



2021
Annual Church
Conference

November 2, 2021



Table of Contents:

Church Conference Agenda

Pastor's Report

Nominations Report - Leadership Roster

Clergy Compensation Report

Finance Report

Accessibility Audit

Trustee's Report

Ministry Reports

Membership

Church Council

Annual Conference

Staff-Parish Relations

Friendship Fund

United Methodist Women

Records and History

Mission and Outreach

Minutes



2021 Church Conference Agenda Jesus Makes a Way

Call to Order

Opening Prayer (Lay leader Jane Pierce)

Scripture Mark 4: 35-41

Message (District Superintendent or Presiding Elder)

Reflections on the past year with references to some of the ways the Annual Conference has adapted and carried out ministry in the new paradigm and through the storms we weathered.

Open Discussion

- 1) What are some of the storms your church faced this past year?
- 2) How have you seen Jesus being a “way maker” for your church?
- 3) Where is Jesus calling your church to help others this next year?

Celebration of Ministries

Business of Charge Conference

- 1) Lay Nominations Report
- 2) Clergy Compensation
- 3) Other Reports

Closing Prayer and Benediction (Pastor)

2021 Pastor's report
Rev. KyungHae Anna Shin
November 2, 2021
Bolingbrook: Friendship United Methodist Church

"As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, to everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to Abba God through him." Colossians 3:12-17 (NRSV)

2021 has been an incredible year for me to witness the companionship with God as the Friendship Church leaders have united in spirit and truth to navigate in such an unprecedented time in history over the almost two years to build up the church. As the world has begun to reopen as more people got vaccinated, Friendship has followed the Center for Disease Control guideline in every possible way to keep the building and the people in it safe and healthy while committed to carrying out our missional goals: **spiritual growth, getting connected to the needs of the surrounding communities and strengthening the leadership.**

The resilient spirit of the congregation and the adaptability of the leaders in such a time of transition have been inspiring and critically essential features of a healthy congregation. That is what I have witnessed.

Through the unexpected much-shortened life of the Council leader, Deji Sanyaolu, we've experienced the importance of the community and learned that God's grace has been present even during such a painful loss in the life of this congregation. Several leaders gradually filled the gap that Deji left behind. I am incredibly grateful to Leonard Jones, Carolyn Jones, Carolyn Weber, Jane Pierce, and Reanna Tyree. As a new council chair, Reanna has been a fresh air and brought us a new level of commitment as followers of Christ.

2021 has been a year of transition. I have witnessed that when one door closes, another opens. After Kim Bailey, who served as Office Manager for the last seven years, left for a full-time job at the end of July, seven people took turns taking the front post of our congregation Monday through Friday for August and September. I want to acknowledge their spirit of volunteerism: Carolyn Weber, Marcia Devgun, Susan Varno, Amania Drane, Susan Higginbotham, Muffy Paquette, and Jane Pierce.

While preparing ourselves for a new school year, the leaders have concurred that the time has come to reconfigure our current staff to be a faithful steward of financial resources. First, we would like to keep our financial commitment to our Northern Illinois Conference by giving 100% of the apportionment we haven't held for many years. Second, we want to prepare ourselves for a new online era in ministry.

In October, we welcome **Pat Prins**, who has served as a building manager for many years, switches to serve as the **Director of Administrative Services and Facilities**, the primary office staff. In addition, we welcome **Patti Cash**, marketing consultant, as the **Communication Director**, and **Daniel Chavez** as **Projectionist** for the worship. Finally, as the contract with Jim Molina, who helped the praise band for the last nine months (thanks for the trio, Wayne Feters, Ann Natalie, and Dave Lichty) while holding his position as music director at the First Congregational Church in Elmhurst, came to an end in September, we could find a new music staff, **Stephen Rawson**. He will be a tremendous blessing to our worship as an **Accompanist and a Music Director** who oversees the music ministry.

I want to recognize the hard work of the chairperson of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee, Leonard Jones, behind all these staff changes. We could build an excellent staff team with his consistent presence, support, and commitment for the best.

These are some of the highlights of 2021:

- **Live-streaming of Sunday morning worship service:** We had to wean from Zoom that we all fell in love for almost sixteen months during the pandemic to provide high-quality live streaming of Sunday worship. With the dedicated production and projection team under the leadership of Donna McWilliams and Larry Hilb, we started live streaming of worship via Facebook and Youtube. We count about 35-45 regularly attending in-person worship, 20-25 on Facebook, and a few on YouTube.
- **Leading the prayer in public:** It has been a great blessing to have a team of prayers for Sunday worship. Patricia Michalik, a certified Lay Servant in our District, offered the workshop to equip them.
- **Young People's Ministry:** Dave Lichty is a newly found storyteller for the Children's message. He will continue to record the Children's message for the first Sunday of each month. We opened in-person Sunday school in September. We hope more children come to the church on Sunday as the vaccination for COVID starts to roll out for that age group.
- **Website and Social Media:** Phil Waters, the nephew of Mike and Theresa Donahue, has offered his professional expertise to improve our web and social media presence. His outstanding presentation helped us understand a new world of social media to connect to young generations and the 'spiritual but not religious.'

Lastly, I am thrilled and tremendously grateful to Leonard Jones, Carolyn Jones, Mike Dewitt, Richard Guzman, Amania Drane, Jane Pierce, who have helped me apply for the 2021 National Clergy Renewal Program last April. Friendship UMC is one of 156 congregations across the United States selected to receive this competitive grant program, which is funded by Lilly Endowment Inc. and administered by Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis. I am looking forward to sharing my renewal plan with you in detail at the beginning of the new year.

May God, who knows our needs before we ask, continue to lead us into a new season of faithfulness and fruitfulness in God's kindom work.

2022 Leadership Roster

Submitted by: Pastor Anna Shin and the Nominations Committee

Bolingbrook: FRIENDSHIP UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CHURCH COUNCIL:

Lay Leader	Jane Pierce	9/1/2021	12/31/2025
Lay Members to Annual Conference (4 year term)	Carolyn Weber	1/1/2020	12/31/2024
	Jane Pierce	9/1/2021	12/31/2025
Alternate Lay Member	_____		
Council Chairperson 251.3	Reanna Tyree	9/1/2021	12/31/2024
Council Secretary 247.4	Carolyn Baker		12/31/2022
Staff-Parish Chair	Dena Byrd		12/31/2022
Finance Chair 258.4	Michael DeWitt		12/31/2022
Financial Secretary	Gene Paquette/ Carol Feters		12/31/2023
Treasurer	Pat Prins (staff), Donna Jacobs		
Trustee Chair (elected by Trustees)	Gene Paquette		12/31/2022
Membership Secretary 234	Carolyn Jones		12/31/2023
Church Historian	Loren Weber		12/31/2023
Communication Team (Web)	Wayne Feters, Patti Cash		
Pastor	Rev. KyungHae Anna Shin		
United Methodist Women	Jane Pierce, Dena Byrd		

MINISTRY TEAM CHAIRPERSONS:

Faith Formation Ministry	Amania Drane, Dave Lichty	12/31/22
Caring Christians	Kathleen Campbell, Fern Deatrick	12/31/22
Mission and Outreach	Carolyn Jones, Jody Hargett	12/31/22
Membership Ministry	Carolyn Jones, Jody Hargett	12/31/22
JEDI Ministry	Dena Byrd, Efren Ramos	12/31/22
Worship and Arts	Muffy Paquette, Amy Hanna	12/31/22

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

A. Committee on Nominations and Lay Leadership (Chair: Pastor Anna Shin)

Lay Leader: Jane Pierce

2022

Amania Drane

Sam Mends

2023

Yetunde Olatunde

Kandy DeWitt

2024

Carolyn Jones

Dick Baker

B. Committee on Staff-Parish Relations (Chair: Dena Byrd)

Lay Leader: Jane Pierce,

Lay Member: Carolyn Weber

2022

Mila Valdez

John Kargbo

2023

Jody Hargett

James Branch

Wayne Feters

2024

Dena Byrd

Susan Varno

Reanna Tyree

C. Board of Trustees (Chair: Gene Paquette)

2022

Gene Paquette

Greg Jacobs

William Dimgba

2023

Barbara Collins

Roy Herman

Mike Donahue

2024

Larry Hilb

D. Committee on Finance (Chair: Mike DeWitt)

Lay Leader: Jane Pierce

Lay Member: Carolyn Weber

Council Chair(s):

Reanna Tyree

Trustee Representative

Gene Paquette

Staff-Parish Representative

Dena Byrd

Financial Secretary

Gene Paquette; Carol Feters

Treasurer

Pat Prins, Donna Jacobs, Suresh Christian

*Stewardship Committee

Leonard Jones, Dena Byrd, William and Chioma Dimgba, Efren Ramos, Sharon Hall

E. Friendship Fund (Chair: Carolyn Jones)

Consultant: Gene Paquette

Finance Chair:

Mike DeWitt

Council Chair(s):

Reanna Tyree

3 classes:

Carolyn Jones(2024); Sandy Kozlowski(2022); Amy Hanna (2023)

F. First Friends Board (President: Donna Jacobs, Treasurer: Carolyn Baker)

Preschool :

Chris Bosacki (director),

Robin Brown (assistant)

Carolyn Weber

Donna McWilliams

Carolyn Baker

MINISTRY TEAMS

Faith Formation Ministry Team (Co-Chairs: Amania Drane, Dave Lichty; Staff-Theresa Donahue)

Carolyn Weber, Dave Lichty, Elaine Meldrum, Carolyn Jones, Leonard Jones, Barbara Collins

Caring Christians (Co-Chairs: Kathleen Campbell, Fern Deatruck)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| • Panera Bread | Dave Lichty, Glen Cherry, Eddie Davis |
| • Sunday Morning Fellowship | Kathleen Campbell, Fern Deatruck |
| • Card Team | Muffy Paquette, Joy Bernardo, Susan Varno, Martha Rayburn |
| • Senior Care team | Gene Paquette, Larry Hilb |
| • Funeral Reception Coordinator | Susan Higginbotham, Kathleen Campbell |
| • Thanksgiving Dinner | Fern Deatruck, Carolyn Jones |
| • Prayer chain | Amania Drane |

Mission and Outreach Ministry (Co-Chairs: Jody Hargett, Carolyn Jones; Staff- Pat Prins)

Kandy DeWitt, Susan Varno, Michelle Braxton, Roy Herman, Dick Baker

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| • Sports Ministry Coordinator | Wayne Fetters(Golf) |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|

Mission

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| • Daybreak | Richard Guzman |
| • Senior Luncheon | Sandy Kozlowski |
| • Giving Tree | Julie Verson/Carolyn Jones |

Membership Ministry (Co-Chairs: Carolyn Jones, Jody Hargett; Staff: Pat Prins)

Roy Herman, Reanna Tyree

JEDI(Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion) Ministry (Co-Chairs:Dena Byrd, Efren Ramos)

Richard Guzman, Amania Drane, Carolyn Weber, Jane Pierce, Amy Hanna, Jameson Pagano, Ibrahim Arowolo, James Branch, Glen Cherry, Olamide Olatunde, Michelle Braxton, Elaine Meldrum

Worship and Arts (Chair: Muffy Paquette, Amy Hanna)

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| • Communion Stewards | Kathleen Campbell, Fern Deatruck,
Chioma Dimgba |
| • Acolyte Guardian | Muffy Paquette |
| • Outdoor Sign Coordinator | Muffy Paquette |
| • Worship Technical Support Team | Daniel Chavez (Staff)
Larry Hilb, Greg Jacobs, Bryant Taylor, Kloie Valdez
Julie Verson, Greg Jacobs, Donna Jacobs, |
| Graphic Designer | Donna McWilliams (Staff) |

- Sunday worship Ushers (See Appendix)
- Sunday offering counters Gene Paquette, coordinator (See Appendix)

Communications (Staff: Patti Cash, Pat Prins)

- Web Wayne Feters
- Social Media
- Periodicals: Muffy Paquette (eFocus), Patti Cash (LINK),

Buildings and Grounds (Staff: Pat Prins)

- *Security Team (see appendix)
- *Lawn Mowing Team (see appendix)

Appendix

Sunday Worship Ushers

Roy Herman
Efren Ramos
Carolyn Jones
Fern Deatruck
Greg Prins
Pat Prins
Boyet Valdez
Mila Valdez

Sunday Morning Counters

Wayne Feters
Janet Petrick
Robin Lichty
Sandy Kozlowski
Gene Paquette
James Branch
Susan Higginbotham
Carolyn Jones
Laura Jones

Security Team

Lawn Maintenance

Greg Jacobs
Efren Ramos
Gene Paquette
Larry Hilb
Bryson Taylor
Roy Herman

Clergy Compensation Report for Clergy Not Provided a Parsonage

Please complete a clergy compensation report for each clergy person under episcopal appointment. **Please round up to the nearest dollar. NO decimals, letters or symbols.**

[Download the clergy compensation explanation sheet.](#)

*indicates a required field (if this field is not filled in, an error message will appear after hitting submit and required fields will appear in red)

District *

Prairie Central

Church *

Bolingbrook: Friendship - 3014

Clergy Name *

KyungHae Anna Shin

Email of person filling out form *

Lnjns0615@yahoo.com

Effective Compensation Beginning Date *

Jan 1 2022

Clergy Compensation

This section determines:

1. Total cash to be paid to clergy
2. Taxable and non-taxable elements of total cash.
3. Compensation used by Wespath to determine the benefit amount and cost of annual and monthly contributions to the Clergy Retirement Security Program Plan (CRSP) and Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP).
4. Cash amount for payroll

1. Annual Base Cash Salary includes housing exclusion + deductions to UMPIP, FSA or HSA *

41000

2. Housing Exclusion: IRC Code 107 (Amount included in base cash salary identified as housing expense and not taxable to clergy. Clergy are responsible for reporting these non-taxable expenditures.) *

10,000

3. Accountable Reimbursement (Cash provided by church and accounted for by clergy for ministerial expenses such as travel, books, and continuing education. Accountable reimbursement money is not taxable to clergy) *

5000

4. Other Cash: Dues, Additional Benefits, etc (Cash provided that is taxable to clergy.) *

0.00

5. Other Cash (Medical Allowance if medical insurance is not provided by the Conference) *

0.00

6. Other Cash: SECA (Self-employment, Social Security, and Medicare tax.) Clergy are responsible to pay 15.3% of their compensation including parsonage or housing allowance. Sometimes, churches choose to pay one-half of that amount.) *

0.00

7. Other Cash Total *

0.00

8. Housing Allowance (Cash provided instead of a parsonage, subject to limitations of IRC Section 107 and based on the Annual Housing Resolution adopted by the local church). *

27500

9. Personal Deductions, if any to: UMPIP, FSA, HSA (This can be provided at a later date if the pastor has not made a decision concerning deferrals.)

Taxable/Nontaxable Compensation

10. Clergy Taxable Compensation *

31,000.00

11. Clergy Non-Taxable Compensation *

42,500.00

12. Total Clergy Compensation *

73,500.00

13. Total cash payroll to clergy (Does not include amount allocated to accountable reimbursements) *

41,000.00

Wespath Compensation and Contributions

Annual Base Salary (1) + Other Cash (4) + Other Cash -SECA (6) + Housing Allowance (8)

Refer to eligibility requirements

14a. Is this person eligible for pension and CPP? (If no, disregard Wespath Compensation and Contributions) *
Yes

14. Wespath Compensation *

68,500.00

CRSP Contribution (13% of Wespath Compensation)

8,905.00

CRSP Contribution Monthly

742.08

CPP Contribution: 3% of Wespath Compensation

2,055.00

CPP Contribution Monthly

171.25

Signatures

This form is required to have at least two complete signatures. To secure all signatures, please select Save and Continue Later. You will be given a link to share with the other personnel needing to sign. The last person signing this form can then hit submit. The Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) Chair should attempt to have all church signatures prior to or at the time of Charge Conference.

E-Signature of Clergy *

KyungHae Anna Shin

E-Signature of District Superintendent *

The e-signature-of-district-superintendent-299 field is required.

Please remember to select 'Print' at the top of the form before submitting to retain for your records.

Every time you enter information in a field, it is automatically saved to your session, which can be accessed by clicking the Save and Continue and using the link at the top of the page.

******It is important to highlight, copy and save this link for your records before exiting out. You may paste this link in the address bar of your browser to re-enter your session at any time. ******

If you have another clergy and need to start a new form, save the link and click on the top banner to return to "home".

To secure all signatures, **please copy and save the link** at the top of the screen and share with the DS to sign at the time of your Church Conference. Do not hit submit. The last person signing this form can then hit submit. Instructions for signing this page:

Desktop/Laptop users: Please sign typing in your name.

Tablet/Phone users: Please sign using stylus or finger by using an eSignature app.

Actual signatures can be obtained by printing this form.

Error all fields did not validate

Save this link to restore in progress forms:

<https://registration.umcnic.org/api/forms/restore/66fc4e845e19b539dad4c5749173f7b8>



Northern Illinois Conference

The United Methodist Church

Finance Report 2021

The report of the Finance Committee shall be made on this form, or one revised and adapted by the Annual Conference. Numbers in parentheses refer to paragraphs of the 2016 Book of Discipline.

District *

Prairie Central

Church *

Bolingbrook: Friendship - 3014

Name of person submitting report *

Michael DeWitt

Email of person submitting report *

Mdewitt@yahoo.com

For the period beginning *

Jan 1 2021

and ending *

Dec 31 2021

I. Organization

1a. Has the committee been organized according to the 2016 Book of Discipline (para. 258.4)? *

☒ Yes

☐ No

If 'no' please explain

1b. Name of Officers

Chairperson *

Michael DeWitt

Vice Chairperson

Treasurer *

Pat Prins

Financial Secretary

Gene Paquette

II. Budget and Commitment Plan

2a. Has the committee submitted to the Church Council, or its equivalent, a complete budget for the ensuing year? *

☐ Yes

☒ No

If 'no', please explain

Preliminary budget has been submitted and will be reviewed and approved in January 2022

9b. Are all accounts FDIC insured and in amounts at or below the current FDIC insurable limit? *

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If 'no' please explain

9c. Are all accounts in the name of the church? *

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If 'no' please explain

10a. Has the committee established written financial policies to document the internal controls of the local church (para. 258.4d)?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

10b. Have these policies been reviewed by the committee and found to be adequate and effective (para. 258.4d)?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

11. Are the church offerings counted by a counting committee in accordance with the mandates of the Discipline (para. 258.4a)? *

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If 'no' please explain

12. Are all funds deposited promptly in accordance with procedures developed by the Committee on Finance (para. 258.4a,d)? *

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If 'no' please explain

13. Are financial officers of the church bonded (para. 258.4b)? *

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If 'no' please explain

14a. Have the financial records of the church and all its organizations been audited for the prior fiscal year (258.4c)? *

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

If 'no' please explain

Audit for 2019 and 2020 will be performed in December 2021

14b. Were there any recommendations or exceptions? *

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

14c. If there were recommendations or exceptions, how has the church addressed them?

Accessibility Audit 2021

*required field

District *

Prairie Central

Church *

Bolingbrook: Friendship - 3014

Name of person filling out the form *

Gene Paquette

Email *

GENE2-PFS@COMCAST.NET

1) Is your church accessible to those using wheelchairs, walkers or with other mobility challenges? *

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If yes, please provide specifics.

The building is one floor with ramps at both the north and south entrances.

2) Does your church provide large print worship materials such as Bibles, bulletins and hymn sheets and/or projection on screens? *

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

If yes, please provide specifics.

3) Does your church provide hearing assistance via personal devices or hearing loop? (If you need info on this, please contact the NIC Committee on Accessibility Ministries) *

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

If yes, please provide specifics.

4) Does your church offer special accessibility ministry services such as sign language interpretation? *

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

If yes, please provide specifics.

5) Does your church offer any special ministry programs such as support groups (i.e. grief; divorce, mental illness, AA) etc? *

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If yes, please provide specifics.

We have 2 AA groups and one GA group that meet at the church each week.

6) Does your church have a fully handicap accessible restroom(s)? This includes an exclusive single user restroom or an extra-large stall; both need to have grab bars, a high-rise toilet with auto-flushing valve, sink or vanity that allows for a wheelchair to roll under, a mirror that angles downward, reach-under activated faucets, paper towel dispenser and/or air powered hand-dryer located at a level that is easily reachable from a wheelchair and a power-assisted entry/exit door that opens outward. (for additional information, please contact the NIC Committee on Accessibility Ministries at accesstogodshouse@gmail.com) *

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If yes, please provide specifics.

All main bathrooms on the east and west side of the building have a handicap accessible stall.

7) Does your church promote its accessibility capabilities via the church website, publications, and signage? Signage includes an indication of items such as hearing assist devices, large print bulletins being available and HCA restroom & elevators or lifts, ramps etc.

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

7. Does your church carry the NIC-wide property and liability insurance? If yes, skip to question 7b. If no, continue to 7a. *

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

7a. If your church has been waived from the mandatory coverage in the Northern Illinois Conference program, please upload a Certificate of Insurance from your insurance broker. Be sure the "Northern Illinois Conference" is listed as an additional insured.

Attach Certificate of Insurance
Drop files here to upload

7b. Have you assessed the replacement value within the last 5 years? *

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

7c. Who performed the assessment?

NICUM General Property Insurance

7d. Is the amount of insurance adequate? *

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

7e. Have the buildings been inspected for fire and other safety hazards within the past year? *

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

8a. Has an annual accessibility audit for church properties been conducted? *

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

8b. If needed, have you developed an accessibility plan? *

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

9. Has the pastor and other leaders in the church charged with the supervision of children, youth, and other vulnerable adults completed Safe Gatherings training? *

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

10. Provide a detailed list of income-producing permanent funds. Please provide for each fund - 1) Name of Fund or Fund Category i.e. Memorials 2) Where it is held/invested 3) End of year balance 4) How fund is to be used 5) Is the fund restricted by donor, designated by church action or undesignated? *

We have a small endowment fund called the Friendship Fund. It is invested in mutual funds with American Funds and Franklin. The income and appreciation of the fund is used for charitable contributions for members in need and outside organizations who request donations. There are 5 Trustees who review and approve requests. As of October 15, 2021 the balance of the fund investments was \$47,175.

Upload file if need more room. Please put the name of your church and the form title at the top of the document.
Drop files here to upload

11a. Please list any organization legally related to the local church.

N/A

11b. Are certificates of insurance required by long-term users of the building? *

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

E-signature Chair of Trustees

Gene Paquette

Friendship United Methodist Church of Bolingbrook, IL
2021 Annual Report to the Church Conference by Church Council

Submitted by Reanna Tyree

In February 2021, the Church Council suffered a huge loss with the passing of the Chairperson, Ayodeji Sanyaolu. Carolyn Weber stepped in to chair the committee until September 2021. Then, I became the Chair of the Church Council.

The Church Council, we conducted six meetings in 2021. We met in February, April, June, August, September, and October. The Council concentrated their efforts on ensuring the wellbeing of the congregation during the continuing Covid-19 pandemic. The council prepared for the reopening of indoor church services in February of 2021. We followed all CDC and NIC and Gov. Pritzker mandates to ensure the safety of all church members. Zoom and Facebook services continued for those who wished to attend services at home. Zoom services were discontinued in June, and YouTube was added.

The goals of the Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion Team (JEDI) have permeated the committees of Friendship UMC. We are working hard to call attention to and take action to eradicate or minimize the impact of all forms of prejudice in our community. We intend to create, nurture, and strengthen discipleship for Christ by our example of loving our neighbor as ourselves. As I draft this report, I am astounded by the amount of work Friendship UMC has done just since 2019. If every church in the Northern Illinois Conference could do as much, we as disciples of Christ could make an enormous difference for Social Justice.

The JEDI team continues to meet via Zoom monthly. The JEDI team calls attention to and acts on current racial injustices and supports the LGBTQIA community. In April 2021, JEDI held a Zoom call with the local school district to discuss racial policies at the district. In June 2021 we decorated the church, inside and out, in support and recognition of the LGBTQIA community. In July JEDI held an anti-racism rally on the sidewalk in front of the church. In August, the United Methodist Women supported and facilitated an immigration workshop by the Southwest Suburban Immigrant Project, a non-profit organization that is committed to improve immigrant rights by helping to fill out paperwork to submit to the government for citizenship. Also, in August 2021 the JEDI and Outreach teams held a call to support 360 Youth Services in Naperville, IL. 360 Youth Services is a non-profit that helps homeless LGBTQIA. We collected \$870 in gift cards to grocery stores for the youth. Three members of the JEDI team are volunteering at the 360 Youth Services offices to sort and store donated items. In September 2021, the JEDI team hosted a Northern Illinois Conference Anti-Racism workshop at Friendship UMC. In September 2021, the JEDI team attended the Joliet Pride Parade and spread the word that Friendship UMC is a safe and affirming church for the LGBTQIA community.

The micro pantry is still receiving great support from the congregation as well as food donations to the local food pantry.

The Faith Formation team is working on activities for disciple making system for the membership. The committee chair has developed a description of their committee.

The Shepherding Team has stopped the weekly calls but still has a monthly check in on people via calls, cards, or email.

The All Church Retreat was held on September 18, 2021. Rev. Martin Lee, the director of Congregational Development and Redevelopment for the Northern Illinois Conference, was a guest speaker. We developed our yearly calendar of events for 2022. We also held the Ministry fair on October 17, 2021. It highlights all the activities that are available to join at the church. We hope the fair will get the membership excited to join others in mission work.

The pandemic has impacted the church finances negatively, but we still are able to continue our work of loving our neighbors. We are increasing our apportionment giving each year, we are at about 85%. The membership of Friendship UMC has been faithful and supportive in giving during the 2021 year. The mortgage was paid in full in 2020. We need to play a celebration for this blessing.

Friendship UMC was blessed to confirm and baptize one young lady in October 2021. Monthly child Sunday school videos by Dave Lichty continue. Sunday School is offered the other Sundays. We usually have 1-3 children attend in person. Vacation Bible School was offered in July and was attended by children, youth helpers and adult volunteers. Despite the small numbers we all had a wonderful time.

Our administrative assistant resigned on July 30, 2021. Pastor Anna and the SPRC developed a job description for a new combination of office and facilities services and will hire a replacement by the Charge Conference on Nov. 2, 2021. The new job of Online communicator is currently being held by a volunteer. He is the nephew of a church member and is volunteering his time to get this vital area up and running. We hope to hire a permanent communicator by Charge Conference. A Marketing director for FUMC was hired, to make our church known in the area. Online platforms of YouTube and Facebook average about twenty people per Sunday. The in person services have about forty people currently.

The goal for next year will be to remain flexible as we accept the new reality that we may continue to have a sizable group of parishioners who prefer to stay online rather than return to church in person. We would like to embrace this change and strengthen our relationship with our online members. We plan to expand our social justice work to be an example of people following the example of Christ and loving our neighbors. Friendship United Methodist Church of Bolingbrook is a diverse, dynamic, loving congregation. We are a small congregation but with the Grace of God and the leadership of Pastor Anna Shin we will continue to grow in our faith and make disciples for Christ.

Membership Report 2021
K. Anna Shin
Bolingbrook: Friendship United Methodist Church

Those who have been received into baptized membership since the last report

Francesca Ann Elizabeth Saltzman Freeman – 11-22-2020

Hailey Elizabeth Pidgeon – 10-3-2021

Those who have been received into professing membership since the last report

On profession of faith or restored

Hailey Elizabeth Pidgeon – 10-3-2021

From other United Methodist churches

Reanna Tyree – 4-4-2021

From other non-United Methodist churches

None

Those who have been removed from the professing membership since the last report

By action of the Charge Conference or trial court or withdrawal

None

By transfer to other United Methodist churches

None

By transfer to other non-United Methodist churches

None

By death

Carolyn Larsen – 9-25-2021

Ayodeji Sanyaolu – 2-28-2021

Elpidia Vallejos – 2-2-2021

First Reading List 2021

None, due to the pandemic. Our Call Shepherds and in 2021, the new Membership Ministry Team will strive to establish and maintain contact with non-regular members.

The Annual Conference Report, 2021

Pastor Anna, Leonard Jones, and Jumobi Arowolo and I attended the 2021 Northern Illinois virtual Annual Conference Friday and Saturday, July 15-16 with United Methodists from the top 1/3 of Illinois.

Our interim bishop, John Hopkins presided over the proceedings. As you may remember, we have been part of the Northern Illinois Conference and the Aurora district, however, the conference now has only 5 districts and we are now part of the Prairie Central District, with Rev. Jeffry Bross still our District Superintendent.

The theme of this year's conference was "Jesus Makes a Way". One example of that theme was a story told of the merger of 2 churches in Elgin, both on the verge of closure.

We attended 2 worship services, a retirement and memorial service. Our friend Deji was honored at the latter.

I want to remind you again of the 3 strategic goals of the NIC.

1. To grow and reach new disciples of Jesus Christ.
2. To live out the conviction that racism is incompatible with Christian teaching.
3. To increase the number of highly vital congregations.

Throughout the conference, the ministries of the conference were highlighted through videos and reports. It always amazes me to see how much is happening throughout the conference and how many Northern Illinois United Methodists are involved in these programs.

We also voted on several pieces of legislature that you will be hearing more about in the future.

As of Friday afternoon, \$25,000 had been collected for the Bishop's Appeal for covid-19 response. Our church contributed \$945.00. Our church also contributed 4 boxes for the Midwest Mission Distribution Center for disaster relief.

The Fall session of the Northern Illinois Conference was held in October. The Ordination and Commissioning Service was held on October 1. The full session met on October 2 from 9-12. A \$4.3 million budget was passed for 2022. This was a \$70,000 decrease from 2021 due to lower apportionment projections.

The conference approved the “Because They Cared” fund. Individuals and churches may make a \$100 donation in honor of clergy who have served meaningfully through the years. This is a way to affirm and celebrate the service of clergy who have made an impact in our lives and churches.

Carolyn Weber, Lay Member to the annual conference

October 31, 2021

Staff-Parish Relations Committee Report

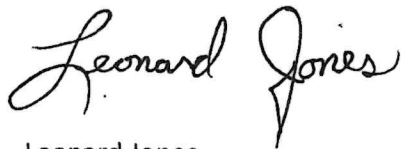
Greetings, In the name of God, our Father!

Friendship United Methodist Church has had an engaged Staff Parish Relations Committee for the entirety of 2021, meeting on five occasions to date. Entering the calendar year we brought in Jim Molina, a new Music Director, to support us in online worship. He provided valuable work for us until the end of September.

Our committee also voted to sponsor Pastor Anna for a spot in the Lily Clergy Renewal program. As part of the proposal, Anna would have a four-month sabbatical from Friendship Church spending time in the U.K., Italy, and Korea. A favorable announcement is forthcoming on this subject.

We experienced the resignation of our longtime Office Manager, Kim Bailey; plus our Nursery Coordinator, Vicki Karns relocated to Indiana which required that she resign this position. We used these events as a catalyst to rearrange some staff positions and responsibilities at Friendship Church. As a result of the pandemic and our need to more fully develop hybrid worship, we created and filled an audio/visual projection specialist position. We reorganized the Building Manager position to incorporate some of the Office Manager responsibilities, upgrading the position to Director of Administrative Services and Facilities. We introduced a Director of Communications position, hiring Patti Cash Marketing for these responsibilities. Lastly, we hired Stephen Rawson for the Director of Music Ministries position. Our committee elected to defer filling the Nursery Coordinator position until there is a more robust in-church presence.

This report respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leonard Jones". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Leonard Jones
Chair, Staff Parish Relations Committee
Friendship United Methodist Church

Report to 2021 Church Conference on the Friendship Fund

The Friendship Fund is a trust established in 1997 to support religious, educational, and charitable purposes. Only the income from the Fund can be distributed at the discretion of the Fund Trustees. That income cannot be used for 'the ordinary and usual expense' of FUMC.

The Fund authorized and distributed almost \$4800 since the last church conference, benefitting both local and global organizations, charities, and individuals. Recipients included, but are not limited to, the following: **Heart Haven Outreach**, a local organization that supports at risk youth; **Northern Illinois Justice for Our Neighbors**, an organization that provides free high-quality legal services to low-income immigrants, engages in education and advocacy efforts and builds cross-cultural relationships; the **Reconciling Ministries Network**, who believes that we are all equally beloved children of God; and **UMCOR's Covid 19 Relief Fund**.

In 2022, the Friendship Fund will strive to be more proactive in our giving, taking direction from the church to actively seek organizations in which to donate.

United Methodist Women

UMW is a ministry that shows special attention to the needs of women, children and youth and works to improve their lives. Areas of focus are e.g. spiritual growth through education, service and advocacy for social justice issues, leadership development, climate change, domestic violence, human trafficking, human rights and immigration/global migration. Within our own church UMW works to expand ideas and plans of mission for our whole church and beyond. UMW is “faith, hope and love in action”!

By working with other faith based groups within and outside of our own church we extend what we are able to do to end oppression, discrimination, injustice, abuse and violence in the world. “The work of United Methodist Women is focused on the mission set for us by Jesus Christsince our founding more than 140 years ago”.

Below are some of the mission work and activities the Friendship UMW-Social Justice group does at Friendship Church. Our UMW –Social Justice team has 10 members and makes decisions for the whole UMW-Social Justice group (women of the church).

~ **Micro Pantry**.....UMW members had a vision to start a micro pantry outside the front door of our church and we put that plan into action! In May 2020 the micro pantry was in place and stocked with food for people to take whenever needed 24/7. UMW members manage the pantry on a daily basis and the motto of micro pantries is “Take what you need, Leave what you can”.

~ **Work with our community school district 365U** to provide help for the homeless and needful students and their families. Several UMW members go weekly to assist the community school site coordinator located at the Brooks Middle School community resource center. We also gather needed items for the site such as socks, underwear, coats etc. etc.

~**We are actively involved with the Southwest Suburban Immigrant Project** located in Bolingbrook. We host several citizenship workshops at our church each year which are the first pathway in the process for immigrants to become US citizens. We also provide space and host other activities for SSIP as advocates through and at our church.

~**We advocate for gun safety legislation** in our state by signing petitions and keeping our congregation informed on who is running in elections and their stance on gun control issues.

~ **Voting rights issues and “get out the vote”** are priorities for UMW during local, state and federal elections. We publicize election information about when, where and how to register and then make your vote count!

~**UMW provides small group meet and greet gatherings** and town hall type meetings with local, state and federal elected officials for questions and answers concerning what they are doing in their jobs as our elected officials each year.

~**We sell as our main source of income Equal Exchange fair trade products** (coffee, tea, and chocolate) and **UMCOR coffee project coffees** which support small farmers all over the world mostly in Latin America, Africa, Asia, and the U.S. as they build a better future for themselves and their families.

~**UMW likes to “Share Our Stories”** by joining with other women who put faith, hope and love into action.

~**UMW also has small groups of women get together for a “Patio Chat”** to build relationships through our great strength of diverse women in our church.

~**Sunday luncheons** are a big success each month on the third Sunday of the month following our worship service. Chicken is provided by UMW and every family brings a dish to share so we can get together as a whole...all ages...and share a meal in fellowship and faith!

~ **UMW-Social Justice and UMW-Social Life** collect monies each year during Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter to provide dinners plus other food items to needful families wherever they may be in our community.

Friendship United Methodist Church Conference November 2, 2021

OPENING:

Presiding Elder, Reverend Michael Mann from St. Andrew's United Methodist Church was the officiant for tonight's Friendship United Methodist Church Conference. The Conference was declared opened by the Reverend Mann. Jane Pierce was asked to deliver the opening prayer.

OPEN PRAYER:

The prayer reflected on God's work done by faithful followers of Jesus Christ during the pandemic by our clergy, laity leaders, and congregants. Prayerful request for the love of Christ to shine through us so that justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion will be fully realized for all of God's people was made.

SCRIPTURE: Mark 4:35-41

Reverend Mann read the scripture and talk about how this passage is about change. During times of life's stress, we often fear not the stress but the change that will result. We are called to have faith in the time of storms as that is where we will find Jesus, the Way Maker.

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDING ELDER:

While reflecting on the past year's storms and challenges in our personal life, church, and Prairie Central Conference, we have been called upon to adapt to change. The Northern Illinois Conference's ministry has been designed in the new paradigm to help us carry out the message of God and weather the storms of change. We are advised to be calmed and be assured by the presence of Jesus with us through any storms we may face. Our district, formerly known as Aurora, has been realigned with other districts with the goal of being more efficient by realigning resources. Our redesigned district is call Prairie Central.

Reverend Mann gave affirmation to FUMC that we are doing God's work. He specifically noted that during the pandemic he was amazed to learn of FUMC's work to use multiple strategies to connect, serve, and comfort our congregants and the community.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

Reverend Mann asked attendees to reflect on some of the storms that we/our church has faced this last year. He reminded us that it is in the storm that we find Jesus

Storms faced by FUMC and the congregation:

- Challenges for the clergy, laity leadership, staff, and congregants in learning new technology to worship together and to do God's work (ZOOM, Facebook, and YouTube).
- Striving to stay connect with one another through the Telephone Shepherding Ministry
- The drifting away of some members and participants
- The loss of contact with those who have chosen to disconnect and not participate with our return to in-person worship services. It's like losing part of family.
- The death of several church members and the sadness of being unable to attend their funerals and comfort and be comforted as caring friends.
- The worry of church finances.

A WAY MAKER:

The theme for this upcoming year is "Jesus Makes a Way". Reverend Mann invited the attendees to consider where we see the way for FUMC to move forward in 2021-2022. We were asked to consider what is our destination? Responses included:

- Continue FUMC's commitment to justice, inclusion, diversity, and equity work.
- Work for social justice must continue to show that as Christians we live out what Jesus would have us do; love everybody.
- Move forward with an intentional discipleship system to increase the culture of discipleship through spiritual practices.
- Build upon our technology skills to connect to individuals and our community. Not all aspects of technology are unpleasant especially in connecting with the young generation
- Continue our efforts to serve our community with our Micro Pantry, partnership with our elementary school, any in need for social justice, and outreach.
- Be creative in reaching out to those who seem to have drifted away.
- Share with congregation how serving in leadership roles is a blessing.
- Upon the loss of the Office Manager, members of the congregation stepped forward to act in the role of office staff to provide communication coverage and other services

CELEBRATION OF MINISTRIES:

- FUMC's Micro Panty is working extremely well. Members support it with donation of products, food and time to restock the pantry. The community is using this regularly. Because of generous donations, we are able to share food and products with another Micro Pantry across town.
 - Reverend Mann advised that the Northern Illinois Food Bank is a great resource for purchasing food and products at a very reasonable price.
- Faith Formation Ministry is joyfully moving along in presenting/including/encouraging members to grow in an intentional spiritual growth journey.
- The Praise Band has been faithfully providing music through this pandemic and our return to in-person worship. Many individuals (including Pastor Anna and Michelle Braxton) have given generously of their musical talents.
- Shepherd Telephone Ministry has been a way for to maintain support for members. Using small groups, lay leaders connect through individual calls, conference calls, emails, text, or cards in the postal system
- Reconciling Ministry: After FUMC became a Reconciling Congregation, the LGBTQ flag was displayed on our Welcome Sign near Boughton. Unfortunately, it was stolen/damaged 2 times. It was replaced more securely, and this symbol of acceptance has been acknowledged by several who are grateful for our support and leadership.

BUSINESS OF CHARGE CONFERENCE:

1) Lay Nomination Report

The 2022 Leadership Roster was submitted by Pastor Anna Shin and the Nominations Committee. The report includes the Church Council, Ministry Team, Administrative Board and Committees, Committee on Staff-Parish Relations, Board of Trustees, Committee on Finance, Friendship Fund, First Friend Board, Missions and Outreach Ministry, Communication, Building and Grounds (see attached detailed report). Reverend Mann asked for discussion or nominations from the floor. There being none, Carolyn Jones made a motion to approve the Leadership Roster for 2022. A second was given by Denna Byrd. The report was approved unanimously as presented. Reverend Mann acknowledged the robust diversity and dedication of lay leaders serving at FUMC.

2)Clergy Compensation Report:

Leonard Jones from the Staff Parish Committee presented the Clergy Compensation Report. The tremendous increase in workload due to COVID and the resulting financial impacts was acknowledged with the intention to have Pastor Anna understand how much she is treasured by our church and appreciated for dedication, hard work, and faithfulness. Even though there was not any increase in 2020 compensation, the Staff Parish Committee wanted to affirm Pastor Anna's value to our church. In that spirit, the following has been recommended:

- Increase the base salary from \$39,500 to \$41,000
- Increase housing allowance from \$27,000 to 27,500
- Clergy reimbursement fund stays at \$5,000
- Total clergy compensation fund: \$68,500

This report comes from the Staff Parish Committee approved so no motion for approval is required. The report was accepted by acclamation of "Amen" (see attached report) to affirm Pastor Anna' faithful and calming leadership during the storm of COVID.

Reverend asked if there were any Lay Servant that are needed to be affirmed. Pastor Shinn responded that we did not at this time have any Lay Servant(s) to be affirmed but there is potential for this next year.

Other Reports:

Mike DeWitt from the Finance Committee submitted a report and indicated that a preliminary budget has been submitted to Church Council for 2022.

Closing Prayer and Benediction:

Pastor Shin closed the Friendship Church Conference for 2021 with a prayer asking for God's mercies and guidance during all the changes we may face. Benediction was offered to go from our meeting trusting that God knows what we need and will always be with us. Amen

The Conference was declared adjourned.