2016 Annual Report

prepared for the Annual Meetings of the Congregation and Corporation
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“...at the intersection of God and the World”

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“New partnerships” seems to be one of themes of the ministry that happened in and through the congregation at LFPC in 2016. The Apostle Paul wrote to the church of his “joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now” (Phil. 1:5). To another congregation he remembers how he and his colleagues “were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well” (1 Thess.2:8).

Here are a few of the new partnerships in 2016 will you find in these reports.

- presbytery youth connection
- Charles and Melissa Johnson (new PCUSA mission co-workers in Zambia)
- welcoming eight new members and partners in the gospel into our congregation through baptism, confirmation, and reaffirmation of faith
- developing and strengthening relationships between the church and the preschool families

Perhaps the most powerful witness we have to God’s purpose and power is the unity of the body of Jesus Christ. In today’s political and cultural climate of division and narrowly defined identity, Jesus exhorts his disciples to be united with one another in him (John 18:20-23). Looking forward, we will need to strengthen our partnerships in the ministry of the good news of Jesus Christ. We can’t “be the church” with only our congregation. We won’t be as fruitful (see John 15) as we could be without other congregations. To this end we are making plans to work with another presbyterian church on our “Be the Church” Sunday in the spring. What other opportunities might the Spirit give us to be partners in the gospel with others?

You will also read of efforts to reach out to the community and invite them to experience the love of God so evident in our congregation. Not all of them gave the results that we were hoping for while some of them did. What we learn from these attempts, our commitment continue to pray and listen for God’s direction, and our faith that inspires courageous new things will shape the year of 2017.

Peace and grace in Christ,
Pastor Garrett
Corporate Society Meeting Agenda

● Call to order
● Opening prayer
● Treasurer’s report and review of 2017 budget
● Reading and approval of minutes
● Adjournment

Congregational Meeting Agenda

● Call to order
● Opening prayer
● Pastor’s terms of call
● Annual reports
● Motion for Session to approve minutes at its next meeting
● Adjournment

Nominating Committee

Submitted by Tina Buzak & Rick Pelotte, Co-chairs of 2016 Nominating Committee

Nominating Committee begins work in the early part of the year. Elections are held at a congregational meeting in April. Officers are installed in June. Elders and Deacons serve for a 3-year term and the dates listed below are the year in which the current officer will complete his/her term.

The following members of the congregation were elected to serve on the 2017 Nominating Committee: Coleen Clapper, Tim Fay and Mary Gorman.

Elders (class year)
Ray Campbell ‘17
Beth Larson ‘17
Jim Thayer ‘17
Gary Gaffney ‘18
Leigh Anne Herd ‘18
Bill Putman ‘18
Joe Gorman ‘19
Brian Everts ‘19
Rob Santos ‘19

Deacons (class year)
Jennifer Campbell ‘17
Michael Cirillo ‘17
Fletcher Smith ‘17
Cynthia Golden ‘17
Emma VanHoute (y) ‘17
Marianne Van Houte ‘18
Deb Copp ‘18
Linda Hook ‘18
Becky Krebs ‘18
Melissa Beerman ‘19
Bill Calnan ‘19

Treasurer
Tom Ogden

Financial Secretary
Eileen DeGroff (resigned January 2017)
Michael Herd (acting)
Clerk’s Statistical Report
Submitted by Karen Fay, Clerk of Session

Church Membership (as of 12/31/16) 132

Additions:
Adult Baptisms 1
Confirmation 1
Reaffirmation of Faith 5
Letter of Transfer 1

Losses:
Deceased 2
  Donna Ellitharp
  Ron Shoenberger
Letter of Transfer 0

Church Membership (as of 12/31/16) 138

Funerals: 1
  Jane VanLengen (Non-Member)
Session Removals 0
Infant Baptisms 3
Weddings 3

REPORTS OF STAFF, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Pastor
submitted by Rev. Garrett Anderson

In the many hats I wear as pastor to the congregation, moderator of session, head-of staff, and presbytery member these are the the highlights of 2016.

The staff at LFPC is continually astonishing me with their creativity and talent. Their faithfulness and sensitivity to the Spirit’s guidance is an inspiration to me. I am grateful for their initiative and courage.

For the second year I was the chaplain for a week of our presbytery’s youth camping program at Vanderkamp Center. I play games with kids, encourage the leaders-in-training, play guitar, give counsel, and pray with the kampers. Some of my calling hardly feels like work.

I can’t list the names of those I’ve given pastoral care to but it has happened in a wide variety of places. Some places are cold and sterile institutions; others are warm and homey. Often times they are hallways and doorways or over phone lines. Your
concerns, joys, griefs, hopes, questions, and disappointments are precious things to hold with you. I rarely feel like I have the right words to say but Christ’s love and grace know no barriers.

Within our presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse I have tried form and encourage strong relationships among pastors and congregations. I served as chairperson for the Committee on Ministry (now Ministry Workgroup) where we give help and guidance to congregations who are in pastoral transition or dealing with difficult matters. I have also been active in the Liverpool clergy group and our ecumenical worship services.

In the summer I led the the session of ruling elders through a time of training. We focused on the role of the ruling elder to measure the work of our congregation using scripture and our Book of Order. They have been faithful to see and say where the congregation has met the mark and where we have fallen short. It is a true partnership in the gospel I have with them.

**Board of Deacons**

*submitted Becky Krebs and Marianne VanHoute, co-moderators*

Our twelve-member Board of Deacons serves our church family in many diverse ways providing “…compassion, witness, and service, sharing the redeeming love of Jesus Christ ...” (Book of Order G-2.0201). Weekly, we are most visible as ushers during the worship service welcoming and assisting our members and visitors, handing out bulletins and the monthly newsletters, collecting prayer cards and the offering, and various other duties as needed. On Sundays, we also pick up and straighten the sanctuary, assist with counting the offering, and set-up and clean-up Fellowship Hour.

Monthly, we meet on the first Wednesday of the month (January-June and September-December). We rotate our opening devotion and prayers among ourselves; provide updates concerning our ministry areas of bereavement/sunshine, college students, fellowship, sanctuary, homebound, mission and worship committees; discuss any business that we might have; and close in prayer. Our meetings are an hour long, but often some members stay for a few minutes just enjoying each other’s company! Once a month, one Deacon helps in serving Communion and cleaning up.

In June, we coordinated our church picnic. We had hoped to hold the picnic in the church yard, but (as is becoming our tradition) we enjoyed our time together in the Fellowship Hall! Many thanks to our chefs who grilled our hamburgers and hot dogs in the rain! We were entertained by The Bubble Man who can do phenomenal feats with bubbles!!!

We were pleased to be able to help in other assorted ways during the year:

- Sending birthday cards to our children, youth, and college students;
- sending holiday, sympathy, thinking of you, get well cards to our members
• Putting together care packages for our college students at the end of each semester
• Assisting with a funeral meal, Be the Church Sunday Breakfast, September 11th luncheon, and special Fellowship Hours
• Helping to fill the Pentecost balloons with helium
• Lending helping hands to members and friends of the church
• Providing transportation to worship and appointments
• Delivering holiday plants to our homebound members
• Providing grocery store gift cards for those needing them
• Replacing inserts for the missing and cracked communion cup holders in the sanctuary

Since June, we have been concentrating on improving caregiving for our church family. This is an ongoing endeavor. In October, three Deacons and four church members attended an introductory session of Stephen Ministries (one-on-one Christian caregiving). We will also be investigating The Caring Congregation with Tracie Folley in the near future.

Many thanks to all the Deacons who served this year: Melissa Beerman, Bill Calnan, Jennifer Campbell, Mike Cirillo, Deb Copp, Hanna Fay, Tim Fay, Pat Gallagher, Cynthia Golden, Linda Hook, Becky Krebs, Chris Pfeffer, Cyndi Signorelli, Fletcher Smith, Emma VanHoute, Marianne VanHoute.

“…‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’”
Matthew 25:40

Personnel

submitted by Beth Larson

The Personnel Committee would like to thank Liverpool First Presbyterian. It’s through their dedication and commitment that we all have the opportunity to experience enriching spiritual programs and messages, soul-lifting musical and choral pieces, smoothly operating administration of our activities and finances, and our beautiful, clean facility in which to worship. Specifically, we would like to thank . . .

• Pastor - Rev. Garrett Anderson
• Co-Directors of Spiritual Formation - Leigh Anne Herd and Tracie Folley
• Choir Director - David Rudari
• Organist - Steve Uhl
• Administrative Assistant - Heather Brown
• Preschool Director - Chris Schauer
• Treasurer - Tom Ogden
• Bookkeeper - Tom Spak
• Financial Secretary - Eileen DeGroff
• Custodian - Barbara Raczka

Additionally, many thanks to those that have served on the Personnel Committee this year: Tim Fay, Joan Halsted, Linda Hook, Linda Newell, Andy Carlisle, Rev. Anderson (ex-officio), Ed Fauler, and Beth Larson.
Buildings & Grounds
submitted by Ray Campbell, Chairperson

The biggest effort of the B&G Committee for 2016 was the completion of the Verizon project. The roof structure of the bell/clock tower was completely replaced with a new structure incorporating cellular antennas. The slate roof of the smaller tower was also replaced. Both towers now have the same roofing as the sanctuary roof that was replaced in 2013. The project took over 2 years to complete from initial contact through legal and architectural issues to the installation of the replacement structure on December 16. Monthly lease payments are being received from Verizon, a welcome addition to our budget. The project also extends the life of the roof on both of the church towers by many years.

Additional improvements in 2016 included: the purchase of new round tables and storage cart for the fellowship hall, the purchase of a new riding lawn mower, the dismantling of the utility shed, the installation of a new door into the preschool, the purchase of two canopies for outside activities, the replacement of incandescent lights in sanctuary (reducing electrical load by over 2000 watts) and the installation of 2 new emergency lights and 6 Carbon Monoxide alarms.

Projects planned for 2017 will include: installation of new fencing for pre school playground incorporating a new utility shed, repowering the Oswego St sign, sealing and striping the parking lot, repairing the church front steps, installing a fireplace in the coffee shop and replacement of the kitchen dishwasher. Most of these projects along with many smaller projects will be completed utilizing volunteers from our congregation.

Ray Campbell is Chairman of the Building & Grounds committee with members Rick Pelotte and Doug VanHoute.
Spiritual Formation

submitted by Tracie Folley and Leigh Anne Herd, Co-directors of Spiritual Formation

The Spiritual Formation program concluded the school calendar year in June with the theme of “Proclaim” and began the 2016-17 school year with the theme of “All the Time”. Together, we proclaim God’s love and grace to us in all we do, all the time! We, as co-directors of Spiritual Formation, have endeavored to apply these themes throughout our ministry this past year.

We continue to offer faith classes for toddlers through adults. We are grateful for the time, love and dedication of our faith class teachers: Julie/Fletcher Smith, Melissa Beerman, Bill Newell, Rob Santos, Jim/Amber Thayer, Mary/Joe Gorman, Tom Ogden and the two of us. We also teach in Jr High class and Tiny Footsteps. Classes are well attended. The Jr High class is learning the Bible as a whole, working on the Old Testament from Genesis to Psalms with fun projects and creative responses. The youth meet for faith class led by the students two times a month, work at the Rescue Mission one time a month and split into two classes one time a month (Seniors meeting at Cafe 407 to study Sticky Faith and three confirmations meeting at LFPC, joined by confirmations from Northminster Presbyterian Church.

Eight of our youth attended Triennium this past July in Indiana. They were commissioned to “Go” out and do! The kids worked hard to fundraise for their trip, the congregation was very generous in its support and we are very grateful that Amber and Jim gave up their vacation time to chaperone the kids for the week long event! Jim and Amber also are working with Reverend Mario Bolivar of Skaneateles PC, Reverend Reyburn of Lafayette PC, Jennifer Chapman, CE director at Northminster PC to promote connection between the youth of the Presbytery through monthly social and mission events.

Elementals continues to meet throughout the year for fun, learning and mission projects. This past year, the children collected close to $500 of loose change for the Golisano Children’s Hospital wish list for children and their siblings in the hospital’s play room. They enjoyed leading this mission and the church was generous and encouraging in their response.

The women’s retreat this fall was entitled “Passing the Peace”. We were honored and thrilled to have the Reverend Mary Anderson lead us in our retreat as we prepared for the national elections and together wrote a prayer to
use in the weeks after the election petitioning for a peaceful transition in the presidential administration.

Small groups continue to meet within the church to study the Word of God and to have fellowship. We are grateful to the Andersons, the Fays, the Pelottes, Linda Hook and Becky Krebs and Bill Newell for their leadership in these small groups.

In addition to our work with children through adults in Spiritual Formation, both of us gave the sermon one time each which was an honor and joy.

The year was culminated with our confirmands leading prayers during our worship in the Advent season and our children leading the Christmas Eve service with a play entitled “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”.

Paul tells us in 1 Thessalonians to rejoice always, pray continually, and give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus. May we continue to strive towards these actions of God’s love in all we say and do in 2017.

**Youth Group**

*submitted by Amber Thayer, Youth Leader*

We have had a busy and exciting year. Thank you to all who helped the youth raise money to travel to Purdue University and experience The Presbyterian Youth Triennium in July. It was an awesome week of fellowship, spiritual growth and fun. 7 of our youth will never be the same because of your constant support and prayers.

Our youth have been serving breakfast once a month at the Rescue Mission in downtown Syracuse, which has been a wonderfully eye opening and humbling experience.

We have also been gathering with youth from other Presbyterian churches in our area for events and activities such as apple picking, cutting out denim shoes for third world countries and packing boxes of Halloween candy for our college students and military. We have enjoyed the fellowship with these new friends and hope to continue these events.
Missions
submitted by Rob Santos, Chairperson

In 2016 Liverpool First Presbyterian Church continued its strong tradition of generosity and service. We lived our shared value of mission and actively engaged at the intersection of the world’s needs and the Gospel. It’s no stretch to see that our mission efforts have in some way endeavored to meet Christ as in Matthew 25 in the work we have done to:

- Quench thirst for the thirsty
- Feed the hungry
- Aid those recovering from disaster
- Welcome the stranger
- Build faith in children and youth

In January the congregation was educated on protein content of donated food items.

In February we contributed $800 to youth attending triennium. On Sunday February 28 we had a Skype call with Charles and Melissa Johnson before they departed for Zambia as PCUSA mission co-workers.

In April we gave a total of $1226 for the Presbyterian One Great Hour of Sharing Offering.

April 17, 2016 was the second “Be the Church” Sunday event. After a nice breakfast and after much planning and coordination, many projects were completed by teams at LFPC and around the community. We served at diverse places like Vanderkamp, Matthew 25 farm, Samaritan Center, InterFaith Works warehouse, and at LFPC there was sandwich making and CWS hygiene kit assembly.

In June we chipped in $100 to help with cost of a new truck at Matthew 25 farm.

Through the summer we collected a special offering for shallow wells in Zambia in connection with our Presbyterian Connection mission partners Charles and Melissa Johnson. A total of $2700 was raised, which was enough for 6 shallow wells!

Also in August we donated $500 in mission money to support a Project X community cookout in Syracuse.

In October we held a special offering for Hurricane Matthew relief and gave a total of $430.

In November we collected non-perishable food items for Bags of Blessings for Isaiah’s Table. A total of 43 backpacks were filled full and given to those in need in December through Isaiah’s Table.

In December we collected household supplies to fill out different kits of apartment items requested by InterFaith Works Center for New Americans. Enough was collected for at least three of each type of kit to furnish apartment(s) for new refugee families. An additional $475 in donated money was given to InterFaith Works. Also for the Salvation Army Angel Tree program we gave gifts to more than 85 people!

Ongoing through the year we faithfully served a meal once a month at the Samaritan Center. On December 31, we bought the meal and filled a full crew for serving a Saturday meal with dessert.
Ongoing through the year we fulfilled commitments for regular quarterly mission giving to Vanderkamp ($300/quarter for total of $1200), to Charles and Melissa Johnson PCUSA mission co-workers ($300/quarter for total of $1200), and Cayuga Syracuse presbytery Korean partnership missions ($300/quarter for total of $1200).

We are blessed by a spirit of generosity and service that acts out our faith, ALL THE TIME.

Finally, please consider yourself invited to participate in the work of the mission committee. This is an open invitation for anyone in the congregation to serve on coolest committee on campus! We continue to discern new ways to do the mission work of the church.

H.O.M.E.
Hospitality, Outreach, Membership, and Evangelism
Submitted by Leigh Anne Herd and Jim Thayer

First impressions are everything. At LFPC, we strive to show hospitality to our guests. We welcome new guests to our church with introductions made by members, a lovely gift from the deacons, and an invitation to coffee hour as well as a glimpse of the active worship, learning and serving that happens in their first worship experience with us. We have had several new families this year state their first impressions of LFPC is a church filled with warm, friendly, welcoming people!

Hospitality was extended this past year to fellowship times with new round tables that are more conducive to conversations. These tables were purchased with memorial funds. We were given gifts by several of our members to further hospitality in the church with new table cloths of different colors for the round tables making for a warm, hospitable room to have fellowship time in.

Hospitality was extended to our preschool families as well with a “Story and Snack” program offered seasonally three times last year. Several families from the church and preschool attended and enjoyed hearing a Bible story and enjoying a snack after.

In November and December, the church held a weekly “Open Sanctuary” time on Wednesday evenings. The community had the opportunity to come into the church to meditate and pray. Though we only had a couple of visitors, the concept of “Open Sanctuary” is something we want to try again with the goal of creating better awareness in the community.
Friends in Faith Christian Preschool

submitted by Christine Schauer, Director

Enrollment as of January 2017
Toddlers: 10
3-year-olds: 16
Pre-K: 17
Total enrollment: 43

Staff, Chris Schauer, director, Danielle Bella, Tracie Folley, Peggy Howard, Linda Raitt, Sarah Richardson, Julie Rumo, Judy Wight

Steering Committee
Chair: Ed Fauler
Treasurer: Linda Everts
Fundraisers: Pam Carges
Minutes recorder: Marianne VanHoute, Leighanne Herd, Julie Smith and Nancy Putman.

Improvements for 2015-16
- Installed playground equipment
- Painted and cleaned nursery and small backroom
- Built coat hanger and shelves for Toddler class
- Painted certain areas of Preschool room
- Painted downstairs walls and classroom cabinets
- Door in back room of nursery
- Projected approved projects
- Updating tables and chairs in classrooms among other classroom improvements.
- Updating new website
- Staff pay raises

Future Plans and goals
- Continue with our 2nd annual multicultural day that was started last year per suggestion of parent.
  Approximately 25% of our families are from different countries, and English is their second language.
- Adding an additional 2 year old class on Tuesday and Thursday: extending day to 2 hours for our toddler classes.
- Connecting preschool families to church with preschoolers singing in Sunday worship and joining the women’s group in the rummage sale. Preschool families contributed with items to sell.

Worship & Music
submitted by Rev. Anderson

The Worship and Music committee members in 2016 included Joe Gorman (chairperson), Rev. Anderson, Leigh Anne Herd, Tracy Folley, Dr. David Rudari, Steven Uhl, Melissa Beerman, and Becky Krebs.

The worship & music committee seeks to facilitate our worship of Almighty God by opening our mouths and heart in praise and inspiring responses of discipleship in our lives and celebrating the grace of God in our lives. The Worship and Music committee of members in 2016 included Joe Gorman (chairperson), Rev. Anderson, Leigh Anne Herd, Tracy Folley, Dr. David Rudari, Steven Uhl, Melissa Beerman, and Becky Krebs.
The choir’s musical offerings lead us with beauty and inspiration. We are blessed to have such gifted musicians to help us express our worship.

Sermon series included “I AM Statements of Jesus” during Lent and Easter, worship “as it is in heaven” from Revelation, “Honest to God/Honest to Ourselves” using the Psalms, and how we are yoked Jesus through “Means of Grace”.

Our worship service is also a time and place to connect with our mission partners. In January we presented our Advent Conspiracy in special offering to Darryl Files of InterFaith Works to help in the resettlement of refugees. Charles and Melissa Johnson, Presbyterian mission co-workers chatted with us over Skype before they left for assignment in Zambia. During the summer, we heard about the need for clean water in the Zambian villages and the simple solution of shallow wells.

We had several special services. Rev. Paul Herpich from King of Kings Lutheran Church led worship and preached during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. We celebrated the work of God in his church through baptisms of Kayla Overend and her father Tim, Grace Gouger and the confirmation of Cameron Goodson. On May 22 we remembered our own baptisms at the font because Spirit, water, and our willingness was there (see Acts 8:26ff). The men’s group made a rough hewn cross into which congregants drove nails as part of the solemn worship on Maundy Thursday. On the Sunday of Labor Day weekend we celebrated the “work of the people” and created a worship service through the devotional, musical, and scriptural offerings of the congregation. On the 15th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks we read the names of all who died in those attacks and committed ourselves to seeking peace in our world. Several folks from around the greater area came to worship with us.

The committee made some additions to our worship setting. With the help of the Flower committee and our memorial funds we purchased two pottery chalices and a pitcher for the communion table to replace the glass set. These were made by Rebecca Wind, a ruling elder from the Isaiah’s Table worshipping community. A new Christ-candle for the communion table, new set of candles for the advent wreath and candles for the windows were also purchases. These are permanent oil candles which will eliminate the mess of melted wax and soot. We are also using liturgical sung responses as recommended by our Book of Common Worship as part of our communion service.

Our Christmas Eve service was a joyful and exuberant nativity play by the children with our traditional candlelight singing of “Silent Night”.
Great Commission Fund
Task Force Report
Submitted by Tim Fay Chairperson

Thank you to the Task Force members: Beth Larson, Bill Putman, Linda Everts, Lynda Fauler and Tim Fay. The group solicited and considered several ideas about how to spend roughly $9,000 received from the Presbytery. After careful deliberation and prayer we settled on a project at Vanderkamp that would replace cabin #5. Our recommendation was well received by the Session and they approved this project for the use of our Great Commission funds. The money will be used to purchase building materials, but we will also provide/coordinate volunteer labor. We already have commitments from the LFPC Men’s Group and through them from the Northern Comfort group. We also have a commitment for workers from our sister church, Isaiah’s Table. As soon as the weather clears this spring we will be looking for more volunteers.

Our decision was bolstered by the following vision/project description put together by VKamp Directors, Penny and Bill James please take moment and read it:

Our understanding is that Vanderkamp’s six original rustic log cabins were built in the 1970’s, in large part as housing for summer kampers. Over the years, use, the elements, wildlife, insects as well as deferred maintenance have taken their toll. Today, the cabins are underutilized as most retreat/rental groups avoid them and parents do not want their sons or daughters sleeping in them for fear of what their child might be exposed to. Kampers sometimes express fears based on stories they have heard about bats, rats, and mice in the cabins.

Over the past several years, a great deal of time and money has been invested in preserving the cabins including chinking between the logs and caulking the floors in an attempt to prevent bats and other wildlife from entering the cabins. Despite continued and persistent efforts, they have met with limited success. Last summer a bat in cabin 5 resulted in Oswego County Health Department recommending rabies shots for all staff and kampers sleeping in there at the time. This spring, once again each cabin was thoroughly inspecting and sealing up any holes that could be found. Again this summer there was a reportable incident in Cabin 5 resulting in staff and kampers receiving rabies shots as the bat that managed to find its way into the cabin tested positive for rabies. According to the Oswego County Health Department, it is impossible to tell if one has been bitten by bat, rabid or not, when sleeping; so everyone asleep in the cabin was required to receive the series of shots.

Due exclusively to the poor condition of the cabins, in recent years the majority of kampers are housed in our lodges. The lodges are not immune to bat issues as on three separate occasions we had to notify the health department and kامر parents that a bat had been found indoors where the staff and
kampers had been sleeping. Even when the bat was found in a downstairs common area, all kamper parents had to be notified and had the bat tested positive, all kampers and staff within that lodge, with capacities of up to 35 people, would be required to have shots. The difference between the lodges and the cabins is that in each case a screen-less door or window was found to be open sufficiently for a bat to have gained access. Kids will be kids and summer staff will be... well... college kids.

More importantly from a facility management perspective, these lodges were designed for use by retreat and rental groups throughout the year as well as summer weekends; not summer kampers. Unfortunately, this usage pattern leaves us unable to maintain the lodges to the level desired/expected by current and prospective rental groups.

Perhaps as our summer kamp staff exclaim, all too often and based upon their own recollections at home we’re sure, you may recall yourselves accidentally breaking something as a child to which one of your parents or teachers responded with, “That is why we cannot have nice things.” Of course at kamp we all laugh it off as best we can, talk to the kampers about the importance of taking pride in and care of Vanderkamp property, but the truth of the matter is that our meager operating budget does not allow for routine replacements of mirrors, lamps, windows, or holes in walls and ceilings.

Since our arrival at Vanderkamp two years ago, we have implemented programmatic changes to reduce known direct impacts on the lodges. People were quick to point out to us examples such as the floor of one of the recently remodeled bathrooms in Frank that was ruined almost immediately during summer kamp that same year. No one is certain if it is paint or another substance that forever marred those floor tiles. Everyone is pretty sure that the kamer or staff responsible had fun and was oblivious of the consequences to the facility.

Today we require that kampers and staff be thoroughly rinsed off prior to entering the lodges following messy activities such as food fights, or paint Twister. One of our summer staff members dresses herself in gold, taking the title “Inspector AU,” and during daily appearances at meals encourages kampers and staff to be responsible in caring for the cleanliness of their lodging. Each day a housing unit is awarded the honor and distinction of mounting the “Golden Dustpan” upon their mantle for 24 hours at which time Inspector AU announces whether another housing unit has snatched the prize from them.

Again from a management perspective, hazards and hence damages tend to be caused by environmental, human, or situational factors. Human factors (e.g., kids being kids in settings not designed for that purpose) require educational or structural solutions and sometimes both. We cannot resolve the problem of incompatible multiple uses in our lodges through means currently available to us. We are in agreement
with the Ecumenical Camp Association (ECA) Board of Directors, that summer kamper must be moved back out of the lodges as soon as possible in order to successfully fulfill Vanderkamp’s mission in meeting the needs of both our Vanderkampers and our retreat and rental guests.

Of the six cabins, numbers 4 and 5 are in the worst condition. However, cabin 4 is currently used for arts & crafts with no one sleeping in it. While all of the cabins will need to be replaced over the next couple of years, our desire is to start with the one in the worst condition. We believe that once people see and experience the redesigned cabins, other donors (including churches or judicatories) will step forward to continue with their replacement. Often the idea of having a visible “win,” as evidenced by a successful and fully completed facilities project comes up in our board and staff meetings. We are asking you to help us achieve that victory… that one little win that we believe will reignite enthusiasm and support for Vanderkamp. The needs of our aging structures are virtually endless and the same amount of money proposed for this cabin used toward a lodge would not bring renovations to completion. Ultimately, as Vanderkamp’s summer program continues to grow, we envision multiple kamper villages throughout the property with bathhouse and community pavilion resources. This is that integral first step.

As we look toward Vanderkamp’s future as a thriving and vibrant year-round Christian community, the vision for the new cabins is to create sustainable, environmentally friendly, low maintenance, energy efficient, comfortable and inviting spaces. They will maintain a rustic character while providing for modern amenities such as sufficient outlets for charging staff walkie talkies, cell phones, and laptops. The size remains comparable to the existing cabins; 18’ wide and 22’ long with an 8’ by 18’ covered front porch. Where the existing cabins are built out of log and set on piers, the new cabins would be built using pole barn construction with an insulated concrete floor.

The exterior would feature a metal roof with maintenance free trim and environmentally friendly cement fiber board and batten siding with energy efficient vinyl windows and fiberglass doors. The interior will be finished in tongue and groove pine and the concrete floor will be stained a warm shade of brown. LED lighting and a ceiling fan will be installed to provide functional light and cool the cabins in an energy efficient manner.

While it is not our intent to install heat in the cabins initially, insulating during construction is the most cost effective and labor efficient means of insulating, will help keep cabins cooler in the summer and extend the rental season even without a heat source. Should the need present itself in the future, installing a small propane wall heater would be simple enough.
Website Task Force

Submitted by Leigh Anne Herd, Chairperson

Members: Rob Santos, Al Rhines, Tracie Folley and Leigh Anne Herd

The website task force was directed by session to create a new website that was contemporary, relevant and conveyed who we are as a church. The previous website was out of date and the hosting company had gone out of business.

Goals of the website:
- reflect the life and mission of LFPC with more media and less text
- provide basic information of worship, staff and ministries for visitors to the website
- calendar and updated info of ministries and events for members
- provide a prayer box and possible online financial offering option

Criteria to be relevant:
- needs to be updated regularly with photos, ministry info, calendar etc.
- needs to have options of slide show, online financial offering option, links to websites including PCUSA
- needs to be viewed on mobile devices
- needs adequate storage for media
- needs colors that are attractive and inviting
- needs to be visually designed to offer instant info without being overwhelming or distracting in presentation
- Website must be easy to manage for staff and ministry chairs

The task force met in May and June to review websites from a variety of churches to gather ideas for our website. The task force then began reviewing Clover Sites, a church website design company that meets all the goals and criteria mentioned above. Clover Sites requires $1000 start up fee with $25/month or $300 annual maintenance fee. The task force recommended to purchase the rights to use Clover Sites for our website for the following reasons:
- Clover Sites meets all goals and criteria of website task force
- Clover Sites enables staff to use website without having to have advanced coding skills
- Clover Sites offers a website that is relevant and comparable to other church sites
- We can keep liverpoolfirstpres.org domain name
- $1000 start up fee is an investment to having a site that reflects the life and vibrancy of our church

Rob took it from that point. He explored Clover Sites and found the template that best met our goals. He designed the home page and linked pages with input from the task force. We worked to have the website up and running by September 1 and Rob was a tremendous reason why this did happen. Staff was trained in November in how to update ministry pages. There has been very positive feedback from the congregation on this new website.
REPORTS OF FELLOWSHIP AND MINISTRY GROUPS

Elsie O’Neill Circle  
*submitted by Lynda Fauler*

Meets: The third Thursday of the month  
Share: Fellowship during lunch  
Who: All women of the church

We open with prayer at noon to share joys and concerns over a brown bag lunch. Definitely have a lively discussion with women of all ages. Followed by a time of devotions and Bible study and collect offerings to the Least Coin and Birthday Offering. This year members cleaned and updated the kitchen, silver cabinet and communion cupboard. Many items are in memory of a loved one.

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Floral Committee  
*submitted by Lynda Fauler*

During the year the Floral Committee works with members of the congregation to beautify our sanctuary to the glory of God. Congregation members select a Sunday during the year to honor someone, celebrate a special occasion or person or to remember a family member with flowers. During the special seasons of the church year we provide lilies for Lent and Easter, poinsettias during Advent and geraniums for Memorial Weekend. Hanging of the Greens during Advent is a special time when the congregation works together to hang wreaths, set up the manger, decorate the windowsills and sing carols. We appreciate everyone's help. The Women's Association has been very supportive and provides financial assistance to renew and update supplies. This year with financial support from Memorial Funds we purchased oil candles for the Christ Candle, Advent wreath and windows. A pottery communion service was also purchased with Memorial Funds. This will be used for the Lord's Supper when we serve communion by intinction.

Committee members Coleen Clapper, Louise Pelotte, and Lynda Fauler.

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Women’s Association  
*submitted by Lynda Fauler*

Always meets at the conclusion of the Elsie O'Neil Circle. Reports are received for hospitality, birthdays and financial. Plans are made for our 2 semi annual rummage/bake sales. Monies raised by the sales are used for local and worldwide missions. We appreciate everyone's donations and the many hands that bake and help with the sales.
Men’s Group

submitted by Rick Pelotte, Men’s Group Representative

Liverpool First Presbyterian Men’s Group is a loosely organized group with a simple mantra of **Faith, Fellowship and Service**. The group meets on the first and third Saturdays of each month at 8:30 am in the church coffee shop. A time of fellowship including coffee and doughnuts is usually followed by a lesson led by Bill Newell. After the meeting the group often works on maintenance projects around the church.

In 2016 these projects have included: painting, installing a new door in the preschool, dismantling the utility shed and assisting with the pre school plant sale, youth pancake breakfast, and rummage sales. Members have assisted in the construction of 4 wheelchair ramps with the Operation Northern Comfort organization this year.

All members of Liverpool First Presbyterian Church are welcome to participate with the Men’s group. Ray Campbell and Rick Pelotte are co leaders of the group.
# Financial Reports

## Consolidated Fund Activity 2016

*submitted by Tom Ogden, Treasurer*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account Name</th>
<th>Beginning Balance</th>
<th>Receipts</th>
<th>Disbursements</th>
<th>Transfers/ JE’s</th>
<th>Ending Balance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
<td>$423</td>
<td>$214,117</td>
<td>$219,782</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>$9,758</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Offering Fund</td>
<td>$388</td>
<td>$5,241</td>
<td>$5,155</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$475</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth Triennium/Retreats Fund</td>
<td>$2,233</td>
<td>$5,505</td>
<td>$4,305</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$3,433</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospitality Fund Balance</td>
<td>$472</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$414</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool Fund</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$39,522</td>
<td>$41,511</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>($1,998)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Fund</td>
<td>$213,917</td>
<td>$15,393</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>($15,000)</td>
<td>$214,310</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital Impr.-Roof Fund</td>
<td>$5,775</td>
<td>$5,627</td>
<td>$10,441</td>
<td>($961)</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Impr.-Other Fund</td>
<td>$15,354</td>
<td>$8,974</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$24,328</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital Impr.-Projectors Fund</td>
<td>$599</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,599</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital Impr.-Coffee Room Fund</td>
<td>$549</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Impr.-Window Restoration Fund</td>
<td>$8,514</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$8,514</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Memorial Funds

| Memorial Funds- Henes            | $27,351           | $0         | $15,027       | $961            | $13,284        |
| Memorial Funds- Other            | $4,463            | $2,250     | $3,717        | $0              | $2,996         |

**Total**                          | **$280,042**      | **$297,630** | **$300,355**  | **$0**          | **$277,317**  |
# Deacon’s Fund

submitted by Mike Cirillo  
Fund Account #: 5.500.410  
Budget: $1,200

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Cumulative Sum</th>
<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/20/16</td>
<td>Nichols Gift Card</td>
<td>-50.00</td>
<td>(50.00)</td>
<td>Works of Mercy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/21/16</td>
<td>Fellowship Coffee Supplies</td>
<td>-34.95</td>
<td>(84.95)</td>
<td>Fellowship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/26/16</td>
<td>College Student Care Packages &amp; Shipping</td>
<td>-112.99</td>
<td>(197.94)</td>
<td>College Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/16/16</td>
<td>Fellowship Coffee Supplies</td>
<td>-28.77</td>
<td>(226.71)</td>
<td>Fellowship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/10/16</td>
<td>Picnic-Bubbleman</td>
<td>-300.00</td>
<td>(526.71)</td>
<td>Picnic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/20/16</td>
<td>Picnic-Grilling Meats</td>
<td>-108.00</td>
<td>(634.71)</td>
<td>Picnic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/18/16</td>
<td>Fellowship Coffee Supplies</td>
<td>-48.19</td>
<td>(682.90)</td>
<td>Fellowship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/6/16</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>-58.95</td>
<td>(741.85)</td>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/1/16</td>
<td>Nichols Gift Cards</td>
<td>-50.00</td>
<td>(791.85)</td>
<td>Works of Mercy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/12/16</td>
<td>College Student Care Packages &amp; Shipping</td>
<td>-98.75</td>
<td>(890.60)</td>
<td>College Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/19/16</td>
<td>Nichols Gift Cards</td>
<td>-150.00</td>
<td>(1,040.60)</td>
<td>Works of Mercy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/24/16</td>
<td>Donation</td>
<td>315.00</td>
<td>(725.60)</td>
<td>Donation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/31/16</td>
<td>Fellowship Coffee Supplies</td>
<td>-44.44</td>
<td>(770.46)</td>
<td>Fellowship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Spent</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>(1,085.04)</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>Total Budgeted</strong></th>
<th><strong>$1,200.00</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Donations</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$315.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$429.96</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Preschool

*submitted by Christine Schauer, Director Friends in Faith Preschool*

Fiscal year 8/2015-7/2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>$45,164.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraisers</td>
<td>$6,341.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>$255.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total income</td>
<td>$51,761.93</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSE</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salary</td>
<td>$33,373.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional expenses</td>
<td>$6,490.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total expense</td>
<td>$39,863.29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Profit          | $11,898.64   |
General Fund 2016 Actual and 2017 Budget

The operation of the church is dependant on the efforts of many volunteers. This budget is the result of the efforts of many members of this congregation who dedicate their time as well as their resources for the glory of God in our community. This report will provide an overview of the 2017 Budget as compared to the 2016 Actual Budget and Expenses for the General Fund. A detailed budget is available on request.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Fund</th>
<th>2016 Actual</th>
<th>2017 Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donations/Envelope Giving</td>
<td>$163,609</td>
<td>$150,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loose Offerings</td>
<td>34,029</td>
<td>22,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per Capita Giving</td>
<td>2,444</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cell Tower Income</td>
<td>11,876</td>
<td>18,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Other Income</td>
<td>2,159</td>
<td>2,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
<td><strong>$214,117</strong></td>
<td><strong>$196,240</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Personnel Cost</td>
<td>$162,365</td>
<td>$166,159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Expense</td>
<td>37,643</td>
<td>$39,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian education</td>
<td>$4,107</td>
<td>$5,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evangelism and Mission</td>
<td>$6,646</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per Capita Expense</td>
<td>$5,318</td>
<td>$4,983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deacons Fund</td>
<td>$770</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stewardship Campaign</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Other</td>
<td>$2,933</td>
<td>$4,720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSE</strong></td>
<td><strong>$219,782</strong></td>
<td><strong>$230,952</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(SHORTFALL)</td>
<td>($5,665)</td>
<td>($34,712)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTEWORTHY POINTS:**

Staff Expenses account for 72% of the total expense budget in 2017. This budget benefits from the efforts of volunteers who are currently filling previously paid positions. Specifically, Eileen DeGroff, Tom Spak and Tom Ogden have been performing duties previously done by paid staff in the financial area.
Operating Expenses account for 17% of the total expense budget in 2017. This includes utilities, insurance, building maintenance, and office expenses. Major repairs and building improvement projects are described in the buildings and grounds section of this annual report.

2016 Key Transactions
● The Presbytery of Cayuga Syracuse paid LFPC $8,974 to be used at the discretion of the church. This one time payment was credited to our Capital Improvement-Other Fund pending a decision on how it will be used.
● Verizon began paying LFPC rent of $1,575 per month for use of the church tower.
● The roof loan was fully paid off using members donations plus additional funds from the Henes Memorial Fund ($10,000 was transferred from the Investment Account into the checking account to execute this transaction.)
● LFPC ended the year with $27,892 in the operations checking account and $249,400 in the investment account.

2017 Key Transactions
● A kitchen upgrade project of $10,000 has been included in the 2017 Budget with the assumption that it will be funded from the Capital Improvement-Other Fund, pending session approval.
● Verizon rental payments have been budgeted for a full year totaling $18,900.

The Friends-in-Faith Christian Preschool is a separate budget from the church budget and is reported elsewhere in this annual report.
Pastor’s Terms of Call (2017)

We, the First Presbyterian Church of Liverpool, New York belonging to the Cayuga-Syracuse Presbytery, promise Garrett E. Anderson in the discharge of his duty as Pastor all proper support, encouragement and allegiance to the Lord. That he may be free to devote himself full-time to the ministry of the word and Sacrament among us, we promise and obligate ourselves to pay him the sum of sums below in regular payments and to fund half of his SECA tax obligation. Further we promise to provide him with free use of the manse and full utilities, reimbursable accounts for professional, meeting expenses, study leave, and dental expenses, manse equity fund, four (4) weeks of vacation (20 days including 4 Sundays), two (2) weeks of study leave (10 days including 2 Sundays) and full participation in the Presbyterian Church (USA) medical and pension plans. We further obligate ourselves to review with him annually the adequacy of this compensation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salary</td>
<td>$44,743</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing allowance</td>
<td>$3,605</td>
<td>A minister can designate a portion of his or her salary to be used for housing expenses; these expenses are not subject to the income tax.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security offset</td>
<td>$3,585</td>
<td>Ministers are considered by the IRS as self employed in terms of Social Security. The social security offset pays the equivalent to the employer’s half of the payroll tax.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>403b employer match</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pension, medical, death/disability</td>
<td>$22,990</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental reimbursement</td>
<td>$2000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study leave</td>
<td>$900</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional expense reimbursement acct</td>
<td>$1700</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$80,023</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>