

Presbyterian Church at Hammonton

Annual Report for 2014

Table of Contents

STAFF and OFFICERS	2
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AGENDA	3
Interim Pastor's Report.....	4
Spanish Ministry Report.....	4
Minutes of 2014 Congregational Meetings	7
Clerk of Session's Report	9
Session Committee Reports.....	13
Christian Education Committee Report.....	13
English Worship & Stewardship Committee Report.....	14
Stewardship Campaign for 2015.....	15
Chancel Choir	15
Handbell Choirs.....	16
Personnel Committee Report	16
Finance Committee Report.....	17
Buildings and Grounds	17
Income and Expenses - 2014	19
Renovation Loan Status	20
Church Funds Status	20
Budgets for 2015.....	21
Mission-Oriented Budget – 2015.....	21
Unified Budget - 2015	23
Staff Salaries and Costs – 2015	24
Interim Pastor Compensation – 2015.....	24
Director of Spanish Ministry Compensation – 2015.....	24
Organizations	25
Congregation Committees	25
Audit Committee Report for the Year Ending December 31, 2013	25
Pastor Nominating Committee Report.....	26
Nominating Committee Report	27

STAFF and OFFICERS

STAFF MEMBERS

Interim Pastor:	Rev. Susan Reisinger
Director of Spanish Ministry:	Rev. Martín Concepción
Organist and Choir Director:	Lucinda Birnbaum
Pianist for Spanish Language Worship:	Erik Aldrich
Office Manager:	Susan Ficken

CORPORATE OFFICERS

Chairperson of the Board of Trustees:	Rick Walker
Secretary of the Corporation:	Michael Petri
Treasurer:	Elsie Bakley

SESSION / BOARD OF TRUSTEES

<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
John Bock	Darrell Hershman	Rick Walker
Beth Burkett	Johanna Johnson	Nancy Foster
Marylee Kondrach	Bill Towne	Bob Reitmeyer
Michael Petri		Stefanie White

BOARD OF DEACONS

Dorrine Esposito	Yari Concepción	Becky Villani
Hilda Lugo	Sheri Fabiszewski	Kris Guldin
Rebecca Lindstrom	Carol Orsi	Carmen Castaldi
Millie Walker	Janice Riley	Fran Fichetola

Mission *We are committed to Jesus Christ and the growing of his Church by glorifying God and by proclaiming the good news of the gospel through word and deed. We involve and reach out to our members and our community in Christ's name through worship, Christian education, and stewardship to support the mission of our church.*

Misión *Estamos dedicados a Jesucristo y al crecimiento de su Iglesia, glorificar a Dios, proclamar las buenas nuevas del evangelio a través de nuestra palabra y conducta. Involucrar y alcanzar a nuestros miembros y a nuestra comunidad en el nombre de Cristo a través de los servicios de adoración educación cristiana, y la mayordomía para así cumplir con la visión y misión de nuestra iglesia.*

2015 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL and CORPORATION MEETING

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AGENDA

Congregational Meeting

1. Opening Prayer
2. Review of 2014 Meeting Minutes and Overview of Annual Report – Stated Clerk
3. Recess of the Congregational Meeting

Corporation Meeting

- I. Convening of Corporation Meeting with prayer
- II. Corporate Business
- III. Adjournment of Corporation Meeting with prayer

Resume congregational meeting

4. Review Reports of Committees and Organizations
5. Reception of Finance Reports
6. Review of the 2015 Budget
7. Election of Officers – Report of the Nominating Committee
 - i. Elders
 - ii. Deacons
 - iii. Auditors
 - iv. Nominating Committee
8. Other Business
9. Closing Prayer

Interim Pastor's Report

You and I have been together as interim pastor and people for just over a year now. In that time there are some very clear goals that have been met. This past October the Mission Study Team finished its work which was approved by the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry. They did the hard work. I was their staff liaison, sometime gadfly and nag. They did a great job of painting a word picture of the church as it exists right now. This document will serve as a foundation for the first step of the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC).

The PNC has been elected and is beginning their long journey in December 2014. This marks a significant transition time in the life of an interim as well as in the life of the church. The PNC will be hard at work over the coming months filling out a required form, and then beginning the process of sorting through many, many applications. I am hands off in this process, so I, like you, will know only the basics of how they are proceeding.

We have established what I believe to be a comfortable working relationship with the Session, Deacons, and committees. Our worship together has continued to be strong and invigorating (at least to me!)

One of the hardest parts of this year for me has been the significant needs related to the building. With heating, roofing, carpeting and many other concerns we have had a difficult time keeping up with the needs of the building. This is no one's fault, for it has been a great deal of work for many different people. Many of these issues continue into the new year, and funding them will continue to be a priority.

The Session also had a special meeting to talk about the place of the Spanish congregation. Early in 2015 the Session will be meeting with the Spanish congregation to draw up some clear goals for each congregation to work on in the coming year. I join the Session in praying this will be a way to clarify our relationship with one another.

As the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) begins their work, there is still work for all of us to do – in caring for each other, especially those who are most in need of support and care. You take good care of one another – widening the circle will allow more people to know the support and care of this Christian community.

Susan Reisinger, Interim Pastor

Spanish Ministry Report

Transitions

2014 was another year of transitions for the Spanish Worship – a few families moved from NJ to FL, PR and other states. Additionally, many of the members of the Spanish Worship were dealing with chronic health issues.

New Members

Despite of all the challenges, we were able to receive five (5) new members and baptize two (2) children.

Worship

Worship, for a while, was mostly led by Pastor Martín; nonetheless, members continued taking part in worship by leading prayers, serving as ushers and greeters and more recently, as liturgist once again. Yari Concepción led the congregational singing each week; she took attendance and kept track of new visitors. Pastor Martín sent letters to first time visitors the week following their visit. Eric Aldrich continues to share his gift of music to enhance the worship experience.

Congregational Life

Hilda L. Lugo has been very instrumental helping Pastor Martín by sending greeting cards (at her own expense) to the sick, those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries; also, Thinking of You to those we have not seen in worship for a few weeks.

Ody and Hilda help clean the kitchen and fellowship hall on a regular basis. Every Sunday the Spanish worship members would clean the kitchen, wash dishes before and after our coffee hour. There is a serious concern over the cleanliness of the kitchen.

Members of the Spanish worship were present at church events throughout the year and helped with the World Communion Sunday luncheon and were the organizers of the Christmas luncheon. Spanish Worship cleaned and decorated the Fellowship Hall for Christmas. A Special Thank You to Sue Roach for the valuable support and for coordinating volunteers to set-up tables; and a special Thank You to all who helped cleanup after the events; particularly, Darrell and Mary Hershman for staying until the end (along with members of the Spanish worship) after the Christmas luncheon.

Pastor Martín designs the bulletin board at the back entrance of the Christian Education building and the one by his office. For 2015 there will be a special emphasis... be on the watch for the special theme!

We created a Prayer Chain in the Spanish Worship with two individuals serving as links to the Prayer Chain in the English language Worship. This will hopefully facilitate congregational needs between the two services and increase communication. The two links between the two Prayer Chains are Hilda L. Lugo and Sue Roach. Sue attends both worship services.

Lamplighter & More

Since Pastor Martín began ministry with us and until Pastor Jen's departure he has worked on the translation and layout of all the editions of the Lamplighter. He also provided the translations of all the correspondence sent to the congregation and all the topics for special seasons of the church. He was unable to do so in 2014 because none of this was shared with him; however, it has been agreed that he will start this again in 2015.

Mission

A special Thank You to Ody Sotelo & Hilda L. Lugo for their faithful leadership with the Clothing Ministry and Food Pantry. Christine Guzmán shared information about community services, and health information – Thank You!!

Our Adult Spanish Sunday School Class took a modest collection to purchase supplies for Chaplaincy programs at Ancora Psychiatric Hospital to help teach spiritual values to the patients. We also participated in Angel Tree, collections sponsored by the Deacons.

Christian Education

Pastor Martín has provided all of the Sunday School and Bible Study supplies at his own expense. In the Adult Spanish Sunday School Class led by Pastor Martín we have discussed topics of spiritual growth. In the Fall we started the curriculum Following the Master's Footsteps. Each chapter invites participants to reflect on how Jesus exemplifies the chapter's topic and to view said topic in today's social norms to discover how these Bible passages and topics informs & forms our Christian response in the world.

- Chapter 1 His Joy and Sorrow
- Chapter 2 His Patience
- Chapter 3 His Anger
- Chapter 4 His Compassion

Given the many challenges we faced in 2014, Hilda was the most available person to help with the Nursery, however, she too had her share of challenges throughout the year. We are grateful to Hilda for her hard work.

Evangelism

We continue to share the good news and inviting people to worship with us. We are in the process of developing a plan of action to grow the church. In 2015 we will have printed materials to distribute in the community.

In 2014 we had 3 new families worshipping with us. One of them moved to North Jersey for her newborn's healthcare and to be closer to her husband's workplace. One family is a "church hopping" family and comes periodically, and one family continues to worship with us on a regular basis. The Rivera family that moved to PR will be joining us once they sell their house and move to Hammonton.

Ministry Overview

To some degree people have been talking about the Spanish Ministry without all the facts. We encourage everyone to come and experience our worship service and Bible Studies, to speak to Pastor Martín about the ministry. Ask members of the Spanish Worship about the how they feel in worship and what they learn in Bible Studies. There have been concerns about Spanish Ministry being self-supported; to this end, in 2014 we covered 50% of the expenses that the church incurred regarding the Spanish Ministry. For 2015 we have new pledges added to the church budget from the Spanish Ministry. Several members lost income in 2014 and continued their pledge with much sacrifice. Many are either in fixed income or no-income which makes every contribution even more valuable. We Thank you for keeping us in your thoughts and prayers!!

Pastor's Time

Pastor Martín works for the church a total of 16 hrs. per week. He divides his time to prepare worship and the bulletin from start to finish – including copying and folding the bulletins. He prepares for 2 Bible Studies every week and a sermon; devotes time for pastoral care and attends to administrative responsibilities as they rise. Although he works full-time at Ancora, he has taken time off from work to assist members. Pastor Martín has found services and resources for members and has sought private donations beyond the church's resources to help members of the church and the community. Should you wish to learn more about how Pastor Martín uses his time to benefit the church, please see him and ask for more details.

New Goals & Leadership

Pastor Martín has written a Leadership Development manual to teach individuals how to lead worship, lead prayers, serve as ushers, greeters, participate in committees, etc.. He conducted a poll to learn where members are in their readiness to take-on leadership roles in the church. Pastor Martín also wrote a Stewardship manual and a brochure for those new to the faith. We will set-up training events in 2015 to introduce these resources and train new leaders.

Session will be meeting with the Spanish Ministry in January, 2015 while new Goals are set for the ministry's growth. We will keep you informed via the Lamplighter.

Manse II

The Manse on Vine Street has had some needs for repair since 2007 to present that haven't been addressed. Some minor things have been taken care of by the church such as the bad odors and sewage problems (2007); the hollow tree by the house (2007); the need for an exterminator (approx. 2009). The Concepción family has taken care of several needs at their own expense. Moreover, there are needs that are pending, a list has been generated that shows repairs done by the church, those done by Pastor Martin and those that are pending.

In Christ's service,
Rev. Martín Concepción, Director of Spanish Ministry

Minutes of 2014 Congregational Meetings

(These minutes have already been approved by the Session.)

January 26, 2014

The congregation of the Presbyterian Church at Hammonton held its annual meeting in the Sanctuary following morning worship on Sunday, January 26, 2014. The meeting was duly called for the purpose of electing church officers, the review of the annual reports and budgets.

Interim Pastor Susan Reisinger opened the meeting with prayer at 11:57 AM. Approximately 30% of the congregation was present, representing well more than the required 10% quorum. The written 2013 Annual Report was distributed electronically to the congregation for review on January 16, and printed copies were also available. After a brief overview of the Annual Report, the congregational meeting was recessed and the corporate meeting of the Presbyterian Church at Hammonton was convened.

Elder Rick Walker called the corporate meeting to order. There being no business for the corporation, the meeting was closed and the congregational meeting resumed, on motion.

Time was given for questions or discussion about the committee and organization reports. There being none, a motion to receive the reports was made and approved.

Rick Walker then reviewed the financial reports and budgets. The financial reports for 2013 were reviewed and approved, on motion. Rick noted the continued budget deficits, and asked the congregation to consider increasing their giving.

It was suggested that the church seek additional revenue by renting space in the building, such as the previous agreement with the Head Start program. Rick noted that rentals may cause issues with the tax exempt status of the property. It was also mentioned that it was unclear if the rent paid for the Head Start program actually covered the additional expenses incurred by the church for utilities, wear and tear, etc. A motion to receive the budget was approved.

The nominating committee report was presented by the chair, Judy Testa. Nominations for Elders and Deacons were presented:

Office of Elder – Class of 2016 Rick Walker, Nancy Foster, Bob Reitmeyer, Stefanie White
Office of Deacon – Class of 2016 Becky Villani, Kris Guldin, Carmen Castaldi, Fran Fichetola
Office of Church Auditor for 2014 Charlie Muller, Susan Reitmeyer, Beverly Shockey
Nominating Committee for 2014 Anne Orthner, Sue Iacovone, Linda Rebek, Sue Reitmeyer

There being no nominees from the floor, a motion was made and approved to close the nominations and approve the slate presented by the nominating committee.

There being no further business, Pastor Susan closed the meeting with prayer at 12:11.

Michael Petri - Clerk of Session / Secretary of the Corporation

February 16, 2014

The congregation of the Presbyterian Church at Hammonton met in the sanctuary for a special congregational meeting on February 16, 2014. The meeting was held for the purpose of electing officers to a 1-year term to fill vacancies left by the resignation of elder Emily Guerrios and deacon Sonia Hernandez (both Class of 2014). The meeting followed the English worship service, and was opened with prayer by the moderator, the Rev. Susan Reisinger, at 11:53 AM. About 20% of the congregation was present, well more than required quorum.

Judy Testa, representing the Nominating Committee, presented nominations to fill the two vacancies: Hilda Lugo for the Board of Deacons, and Marylee Kondrach for the Session. Nominations were opened to the floor. There being no other nominations, a motion was made and approved to close the nominations and elect the candidates unanimously.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed with prayer by the moderator at 11:55 AM.

Michael Petri - Clerk of Session / Secretary of the Corporation

November 16, 2014

The congregation of the Presbyterian Church at Hammonton met in the sanctuary for a special congregational meeting on November 16, 2014. The meeting was held for the purpose of electing a pastor nominating committee (PNC). The meeting followed the English worship service, and was opened with prayer by the moderator, the Rev. Susan Reisinger, at 11:52 AM. About 30% of the congregation was present, well more than the required quorum.

Pastor Susan provided a brief overview of the purpose of the meeting, then introduced the chairperson of the Nominating Committee, Marylee Kondrach. Marylee presented the PNC slate recommended by the committee: Beth Burkett, Carmen Castaldi, Rebecca Lyndstrom, Mark and Anne Orthner, Michael Petri, Sue Roach, Judy Testa and Stefanie White. Pastor Susan asked if there were any nominations from the floor.

There being no additional nominations, a motion to close the nominations was approved. A motion to elect those nominated to form the PNC was approved. Pastor Susan reminded the congregation that the work of the PNC takes quite a bit of time, and asked for their patience.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed with prayer by the moderator at 11:56 AM.

Michael Petri - Clerk of Session / Secretary of the Corporation

Clerk of Session's Report

2014 marked our 153rd year as a congregation. As always, I am amazed at the dedication, time and talents displayed by our members as we strive to follow in our Lord's footsteps. This year was another tough budget year as we struggled not only with our usual operating costs as a church, but also with continued deterioration of our aging facilities. Unfortunately, these financial concerns tend to shift our attention away from new mission strategies; we feel there is not much more that can be cut from our budget without impacting our existing mission.

The topic of our Spanish ministry seemed to be of particular interest this year, perhaps prompted by the work of the Mission Study team. In light of their recommendation that the Session determine how to proceed with this ministry and whisperings about the expense of maintaining this ministry, the Session held a special meeting in November to discuss the pros and cons of continuing this mission that has been part of our church identity for about 50 years. After much discussion, the Session unanimously decided to continue the ministry for the foreseeable future while working in the coming year to address concerns such as the lack of interaction between the English- and Spanish-speaking members. Integrating the Spanish ministry has always been a difficult business for our church due primarily to the language barrier, but we all feel richer for this example of different cultures (and often economic classes) sharing together our faith in Christ. We are a very, very rare example of a bi-lingual church.

It should be noted that the only new church members and baptisms for 2014 are part of the Spanish ministry.

Our church has continued the tradition of supporting our Presbytery by providing meeting space for committee meeting, as well as participation in Presbytery committees. We hosted the Presbytery's annual Congregational Life event, and will also do so in 2015.

Our church also has continued its long tradition of community worship by working and worshipping with our Methodist friends at joint services (including several during Lent and at Thanksgiving) and the Vacation Bible School program.

The church also supported the community through a number of programs, mostly run by our fantastic Board of Deacons. We thank them for continuing their mission of caring.

The Session is always thankful for the work of all of our church organizations and members that keep our ministry going. We are all part of this shared ministry, and we are blessed to have such a caring and dedicated church family.

Despite all these joys, our membership and attendance figures for 2014 are discouraging:

Two long-time members of our church family died in 2014: Jessie Kelley (deacon) and Joan Roeschen (ruling elder).

Active Members' Roll: As of December 31, 2014, we have 143 members on our active members' roll. This is a decrease from 161 members at the end of 2013.

Gains: Seven members. This includes 5 new members and 2 moved from the inactive members' roll. Our new members in 2014 are: Oliva Castaneda, Norma Echevarrias, Giovanni Arenas, and Lydia and Samuel Marcano.

Losses: 25 members. This includes 2 deaths, and 23 moved to the inactive members' roll.

Baptisms: There were 2 baptisms: Arenas Santiago and Serena Marcano

Attendance: Attendance figures are collected by the usher teams. (Usher teams, now you know why we collect these figures.) The average attendance at the English worship services dropped from 81 to 68 over the last year. The average attendance at the Spanish services decreased from 23 to 20. Total (English and Spanish) average Sunday worship attendance for the year decreased from 104 to 87.

Michael Petri - Clerk of Session

Board of Deacons' Report

The Board of Deacons ministered to those in need serving both the church family and our community. Various service activities included; overseeing the food pantry and the clothing ministry, planning and holding health topic sessions, visiting and making phone calls to the sick and homebound, distributing flowers, supporting the ESL program, heading the backpack and Christmas Angel projects, and preparing grace bags for the homeless. The Deacons' column, written by Carol Orsi, appeared in the Lamplighter to keep the congregation apprised of the Deacons' activities held throughout the year and suggest how we could all carry out the Lord's work.

The Deacons served the congregation by making 132 visits, 91 phone calls, sending 508 cards, providing 98 rides, running 3 errands, assisting in the food pantry and the clothing ministry, distributing 98 flowers and taking communion to church members unable to attend church. The Deacons are also in the process of contacting inactive members through personal cards and calls. The Deacons purchased badges for deacons and elders to wear during church and other events so they can be easily identified when church members are in need of the services they provide.

The Food Pantry and the Clothing Ministry are completely volunteer supported. Many of the volunteers are from the community and attend other churches. The average number of volunteers per week for the Food Pantry is 8 and 2 for the Clothing Ministry. Both ministries benefit from the generosity of the church community. We would not have been able to serve 1493 families in the Food Pantry and 1060 clients in our Clothing Ministry without continued support through monetary donations and donated food and clothing.

The Food Pantry, under the direction of fellow Deacon Janice Riley, continues to serve the entire community. The pantry is open from 9:00am to 12pm on Wednesdays. The food pantry gets its major food supply from the Community Food Bank of NJ. The Food Pantry received a \$3500 Partners in Caring grant from the ShopRite in Hammonton that is credited to our account at the Community Food Bank to purchase food. In appreciation for ShopRite's generosity, the Deacons participated in ShopRite's Bag for Hunger by volunteering to bag groceries. In addition to individual donors, the pantry also received donations from various organizations in our area including the Hammonton Lions Club, the Soroptimists, Crusin' Classics, and SJ Gas Co. Area businesses support the food pantry: most notably Cacia's Bakery in Hammonton donates bread every week and WaWa on 12th Street in Hammonton donates breakfast sandwiches every week. The Britt family has been very generous donating food items.

For our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive: 100 food baskets were distributed to the needy. A total of \$991 in donations from church members was received which helped offset the costs of the food baskets purchased from the Community Food Bank and Bagliani's Market in Hammonton. The total cost for the baskets was \$1,117. In addition, Donio's Top Crop and Joe Berenato Farms generously donated fresh fruits and vegetables to the church for use in our Thanksgiving Baskets.

The Clothing Ministry is open at the same time as the Food Pantry. Fellow Deacon Hilda Lugo and church member Ody Sotelo run the ministry. The Deacons held 2 Pennies-for-Pound Clothing Drives. We received \$643.79 for the clothes that we collected. Church members for each drive donated clothes and other cloth items and additionally we included clothes donated to the Clothing Ministry that are not usable. Fashion Republic is the company that takes the items and either distributes them here or abroad to needy families or recycles the cloth. The company pays 13 cents per pound. Fellow Deacon Dorrine Esposito enrolled us with the Annual Jersey Cares Coat Drive and we received approximately 100 coats that are being distributed through our Clothing ministry.

The Deacons held 2 health sessions with lunch included after church. Fellow church member Mrs. Anne Orthner gave the MS presentation. Valerie Hopkins, Branch

Coordinator for the Alzheimer's Association for Atlantic & Cape May Counties, gave the Alzheimer's Presentation. Both presentations were well attended and very informative.

The Deacons supported the ESL program at church. Church member Michael Villani assisted with having Comcast come in and hook up WIFI access so the ESL teachers can use the laptops that were donated to access the Internet and utilize programs for ESL instruction.

The Deacons also headed up the yearly Back Pack Drive for needy children at the beginning of the school year. Once again church members showed their generosity by purchasing and filling 21 backpacks and donating \$450. An additional 15 backpacks were purchased and filled with school supplies. The Hammonton ECEC, Hammonton Elementary, and Hammonton Middle schools received all 36 backpacks as well as a large box of school supplies each.

The Deacons also initiated the File of Life Program in the Hammonton community. File of Life is a non-profit organization that makes emergency medical packets including a door decal, fridge magnet with informational medical sheet and a wallet card with informational medical sheet. The program helps first responders keep informed of a patient's medical history so that they can receive the best immediate care. The Deacons spent \$1,500 to purchase 1,000 packets that were distributed to the Hammonton community through Hammonton's Green Day Festival, local pharmacies, the Canoe Club, AtlantiCare EMTs, and a local senior citizen group. We made presentations about the program to the Hammonton Town Council, the Canoe Club, AtlantiCare EMT supervisor Sheri Cullen, and a senior citizen group at Fire Hall #2. We are hoping they make a difference in case of emergency in the community's life.

The Deacons donated \$2,500 for a major capital improvement on the church grounds. Mature Concrete installed a sidewalk from the back entrance of the church, through the playground, to the back fence gate. The sidewalk directly benefits the Food Pantry for safe and easy food deliveries, but also benefits the church by creating a safer play area for the children (exposed rebar and rotting railroad ties were removed) and easier access into the church.

The Deacons also ran the annual Christmas Angel Tree Project. The congregation was asked to contribute \$20 to provide gifts to local area children. Volunteer shoppers bought gifts for 2 area families (including 8 children) that were identified by the Hammonton Middle School. The church congregation and others donated a total of \$1,051 in monetary donations with an additional \$725 donated in gifts from shoppers making a total of \$1,776. Shoppers were given wish lists from the children that also included sizes, color, etc. so that gifts could be personally selected for each child. Each family was also given a \$50 gift card from ShopRite. The Deacons delivered the wrapped gifts to the families. Upon delivering gifts the Deacons noticed that one family was in desperate need and a Christmas tree complete with decorations and a card table & chairs were purchased. Also, a pullout couch and full size bed, bedding, food, and additional clothes were procured and donated. The Deacons are in the process of also collecting some much needed kitchen supplies (dishes, cups, pots, pans, silverware, microwave, etc.) for the family as well.

The Deacons keep pursuing ways to “Carry the Light and Love of Christ into the World” and thank our church family members for their continued and most generous support.

Submitted by:
Carol Orsi, Moderator
Becky Villani, Secretary

Session Committee Reports

Christian Education Committee Report

Our Christian Education program continues to thrive under excellent leadership and participation of our Sunday school teachers. . We meet as a committee after church, as needed. A pastor attends all meetings.

Opening exercises begin at 9:30am, led by Ms. Robin and helpers. During this time, the children pray together, sing, observe birthdays and offer their offerings.

Our teaching staff is as follows:

Robin Mishkovsky and Maria Paine	Pre-K – K
Mary Hershman and Linda Byrne	Grades 1 & 2
Susan Reitmeyer	Grades 3 & 4
Shawn Hershman	Grades 5 & 6
Matthew Hershman	Grades 7 & 8
Bob Reitmeyer and Charlie Muller	High School
Rick Walker	Adults
Sallye & Mary Hershman	Children’s Church
Darrell Hershman	Treasurer

Currently there is no nursery worker. Therefore we are looking for volunteers. If interested in helping with this ministry, please contact Susan Iacovone.

Vacation Bible School was held at our church from July 20th – July 24th. This year’s theme was Weird Animals. The children learned when they feel weird, different, or even lost in a crowd, nothing compares to the extraordinary love of Jesus. The sanctuary and Christian Education wing was transformed into an underwater adventure. The children experienced God’s word in many surprising ways. Each day, leaders reinforced a simple Bible truth filled with a lot of crazy creatures.

A special thank-you to Becky Villani for all her hard work in transforming our church into one of the most awesome underwater areas on the planet! Dinner was offered prior to the opening. We had approximately 75 children in attendance. This was Awesome! Thanks to all the volunteers who made this so much fun for the children of our church and community. All monetary and food donations went to Hammonton Helps.

We held our Children’s Christmas pageant on December 21st. There was no Sunday school on Sunday, December 28th but the children were encouraged to attend church with their parents.

I would like to take this time to thank all the teachers and the Christian Education committee, the Vacation Bible School volunteers and helpers and the Pastors for all of their support this past year.

As of December 31st, I stepped down as Christian Education Chairperson; I ask that you pray for my successor, Susan Roach as she begins her journey as the new Chairperson. It has been a pleasure serving in this capacity for the past 10 years.

Submitted by the Christian Education Committee
Beth Burkett, Chairperson

English Worship & Stewardship Committee Report

Members: Cindy Birnbaum, Ruth DiMeo, Fran Fichetola, Marylee Kondrach, Donna Ordille, Michael Petri Janice Riley, Sue Roach, Karen Stokes, Bill Towne, Becky Villani, Stefanie White and Pastor Susan.

The English Worship & Stewardship Committee is responsible for working with the pastor to organize the English worship services and plan and execute the annual stewardship campaign. The Committee coordinates various worship activities and tasks such as communion preparation, liturgists, greeters, music, ushers and coffee hour hosts. We also prepare and maintain the sanctuary for weekly worship, monthly communion, and seasonal worship services.

This year was a year with far too much discussion of candles. We started off the year checking out different options to replace the candle holders used for the Christmas Eve candlelight service. The results of that discussion were evident with the new holders used on December 24. We also spent much time discussing the problem of the dripping candles used on the communion table. We eventually settled on oil candles, which were generously donated by Erika and Dan Lower. It took us some time to learn how to maintain these candles... and then they were stolen along with the brass candlesticks that date back to around the 1960s. Some other items were also stolen from the sacristy.

Other new items for the year: New napkins were ordered for the communion bread plates. The worship bulletin was reorganized so that it is easier to follow through the worship service by confining the order of worship to one sheet of paper inserted in the bulletin. Also, due to Pastor Susan's allergy to lilies, we festooned the chancel area with tulips and daffodils at Easter this year instead.

Other changes for the year included limited ourselves to one bi-lingual service (for Pentecost). In lieu of additional chances to worship as one congregation in two languages, we held additional pot-luck dinners to encourage the fellowship of our full congregation.

Other activities following the worship services included the annual strawberry and blueberry festivals as well as an ice-cream social, and a special reception in celebration of our members who are 80 and over. We recognized the women and men of the church on Mother's Day and Father's Day, respectively.

Our stewardship campaign theme for the year was generosity. We returned to our previous practice of asking for specific annual pledges toward the church budget. This facilitates our church budgeting process. This year we also worked with the Finance Committee on the special mid-season campaign to raise funds toward the operating budget deficit and needed building repairs. Another fund-raising idea that is under exploration is the installation of a “giving tree”, where engraved metal “leaves” are provided for donations.

We thank Interim Pastor Susan for her inspiration and leadership over the last year. And we are appreciative of the work done by our office manager, Susan Ficken, in preparing the weekly worship bulletins, stewardship mailings, etc. And we thank YOU for participating in the life and work of our church by attending our worship services. We are here to worship our awesome God!

Special thanks to Marylee and Stefanie for taking notes at our meetings, and to Ruth for her amazing notebook of important committee information.

Praise the Lord! Let the Earth hear his voice! Let the people rejoice!

Michael Petri, Chair

Stewardship Campaign for 2015

Total pledges received: 53*

Total dollars pledged for 2015: \$139,708.92

*Three of the received pledge cards received did not include a monetary donation amount, and one pledge was a lump sum donation recorded in 2014.

Chancel Choir

The choir members continue to offer their voices for the glory of God. Each week the faithful members rehearse at 9:00 AM on Sunday, and the music helps to beautify the worship service.

Those faithful members are: Bob Bauers, Vivian Freeman, Kris Guldin, Marylee Kondrach, Rebecca Lindstrom, Dan Lower, Betsy Mazzone, Michael Petri, Linda Rebek, Chris Rehmann, Janice Riley, Bill Roeschen, Bev Shockey, and Joan Shockey.

I would like to thank all the choir members for their hard work, dedication, and talent. A special thank you to Pastor Susan who has lent her beautiful voice on numerous occasions.

Cindy Birnbaum
Choir Director

Handbell Choirs

This has been a difficult year for our handbell ringers. We mourned the passing of our faithful and beloved Jessie Kelley. Her Bell was tolled at her funeral. We also had several serious hospitalizations. In addition, we have a couple of “snowbirds” so our attendance was quite affected. Nevertheless, the Glory Ringers rang twice since September.

The Glory Ringers meet on Monday mornings at 10:45 AM, till noon. Rehearsals are usually followed by a restaurant visit for lunch!

Members include: Elsie Bakley, Carmen Castaldi, Marion Citta, Fran Fichetola, Vivian Freeman, Jean Grimm, Linda Rebek, Janice Riley, Joan Shockey, Karen Stokes and Barbara Tanger.

The Gospbell Ringers meet on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 PM. The music is challenging but rewarding. A special thank you to Patrick Riley for filling in on Christmas Eve and adding extra bells from Atco Presbyterian.

Our members include: Carmen Castaldi, Marion Citta, Vivian Freeman, Kris Guldin, Mary Hershman Betsy Mazzone, Kate Ogden, Linda Rebek, Janice Riley, Karen Stokes, and our substitute, Michael Petri.

I wish to thank all the dedicated Ringers who give freely of their time to serve the Church for the glory of God.

Cindy Birnbaum
Handbell Director

Personnel Committee Report

Members of the Personnel Committee include Johanna R. Johnson, Richard Walker, Nancy Foster, and Frances Fichetola, Bob Bauers and Interim Pastor Susan.

The committee met once in September 21, 2014. Present were Pastor Susan, Johanna R. Johnson, Nancy Foster, and Fran Fichetola. The purpose of the meeting was to recommend extension of the contract of our Interim pastor for a full year if needed. Recommendation was also made to increase her salary as prescribed by the Presbytery.

It was also recommended that the Finance Committee include in the 2015 budget raises as appropriate for all other employees.

The Personnel Committee discussed and sought quotes for church cleaning to be completed twice monthly at a reasonable fee. Two companies were contacted for this purpose. A recommendation based on the companies' quotes were reported to the Finance Committee.

One other issue of a confidential nature was explained by Pastor Susan; she explained how it was resolved.

Johanna R. Johnson, Chair

Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee members are John Bock, Lynn Bauers, Elsie Bakley, Betsy Mazzone and Rick Walker.

Even though 2014 was a challenging year financially for our Church, our Church family rose to the occasion. Early in the year, our heating system in the Christian Education building that served one side of the building ceased to operate in a very cold winter. We spent several thousand dollars trying to fix the problem and had to spend \$11,700 to re-pipe half the system. In addition our natural gas bills were very high due to the cold weather and the broken system. We spent over \$2,500 in higher gas bills.

Given the problem with the heating system and other significant building problems such as the roofs on the Christian Education building and Sanctuary, we asked our members and friends to contribute additional funds for both the capital needs and the annual budget.

Great news!! As of 12/31/2014, we have received \$29,566 for capital projects. \$11,700 of this amount was used to pay for the repairs for the heating system. We have estimates to repair/replace roofs for \$16,775.

As to the annual budget, again **Great News!!** As of 12/31/2014, income exceeded expenses by \$988. We received \$5,700 in additional pledge income and \$4,165 in additional gifts and memorials. Many of our members are continuing their increased giving into 2015. Praise the Lord.

Our congregation, through the budget's per capita, mission support and through special collections, always supports our Presbytery, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and mission funds. In 2014 we gave a total of \$ to the following:

Presbytery, GA & Synod	\$4,000
Per Capita Assessment	\$4,882
Special Offerings	

Our church account balances as of December 31, 2014 totaled \$62,402 in the following accounts:

Operating Account	\$20,113
Capital One 360 Savings Account	\$14,647
Covenant Funds	\$27,642

2015 will be a challenge but with everyone's continued support, we will be able to serve our community for the glory of God.

Rick Walker, Chair

Buildings and Grounds

The Buildings and Grounds Committee is responsible for the maintenance and repair of the Church, Christian Education Building, both Manses and their properties.

If you think back to this time last year we were battling snow and ice seemingly daily and thankfully we had many volunteers come out to help clear and salt our Church buildings. This year Mother Nature has been a little kinder, so far...

Repairs were made to the heating system to bypass the leaking pipes in one of the zones. Throughout the year there have been numerous repairs to lighting and plumbing problems as they have come up. There are several areas that need to be addressed in the upcoming year.

I would like to personally thank everyone who gave of their time this year including Bob Bauers, Bill Roeschen, Bob Reitmeyer, Dan Lower, Charles Muller, Michael Petri, Becky Villani, Rick Walker, Millie Walker, Johanna Johnson and Darrell Hershman.

We are truly blessed to have the beautiful, historical Church that we do. However, as with any older building there are plenty of projects on the "To Do" list. Some of them include repairing basement doors, caulking around the building, landscaping, building a roof over the side door to name a few... so please consider coming out for the fellowship and satisfaction of a job well done with the Building and Grounds Committee!

John Bock, chair

Financial Reports

Income and Expenses - 2014

	INCOME	BUDGET	ACTUAL
1.	Pledges	\$150,000	\$154,768.21
2.	Loose Offering	8,000	5,512.82
3.	Church School	500	198.20
4.	Miscellaneous	7,750	5,906.55
5.	Memorials & Gifts	2,500	6,665.47
6.	Use of Building	3,000	2,900.00
7.	Transfer from Reserves	0	11,800.00
	Total Income	\$171,750	\$187,751.25
	EXPENSES		
	LOCAL PROGRAM		
1.	Staff & Related Costs	\$90,498	\$85,393.01
2.	Worship & Music	1,425	1,061.34
3.	Evangelism & Activities	1,100	171.22
4.	Christian Education	3,000	2,087.85
5.	Office Operation	6,250	6,580.06
	Total Local Program	\$102,273	\$95,293.48
	BUILDINGS & GROUNDS		
6.	Electric	\$10,800	\$7,536.99
7.	Gas	10,400	13,420.33
8.	Water & Sewer	3,700	3,595.42
9.	Telephone	2,600	2,346.28
10.	Insurance	11,500	11,218.31
11.	Building & Ground Supplies	1,500	302.18
12.	Maintenance & Repairs	5,800	8,466.27
	Total Building & Grounds	\$46,300	\$46,885.78
	GENERAL MISSION		
13.	Per Capita Assessment	\$6,510	\$4,882.50
14.	Session Grants	100	0.00
15.	Presbytery, Synod & GA Causes	4,000	4,000.00
	Total General Mission	\$10,610	\$8,882.50
	CAPITAL		
16.	Renovation Loan	\$23,196	23,196.00
17.	Capital Expenses	5,000	12,504.80
	Total Capital	\$28,196	\$35,700.80
	Total Expenses	\$187,379	\$186,762.56
	Total Surplus (Deficit)	(15,629)	988.69

Renovation Loan Status

The loan used to finance the 2008-2010 sanctuary and accessibility renovations is held by the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program (PILP), a program of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Terms of the loan are reviewed at five year intervals. As a result of this first review in October 2013, PILP reduced the interest rate on the remaining balance from 4.9% to 3.5%, while maintaining the existing monthly payments. This will accelerate the loan payoff.

Loan balance information:

Original Terms: October 27, 2008	\$335,000 @ 4.90%
Repayment period:	20 years
Revised Terms: October 2013	3.50%
Balance as of 12/31/13	\$160,094
Payments in 2014 (including \$5,283 interest)	\$25,583
Extra principal payments from donations*	\$2,387
Balance as of 12/31/14	\$139,794
Current expected loan payoff:	October 2021

*Loan payments in 2014 included additional principle payments provided by members of the congregation and the Presbyterian Women.

All additional donations to the mortgage principal significantly reduce the total interest payments and the payoff time of the loan, and are very welcome.

Mortgage payments make up 8.2% of our 2015 budget. Eliminating the mortgage would eliminate our expected budget deficit.

Church Funds Status

Year-end fund balances for the three church accounts are listed below. Increases in 2014 largely reflect as-yet-unspent building fund contributions.

ACCOUNT	2013	2014	CHANGE
Operating Account	\$2,775	\$20,113	\$17,338
Capital One 360 Savings Account	11,602	14,647	3,045
Covenant Funds	29,198	27,642	-1,556
Total	\$43,575	\$62,402	\$18,827

Additionally, the church receives income from the Betty Petrecca Memorial Fund, but cannot access the funds. The balance of this fund as of September 2014 was \$25,792.

Budgets for 2015

We have again included two budgets for the upcoming year. The first budget is a Mission-oriented Budget. This budget seeks to place our church spending within the broad context of our church mission. It starts with a description from our Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) denominational constitution of why we exist as a church, and follows with how the “great ends of the church” are supported within our annual spending. The church is the body of Christ, so this budget closes with a reminder that each part of the body, each of us, and each part of the budget, is a part of our mission.

The second budget is the unified budget, which lists specific expenses (most grouped by category).

The two budgets use the same figures, but are categorized in different ways. The intent is to provide more understanding that each budget item, no matter how honorable or respectable (to use words from 1 Corinthians 12) are part our church, our mission, and the body of Christ.

Mission-Oriented Budget – 2015

According to the Presbyterian Church (USA) constitution (the Book of Order): In our own time, we affirm that, in the power of the Spirit, the Church is faithful to the mission of Christ as it:

- Proclaims and hears the Word of God, responding to the promise of God’s new creation in Christ, and inviting all people to participate in that new creation;
- Administers and receives the Sacraments, welcoming those who are being engrafted into Christ, bearing witness to Christ’s saving death and resurrection, anticipating the heavenly banquet that is to come, and committing itself in the present to solidarity with the marginalized and the hungry; and
- Nurtures a covenant community of disciples of Christ, living in the strength of God’s promise and giving itself in service to God’s mission.

The great ends of the Church are:

- the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind;
- the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God;
- the maintenance of divine worship;
- the preservation of the truth;
- the promotion of social righteousness; and
- the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.

Our church budget supports these great ends through eight mission categories of spending. Each category is necessary to support our church program, and all are interconnected:

1. For the ministry of ministry: the proclamation of the Gospel, the administration of the sacraments, pastoral care and leadership, spiritual guidance and help. (This includes all expenses associated with our two pastors [*our teaching elders*], including salary, benefits, professional expenses and housing. It also includes pulpit supply.) \$78,881

2. For the maintenance of divine worship. (This includes worship resources, our music staff and instrument maintenance.) \$12,833
 3. For the administration and communication of the affairs of our parish. (This includes office operations, our church secretary, and preparation and distribution of worship bulletins, newsletters, web information, etc.) \$16,479
 4. For the constant care of God's house, that it may be clean, warm, light and useful for our parish program of worship, education, activities, and community outreach including the food pantry, clothing ministry, and space for support groups and outside organizations. (This includes cleaning, fuel, electricity, sewer, water, repairs, and care of the grounds. This also includes maintenance to the two manses.) \$28,123
 5. To provide for the mission of being a Christian community, providing education and activities. (This includes local mission, educational and activity expenses.) \$3,800
 6. That our church may be protected, and that we may be able to meet unexpected demands. (This includes insurance and funding for capital repairs.) \$16,500
 7. For the continuation of the financial credit of our church on our indebtedness. (This includes payments on our capital improvements mortgage.) \$23,196
 8. To support our connectional church mission, and provide for the administration of our denominational body. (This includes the per capita payments that support our Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly.) \$10,339
- Budget Total: \$190,151

1 Corinthians 12: 18-31

God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

Unified Budget - 2015

	INCOME	2,014	2,015	CHANGE
1.	Pledges	\$150,000	\$159,200	9,200
2.	Loose Offering	8,000	6,000	-2,000
3.	Church School	500	500	0
4.	Miscellaneous	7,750	7,750	0
5.	Memorials & Gifts	2,500	4,000	1,500
6.	Use of Building	3,000	3,000	0
	Total Budgeted Income	\$171,750	\$180,450	\$8,700
	EXPENSES			
	LOCAL PROGRAM			
1.	Staff & Related Costs	\$90,498	\$91,141	643
2.	Worship & Music	1,425	1,425	0
3.	Evangelism & Activities	1,100	800	-300
4.	Christian Education	3,000	3,000	0
5.	Office Operation	6,250	6,250	0
	Total Local Program	\$102,273	\$102,616	343
	BUILDINGS & GROUNDS			
6.	Electric	\$10,800	\$9,000	-1,800
7.	Gas	10,400	11,900	1,500
8.	Water & Sewer	3,700	3,300	-400
9.	Telephone	2,600	2,500	-100
10.	Insurance	11,500	11,500	0
11.	Building & Ground Supplies	1,500	1,000	-500
12.	Maintenance & Repairs	5,800	9,800	4,000
	Total Buildings & Grounds	\$46,300	\$49,000	2,700
	GENERAL MISSION			
13.	Per Capita Assessment	\$6,510	\$6,239	-271
14.	Session Grants	100	100	0
15.	Presbytery, Synod & GA Causes	4,000	4,000	0
	Total General Mission	\$10,610	\$10,339	-271
	LOAN & CAPITAL			
16.	Renovation Loan	\$23,196	\$23,196	0
17.	Capital Expenses	5,000	5,000	0
	Total Loan & Capital	\$28,196	\$28,196	0
	Total Budgeted Expenses	\$187,379	\$190,151	2,772
	Total Surplus (Deficit)	(15,629)	(9,701)	5,928

Staff Salaries and Costs – 2015

	2014	2015	CHANGE
Pastor *	\$67,521	\$68,931	1,410
Director of Spanish Ministry *	\$1,250	\$1,250	0
Office Manager	\$7,016	7,229	213
Organist/Choir Director	\$7,344	7,560	216
Organist - Spanish Service	\$3,744	3,848	104
Total Salaries	\$86,875	\$88,818	1,943

* These figures do not include housing and utilities.

Interim Pastor Compensation – 2015

The Interim Pastor position is not a "called" pastoral position as defined in the Book of Order, so terms for the position do not require approval by the congregation. The salary for 2015 includes a 2% increase.

PASTOR COMPENSATION - 2015			
	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>CHANGE</u>
Salary	\$43,602	\$44,474	\$872
Professional Expense	3,000	3,000	0
Continuing Education	750	750	0
Subtotal	\$47,352	\$48,224	\$872
Pension/Medical	19,839	20,264	\$425
Dental	330	443	113
Total	\$67,521	\$68,931	\$1,410

Interim Pastor Compensation also include:

- Full use of the manse, including all utilities and lawn care (figures included in the budget under Buildings and Grounds)
- A month of vacation, including four or five Sundays

Director of Spanish Ministry Compensation – 2015

The Director of Spanish Ministry position is not a "called" pastoral position as defined in the Book of Order, so terms for the position do not require approval by the congregation. The terms are identical to 2014. The position is currently a part-time position at 16 hours/week.

DIRECTOR of SPANISH MINISTRY - 2015	
Professional Expense	750
Continuing Education	500
Total	\$1,250

Director of Spanish Ministry compensation also includes:

- Full use of the manse, including all utilities and lawn care (figures included in the budget under Buildings and Grounds)
- A month of vacation, including four or five Sundays

Organizations

The church supports a range of other organizations by providing meeting space, leadership and or sponsorship. These groups include Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, English and Spanish language Alcoholics Anonymous meetings, Multiple Sclerosis Support Group, Parent Support Group, Hope & Support Group, and English as a Second Language classes. The church provided performance space for the Hammonton Teen Arts Festival. The church also provides regular meeting space for some Presbytery committees and commissions.

Congregation Committees

Audit Committee Report for the Year Ending December 31, 2013

The Audit Committee completed their review of the Financial Records of the Hammonton Presbyterian Church for the year ending December 31, 2013.

The Committee used the Financial Review Guide and the associated checklist provided by the 2001 Presbyterian Church USA, and used it to insure that all financial procedures are in conformance with the Book of Order.

The nature of the review is to review that the churches financial policies and procedures are in place and implemented to help the congregation have confidence and trust in the stewardship of their contributions.

The committee contacted the Treasurer, Secretary for Finance, the Finance Committee chairperson, and the Interim Pastor to discuss the year 2013. It is the opinion of the Audit Committee that the personnel responsible for the oversight of the church's financial resources provide the expertise in the financial oversight of the churches finances. The committee reviewed specific areas:

Bank and Investments – the committee reviewed all of the churches operating and investment accounts. All information was found to be in order.

Income – the committee verified that all of the funds collected were properly recorded on a weekly basis, based on the weekly breakdown of church collections. All items were properly recorded.

Disbursements – invoices for services were compared to the checkbook and the general ledger for proper disbursement. The amount paid was in agreement with the invoices and properly recorded in the general ledger.

Reports – The financial documents provided give an accurate financial picture of the Church. The procedures that are followed provide good internal controls. However, the policy manual should be reviewed and updated to reflect the current procedures that are being implemented.

General Ledger - The General Ledger reflects all of the Church's income and disbursements as tested from the invoices and deposits based on the weekly breakdown of church collections.

Administrative – All insurances policies were reviewed for sufficient coverage and effective dates. The policies reviewed appear to be provide sufficient coverage and are current.

Payroll – For the 2013 fiscal year there were 7 employees that were considered church employees and received the proper W2 forms, in addition there were 3 employees who received 1099 forms. A review of all payroll tax payments were found to be made on time.

Submitted by Charlie Muller
Auditing Committee

Pastor Nominating Committee Report

Members: Beth Burkett, Carmen Castaldi, Rebecca Lindstrom, Anne and Mark Orthner, Sue Roach, Judy Testa and Stefanie White.

The Pastor Nominating Committee was elected by the congregation in November and then met several weeks later for instruction by Presbytery Executive Rev. Debby Brincivalli and our Committee On Ministry (COM) representative, the Rev. Blake Spencer. Since then, we have met to organize ourselves and get started. Our first task is to prepare a Ministry Information Form (MIF) which will be used by our denomination's matching service to find potential pastor candidates. We plan to start work on this immediately. The MIF must be approved by the session as well as the COM, so it may take several months before we are able to start reviewing candidates. Many more months may be spent looking for that special someone.

Keep in mind that this is a confidential process, so please don't ask us for specific information... but feel free to ask how we're progressing. We ask for your prayers as we seek to discern that person that God is calling to serve with us in our church community.

Michael Petri, Chair

Nominating Committee Report

While most committees in the church are Session committees, the Nominating Committee is a committee of the congregation. According to the bylaws of our church, the Nominating Committee shall consist of at least seven persons. At least four members from the congregation at large are to be elected by the congregation. Of those elected, none can be actively serving on the Session or Board of Deacons. Two elders, at least one currently serving on the Session who will serve as the committee chair, will be chosen by the Session. The Deacons will choose one member from the Board of Deacons. No members of the Nominating Committee may serve more than three consecutive years.

The Nominating Committee is responsible for providing a slate of candidates to exactly fill all church offices. Specifically, the committee must nominate four members to serve on the nominating committee (one year term), four Session members (three year term), three Board of Deacon members (three year term), and at least two auditors (one year term). Additional candidates may be necessary to fill unexpired terms.

Candidates should be selected not only based on their character and abilities, but also to be representative of the congregation as a whole.

Nominations “from the floor” (from the congregation) are welcome. However, those nominated must have previously offered their consent to serve. Keep in mind that the number of positions is limited, and any competing nominations may force a vote on the candidates. If there are no nominations from the floor, a motion to close the nominations and have the clerk record a unanimous ballot in favor of the nominee is welcome.

The Congregational Nominating Committee presents the following slate of candidates:

Office of Ruling Elder – Class of 2017

Sue Iacovone
Marylee Kondrach
Betsy Mazzone
Chris Rehmann

Office of Church Auditor for 2015

Beverly Shockey
Charlie Muller
Theresa Stubbe

Office of Ruling Elder – Class of 2015

Frank Reid (filling unexpired term)

Office of Deacon – Class of 2017

Jennifer Helms-Clark
Rich Gibson
Hilda Lugo
Sue Roach

Nominating Committee for 2015

Ruth DiMeo
Robin Mishkovsky
Cindy Muller
RoseMarie Reid

In addition to the yearly Nominating Report I would like to add the following. Our committee worked on forming the Pastoral Nominating Committee. This committee is composed of nine members of our congregation including Elders and Deacons. We were extremely lucky to have each and every person asked accept this most important position.

This committee will be very busy for possibly the next year or even longer meeting every week. The committee consists of the following members. Beth Burkett, Carmen Castaldi, Rebecca Lindstrom, Anne Orthner, Mark Orthner, Michael Petri, Sue Roach, Judy Testa and Stefanie White.

The Nominating Committee for 2014 included: Nancy Foster as the Session Rep., Rebecca Lindstrom as the Deacon Rep, Sue Iacovone, Anne Orthner, Linda Rebek and Sue Reitmeyer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marylee Kondrach – Nominating Chairperson