

2014

Annual Report to the Congregation



**NORTHBROOK
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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AGENDA

ANNUAL MEETING

NORTHBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 18, 2015

1. Opening Songs.....Angel Gippert
2. The Call to Order.....Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi
3. Establish Quorum.....Clerk – Tricia LaSota
4. Opening Prayer.....Rev. Wilhelmi
5. Moderator’s Report.....Rev. Wilhelmi
6. 2014 in Review
7. Finance Report.....Don Hemberg
8. Personnel Report and Approval of the Terms of Call for Pastor 2015
9. Recognition of those who have joined the church eternal and triumphant.....Rev. Wilhelmi
10. Motion to Adjourn
11. Closing Prayer.....Rev. Wilhelmi

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SESSION

Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi
Moderator

Tricia LaSota
Clerk of Session

Ruling Elder Class of 2014

Kathy Bauhof
Kim Bowden-Adair
Portia McDonald
Tracey Watt
Donna Young
Jimmy Mack

Ruling Elder Class of 2015

Winnie Davies-Hancock
Lois Kurta
Judie Murdock
Lori Sandercock
Judy Owen
Karen VanderWeide
Griffin Watt

Ruling Elder Class of 2016

Amy Annett
Cheryl Ardis
Don Hemberg
Bruce Hermes
Brian Long
Stephanie Wicker

DEACONS

Class of 2014

Joan Gonzales
Mary Lou Harrison
Marilyn Thomas

Class of 2015

Peggie Schiller
Bill Stetson
Jeff Wilhelmi

Class of 2016

Bob Filter
Pamela Golden
Patty Van Loo

STAFF

Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi, Pastor
Angel Gippert, Interim Director of Music
Dan Gross, Contemporary Music Director
Sherrill Heinrichs, Director of Church Education
Ken Stetson, Youth Director
Becky Bachand, Administrative Secretary
Kathy Brooks, Financial Secretary
Kerry Callaghan, Preschool Director
Lynn Stephenson, Custodian

CLERK OF SESSION

Membership Statistics:

Total Active as of January 1, 2014	352
Total Gains in 2014	10
Profession or Reaffirmation of Faith	8
Certificate of Transfer	1
Other Gains (reinstatements)	1
Total Losses in 2014	(63)
Deaths	(12)
Certificate of Transfer	(3)
Transfer to Inactive Rolls	(33)
Other Losses (deletions)	(15)
Total Active as of December 31, 2014	299

Baptisms in 2014:

Elizabeth Marie VandeVyver Lila Belle Daniels Jessica Riley Lein

New Members in 2014:

2014 Confirmation Class:

Dana DeCarteret Brooke Sandercock Carson Sowle
Claire Higley Natalia McIntyre Grant Tengler

By Profession/Reaffirmation of Faith, or Certificate of Transfer:

Matthew Broadwell Allison Broadwell Michele Buscaino

In Memory of those Transferred to the Rolls of Church Triumphant in 2014:

Jean Owens William Chapman Ernie Dunbar
James Hamburg Mary Brown James Schaefer
Robert Carroll Sue Grady Audrey Upward
Irene DeNike John Burdakin Robert Warren

Respectfully submitted,
Tricia LaSota, Clerk of Session

MODERATOR'S REPORT

It has been a year of delights and discoveries, as well as what we like to call “challenges and opportunities.” I hope you will take the time to read through this report so that we can give thanks for and celebrate all the ways the Spirit has enabled us to be an open, rational and compassionate congregation. Behind every event and initiative are hours of visioning, planning, recruiting, resourcing and rehearsing. I am inspired and humbled to witness your faithful response to the call to live the love of Jesus Christ. You give your time, talents and your treasure so generously in so many ways.

It has been a delight to discover that you are a creative people, who can make a beautiful chancel drapery from some silk scarves and paint. You have imagination, as evidenced by the wonderfully whimsical circus booths that stimulated everyone to see new ways we are invited to be part of God's work. You have the energy and will to rebuild roofs or ramps in West Virginia, or to refurbish and refresh our own facility. You are resourceful with hammers and paintbrushes, talented in music, poetry and drama, gifted in costume- and cookie-making and so much more. You have a huge capacity for love, and constantly reach out to care in word and deed for others in our community and beyond.

The year has brought its share of challenges. Your Personnel Committee worked thoughtfully and carefully in response to the retirement of Larry Brown, our custodian—truly our Care Taker in so many ways. Lynn Stephenson has taken on that position with his own special touch of consideration, gentle presence and diligent hard work. Music Director Todd Sager embraced an opportunity to serve his home congregation, and while it was sad to say goodbye to him, we are blessed to have Angel Gippert come on board and so quickly demonstrate her love of worship and music and her gift of teaching, encouragement and choral direction. Her delightful and talented husband Carl, her son Dakota and her daughter Gabi are an unexpected bonus too!

The disappointing financial outcome forced us to adjust some of our plans for last year and has significantly impacted our budget for 2015. Although this has necessitated some very difficult decisions, it also has required us to re-examine our assumptions about how we focus our resources and respond as a people who believe that God is always faithful, calling and equipping us for the ministries that are needed for this time and place. It is clear that Christ's Church is being called to a new day and a new way that will require all the creativity, intelligence, imagination and love with which you are so amply gifted.

I am grateful beyond words for the guidance and support that I have received this year from your Ruling Elders and your Deacons. It is a delight to serve with people who bring such wisdom, care and consideration to the table. Our meetings are filled with careful listening—to one another and to the Holy Spirit. These folks have spent long hours wrestling with the important questions of how to be the church. It is not easy work, and they have served you well. Make sure you hug an officer of your church today!

I am also deeply blessed and privileged to work with such a wonderful staff. Each one of them is talented, generous, and deeply dedicated to serving you and to serving Christ. I thank God for every one of them and for each of you, who continue to teach me how to see Jesus more clearly, follow him more nearly, and love him more dearly, day by day by day. I look forward in hopeful anticipation to this new year and all the promise and possibility it holds open to us all.

In Christ's Love,
Marjorie

DIRECTOR OF CHURCH EDUCATION

This has been a most interesting, exciting, challenging and very special year as your Director of Church Education. The committees of the church have been very busy offering programs and supporting ministries that have nourished, informed, celebrated and *Lived the Love of Jesus Christ* both within and outside of the walls of the church.

As the staff person for Adult Education, Children's Ministry and the Mission Connection Committees, I have so enjoyed working with members who love this church and want to see her grow and thrive, people who have a deep and abiding faith that they want to share through what they say and do in all areas of their lives. My hats (I wear many of them☺) off to you all! Your hard work, hours in committee meetings, search for new ideas, and creativity have given members and guests opportunities that have changed lives. I especially want to thank the Elders of these committees including Kathy Bauhof and Lori Sandercock (Children's Ministry), Winnie Davies-Hancock (Mission Connection) and Lois Kurta (Adult Education) for their enthusiasm, hard work, and most of all their love as they embraced their call to serve as your Elders on session. This is a task of dedication, education and discernment as they have endeavored to lead Northbrook with energy, intelligence, imagination and love. They have led your committees in providing programs of excellence.

And, to the staff I work with each and every day....thank you, thank you, thank you. You are so capable and giving of yourselves and your special talents. Becky and Kathy, and now Lynn and Angel...your positive energy helps us make amazing things take place here. And, of course, thank you to Ken, our Youth Director, for your never-ending flow of ideas, your desire to create new opportunities for youth to learn what it means to be part of a very special community of faith, your deep love for all the children of the church and your support as my colleague in ministry. You have some very special gifts.

To all the volunteers involved in LOGOS and KIDS' Connection as teachers, role models, dishwashers, game-players, dinner preparers and cleaner-uppers, table parents, costume creators and more, who are a vital part of our ministry to children and youth, thank you. You share the stories of our faith in real, hands-on ways, letting our kids see that you think this church community is an important part of their lives...and yours! A special thanks to Paco Higdon, our Worship Skills leader at LOGOS. He has encouraged our children and youth to use their gifts of music, through singing and guitar playing and especially by creatively combining the instrumental talents of our youth to bring us music in worship. And, of course, thank you to Evonne Cameron and Kim Ault, our nursery caregivers who are here every Sunday caring for our youngest members, sticky hands and dirty diapers and all!

There are many changes taking place in the church for 2015. Your session has had to make very difficult financial decisions for Northbrook's future over the past few months. These decisions certainly have affected the staff of the church, as we have had to lay off some and cut the hours and compensation of others due to budgetary constraints for the coming year. I have been working closely with the Personnel Committee as those changes will affect my ministry position here at Northbrook, and I will be moving to a new 19 ¾ hour position on April 1. As we look forward with hope for a fiscally healthier church, we will continue to need the loyal support and involvement of all of you as we shape the ministries and programs of the church for the future.

With a deep appreciation for God's Spirit at work in our midst, I give thanks for Northbrook's church family, the body of Christ, who support one another through the easy and the difficult times, who seek to grow in faith, who challenge one another to serve as we strive to *Live the Love of Jesus Christ*, looking to the future with hope.

Faithfully,
Sherrill Heinrichs, D.C.E.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Review of the Year 2014 and A Look Ahead to 2015:

The end of 2014 brought many changes to the Music Ministry of Northbrook. Longtime Director of Music/Organist, Todd Sager resigned and the Gippert Family was brought onboard to fill this position. Marjorie and the congregation have been so welcoming and the choir has been working extremely hard. It has been our pleasure to serve such a wonderful Church family! We are looking forward to this next year where we can continue to grow together as we share our musical talents.

Thank you

Thank you to the congregation for your continued support of the music program and all its musicians. Thank you to everyone involved with and in the music program. Not only to the members of the choirs and instrumentalists who continue to contribute their time and talents to the church, but also to their families who are supportive of these musicians. Attending countless hours of rehearsals, Sunday services, special services and concerts requires a lot of commitment and dedication. A program like this could not flourish without all the help and support that is given by all its members.

- Thank you to the Praise Band members: Dan Gross, Nic Cutean and Pete Zajicek
- Special thanks to the musicians who helped make Christmas Eve a joyous celebration: Carl Gippert, Kim Norton, Rob Olson, Ken Stetson, John Thomas and Dakota Tuomi

We are truly blessed to have such wonderful musicians in our midst!

Angel Gippert, Interim Director of Music

BOARD OF DEACONS

As the pastoral care arm of the church, the deacons were busy. Our major activities for 2014 included:

- Providing meals to members in the hospital, nursing homes or recuperating from an illness or surgery at home. We stock "Ready to Take" containers of soup and small meals in our freezer for our shut-in members to ensure they are remembered and cared for.
- Distributing our "Visitor Bags" that include detailed information about our church. We encourage everyone to keep in mind that nothing beats personal contact and we are all called upon to greet guests.
- Organizing the "Lunch Bunch" which meets for a meal and fellowship after Sunday worship once a month.
- Preparing communion, providing the bread, grape juice and clean-up after the service.
- Hosting the "Mighty at Ninety" Birthday Celebration at coffee hour for Co Abbott that drew a large crowd and lots of fun was had by all.
- Continuing the "Journey through Grief" program delivering four booklets throughout the year as a way to provide care, assurance, encouragement and hope for the family members who have experienced the loss of a loved one.
- Sending greeting cards to members of the congregation.

As moderator of the Board of Deacons, I would like to thank all of the deacons for their dedication in providing love and care to our Northbrook family. The deacon board members for 2014 included Joan Gonzales, Mary Lou Harrison, Marilyn Thomas, Peggie Schiller, Bill Stetson, Bob Filter, Pamela Golden, Patty Van Loo, Jeff Wilhelmi, and Rev. Marjorie, staff.

Called to Live the Love of Jesus Christ,
Jeff Wilhelmi, Moderator

ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Adult Education Committee embraced the challenge to bring a variety of educational opportunities as a part of our Christian life to our members and community:

- Throughout the year, Pastor Marjorie Wilhelmi and Rev. Thom Heinrichs led studies for adults in faith, theology and Bible.
- The Knit Wits met twice monthly and produced craft items, especially Prayer Shawls and donated items to the Alternative Gift Fair with proceeds going to our Mission Committee's fund.
- The Men's Connection met weekly to discuss current books, and went on a private tour of the Walter P. Chrysler Museum in May led by Northbrook's Bruce Thomas, Historian Emeritus. In December, the men gathered with other men of the Detroit Presbytery for the annual Advent breakfast which included keynote speakers and communion.
- In July we arranged for a morning tour of Bharatiya Temple, lunch out and an afternoon tour of Christ Church Cranbrook, each with personal guides.
- Our main goal throughout this year was to implement a series of programs on **"Getting Your Affairs in Order."** Each workshop was designed to answer important questions, as the world around our growing "greatest generation" becomes more complex each year. Our speakers were: personal financial expert Mark Steinberg, Certified Elder Law Attorney Jim Schuster, author and funeral director Thomas Lynch, and Jenny Jarvis, Director of Communications for the Area Agency on Aging. Approximately 40 people attended each educational session.

Grateful thanks goes out to members of the committee: Mary Hendrien, Seglinda Kelle-Prichard, Jo Coville, Dorathy Ketaj, Co Abbot, and Sherrill Heinrichs, staff.

Faithfully,
Lois Kurta, Chair

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

The building and Grounds Committee has been very active this year. Our task is to keep the actual church building and all its' outbuildings in good repair, along with the grounds and the physical maintenance of the systems in the building. Some of the projects we accomplished this year are:

- Replaced boiler pump motor in the heating system
- We formed an "Adopt a Garden" program for our flower beds and trees that were "adopted" by members of the congregation and they became responsible for their care and maintenance. We thank Liz Hurbis for this idea and follow through.
- We held a Spring Cleanup with 15 persons attending.
- We repaired specific items in the manse, garage, and the youth house. Some were expenditures and others were donated time and items.
- We held a fall cleanup – in sleet and snow so not much cleanup was accomplished.
- We had the church painted along with the steeple cleaning. A project that had been on the burner for some time.
- We investigated the paving of the parking lot.
- We are in process of getting a new sign on the corner courtesy of an anonymous donor (completed on or about January 15). This same donor has expressed concern over the condition of some of the sidewalks and has graciously donated the cost of repair. This is slated for Spring of 2015.
- We held an "in House Mission" project that repainted and cleaned the restrooms. Thanks to Kathy Bauhof for her spirit and drive in getting this completed with a whole host of volunteers.

As the year came to a close I am reminded that the Chair of the committee is the face of it. The real work goes on behind the scenes. Without the committee members the work would not get done and the ideas for improvement will stagnate. It is with great pleasure that I thank Jim Hothem, George Marsh, David VanderWeide, Bob Filter, Michael Campion, Tom Jarabeck, Liz Hurbis, and James Francis, and of course, our Staff advisor, Pastor Marjorie, who kept us on task and provided insight we could get nowhere else. It has been my pleasure and my honor to serve with you.

We look forward to having Michael Bauhof as the Committee chair this year

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Long, Chair

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY COMMITTEE

It has been my pleasure to be a part of this committee for the last 6 years. Under the amazing guidance of Sherrill Heinrichs, our committee is blessed to care for, educate, love and share the stories of our faith to our children. We are responsible for LOGOS, the nursery, mission education for our children, and recruiting and training teachers and nursery caregivers.

In addition to Sherrill, our kind, loving, persuasive and incredibly knowledgeable about everything staff, I was blessed to have worked with Karen VanderWeide, Lori Sandercock, and Margaret Babb. Terri Hurbis also joined us at the end of the year to add her new ideas and young parent concerns. In addition, Joyce VanderWeide has helped out with special events and driving the van. We are so grateful for all those who have volunteered to support all our ministries to children. We couldn't do it without you.

This year, we were able to use money from the Lane McKay fund for growth to hire a Worship Skills Director, Paco Higdon, to work with our LOGOS children with singing and instruments.

We showcased our committee at *The Greatest Show On Earth* in September with our booth made by Michael Bauhof, with special appearance by Emily the elephant (donkey), and popcorn was enjoyed by all.

In October, we helped out with a fundraiser for Ryan Rocks, a square dance and silent auction, that was very successful and a lot of fun for all who came (especially Ken and the youth groups!). December brought the spectacular Advent Pageant put on by LOGOS kids and many adult participants. What a wonderful way to celebrate the coming of our Lord. Again, there was much help from parents and help with last minute costume sewing by Joyce Hamburg and Shelley Tengler.

A highlight of the year was a church and community VBS Fun Day. Even the rainy weather could not stop everyone from enjoying the bounce house, games, goodies and an amazing Birds of Prey Show by the Howell Nature Center. We were especially blessed to be joined by Lawrence and a car-load of kids from Second Mile Center.

I will miss being a part of this committee as I move on to other endeavors in the church, but I highly recommend it to anyone who wants to be a part of loving, enjoying, teaching, playing and raising our children to live the love of Jesus Christ.

In Christ,
Kathy Bauhof, Chair

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE (CLC)

We encourage fellowship among individuals, families, guests and visitors to help them to know one another and to develop meaningful relations within the Northbrook community. We're responsible for fellowship and special events including socials, funeral and memorial receptions, outings, picnics, potlucks, team events, coffee hour, weddings, baptisms, and integration of new members. Our committee also has two sub-committees under its umbrella, the Northbrook Garage Sale and Presbyterian Women of Northbrook.

We began the New Year with an all ages Euchre/Bridge Night on January 25 and the Annual Meeting with light luncheon on January 26. May 4 brought our annual Rib Luncheon as a fundraiser for our Race for the Cure 3Day Walk team. This was a huge success and will be put on again in 2015 as a fundraiser for the American Heart Association. On Mother's Day, we provided carnation corsages for all the ladies. In June, we celebrated several high school, college and graduate school graduations. June 26-28 was our Church-wide Garage Sale and it was a huge success. In July, we celebrated America's independence with a Hot Dog cookout on the church patio topped off with fireworks. In August, we had another great group attending the Detroit Tiger game. In September, we held our *Under the Big Top* open house for all committees. In October, we co-sponsored a Square Dance with Ryan Rocks Adventures along with the *Where in the World Kids*. In November, CLC hosted a lunch for the Advent Christmas decorating. In December, we celebrated Christmas with our annual Cookies and Carols.

Twice a month Judy Owen provides a Senior Souper Supper on Thursdays for our senior members. Our committee also provided luncheons for several funeral and memorial receptions. Many thanks to those volunteers who are always willing to serve and help at a moment's notice.

None of the above would be possible without the combined effort of a wonderful committee: Judie Murdock, Bruce Murdock, Sue Koss, Connie McGuineas, Judy Owen, Phil Owen, Roberta Campion, Michael Campion, Bill Stetson, Barb Stetson, Cheryl Clemens and Marjorie Wilhelmi, staff. I would like to thank each of them for their hard work, their dedication and their willingness to do whatever is needed.

Kimberly Bowden-Adair, CLC Chair

MISSION CONNECTION COMMITTEE

2014 was a year full of mission opportunities for Northbrook, with many varied types of activities and events that allowed us the privilege of attempting to *Live the Love of Jesus Christ* while serving others, whether in the greater Metro Detroit area, in other areas of the United States, or places far around the globe. Here is our mission year in review:

On-going	Food Preparation for Fort Street's Soup Kitchen on 5 th Saturdays & regular donations and deliveries to the Fort Street Clothing Closet
February	Valentine Book Drive for Oakside Scholars Charter Academy in Waterford
March/April	Food Bag Preparation for Annual Mail Carriers' Gleaners Food Bank Drive
April	Rebuilding Together Annual Home Repair Workday
May	Adult Mission Trip to West Virginia
May	Presbytery HOM Gleaners Community Food Bank Drive
May-Sept.	Great Tomato (and other produce) Give-Away to The Baldwin Center
June	Church World Service Baby Care Kit Drive with PWN
July	Cass Community Social Services Tour & Workday (multi-generational)
July	Presbytery/Synod Health Festival at Second Mile Center
September	Cass Community Social Services Fundraiser Book Launch & Concert
October	World Food Week of Action/Bread for the World Food Collection – 275 lbs. of food donated to Open Door Outreach Center in Waterford

November	8 th Annual Alternative Gift Market—raised over \$5000 with approximately 16 organizations benefitting from the market events
December	Holiday Décor Gift Boxes to Habitat for Humanity New Home Families
December	Annual Angel Tree to share with families of Oakland Family Services, those served by Fort Street Presbyterian Church’s Clothing Closet, and the residents of A Place of Refuge in Southfield

This year, we distributed a Mission Interest Inventory to enable us to focus our promotion of events to individuals who share a particular area of interest.

Northbrook Presbyterian Church is a generous congregation. Including groups represented through the Alternative Gift Market; organizations we give to through budgeted mission funds; and organizations we serve with special collections, donations, and/or hands-on work, Northbrook helps to Live the Love of Jesus Christ by supporting nearly 50 non-profit organizations. If one considers that Presbyterian entities at the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly levels serve many more, then we realize that our support spreads to many more corners of the world. In 2014, we established a missionary support relationship with Renée and Justin Sundberg (and their four children), Missionary Co-Workers of PCUSA who serve in Nicaragua.

Financial generosity is necessary to the work we do, but it also takes many hours of hands-on mission ministry to serve as we are called to serve. In addition to those who make donations, more than 70 Northbrook members have contributed their time to the initiatives listed above. Many thanks to the Northbrook family for your continued support and partnership.

Thank you to Committee Members: Bryan Adair, Sue Boese, Tricia LaSota, Seglinda Kelle-Pritchard, Carl von Ende, Donna Young and Sherrill Heinrichs, staff.

Faithfully,
Winnie Davies-Hancock, Chair

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The 2014 Nominating Committee consisted of Barb Stetson, Judie Murdock, Bill Travis, Michael Bauhof, Peggie Schiller, Tracey Watt and Sallie Dorer. This year’s Nominating Committee met along with staff members Marjorie Wilhelmi and Sherrill Heinrichs to select a slate of nominees to fill 6 three-year positions on Session, 1 one-year position on Session, 1 one-year Youth Elder position on Session, and 3 three-year positions on the Board of Deacons, along with 2 two-year positions on next year’s Nominating Committee. The following nominees were presented:

Nominees for Elder, Class of 2017

Michael Bauhof	Mary Beth Parks
Grant Burnham	Tracey Watt
Bill Jordan	Penny Willey

Nominees for Elder, Class of 2015

Judy Owen
Griffin Watt

Nominees for Deacon, Class of 2017

Sallie Dorer
Joyce Hamburg
Lou McLeod

Nominees for Nominating Committee, Class of 2017

Frank LaSota
Lee Anne Hemberg

This slate of nominees was elected for these positions at Northbrook’s Congregational Meeting on November 2, 2014. Thank you to the members of the Nominating Committee for their service.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The year began with the completion of the annual reviews of all the staff. In compliance with Presbytery requirements, we developed a sexual misconduct policy. Throughout the year, we looked at various staffing models that might meet Northbrook's needs in the coming years. With the retirement of Larry Brown and the resignation of Todd Sager, interviews were conducted resulting in the hiring of Lynn Stevenson as custodian and Angel Gippert as interim Director of Music. The year ended with many hours of prayerful consideration of the 2015 budget, which resulted in some layoffs and changes in staff hours and responsibilities.

We are blessed as a church to be served by a dedicated and faithful staff. Many thanks to those who worked so hard on this committee: Terri Hurbis, Frank LaSota, Portia McDonald, Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi, staff.

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce Hermes, Chair

PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH CONNECTION TEAM (P.Y.C.T.)

During 2014, the following people served faithfully on PYCT: Mary DeCarteret, Claire Higley, Jimmy Mack, Joyce VanderWeide, Karen VanderWeide, Ken Stetson, Tracey Watt (chair), and Stephanie Wicker. This committee worked hard at bringing a balance of worship and education opportunities as well as fellowship and mission work. The programs continued to grow, in part, because the youth of Northbrook are very dedicated and have spread the word of our youth program. Frequently, we are finding that the youth are bringing their friends as they are searching out a program that fits their needs and where they are comfortable, regardless of their background.

We initiated WOW—Worship on Wednesday, that followed LOGOS. This worship is family oriented, with a brief message from Ken. This was well attended, and all ages enjoyed participating in this interactive worship.

The youth went on two retreats this year. The first was in January to Spring Hill, where 17 youth and young adults spent the weekend playing outside in the very cold weather and worshipping God with the help of guest speakers and a band. The second retreat was in October where we had a record 28 people travel to Mahn-go-ta-see for a fun weekend in the woods.

The LOGOS program continues on Wednesday nights, as does 1Friday, a monthly game night for mid highs, and Friday Flix, a monthly movie night for senior highs. These programs are thriving, as we are seeing a need in our community for fellowship opportunities for mid and senior high school students. We have had as many as 25 mid highs show up for 1Friday!

Confirmation classes continued during the year, and we confirmed six 7th and 8th graders. In the summer, the youth traveled to Ohio for a Christian music festival.

The youth are very involved and enjoy mission work. Some of our mission activities included raking leaves for the elderly, working at Pontiac Grace Centers of Hope, making Easter baskets for children of prisoners, and helping with the angel tree gifts. We hosted children from 2nd Mile at a lock-in, where they taught our youth sign language and then interpreted songs in worship for our congregation.

In addition, 14 youth and leaders traveled to Cumberland, Maryland for mission trip, repairing homes in that area. We held 3 fundraisers-to support our mission trips including a Super Bowl sub sale, an M & M sale and the sales of luminaries. These helped offset some of the high costs of our 2014 mission trip.

The always popular camp lock-in was well attended which is a great night to see what camp has to offer. This year, we had a large group, approximately 120 youth and leaders at Mahn-go-ta-see. This was followed by a rousing "Camp Sunday" led by Steve Taylor, who is instrumental and so very talented in leading all in music.

In Christ,
Tracey Watt, Chair
Ken Stetson, Youth Director

PRESCHOOL

Northbrook Preschool currently has 9 four year olds that attend on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. We have 7 of these students stay until 2:00 on these days. We have 15, two and a half year olds and three year olds that attend on Tuesday and Thursday. Of the 15 that attend on TTH, we have 7 that are also attending on Wednesday in the Nursery. The numbers are much lower that we would like. We have seen a decrease in the amount of kids enrolling in the last couple of years. We have had to make changes in the program to try and increase our enrollment. We started a new Introduction to Preschool program that allows us to accept children that are two and a half years old. This program increased our enrollment on TTH by 7 children. These children will repeat the TTH class next year. We will keep this program going due to its popularity. The public schools do not offer this option. We are hoping as word gets out, we will enroll more kids into this program.

Pam Grim retired this past summer and due to our numbers, we did not hire another teacher. I took over as Director and Tricia LaSota took over as Assistant Director. We are both here five days a week. Barb Borich also continues to work TWTH mornings and MWF afternoons. We feel confident that our program is maintaining its excellent reputation. We continue to promote our program and will be attending various preschool information nights at local libraries. Our families that have their children attend our program are our biggest advocates.

The success of our school is a direct result of the facilities, church support and staff. Kathy and Becky continue to be a wonderful help. We really appreciate all they do for us. We also appreciate the guidance that Marjorie has been giving us. Larry Brown was always helpful in maintaining our classrooms and equipment. We look forward to working with Lynn Stephenson this coming year as he will be taking over the daily cleaning of the classrooms.

The Preschool and its staff continue to maintain our outstanding reputation in the community. We have many students and their siblings returning next year. We continue to promote our wonderful program and we are very optimistic that our enrollment will increase next year.

Sincerely,
Kerry Callaghan, Preschool Director

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE

The Worship and Music Committee has the goal of providing meaningful, spiritual and enriching worship experiences for all who come to worship at Northbrook. The committee is responsible for overseeing the coordination and scheduling of Communion preparation and servers, greeters, ushers and liturgists. Other areas of responsibility include providing for the weekly and seasonal plants and flowers, special seasonal decorations, and providing support for the worship and music programs.

The year was filled with many special services: Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Alternative Worship in the Spring, Cookies and Carols, Christmas Pageant, and Christmas Eve.

- Spring season opened with Confirmation Sunday, welcoming the Confirmation Class of 2014 and hearing each Profession of Faith.
- During the summer, we continued with one service alternating between the Sanctuary and outside on the patio, weather permitting.
- We ushered in fall with World Communion Sunday, celebrating with breads from all over the world. In October, we learned Todd Sager was leaving for an opportunity at his home church. In November, we were happy to announce the hire of our Interim Music Director, Angel Gippert.
- The Advent season opened with the “Hanging of the Greens” event during which a lunch was served by the Congregational Life Committee, followed by the decorating of the church with the festive Christmas decorations. We enjoyed an intergenerational Advent Pageant to begin Christmas week. Our Christmas Eve services were at 6:30pm and 11pm. The choir, led by Angel Gippert, sang in both services. Many volunteers read scripture and everyone received a candle that was lit during the singing of “Silent Night”.

I would like to thank the dedicated members of the Worship and Music Committee: Karen VanderWeide, Cheryl Clemens, Barb Stetson, Kim Ault and Marjorie Wilhelmi, staff. I would also like to thank the wonderful people who help us every week including Bill Travis and Pamela Golden as sanctuary door greeters and ushers, the elders and deacons for Communion preparation and serving, soloists and song leaders, the Praise Band, instrumentalists, sound techs, the audio-visual team, our LOGOS group, our youth led by Ken Stetson and the many others who have helped in so many ways to enhance our worship services throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Ardis, Chair

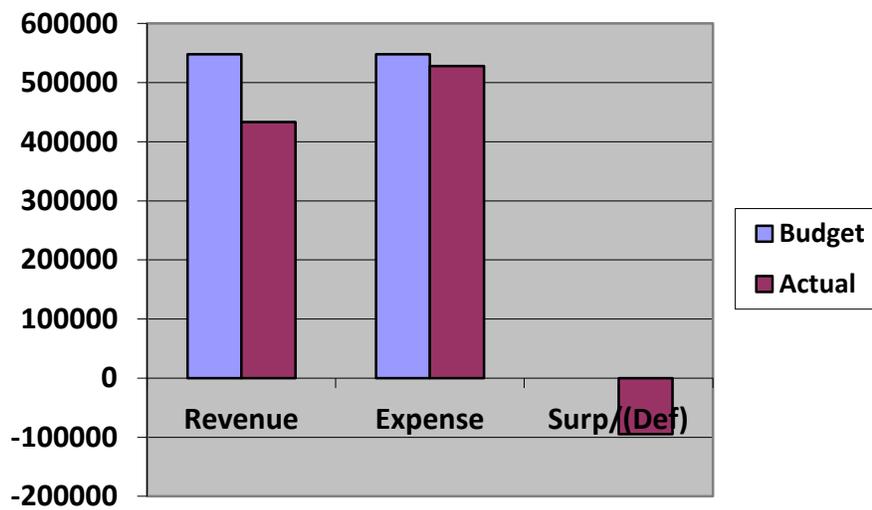
FINANCE COMMITTEE

The by-laws of Northbrook Presbyterian Church require that the annual report provide a review of our financial position including a detailed 2014 income statement (Attachment One), Fund Activity sheet (Attachment Two), the 2015 calendar year budget (Attachment Three), and an audit report for the period. We do not report on PWN or preschool operations.

2014 Financial Review

In January 2014, we had planned a balanced budget. However, as the year progressed, it became apparent that contributions revenue would be severely under budget due to the deaths and changed circumstances of some of our largest donors. Despite holding expenses nearly \$20,000 under budget for the year, this was not enough to offset the shortfall in contributions. The result was an operating deficit of \$94,518, as shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1. 2014 Operating Budget vs. Actual Revenues and Expenses.



	2014 Actual	2014 Budget	Over/ (Under)
Operating Revenue	433,814	548,100	(114,686)
Operating Expense	<u>528,332</u>	<u>548,100</u>	<u>(19,768)</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	(94,518)	0	(94,518)

We used reserves from several funds to compensate for this lost revenue, transferring a total of \$71,401 from the MacKay Endowment (5% withdrawal), the Buildings & Grounds Endowment (5% withdrawal), and the Garage Sale Fund. The remaining \$23,117 was taken from Operating Fund reserves built up in prior years.

Attachment One provides the details of the 2014 revenues and expenses. The Operating Revenue section shows the significant shortfall in contributions due to deaths, illnesses, members relocating or transferring membership, and changes in their financial conditions. The Operating Expense section shows that we were under budget in all areas except Finance where there were unexpected computer support and equipment expenditures, and in Building & Grounds where the severe winter weather caused higher grounds maintenance costs.

While we were fortunate to have funds to plug the revenue hole for 2014, we recognized that we cannot continue to incur deficits of this magnitude. Session began work on a seriously reduced budget for 2015.

Fund Activity - December 31, 2014

Attachment Two is Northbrook's Funds Status at the end of 2014. Our fund balance is very strong despite the transfer of \$71,401 into the operating budget. We hold \$1,072,440 growth and income mutual fund investments in New Covenant Funds, which is run for the Presbyterian Church. These investments are split in the following way - about 11% General Operating Fund, 33% Building Endowment Fund and 56% MacKay Endowment Fund. These funds collectively gained 8.1% or \$82,185 in realized and unrealized value in 2014, down from a 17.1% increase in 2013.

In addition to the New Covenant Funds, we have \$66,139 held in Money Market and Checking accounts at our bank. We continue to have no liabilities in the form of debt.

Figure 2 below summarizes our overall financial position at year-end 2014 compared to 2013. Despite 5% withdrawals from each of the Endowments, the Endowments appreciated at a greater rate, leaving their balances stronger at year-end 2014 than 2013. The other funds decreased in 2014, leaving our total fund balance about \$17,000 less in 2014 than 2013.

Figure 2. 2014 vs. 2013 Fund Balances

	Year-End 2013	Year-End 2014	Increase/ (Decrease)
Operating Fund	42,554	19,437	(23,117)
Non-Operating Funds	151,364	132,599	(18,765)
Building/Grounds Endowment	337,590	352,007	14,417
MacKay Endowment	588,120	600,895	12,775
Preschool Funds	<u>27,321</u>	<u>25,086</u>	<u>(2,235)</u>
Total All Funds	1,146,949	1,130,024	(16,925)

2015 Budget

Attachment Three shows our 2015 budget, approved by Session on January 13, 2015, with comparisons to the 2014 budget and 2014 actual.

The 2015 \$431,352 budget is significantly less than the 2014 \$548,100 budget and reflects the 2015 pledge levels and the experience of 2014. In numbers, pledges from this year's Stewardship campaign were down 12% from last year (110 vs. 125), with the value of 2015 pledges decreasing by \$75,902 or 17%. One optimistic note is that of those members who pledged for 2015, 45% increased their pledges compared to 2014, 40% held steady, and just 15% decreased their pledges for the coming year. Compared to 2014 actual, the 2015 budget anticipates \$2,463 less income.

On the expense side, the 2015 budget is \$116,748 less than the 2014 budget with the most significant change being in Personnel which includes some salary decreases, reduction in the hours for some staff, and reduction in some Building and Grounds maintenance staff. Significant budget reductions were also made in building and grounds expense items as well as across the board reductions in committee budgets. Expenses for the 2015 budget are \$96,980 or 18% less than 2014 actual.

Audit Report

An audit for the year ending 2013 was performed during 2014 with no major issues reported. An audit of 2014 is currently being planned for early 2015. Any qualified members are invited to perform this audit.

Thank You

We thank all of the members of Northbrook for their generous financial contributions in 2014 and their faithful pledges for 2015. We also thank you for your very generous contributions of your time and talents, the value of which is unknown, but our church programs and ministries could not function without them!

Respectfully, Don Hemberg, Chair

Attachment One
Northbrook Presbyterian Church
Income Statement for 2014

Account Name	2014 Actuals	Budget	Percent of Budget	Over/Under YTD+(-)
Contributions	418,284.06	511,800.00	82%	(93,915.94)
Pre-Paid Pledges	-			
Loose Offering	163.10	5,700.00	3%	(5,536.90)
Special Offerings	736.00	600.00	123%	136.00
Fees & Rents	4,900.00	4,800.00	102%	100.00
Interest Revenue	54.76	7,800.00	1%	(7,745.24)
Dividend Revenue	1,961.42	5,600.00	35%	(3,638.58)
Realized Gains and Losses	1,983.39			
Per Capita Inc.	3,973.15	4,600.00	86%	(626.85)
Other	40.35	7,200.00	1%	(7,159.65)
Unrealized Gains and Losses	1,717.98			
<hr/>				
Total Operating Income	\$433,814.21	\$548,100.00	79%	(\$114,685.79)
Transfers into General Fund	71,401.07			
Total Income	\$505,215.28	\$548,100.00	92%	(\$43,284.72)
Expenses				
Personnel	\$339,053.15	\$346,864.00	98%	(\$7,810.85)
Finance & Stewardship	\$23,529.07	\$20,070.00	117%	\$3,459.07
Building & Grounds	\$93,376.37	\$91,850.00	102%	\$1,526.37
Access	\$190.00	\$500.00	38%	(\$310.00)
Childrens Ministry	\$6,144.58	\$6,763.00	91%	(\$618.42)
PYCT	\$7,125.42	\$7,150.00	100%	(\$24.58)
Adult Ministry	\$3,004.33	\$3,080.00	98%	(\$75.67)
Music Ministry	\$2,512.05	\$6,000.00	42%	(\$3,487.95)
Worship	\$1,058.22	\$1,200.00	88%	(\$141.78)
Congregational Life	\$1,602.90	\$2,800.00	57%	(\$1,197.10)
Mission Connection	\$40,592.31	\$51,180.00	79%	(\$10,587.69)
Deacons	350.45	850.00	41%	(499.55)
Per Capita Expense	9,792.96	9,793.00	100%	(0.04)
<hr/>				
Total Operating Expense	\$528,331.81	\$548,100.00	96%	(\$19,768.19)

Attachment Two
Northbrook Presbyterian Church - Beverly Hills MI
Consolidated Fund Activity Report for 2014

Account #	Account Name	Beginning Balance	End Balance	Withdraws
	Checking acct	97,625.70	52,298.65	
	Money Market acct	42,423.84	13,440.74	
	Petty Cash (office and youth)	600.00	600.00	
	New Covenant 111435	91,822.98	77,263.64	
	New Covenant -131,-060, -691	918,476.25	1,015,175.97	
	Land & Buildings	947,769.78	947,769.78	
	Furniture & Equipment	181,987.78	181,987.78	
	Accum Depr in total	1,129,757.56	(1,129,757.56)	
	Prepaid balances		(500.00)	
3.175.2700	175-Seminary Student Loan Fund	320.00	2,652.00	
3.201.2700	201-B & G Endowment Fund	337,589.99	352,006.51	16,880.00
3.202.2700	MacKay Endowment Fund	588,115.71	600,895.36	29,406.00
3.203.2700	B&G Contingency Fund		-	
	FINANCE FUNDS	926,025.70	955,553.87	
3.129.2700	129-Conference Fund - Sherrill	19.07	19.07	
3.130.2700	130-Conference Fund - Marjorie	2,137.84	1,397.84	
3.138.2700	138-Wills & Bequest Fund	1,730.68	1,730.68	
3.146.2700	146-Pastor's Discretion Fund	2,128.08	1,031.08	
3.312.2700	312-Colville Memorial Fund	20,000.00	20,000.00	
3.321.2700	321-Long Memorial Fund	1,735.00	1,835.00	
3.327.2700	327-Memorial Fund	9,146.52	14,938.15	
	PASTOR MANAGED FUNDS	36,897.19	40,951.82	
3.137.2700	137-Adult Ministries Fund	172.35	(156.90)	
3.174.2700	174-Mens Connection Fund	294.46	(19.27)	
	ADULT MINISTRY FUNDS	466.81	(176.17)	
3.151.2700	151-Building and Grounds Fund		-	
3.158.2700	158-MacKay Roof Fund	16,320.00	16,320.00	
3.390.2700	390-Columbarium Fund	18,446.39	18,549.44	
	BUILDING & GROUNDS FUNDS	34,766.39	34,869.44	
3.133.2700	133-Christian Education Fund	77.94	699.63	
3.166.2700	166-Where In The World Fund	24.82	24.82	
	CHILDREN'S MINISTRY FUNDS	102.76	724.45	
3.135.2700	135-50th Anniversary Fund	2,743.08	-	
3.140.2700	140-Congregational Life Event Fund	399.85	(562.29)	
3.141.2700	141-Senior Souper Supper Fund	556.08	474.40	
3.143.2700	143-Garage Sale Fund	15,452.21	-	25,115.07
3.172.2700	172-Bridge Club Fund	8.00	8.00	
3.190.2700	190-Kitchen Refurbish	347.31		

	CONGREGATIONAL LIFE FUNDS	19,506.53	(79.89)
3.126.2700	126-MacKay Mission Fund	39,490.15	37,465.15
3.144.2700	144-SOS Gift Fund	-	543.50
3.145.2700	145-Empty Bowls Fund	570.26	211.26
3.148.2700	148-Mission Connection Fund	4,740.44	81.47
3.159.2700	159-Alternative Gift Market Fund	5,082.66	4,774.97
3.161.2700	161-Knit Wits Knitting Ministry	950.51	411.65
3.171.2700	171-Special Offering to Presbytery	5.00	-
	MISSION CONNECTION FUNDS	50,839.02	43,488.00
3.131.2700	131-Bell Fund Balance	25.00	25.00
3.132.2700	132-Choir Fund Balance	1,633.71	1,633.71
3.136.2700	136-Worship Service Flower Fund	1,570.21	1,982.23
3.154.2700	154-Organ Maintenance Fund	828.07	828.07
	MUSIC & WORSHIP FUNDS	4,056.99	4,469.01
3.150.2700	150-Youth Ministry Fund	683.52	322.70
3.156.2700	156-Youth Scholarship Fund	596.81	386.81
3.162.2700	162-Youth Mission Fund	896.52	(1,317.03)
3.163.2700	163-Mid Highs Fund		75.00
3.164.2700	164-Senior High Fund		32.72
3.165.2700	164-Summer Camp Fund		3,471.09
3.167.2700	167-Youth Tri-ennium Fund	500.00	1,000.00
	PYCT FUNDS	2,676.85	3,971.29
3.147.2700	147-Access Fund	73.55	73.55
	ACCESS FUNDS	73.55	73.55
3.142.2700	142-Deacons Fund	1,481.89	1,108.79
	DEACONS FUND	1,481.89	1,108.79
3.134.2700	134-LOGOS Fund	179.79	546.07
	LOGOS FUND	179.79	546.07
3.101.2700	Operating Fund Balance	42,553.90	19,037.03
	OPERATING FUNDS	42,553.90	19,037.03
3.102.2700	120-Preschool Fund	11,550.72	11,076.67
3.153.2700	153-Preschool New Year	8,985.00	7,224.00
3.157.2700	157-Preschool Equipment Reserve	6,785.68	6,785.68
	PRESCHOOL FUNDS	27,321.40	25,086.35
	TOTALS	\$ 1,146,949	\$ 1,130,024

Attachment Three
NORTHBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2015 BUDGET - Final 1/13/15

	2014	2014	2015	<u>BUDG. '15 VS ACT.'14</u>	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	\$	%
<u>REVENUE</u>					
CONTRIBUTIONS	511,800	418,284	404,500	(13,784)	-3.3%
LOOSE OFFERING	5,700	163	200	37	22.6%
SPECIAL OFFERINGS	600	736	800	64	8.7%
FEES AND RENTS	4,800	4,900	14,000	9,100	185.7%
INVESTMENT INCOME	5,600	5,718	6,000	282	4.9%
INVESTMENT INCOME MACKAY	7,800		-	-	
PER CAPITA	4,600	3,973	3,850	(123)	-3.1%
OTHER	<u>7,200</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>2,002</u>	<u>1,962</u>	4861.6%
TOTAL REVENUE	548,100	433,815	431,352	(2,463)	-0.6%
<u>OPERATING EXPENSES</u>					
PERSONNEL	346,864	339,053	274,802	(64,251)	-19.0%
FINANCE	20,070	23,529	17,050	(6,479)	-27.5%
BUILDING AND GROUNDS	91,850	93,376	71,650	(21,726)	-23.3%
ACCESS	500	190	-	(190)	-100.0%
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY	6,763	6,145	5,000	(1,145)	-18.6%
PYCT	7,150	7,125	5,150	(1,975)	-27.7%
ADULT MINISTRY	3,080	3,004	2,500	(504)	-16.8%
MUSIC MINISTRY	6,000	2,512	2,900	388	15.4%
WORSHIP	1,200	1,058	1,000	(58)	-5.5%
CONGREGATIONAL LIFE	2,800	1,603	1,500	(103)	-6.4%
DEACONS	850	350	350	(0)	-0.1%
PER CAPITA	9,793	9,793	9,000	(793)	-8.1%
MISSION CONNECTION	<u>51,180</u>	<u>40,592</u>	<u>40,450</u>	<u>(142)</u>	<u>-0.4%</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE	548,100	528,332	431,352	(96,980)	-18.4%

"I Am the Resurrection and the Life"

*O Lord, support us all the day long,
until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes,
and the busy world is hushed, and
the fever of life is over...
and our work is done.
Then in your mercy...
Grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest,
and peace at the last;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

In Memory of those Transferred to the Rolls of the Church Triumphant in 2014

Jean Owen
James Hamburg
Robert Carroll
Irene DeNike

William Chapman
Mary Brown
Audrey Upward
John Burdakin

Ernest Dunbar
James Schaefer
Martha (Sue) Grady
Robert Warren