



**Annual Report  
2023**

**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*

*2002: Edith Adams*

*2003: Amy Crum*

*2004: Alton Hesson*

*2005: Lanelle Coleman*

*2006: John McGranahan*

*2007: Annetta Sykes*

*2008: Kay McGranahan*

*2009: Jane Langston*

*2010: Letticia Ladd*

*2011: Betty Hamm*

*2012: Laura Ham*

*2013: Pearl Jones*

*2014: Nancie Hesson*

*2015: Franklin Brawley*

*2016: Karen Woodside*

*2017: Jimmy Hamm*

*2018: Eugene Woodside*

*2019: Delilah King*

*2020: Brenda Palk*

*2021: Mary Ann Collins*

*2022: Jack Hayes*

*2023: Charles Davidson*



## 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.*

3 persons baptized and sent to serve  
\$35,000 to world missions, \$27,539 for district missions, \$38,500 for local compassionate missions  
\$13,045 to Trevecca and \$1,500 given for scholarships at TNU  
\$13,044 to Pensions & Benefits and \$500 given to support a Hispanic Church Plant in Dickson  
\$123,000 given to support Flood Recovery in our community  
33<sup>rd</sup> Group Home Party (digital version due to COVID)  
10 WES teachers were given \$150 each for classroom school supplies  
Leaders served and shared their testimony through Celebrate/Life Recovery  
457 boxes of cereal to Helping Hands  
2 individuals attended the Kaleo Luncheon  
2 students enrolled in course of study to prepare for ministry and 2 individuals studying in the CLT program  
Welcomed and supported Sam Dellinger as our summer youth intern  
Hosted 2 classes from Trevecca Nazarene University  
Hosted a sunrise service  
Dedicated 2 children to the Lord  
Hosted a Missionary Service for the Modines and Taflingers  
Hosted our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Blue Christmas Service for the community  
Welcomed 32 new members who were then sent to Belong, Believe, and Become  
2 individuals completed the CLT program and are officially lay ministers  
Four individuals hold local licenses: Kelsey Elliott, Hunter Elliott, JT Blue, and Sam Dellinger  
JT Blue sent to be Lead Pastor of Pine Hill Church of the Nazarene  
A Men's Prayer Breakfast met and a Women's Prayer Breakfast met  
Season of Emerging Preachers ministry continued for the third 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/Life Recovery even with the loss of their original space  
11 servants from WCN served with Helping Hands food pantry (80% of servants are from WCN)  
\$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 hundreds of residents with our support  
Partnered with Humphreys Homeless Coalition to serve families in our community  
Partnered with Long Term Recovery to help repair and rebuild Waverly  
61 Crisis Care Kits were packed by 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  
Welcomed two Work and Witness Teams to Waverly

## 2022-2023 WCN ANNUAL CHURCH BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT

Your Church board meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday evening of each month and prayerfully seeks God's discernment in decisions concerning WCN. Anyone is welcome to attend the meetings. Those you elected to serve on the 2022-23 Church board (with end of term in parentheses) 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).

As the new Church year began, we continued with new building updates and Pastor Mary spearheaded the still ongoing, somewhat stressful roller coaster ride with SBA and FEMA funding info. The congregation voted 78-0 to enter a contract with SBA for a low-interest 30-year loan to fund part of the new building project, with FirstBank as the primary lender to begin construction on 2/3 of the original design. With renewed anticipation and optimism, a groundbreaking date of May 21 for WCN's new building was set in conjunction with the 75<sup>th</sup> WCN Homecoming celebration. As project manager, Terry Langston, kept us informed of the project progress. The estimated cost for the building project came in at \$4.3 million. WCN sought approval from the District Advisory Board to increase the debt from \$1.9 million to \$2.75 million. With the DAB's approval, the Church Board voted to present the vote to the congregation for the increased debt. The congregation voted favorably to increase the amount of debt to \$2.75 million. As a contingency of possibly receiving FEMA funds, we approved purchasing Flood Insurance for the main campus.

We prepared for Easter, holding 4 services with almost 500 in-person attendees, and more joining online. Many from WCN attended sessions at District Assembly and were present as Pastor Annetta Sykes and Pastor Chuck Ellis were officially retired as pastors. Church of the Nazarene General Superintendent Eugenio Duarte and his wife Maria blessed us in worship at WCN.

Due to his upcoming kidney transplant surgery, Don McGuire stepped down as WCN treasurer. Mac Anderson was elected to assume the treasurer role with Trent Riley as associate treasurer. Since Kathryn McGuire was the donor for Don, she stepped down as church administrator. The Church board voted to hire Julie Einerson as administrator.

Sam Dellinger was hired as Summer Youth Intern to work with the teens. The Board approved Pastor Daron's Sabbatical time from June 22 – August 14, 2022. Pastor Mary and Pastor Janice served well in his absence. Many spent countless hours assisting those displaced by the 2021 flood. Several from WCN participated in Waverly Remembers, the weekend event memorializing the flood. Many continue to serve in missional projects like FUEL, Humphreys County Homeless Coalition, Helping Hands and Celebrate Recovery.

We approved an updated Finance Handling Policy and Stewardship Team Procedures. We made a recommendation for Hunter Elliott and J.T. Blue to receive their District Minister Licenses. We approved for Pastor Jenny Little to fill the role of Associate Pastor to Children's Ministries. We voted to recommend the renewal of Pastor Jenny's District Minister License. We voted to add Waverly Jr. High School to our current missional partnership with Waverly Elementary School since both schools are still without a permanent building and will be located together when the temporary school facility is completed.

Even though several in our own congregation experienced sickness and death of many special loved ones, you were the Church as you loved, prayed, fed, and comforted. We are blessed by obedient and faithful pastors, staff and lay persons who serve and give as God calls.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda Palk, Secretary

## Treasurer's Report – 2022-23

This most recent church year finances were dominated by our Fund the Future Building Program. Fiscal Year 2022-23 was the home stretch in growing our building fund, breaking ground at our new location, signing all the documentation, and beginning the construction of our new church home.

As of March 31, 2023, \$1,435,000 has been spent on construction of our new church facility.

The first phase of funding is required to be WCN monies, therefore, the construction costs so far have all been covered by WCN funds. An additional \$465,000 of WCN funds have been allocated toward building construction and related costs for a total, so far, of WCN funding of \$1,900,000 toward construction. We will soon be using loans from Waverly's First Bank and the Federal Small Business Administration (SBA). These two loans will total the congregation approved amount of \$2,750,000. Any remaining construction or related costs will be borne by WCN. Some of these remaining costs include furnishings, audio/visual, security, networking equipment, installation, and setup.

When all the expected costs are added up, we still have a construction Funding Gap of about \$219,000. We are continuing to map out budget cuts and potential reductions or delays in a few construction items that will help make up this Funding Gap. But we'll also need help from each of you. All WCN funding always comes from your gifts toward the WCN mission and ministry. You want to be part of completing this building program! You'll hear more about this on Vision Sunday and the upcoming Building Update meetings.

The past fiscal year included continuing recovery from both the Pandemic and the Waverly Flood of August 2021. In the past year, we distributed the remainder of our Flood Recovery donations. These gifts included \$25,000 to individuals and families that had their homes damaged or destroyed in the flood. An additional \$7,500 was used for recovery/replacement of WCN facilities or gifted toward our Building Fund.

I need to recognize our 'Counters'. Our 'Counting Team' of Carla Anderson, Glenda Davidson, Rose Mitchell, and Linda Story have done all the counting. We are grateful for their faithful service!

Our Treasurer Leadership Team also included Mac Anderson and Trent Riley as Associate Treasurers. They have been a great help over the past year when I really needed them. I cannot thank them enough.

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 website (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	FY2022-23	Expense Category	FY2022-23
Tithes and Offerings	\$ 558,546.42	Administrative	\$ 19,305.37
Building Fund	\$ 327,042.14	Church Ministries	\$ 75,174.64
Flood Recovery	\$ 15,000.00	Compassionate Ministries	\$ 40,275.35
Local Ministries	\$ 36,036.10	District / Global Missions	\$ 89,693.89
Work and Witness	\$ 1,894.00	Employee Compensation	\$ 330,053.43
World Evengelism / P&B	\$ 16,554.03	Facilities	\$ 54,178.26
Interest on Savings	\$ 15,216.83	<b>Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 608,680.94</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 968,395.52</b>	Building Campaign	\$ 1,435,107.20

  

Current Assets	FY2022-23
Checking	\$ 54,039.87
Savings Account	\$ 1,233.12
Investment Account (WIF)	\$ 94,942.50
Construction Funds	\$ 471,086.77
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 621,302.26</b>

## Church Administrator Report 2022-2023

I am so blessed to be part of the staff team here at WCN. I am grateful to the Church Board and the pastors who placed confidence and trust in me to take on the job of Church Administrator upon Kathryn's retirement. Kathryn has big shoes to fill! I am very thankful to Kathryn in so many ways. She began training me in April 2022, allowing us ample time for a smooth transition in June. She continues to assist me as needed and has filled in for me while my family went on vacation, as well as when my father had a serious fall in late October and was hospitalized for several weeks. It continues to be a wonderful experience to be part of a team that loves God and one another. I consider it a privilege to be part of this group. I appreciate all the encouragement and love that you as the church body offer to me as well.

WCN had the opportunity to come alongside many grieving families last year by providing food for them before and after funerals of loved ones. This is an important ministry and one of the ways we can be the church to others at one of the most difficult times of life. Thank you to our willing servants who always say yes when this need arises-always being ready to cook, deliver and serve meals. WCN hosted a few Work and Witness teams last year, and it was our privilege to connect with them through fellowship and food. Many of you stepped up to bake delicious desserts on each of these occasions. A very big thank you to Delilah King, who organized food for all these events and our 75<sup>th</sup> Homecoming in May 2022. We appreciate Delilah's leadership in this area. She has a wealth of experience in cooking and serving, and we are grateful. I would also like to express gratitude to Angela Khan-Norton for providing a wonderful meal for Come to the Waters, as well as Trent Riley and others who fed the ministry class from Trevecca in February 2023. All of you who arrive early and stay late to set up and take down tables and chairs for events, you are appreciated as well.

Twice a month you receive the WCN Newsletter, and these faithful servants make it possible: Betty Hamm, Rose Mitchell, Rhonda Moore, Terry Moore, Delilah King, Glenda Davidson, Lanelle Coleman, Kathryn McGuire, Shirley Mosley, and Fran Stanley. These Fabulous Golden Foldies are such a blessing and a treasure to me. We enjoy lots of laughs and good conversation as we work! I am grateful for this group. They are flexible and willing to do extra tasks as needed, always with cheerful hearts.

I am thankful for these individuals who have made repairs, installed new equipment, hung banners, and built shelves: Terry Langston, Richard Horner, Fred Perkins, Darrel Shanks, Terry and Rhonda Moore, Garry Stanley, and Chuck Ellis. Your willingness to serve and use your skills is very appreciated. Our church looks and functions better because of you.

I am excited to see what the Lord has in store for us as a church with our upcoming move to our new building on Airport Rd. We are looking forward to a sanctuary large enough to hold all of us at one time, kids' areas that allow for growth and creativity, enough rooms for small groups to meet, and separate office spaces for our staff. We will transition from a small space to a big space, from low ground to high ground, but our mission will remain the same. We are called to be the church in our community and our world. I look forward to experiencing along with you the ways God intends to use us in our new location to reach others to Belong, Believe and Become part of His kingdom. Thanks to all of you in our WCN family! I love you and thank God for you!

Respectfully submitted,

*Julie Einerson*

Church,

We began the year on March 5<sup>th</sup> with a bowling lock-in at Thunder Alley.



On March 31, we had eleven teens go to TNT@TNU where they displayed their talents in visual arts, worship arts, and sports with teens from all over the southeast. The teens who represented WCN were Mateo Batchelder, Soledad Batchelder, Jaiden Cochran, Malakai Cochran, Anna Davis, Parker Forester, Brianna Gwin, Alyssa Hayes, Addie Irons, Haley Irons, Marti Searson, and Becca Simons.

On May 1 we had a celebration for our largest group of high school graduates: Jaxon Boswell, Malakai Cochran, JJ Coleman, Parker Forester, Anndee Haley, Addie Irons, Haley Irons, Emily Palk, Mallory Palk, Ashlie Petersen, Becca Simons, and Michael Wallace.

We welcomed Sam Dellinger, one of our Trevecca students, as our summer youth intern. Sam led our teens on Wednesday nights and taught our teen engage group.

We had 25 teens attend Senior High Camp and 11 teens attend Middle School Camp. A BIG thank you goes to Sam and to Pastor Kelsey Elliott for being chaperones at both camps!

Our Back to School Bash (lock-in) was led by Sam. It was a fun night of worship, indoor volley square, Karaoke and S'mores eating. Thanks goes to Jace Mortimer for leading the music.

Pastor Mary Forester led our teens in exploring God's love through our church's Articles of Faith. Thank you for your leadership! Also, thanks to Rose Mitchell, Eugene Woodside, JT Blue, and Karl Reynen for help on Wednesday nights.

The annual Portal Teens Bonfire and the teens Christmas Party were both held at the Woodside's home. Thank you, Eugene and Karen!

Momentum at Trevecca was held November 18-20. The following teens competed with others on our district in visual arts, worship arts, and sports: Mayah Baker, Mateo Batchelder, Soledad Batchelder, Kendall Brown, Macy Brown, Parker Brown, Jaiden Cochran, Anna Davis, Ainsley Forester, Brianna Gwin, Dylan Gwin, Madison Gwin, Brendan Selph, Addison Werfel, and supporters Mikayla Gwin and Kalyn Clayton.

Our teens have helped serve...Helping Hands food distribution, WCN workdays, spreading mulch, moving compacted dirt, and moving stuff.

Thanks to all the following who were chaperones through this year for our many events:

Rose Mitchell, Eugene Woodside, Sam Dellinger, Hunter Elliott, Nick Forester, Jane Langston, Kelsey Elliott, Beccie Cochran, Susie Parnell, Pastor Mary Forester, Katie Brown, JT Blue, Adriana Batchelder, and Pastor Daron Brown.

For much of this past year our teens have had fundraisers for their trip to NYC in Tampa Bay. These included car washes and bake sales, selling WCN T-shirts and hoodies, a fish fry led by Eugene and Karen Woodside, a hotdog cookout (thank you Jacen Davidson). Thanks to all who helped sponsor our teens to help them reach their goal!

Jane Langston, NYI President

## NMI (National Missions International) Report for 2022/2023

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...

Romans 10:13-14 For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? The scriptures here are self-explanatory. Those who know must reach and teach those that have not heard.

This past year still bore the shadows and scars of 2021 flood. Work continues to be done locally. Much is still needed. If our area is suffering the way it is and the way it has since the flood, how much more are countries that are experiencing war, ruthless leaders who oppress, and disease and hunger. Many of our countries continue to need to hear the Good News.

In May of 2022 we hosted Chad and Angela Taflinger who were going to Saipan as first-time missionaries. A youth praise band and singers from their home church lead us in worship prior to their presentation. We encouraged them through prayer and giving. We continue to prayer for them and the area.

In June we hosted The Modines from the Philippines. They expressed their need for prayers as the work there continues.

We at WCN continue to 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 \$32,866 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 \$1,203

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 \$11,786

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 \$998

Deputation Giving \$1,000 & Other WEF giving \$20,101

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.

Respectfully submitted by Sarah Shanks, NMI President



## 2022-2023 Nazarene Discipleship Report (NDI)

Church,

At WCN we are called to Belong to the Community of Christ, Believe in the Person of Christ and Become the Mission of Christ.

Two ways to Belong is to join in one of our Immerse or Engage groups.

Our Immerse groups meet on Wednesday evenings and different topics are presented three times each year. We are thankful that for the leaders who taught in the past year: Pastor Daron Brown, Pastor Janice Rudolph, J. T. Blue, Pastor Kelsey Elliot, Pastor Mary Forester.

Engage Groups meet each Sunday morning and include:

The Bridge, (for young adults and college students) led by Katie Brown

The JOY class led by Greg Field

The Rolling Stones led by Pastor Janice and Trent Riley

The Portal Teens led by Eugene Woodside and Jane Langston

Discovery Kids led by Pastor Kelsey, Nick Forester, and Jasmine Bancroft

Discovery Littles led by Rachel Reynen and Charles Davidson

Discovery Tinies led by Delilah King and Sydney Ross

Engage Groups focus on:

Teaching- Studying the Word together weekly

Prayer- Praying together woven throughout classes and technology

Tables- Sharing meals together once a quarter

Mission- Ongoing missional involvement in our community

We appreciate those who give of their time to prepare lessons each week. Be sure to thank your group leaders for their commitment.

Respectfully submitted by Robin May, NDI Director

## Worship Report 2022-2023

With the pandemic now endemic, and flood devastation turning to restoration, we adjust to that reality with more and more of us reconnecting to in-person activities on the church campus. Being together is so important in the life of the church and to each of us individually; it is what He intended for us. I look forward to the days ahead as we worship together in this space and as we prepare to worship in the new facilities on Airport Road later this year.

As I do every year, I marvel at the musical talent God has placed here at WCN. Thank you to Clint, Billy, JT, Donnie and Katie for using your skills to make beautiful music. And thank you to singers Jordon, Candy, John, Rose, Betsy, and Jane for all you do to lead in worship and engage others in worship.

Thank you to the folks in the booth that do such an amazing job keeping the sound right, the slides right, and the livestream streaming. That is no easy feat, but you make it look easy.

Thank you to Pastor Mary as trainer and as scheduler. This is one more hat she wears that you may not even realize she does. Thank you to all these folks – Kendall, Jason, Kay, Parker, Knox, Nick, Greg, Dean. Your commitment to excellence is appreciated.

Resurrection stories are such an integral part of WCN life in the Easter season. They are such powerful stories of God's work in people's lives. I look forward to them each year. Thank you to those of you that share your stories with the rest of us. We NEED to hear them and see how God is working through you and in each of us as He builds His kingdom. You tell your story to Pastor Mary Forester and she so masterfully retells your story in the videos she pieces together from your story. I don't know how you do it, Pastor Mary, but thank you!

Life at WCN is about to change again as we build new facilities on Airport Road. Many opportunities to practice flexibility and unity are ahead. But we will have the opportunity to see and understand more clearly the reason God placed us in this community to be His hands and feet right here in Humphreys County.

I look forward to being beside you help build God's kingdom in the days ahead.

Terry Langston, Worship Leader

## 2022 - 2023 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. As Covid subsides, visiting is slowly going toward normal. It is especially good to be getting to enter our county nursing homes again.

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 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 thru May of 2022. HHC is also dedicated to providing financial assistance geared toward deposits, rent, and in general expenses needed in order to get folks into new homes. This assistance continues to be required, over a year and a half after the flood. HHC also serves the needs of our transient homeless population as well as those requiring shelter due to domestic violence. My role as Board Secretary also requires attending to the management of all legal records and renewal of such including filing tax records each year, preparing minutes and agenda for each meeting.

I serve at Helping Hands in the role of processing applications for assistance with utilities and rent. The combined roles with Helping Hands and HHC equips me with special insight into the biggest needs of some of the people in our community.

I am currently mentoring Barbara Horner and Rachel Reynen through the Continuing Lay Training courses. They are only one course away from completing all their courses. These courses are available through [thediscipleshipplace.org](http://thediscipleshipplace.org). Lloyd and Michelle Ross continue to serve 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 am very blessed to assist Trent Riley in teaching the Rolling Stones Engage Group on Sunday morning. Another of my roles at WCN is alternating with the other pastors leading the Adult Immerse Group on Wednesday evenings. This role stretches me because you adults are well informed and really keep me on my toes. Thank you!!

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

## 2022/2023 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 at the WCHS CTE building. Teachers were thanked at year end with individual Lill Grazing Boxes. At the beginning of the school year, ten teachers received checks to help purchase items needed for their classrooms. We will be expanding our partnership to include WJHS once the schools are located together in their new location. Thank you to Pastor Mary Forester for leading this ministry.

FUEL – The FUEL program was, once again, on hold due to continued displacement after the 2021 flood. The program was set to resume normal operations in September of 2021. Hopefully the schools will be permanently located by August of 2023. We are looking forward to resuming this much needed ministry.

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, Jana Brazzle, Bryan Reynolds, 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 WCN doesn't have space to host the annual Christmas party for our friends with special needs, the Group Home Party was virtual in 2022. 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 several special friends in our community.

FLOOD RECOVERY- WCN was happy to welcome three Work & Witness Teams to help with flood recovery in our county during this last year. In April of 2022, we welcomed Pastor Matt Alexander and his team from Grace Lynwood United Methodist Church, in Lancaster, SC. WCN and a team led by Delilah King prepared 3 meals a day, April 18<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup>. Thank you to Delilah and all who helped make this happen. D1 Church of the Nazarene from Decatur, IL, arrived on June 19 and stayed thru the 25<sup>th</sup>. A team from Grace Community Church of the Nazarene from Spring Hill, Kansas arrived on September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022, bringing 35 people. All 3 teams worked with Long Term Recovery, led by Mac Anderson. WCN is grateful to welcome these teams on Wednesday nights of the weeks they were in town to hear about the work they were doing, fellowship with them, and hear how God was working in their lives.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY – I have served in the role of giving pastoral oversight to the Celebrate Recovery for WCN for one year. The group has averaged around 15 each week and attendance continues to grow slowly. We transitioned to Life Recovery in April of 2023 and are looking forward to what God will be doing in the lives of all who attend in the next year.

JAIL MINISTRY – WCN's jail ministry has continued to be on hold due to Covid this last year, however, WCN was allowed to provide Valentine cookies for the inmates and staff. We delivered 140 bags of cookies, each containing a valentine made by the children of WCN, on February 14, to a very grateful group of people at the Humphreys Co Jail.

Pastor of Local Missions/Janice Rudolph

In May 2022, I entered into my second year as WCN's Children's Pastor. It is a blessing to continue to be with this church. It is a blessing to continue to be with these kids. Thank you for affirming, supporting, and believing in me.

In January 2023, Pastor Jenny Little was brought on as Associate Children's Pastor. She and her husband Wesley were with us for a little over a month. They were a Christ-like couple who were great with the kids. Their time with us was a blessing, and we pray for them in their new ministry.

Our kids are active members of the Church. They don't wait to participate in God's work until they're older. They're doing it now.

In the past church year, the kids have:

- Belonged
  - Gathering for Discovery Camp, which had to be reduced to a single Saturday this year due to space restrictions.
  - Game nights
  - Having a costume party
  - Having a Christmas party
  - Participating in our church-wide Yuletide Wingding
  - Gathering for worship
  - Gathering for Immerse Groups
  - Spending time together at Keller's for our Family Fall Day
  - Playing Ultimate Frisbee
  - Attending Engage Groups
  - Spending time together during our Sunshine and Springtime event
- Believe
  - A baptism
  - Going to Week of Renewal Services
  - Giving to Alabaster
  - 16 kids attending camp
  - Back to School Prayer Service
  - 2 kids attending Nazatween
  - Attending Missionary Services
- Become
  - Participating in a church workday
  - Making 47 cards and 47 planting flowers and delivering them to people who were homebound to share the good news of Easter
  - Collecting 457 boxes of cereal for Helping Hands
  - Collecting school supplies to send to Kenya

I thank God for those who serve in our children's ministry. A HUGE thank you to EVERYONE who spends time with us! I specifically want to name Rachel Reynen and Charles Davidson. These two have served every week that they could.

Thank you, WCN, for loving your kids so well!

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Kelsey Elliott

This is my third annual report serving as Executive Pastor. 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 the day of the flood. SBA and FEMA work seemed to take over a large part of my weekly duties. However, throughout the past year, I have been able to pick up more of my traditional ministry duties.

I am thankful for the opportunities that I am given to lead and preach. This year, even more so than most years, I am thankful for our tribe. I am thankful that we are a people who not only say that we believe in women in ministry but equip and empower them to lead. I am thankful for Pastor Daron's strong voice encouraging me to do what I'm called to do and allowing me space to do it here.

I have been blessed to be tasked with the gift of working towards our transition with many gifted people. I routinely serve with the Properties Team, our Treasurers, Pastor Daron, and Brenda Palk. Church, you have no idea how blessed we are to have such knowledgeable voices in our corner. Our leaders trust in the Lord above all else. Every step that we have taken to move forward to 693 Airport Rd has been made with much prayer and discernment.

In the past year, I have had the continued 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. I wish I had the space to thank each one of you who serve individually. Your character is above reproach, your commitment to WCN is without question, and your love for the Lord obviously guides all that you do.

Our church served as a Work & Witness site for the Church of the Nazarene in the past year. Working with Stephen Sickel from the Global Ministry Center is always a blessing. We have received three teams to help rebuild our community. We are used to *going* as a team. It has been a great blessing to *receive* teams.

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. As we anticipate transitioning to our new facility in the upcoming year, I believe that our people understand who we are and will continue to live out our mission faithfully.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Forester

Executive Pastor

## Report of the Pastor

Church Family,

I bring you my twenty-third report at the close of twenty-two 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.

In John 20, Jesus met the yet-to-believe Thomas on Thomas's terms. Jesus offered for Thomas to encounter the marks on his body. Marks borne by love. Thomas touched those marks and believed. We live in a world full of Thomases, people who, for various reasons, are yet-to-believe. We are the Body of Christ in the world. We are marked by God's love. Ultimately, our work is meeting people where they are, allowing them to encounter us, marked by love, so they may believe. This is God's mission. This is why God has us here.

For the reported year, we continued missional efforts which include jail ministry, recovery ministry, the school partnership, crisis care kits, flood recovery, building a ramp for a family, visiting shut-ins, the Group Home Party, Trauma-Informed training, supporting a Hispanic church plant in Dickson, feeding the hungry, and reaching the lost. We received 2 missionary families from overseas and 3 mission teams from within the United States. We locally licensed four ministers. We baptized three. Our staff organized and led the *Waverly Remembers* event for our community on the one-year anniversary of the flood. And, thanks be to God, every displaced WCN family made it home!

We continued to grow as disciples through worship, *Engage Groups*, *Immerse Groups*, *Life Recovery*, *the Season of Emerging Preachers*, *Continuing Lay Training*, Men's Prayer Breakfasts, Women's Prayer Breakfasts, *Women of Waverly*, *Financial Peace University*, *New Year's Family Communion*, the Christian Calendar, and other efforts.

For the year, we report 437 members (a record), 32 New Nazarenes (3<sup>rd</sup> highest total ever), 334 in morning worship attendance (+37 from last year; a record), and 157 in Engage-Groups (+84). Does this sound like a church that just endured a pandemic, a flood, and a significant loss of space? We give thanks and praise to God.

I am grateful for our church board. You elect this team to lead, and they lead well. They lead with wisdom, humility, prayer, and mission: 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. Thanks to Lloyd, Carla, and Don for completing well-served terms. We welcome Rose Mitchell and Kathie McClanahan to serve in the current year. Mac Anderson served faithfully as Treasurer for a year. Mac is stepping down, but not away. Don McGuire is healthy and willing to serve. The church board elected Don to return to the role of Treasurer.

I am blessed to serve with an incredible staff team. Kathryn McGuire (Church Administrator) served well for twelve years. Kathryn is wise and mature. She is steady and faithful. WCN is better because of Kathryn's years of service. We wish her well in retirement. We welcome Julie Einerson as our incoming Church Administrator. Julie has many of the same qualities as Kathryn. She is competent and she has the right spirit. She is a blessing. Pastor Janice Rudolph continues to serve faithfully with Pastoral Care and Local Missions. Pastor Janice is truly a pastor to the community. Pastor Kelsey is passionate and creative. She cares deeply about reaching and discipling children. Executive Pastor Mary Forester does it all. She preaches, teaches, organizes, leads, and constantly advocates for WCN post-flood. She is smart and she is faithful. This is your staff. They are joy to me.

In conjunction with our 75<sup>th</sup> Homecoming Celebration, we broke ground on our new facility nine months to the day after the flood. Jimmy Hamm, the last living charter child, was the first to break ground. Madi Stainforth, who is 5<sup>th</sup> generation WCN, was the second. Terry Langston, our project coordinator, broke ground next. Then all of us took turns. We hosted a beautiful night of *WCN Stories*. Dr. Dwight Gunter preached. We welcomed former pastors: Gunters, McGranahans, Waggoners, and other special guests for the historic weekend.

After the ceremonial groundbreaking, dirt was moved. Concrete was poured. Then steel and sheet metal. We witness daily progress at 693 Airport Rd. This is the culmination of years of dreaming, praying, and giving. Thanks be to God. And thanks to Terry Langston and Greg Field for their coordination of the project.

Our building fund (\$1.7m), approved debt (\$2.75m), and savings get us close to the \$4.8m price tag for the building. The \$4.8m does not include furnishings, audio/visual/lighting, or architect fees. Including them, the total cost is estimated at \$5.1m. We have a gap between what we have and what we need. I shared about the gap in March. You gave creatively. Lump sum gifts. Advances on tithes. The total was nearly \$1.3k! Thank you! The gap is closing, but it remains. It is currently at about \$219k. Your creative lump sum gifts are still welcome! Expenses have tightened. Overall giving is higher. We are moving in the right direction.

Katie and I tithe. And we give to the building fund. Regularly. For years. I lead by example. In addition, I sought and secured some creative funding that we would not have otherwise received: \$100k from the Jones Legacy Group, \$50K from Alabaster, and \$10k from Nazarene Compassionate Ministries. A gift of land that sold for \$27k brought our creative funding to nearly \$200k! I want you to know that I have been-and continue to work to fund this mission.

Going forward, I invite you to four action items:

1. **Pray for the Future.** Let's continue to be intentional about praying our way forward. On May 27-28, leading up to Pentecost Sunday, we will have 24 hours of prayer for our church, our community, and our world. Sign-ups are coming soon.
2. **Prepare to Engage.** We had one week of *Engage-Groups* on Sunday morning before the flood. We still have a few groups going, but we lack space for a full slate of groups. In the new facility, we will re-launch *Engage Groups* on a large scale. Your engagement is vital for your spiritual growth.
3. **Explore until you find your sweet spot.** The pandemic and the flood shut down some ministry opportunities. Some of us got out of the habit. Others of us never found our place to serve. There is unspeakable joy in serving in your ministry sweet spot. You will not find it without exploring. Talk to Pastor Mary about what it means to be *All In* by finding your place to serve.
4. **Close this gap.** The numbers are fluid. The gap is roughly \$150k-\$200k. Your regular tithe matters. Your building fund giving matters. Your special giving from the furnishings list matters. Thank you for giving. Thank you for continuing to give.
5. **Steward the culture.** WCN embraces six culture tenets. These words tell the truth about us. We are *prayerful, missional, intergenerational, genuine, healthy, and accepting*. Many things will change in the next few months. These six things do not need to change. We are stewards of the culture of WCN. Let us be good stewards.

At the groundbreaking, I quoted the prophet Amos. He spoke the word of the Lord to a landless people longing for land: *I will raise up, I will repair, I will restore, I will rebuild*. God did not tell Israel that they would accomplish the work, but that God would. Same for us. God is the one raising us up, repairing, restoring, and rebuilding. The work is the Lord's. And he calls us to participate.

Ultimately, this is not about a building or anything else. It is all about the mission of God. The building will be one more (very important) tool for the mission. There are yet-to-believe people all around us. We are the Body of Christ, marked by love. Like Thomas experienced the marks of Jesus' body and believed. We show our marks of love to the world so they may believe.

**-Pastor Daron**