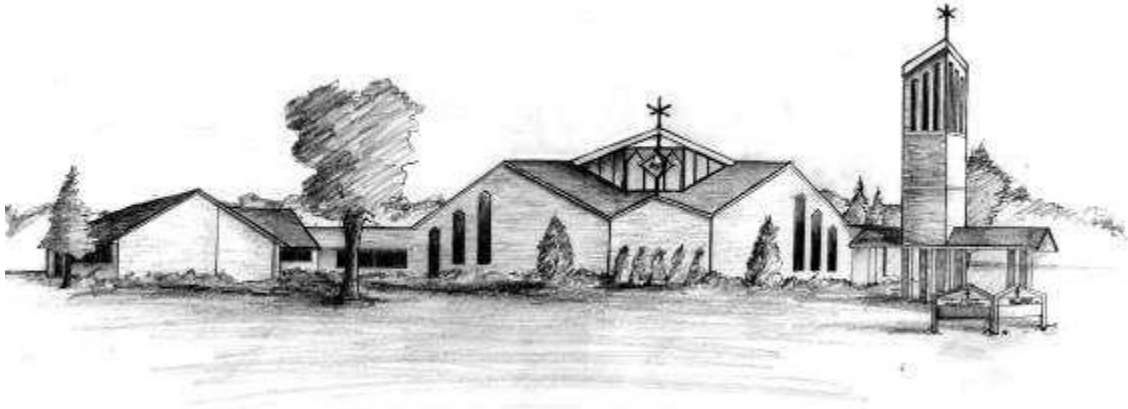


2021 Annual Report

of the
Congregation and Corporation of
Oak Grove Presbyterian Church



*Oak Grove is a joyful, inclusive, compassionate community of faith,
seeking to do justice, act mercifully and walk humbly with God.*

Annual Meeting
Sunday, February 27, 2022
11:15 am (via Zoom)

Please use this link to join the meeting:
<https://umn-private.zoom.us/j/3585580246>

For audio only, call 651-372-8299 and use Meeting ID: 358 558 0246.

Loving God... Changing Lives!

Oak Grove Presbyterian Church
2200 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington Minn. 55431
952.888.4621 | ogpc@oakgrv.org

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**Annual Meeting
 Congregation and Corporation of the
 Oak Grove Presbyterian Church
 Bloomington, Minnesota
 February 27, 2022**

AGENDA

Call to Order and Opening Prayer	Rev. Dr. Bart Roush, Pastor/Head of Staff
Approval of the Agenda and Declaration of a Quorum	Connie Nesbitt, Clerk of Session
Approval of 2021 Congregational Meeting Minutes Annual Congregational Meeting: February 28, 2021	Connie Nesbitt, Clerk of Session
2021 Roll Report/Prayer for the Communion of Saints	Rev. Dr. Bart Roush Rev. Mary Koon
Pastors Reports	Rev. Dr. Bart Roush Rev. Mary Koon
Questions for Committees	
2021 Financial Reports	Sue Greimel, Treasurer
2022 Budget	Sue Greimel, Treasurer
Approval of changes in Terms of Call for Pastors	Chris Diller, Personnel Committee Chair
Other business that may properly come before the meeting	Rev. Dr. Bart Roush
Adjournment: Closing Prayer and Benediction	Rev. Mary Koon

Clerk of Session Report

Oak Grove Presbyterian Church
Congregational Annual Meeting

February 28, 2021
11:38 am

Notice having been duly given on two successive Sundays and in the Oak Leaves, the Moderator, Rev. Dr. Anne Fisher, Transitional Pastor, called to order the 165th Annual Meeting of Oak Grove Presbyterian Church at 12:00 noon. This meeting was held virtually via Zoom due to the Pandemic. A link was provided to the Congregation before the meeting in the notices sent out. Rev. Fisher opened the meeting in prayer.

Eugene Orr explained how the voting would be handled. He will post the motion on the screen and the Congregation can vote yes or no. Eugene and the Clerk declared that a quorum was present.

The agenda and the minutes from the 2020 meeting were approved as written in the report. The 2020 Annual Report, including reports from the various committees, the professional staff and financial reports, was made available to the Congregation before the meeting.

The following Roll Report was approved.

2020 Roll Report & Memorial Roll

Active Members, January 1, 2020	489
Gains for 2020	
Confirmands	5
Profession	9
Transfers to Oak Grove	13
Reactivated Members	1
Total Gains	28
Losses for 2020	
Deaths of Active Members	-17
Other Losses	-5
Total Losses	-22
Active Members as of December 31, 2020	495

Rev. Mary Koon read the Communion of Saints who died this past year and offered up a prayer in their memory.

In Memoriam:	Date of death
Kay McQueen	01/27/2020
Bob Nesbitt	03/09/2020
Phyllis Pettit	05/07/2020
Jean McCarl	06/25/2020
Dee Schneider	06/26/2020
Carol Bayert	07/14/2020
Bud Burnes	07/27/2020
Bob Bruder	08/09/2020
Holly Mae Dredge	08/21/2020
Steve St. Martin	09/16/2020
Jim Christianson	09/21/2020
Don Schneider	09/25/2020
Austin Ritterspach	10/12/2020
Barb Hornes	10/17/2020
Rich Miller	10/31/2020
Rodger Schwartz	12/27/2020

The Moderator then asked if there were any questions regarding the Program Staff reports and the Committee reports written in the report. There were none.

Treasurer, Sue Greimel, then reviewed the Financial Reports. She commented on the good response to the pledge drive and thanked Anne Swenson for her excellent work. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept this report. The Session had previously approved it.

Representing the Personnel Committee, Bill Pomroy turned everyone's attention to the Terms of Call for Associate Pastor, Mary Koon. Mary left the meeting at this point. He pointed out that the Temporary Augment of \$10,000 is because of the extra work Mary has put in during the transition period between Pastors. A motion was made and approved for the Terms of Call. Rev. Fisher is our Transitional Pastor and is on contract no action was required.

2021 Pastors' Terms of Call

Associate Pastor, 2021		Transitional Pastor, 2021	
Salary	\$42,788	Salary	\$65,000
Temporary Augment	\$10,000	Housing	<u>\$25,000</u>
Housing	<u>\$31,302</u>	Total	\$90,000
Total	\$84,090		
Vacation	1 month	Vacation	1 month
Benefits		Benefits	
Pension	\$7,148	Pension	\$7,650
Health, etc.	<u>\$24,857</u>	Health, etc.	<u>\$26,541</u>
Total Compensation	\$116,095	Total Compensation	\$124,191
Auto ¹	\$1,600	Auto ¹	\$1,400
Education leave ²	two weeks	Education leave ²	two weeks
Education allowance ³	\$1,200	Education allowance ³	\$1,200
Professional Expense ⁴	<u>\$1,300</u>	Professional Expense ⁴	<u>\$2,500</u>
	\$4,100		\$5,100
¹ Vouchered, IRS rate		¹ Vouchered, IRS rate	
² Cumulative to 6 weeks		² Cumulative to 6 weeks	
³ Cumulative for 3 years		³ Cumulative for 3 years	
⁴ Vouchered		⁴ Vouchered	
Associate Pastor is entitled to:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four Sundays off per year • Three-month sabbatical leave after six years 			

The Moderator then invited Paul St. Martin, Chairman of the PNC, to speak. Paul commented on how wonderful it has been to work with the PNC during their search for a new pastor. He shared details on the work they did during the search. On behalf of the committee, Rev. Dr. Bart Roush has been chosen to become our new pastor. Rev. Roush will do the sermon on Sunday, March 14. After this worship service, the Session has called a Virtual Congregational meeting at 12:00 noon to elect Rev. Roush. His bio will be sent out prior to the meeting as will a link to the meeting. On Saturday, March 13, there will be a virtual "Meet and Greet" with Rev. Roush, a link will be provided. Paul asked that the Congregation keep the information he has shared off of social media until Rev. Roush has been able to share his departure with his present congregation.


Rev. Fisher then invited Larry Pearson to share news on the Clearwater Forest Capital Campaign. Larry shared that an ad hoc committee of himself, Carrie Wilkens and Don Alman, have been appointed to help raise funding from OGPC for the upgrade to the Clearwater facilities. The Session has approved a total of \$30,000 donation over the next three years. \$10,000 will be taken from the remaining 2020 Special Funds and will be sent as our first-year commitment. For each of the second and third years, a \$5,000 donation from the Congregation will be matched by \$5,000 from the Session Designated Dedicated Account.


Rev. Koon closed the meeting with prayer.

The Moderator then asked Paul St. Martin, on behalf of his deceased Father, Steve, to please entertain a motion to adjourn the meeting. For many years it was tradition that Steve made this motion. This motion was seconded and approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Connie Nesbitt
Clerk of Session


Rev. Dr. Anne Fisher
Transitional Pastor

2021 Roll Report & Memorial Roll

Active Members, January 1, 2021	495
Gains for 2020	
Confirmands	5
Profession/Reaffirmation	2
Transfers to Oak Grove	2
Reactivated Members	3
Total Gains	12
Losses for 2020	
Deaths of Active Members	-15
Other Losses	-5
Total Losses	-20
Active Members as of December 31, 2021	487

Membership Review

Baptisms (11):

Liberty Bliss
 Eliza Decknatel
 Josie Greimel
 Caden Hendricks
 Penelope Johnson
 Aydin Kirk
 Ezra Lassiter
 Maya Leonard
 Ada Mee
 Ellery Oslund
 Christian Soderlund

Confirmations (5):

Matthew Carter
 Madeleine Elbert
 Tatum Gillies
 Hannah Jones
 Jackie Steskal

In Memoriam (15):

<i>In Memoriam (15):</i>	<i>Date</i>
Frank Bliss	01/22/21
Connie Johnson	03/03/21
Marian Schwartz	05/13/21
Joyce Shantz	05/22/21
Arnie Erickson	06/09/21
Jane Lund	06/26/21
Don Dunham	07/17/21
Yvonne Wentz	07/22/21
Mary Jones	08/07/21
Bob Sands	08/08/21
Art Fisk	08/10/21
Linda Blair	10/06/21
Faith Grondin	11/10/21
Maxine Engberg	11/14/21
Don Olson	12/06/21

2021 Church Officers

THE SESSION

Moderators
Clerk of Session
Treasurer

Anne Fisher & Bart Roush
Connie Nesbitt
Sue Greimel

ELDERS

Class of 2021
Mattie Hawley
Bob Heise
Anne Klueh
Bill Pomroy
Jane Propsom
Hannah Ervin (Youth)

Class of 2022
Karen Alonzi
Pierce Flanagan
Bob Gerdes
Carol Osweiler
Mark Pridgeon

Class of 2023
Becky Dop
Kathy Howell
Jessi McKinnon
Joey Oslund
Emma Wasko

DEACONS

Class of 2021
Jan Ahlquist
David Johnson
Stephen Jones
Meg Robles
Bea Sorenson

Class of 2022
Sandy Crum
Eric Duvall
Tom Lucic
Marsha Pridgeon
Kathy Tominski

Class of 2023
John Crampton
Amanda Fineran
Nancy Scott
Lisa Sheff
Verona Stoesz

2022 Church Officers

THE SESSION

Moderator
Clerk of Session
Treasurer

Bart Roush
Connie Nesbitt
Sue Greimel

ELDERS

Class of 2022
Karen Alonzi
Pierce Flanagan
Bob Gerdes
Carol Osweiler
Mark Pridgeon
Kylie Borchardt (Youth)

Class of 2023
Becky Dop
Kathy Howell
Joey Oslund
Larie Ann Schmidt
Emma Wasko

Class of 2024
Jeri Anderson
Chris Diller
Greg Johnson
Cece Klueh
Cecelia Laurie

DEACONS

Class of 2022
Sandy Crum
Eric Duvall
Tom Lucic
Marsha Pridgeon
Kathy Tominski

Class of 2023
John Crampton
Amanda Fineran
Kevin Muur
Nancy Scott
Verona Stoesz

Class of 2024
Chad Acker
Iris Karow
Jim McCarl
Jennifer Pol
Candy Williamson

Program & Pastoral Staff

Pastor/Head of Staff

Bart Roush

Last year, Anne Fisher began this report with this sentence, “It is an understatement to say that 2020 did not go as we expected.” Well, what an unexpected year 2021 was as well! What we hoped was a short-term interruption, we have come to understand is a longer-term disruption. As January 2021 began, no one imagined that a year later we would still be adapting to the various challenges that have been an almost daily occurrence as we live into being the church during a pandemic, not to mention a massive flood in the basement of the building.

I joined you in mid-May and it has been a challenge, to say the least, to get to know you all and for you to get to know me and my family. While I am grateful for the technology of Facebook and Zoom, it is not the same as being able to gather each and every week in worship, fellowship or to have a slow conversation over lunch or coffee. I trust those days will come and I look forward to building deep and lasting relationships with you. I am so very thankful that in the first few months after my arrival that I was able to meet with about a dozen small groups in people’s back porches and decks. I am grateful for the beautiful midwestern weather that allowed for several opportunities for us to gather outside, including the family gathering at Moir Park, the pancake breakfast, and the worship and picnic at the park and baptisms in the creek.

We continued to be creative and innovative in our common life together. We had more drive-thru celebrations, worshiped in the parking lot, conducted prayer stations for the longest night, planned and hosted another EV Expo, held a trunk or treat event for Halloween, and gathered items for VEAP as we drank hot cocoa and sang Christmas carols. In addition, we upgraded some of our technology and cameras to allow for more options and smoother streaming of worship services.

We also lost many members this past year. Several funerals and memorial services were held, sometimes only virtually. The inability to physically gather together only increased the sense of loss and grief. It must be said that I am grateful for the care and leadership of Pastor Mary who took the lead on most of these services.

I was not the only person on staff to change in the course of 2021. Shortly after I arrived, it was time to say goodbye to Britta Augdahl as she concentrated full-time in her study at seminary. We then welcomed Kate Lindberg as the new Youth & Young Adult Ministries Coordinator in the summer. Anne Swenson, our accountant, then departed in late fall and we welcomed our new accountant, Laura Nemcek in December. Finally, after many years of faithful service, Tim Dubis let us know it was time for him to move

on because he found a full-time position that he enjoys very much. We look forward to finding a time in 2022 to celebrate his faithful service.

One of the ways I have gotten to know some of you is through committee work. I have worked closely in 2021 with the Re-Entry Team, Session, the Antiracism Accountability Team, Budget & Finance, Gifts & Gratitude, Green Committee, Mission, Personnel, Supportive Housing, Technology, and Worship & Music. You all are committed to being the hands and feet of Christ in the world.

If I have learned anything through this pandemic time as a pastor, it is that it magnifies our strengths (and amplifies weakness as well). The church is not the building – but it is the caring, hospitable, generous community that is Oak Grove Presbyterian Church. I will not even dare to predict what 2022 will hold, but I am excited and hopeful about the future with you all. As we look forward to the day when we can gather together again in person in large groups lifting our voices in praise and song, let us continue to be a community of care, support, and prayer. Let us reject fear and live into hope and good news. Let us love fiercely, give of ourselves generously, fight unrelentingly for justice, and continue to risk and experiment in things we have never tried before and be willing to make mistakes.

Please continue to check on one another as you are able by phone or email. Consider making a grocery or pharmacy run for someone who cannot get out. And, please, communicate with the pastors, Elders and Deacons, or the office to let us know how you are or if you need assistance in some way. Continue to pray for one another. Above all, as we have affirmed before and continue to affirm, let us remember and rejoice that “nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:38–39).

God is for you.
Pastor Bart

As I reflect on 2021 and write this report during an alarming Covid surge, I am reminded of Psalm 46. The Psalmist assures us that, “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.”

It has been a year! 2021 has brought joy and sorrow, hopefulness, and frustration, learning and growth, good times and difficult ones as well. One major challenge was the “roaring waters” in our lower level with a flood on March 14. Every person involved in the clean up and subsequent re-do has been skilled, flexible, hard-working, and attentive. Through pandemic challenges, flooding, changes in schedules, and the deaths of beloved church members, God was (and is!) with us. Together we journey, holding fast to God’s promises and delighting in God’s presence.

There is no doubt that at this, the beginning of 2022, we are tired of living in a pandemic, and long to be together in person. Life is hard, and I encourage gentleness and patience with ourselves and others. God’s Spirit is a source of energy and solace as together we face what comes next.

I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the myriad ways you all have shown up this year! You have met joyfully in person when safe, patiently, via zoom, when not. You have given generously of your time and resources to bring healing and justice to our world. You have shown up with open hearts to learn about structural racism and systemic poverty and seek ways to be an anti-racist community. You have shown up faithfully for worship, in-person and virtually. You have shown up with love in support of one another. Thank you cannot begin to express my gratitude.

As has become my custom, I will share some of the highlights of the year below. Days at Oak Grove are so full, I cannot possibly list everything that happened last year! Apologies if I miss your favorites.

Staff/New Personnel: It is an honor to serve with such a remarkable staff. This year brought three new staff members, Bart Roush, Kate Lindberg and Laura Nemcek. It has been a joy to get to know and serve with Pastor Bart Roush! Thank you, PNC! Pastor Anne Fisher did a brilliant job as our transitional pastor, and we were well prepared to receive Bart in May of this year. Bart brings with him wisdom, intelligence, deep faith, a passion for justice and good sense of humor. In August, we said goodbye to Britta as she started in seminary at Luther and welcomed Kate Lindberg to serve with our youth and young adults. Kate is flexible, kind, smart, fun, and is doing a great job in

challenging circumstances. As always, Judy and Nancy are amazingly talented and genuinely unflappable – worship outside? No problem! Organ doesn't turn on at the start of worship. We'll figure it out! They bring gorgeous music with a ton of heart to our lives and services. Our singers and musicians move us each week. In the office, Sue Gjerset has been a tremendous asset! She is organized, intelligent, kind, and runs the office smoothly. Saying goodbye to Anne Swenson in November was difficult, and we welcomed Laura Nemcek in November. I miss Anne but look forward to working with Laura.

Worship: I continue to give thanks for the Technology team and Sound, Light and Video volunteers! Through the year, they have added cameras, adjusted sound and lighting, all in pursuit of the best on-line and in-person worship experience possible. The work is on-going and time consuming and done with heart. Mac continues to make DVDs each week to send to those without a computer. An enormous shout out to our Tech Crew!

Worshipping outside from June–November was a delight. Thank you to all the volunteers that made that happen! We celebrated a number of baptisms, including three children at Nine Mile Creek in August! Each and every baptism reminds us that we belong to God and are uniquely gifted to be God's person in the world. We also gathered for many memorial services as we said goodbye to beloved people. Some of these services had been delayed due to Covid. The ability to gather, to pray, to remember and give thanks for the life of a loved one brought comfort to all who grieve.

Ten Year Anniversary Celebration! My heart is full to overflowing with love and appreciation for the celebration you so generously planned and executed in September. From Mister Rogers' music, to liturgy, to cupcakes, to quilt, to cape, to stole, to cards and hugs, it was amazing. You are all the true gift and I thank you!

Pastoral Care: It has been quite meaningful to make some in-person calls this year after being unable to see people in person in 2020. We were even able to visit the hospital briefly. We try to keep in touch with folks through phone calls, and you all do an amazing job checking in with one another.

Faith Formation: Children, youth and adults found ways to connect in person and online this year. Thanks to our small but mighty Adult Faith Formation team: Mark Pridgeon, Mary Pol, Iris Karow and Becky Dop! They worked hard to schedule meaningful and interesting speakers and topics each Sunday. The staff met with adults on Wednesday evenings for discussion and learning, thanks to Anne and Bart for that!

Karen Gerdes, our fearless Children's Ministry leader, worked many hours to create opportunities for families to learn and enjoy fellowship and fun. Our gifted, faith-filled children's teachers showed up each week on Wednesdays and Sundays. Sunday morning teachers: Laura Orr, Sue Greimel, Karen Gerdes, Linda Johnson, Marleen Singhrai. Wednesday evening leaders: Anne and Cece Klueh, Caitlin Lucic. All these folks brought warmth and heart to online lessons with children.

Fellowship Groups: Women's Circles, Soul Sisters, Women Who Lunch, and Girl Talk all met both virtually and in person, mostly outside. Burger and Brew, the Men's Mentor Group and Men's Prayer Breakfast continued to meet as well, mostly in person, but sometimes online. Singles and Oak Rovers met often.

Families made the most of outdoor time together! Children's Ministry hosted an Easter Egg Hunt in April, party at the park in May, concert in June, Trunk or Treat in October.

Retreats: due to the pandemic, the women's, men's and intergenerational Clearwater Retreats were canceled. We missed that beautiful time together!

Deacons: The Deacons did an amazing job continuing their ministry of nurture and compassion in pandemic times. Led by Meg Robles and Eric Duvall, each member of the board contributed their time and unique talent to make sure that people in our community felt loved and cared-for in multiple ways, including yummy food. For the second year in a row, Deacons gave gift bags as a Golden Harvest celebration.

Antiracist Ministry: Oak Grove continues with our commitment to anti-racism. Many folks participated in the Presbytery's Spiritual Pilgrimage in 2021, showed up to explore books, videos, and spiritual practices during the months, and Milissa Carter keeps our antiracism page on the website up to date. We had a large turn-out for our Dakota Sites Tour in October!

(Please read more about these ministries in individual reports!)

It is an honor and privilege to serve with all of you. I look forward to being led by the Spirit into whatever comes next for Oak Grove. Thank you for your hearts, your prayers, your gifts, your time, and talents as we are constantly discerning what it means to be Christ's church in this place and time.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary

2021 has been what feels like an incredibly long year, yet time feels warped and stollen from us in some ways as well. I have a hard time believing that I was welcomed to serve the Oak Grove community as the Youth & Young Adult Ministries Coordinator in August, almost half a year ago! That being said, I will kindly direct you to the Youth Committee report for a more complete picture of the year for our youth ministries. This report will cover the five months I have been at work here.

This year has felt challenging in many ways, and in even more ways, I feel myself practicing gratitude on a regular basis. These five months at Oak Grove have been anything but ordinary, planned, or expected. We’ve all been pushed to what feels like our limits, yet we find the strength and the courage to keep going, to stretch further, to try one more time. Our tried-and-true Youth Committee, Anne Klueh (chair), Amy Zsohar, Chad Acker, and Vaughn Sheff, have dedicatedly shown up fully and authentically for our youth. During our youth committee meetings, we have typically opened them up with a short excerpt or two from a book of poetry and prose called *Watering the Soul* by Courtney Peppernell. I’d like to share a few of such readings with you as we contemplate the year where we may have felt unmotivated, inadequate, or unproductive.

The way the moon does not rush from behind the clouds but merely waits for them to pass. Be that with your thoughts. Let your mind breathe.

~~~~~

And I had finally arrived, at the moment of true clarity. I was surrounded by beautiful old trees, reaching for the sky and the stars, every line and every mark filled with old wisdom.

And they were whispering to themselves and whispering to me that it is important to go about life slowly. To grow with purpose. To take in every thought and action with a deep sense of empathy.

~~~~~

The leaves do not stop moving, even when the wind is soft; a mere whisper, they still move, much like our thoughts. Our minds can be empty, or our minds can be full, and in both we are still worthy.

Youth Ministry in a Pandemic

Youth ministry is consistently changing in many aspects all the time. Youth ministry in a pandemic simply becomes unpredictable as with everything else in the world. That has proven most certainly true in the past several months as we stay being “prepared to

pivot". While taking advantage of the fall weather, both our Confirmation experience and the senior high youth group were meeting together as a large group in the Acker's backyard. We stayed outside as long as we were able and until the re-entry committee provided guidelines for which we could return inside. We had been consistently seeing 10–12 students showing up for Wednesday nights. During peak times, or second, and third waves, we moved to being back on Zoom. We also transitioned to being a hybrid model so even if we were meeting in person, youth who were unable to attend or not comfortable attending in person were able to join us virtually every week.

Spiritual Growth and Faith Building

The Confirmation Experience and Senior High Youth Group: We continued with Britta's mission statement from last year, "due to the added challenges and stress of the pandemic to already very overwhelmed teenagers, we chose to prioritize consistent support and caring community over content when things got extra tough and busy. Our goal was to make each and every experience with our ministry meaningful, no matter how often, or infrequently we see our youth. This goes for their encounters with us, with each other, and with Jesus. We chose to go deep when we couldn't go wide! They are a group of incredibly caring, inquisitive, and justice-driven youth, and it is a privilege to walk with them through the ups and downs of their lives."

Sunday Morning Faith Formation: Sunday morning Bible studies have been on a continued pause for our youth in order to encourage participation on Wednesday nights without overwhelming their calendars and our leaders.

Young Adult Fellowship: At the end of August, Britta and I were able to go mini golfing with some of our awesome young adults. Since then, we have stayed in communication via a group text where many of them share the comings and goings of their days and provide such gracious support to one another.

Creative Community

Outdoor Fun: Socially distanced bonfires and backyard activities were on our calendars this fall for our Wednesday night programming!

Online Hangouts: We made the most of our technology! From using Zoom for regular Wednesday nights, or for online game night, we've had a great time "seeing" each other in each little square.

Service: Throughout the struggles of the pandemic, we were able to participate in at least one service opportunity each month. In September, our youth showed up for Oak Grove's "Day of Service", where they collected supplies and assembled birthday bags for VEAP. A project truly appreciated that Pastor Mary and I were able to experience first-hand when we dropped off all of the beautiful bags. In October, we had two service opportunities on the same day! We have some youth head on up to woodcutting at Clearwater Forest' with Chad Acker, while some stayed local and provided a set of helping hands with me at the EV Expo. In November, we intentionally planned two nights at Loaves & Fishes during homelessness and hunger awareness week. What an honor to see our youth show up with helping hands and gracious hearts. This brought us to December, where the youth truly knocked the socks off the folks at Arc Village! We spent a Saturday helping out with Thriftmas, and my oh my, did our youth deliver!

Fundraisers: We are looking ahead to planning another shredding fundraiser in April of 2022 and perhaps a pancake breakfast around Palm Sunday!

While acknowledging the baseline of anxiety, stress, and exhaustion that our whole world is living with, it is truly a blessing to be welcomed into a space as safe as Oak Grove and it is my deepest prayer that we are continuing to show up in community and support for the young people in our midst. May we all help keep their lights shining.

In peace,
Kate Lindberg

Director of Music

Judy Cooper

I can begin this report the same as last year, “this is not the annual report I expected to be writing this January”. After the events of March 2020 (pandemic shut down) and March 2021 (flooded downstairs), I timidly approach this March.

I really expected and hoped choir would be meeting all together and singing in worship again. Alas, that has not happened. We did meet outdoors this summer and sang at the outdoor services... that was wonderful!!

Now that we’re indoors, we’re rehearsing in sections (Sopranos/Altos at one time and Tenors/Basses at another) when we can.

The big hiccup in March 2021 was the burst water pipe resulting in the music area being under four feet of water. It destroyed the music area and a majority of its contents. I have been officing in the Dakota room upstairs surrounded by boxes of dry and saved music. Thankfully, my computer was fine. The restoration company whisked it out immediately and were able to save all the information.

The music area downstairs has now been painted; carpet to be installed sometime this month, I hope. Sometime in the next weeks, I’ll be able to slowly start moving things back in.

Through all that has occurred, there are so many encouraging, helpful folks. I am so thankful for all the musicians who have volunteered their time and talent to keep music at our services so inspiring and meaningful.

Above my computer in my makeshift office hangs a plaque that says, “*Without music life would B flat*”. I look at that often and smile!

As always, the support of, and opportunity to work with Bart, Mary, Nancy, Sue, Kate and Laura uplifts me weekly!

Gratefully,
Judy Cooper

Reports from Session Committees

Adult Faith Formation (AFF)

Mark Pridgeon, Chair

The AFF team focuses on multiple goals: to provide opportunities and resources for lifelong faith development (speakers, Bible study, lessons on spiritual practices, book studies), to encourage community, to promote life-long learning and the application of knowledge to daily life. We seek to work collaboratively with staff and other committees of Oak Grove. In addition, this year AFF classes have been held 100% virtually.

The primary AFF offerings happen Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings.

2021 Sunday morning highlights:

The year was full of excellent speakers covering a variety of topics. Below is a brief look at the variety we enjoyed:

- January: Covid 19 vaccine updates from Andy Snyder; Rural Renewable Energy Alliance of MN talked about renewable energy in rural areas of Minnesota; the Mission Committee gave us an update on their ministry, Supportive Housing hosted Tashia Pomroy to talk about affordable housing and Aeon, and we heard more about Oak Grove and Restorative Giving from the Social Justice committee.
- February: VEAP update from Joe MacDonald, Anna Kendig reported on the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Anti-Racism Task Force, The Mission committee spoke to their goals and accomplishments and Bill Davnie presented “Ferment in foreign policy opinion in the US.”
- March: Hadija Steen Mills talked to us about Covid inequities among BIPOC folks and the LGBTQAI community, Re-entry and technology was due to provide an update but was postponed due to the emergent needs of the flood! We heard from Cathy Maes about Loaves & Fishes, and a Palms and Pancake Youth fundraiser Drive Thru.
- April: The Green Team presented, “Climate Reality and our Future,” with speaker Bill Middlecamp showing us The Climate Reality Project, followed by “Policy Solutions to Climate Change.” Nicole Mills offered us an update from Oasis.
- May: Timothy DenHerder-Thomas spoke on socially just climate solutions, we had a report from people who had participated in the year-long Antiracism Spiritual Pilgrimage with the Presbytery, and learned about Urban Homeworks from AsaleSol Young, Executive Director, and our own Emily and Azad Lassiter. We rescheduled the Re-entry/Technology update from March.

- September: Minnesota Council of Churches Division Director of Refugee Services helped us understand the current and anticipated realities of resettlement in the U.S. and Minnesota, we received an update about the International Village Clinic in India from Dr. Abul Sharah and heard from our Mission committee.
- October: Reverend Emily Meyers introduced us to the Ministry Lab at United Seminary and its resources, Bill Davnie returned to give us an update on the current state of foreign affairs in the US, John Crampton offered us a look at the Dakota Sites tour that he and Jeff Williamson planned later in the month and Jim Koon talked about responsible investing.
- November: Tai Chi teacher Linda Thompson led us through a chair Tai Chi practice and talked about its benefits, we had a Town Hall meeting from our Covid / Re-entry Team, and Dr. Bruce Forbes taught us about pilgrims and puritans.
- December: Dr. Bruce Forbes led a class on the history of nativity sets, Bart Roush filled us in on the Matthew 25 initiative of the PCUSA, and Rev. Emily Meyers talked to us about grief during the holidays.

Wednesday night WoW, led by staff and Parish Associate Mary Pol, offered a lot of variety: In the winter and spring: A Bible study on the Gospel of Mark, a book discussion on Life of the Beloved by Henri Nouwen, led by Anne Fisher, a series on antiracism spiritual practices including a movie viewing, mapping prejudice and meditation. In the fall, Bart Roush led a book study on Anxious to Talk About It: Helping White People Talk Faithfully about Racism by Carolyn Helsel, we watched and discussed a variety of TED talks centered on Black voices, and ended in Advent with a four-part video series, “A Weary World: Reflections for a Blue Christmas” by Kathy Escobar. In addition, the pastors started a weekly Bible Study via Zoom every Thursday from noon to 1 pm starting in October. The Presbyterian Women met during the year for Bible Study.

2021 Committee Members: Becky Dop, Iris Karow, Mary Pol, Mark Pridgeon (Chair) and Mary Koon (staff resource). The History Sub-Committee was composed of Jim Goodermont, Candy Williamson, Jeff Williamson (Chair) and Mary Koon (staff resource).

Budget & Finance Committee (B&F)

Karen Alonzi, Chair

Purpose: To ensure the financial health and integrity of the Oak Grove Presbyterian Church in support of the mission and ministry of the congregation through effective accounting policies and fiscal management systems.

Accomplishments and Highlights

The B&F Committee survived during another year of loss, from COVID-19 to the basement flood to the early retirement of Anne Swenson. We were so sad to see her go, but thankful that Laura Nemcek answered our call. And thankful that our insurance covered virtually the entire basement restoration effort! Thanks again to the congregation for your continued generosity during these difficult times, we collected 100.1% of our pledged income! And thanks to the Committees for careful spending, we ended the year \$37,670 better than expected. While this is still a deficit of \$42,543, our Operating Reserve remains over \$239,500. In addition, we were able to support \$73,869 of Special Projects!

Highlights of the year included:

- Allocating Special Funds: \$25,000 AEON/St Olaf Church, \$13,982 Technology Pan & Tilt Cameras, \$10,000 Columbarium Landscaping, \$7,500 Marimba, \$8,836 Senior High Air Conditioner, \$8,552 Gutters
- Establishing the 2022 Budget (1% increase in Mission Giving)
- Moved 15% of Oak Grove's investments to Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Funds within New Covenant Trust Company
- Came up with funding plan for Restorative Giving proposal

Thank you to Iris Karow and the Sunday morning counters (Mark Pridgeon, Ed Schmidt, Jody Milton, Julie Andert, Diane Baumgartner, Lisa Pomroy, and Mac Davis), and Maureen Switzer for office assistance. We appreciate your help and can't wait to see you again!

Plans for 2022

Recruit more members!

2021 Committee Members: Karen Alonzi (Chair), Sue Greimel (Treasurer), Karen Amato, Jim Koon, Lisa Pomroy, Bart Roush (staff resource), Anne Swenson (Accountant – retired Nov 30), and Laura Nemcek (Accountant – started Dec 13).

Building & Operations Committee

Bob Heise, Chair

Purpose: Building and Operations is charged with keeping our church building in good repair and the grounds well maintained and providing a safe, comfortable and secure environment for all who enter Oak Grove Presbyterian Church.

It has been an interesting and busy year for Building & Operations. On Sunday, March 14, 2021, a plug in a section of the fire suppression sprinkler system came out. For the next 10 hours, water gushed out into the “water” room adjacent to the choir storage room. The water pressure broke a hole in the wall into the storage room and broke open the door into the choir practice room. All told, approximately 130,000 gallons of water made the basement look like an Olympic swimming pool. The cost of the damage and associated rebuilding of the basement exceeded \$500,000. Currently the rebuilding is continuing, with an anticipated completion date of March 2022.

The Building & Operations Committee is continuing to work closely with Lindstrom Restoration, the company hired for the clean-up and rebuilding in the entire process.

Accomplishments & Highlights:

- Fifteen trees along the north side of the north parking lot were removed. These trees were cut to fireplace lengths and made available to parishioners. The wood was removed quickly.
- The hedges outside of the church office were removed to improve drainage away from the foundation.
- Gutters and downspouts were added to the railroad side of the building to carry water away from the foundation.
- About five yards of dirt were added to the grounds along the railroad track side of the building to improve drainage.
- Several breaks in the lawn sprinkler system were identified and repaired.
- Air conditioning was added to the Senior High room, making that space available for comfortable use during the summer.
- Two windows along the Penn Ave. side of the Education Wing were replaced because of vandalism.
- Prior to March 14, many items were removed from the main storage room. These items were made available to anyone willing to carry them away (free will offerings were accepted).
- Offices were painted with colors other than Dover White for the first time in 20 years.
- Areas of the Narthex have been painted, again a different color than we’ve seen in a long time.

Responsibilities:

- Oversight of maintenance contracts (custodial, snow removal, lawn care) and building insurance
- Meeting state and city safety inspections
- Managing HVAC and lighting systems to maintain high efficiency

2021 Committee Members: Don Alman, Bob Gerdes, Al Greimel, Bob Heise (Chair), Don Latourelle, Gene Morris, Rory Scott, Bob Sorensen, Frank Uvodich, Pastors Anne Fisher and Bart Roush (staff resources).

Children's Ministries

Karen Gerdes, Chair

Purpose: To nurture Christian faith formation of children through creative forms of education, fellowship, outreach and music. To provide a safe environment that is loving and accepting of all children.

Accomplishments:

- February: Family Sliding Party at Brookside Hill was well attended by many families, a fun time to reconnect!
- Zoom WoW concert with Elder Emma Wasko! The highlight was Emma singing "Let it Go" while children and grown-ups alike rocked out!
- April: Easter Egg Hunt; a beautiful day and many families attended.
- May: We had an "end of Children's Faith Formation" gathering/picnic at Moir Park where families had an opportunity to not only see each other but also to meet and greet with Pastor Bart. Again, it was so heartwarming to see friends running around and playing together.
- June: we held a concert in the parking lot with the fantastic vocals of Emma Wasko, Jessi McKinnon, Cece Klueh and Jane Samsal, all accompanied by Judy Cooper.
- During the summer Milissa Carter organized children working on surprises for honoring Pastor Mary in September.
- October's excitement was that we once again held our "Trunk or Treat" in the Oak Grove parking lot. It was attended by many families, and all had a fantastic time.

Sunday Faith Formation (via Zoom):

- Preschool (3–5-year-olds) led by Karen Gerdes, Linda Johnson and Marleen Singhrai
- Elementary classes (Kindergarten–2nd grade) led by Laura Orr. Laura again led Faith Formation for Preschool–5th grade throughout the summer.
- 3rd–5th grade led by Sue Greimel

Wonderful Wednesdays (WoW!): During the school program year, Caitlin Lucic, Anne Klueh and Cece Klueh facilitated all ages in story, song, prayer and games.

Birthday Card Ministry: Sue Powers (thank you to Sue) and Linda Johnson

Thanks to all who actively support children and young families with time, prayers, friendship and financial gifts. Each of our volunteers gives countless hours to make our children’s experience of God and church one that is filled with joy and love.

2021 Committee Members: Karen Gerdes (Chair), Mattie Hawley, Emma Wasko, Mary Koon (staff resource), our teachers/leaders and all the parents who help us determine what our programming will be. We are ever grateful to all of you for your participation.

Friendship Committee

Jane Propsom, Chair

Purpose: To share the good news of Jesus Christ through fellowship and outreach.

Functions:

- to provide a welcoming and safe environment for visitors
- to support personal evangelism through adult and youth education
- to facilitate and coordinate opportunities for fellowship among members and friends of Oak Grove

Accomplished:

- Hosted a going-away drive-thru party in May for Transitional Pastor Anne Fisher.
- With Deacons, helped coordinate numerous small group gatherings to welcome Pastor Bart Roush.
- Coordinated the box-lunch picnic at Moir Park after outdoor worship in August
- Facilitated one new member inquiry class in November/December, welcoming 8 members to Oak Grove!
- Creative Arts Camp met at Clearwater in the summer.

- Several fellowship groups met throughout the year: Men’s Prayer Breakfast, Burgers ‘n Brew, Oak Rovers, Men’s Mentor Group, Singles, Soul Sisters, Women Who Lunch, and Girl Talk. While the Friendship Committee does not organize these groups, they are designed for connection and community.

Ron Dubis and Sandy Crum continued as our official greeters during outdoor worship. They continue to reach out and help all our visitors (and members) feel special as they enter the worship space.

2021 Committee members: Ron Dubis, Marilyn Eidem, Larry Pearson, Jane Propsom (Chair), Bea Sorenson, Kathy Tominski, Don Wagner, Candy Williamson, Mary Koon (staff resource) and those who so graciously are always willing to help when extra hands are needed!!

Gifts & Gratitude Committee

Karen Alonzi, Chair

Our annual stewardship theme was based on Jeremiah 18:3–6 “...So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him. Then the word of the LORD came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel.”

As life in a pandemic continues to change our habits, it is useful to remember that change can mold us into something new and more pleasing to God’s eyes. As we continue to watch the changes in our church community unfold, we faithfully reflect on this passage and celebrate the high points from the past year.

Oak Grove continues to be an active and generous church. We are grateful for Bruce Ervin, Sue Powers, and Sue Greimel who gave inspiring Faith Talks in October. We are grateful we were able to accept pledges not only online this year, but also in person at outdoor services (complete with eagles soaring overhead). As of mid-December, we received 190 pledges totaling \$640,146.

We are grateful for the \$8,538 given by Oak Grove members in 2021 to help pay our \$17, 849 Per Capita charge, a new record in Per Capita gifts! Our thanks to Karen Diller and Bethany Lagani and their families, who made enthusiastic videos and posters proclaiming the feats that our Per Capita dollars help accomplish.

We are so grateful for all the joyful and giving hearts of our Oak Grove Congregation. And thanks to everyone involved in our 'small but mighty' committee for helping us through a challenging 2021!

2021 Committee Members: Karen Alonzi (Chair), Karen Diller, Bethany Lagani, Bill Pomroy and Bart Roush (staff resource).

Green Committee

John Crampton, Chair

Photo Gallery: <https://www.oakgrv.org/green-committee-photo-gallery/>

Purpose: To conserve water and to make Oak Grove net-zero / carbon-neutral (to produce more clean energy than we consume) through conservation, purchasing or producing clean energy for 100% or more of our electricity, and offsetting carbon emissions of our natural gas and other fossil fuel use.

Oak Grove's Green Committee worked hard in 2021 to help our church mitigate the Climate emergency threatening God's Creation. We welcome any members, young or old, who want to join us. We meet on the first Tuesday night of the month via Zoom and hopefully, when Covid eases up, we will again meet in person.

We focused on several major projects in 2021.

EV Expo on October 9, 2021: Oak Grove put on an electric vehicle Expo on October 9th that drew an estimated 600 visitors to our church. It included 22 EVs and their owners, five EV dealers providing over 75 test drives/test rides for people. It included electric bikes, e-scooters, e-mowers, e-snow blowers, and an electric transit van. It featured a variety of expert speakers talking about EVs and electric school buses. Because of Covid concerns, the entire event was staged outside in our parking lots.

Pdon Pinkham and John Crampton lined up EV owners and test drive vehicles. The Gerdes tent was graciously donated for presentations. Leaders included Pdon Pinkham, John Crampton, Bob Gerdes, Al Greimel and Patty Nail. We owe a lot of our success to Ruth Dukelow and Sue Gjerset who did a great job with social media and graphics.

Volunteers included Karen Gerdes, Mary Crampton, Matt Carter, Ron Nail, Anne and Larry Klueh, Randy Dop, Bart Roush, Gar Nordin, Rod Myers, Nancy Scott, Marsha Pridgeon, Bob and Sandy Crum, Laura and Eugene Orr, Ron Dubis, Kate Lindberg, Bill Pomroy and many others. Other partners included the Interfaith Creation Care group

from Dakota/Scott Counties, Minnesota EV Owners Circle, Jukka Kukkonen and Shift2Electric, American Lung Society, City of Bloomington Sustainability Commission, Bush Lake and McCabe Izaak Walton Chapters, Nine Mile Creek Watershed District, Power Sports, Pedego and Jerry's Our Own Value Hardware

Pdon and Bob Gerdes also helped House of Hope and Unity Unitarian Churches in St. Paul put on an EV Expo of their own. Great job all!

Insulation Project: The goal is to insulate the attic spaces and heating pipes and to seal/caulk the openings where heat is leaking, as shown by a professional thermography study we did in 2020. This included:

- Insulating all the hot water pipes
- Tuning up and insulating the boiler in the Education Wing
- Fabricating and installing dampers so we aren't leaking warm air out of the church. This includes adjusting dampers on fans in the bathrooms that were running for long periods of time.
- Pulling out a great deal of left-over materials from the Ed Wing attic including an inflatable swimming pool, a "Swedish Jesus" (blonde, blue eyed) nativity scene from the 1950s, broken wooden chairs, tables and bookcases etc.
- Caulking/sealing all the joints between the ceiling and the joists and the junctions of major beams.
- Sealing up lighting boxes, sprinkler heads and recessed light fixtures
- Caulking windows throughout the church
- Sealing up leaks around and through window air conditioner units
- Doing a blower test of the Education Wing.
- Adding 8–10 more inches of cellulose insulation to the Education Wing attic.

We volunteered hundreds of hours to this project so far, and we still have quite a ways to go in 2022. When completed we will cut our natural gas consumption and CO2 emissions considerably, and it will make it more comfortable to work in many areas of the church. We estimate that, if we paid an outside contractor to do this work, it would cost \$30,000–\$40,000 for the same work we are doing for less than \$5,000. The volunteers include Pdon Pinkham, Bob Gerdes, Al Greimel and John Crampton.

Heat Pump in Senior High Room: Working with the Building and Ops Committee, we recommended the installation of a heat pump in the Senior High School Room that is temporarily being used by the Oasis program for homeless youth. The heat pump uses clean energy electricity to heat the room during cold weather and to keep it cool during

warm weather. We are evaluating this new mini split heat pump technology for possible use in other areas of the church.

Great Flood and ReUse and Recycling: Our insulation work was interrupted by the Great Basement Flood of March 2021. We moved all the insulation bundles out to a storage trailer in the parking lot. We also recycled cabinets, tables, windows, wooden doors, cardboard, metal, wooden pallets and many other items that Lindstrom Restoration threw into the dumpster. We took items to Habitat for Humanity Restore and to the Amish community in LaCrosse, Wis. We made sure that everything that could possibly be reused or recycled was not thrown away. This is in addition to our frequent trips to the compost collection sites for Loaves & Fishes and church compostables.

Education: The Green Committee conducted four Faith Formation programs during 2021. We also did an educational zoom program for House of Hope Presbyterian in St. Paul talking about our Green Committee's work at Oak Grove.

Advocacy: We wrote and submitted comments, approved by the Session, to the Administrative Law Judge for Minnesota to adapt Clean Car rules permitted by the Clean Air Act that compel manufacturers to provide more low emissions vehicles (LEVs) and zero emissions (ZEVs) for auto dealers' lots and showrooms. The Minnesota Clean Car Rules were adapted, thus putting Minnesota in the company of 14 other states and DC who are turning to electrification to dramatically cut emissions from transportation, which is the biggest source of CO₂e emissions in the US.

Solar and Wind Production: in 2021 Oak Grove got approximately 30–35% of its clean energy electricity from our rooftop solar panels on the Education Wing. In addition, we also produce 65–70% of our electricity through our subscription in the St. Cloud Community Solar Garden near the St. Cloud Reformatory.

In addition, we subscribe to produce the equivalent of all the electricity we consume from wind farms in Western Minnesota through Xcel's WindSource program. Quick calculations indicate that our solar and wind electricity offsets most of the carbon emissions caused by our natural gas usage. And we do this for approximately the same cost we used to spend for fossil fuel electricity back a few years ago.

Our next step is to look at battery storage behind the meter to help reduce the demand charges we pay to turn on the lights on Sunday mornings, charges that constitute 45% of our electrical bills.

Certification: Oak Grove was recertified for 2021 as an Earth Care Congregation by the PCUSA. Al Frechette has taken the lead in getting and keeping us certified.

2022 Plans:

- Finish the insulation work in the Education Wing.
- Work with other Oak Grove committees and staff by providing a climate and environmental justice perspective.
- Lead 4–5 Adult Faith Formation Classes throughout the year.
- Put on the biggest and best EV Expo ever in the fall of 2022. Help other churches and groups do EV Expos in their communities.
- Work with other churches and environmental groups to put on a Clean Energy Expo focusing on solar, wind, battery storage, and heat pumps.
- Engage Oak Grove members in climate and environmental justice advocacy.
- Do outreach campaigns on inexpensive climate solutions like “LEDs for All”

Join us on the Oak Grove Green Committee. We have more fun and get stuff done!

2021 Committee Members: Matthew Carter, John Crampton (Chair), Al Frechette, Bob Gerdes, Al Greimel, Patty Nail, Pdon Pinkham and Bart Roush (staff resource).

Mission Committee

Mark Pridgeon, Chair

Purpose: To restore God’s creation by using our congregations’ resources and talents in service to our community and the world.

Matthew 25:35

For I was hungry, and you gave Me food; I was thirsty, and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in.

In order to realize our vision:

- We support a diversity of people and organizations, both locally and globally.
- We incorporate mission in our worship and educational opportunities.
- We encourage fellowship activities to have a mission component.
- We offer our facilities for a wide variety of uses.
- We support denominational mission efforts.
- Through prayer, we seek God’s guidance, blessing and support for all aspects of mission.

“Life’s persistent and most urgent question is, “What are you doing for others?”

– Martin Luther King

Oak Grove is an amazing church! One reason is its commitment to mission. Where there’s a need, Oak Grove has challenged themselves to respond. With a 2021 budget of \$134,430, below is a summary of the many and varied organizations supported by Oak Grove.

Organization	Amount
General Mission Pledge	\$41,780
21 st Century Academy	\$1,000
Bridging	\$1,000
Clearwater Forest	\$5,000
Cornerstone	\$3,000
Every Meal	\$10,750
Green Valley Samaritans	\$2,000
Homework Connection	\$1,500
International Village Clinic	\$9,000
Loaves & Fishes	\$7,745
Meals on Wheels	\$3,000
NAMI	\$1,000
Oasis	\$3,000
PDA Kentucky tornadoes	\$850
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance	\$3,000
San Lucas Mission (Guatemala)	\$5,000
Schools for Peace	\$5,000
Senior High Mission Trip	\$1,000
Simpson House	\$1,400
SLT Scholars (Guatemalan students)	\$1,000
Supportive Housing	\$15,150
Syrian Medical	\$3,000
Urban Homeworks	\$2,250
VEAP	\$7,000
Water Project	\$1,500
TOTAL =	\$135,925

In December, the Alternative Christmas Marketplace was held. The proceeds were: \$19,391, an extraordinary amount in ordinary circumstances, astounding in ours!

Breakdown:

KIVA	\$1,975
SLT scholarships for Guatemala	\$1,750
Clearwater Forest Capital Campaign	\$2,955
Minn. Council of Churches (Refugee Services)	\$3,025
Olive Oil & Herbs	\$350
Coffee	\$220
Presbyterian Mission Agency	\$9,116

Oak Grove is very generous! The wider church has noticed our Alternative Christmas marketplace: see the story in the Presbyterian News Service: <https://bit.ly/3A6ahI4>

In addition, in 2021 we committed to cosponsoring an Afghan refugee family, working with the Minnesota Council of Churches (MCC). Oak Grove members stepped up to become our leadership team, completing training with MCC in December. (As you know, our partner family did arrive in the Twin Cities on Jan. 7, 2022, and all of our congregation has the opportunity to support this family's hard work toward flourishing here, in their new home!)

Every year, PC(USA) sponsors four major offerings. Oak Grove's generous response in 2021:

One Great Hour of Sharing	\$4,351
Pentecost Offering	\$1,285
Peace & Global Witness Offering	\$3,055
Christmas Joy Offering	\$2,843

All during the year, Gar Nordin managed the Kiva account for Oak Grove. Here is his report:

Kiva is an international nonprofit, founded in 2005 and based in San Francisco, with a mission to connect people through lending to alleviate poverty. Kiva supports people looking to create a better future for themselves, their families and their communities. The Kiva funding model is simple... choose a borrower, make a loan, get repaid, repeat... a constant roll-it-forward model

In December 2014, the Mission Committee established an account with Kiva. Monies that go into Oak Grove's Kiva account are from donations by individuals and not from the Mission Committee's budget. The Mission Committee administers Oak Grove's Kiva account each month where current loans are reviewed, and new loans are made.

In 2021, Oak Grove's Kiva account made **24** loans to 28 borrowers (some loans went to more than one person) totaling **\$7,100** in **7 new countries** we hadn't supported before.

Since the establishment of Oak Grove's Kiva account in 2014, the account has now made **195 loans** totaling **\$47,875** in **53 countries** around the world! We thank all of you who have made contributions to Oak Grove's Kiva account. To learn more about Kiva, go to www.kiva.org, or talk to any member of Oak Grove's Mission Committee.

Together, we are changing lives. **Dreams are universal, Opportunity is not.**
Thanks to the entire congregation for their support during 2021!

2021 Committee Members: Lucy Clyde, Sara Egan, Kathy Howell, Greg Johnson, Stephen Jones, Cecelia Laurie, Sharon Nolte, Gar Nordin, Sue Powers, Mark Pridgeon (Chair), Pastors Anne Fisher and Bart Roush (staff resources).

Supportive Housing Committee (SHC)
(sub-committee of Mission)

Sue Powers, Chair

Purpose

- To support individuals/families in unstable housing situations.
- To become skillful advocates for the growing need of affordable housing for low-income earners in our communities.
- To inform members of Oak Grove about the affordable housing crisis in our communities and ways to prevent the loss of existing affordable housing to developers who wish to gentrify the apartment complexes and then charge market rate rents. Thus, these apartments are no longer affordable to low-income workers.
- To support non-profit housing organizations whose goal it is to PRESERVE existing affordable housing, PREVENT displacement of low-income earners and their families from housing being threatened by gentrification and PROVIDE new housing where needed.

How Do We Do This?

- Learn about the issues surrounding homelessness and affordable housing.
- Attend training sessions and educational seminars sponsored by organizations such as Jewish Community Action (Jewishcommunityaction.org) and Minnesota Homeless Coalition (mnhomelesscoalition.org), a non-profit that trains advocates about how to speak to their respective legislators during "Homeless Day on the Hill."
- Support non-profit organizations (i.e., Oasis, VEAP, Aeon) that provide supportive services to the homeless and precariously housed.
- Invite guest speakers to present Adult Faith Formation (AFF) sessions to inform Oak Grove's congregation about issues surrounding homelessness and the desperate need for affordable housing.
- Send SHC members to the meetings of community organizations whose mission it is to influence government organizations to increase the number of affordable housing units and preserve those already in existence in Minnesota communities.

Organizations We Support

- Oasis for Youth began as a drop-in and resource center located right here at Oak Grove in July of 2010. They continually expand their services of support for homeless and precariously housed youth. The SHC uses part of the funds received from the Mission Committee to provide support for the scattered-site housing program specifically focused on youth who may be attending school and/or have employment but do not make enough money to pay the full cost of renting an apartment that provides safe and stable housing.
- Aeon (aeon.org) is a non-profit organization dedicated to creating and keeping affordable housing through preservation, rehabilitation and new construction. The SHC is committed to working with Aeon as volunteers to help with projects at the Seasons Park apartment complex in Richfield. Thanks to Aeon, this property was preserved as affordable housing rather than being sold to a developer who was interested in rehabilitating the property and renting these units at market rate.

Activities

Because our church has remained closed due to the Corona virus, the committee was not able to sponsor the "Giving Tree" which we have done in years past in the narthex. As we did last year, the SHC asked Oak Grove members to drop off at church the 2022 calendars they would not need as well as extra Christmas greeting cards so that residents in one of Aeon's complexes for seniors could send these cards to friends and family. The results of our efforts were well received by the senior residents.

This summer Oak Grove's middle schoolers, along with several adults, gathered at the Seasons Park Apartments to help clean up an area of the complex that was in need of having weeds and trash removed. The maintenance supervisor for Seasons Park was there to assist and provide guidance and tools needed to complete the project. The youth as well as the adults worked very hard.

In December we organized a donation drive for VEAP to be held in conjunction with the Carols, Cookies and Care event held in the church parking lot on Saturday, Dec. 11. It was a beautiful day with 14 inches of new snow. The generous donations yielded a total number of 1,947 individual diapers, 3873 baby wipes and 505 rolls of toilet paper. Thanks so much for your support.

Other activities that were being considered had to be delayed for 2021 due to COVID.

2021 Committee Members: Nancy Hauser, Azad Lassiter, Carol Long, Joey Oslund, Carol Osweiler, Lisa Pomroy and Sue Powers (Chair).

Nominating Committee

Karen Alonzi, Chair

The Nominating Committee nominated a strong class of officers for the Class of 2024 as well as two other nominees to fill early expiring terms. There were many challenges between health concerns and remote vs. in-person meetings, but both the committee and the congregation shined in their efforts to make this year's work a success.

Officer Nominations in 2021

Elder Nominees: Jeri Anderson, Chris Diller, Greg Johnson, Cece Klueh, Cecelia Laurie, Kylie Borchardt (Youth Elder, 1-year term) and Larie Ann Schmidt (2-year term).

Deacon Nominees: Chad Acker, Iris Karow, Jim McCarl, Jennifer Pol, Candy Williamson and Kevin Muur (2-year term).

Nominating At-Large Members: Mary Crampton, Linda Johnson, Rod Myers, Patty Nail, Darlene Thronson and George Wasson.

2021 Committee Members: Karen Alonzi (chair), Sandy Crum, Bev Heise, David Johnson, Larry Klueh, Judy Moynihan, Patty Nail, Gar Nordin, Sue Powers, Emma Wasko and Bart Roush (staff resource).

Personnel Committee

Bill Pomroy, Chair

Purpose: To ensure a caring, nurturing and collegial work environment for church staff, and perform various personnel management functions on behalf of Oak Grove Presbyterian Church.

The Personnel Committee provides Oak Grove staff with a church member liaison to facilitate issue resolution and annual performance reviews.

The Personnel Committee is responsible for maintaining and updating personnel policies and job descriptions, assisting in the conduct of annual performance reviews, putting forth salary & benefit recommendations to Session, preparing and submitting a personnel budget to the Budget & Finance Committee, organizing special recognitions/gifts for staff, and providing assistance and recommendations relating to job searches, disciplinary actions, hiring, and terminations.

Accomplishments & Highlights for 2021:

- Submitted a comprehensive update of the Personnel Policies to Session for review and approval.
- Implemented an entirely new system for staff annual performance evaluations, including associated instructions and forms.
- Organized a special service of thanks and recognition for Rev. Anne Fisher, our Transitional Pastor who departed Oak Grove in the spring of 2021.
- Organized a special service for Rev. Mary Koon in recognition of, and appreciation for her 10 years of faithful service to Oak Grove.
- Assisted with recognition service for Britta Augdahl, Youth & Young Adult Ministries Director who departed Oak Grove in the fall of 2021.
- Recognition and gifts were presented to volunteers who devoted countless hours to dealing with the basement flood and its impacts.
- Reviewed current staff salaries and recommended increases for 2022.
- Reviewed staff benefits, job titles and job descriptions, and implemented changes as appropriate.
- Monitored the effect of the pandemic on staff performance, working conditions, work hours, work from home, isolation/quarantine, and related issues.
- Developed and submitted 2022 personnel budget, including salaries, benefits, and work hours.

- Provided support and assistance to the Pastoral Nominating Committee, the Youth Committee and the Budget and Finance Committee to help facilitate the hiring of Rev. Dr. Bart Roush, Pastor/Head of Staff, Kate Lindberg, Youth & Young Adult Ministries Coordinator, and Laura Nemcek, Accountant, respectively.

Plans for 2022:

Continue all of the basic functions of the Personnel Committee as described above.

Specific plans for 2022 include:

- Hire a Sunday morning and Wednesday evening custodian (timing may be significantly affected by pandemic-related restrictions on church attendance, use of the church building, etc.).
- Hire Sunday morning and Wednesday evening childcare staff (lead worker and assistant; timing may be significantly affected by pandemic-related restrictions on church attendance, use of the church building, etc.).
- Review and implement a personnel records retention policy as a part of the on-going process of updating the Personnel Policies manual.
- Coordinate with other staff, committees and volunteers to develop and implement a policy/process/practice for recognizing and expressing gratitude to long-time volunteers when they “retire” from their duties

2021 Committee Members: Mary Bowen-Eggebraaten, Pierce Flanagan, Bill Pomroy (Chair), Maureen Switzer, Pastors Anne Fisher and Bart Roush (staff resources).

Rainbow Fellowship

Marsha Pridgeon, Chair

Rainbow Fellowship did not meet during 2021 due to the pandemic. It seemed that there were too many other things going on to try to do one more meeting.

After Christmas, the group hopes to reconvene and will draw on new energy, particularly from youth elder Kylie Borchardt. Keep a look out in the newsletter and the bulletin for opportunities to meet and plan again. Hope all is well with everyone!

Social Justice Committee

Carol Frechette, Chair

Purpose: To promote social justice, the concept of fair and just relations between the individual and society.

Accomplishments & Highlights:

- Held nine Zoom meetings: January, February, March, April, May, June, September, October, November and December.
- Donated \$500 to support Homeless needs through St. Stephen's homeless program.
- Restorative Justice Article in Oak Leaves on project with Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community museum: ([Oak Leaves February Page 3](#)).
- Article in March Oak Leaves on Wendy's Boycott: ([Oak Leaves March Page 3](#)).
- Article in March Oak Leaves on Voter Suppression and the PC (USA) position: ([Oak Leaves March Page 4](#)).
- Article in April Oak Leaves on different political tactics used to suppress minority votes: ([Oak Leaves April Page 8](#)).
- Article in the May Oak Leaves on how the Electoral College distorts presidential elections: ([Oak Leaves May Page 7](#)).
- Article in the June Oak Leaves on the For the People Act HR 1 and how it would help restore voting rights ([Oak Leaves June Page 7](#)).
- Article in the July Oak Leaves on the "For the People Act", HR 1, who is opposing it and why: ([Oak Leaves July Page 7](#)).
- Article in the August Oak Leaves on the myth of voter fraud used to justify voter suppression laws in some states: ([Oak Leaves August Page 7](#)).
- Changed the name of the homeless bag program to "Agape Bags" and started using purchased drawstring cloth bags.
- Members donated 126 cloth Agape bags and 80 packs of "hot hands" for agape bags.
- Approved \$1,000 donation to Minnesota Council of Churches Truth and Reconciliation Project.
- Purchased Cub \$25.00 gift cards to distribute to needy.
- Approved \$1,000 donation to purchase (40) \$25.00 gift cards to be donated to Liberty Church's community support program.

Submitted Oak Leaves articles including:

Submitted seven articles to Oak Leaves on voting rights and one on restorative justice.

2021 Committee Members: Milissa Carter, Emilie Christy, Ron Dubis, Allen Frechette (Secretary), Carol Frechette (Chair), Marsha Pridgeon and Mary Koon (staff resource).

Racial Equity Committee

Kathy Howell, Chair

(sub-committee of Social Justice; renamed Antiracism Advocacy Team for 2022)

Antiracism work is something we are all called to participate in at Oak Grove as part of God's calling to justice and love. This committee has been a part of offering direct and networked opportunity for ongoing antiracism efforts by our congregation. We have coordinated opportunities in this year for all of us to help each other move forward in this journey and have included many invitations to listening/learning/doing possibilities. Here are some highlights.

Accomplishments & Highlights:

- Accountability Group (meets the fourth Thursday evening). This group met almost exclusively by Zoom, read and discussed several books including:
 - *Decolonizing Wealth: Indigenous Wisdom to Heal Divides and Restore Balance* by Edgar Villanueva.
 - *Love is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times* by Bishop Michael Curry.
 - *My Grandmother's Hands: Racialized Trauma and the Pathway to Mending Our Hearts and Bodies* by Resmaa Menakem
 - This fall the group moved to a 1½ hour format including body awareness/space-making practices, shared watching of a short video, discussion on that and our own questions/comments/feedback-seeking toward growth as an antiracist.
 - This group informally shares opportunities via a 35+ person email list: plays, tv shows, speakers, marches, workshops. (In sum, options/opportunities for the good of the antiracism journey.) If you wish to be on this list, you are welcome to email your interest to Kathy Howell.
- Resources List on Oak Grove website is continually being reorganized and updated. Opportunities are posted here as well as recommended movies, podcasts, books and articles. Check out the list of businesses to support if seeking specifically to buy from our Black and Indigenous community members.
- Hosted Sunday afternoon movie conversations in the winter by Zoom.
- Encouraged congregation members' participation in our presbytery's Antiracism Spiritual Pilgrimage. Participating in 2020–2021 were: Britta Augdahl, Milissa Carter, Deb DeMeester, Ron Dubis, Kathy Howell, Mary Koon, Amy Zsohar. Our 2021–2022 pilgrimage folks are Judy Cooper, Becky Dop, Anne Klueh, Kate Lindberg, Bart Roush. This experience is a commitment for listening, learning and action. Thanks for your time and commitment!
- Twice met with Reverend Denise Dunbar-Perkins for accountability check-in and advising

- Information-sharing occurred during Adult Faith Formation, including: Overview training to participate in “Mapping Prejudice” project, shared sessions from NextChurch conference, TED Talk and conversations, Charles Eastman information & the movie, Ohiyesa, The Soul of An Indian, Spiritual Practices around Antiracism, Pastor Bart facilitated discussion of *Anxious to Talk About It: Helping White People Talk Faithfully About Racism* by Carolyn Helsel.
- Encouraged congregation members to light a candle and engage in 8 minutes 46 seconds of prayer each evening of the Chauvin trial. Quotes for guidance were published each day. Oak Grove held an outdoor Service of Lamenting and Remembrance, on May 25, the one-year mark since George Floyd’s murder.
- Completed a short survey of elders to gain a sense how various elders perceived antiracism work and their committee’s work.
- Amanda Fineran, John Crampton and Ron Dubis did research and worked on a Land Acknowledgement for Oak Grove. Because the heart of this acknowledgement is on-going relationship and advocacy, the implementation of the acknowledgment is on hold as we work to form relationships with indigenous people in our area.
- John Crampton and Jeff Williamson hosted an “Important Dakota sites Tour” featuring indigenous speakers, Corrine L. Monjeau-Marz, Syd Beane, and historians Dr. Bruce Forbes and Thomas Shaw
- The team read and discussed *The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together* by Heather McGhee.
- We celebrate Session’s commitment to Restorative Actions (a Social Justice Committee proposal).

As one digs into a full picture of history, it’s easy to see that the journey to antiracism is for all of us, especially People of White who have traditionally held the power and made the (self-serving) rules. "For the common good" isn't common, YET. To follow Jesus is to work for that.

Thank you for the ways you have continued to hold space for learning truths that are not comfortable. Your choice to do so is an encouragement to our community to keep open hearts and thinking minds for this learning/growing, too.

And to paraphrase Pastor Mary, a follower of Jesus is an antiracist; there is no other workable choice. Without justice, there is no peace; Know Justice, Know Peace.

2021 Committee Members: Kathy Howell (Chair), Milissa Carter, Emilie Christie, Amanda Fineran, Emily Lassiter, Pastors Anne Fisher, Mary Koon and Bart Roush (staff resources).

Technology Committee

Pierce Flanagan, Chair

Purpose: To create an environment using the website, computers, lighting, video, and sound technology, to enhance the worship experience and lives of Oak Grove members, staff and surrounding community. The scope of the committee includes purchasing and servicing office and staff computers and related office equipment, Wi-Fi and email capability, phone system, and sound, lighting and video (SLV) equipment and systems.

Accomplishments & Highlights:

- In 2021 the technology committee continued to facilitate Oak Grove's online-only services, streamed live on Facebook and also available on the church website and in DVD format for home-bound members who do not have a computer, tablet device, or cell phone.
- The technology committee purchased and installed two new Sony PTZ "remote controlled" cameras and a Marshall Electronics controller, vastly improving the video quality of our Sunday streaming services and enabling us to remove the camcorders (and their tripods) from the pews.
- The technology committee purchased and self-installed a Black Magic ATEM Extreme video-streaming switcher, enabling us to run eight devices (presently two PTZ cameras, one/two camcorders, and two computer displays, including photos, videos, and slideshows) and seamlessly switch between them.
- Installed a Tally Light system so the pastors can tell which camera is "live".
- Continued Monday afternoon working tech team at OGPC to burn DVD's of the previous Sunday service, to address issues that arise during the week, and to interface with staff members.
- Implemented Microsoft 365 on all church PC's.
- Installed a new iMac for Judy Cooper.
- Ran sound for outdoor services.
- Continued to train new members for the SLV production team, typically a video technician + a sound technician + a camera operator for each Sunday service.

Potential Projects in 2022:

- Add additional members to the SLV production team.
- Install an improved microphone system for the organ, to improve the online sound quality.
- Implement the Restream system, enabling Oak Grove to simultaneously stream to multiple platforms including Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, Tik Tok, and more. This will both broaden the online availability of Oak Grove Presbyterian Church and make us less dependent upon Facebook.
- Install two new facility computers, per existing replacement schedule.

Thank you to all of the volunteers on the SLV production team who make possible the online ministry of Oak Grove Presbyterian Church.

2021 Committee Members: Mac Davis, Randy Dop, Pierce Flanagan (Chair), Bob Gerdes, Gordon Goodwin, Greg Johnson, Andy Snyder and Bart Roush (staff resource).

Worship & Music Committee

Carol Osweiler, Chair

Purpose: To oversee and coordinate all aspects related to worship and music in conjunction with the pastors.

Functions

- Participate in hiring the Director of Music, Choir Director, and Organist
- Recruit and coordinate liturgists, ushers, advent candle lighters and communion servers
- Provide oversight to the Sanctuary Guild and Pew Crew
- Through the Sanctuary Guild, provide banners, paraments, vessels, and other liturgical art pieces and decorations for the sanctuary
- Submit names and recommendations for Session approval of those individuals' seeking baptism
- Provide flowers for worship services
- Recruit funeral, wedding, and communion service coordinators
- Develop and submit policies for weddings, funerals, and baptisms
- Arrange for supply pastors as needed
- Coordinate special music ensembles and events
- Recommend resources for worship such as hymnals, Bibles, etc.

Accomplishments & Highlights

“Here we go again” another year of “pivots, replanning, and frustration”. The presence of love and God’s faithfulness has helped us get through another year of virtual and outdoor worship services.

- January 17, 2021, we had a virtual reception of Elders and Deacons. The virtual “collage of hands” shown for this worship service will probably be done again even if we are in person, it was so meaningful.

- Sunday, March 14 was the morning it was discovered that the lower level was flooded, and the police were called right before the service was to start. Rev. Bart Roush was preaching virtually for the first time to Oak Grove with a congregational meeting to follow the 10:15 am service to hire the head-of-staff. Staff kept the entire event on time and the virtual attendees never knew the chaos that was going on in the lower level of the church. Judy Cooper lost a lot of her personal items, sheet music was ruined, the pianos and bells were all waterlogged, choir robes were removed to be cleaned and the list goes on. Now, many of the items have been restored and the lower level has a complete makeover. The memory of that Sunday will live on for a very long time.
- March 28, Palm Sunday was livestreamed. Maundy Thursday was pre-recorded. Good Friday was livestreamed at 12 noon. The Easter Sunrise service (April 4) was held in person, in the upper parking lot, while the 10:45 am service was livestreamed.
- Pastor Bart Roush's first Sunday was Pentecost Sunday (May 23). Welcome Pastor Bart.
- June 27, we started outdoor worship service in person at 9 am. The weather was cooperative, and no morning outdoor services had to be cancelled due to bad weather. There was also a virtual service offered at 10:15 am.
- The Penny Nesbitt family donated a piano for the lower level.
- Marimba was purchased. Oscar Biolley Quesada from Costa Rica designed it and shipped it to Oak Grove. \$7,500 from Oak Grove's Special Fund money was used and the rest of the money came from Worship & Music Memorial monies. The Marimba was delivered on Dec. 27 to Oak Grove.
- The Worship & Music Committee would like to thank all the musicians, song leaders, liturgists, tech crew, and our congregation for being supportive with all the transitions. A special thank you to the staff for their part in making the virtual service so meaningful. Oak Grove has been blessed.

2021 Committee Members: Andrew Hess, Caitlin Lucic, Sarajane Myers, Eugene Orr, Carol Osweiler (Chair), Judy Cooper and Bart Roush (staff resources).

Youth Faith Formation Committee

Anne Klueh, Chair

Purpose: The purpose of the Youth Faith Formation Committee is to provide leadership, planning and coordination of programs and ministries for senior high and middle school youth.

These provide opportunities for:

- Sharing stories of faith and faith development
- Leadership
- Outreach and mission
- Interconnectedness and relationships with the whole church

The Youth Faith Formation Committee continued to work to meet the needs of our youth through a less-than-optimal year. It was another year of change, with Covid numbers going up and down, continuing to force us to change plans creatively on a regular basis. For the youth, probably the biggest change was in leadership, as Britta Augdahl left us for seminary and Kate Lindberg joined us Youth & Young Adult Coordinator. Through all these times we had some very good experiences and many opportunities for the young folks in our community to form closer bonds.

Accomplishments & Highlights:

- We continued to reach out individually to each youth to check on needs and gather ideas for events.
- During the pandemic surge of last winter several virtual game nights were held (one thing our kids don't mind doing by Zoom). A highlight were two nights of Dungeons and Dragons led by Katherine Painter.
- Black history month was celebrated with Zoom movie nights featuring *Black Panther* and *Harriet*.
- A fun drive-thru Pancake breakfast was held on Palm Sunday. Preparations for this required two Saturday afternoons of work for small groups of youth.
- A successful paper-shredding fundraiser was held on April 17. Thanks to many congregation and community members who participated!
- As the trial of Derek Chauvin occurred curriculum shifted to allow our kids a chance to explore their sadness and anxiety about racism in our community. Part of this included a well-attended virtual tour of nearby George Floyd Square.
- A second annual Virtual Confirmation process was completed with a meeting with the Session through Zoom on April 27 and with the congregation through the streamed worship service on Sunday, May 2. The confirmands were: Jackie Steskal, Matthew Carter, Hannah Jones, Madeleine Elbert, and Tatum Gillies. Congratulations and welcome! A Moir Park celebration for them and their families was held in the afternoon.
- We had 8 young people who graduated from high school this year. The Sunday worship service on May 16 celebrated them and their accomplishments and was followed by a gathering for youth leaders, families and grads in Moir Park.

- Committee members continued to be part of a virtual audience for several dance and theater productions our kids have been involved in. It was even more fun to be in the audience in person when this was possible in the summer. From ball games, to dance recitals, concerts, all the way to Chanhassen Dinner Theater, we had fun supporting our talented youth!
- We had some changes in our youth committee as Jane Propsom resigned after 8 years as a confirmation teacher in order to enjoy travel in retirement. In addition, we said goodbye to Travis Scott as he takes a break from leading senior high youth due to increased work responsibilities. We are very grateful to both Jane and Travis for their many years of service and care for kids! Come back when you can!
- We also said “till we meet again” to Rory Scott who stepped back from direct youth work in order to focus on health issues. Rory has provided a few decades of mentorship and leadership for multitudes of Oak Grove youth. We look forward to welcoming him back when he is ready!
- We had more in-person fun this Summer than we could in 2020 due to the mercifully low Covid numbers in June and early July.
- A t-shirt tie-dye/Ice Cream party was held on June 16 to prepare for the service week.
- Eleven youth and a good number of adult volunteers participated in a week-long Service Learning Experience in mid-June. Events included volunteering at Feed my Starving Children, a thrift store, and several stints at Loaves and Fishes. Additionally, the kids provided yard and fix-up help to a number of Oak Grove members. Each day included some fellowship time, lunch at a park and gathering time to debrief their experiences.
- Several outdoor game nights were held in the church parking lot in July.
- Several youths were involved in the search committee that hired Kate Lindberg in August.
- We were blessed that Britta was able to orient Kate for a couple of weeks before she left.
- The youth held a wonderful send-off party for Britta in the Acker’s backyard on Aug. 27. There were 25 youth who attended, and a great time was had by all, even though rain cut short some of the plans.
- Kate Lindberg hit the ground running in September and worked to get to know the youth and plan for the fall.
- The youth were involved in the day of service on Sept. 11.
- Several kids participated in the EV Expo and Clearwater Forests’ woodcutting weekend on Oct. 9.

- Kate reactivated a Youth Covenant developed two years ago to set guidelines for behavior and expectations with one another and was signed by all middle and high schoolers. This created a better sense of community and safety for all participants in classes and social events.
- Faith Formation classes began again in September. To better accommodate our “Zoomed out” youth and due to all of our kids having been vaccinated, we began Wednesday WoW activities in the Acker’s back yard. Confirmation and high school students met together under the solid leadership of Kate Lindberg, Chad Acker, Vaughn Sheff and Amy Zsohar. There have been between 10–12 kids participating each week.
- As the weather conditions made it harder to meet outdoors, the youth began meeting at the church. Curriculum offered in November was similar to what the adults were doing, “I’ve been meaning to ask”. This curriculum demands more vulnerability and self-disclosure, and it has helped the youth in becoming more cohesive and having a stronger group identity.
- Youth participated in several more Loaves and Fishes volunteer shifts.
- Afternoon volunteer work at Arc Value Village on Dec. 4

Confirmation: *(contributed by Vaughn Sheff)*

Program Overview

Vaughn Sheff and Jane Propsom began their 8th year leading the Confirmation Experience program using a combination Zoom and safe/secure in-person events. Britta Augdahl, Youth & Young Adult Ministries Director, organized monthly service and fellowship activities as well! As noted, both Britta & Jane left their positions in Summer 2021. Kate Lindberg took on the Youth & Young Adult Coordinator role for the 2021–2022 Confirmation Experience.

Beginning fall 2021, we began combining the senior high and middle school weekly meetings in partnership with Amy Zsohar & Chad Acker, our high school youth leaders. As a result, we have evolved to a broader Youth Experience that encompasses both our confirmation and senior high youth. The combined experience has been successful thus far.

We manage an engaging program that allows students to learn, discuss and ask questions about theology, faith and life. We are focusing on how the teachings we learn within the walls of the church *extend far beyond the physical walls of OGPC*. Some of the topics we addressed over 2021 included racism, social justice, Bible study & literacy and practical applications of faith in our daily lives.

Currently 10 middle school youth participate in our program, with 4–6 attending weekly during our virtual and in-person meetings on Wednesday evenings. As part of this program, students are paired with Covenant Partners who mentor the students along their faith journeys. Additionally, we invite our adult faith leaders, such as Pastors Bart Roush & Mary Koon, to lead a discussion with the class.

We have *five 8th graders* who are eligible to be confirmed as members in 2022. We hope all of them will choose to be confirmed in May 2022 as part of the Confirmation Experience. In May of 2021, Jackie Steskal, Matthew Carter, Hannah Jones, Madeleine Elbert, and Tatum Gillies were confirmed.

Service & Fellowship Activities

Due to the Covid pandemic, our activities consisted of a combination of online fellowship (e.g., gaming) sessions and small group outdoor activities throughout 2021. Special thanks for Britta who organized several outdoor activities throughout spring and summer of 2021.

Confirmation Experience 2021–2022 Roster

#	Last Name	First Name	Grade	Covenant Partner
1	Lagani	Violette	8	Milissa Carter
2	Wenz	Katrin (Kat)	8	Amy Zsohar
3	Johnson	Eva	8	Amy Zsohar
4	Myers	Natalie	8	Amy Zsohar
5	Roush	Olivia	8	Amy Zsohar
6	Stirratt	Piper	7	Al Greimel
7	Shannon	Kaelyn	7	Al Greimel
8	Carter	Allan	7	Al Greimel
9	Steskal	Julia	7	TBD
10	Gillies	Gus	7	TBD

Vaughn, Jane, Britta and Kate are awesome and dedicated teachers who have shown extra flexibility and creativity this year! Both Jane and Britta will be sorely missed, but we are so excited to have Kate join our team!

Looking ahead to 2022

- We welcome Cecelia Laurie as our new chairperson and Session representative.
- We will continue to find ways to serve our youth during this difficult Omicron surge. Zoom is a remarkable tool, and we are grateful for it, and we can see that our kids are also exhausted by the process of doing everything from school to church meetings/classes online.

- We will continue to see what in-person opportunities we can arrange for our youth as weather and Covid conditions permit. This is especially important for group cohesion and health. It is hoped that more opportunities will be present.
- We are working on ways that congregation members can connect more with our kids, even a one-time opportunity to share an interest or skill with the group. These youth are a joy to be with and would be for the better knowing more Oak Grove members!
- With that, we want to thank the members of Oak Grove for your constant and continued love and support of our youth!

I would like to extend a big THANK YOU to the committee for their dedication, flexibility, and creativity during yet another pandemic year!

2021 Committee Members: Chad Acker, Anne Klueh (Chair), Cecelia Laurie, Vaughn Sheff, Amy Zsohar, Kate Lindberg and Mary Koon (staff resources).

Board of Deacons

Meg Robles & Eric Duvall, Co-Moderators

The ministry of the deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies of structure, or anyone in distress.

Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgment should be chosen for this ministry. (Presbyterian Church USA Book of Order). The primary responsibility of a deacon of Oak Grove Presbyterian Church is to be responsive to the needs of the church and its members.

Your Deacon Board is a committed group of people who answered the call to serve Oak Grove with compassion and joy in 2021. Pastor Mary Koon, our staff support, contributed wisdom, insight, direction, time and even songwriting skills to the mission of the deacons.

Outgoing members were Jan Ahlquist, David Johnson, Stephen Jones, Meg Robles and Bea Sorenson. These folks served for three years and contributed ideas, their time and energy to the ministries of the deacons. Incoming members are Chad Acker, Candy Williamson, Jen Pol and Jim McCarl. Kevin Muur has been nominated to take Lisa Sheff's position for two years, and Iris Karow will fill the final open three-year spot.

The Deacon sub-committees each had a facilitator during the year who organized and accomplished the goals of each group:

- Alert & Visitation: Because of the pandemic, this committee had a crucial role in reaching out to church members. Each month, one deacon would contact those put on the weekly prayer list through handwritten notes and phone calls.
- Communion: Due to COVID, this committee was mostly inactive. The Deacons will resume serving communion at Presbyterian Homes six times a year when it is safe to do so again. For now, Oak Grove is using “Communion-to-Go” packets, which do not require set-up or clean-up.
- Membership: The purpose of this committee is to keep track of members who have not been in regular attendance and reach out to these members to invite them back or to determine their interest in their membership at Oak Grove. Since 2020, we have not met due to the nature of virtual and hybrid services.
- Nominating: Met with other church members to recruit and nominate new deacons and elders.
- Fellowship: The Palm Sunday Brunch was canceled as was the Golden Harvest Dinner to honor the Friend-to Friends and those in the congregation 80 and over. In lieu of the Golden Harvest Dinner, we delivered a gift bag to each honoree, including a booklet with stories and words of wisdom from those over 80, treats, a gold pen, note cards and a handwritten note of appreciation from a deacon. Our annual Parents Day Out was canceled this December.
- Prayer Shawl Ministry: The deacons keep track of the prayer shawls available to give to people in times of illness or loss, coordinating with those who knit them.
- Simple Meal Ministry: Chicken soup was made by deacons in the church kitchen and then frozen. Simple meals were prepared by deacons and kept in the church freezer to give to those who had lost a loved one or were recovering from illness or surgery. Because of limited space in the freezer with Loaves & Fishes using the church kitchen through December, this ministry was suspended until the beginning of 2022.
- Health Ministries: Amanda Fineran kept track of wheelchairs and walkers that people were able to donate to the church. Because of the flood and reconstruction of the basement, an inventory of these items was not kept on site with the exception of a few items later in the year. We send cards or call those with a one-year anniversary of the loss of a family member. Health ministry also supports the monthly Caregivers’ Tea and the Respite Care lunch which were suspended due to COVID restrictions. They also support the Grief group.
- New Member Outreach: Deacons offered to extend a welcome to new members via phone, email or note. We plan to continue this practice with the members who joined in December of 2021.

- Blood Drives: Stephen Jones worked with a number of volunteers to organize Memorial Blood Center drives this year when blood was badly needed.
- Small group “Getting to Know You” gatherings to welcome Rev. Dr. Bart Roush. Deacons worked with the Friendship Team to coordinate numerous gatherings in homes and at church to welcome Pastor Bart.

The deacons also provided treats and assisted with the Electric Vehicle Expo on Oct. 9. The Longest Night prayer stations/service was held Dec. 21 in the church with music in the sanctuary and activities in Gideon Pond to minister to those who attended.

We thank Meg and Eric for their outstanding leadership during 2021 and thank each deacon who gave of themselves during this difficult year. In the midst of uncertainty and loss, deacons provided compassion and comfort.

The deacons welcome new ideas about ways to serve the church and appreciate the support given by the Oak Grove church community.

Presbyterian Women

Bev Heise & Jody Milton, Co-Moderators

The mission of Oak Grove’s Presbyterian Women is to nurture faith through Bible study, prayer, fellowship and to support the mission of the church worldwide.

Oak Grove hosts two circles that meet September through May (usually at church). Goodrich Nord meets at 9:00 am on the second Wednesday of the month. Evening Star meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm.

The circles studied “*What My Grandmother Taught Me*” during 2021. All lessons are written by Presbyterian women. Pastors Anne Fisher, Mary Koon, and Mary Pol led our studies and provided their insight and interpretations. Due to the Covid pandemic, our bake sale, mitten tree, and fall gathering were not held this year. We hope to resume our activities in 2022.

We encourage you to join one of our Bible studies.

Pastor Nominating Committee

Paul St. Martin, Chair

The Pastor Nominating Committee* (PNC) began meeting in April of 2020 and, because of limitations imposed by the pandemic, we conducted our meetings and all interviews via Zoom. We watched numerous sermons online from a variety of applicants from across the country. Special thanks to all tech support people!

In early 2021, the PNC was delighted to unanimously approve offering the position of Pastor/Head of Staff to the Rev. Dr. Bart Roush. Session approved his salary package on Feb. 23, and the congregation approved his hiring on March 14, 2021. We were able to hold a virtual Open House Q & A on March 13 to allow congregation members to ask questions of Pastor Bart and his family.

After his terms of call were approved and Pastor Bart had accepted our offer, numerous church members hosted virtual and in-person gatherings to welcome him to Oak Grove. Pastor Bart preached his first sermon on May 23, 2021. We are excited and very happy to have him here at Oak Grove! Welcome, Pastor Bart!

2020–2021 Committee Members: Jeri Anderson, Mary Crampton, Chris Diller (Vice-Chair), Sue Greimel, Mattie Hawley, Cece Klueh, Paul St. Martin (Chair), Jeanine Radtke, Rory Scott and Denise Dunbar-Perkins (Commission on Ministry Representative).

** Since Pastor Bart has not been formally installed yet due to the pandemic, the PNC is still considered an “active” committee.*

Re-Entry Task Force

Annie Klueh, Chair

The Re-Entry Task Force was formed in May of 2020 to respond to safety issues related to Covid-19. The team is responsible for setting safety standards, making recommendations to the Session regarding safe building-use by members and non-members, communicating updates to members and, helping to decide how we will gather in-person as the Oak Grove community.

One of our most frequently quoted mottos during the year of 2021 has been “Prepare to Pivot” in response to the ups and downs of Covid numbers. As a task force we had hoped our tasks would have been long accomplished by this time! We have continued to research new Covid information and have daily checked updates from the Minnesota Department of Health, CIDRAP (Dr. Osterholm’s Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy), and Covid Act Now.

We have regularly looked for recommendations from the Presbyterian Church, USA, Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area (PTCA), the Wisconsin Council of Churches, and anything else we could get our hands on. As the pandemic has stretched on and executive orders have been dropped, clear guidance has been very difficult to find. As a task force we have been cautious and have taken very seriously our responsibility to attend to the safety of Oak Grove members.

Accomplishments & Highlights from 2021:

- Covid information and church protocol updates were shared with the congregation, at least monthly, throughout the year.
- The church building remained closed at the start of 2021 with all worship services live-streamed and Faith Formation classes and meetings held via Zoom.
- As vaccines started to be available in the first few months of 2021, we recommended to Session in March that the church building be opened and that members could have access to the sanctuary for individual prayer and meditation.
- In April we invited small groups to meet in the building with proper Covid protocols in place (complicated by reduced access to space due to the Great Flood). We continued to establish and monitor safety protocols for groups using the building.
- At the end of April, we had a feeling of hope as case numbers were dropping (though we knew the Delta variant was on the horizon). Even with the advent of vaccines for all aged 12 and older, however, we were, at the same time, flummoxed by a loss of clear guidance by state and church leaders.
- We were grateful and sad as we thanked Pastor Anne Fisher for her helpful leadership and guidance as she left us in May.
- We joyfully welcomed Pastor Bart Roush in mid-May and were grateful for his expertise and the timely new resources he provided us.
- We continued to try to balance the care of the least of these with our call to be together as a faith community.
- In June we experienced the lowest Covid numbers we had had since the start of the pandemic; under 2% positivity rate.
- On June 27, we began to offer outdoor worship services in the church parking lot. We had an average of 70–90 folks present each week and the weather allowed us to worship outdoors every Sunday through the 7th of November!
- The Re-Entry team hosted an in-person and live-streamed Town Hall forum on July 21 in order to share information and to be transparent about our process and decisions.
- Indoor worship services were offered beginning July 25 and were shared by 25–40 people each week, all following Covid protocols.

- During this time more Oak Grove groups began to meet in-person, using Covid protocols.
- Worship plans needed to change, unfortunately, as the predicted Delta variant arrived. We recommended a pause in indoor worship for the month of September through mid-October. We were grateful to still be able to have outdoor worship through this time.
- By October the state's rolling positivity rate was 9.6 % and expected to rise.
- Decisions became much harder as we were aware of the number of church members grieving the loss of our in-person spiritual community and suffering from isolation.
- As children ages 5–11 became eligible for vaccines we started to make great plans for the church program year, with a mixture of indoor worship and a hybrid of in-person and Zoom Faith Formation.
- Middle and high-school youth began meeting in-person (outdoors for as long as possible, then in the building) as all were vaccinated, “zoomed-out” and needed in-person time to build their connections.
- In response to requests from many young families whose children were at school every day, we decided to continue to offer Faith Formation to our young ones via Zoom only, thereby reducing some risk.
- Pastor Bart helped us to establish a set of Phases with clear metrics to guide us in planning in-person events. We held another Town Hall, meeting through Zoom, on Nov. 14 and announced plans for beginning indoor worship and the new schedule (same as pre-pandemic) on Nov. 28.
- Due to a post-Thanksgiving surge, as the case rate rose to 14%, we had to delay reopening indoor worship, again.
- At this same time, the Omicron variant was first reported in South Africa.
- In December we accepted the resignation of Karen Gerdes from our team. Thank you, Karen, for all of your work!
- In early December our team re-thought our decision-making:
 - We acknowledged that Covid is going to be with us for some time.
 - We have been operating with very low risk-tolerance
 - We have taken a good deal of responsibility for the safety of the congregation.
 - We observed the suffering of many of our members due to our not worshipping in person (especially as so many neighbor churches were in-person).
 - We decided to turn more control and decisions to individual members.
 - We continued to ask, “How do we balance physical safety while addressing the pandemic of loneliness and spiritual separation?”

- We made the decision to relax our metrics and place an emphasis on worship, establishing indoor worship, only for those vaccinated.
- In-person worship resumed on Dec. 19 for up to 50 vaccinated people with reservations needed. All Covid safety protocols were followed.
- We attempted to get an expert consultant for a one-time meeting to guide our task force in decision-making. Unfortunately, due to the huge Omicron surge, no one from CIDRAP or the Minnesota Department of Health was available.
- We have reached out to a number of Presbyterian churches to ask about their decision-making regarding Covid. Pastor Mary has gathered some information and we are waiting for more.

Looking ahead to 2022:

As we enter 2022, we are in what Dr. Michael Osterholm calls a “blizzard” of Covid cases as we experience the Omicron surge.

As of the writing of this report in early January, we are experiencing an unprecedented 24% positivity rate in the state, with daily new cases over 100 per 100K. ICU bed availability is at a critical level. We are praying that predictions hold and that this surge peaks and falls within 4–6 weeks.

- We will continue to emphasize worship services, even if we can have fewer people in-person in order to, again, “flatten the curve”.
- We recommended no in-person meetings, or groups during the month of January, but asked all to use Zoom or postpone meeting until February.
- With a heavy heart, we recommended cancelling both Women’s and Men’s retreats at Clearwater.
- While our request for a consultant has been turned down at this time (due to the need for all experts to be covering the frontlines of Omicron surge) we will continue to pursue as needed and available.
- We will continue to monitor MDH, CIDRAP, CDC, Covid Act Now, Presbyterian Church, USA., the PTCA, and the Wisconsin Council of Churches for recommendations regarding safety as we journey through the coming months.
- We will continue to work to keep the theological balance between the care of the least of these and our call to gather together as we plan and make decisions, finding ways to support staff and ways we can meet church community needs while keeping the congregation safe.
- We will continue to encourage folks to get vaccines and boosters when eligible.
- We will continue to review safety issues in requests for building use
- We will keep you all informed!

We are incredibly grateful to the members of Oak Grove for your patience, your helpful ideas, your prayers and support, your ability to adapt and your care of one another by following safety recommendations!

2021 Committee Members: Al Greimel, Bev Heise, Anne Klueh (Chair), Jane Propsom, Pastors Mary Koon and Bart Roush (staff resources).

Endowment & Session Designated Funds

Endowment Fund

The Endowment Fund was established in 1988, with the donated principal to be held in perpetuity. The money is invested with the New Covenant Trust Company in socially responsible stocks; \$42,569 is available for 2022.

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2021	\$1,343,000
Bequests/Gifts	240
Dividends and Interest	7,591
Unrealized gain (loss) on investment	159,273
Fund expenses	0*
Transfer to Long-Term Building Maintenance Fund	<u>(281,984)*</u>
Ending Balance, December 31, 2021	\$1,228,120

**January 2022 Transfers: Expenses \$1,112.50 and Gains to LTBM \$127,706.44.*

Session Designated Fund

The Session Designated Fund was established in 2004, primarily of gifts from Mabel Johnson and Eugenie Whitney. The money is also invested with the New Covenant Trust Company. Under the Session's current policy, up to 15%, each year, of the fund value is available for Special Projects; \$54,545 is available for use in 2022.

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2021	\$369,130
Bequests/Gifts	4,734
Dividends and Interest	2,778
Unrealized gain (loss) on investment	42,359
Fund expenses	<u>0*</u>
Ending Balance, December 31, 2020	\$419,000

**January 2022 Transfers: Expenses \$55,369.*

Long-Term Building Maintenance Fund 2021

The Long-Term Building Maintenance fund was re-established in 2015 from Endowment Fund earnings. The money is invested with the New Covenant Trust Company and is restricted to building maintenance.

2019 and 2020 Endowment gains of \$281,984 were transferred to Long-Term Building Maintenance in 2021.

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2021	\$351,847
Dividends and Interest	5,552
Unrealized gain (loss) on investment	63,754
Fund expenses	0*
Transfer from Endowment Fund Gains	<u>281,984*</u>
Ending Balance, December 31, 2021 *transfer pending*	\$703,136

**January 2022 Transfers: Expenses \$17,388 and Gains from Endowment \$127,706.44.*

Property & Equipment 2021

Net Book Value, January 1, 2021	\$2,569,899
Additions	85,188
Depreciation	<u>(146,627)</u>
Net Book Value, December 31, 2021	\$2,508,460*

* Includes Fully Depreciated Disposals of \$15,890

Pastors' Discretionary Fund 2021

It is a joy for us pastors, on your behalf, to be able to help people in need. The Pastors' Discretionary Fund has long been a part of Oak Grove's mission. It is funded entirely by special donations and is not a part of our general budget. We use the fund to help Oak Grove members, those recommended by members, and some community members. We refer most folks who come to our doors for emergency assistance to VEAP.

This year, on a weekly basis, we helped people with rent/housing, medicine, utilities, car repair/transportation and food.

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2021	\$3,924
Donations	14,824
Expenses	<u>(15,100)</u>
Ending Balance, December 31, 2021	\$3,648

Thank you for your generosity and support of this important mission. We value your trust in our discretion as we try to meet some of the needs in our church and surrounding area.

– Pastors Bart and Mary

Note: Some totals may not agree due to rounding.

Memorial & Donor Dedicated Funds

Memorials were given during 2021 in Memory or Honor of: Tom Campbell, Jerry Carter, Sheryl Eernisse (Al Netten's sister), Maxine Engberg, Arnie Erickson, Art Fisk, Dawn Greimel, Faith Grondin, Connie Johnson, Mary Jones, Linda Kley, Rich Miller, Don Olson, Bob Sands, Neil Schalekamp, Dee & Don Schneider, Joyce Shantz, Steve St Martin, Yvonne Wentz, Ginny Willis (Terry Taylor's sister). Examples of some of our Dedicated Accounts are listed below.

Dedicated Account	Balance 1/01/2021	Receipts	Disbursements	Balance 12/31/2021
Afghan Resettlement	\$0	\$3,025	\$3,010	\$15
Allen Seminary Scholarship	\$221			\$221
Allen Youth Camping Scholarship	\$5,218			\$5,218
Building Maintenance & Repair	\$83,817			\$83,817
Choir Robes	\$2,145			\$2,145
Clearwater Camp Scholarship	\$2,440	\$1,045		\$3,485
Clearwater Capital Campaign	\$0	\$4,255	\$4,255	\$0
Columbarium/Memorial Garden	\$10,995	\$1,620	\$8,005	\$4,610
Dalquist Women's Retreat	\$2,123			\$2,123
Deacons	\$561			\$561
Education	\$2,384			\$2,384
GPH Décor	\$1,250			\$1,250
Green Initiatives	\$112	\$728		\$840
History Committee	\$853			\$853
Kachel Mission Scholarship	\$7,709			\$7,709
KIVA Micro-Loan	\$0	\$1,975	\$1,950	\$25
Landscaping	\$3,389		\$26	\$3,363
Loaves & Fishes	\$0	\$4,412	\$1,952	\$2,460
MS "Seekers" Program	\$178			\$178
Music	\$6,955	\$2,875	\$1,303	\$8,527
Oak Grove Equity Scholarship	\$1,200			\$1,200
Organ Fund	\$1,737		\$1,737	\$0
Presbyterian Mission Agency	\$0	\$18,007	\$17,907	\$100
SafeNights	\$3,860			\$3,860
Schools for Peace	\$0			\$0
SD Memorials	\$6,971	\$8,248	\$5,000	\$10,219
SH Mission Trip	\$6,124	\$5,896	\$1,844	\$10,176
Sheridan Story Meals	\$1,338	\$315		\$1,653
SLT Scholarships	\$0	\$1,750	\$1,500	\$250
Social Justice	\$2,966	\$291		\$3,257
Supportive Housing	\$250	\$750	\$998	\$2
Technology	\$561	\$3,000		\$3,561
VEAP	\$0	\$3,325	\$2,825	\$500
Worship	\$3,342	\$75	\$897	\$2,520
Totals	\$158,700	\$61,592	\$53,209	\$167,084

Note: Some totals may not agree due to rounding.

OAK GROVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Statement of Financial Position
December 31, 2021 and 2020

ASSETS	2021	2020
General Fund checking account	\$ 101,845	\$ 120,548
Pastors' Discretionary Fund checking account	3,648	3,924
Savings & CD accounts	50,002	30,001
Investments: Cash Reserves	158,379	163,263
Investments: Operating Reserve	234,087	208,523
Investments: Long-Term Building Maintenance	703,136	351,847
Investments: Session Designated Fund	414,266	369,130
Investments: Endowment Fund	1,227,880	1,343,000
Prepaid Expense	0	309
Accounts Receivable	516	
Property & Equipment	4,996,368	4,927,070
Accumulated Depreciation	(2,487,909)	(2,357,171)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 5,402,218	\$ 5,160,443
	<hr/>	<hr/>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	(397)	38,836
FSA balances	-	-
Education carryovers	4,800	5,838
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 4,403	\$ 44,673
	<hr/>	<hr/>
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted:		
- General Fund Equity	\$ 111,554	\$ 100,264
- Unrestricted This Year	(21,864)	9,052
- Pastors' Discretionary Fund	3,648	3,924
- Property & Equipment	2,508,460	2,569,899
Total Unrestricted	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,601,798	2,683,139
Board Restricted:		
- Operating Reserve	150,000	150,000
- Dedicated Accounts	369,631	218,655
- Session Designated Fund	363,631	369,130
- Endowment Fund	691,622	808,510
- Long-Term Building Maintenance Fund	685,748	351,847
Permanently Restricted: Endowment Fund	535,385	534,490
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Restricted	2,796,018	2,432,632
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$ 5,397,815	\$ 5,115,770
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$ 5,402,218	\$ 5,160,443
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Note: Some totals may not agree due to rounding.

OAK GROVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
General Fund – Statement of Activities
For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 (Budgeted), 2021 and 2020

	Budget 2022	Actual 2021	Actual 2020
REVENUES & SUPPORT			
Contributions & Bequests	\$726,372	\$695,703	\$704,991
Dividend/Interest Income	\$300	\$124	-
Unrealized/Realized Gain (loss) on Investments	(\$175)	-	-
Per Capita	\$8,000	\$8,538	\$7,349
Other Income	\$500	\$7,069	\$1,828
TRANSFERS FROM RESERVES			
2021 LTBM Fund: B&O Equip Bldg Purchase/Maint.	\$18,700		
2019 Surplus	\$30,688		
2019 Realized Gains on Wells GF Investment	\$8,961	\$21,864	
Operating Reserve	\$11,922		
TOTAL REVENUES & SUPPORT	\$805,268	\$733,298	\$714,168
EXPENDITURES			
Program Services			
Mission	\$121,831	\$120,775	\$119,544
Supportive Housing	\$15,300	\$15,150	\$14,650
Social Justice	\$3,000	\$3,010	\$2,500
Green Committee	\$3,000	\$1,475	\$3,580
Friendship	\$2,850	\$938	\$1,134
Rainbow Fellowship	\$1,500	-	-
Deacons	\$2,350	\$1,179	\$415
Worship & Music	\$5,335	\$4,366	\$4,118
Racial Equity	\$2,000	\$125	-
Personnel	\$457,936	\$452,887	\$452,540
Christian Education	\$10,550	\$7,574	\$3,546
Stewardship	\$890	\$761	\$708
General & Supporting Expenses			
General	\$1,135	\$1,459	\$1,530
Per Capita	\$18,031	\$17,849	\$17,958
Office & Administration	\$22,835	\$19,177	\$21,370
Technology	\$25,983	\$23,775	\$23,325
Building & Operations	\$110,742	\$83,477	\$79,783
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$805,268	\$753,977	\$746,701
OPERATING INCOME OVER / (UNDER)	0	(\$20,679)	(\$32,533)
OPERATING RESERVE GAINS	0	\$20,679	\$41,585
NET OPERATING TOTAL	0	0	\$9,052

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OAK GROVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH *(continued)*
General Fund – Statement of Activities
For the Years Ended December 31, 2022 (Budgeted), 2021 and 2020

	Budget 2022	Actual 2021	Actual 2020
Available from Session Designated Fund	\$54,545	\$55,369	\$54,528
Available from Endowment Fund	<u>\$42,569</u>	<u>\$1,113</u>	<u>\$58,699</u>
 TOTAL AVAILABLE:	 <u>\$97,113</u>	 <u>\$56,482</u>	 <u>\$113,227</u>
 Mission			
Liberty Community Church			\$20,000
Oasis Van			\$14,951
Clearwater Capital Campaign			\$10,000
AEON/St. Olaf Church		\$25,000	
 General			
Columbarium		\$10,000	\$68,278
PTZ Camera		\$13,982	
Marimba		\$7,500	
 Building Maintenance			
Senior High Air Conditioner		\$8,836*	
Gutters		\$8,552*	

* *LTBM (\$18,700 budgeted, \$17,388 used)*

Note: Some totals may not agree due to rounding.

2022 Pastors' Terms of Call

	Pastor/Head of Staff	Associate Pastor
Salary	\$43,882	\$36,788
Housing	\$42,000	\$42,397
Medical/Dental/L&D/Vision	\$25,795	\$23,459
Pension	\$7,300	\$6,731
Mileage (1)	\$1,500	\$1,600
Education (2,3)	\$1,200	\$1,200
Professional (4)	\$2,500	\$1,300
403(b) Match	\$2,400	\$2,400
SECA Offset	\$6,500	\$6,000
TOTAL =	\$133,077	\$121,876

NOTES:

- (1) Vouchered, IRS rate
- (2) Education leave = 2 weeks per year, cumulative to 6 weeks
- (3) Education allowance cumulative for 3 years
- (4) Vouchered

Pastors are entitled to four (4) Sundays off per year, four (4) weeks of vacation and a three-month sabbatical leave after six years.

Total Effective Salary (TES) is salary plus housing. Per PC(USA) Board of Pensions, medical insurance is 27% of TES (plus dental and vision), disability insurance is 1.5% of TES, and pension is 8.5% of TES.

Congregation is allowed to pay up to 50% of SECA (SECA is the equivalent of Social Security for self-employed persons) without it being included in TES. Note that pastors are considered by the IRS to be self-employed. This 50% that the congregation pays is referred to as "SECA offset."

2022 Oak Grove Presbyterian Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Bart Roush, Pastor/Head of Staff

Rev. Mary Koon, Associate Pastor

Judy Cooper, Director of Music

Kate Lindberg, Coordinator, Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Sue Gjerset, Office Administrator

Laura Nemcek, Accountant

Nancy Hauser, Organist & Hand Bell Choir Director

