



**Annual Report
2022**

**WCN is a sent community
embodying Christ-like transformation
throughout Humphreys County and beyond by
calling people to Belong, Believe, and Become.**

John W. Adams

Distinguished Service Award

The DSA is the highest award given by a local Church of the Nazarene to a layperson. Our DSA is appropriately named after Rev. John Adams. Rev. Adams was the son of a sharecropper with a second-grade education who God called into ministry as an adult. His wife taught him to read in order to pass courses for ordination. He pastored WCN from 1959-1973.

Rev. Adams was a bi-vocational pastor. He worked during the week, and he pastored on weeknights and weekends. He physically built and remodeled our facilities. On Sunday mornings, he and his wife, Edith, would get in two cars and drive through the county picking up kids for worship. Many of those kids have grown up to become vital members of WCN. The Lord used Rev. Adams to impact many people in our church and in our community. Rev. John Adams was a model servant. His humility, his willingness to serve, and his dedication to the work of the church over a long period of time are traits of a Distinguished servant. It is fitting that this award be attached to his name.

Each year a recipient is chosen by a pool of past DSA recipients. It takes a servant to know a servant. Recipients of this award have committed themselves to a lifetime of service in the name of Jesus. It is with great honor and appreciation that this award is presented annually.

2001: Terry Langston

2015: Franklin Brawley

2002: Edith Adams

2016: Karen Woodside

2003: Amy Crum

2017: Jimmy Hamm

2004: Alton Hesson

2018: Eugene Woodside

2005: Lanelle Coleman

2019: Delilah King

2006: John McGranahan

2020: Brenda Palk

2007: Annetta Sykes

2021: Mary Ann Collins

2008: Kay McGranahan

2022: Jack Hayes

2009: Jane Langston

2010: Letticia Ladd

2011: Betty Hamm

2012: Laura Ham

2013: Pearl Jones

2014: Nancie Hesson

WCN OUTPUT

Churches are good at measuring what comes IN (members, money, headcount...).

While that is fine, we believe that

Jesus is more concerned with what goes OUT.

While numbers don't tell the whole picture,

here is a sampling of our OUTPUT from the last 12 months.

2 persons baptized and sent to serve

\$41,975 to world missions

\$26,150 for district missions

\$20,093 for local compassionate missions

\$15,926 to Trevecca

\$2,500 given for scholarships at TNU

\$13,425 to Pensions & Benefits

\$6,000 given to support 2 church plants in Limbar Area of Nashville

\$123,000 given to support Flood Recovery in our community including 40 families connected to WCN

33rd Group Home Party (digital version due to COVID)

10 WES teachers were given \$150 each for classroom school supplies

2 WES teachers given a wish list gift during Teacher Appreciation Week

Leaders served and shared their testimony through Celebrate Recovery

WCN hosted a meal for WES faculty and staff

624 boxes of cereal to Helping Hands

Tissue boxes and underwear were collected for WES students

5 individuals attended the Kaleo Luncheon

3 students enrolled in course of study to prepare for ministry

2 individuals studying in the CLT program

Welcomed and supported Hunter Elliott as our summer youth intern

Hosted 2 classes from Trevecca Nazarene University so they could experience ministry in a local context

Began a sunrise service

Dedicated 4 children to the Lord

Child Loss: Remembering with Hope support group began organically by 2 parents who have lost children of their own

Hosted a Missionary Service for the Ponder Family and supported the work the Lord is doing in Serbia through them

Hosted our 3rd annual Blue Christmas Service for the community

Celebrated Pastor Daron's 20th year in ministry and Pastor Annetta's retirement

Welcomed 13 new members who were then sent to Belong, Believe, and Become

2 individuals completed the CLT program and are officially lay ministers

Three individuals hold local licenses: Kelsey Elliott, JT Blue, and Hunter Elliott

A Men's Prayer Breakfast met

A Women's Prayer Breakfast met

Season of Emerging Preachers ministry continued with new preachers being added to the rotation this year

Dozens of ladies and men disciplined weekly in the county jail (ministry provided by letters/cards)

Valentines Cookies and cards (from D-kids) sent to over 100 inmates and employees at the jail

Newcomers participated in Celebrate Recovery even with the loss of their original space

52 individuals served at the Camp Garner Creek Workday

11 servants from WCN served with Helping Hands food pantry (80% of servants are from WCN)

Over 1,000 pounds of food given to needy families

\$3,000 given to Helping Hands to help families with rent and utilities

Dozens were sent out to sing carols to those who had been sheltering in place due to COVID-19

Helping Hands served thousands of residents with our support

Partnered with Humphreys Homeless Coalition to serve families in our community (some displaced due to the flood)

Partnered with Long Term Recovery to sponsor the repair and rebuilding of homes due to the flood

60 Crisis Care Kits were packed by 50 students

New Year's Family Communion service held in the sanctuary

Festival of Carols service held for our community

49 students were sent to camp

61 children participated in Discovery Camp

Hundreds of you served thousands of hours engaged in flood recovery work at WCN and in our community

2021-2022 WCN ANNUAL CHURCH BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT

Your Church board meets the 2nd Monday evening of each month and prayerfully seeks God's will in decisions concerning WCN. The meetings are open for anyone to attend. Those you elected to serve on the 2020-21 Church board were SS Superintendent Robin May (23), NMI President Sarah Adams (23), Carla Anderson (23), Greg Field (23), Lloyd Ross (23), Brenda Palk (24), Don McGuire (24), Karen Woodside (24), Jana Brazzle (25), Terry Langston (25), and Trent Riley (25). Parentheses denotes year term ends.

The new Church year began with anticipation worship services might just get back to somewhat pre-pandemic normal; and we give praise to our Lord because we had one of the largest attended Easter services ever. We voted to rename Sunday School to Engage Groups.

We honored Pastor Daron and his family with a reception in honor of his 20 years as pastor of WCN.

Pastor Janice faithfully completed all requirements for ordination May 2020 and was able to be ordained as an Elder in the Church of the Nazarene this past June.

The Board approved hiring Kelsey Elliott as Children's Pastor. We hired Hunter Elliott to intern as Youth Pastor for the summer.

You continued to be the Church in mission work locally as you helped feed, clothe and house those in need in our community. Many participated in several intergenerational missional projects like FUEL, Humphreys County Homeless Coalition and Helping Hands. We were able to honor and show appreciation to the WES staff. Celebrate Recovery programs continued to be a blessing and many humbly volunteered to serve.

We put our new building on hold temporarily as other options in existing buildings were explored. We continue to pray and seek God's direction and will for our property and building project!

We were doing "normal" ministries finally, then it all changed August 21. Raging flood waters swept through our communities claiming 20 precious lives and countless homes and buildings: including WCN. For 3 weeks, we worshipped in the local theater until our own building was repaired to be functional. Damages were assessed and Pastor Mary began the arduous task of dealing with SBA and FEMA for financial assistance for our losses. All the while, you were still the Church; feeding, clothing, cleaning & ministering to those who were suffering from the flood damage.

Many of our events had to be cancelled or postponed including our Renewal Week and 75th Homecoming Celebration. No gift baskets were put out for Pastor Appreciation at request of our pastors because their hearts were hurting for all those with hurting hearts and had given so much! In the midst of the tragedy, blessings abounded by so many volunteers giving of themselves and resources.

We voted to grant Lay Ministers privileges to Lloyd & Michelle Ross.

We honored Pastor Annetta with a Retirement Celebration.

We graciously and proudly shared our pastors with others as they were sought to lead revivals, train other pastors and assist with Pastoral Reviews. In addition to Covid pandemic, our own congregation experienced sickness, death and tragedy and weathered floods and windstorms, you were the Church as you loved, prayed, fed, and comforted.

We are blessed by obedient and faithful pastors, staff and lay persons who are humbled to serve and give as God calls. Together, by praying and serving, we are a stronger Church!

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Palk

Brenda Palk, Secretary

Treasurer's Report – 2021-2022

WCN ends the most recent church year in our best financial shape ever. We did not, however, move ever higher in a straight line... there were several bumps in the financial road over the past year. As we were beginning to recover from the pandemic in both attendance and giving, we then experienced a flood. We've had to deal with 'high waters' before but nothing like the devastating flood of August 2021. This most recent flood caused the D-Zone building to be condemned and the first floor of the main building to be entirely gutted.

Then the 'Flood Recovery' donations began to flow in. Many of them were from our own congregation but we seem to have 'Friends of WCN' everywhere. There were donations from across Tennessee and across the nation from folks who 'follow' us or heard about our plight. Overall, we've had 'Flood Recovery' donations of about \$185,000 and have used some of it to bring our 1st floor area up to a 'useable' state. However, most of these donations, over \$125,000, have been given to local flood victims for help in their recovery efforts.

We also had Building Fund donations well above forecast. Some of these were from 'Friends of WCN' across Tennessee and the nation to help us in our efforts to construct a new facility. Overall, donations exceeded the previous year even discounting the 'Flood Recovery' donations. Your Tithes & Offerings for the year were 13% higher than Forecast and Building Fund donations were a whopping 64% above forecast. Meanwhile, expenses were higher than forecast but well controlled given our situation.

We have been able to grow our Savings to more than \$327,000 at the end of the most recent Fiscal Year. Also, our Building Fund has grown to more than \$1,267,000. These are all-time high levels for both these accounts. We have each of you to thank for your faithful giving. We can only continue to pursue Kingdom work in Humphreys County and beyond with your continued excellent financial support!

I need to recognize our 'Counters'. For a couple of years now, the Monday 'Counting Team' (Carla Anderson, Rose Mitchell, and Linda Story) have done all the counting. We are grateful for their faithful service!

Lastly, at my request, the Board has appointed new Treasurer Leadership. Mac Anderson has been assigned 'WCN Treasurer' and Trent Riley has been assigned 'WCN Assistant Treasurer'. Our WCN finances could not be in better hands. I know you will welcome and support them both as they take on these new roles.

A reminder: In addition to placing cash/checks in the offering plate, we have other giving options you may want to consider. You can find further information on our web site (wcntn.com), contact the Church Office, or ask us about giving options. The Board of WCN thanks you for your faithful and consistent giving!

Don McGuire - WCN Treasurer

Income Category	FY2021-22	Expense Category	FY2021-22
Tithes and Offerings	\$ 587,684.37	Administrative	\$ 18,794.46
Building Fund	\$ 130,973.93	Church Ministries	\$ 50,496.95
Flood Recovery	\$ 183,945.45	Compassionate Ministries	\$ 123,100.00
Local Ministries	\$ 76,564.22	District / Global Missions	\$ 90,408.69
Work and Witness	\$ -	Employee Compensation	\$ 316,595.15
World Evangelism / P&B	\$ 16,802.97	Facilities	\$ 93,589.64
Interest on Savings	\$ 18,782.24	Building Campaign	\$ 1,035.50
Total Income	\$ 1,014,753.18	Total Expenses	\$ 725,201.56

Current Assets	FY2021-22
Checking	\$ 100,992.32
Savings	\$ 327,761.65
WIF Investment Fund (BF)	\$ 1,267,893.81
Indebtednes	\$ -
Total Current Assets	\$ 1,696,647.78

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR REPORT 2021/2022

This will be my last annual report as church administrator at WCN. After careful consideration and consultation with Don, I have discerned that it is time for me to retire. As most of you know, we have had a few health concerns the past few years including upcoming plans for me to donate a kidney to Don sometime next month. We have also had some changes in our family including 2 new grandbabies born this year. We are looking forward to having more free time to spend with them. While Don and I are both stepping back from our official roles at WCN, we will still be around and participating in the life of the church.

It has been the greatest privilege and pleasure to serve as church administrator these 11+ years! The WCN staff and board have a unity and maturity that is rare and beautiful, and it has been wonderful to be a part of it. I have learned so much and grown from this experience. Thank you, Pastor Daron, church board, and church, for your trust and confidence. I am very thankful to have had this opportunity.

It is a little bittersweet to be stepping away, but one thing that makes it SO much easier is knowing that WCN will be in excellent hands with my successor. Julie Einerson will become our new church administrator mid-June. She has the skills, temperament, and most importantly, the character to do this job well. She is already one of us and I know you will all help make the transition to her new role at WCN a smooth one.

This past church year has been another challenging one to say the least! And the people of WCN again stepped up and demonstrated what the church is meant to be. I want to take the opportunity here to thank some of the people who have been especially helpful to me this past year.

I am so thankful for the *Fabulous Golden Foldies* (my newsletter folding crew) who help get the newsletter ready to mail out as well as any other tasks I come up with for them. I love their spirit! And they know how to have fun while working! I may have to join their crew after I retire! Thank you, Rose Mitchell, Glenda Davidson, Linda Witbeck, Betty Hamm, Lanelle Coleman, Kathy Traylor, Rhonda Moore, Fran Turner, and Delilah King. Delilah has also been our go to person for feeding groups of people this year and many of these ladies have worked right alongside of her. You all are awesome!

Lanelle Coleman is such a special lady and dear friend to me and so many. She cares so deeply for the people of WCN and our community. Thank you, Lanelle, for leading the vital Prayer & Care ministry. Thank you for helping me stay on top of things all these years too. And thank you to Sharon Baron and Kay Webb for helping Lanelle with P&C.

I'm sure you will see Eugene and Karen Woodsides names show up in a number of these annual reports and I can't pass up the opportunity to thank them in mine as well. They have worked tirelessly throughout our flood recovery, with our teens, and in so many other ways. They may have spent more time on campus this year than our staff has! Thank you, Eugene & Karen!

Because I cannot name all the ways and people who serve here and in our community through the church, may I give a broad THANK YOU to you all for being WCN! I thank God for you all!

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathryn McGuire

- March 2021** **Messy Lives Immerse Group** – our WCN teens began the new church year with our Immerse Group. We learned how Jesus shows up in the mess. Thanks to Pastor Mary for teaching. Workday – teens participated in WCN Workday.
- April 2021** **District NYI Convention** – held virtually. Haley Irons, Addie Irons, Parker Forester, Kendall Brown, Parker Brown, Dylan Gwin, Brianna Gwin, Pastor Mary Forester, Eugene Woodside, and Jane Langston represented WCN Well.
- May 2021** **Graduation Celebration** – Cheyenne Branch, Jasmine Bancroft, Dakota Palmer and Jaelynn Hargrove were WCN’s High School graduates.
Camp Garner Creek Workday – 10 teens and 2 leaders participated.
- June 2021** **Senior High Camp** – 22 campers and 2 counselors participated.
Middle School Camp – 11 campers and 2 counselors participated.
Canoeing the Buffalo – Teens joined the Bridge group for a day of canoeing the Buffalo.
Youth Intern – Hunter Elliott was our youth intern for the summer. He led the teens on Wednesday nights and was a counselor at both of our teen camps along with Pastor Mary. Thanks to both for spending these two weeks with our teens.
- July 2021** **Discovery Camp for Kids** – Teens assisted Discovery Camp leaders.
Back to School Bash and Lock-in – 30 teens and teen workers had an overnight lock- in. They ate and played games, even indoor 9 square. Thank you to Hunter for his planning and leadership. Thanks to Betsy, Anndee, and Navy Haley for leading in worship.
- August 2021** **Ultimate Frisbee** – Teens played ultimate frisbee at the soccer fields.
Back to School Prayer Service was held August 9.
Slip ‘n slide Kickball was held August 11.
August 21st Flood! – Many of our teens showed up and worked many hours to help in the cleanup after the flood. They worked at the church, First Free Will Baptist Church, and at people’s homes...anywhere there was a need. They helped clear debris from the creek and in the church yard. They helped pack up meals and deliver them throughout the Waverly area. As our church sign read “The church is not here. It Is out there.” They truly were the church!
Park Conversations - Teens and leaders met at the city park for times of conversation. Thanks to Pastor Kelsey, Betsy Haley, and Lauren Blue for counseling. It helped us all in dealing with the losses from the flood.
- October 2021** **Life in the Chaos Immerse Group** – Pastor Daron began this series with the teens in our new teen space. Each Wednesday evening began with playing 9-square. Thank you, Pastor Daron, for leading us through this series.
- November 2021** **Teen Bonfire at the Woodsides’** – We ate, decorated pumpkins, had new teen initiation, and threw axes (seriously).
Momentum @ TNU was held November 19 – 20. 32 teens and adults participated. Special thanks to Beccie Cochran, Pastor Mary and Nick Forester, Pastor Kelsey, Eric Brown, Samuel Dellinger, Betsy Haley, and Eugene Woodside for chaperoning.
Ultimate Frisbee was held November 24.
- December 2021** **Yuletide Wingding** – teens went caroling to homes
- January 2022** **NYC Informational Dinner** – Pastor Daron held an informational dinner for teens and parents regarding Nazarene Youth Conference to be held in Tampa, FL in 2023.
Immerse Group – Pastor Mary led a discussion on difficult conversations.
- February 2022** **Immerse Group** - Teens continued to meet for their Immerse Group.

NMI (National Missions International) Report for 2021/2022

Dear Church Family,

Let me first thank you for allowing me to be your NMI President for another year. I want to thank Pastor Daron Brown and Pastor Mary Forester for the incredible amount of help this year...

We are people called of God to go preach the gospel (Mark 16:15; Romans 19:13-14). Mark 13:10 states, "The gospel must first be preached to all nations." As I understand this scripture, Christ will not return till the gospel is carried to all people of the earth. We are the feet, hands, and voice of prayer... we are to go, do, and speak as God directs. It is our responsibility to continue to listen for the voice of God to lead us in the direction He desires for us to go. Acts 13:47 For this is what the Lord has commanded us: "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth."

In researching for this report, I noted a statement made by Pastor Daron Brown in the 08/04/21 newsletter, "This is a week of returning to routine." Little did he know what lay ahead. The flood came on August 21, 2021, wreaking havoc on the entire community with devastation rivaled only by the 1978 train explosion. 588 homes (34% of Humphreys Co) were affected, 40 families within our Church suffered losses...20 lives were lost. This disaster became a mission field for WCN. Over 100 people helped in 30 different homes with demolition and repair. The repair work continues at the time of this report. The flood of 2021, combined with COVID in 2020/2021, have tested the Church, but God has shown up and shown out!

In January of 2022 we hosted Missionaries Ben and Hannah Ponder whose area of missions is in Serbia. The work to be done there is ongoing, including the planting of a new Church.

In February of 2022 in the spirit of partnership and missions, we came alongside two churches in Antioch... new plants within the Hispanic community. We are sending financial support as well as prayers.

We Support NMI with our gifts. WCN has always paid 100% of our World Evangelism Fund (WEF) obligation. Out of every dollar 5.5 cents goes to resource global missions. This year WCN gave a total of \$41,975 to World Missions.

In addition to tithes, we have other opportunities to support missions throughout the year. Alabaster: An offering we give twice a year (Feb and Sept) that goes to build buildings around the world (Churches, schools, hospitals, and homes for missionaries). WCN gave \$685.85. Faith Promise Sunday: (Usually in August) We gather to focus on missions. We are encouraged to promise to give a certain amount above our tithe throughout the year. Every Faith promise dollar goes to missions around the world. WCN gave \$11,763. Easter/Thanksgiving offerings for world evangelism: Some of us are better suited to give to missions incrementally during the year. Others would rather give in lump sums. These offerings also go to Missions work. WCN gave \$700. Other WEF giving \$20,212.

Missions, both global and local, are a large part of our calling, a large part of who we are. (For info about local missions, contact Pastor Janice Rudolph).

Our Missionaries are away from their families and other support groups for long periods of time. It is urgent we pray for them.

Thank you,

Sarah Shanks, NMI President

NDI Report 2021-2022

As I sit to write this report, I am once again reminded how wonderful our God is. We have been through a pandemic and all that comes from it and a horrific flood that took 20 of our neighbors and hundreds of homes. A kind of nightmare that no one wants to go through. BUT, the Lord has been visible in our community, with His church stepping up to help with food, clothing, housing, crews to repair or replace homes, filling needs as they became known. My heart hurts for the loss and destruction, but it is full of love because I see that the Lord meets our every need.

We started our new version of traditional Sunday School, Engage Groups after being unable to meet together because of the pandemic. Our launch day was August 15, 2021, and the classes were full, everyone glad to be together again. The flood hit before we were able to meet for our 2nd gathering.

After the flood we had very limited space and pared down our classes. Space was made downstairs for the nursery, a children's class, and a teens' class. One adult class is meeting in the Sanctuary between services, one group is meeting at the Nolan House, and one group is meeting outdoors at picnic tables when the weather cooperates.

Our Immerse groups on Wednesday nights are also moving forward with Children and Teens meeting in the downstairs and an Adult class in the Sanctuary. The Lord provides for our needs.

Thanks to all who are willing to serve teaching and leading our Engage groups and Immerse groups. P. Kelsey, P. Daron, P. Mary, P. Janice, Trent Riley, P. Chuck and Helen Ellis, Nick Forester, Don McGuire, Sarah Shanks, Eugene Woodside, Lora Moore, Betsy Haley, Jane Langston, Charles Davidson, Rachel Matthews, Chelsea Stainforth, Tracy Caveness, Delilah King, and Sydney Ross.

Respectfully,

Robin May

2021 PASTORAL CARE REPORT

I am so very blessed to serve WCN in the role of Pastoral Care. This role usually takes me into your homes, hospital rooms, lives, and all up in your business. Due to Covid, I did not get to visit as much but that is slowly going toward normal as the spread of Covid slows and more people are vaccinated.

I serve as Board Secretary for the Humphreys Homeless Coalition. HHC is a non-profit agency serving the homeless of Humphreys County providing our homeless population with a hand up and not just a hand- out. The goal of HHC is to help these people better their lives. The August 2021 flood in the county gave the homeless population an entirely new face. Hundreds of displaced families needed temporary housing. HHC received many generous donations equipping HHC to pay motel expenses for displaced people after Red Cross was no longer providing this much needed service. HHC is also dedicated to providing financial assistance geared toward deposits, rent, and in general expenses needed in order to get into new homes.

I am currently mentoring Barbara Horner and Rachel Reynen through Continuing Lay Train in courses. These courses are available through discipleshipplace.org. Lloyd and Michelle Ross have completed all six courses and have received Board approval as Lay Ministers for WCN. I am blessed to get to mentor each of these people as they go deeper into their discipleship and become equipped to disciple others.

I continue to assist Trent Riley as assistant teacher for the Rolling Stones Engage Group on Sunday morning.

One more of my rolls is leading/teaching Immerse Groups on Wednesday evenings.

Thank you for the blessing of assisting Pastor Daron in Pastoral Care. I am looking forward to another year of doing life with all of you and your families as we get to see how God will move in each of our lives in the coming year.

These are exciting days at WCN as we watch things unfold with the new building. We are all privileged to be eyewitnesses to the tremendous Grace of our God.

I love each of you and am praying for you,

Pastor Janice Rudolph

2021/2022 PASTOR OF LOCAL MISSIONS REPORT

WES PARTNERSHIP – WCN has completed 12 years of partnering with WES. During the past year WCN served WES with greeters each morning. Teachers & Staff were thanked at year end with a meal & thank you cards. Ten teachers received checks to help purchase items needed for their classrooms. Gift cards were attached to the bottom of some of the plates at the meal randomly gifting some of the teachers. Thank you to Pastor Mary Forester for leading this ministry. Thanks to Kathryn McGuire for organizing the meal and to all who cooked and helped serve.

FUEL – The FUEL program was on hold during the spring of 2021 due to Covid. The program was all set to resume normal operations in September of 2021. However, Humphreys Co. was hit with a catastrophic flood in August of 2021, destroying both Elementary and Jr. High schools. The children had to be relocated to other schools in the county and due to impossible logistical problems, the program was again put on hold. FUEL will resume as soon as the schools are in a permanent location.

HELPING HANDS – WCN continues to partner with our local food pantry, Helping Hands. WCN provides financial assistance to HH. Many of the volunteers at HH and Board members attend WCN. HH provides food to hundreds of families each year as well as financial assistance for utilities and rent. Thank you to Carla Reynolds for serving as President of HH and thank you to Duane & Doris Pine, Jana Brazzle, Kathryn McGuire, Robin May, Mac & Carla Anderson, and Julie Einerson who serve alongside me on the Board. A special thank you to Janet Hendrick for serving numerous times each week.

GROUP HOME PARTY- Once again, because of Covid, the Group Home Party was virtual in 2021. The Group Homes each received a pre-recorded video for entertainment as well as each individual received a Christmas gift delivered to their homes. Thank you to Buddy & Sheila Bishop, Kay McGranahan, Pastor Mary Forester and countless others who helped make this day special for special friends in our community.

GARNER CREEK WORK DAY- In June of 2021, 51 volunteers from WCN gathered at the Camp for a work day. Painting, weed eating, tree cutting, stump grinding, bush hogging and general cleaning was done. Thanks to the Witbeck family for bringing heavy equipment to remove large trees and debris from the creek that was causing clogs. Thank you to all 52 volunteers for serving.

RAMP BUILDING- In April of 2021, a group of our very skilled men gathered at a home on Old Blacktop Rd to build a ramp for the mother of a WCN member. Thanks to Jacen Davidson for leading this project.

FLOOD RECOVERY- On August 21, 2021, Humphreys Co was devastated by a massive flood. WCN's entire lower level was destroyed as well as the D-Zone. Thank you to the volunteers who worked tirelessly to repair the lower level of the main building. WCN blessed its members who lost homes with financial assistance of over \$100,000.00 total. Thank you to the numerous volunteers who served in the community to help with flood recovery. Hundreds of homes were destroyed but recovery continues because the love of Jesus never quits until all is restored.

Pastor of Local Missions

Pastor Janice Rudolph

Children's Ministry Annual Report for 2021-2022

In May, I began my first year of ministry with the Discovery Kids. This is my first annual report as the Children's Pastor, and what a year it has been!

While COVID-19 was and is still a reality, the Waverly August Flood quickly became our number one obstacle. It rocked our community. It rocked our church. We lost our Discovery Zone. But we persevere. Our God is faithful. We have continued to grow. We have continued to lean into what our God has planned for us. We will continue to do so as we step into the future filled with hope.

Our kids belonged by:

- Gathering for worship
 - We began the year gathering in the Discovery Zone. While the Littles and Bigs were all together for singing and praying, they split for the word so they could hear the message in age-appropriate ways that were meaningful to them. Then, the flood hit. There were a few Sundays where the whole church had to be together, whether that be at the MiDeGa or in the church sanctuary. Thankfully, we were able to get back into a space of our own downstairs. At first, we all stayed in that one space for the entirety of the service. The teens then graciously allowed us to use their space for the Bigs to move to during the sermon. We have been gathering this way ever since.
- Attending Family Camp at Garner Creek. We had a great turnout of Discovery Kids and Families for Family Camp.
- Participating in Discovery Camp. I have kids coming up to me still quoting what they learned in those days.
- Going to summer camps at Garner Creek.
- Having fun and growing closer together at Slip 'n Slide Kickball.
- Engage Groups started back up after discontinuing for COVID-19.
- Coming to our Family Movie Night to watch The Prince of Egypt.
- Participating in our annual church-wide Yuletide Wingding.

Our kids believed by:

- 2 child baptisms this year, as well as 4 child dedications.
- Attending our Back-to-School Prayer Service and participating in Backpack Blessings as they went into the new school year.
- Coming to Park Prayer Services after the flood. We had devotions, conversations, and prayers. The kids also had ice cream and got to have time to just be kids by playing with their friends.
- Attending New Year's Family Communion, talking through the past year and looking forward to 2022 and praying with their pastors and families.
- Participating in giving towards Alabaster.

Our kids became by:

- Serving during the Camp Garner Creek Workday.
- Putting together and praying over Crisis Care Kits.
- Collecting cereal boxes during Discovery Camp.
- Collecting undies, socks and Kleenex boxes for WES for the new school year.
- Serving during flood cleanup at the church when they could.
- Participating in our Advent Conspiracy Event, collecting items for our angel tree person and making blessing bags to give to those who are homeless or needy as we encountered them.
- Going caroling at the homes of people in our church who have a hard time leaving their homes.

All of this is possible because you, our church, believing that children are not exempt from participating in the kingdom of God. We thank the people who come alongside this essential ministry and serve: Rachel Reynen, Betsy Haley, Tracy Cavness, Rachel Matthews, Charles Davidson, Nicholas Forester, BriAnn Selph, Heather Holmes, Vernon Costello, Brittany Selph, Sheila Bishop, Adriana Batchelder, Mateo Batchelder, Sarah Baker, Earl Baker, Karl Reynen, Warren Patrick, Rhonda Moore, Lora Moore, Shannon Proctor, Navy Haley, Jasmine Bancroft, Ellen Moran, Jaiden Cochran. We also thank everyone who served during Discovery Camp.

This year has been a lot. That is undeniable. But our God is still moving. Our God is making all things new. I am happy that God calls us to participate with Him in that work.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Kelsey

Jail and Recovery Ministries – 3/1/2021 – 2/28/2022

God's faithfulness has permeated this last church year regardless of its ongoing Covid challenges (still prohibiting us from going into the jail for services) and the traumatic flood (destroying our Celebrate Recovery meeting place and my office) along with the broader effect on the church and community. Time nor space would allow for detailing the graciousness of Divine Intervention! Nonetheless, here are some of the highlights.

Space was made available for CR meetings to take place at *Soul Shine* (and free of charge) by Tayla Lynn until after the church's ground level was prepared for use. The setting seemed to have the effect of drawing the group together and afforded opportunities to minister to victims of the flood. Trent Riley picked up the role (since our setting didn't include the capability of amplified music for worship) of worship leader who also supplied the instrumental music. He is quite gifted in guitar accompaniment. Our CR team continued to be just as involved as prior for which I'm so thankful - Betty Hamm, Debbie & Troy Manor, Doris & Duane Pine, JT Blue, Rachel Reynen, Alice Ulman, Sharon Baron, Chuck & Helen Ellis, and Carl & Jana Brazzle. Terry and Rhonda Moore joined our team in 2021, and they have been a great asset.

At Christmas, we provided Christmas adult coloring book and coloring pencils to all the women in the jail. We received expressive notes of thanks from them. Some used colored pages to send as Christmas cards to family members.

Our church's congregation again baked and sent cookies on Valentine's Day to all the inmates in our county jail, including all employees. Once more, we heard from several of them by mail of their deep gratefulness at being remembered and reminded that they are loved by us and by our God! We have a good jail administrator in Angie Lemons.

Led by God over a year ago, I retired a year later from my role at WCN as Pastor of Jail and Recovery Ministries. It has been five meaningful years for me as I've seen God work in the lives of others, and I thank you for the opportunity. The joy has been mine to be a part of the WCN staff and to be graciously touched by the ministry of Pastor Daron.

I was overwhelmed recently by the generosity of the church and its board in the retirement event given. I thank all of you for helping my formal ministry to be celebrated and so positively concluded. Even though I'm still in the midst of recovery from the flood, God is opening avenues of informal ministry as He sees fit.

I know that Pastor Janice and the ongoing team will have a fruitful year to come. My love and prayers follow them.

Respectfully submitted, Pastor Annetta Sykes

This is my second annual report serving as Executive Pastor. In November of 2020, the board voted to expand my organizational oversight to the whole church with emphasis on NextGen ministries. Had I of known what was to come, I may have run the other direction...just kidding.

It is difficult to share what I do daily because my role is fluid. It changes as our church's needs change. As Executive Pastor, I have four broad ministry goals:

1. Empower Effective Leadership
2. Promote Productive Communication
3. Amplify the Vision
4. Demonstrate Initiative

Our church's needs *changed* on August 21. My primary role transitioned from organizing the ministries of the church to working with the federal government through the SBA and FEMA processes. As I write this report, we are close to 9 months into our recovery. The work has been challenging and frustrating, but I have faith that God will meet our every need.

Our church has become a Work & Witness site for the Church of the Nazarene. Working with Stephen Sickel from the Global Ministry Center is always a blessing. We have received one team and will be receiving two more in the upcoming months.

I've continued to have the privilege of walking alongside of our church's ministries: Children's Ministry Team, Youth Ministry Team, Booth Team, Media Team, Hospitality Team, Stewardship Team, Properties Team, NDI, and NMI. Each of these teams has leaders who are devoted to the Lord and to the spiritual growth of the church. We are blessed to have their voices in conversation as we discern the will of the Lord together.

I have had the unique opportunity to mentor two of my children in ministry within the past year. Kelsey Elliott was brought on as children's pastor in May. Hunter Elliott served as our youth intern throughout the summer months. It is always a blessing to pour into those who God has called. It is even more special when they are your own children.

It has been a humbling experience to walk alongside of Patricia Fortner and Kathy Bennett as they clearly articulated a call from God to support grieving families who have lost a child. The ministry has begun and is a source of healing for those who attend.

One of my primary responsibilities is to ensure that the ministries of the church are aligned with the mission that we believe God has called WCN to faithfully live out in our context. I am certain that all of our ministry leaders have a deep passion for seeing our community Belong to the Body of Christ, Believe in the Person of Christ, and Become the Mission of Christ. I look forward to walking alongside of Pastor Daron and our leadership teams in the upcoming year.

Respectfully submitted,



Executive Pastor

Report of the Pastor

Church Family,

I bring you my twenty-second report at the close of twenty-one years of ministry. I find immense joy seeing God work through you. Katie, Kendall, Parker, Macy, and I are grateful to continue to serve as your lead pastoral family. We are blessed to be yours.

This report comes on the heels of the two greatest challenges WCN has ever faced. The pandemic (and everything it entailed) and the flood were a 1-2 punch to our community and our church. We had momentum. It felt like we were rebounding from covid. Then came August 21, 2021. That date will forever be a marker in time. A dividing line. We will always refer to “before the flood” and “after the flood.”

Immediately after the flood, you shined. Hundreds of us showed up to gut, clean, haul, repair, feed, and care for one another. Many of you checked in at the church campus to go out and serve others. Whether you checked in at the church campus or not, you *were* the church. Our mission trip experience kicked in: *Flexibility* and *Unity*. God reminded me early and often that God is *present*, *faithful*, and *good*. When it came to our facilities, we organized on the fly. We rearranged the lower-level floorplan for minimal cost and essential use. Since then, the work continues. You embody this statement:

“To encounter crisis

is to encounter the possibility

of truly being the church.”

-David Bosch, *Transforming Mission*

It is hard to express how grateful I am for the leaders we have in place. WCN is a healthy community of faith when it comes to relationships and leadership. Our strong spiritual health helps us weather challenges. Thanks to our church board: Brenda Palk, Terry Langston, Karen Woodside, Lloyd Ross, Greg Field, Robin May, Jana Brazzle, Sarah Shanks, Jane Langston, Carla Anderson, Don McGuire, and Trent Riley.

I am blessed to serve with an incredible staff team. Pastors Annetta Sykes and Janice Rudolph pushed forward and served faithfully, despite extreme damage to both of their homes. Pastor Kelsey Elliott began her ministry under the most difficult circumstances imaginable. And she is excelling. Kathryn McGuire (Church Administrator) and Don McGuire (Treasurer) have served faithfully in their roles for more than ten years. Both of them have given so much to the church. Both of them are stepping away from their roles in 2022. They are not, however, stepping away from WCN. We are still their church. We welcome Julie Einerson as our new Church Administrator. She has years of experience and the right spirit. We welcome Mac Anderson as our new Treasurer and Trent Riley as our Associate Treasurer. They bring qualifications, character, and checks and balances.

The WCN board had the foresight to move Pastor Mary Forester into Executive Pastoral Ministry before the flood. In addition to the regular, heavy load of executing the ministry of the church, Pastor Mary is leading us through the process with SBA and FEMA. This is extremely difficult and complicated work. Yet, Pastor Mary, by the grace of God, rises to meet the need. She loves her Lord. She loves her church. We love her. I simply could not have managed the past year without her. Mary Forester is a grace of God in my life.

Despite the challenges, WCN is recording our strongest year on record: our highest attendance average ever (297), our highest membership total ever (411), and our highest giving year (over \$1 million)! Our income included flood recovery money that came in and went out to flood survivors. But besides the flood recovery

money, our giving was strong.

Humanly speaking, WCN should not be thriving. People moved away. Our location is much less appealing. Our square footage is severely diminished. Our property is broken. Our resources are limited. Our people faced crisis upon crisis. Humanly speaking, WCN should not be thriving. And yet, we are. Attendance is up. Membership is up. Giving is up. Morale is up. All because we *look up* in prayer. All because our God is *faithful, present, and good!* Jesus said the gates of hell will not prevail against the church. If the gates of hell will not prevail against us, then the stuff we are up against has no chance!

We continue to be generous during our time of crisis. Generosity is not something we practice when it is convenient. Generosity is part of our DNA because we belong to a generous God. Therefore, WCN gave to world missions, church plants, retired pastors, etc. Our kids and teens made and sent crisis care kits for disaster relief. We gave to help flood-impacted residents, small businesses, and churches in our community. We did not shrink back from being generous because of our crisis.

Someone might ask, "Why give so much money away when we need to build a building?" The answer is simple. We will build a building. But if we have to stop *being the church* in order to build a building, then we have no business *being the church*. It is not either/or. Our God is a God of abundance. And we are called to be generous.

We have received some larger single gifts in recent weeks, including a \$50,000 gift from Alabaster through The Church of the Nazarene. We are grateful for all support, large and small. Our building fund is over \$1.3 million. Our savings is almost \$350,000. We have excellent terms on an SBA loan (2% for 30 years). Pastor Mary continues to advocate for maximum funding through FEMA. And we are seeking out and benefitting from some creative funding options.

Yet, the picture is unclear. We estimate about a one-million-dollar gap between what we have available and what we need. Everything is more expensive. We did not choose our time. It has chosen us. As I write, we are breaking ground in the very near future without the luxury of certainty. Maybe God wants us without the luxury of certainty. We know we cannot remain where we are. In addition to being woefully small and inaccessible, our current property is an unsafe long-term option. Our leadership is unified. We move forward prayerfully. We move forward in faith.

Hear clearly this call to generosity. Not generosity that comes when it is convenient, but generosity that springs from your DNA because you belong to a generous God. Many of you give 10% of your income to the church. Many of you gave faithfully to our building fund through our capital campaign. Some of you keep giving to the building fund since the close of the campaign. Some of you give what you can. Some of you stretch to give beyond your comfort. Some of you have given larger gifts. Thank you. Going forward, your generosity has never mattered more. As we pray for God to provide what is needed, you can be part of the answer to our praying. Prayerfully consider how God might stretch you in the way of generosity. If you know WCN, you know that the cause is worth it.

As I write, we are preparing for an event called *WCN Stories* as part of our 75th Homecoming Celebration. We will simply tell the stories of what God has done through the church over 75 years. Stories of changed lives. Stories of discipleship. Stories of generous living. Stories of stepping out on faith. Those who came before us were custodians of the story. They lived in their season. They made the most of their moments. They trusted God for big things. We would not be at this point without them. And here we are. The story keeps unfolding. The story of WCN is not tapering off. We are not winding down. The trajectory of our story is still shooting up, thanks be to God! We are custodians of the story for our moment in time. Future generations will look back to us and give thanks for God's work through our faithfulness. It is our time to trust God for big things.

Remember. Your God is *present, faithful, and good*.

-Pastor Daron