



**Annual Report ~ Grace Lutheran Church**

**Annual Meeting to be held at 9:00 a.m.**

**on May 22nd, 2022 - Nolt Auditorium**

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**Annual Congregational Meeting of Grace Lutheran Church**

**May 22, 2022**

**Meeting begins at 9:00 a.m.**

**Agenda**

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IV. Closing Prayer

**Annual Congregational Meeting of Grace Lutheran Church**  
**Combined - Live in the Nave and Streaming on YouTube**  
**June 6, 2021**

**Attendance, Call to Order, Devotions**

The meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m. by President Tom Andersen. With 51 in attendance, a quorum was established. The meeting began with prayer offered by Pastor Verkouw.

The minutes from the May 19, 2019 congregational meeting were included in the May 18, 2021 Grace News. President Andersen called for a Motion to approve them. A Motion was made and was seconded by Molly Rowen. A vote was called for and the minutes were approved unanimously as presented.

**Review of Annual Reports**

Annual reports were included in the May 18, 2021 Grace News. Pastor Verkouw thanked Meghan Kelly for all her help with technology over the past year. We now have a big presence on the internet. There is a need for helpers. Pastor thanked the outgoing members of Council, President Tom Andersen, Robert Durand and Kim Burke for their service. He thanked Pat Oberholtzer and John Grove for stepping in as Council members. He also thanked Meghan Kelly, Mary Gentzler and Brenda Hayasaka for agreeing to extend their terms on Council at least until the November, 2021 congregational meeting. And he thanked Carl Hartman, who agreed to be Council President. Pastor Verkouw asked for any highlights or additions from the Board chairs. He reported that the Board of Ministries has added a new ministry, the Creation Care Team.

**Annual Report of the Treasurer**

The December 31, 2020 financial statements were included in the May 25, 2021 Grace News. Pastor Verkouw thanked Treasurer, Jane Sheckard and Assistant Treasurer, Marjorie Worley. He also noted the work of Rosalyn Ward, Capital Campaign chair and Jean Young, Financial Secretary, who can always use help.

**Leadership Development Team**

President Andersen reported the new Leadership Development Team members are Jay Graver, Amy Heidel, Lou Garcia, and Keith Miller. They are still in need of a chairperson. President Andersen asked for any nominations from the floor. Bruce Linton made a Motion to accept the entire slate of leaders as presented. It was seconded by Michal Rowen. With no further discussion, a vote was called for and the Motion passed unanimously.

**Renovations**

Pastor Verkouw reported the renovations were completed during the pandemic, thanks to capital Campaign Chair Rosalyn Ward, the hard work of Jan Mandros, Renovation Team chair and sexton, Dennis Maharg. With the daily changes, Dennis adjusted and kept things moving so the childcare, learning pod and community meal ministries were not affected.

Pastor Verkouw presented the following report and reviewed each item:

**Project Expense**

Subtotal Final Contract Expenses	\$ 1,864,944.00
Total CH&E Contract	\$ 1,658,874.00
<u>Total Net Change Orders (actual)</u>	<u>\$ 206,070.00</u>
Subtotal Expense Outside Contract	\$ 344,620.13

Total Campaign Expense	\$ 25,951.46
Total Misc Expense	\$ 21,692.39
Total Architect and Eng	\$ 135,632.19
Total Permits and Fees	\$ 46,857.15
Total Audio/Visual	\$ 48,251.59
Total FF&E (est)	\$ 36,265.00
Total Loan Exp and Interest	\$ 65,788.00
<u>Refund of City Escrow Sec Deposit</u>	<u>\$(35,817.65)</u>

**Total Expense of Project      \$ 2,209,564.00**

Pastor Verkouw presented and reviewed the following income report, noting Campaign 2+ will end December, 2023:

**Income for Project**

Pre-Campaign Gifts	\$ 66,500
Capital Campaign 1	\$ 707,959
Capital Campaign 2	\$ 318,363
Capital Campaign 2+	<u>\$ 161,000</u>

**Total Funds to Date      \$1,253,822**

Pastor Verkouw presented and reviewed the following summary:

Total costs	\$ 2,209,564
<u>- Loan from MIF</u>	<u>\$ 1,400,000</u>

**Costs We Have Paid      \$ 809,564**

Total raised less costs paid	\$444,258
Less 6 mortgage payments of 7,800	-46,800
<u>Less pledges not yet received</u>	<u>-114,450</u>

**Balance in Capital Campaign Fund \$283,008**

Pastor Verkouw explained that every December the loan can be refinanced. Every \$100,000 applied to principal will reduce the monthly mortgage payment by \$500. He highlighted current balances. The capital campaign balance is \$284,000. The loan balance is \$1,383,000 and the unrestricted fund balance is \$484,000. He noted that General Fund income of \$38,000 for 2020 was in part due to the \$50,000+ PPE grant received.

**New Business**

President Andersen thanked Pastor for adapting to the new environment of the pandemic, while coordinating the construction, finances and virtual presence. The new technology has enabled us to reach out to others. The new handicap access, drop off area and elevator providing the ability for everyone to now reach all levels of the building.

**Closing Devotions**

Pastor Verkouw reported that the first live stream will be today from the 10:30 worship service. He closed the meeting with a prayer. President Andersen adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kim Burke, Secretary

## **Annual Budget Meeting**

December 12, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. Nolt Auditorium

The meeting was called to order and Pastor Verkouw opened the meeting with prayer. A quorum was established and President Carl Hartman offered opening remarks.

### **Presentation of the Annual Budget**

**By the action of Congregation Council at their November meeting, the budget, as recommended by the Finance/Stewardship Team was recommended to the congregation for adoption.**

### **2022 Budget Notes:**

- Where possible, boards kept their budgets the same as last year.
- With a 2% income increase the variance still also predicts a deficit of \$8,975.
- Childcare stipend is currently \$500 per month. With increases in utilities and supply items like TP, paper towels and wipes, Pastor will discuss a stipend increase with the new director.
- The biggest increase is in staff salaries and benefits (Finance Team recommended a 4% COLA); this seemed reasonable in that little to no increases have offered for the past few years.
- Technology updates were over-budget this year due to the purchase of livestream hardware. We do not anticipate there being a significant expense in 2022.
- There are 23 different funds that are not part of the regular budget. Perhaps we should add a technology fund to this list and educate members of these giving options.
- Council discussed and understands the importance of educating the congregation on ongoing needs other than the Capital Campaign.

**Following the discussion, the budget was approved as recommended.**

### **Balcony Floor:**

At its November meeting, the Council also approved the Property Team's recommendation to replace only part of the balcony floor with cork. Pastor noted that this expenditure is above the amount that can be approved by council without congregational support. After further discussion, it was moved to amend the recommendation as follows: that the whole floor be completed at this time and not parcel it out. The contractor should be asked to hold to the original \$30,000 quote if possible, however we approve up to \$35,000 for this project. This amendment was approved.

**Following the discussion, the amended proposal was approved.**

As part of the discussion, Rosalyn Ward spoke in favor of adding a higher safety guardrail at the edge of the balcony, since the floor level was raised, causing a lower railing condition that seems even more unsafe now. Pastor Verkouw noted that this idea has been under discussion for some time, and promised to work to move that discussion forward also, with a recommendation forthcoming. President Hartman reported that a \$1000 pledge has already been offered toward the cost!

With no further business, Pastor Verkouw offered a closing prayer of thanks, and the meeting was adjourned in time for worship!

Respectfully submitted,

The Ghost of Dr. Haupt, Recording Secretary pro tem

## Pastor's Report

Dear Members and Friends of Grace Church,

### A New Season!

For the past few years our congregational life has been dominated by two factors. The first has been everything to do with our recent renovation...planning it, refining it, raising money for it, building it, and moving in. It was a once-in-a-generation project that combined care and updating of our historic building with new and hopeful vision for ministry. I love that word "historic," don't you? It can mean "uniquely beautiful." It can also mean "old and needs a lot of work!" Well, it was a lot of work, but the results are stunning and it has been a joy to move in and begin using it in the ways it was intended.

The second factor was living through and emerging from the pandemic, which affected our life together in so many ways. Over this past year figured out ways to create a stronger online ministry, through our website and our livestream, keeping folks connected. Since our annual meeting last year, we have experienced the joy of almost weekly growth in the numbers of people returning to in-person worship. It was fun to review the records: last April we resumed in-person attendance with 23 people...by May we had 49...by the end of June 100 were there...and for All Saints' Sunday in November, 120 came. Our three Christmas Eve services each had more than 100 folks, soaking up the kids' pageant, the amazing music, and the beauty of the decorations to celebrate the Incarnation of Jesus. We kept growing through winter and Lent, and anyone who was here on Palm Sunday and Easter could feel the sense of renewal and joy at celebrating the Resurrection together for the first time in three years!

This period of time for us - call it "The Pandenovation" - is ending. That doesn't mean the pandemic itself is over...no one knows if or when there will be another surge, or a need to "flatten the curve" for the sake of our health care workers, or how the progress of vaccinations will continue. But we have found ways to be resilient and care for one another while recovering much of what was lost. It has been a blessing to emerge from this difficult time...but what's next?

### New People!

On Easter weekend we celebrated as 24 folks made their commitments to join the congregation by baptism, letter of transfer, or affirmation of faith. We give thanks with those who received the Sacrament of Baptism:

Stacy He, Mackenzie Joan Platt, Philip Supeck and Ella Supeck

And we are honored to welcome Elaine Brenner, Hollis Butterworth & Daryl Sensenig, Sally & Ed Flick, Linda Lee Hunt, Maryann Johnson, Angie Piel, Tom Santusoso, The Reverend William & Kay Sherman, Dawn & Jim Shultz, The Reverend Kurt & Lois Strause, Lisa & Roger Strause, Al & Jan Tusing, and Susan Will.

Others folks who are not quite ready to join as members have found us online and in-person, attending worship faithfully and helping to carry out ministry.

### New Challenges!

With these new folks comes new vision, new ideas, and new enthusiasm, which is most welcome, because our challenge in the year ahead is to move past necessary preoccupation with matters of the "Pandemovation" and to start envisioning what new and concrete steps we are feeling called by the Spirit to take together. Our leaders are already aware of the challenge of forming and welcoming new leadership.

I hope that everyone of you who has read this far is willing to wonder whether God is calling you to serve in some new way. We need folks to share the work of sustaining our worship and serving ministries, as well as the task of pro-active planning for the future. We look forward to the new energy and commitment that we can all bring to this place that focuses and releases of love of God and neighbor, and our willingness to share!

### Thanks, thanks and more thanks...

Our staff: Angie, David, Denny, Kath and Vicki - deserve all of our thanks for the energy and creativity they have brought to their duties. Our lay leaders, led by our President, Carl Hartman, have also been working hard to **connect**: the past with the present, the new folks with the veterans, the generosity of our hearts with the needs of our neighbors near and far.

Finally, I'm thankful to all of you who showed up or tuned in faithfully to worship, who made your offerings toward our mission and our building project, who prayed for me and us and our ministry. I continue to learn and grow into this calling to serve as your pastor here at Grace Church. It's a calling that has defined almost half of my life now as we begin our 28th year together this month! I continue to feel and give thanks for your support and love through words and deeds. And I give thanks to God, from whom all blessings flow, and to whom we return our love and serving. May God continue to speak to us and through us and prayer and worship, blessing us all, and renewing us together for the next season of ministry here at Grace on the corner of Queen and James!

God bless you all!

Your Pastor in Christ,



Stephen Verkouw

## Council President's Report

What a privilege to have been your President of Council for nearly a year. Thank you for the opportunity to serve this vibrant congregation. Some of the many blessings that have been revealed in the last year include the finishing of the revitalization of the physical property which gives us clean bright and welcoming space for Sunday Church School. One of the Lancaster Chamber Singers, who recently used Grace's nave to record a program, was overheard exclaiming "what a beautiful and cheerful space this is. "

The landscaping around the church building has also been spruced up using all native plants and some of the rain water from the north side of the church roof is now flowing into a natural cistern to slowly seep into the ground rather than dump it all into the Lancaster hybrid storm and sanitary sewage system resulting in pollution of the Susquehanna River which then flows into the Chesapeake Bay creating a murky oxygen starved environment for the formerly rich habitat of the Chesapeake. We are currently investigating the possibility of going even further and creating a similar system for catching the water from the south side of the church roof.

Our ability to live stream worship services has improved immensely and as a result many of our more Covid-susceptible members have been included in the worship experience at Grace. This has also resulted in the transfer-in of several people who came to know about Grace thorough the streaming media. They liked what they saw and came to join us.

The Christian outreach of Grace in the form of affordable housing, of community meals, our vibrant group of young people in Sunday School, Bell Choir, participation in our Lutheran Liturgy, by reading the lessons, leading the congregation in prayer all bear testimony to the excellent leadership of the Church at Grace.

Our church council is a joy to work with and I thank them each for their work and diligence to enable all that goes on at Grace. Our church staff works very hard to engender all the Christian witness that emanates from Grace and the members of the congregation have continued to faithfully support the work through volunteering and giving, often made harder by the pandemic.

The music at Grace is truly amazing! Youth choir, and bell choir, adult choir and bell choir, our organists who provide beautiful and liturgically appropriate musical support for our worship. The Easter Vigil this year was very moving and provided the setting for our gaining 24 new members, either by Baptism or transfer.

O praise God in his holy place,  
praise him in the vault of heaven, the vault of his power;  
praise him for his mighty works,  
    praise him for his immeasurable greatness.  
Praise him with fanfares on the trumpet,  
    praise him upon the lute and harp;  
praise him with tambourines and dancing,  
    praise him with flute and strings;  
praise him with the clash of cymbals,  
    praise him with triumphant cymbals;  
let everything that has breath praise the Lord!

O praise the Lord.

In Christ,

Carl Hartman, Council President



# CHURCH COUNCIL

## Parochial Report for 2021

Baptism	1	Baptized Membership (12/31/20)	687
Marriages	1	Confirmed Membership	632
Deaths / Funerals	14	Total number of people actively participating in the life of the congregation, including children and non-members	513
Removed by transfer	4		
Confirmations	2		
Members by affirmation of faith	0		
Members received by transfer	8	Average Worship Attendance	On site 98 On line 161

### Grace Lutheran Church Leadership Development Team ANNUAL REPORT 2021

The Leadership Development Team (LDT) is responsible for identifying and preparing talented church leaders for serving on the various leadership Board positions for the Grace Church Council. The LDT has worked through the winter and spring to invite new Council members to serve and is very grateful to those who have agreed. LDT recommends the following slate of Church Council and LDT candidates to serve the congregation for the 2022 /2023 term.

CANDIDATE	POSITION	YEAR ELIGIBILITY ENDS
Carl Hartman	Council President	2023
John Grove	Council Vice President	2023
Keith Miller	Chair, Board of Worship	2025
Molly Rowen	Chair, Board of Pastoral Care	2022 (term extended)
Brenda Hayasaka	Chair, Board of Ministries	2022 (term extended)
Open	Chair, Board of Trustees	
Pat Oberholtzer	At-Large Council Member	2023
Open	At-Large Council Member	
<b>LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TEAM</b>		
Jay Graver		2023
Keith Miller		2023
Bruce Linton		2023
Open		

## **Board of Congregational Care Report April 2021**

Although Covid continued to put a damper on 2021, we continued to reach out to members and the neighborhood as best we could.

We hosted a version of a neighborhood picnic which also supported Lutheran Disaster Relief. We had a wonderful Advent Fair for both children and adults. Our board helped with an Easter breakfast between services. Visitations are still spotty.

Respectfully submitted,  
Molly Rowen, Chair -Board of Congregational Care

## **Board of Ministries**

### **Christian Formation**

#### Kids & Youth - Sunday School

Advent and Christmas Eve were filled with getting ready for the Christmas Play and learning about the Prophets.

Lenten activities and instruction given to each age group. (Old Testament scratch and find for older and mid-youth, prayer elephants and activity books for the youngest).

Vacation Bible School last year was a day experiencing nature at County Park in the environmental center and the stream.

We finished last year virtually. This Fall we began in person instruction with masks.

We began singing together during December for the Christmas Play and then continued with music time beginning January. The children are performing in worship once a month.

#### Confirmation

Confirmation Camp - the planning team has been working on the curriculum and the dates are set for June 19-25 at Kirchenwald. Seven Lutheran churches are combining their talents and children for this camp.

Meghan Kelly and Keith Miller have been teaching this class. There have been up to 13 students at any given time. Five of these children are set to be confirmed at the Pentecost 10:30 worship on June 5th. Those being confirmed will present their confirmation projects during Sunday school hour that same day with a special reception.

#### High School Sunday School

We are in search of new HS teachers.

## Adults

Sacred Silence Adult Sunday School

spring 2021: Pastor led a discussion of *When Bad Things Happen to Good People*

fall 2022: Pastor led a Discussion of *Materiality As Resistance*

spring 2022: Pastor led his discovery class

## Tapestry of Pages

This small group meets weekly on Tuesdays via Zoom. In the past year, we have read and discussed *Separated* by Jacob Soboroff, *The House in the Cerulean Sea* by T.J.Klune, *His Truth Is Marching On* by John Meacham, *Stamped From the Beginning* by Ibram X. Kendi, *Transformed Community (LIRS Bible Study)*, and we are currently reading *Four Hundred Souls* edited by Ibram X. Kendi and Keisha N. Blain.

Upcoming books include *Carry On* by John Lewis, *Made For Goodness* by Desmond Tutu, and *The Woman They Could Not Silence* by Kate Moore.

## What Does the Bible Say?

The idea had been raised by a few members of Tapestry of Pages to read the Bible in a year. We decided that it would be best if invited the entire congregation to join us in this practice. Angie has been creating online and print resources. We have about sixty-five folks participating in this practice.

## **Outreach**

### LIRS Hope For the Holidays

We sent around two hundred Christmas Cards to refugee families at the border. Many of these cards were decorated/created by the children of Grace.

### Community Meal

Winter outerwear was collected by Grace and handed out by Parish Resource Center Volunteers. The PRC had a hard time finding the volunteers to hand things out and there was a delay in getting the items to the community. In order to avoid this for the upcoming year, we have decided that Grace will coordinate the necessary volunteers to hand out the items.

Angie is studying for the ServeSafe Manager Exam. Once she takes and passes the exam we will have a member of the staff who is ServeSafe certified. We are currently using the CAP cook's ServeSafe certification in our kitchen.

### Race For Refugees

15 members and friends of Grace participated in Carry the Future's Race for Refugees in September of 2021. We raised \$570, walked/ran/hiked 301.97 miles, biked 224.24 miles, and worked out for 59 hours and 15 minutes.

### Refugee Support and Food Crisis Ministry

This is a group started during the pandemic with a call from the IU13 refugee resource officer looking for a church willing to help with groceries in a time of crisis - both parents of a refugee family were suffering from Covid and had no way to get groceries while sick. Through this last year and a half we have supported seventeen different families with 1-3 deliveries of groceries, one family with longer support, and now a neighbor family with wrap-around support. The families are usually referred to us by the Refugee center. We try to include food from their home country and have developed a lovely relationship with the manager of the African store by the DMV. This has truly been a team effort. One Grace family has adopted a long-

term family for their period of need. We have received care packages of food donated by the Grape Leaf Refugee Center. Around thirteen Grace members are volunteering for this ministry. Barbara Andersen has helped in many ways. She has created the forms that we use to keep track of those we help, their food preferences, and when food is delivered to them.

### YWCA Race Against Racism

Members of Tapestry of Pages participated in the Lancaster YWCA Race Against Racism historical walking tour.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Rabbe, Kathryn Verkouw, Brenda Hayasaka, chair

### **Grace ESL ~ Now Grace ELL (English Language Learners)**

Grace ELL (English Language Learners) is an online English class that meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM. There are currently six students in our online class. The students are from Mexico, Haiti, Turkey, Burundi, and Egypt. Five of our students live in the Lancaster area. One of our students joins us from Egypt where he has been living with relatives for several months. He is our first international student, and we are delighted to stay in touch with him.

Each student learns at the level that suits them best, because we are on Zoom and use Zoom “breakout rooms.” At the present time, we have students in Intro, Level One, and Level Three breakout rooms. Students are given a free Oxford Picture Dictionary and a free textbook and workbook from the Future Series. If a student needs a computer to join class, we provide them with a desktop or laptop computer from Computers for Refugees. This is a ministry of Alpha and Omega Church in Lancaster that has become a much-needed partner on our teaching journey. Our students love the friendships they make through Grace ELL. They find that online classes often lead to real world lessons after class.

One student learned how to plan a trip to his native country, buy a car, and find affordable housing. Another student learned how to shop for the food she needs to maintain her special diet. She has also talked to one of her teachers about pursuing new job possibilities.

Grace ELL has launched two in-person initiatives in the last few months. One initiative is citizenship lessons for a student who wants to bring his wife and child to the US. Another initiative is a Monday morning English class for one of our L Hands renters. She is a young mother of three who speaks only Spanish. The Monday class meets in Nolt Auditorium where childcare volunteers take care of her children while she is in class, giving her little ones an opportunity to learn as they play.

Over the past four years, Grace ELL has made the transition from in-person classes to online classes. Now we are “branching out” to include in-person teaching again. We look forward to seeing how this works, and we will continue to remain flexible in this time of pandemic and change. It is a joy and a privilege to teach English to refugees and New Americans; and we look forward to meeting the challenges ahead.

Grace ELL Online Barbara Andersen, Coordinator, Lynn Allison, Linda Fackler, Cindy Garcia, Mary Gentzler, Joyce Loiseau, Carol Main, Donna Weidman, Nan Yoder Grace ELL in Nolt Auditorium Barbara Andersen, Coordinator, Joyce Loiseau, Jan Tusing, Sally Flick, Linda Driscoll, Joanne Kochan

## Board of Worship

**The Worship Team** meets approximately four times a year in order to address topics pertinent to worship here at Grace. This group was supplemented from March '20 - June '21 with a "Return to Worship" working group at the request of Council in order to make decisions about our worship life during the pandemic. The Worship team has taken on many of these considerations throughout the year as the health landscape has changed.

Over the course of the year we have returned to a more regular time of worship for each Sunday as well as for festivals. How wonderful it has been to once again come together as a community to worship!

On May 30, 2021 we resumed offering two abbreviated Sunday morning worship services while also continuing to offer a livestream version of the 10:30AM service. The livestream option was paused for part of the summer to allow our volunteers a break. The option resumed on September 12th, 2021 and has been available each Sunday as well as Christmas Eve in addition to our in person services. This summer we are looking to expand the team of volunteers that make the livestream possible.

There have been a handful of technological upgrades throughout this year beginning with the new speaker in the Nave over the summer. We have also increased the capabilities of our livestream experience through the addition of a new camera, microphone, audio interface, and laptop along with improved internet access in the Nave.

Music at Grace returned this year with a handful of concerts. What a joy to once again listen to live music! Thank you to the Concert Committee for organizing these events.

We are incredibly grateful for those who share their musical gifts here at Grace and we especially thank Dr. David McConnell, the Grace Choir, Kath Verkouw, the Bell Choirs, and the many instrumentalists for all that they do to enhance our worship throughout the year.

Liturgical decor, particularly decor for special Holy days, continues to add to our worship services in the virtual format. Many thanks to all who help prepare our spaces for worship, especially Murray Forman, Jenny Fritsch, Jay and Mindi Graver, and Carl and Patti Hartman who spearhead aspects of special decor during the church year.

My thanks to those who served on the Worship Committee this year: Jenny Fritsch, Barbara Andersen, Carl Hartman, Keith Miller, David McConnell, Kathryn Verkouw and Pastor Verkouw.

Anyone interested in serving on this group or the Worship Team is more than welcome to join us! Please contact Jenny Fritsch to be added to our email list.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meghan Kelly  
Chair - Board of Worship  
April 29, 2022

## **Board of Trustees—Property**

The following repairs were completed in 2021:

- Soft start for the Ed Building elevator was repaired.
- 3 year inspection of the Ed Building elevator was completed.
- Plumbing repairs to sinks, toilets, and corroded piping in the Ed Building.
- Repair of one of the Nave circulators.
- Nave condenser fan was replaced.
- Squirrel damage to the LG unit that serves the new educational space below the Nave was repaired.

Dennis Maharg has continued to maintain a regular maintenance schedule for our campus.

Respectfully submitted for the Property Team,  
Vicki Mumma, Secretary

### **LHANDS**

Our housing ministry (Lancaster Housing and Neighborhood Development Services or LHANDS) continues to serve 12 low-to-moderate income families who rent our apartments on James Street and the house on N. Queen.

We have a number of long-term tenants, some of whom have been with us for 20 years, or since we bought the homes they live in. It is good to have this stable core of folks who have called our neighborhood home for a long time! But we are also serving families who are working hard to reach stability after starting in difficult circumstances. Three of our apartments are now hosting refugee/immigrant families: from the Congo, Cuba, and Uganda, and two of them are led by single Moms, both working while also caring for two or three children. Grace's support of this ministry (primarily by owning the homes) allows us to keep their rents affordable.

As a non-profit organization serving low-mod. income tenants, LHANDS finances are always close to break-even status. LHANDS continues to repay its grant from Grace's reserve funds \$1,000 per month, and made an additional gift of \$2,500 to our general fund last year..

LHANDS Board members and officers have dwindled to just two: Pastor Verkouw, (President), Pat Oberholtzer (Vice President). Vicki Mumma serves as our rental manager, and Klaus Case continues as our multi-talented property manager. Marjorie Worley does a fantastic job as our volunteer bookkeeper!

This ministry is stable for now, requiring some oversight, and utilizing numerous volunteers who are developing relationships and assisting our refugee tenants with furniture, food, mentoring, ELL lessons and more. But we are in need of some new members to serve on the Board as it is time now to begin some strategic planning about the next phase of this ministry. If you are interested in helping your congregation serve in this dynamic and life-saving ministry, please make yourselves known!

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Verkouw

**Capital Campaign**  
*Thank You for your ongoing support of our Capital Campaign,  
“Growing in Grace—Continuing the Challenge!”*

Our Campaign to service the debt of our renovation is currently in a quiet phase, meaning that folks continue to make payments toward their pledges and other gifts to the campaign through the end of 2023. Periodically, the Stewardship/Finance Team reviews the balance in our fund and makes appropriate principal payments in excess of our regular monthly loan payments. Some basic highlights:

The balance of the loan is \$1,053,571 (as of May, 2022).

We made an extra principal payment of \$300,000 in December of 2021, reducing our monthly payment to \$6,087.

Since December of 2021, we have received \$67,315, and made monthly P/I payments totaling \$38,217, raising the balance in our Campaign Fund to \$108,613. Your gifts continue to well exceed our monthly payments - thank you again!

Your generous gifts have paid off a total \$1,156,429 of the \$2,210,000 cost of the renovation (as well as the interest, at 4.35%)

Respectfully submitted,  
Rosalyn Ward, Campaign Chair



**Memorials April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2021**

**Memorials Given**

Barb Krimmel, Bob Sherr, Carolyn Moyer, Carolyn Wenger, Dave Schober, Don Harman, Harvey Stewart, J. Smaling, Joan Marrow, Joeseeph Nolt, Ken Altmanshofer, Lavija Bicevkis, Mary Mumma, Peter Verkouw, Richard Kline, Ronald Neumar, Ruth Galebach, Sherrie Russell, Stan Peznoski, Tom Miller, Anonymous gift

**Estates**

Ruth Galebach