers were also delivered to assigned members and other members of the church who were ill or were celebrating special occasions. Phone calls are made between visits. Unassigned church members were also called, visited and sent cards just to keep in touch. After a visit, a contact note was sent to Pastor Jim and the moderators, summarizing the visit and letting them know if a pastoral visit would be helpful.

Meals and transportation were provided and we continue to work on efficient ways to meet the growing needs of the congregation.

Following the Harvest Dinner, food was delivered to those unable to attend and as always, this was met with great enthusiasm by all who received this delicious meal.

During the year, copies of large print bulletins and sermons were sent to the homebound to keep them more connected with the church. The devotional magazines *Upper Room*, in large print, were also distributed.

To make sure collage age students continue to feel connected to their home church and know that they are missed, we sent notes and cards of encouragement. Our many members at Vista Grande Villa were also kept in contact by Pastor Jim's monthly coffee hour, which a Deacon attends. Cards and notes are sent to them as well.

We would like to thank Lisa Rudolph who has completed her sixth year (maximum successive term allowed) for doing this special work so well, and for service as recording Secretary for the Board.

It has been a great pleasure to serve with these exceptional people for the past six years. Thank you all for your faithfulness.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Otto

FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE ANNUAL REPORT 2016

Faith Community Nurses provided monthly blood pressure screenings for our members and restocked First Aid kits throughout the church. In May and June, Faith Community Nurses in collaboration with Allegiance Health encouraged the congregation to increase physical activity through the “Walking the Path to Health” program. Thirty-eight members participated and at least 11 of those members achieved their goal of 30 minutes of exercise on 5 or more days per week for the entire two-month time period. Dawn Polson won the drawing for the gift card among the goal-achieving members. Our Faith Community Nurses are Shelley Hirsch, Tina Ozukwe, Teresa Laity Peebles, Lisa Rudolph and Heather Williams.

KITCHEN COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2016

2016 had wonderful helpers in the kitchen, who were able to take over in my absence and also very helpful throughout the year.

In the kitchen we prepared many meals:

- 8 Funeral Meals
- Tuesday Musicale Luncheons
- Church-in-the-Park Potluck
- A bountiful Harvest Dinner
- Inquirers' Luncheons
- All Committee Night Dinners
- Many Dinners for MW2 were prepared in our kitchen.
- Chili and Pie Cook-Off
- Pancake Supper Fundraiser to benefit and update kitchen equipment
- Fall Kick-Off Tailgate Party
- Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser to benefit The House of New Beginnings URM Home

It is still a joy to work in the kitchen and serve so many people. Looking forward to 2017, and what it may bring to our church!

Respectfully submitted,
Elder Sharon Vanderpool, Kitchen Committee

PERSONNEL AND NOMINATING COMMITTEES ANNUAL REPORT 2016

The Personnel Committee participated in:

Reviewed the adequacy of the Terms of Call of Reverend Dr. James D. Hegedus and presented changed to the congregation for approval.

The Nominating Committee found members to nominate to fill all expiring terms of currently serving Elders and Deacons. Those nominees were all elected to serve at a Congregational Meeting in November of 2016.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Conley, Elder and Committee Chair

Finance Committee

Annual Report

2016

The Finance Committee continues to monitor the church financial situation of the Church with the help of Melissa Curtis, our bookkeeper and guidance from Knox Accounting. We are indebted to Ken Rudolph, Treasurer, who can be found most days at the church watching over the books and ensuring the donations are properly accounted. Ken also spent numerous hours per week throughout the year: signing checks, reviewing the balance sheet & expenditures, and providing other accounting assistance. We also need to thank the various teller teams who count the offering each week. Finance Committee members assist with not only a review of church finances, but the Hive budget, endowment funds, designated gifts and financial controls.

This year we finished better than expected in spite of falling short in our giving envelope projection. Some of the envelope income shortfall was made up in our Loose Offering collection. We are fortunate in that our expenses were less than budgeted largely due to locking into lower natural gas prices for one year, along with lower heating and cooling needs. Unfortunately, 2017 appears to see a rise in natural gas prices of about 20%.

Profits at the Hive help to balance our Net Operating Income shortfall at the Church while providing space for Non-Profits that align with the mission of the Church. We renovated the lower level lower level of the Hive this year for a new tenant, Work Services Inc. This should continue to benefit the finances of the Church.

The committee meets each month to discuss the previous month's financial report and any other financial questions, recommendations and requests that come before the committee. The committee then uses this information so solid recommendations can be made to the session for action benefiting the church. The following pages show how we did and how that affected the financial action of our church and its mission to serve others.

Committee Members:
Kurt Rudolph, Chair
Kenneth Rudolph, Treasurer
Pastor Jim Hegedus
John McLaughlin
Sue Wrzesinski

Balance Sheet
December 31, 2016

ASSETS

ASSETS

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| CP Federal | \$469,241.33 |
| Endowment Fund | \$639,992.66 |
| Scholarship Fund | \$715,633.37 |
| Endowment Fund — A/R from General Fund | \$340,348.48 |
| Buildings (Church & Hive) | \$2,760,719.43 |
| Equipment | <u>\$264,740.15</u> |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$5,190,675.42 |

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

LIABILITIES

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Accrued Liabilities | \$3,487.46 |
| General Fund — A/P to Endowment Fund | <u>\$340,348.48</u> |
| TOTAL LIABILITES | \$343,835.94 |

EQUITY

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Fixed Assets | \$3,025,459.58 |
| General Fund-Checking Account | (\$19,287.41) |
| Designated Funds | \$147,749.57 |
| Endowment Fund | \$980,341.14 |
| Scholarship Fund | <u>\$715,633.37</u> |
| TOTAL EQUITY | \$4,846,825.68 |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITIES | \$5,190,661.62 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|

Endowment Fund

December 31, 2016

The Endowment Fund of the First Presbyterian Church of Jackson consists of amounts received by the Church from bequests, gifts, special offerings and other sources. These funds have been given to the Church for its use without restrictions. The principal is to be held in perpetuity, except for property acquisition and capital improvements as approved by the Session. The fund is administered by the Session, with oversight by the Finance Committee. Management of the investments has been delegated to the Presbyterian Foundation.

The value of the Endowment Fund at the end of the two most recent fiscal years was:

| | w/o Hive Loan | w/Hive Loan |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------|
| December 31, 2015 | \$626,615.33 | \$966,963.81 |
| December 31, 2016 | \$639,992.66 | \$980,314.14 |

Contributions to the Endowment Fund during 2016 amounted to \$885.00

The assets of the Endowment Fund also include the \$1,260,719.43 acquisition and additional investment in the Hive. This includes a loan of \$340,348.48 from the Endowment Fund, a Memorial from Barb Truax, and a reinvestment of profits from the Hive.

Memorial Fund

The Memorial Fund receives gifts given in memory of or in honor of persons. The gifts are used to purchase appropriate items in and around the church, or are added to the Endowment or Scholarship Funds. Fund Activity in 2016 was as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Beginning Balance (January 1, 2016) | \$65,117.30 |
| Ending Balance (December 31, 2016) | \$71,599.07 |

Gifts were received in memory of or in honor of the following:

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Ron Laity | Mary Youngdahl | Carol Barbour |
| Helen Lake | Phil Johnston | Ruth Marr |
| Marlene Laing | Ren Flagg | Tom Niessink |
| Arlene Ford | Virginia Hanson | Louise Ryan |

Disbursements were made from the Memorial Fund in 2016, for the following:

| | | |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Artist Series | Christian Ed. | General Fund |
| Mission | Music Fund | Organ Maintenance |
| Preschool | | |

Scholarship Fund

December 31, 2016

The Scholarship Fund receives amounts from persons who are interested in providing scholarships to members of the First Presbyterian Church who are pursuing a post high school education and, in one case (the Griffith Fund), to persons who are interested in Church or Church related positions. The Finance Committee of the Session is responsible for the selection of scholarship recipients. During the year the fund received \$1,071.00 from various sources. In 2016, General Scholarships were granted to:

- Stephanie Hegedus, Post Grad., Carnegie Mellon University;
- Samantha O'Dowd, Jr., Michigan State University;
- Tara Rule, Jr., Ferris State;
- Calvin Spring, Sr., University of Michigan
- Sydney Spring, Sr., Kalamazoo College
- Shayla Williams, So., Jackson College
- Parker Wrzesinski, Fr., University of Michigan

Ainsley Herrick was provided with a scholarship from the Griffith Fund.

The Scholarship Fund is administered by the Session, with oversight by the Finance Committee. Fund management is delegated to the Presbyterian Foundation. The assets of the fund on December 31, 2016 (compared to December 31, 2015) were:

| <u>Asset Description</u> | <u>Market Value</u> |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Balance at December 31, 2015 | \$670,020.87 |
| Balance at December 31, 2016 | \$715,633.37 |

The Scholarship Fund is broken into:

| | |
|----------|--------------|
| Griffith | \$270,491.96 |
| General | \$445,141.41 |

Budget/Actual Comparison

| | <u>Budget</u> | <u>Actual</u> | <u>Budget</u> |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Income | 2016 | 2016 | 2017 |
| Income | | | |
| Church Operation | | | |
| <i>Administration</i> | \$0.00 | \$8,911.20 | \$0.00 |
| <i>Finance</i> | \$16,600.00 | \$1,112.44 | \$16,100.00 |
| <i>Kitchen</i> | \$1,600.00 | \$5,903.65 | \$1,600.00 |
| <i>Property</i> | \$4,000.00 | \$5,174.65 | \$4,000.00 |
| <i>Stewardship</i> | \$303,200.00 | \$304,027.99 | \$304,100.00 |
| Mission/Outreach | | | |
| <i>Mission Pass Thru</i> | \$5,600.00 | \$7,063.28 | \$5,200.00 |
| <i>Hive</i> | \$71,490.00 | \$73,544.19 | \$71,490.00 |
| <i>Preschool</i> | \$7,365.00 | \$10,793.44 | \$12,000.00 |
| <i>Continuing Missions</i> | \$1,400.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Congregational Life | | | |
| <i>Caring Deacons</i> | \$0.00 | \$207.00 | \$0.00 |
| <i>Disciple Development</i> | \$1,370.00 | \$9,015.74 | \$1,070.00 |
| <i>Worship & Music</i> | \$6,600.00 | \$9,563.03 | \$6,600.00 |
| Income Total | \$419,225.00 | \$435,316.61 | \$422,160.00 |
| | | | |
| | <u>Budget</u> | <u>Actual</u> | <u>Budget</u> |
| Expenditures | 2016 | 2016 | 2017 |
| Expenses | | | |
| Church Operation | | | |
| <i>Administration</i> | \$4,260.00 | \$8,732.06 | \$6,595.71 |
| <i>Finance</i> | \$14,000.00 | \$28,168.78 | \$14,000.00 |
| <i>Kitchen</i> | \$1,600.00 | \$6,261.28 | \$1,600.00 |
| <i>Marketing</i> | \$600.00 | \$1,267.99 | \$1,200.00 |
| <i>Property</i> | \$63,050.00 | \$53,867.60 | \$63,850.00 |
| <i>Personnel</i> | \$256,829.00 | \$239,217.80 | \$242,466.64 |
| <i>Stewardship</i> | \$7,730.00 | \$9,319.68 | \$8,030.00 |
| Mission/Outreach | | | |
| <i>Mission Pass Thru</i> | \$10,600.00 | \$8,959.30 | \$10,600.00 |
| <i>Hive</i> | \$71,490.00 | \$73,544.19 | \$71,490.00 |
| <i>Preschool</i> | \$11,550.00 | \$14,499.67 | \$12,000.00 |
| <i>Continuing Missions</i> | \$3,400.00 | \$2,966.56 | \$3,400.00 |
| <i>New Witness / Strategy</i> | \$2,500.00 | \$2,279.35 | \$1,000.00 |
| Congregational Life | | | |
| <i>Care of Members</i> | \$3,225.00 | \$1,034.67 | \$2,225.00 |
| <i>Caring Deacons</i> | \$550.00 | \$864.61 | \$850.00 |
| <i>Disciple Development</i> | \$7,370.00 | \$5,513.20 | \$5,700.00 |
| <i>Fellowship</i> | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| <i>Engaging Visitors & Members</i> | \$400.00 | \$81.15 | \$325.00 |
| <i>Worship & Music</i> | \$11,810.00 | \$14,515.61 | \$11,465.00 |
| Total Expenditures | \$470,964.00 | \$471,093.50 | \$456,797.35 |
| Church Net Operating Income | (\$51,739.00) | (\$35,776.89) | (\$34,637.35) |
| Hive Net Operating Income | \$29,825.00 | \$49,306.45 | \$29,805.00 |
| Total Net Operating Income | (\$21,914.00) | \$13,529.56 | (\$4,832.35) |

Terms Of Call
Pastor

| | <u>2016 Budget</u> | <u>2017 Budget</u> |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| Salary | \$29,679 | \$29,679 |
| Housing | 35,000 | 35,000 |
| Deferred Comp 403(b) | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Flexible Spending Plan (Sec 125 Plan) | <u>1,500</u> | <u>1,500</u> |
| Effective Salary | 67,179 | 67,179 |
| | | |
| Auto Expense | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Professional Expense | 400 | 400 |
| Continuing Education | 800 | 800 |
| Medical Dues | 16,459 | 16,459 |
| Pension Dues | 7,390 | 7,390 |
| Death & Disability Dues | <u>672</u> | <u>672</u> |
| Total Non-Salary Items | <u>27,720</u> | <u>27,720</u> |
| Total Cost to the Congregation | <u>\$94,899</u> | <u>\$94,899</u> |

In Loving Memory of...



Carol A. Barbour



Helen L. Breitenwischer



Renwood C. Flagg



Arlene M. Ford



Ernest W. Gall



Virginia L. Hanson



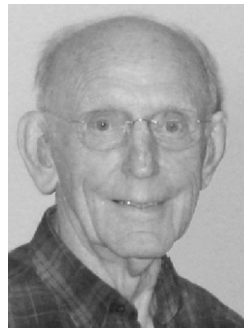
Robert Kendall



Ronald L. Laity



Helen L. Lake



Thomas Niessink



Hildegard K. Opp



Helen Louise Ryan



Elise Tellier



Mary A. Youngdahl

