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Annual Report 15

wellshire church

Presbyterian Church (USA)



photo by Bill Strickland

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Denver, CO 80222  
[www.wpcdenver.org](http://www.wpcdenver.org)





ANNUAL REPORT

# Agenda

## Annual Meeting of the Wellshire Presbyterian Church

Wellshire Presbyterian Church Sanctuary

August 23, 2015

- I. Opening Prayer
- II. Declaration of Quorum
- III. Distribution of the Annual Report
- IV. Necrology Report & Prayer of Remembrance
- V. Officer Nominating Committee Report
- VI. Meeting of Corporation
  - A. Trustees and Officers of the Corporation
  - B. Finance Report
    - i. Review of Fiscal Year 2015
    - ii. Presentation of 2016 Fiscal Year Budget
- VII. Sale of 2884 S. Harrison St.
- VIII. Questions/Comments
- IX. Prayer of Thanksgiving



## ANNUAL REPORT

# Annual Corporate Meeting of the Congregation

Dear Friends of Wellshire:

In the following pages, you will read some of the highlights of the past year – actually the past year and a half, as we moved the annual meeting to August from January this year. We are not a perfect community, as you know. Wellshire members and staff always want to “do more,” of course. But I think you will read that we are a fairly vital church, doing much good in Denver and around the world.

We are in good shape financially, and session is actively and intentionally raising the percentage of the budget that we contribute to local and global missions. Although we lost Holly Inglis recently to a new call in Florida, the staff is very, very solid. Your current staff works very hard. They are dedicated and creative. We are especially excited about the new Children’s Director, Kendal Mullins, and our Childcare Coordinator, Jaime Martinez. Oliva Hudson Smith added much during her intern year here. Your three installed pastors have been working intentionally to create that difficult life-work-family-Sabbath balance, as we face big life events – Katie Robb Davis had a baby, Kira Stringer is getting married in two weeks, and my wife is battling cancer - and my daughter was married two weeks ago. Membership growth is static, and this concern is going to get a lot of attention in the coming year, as we plan to be more aggressive in the areas of evangelism and marketing.

For many, this past year will be remembered as the year that same-sex marriage became legal in the United States via the Supreme Court, the PCUSA by a vote of presbyteries, and Wellshire by action of the Session. I am certainly well aware that not all members of the church agree with this decision, but I am grateful that Wellshire strives still to be a “big tent” type of church where reasonable Christians can peacefully and respectfully disagree. (You are also all welcome to come to my presentation on this subject in late September.)

Session has been very active in the past year trying to come to a consensus on strategic directives. We are shifting some of our programming emphasis to offerings which hopefully will appeal not just to Wellshire members, but to the entire community – such as Financial Peace University, Great Dates at Wellshire and various support groups for common illnesses and life-changes.

In closing, let me personally thank you, the greater Wellshire community, for your support of my family during a very dark time domestically. Candidly, my wife is in a real battle for her life, and I am sure there will be many ups and downs and detours on the road ahead of us. Your prayers, cards, visits, words of encouragement, acts of kindness and hugs mean the world to us. Thank you and thank God for you!

Wellshire Presbyterian Church is a true community of hope! I anticipate a great year in 2015-16!

Let us give thanks to God for the good work and to God be the glory!

IN CHRIST, THROUGH CHRIST, AND WITH CHRIST,

**Rev. Dr. John H. Bell, Jr., Pastor**  
Wellshire Presbyterian Church  
Denver, Colorado





## ANNUAL REPORT

# The Clerk of Session

As Clerk of Session, it is my annual privilege to write a few brief words regarding the Session's activities and have it placed among the other reports in the overall Annual Report. Since this is the first year with our annual meeting in August, this report covers eighteen months, from January 2014 through June 2015.

As moderator, the Rev. Dr. John Bell continues to effectively lead the Session. His efforts are appreciated and respected by all the Session members (Ruling Elders and Teaching Elders). In 2014, we were blessed to welcome our two new Teaching Elders, the Rev. Katie Robb Davis and the Rev. Kira Stringer, to our group. The two of them quickly became invaluable members of the Session, helping to guide us in our spiritual mission. The ongoing support of Church Educator Dr. Holly Inglis and Director of Operations Chuck Sparks has also been essential. As this 18-month period draws to a close, we say goodbye with love and prayers to Dr. Inglis and look forward to what the future will bring in Christian Education at WPC.

In 2014 and the first half of 2015, the Session continued its work striving to meet the goals of our Strategic Plan while working to update that plan and the overall Wellshire Strategic Goals. Perhaps the simplest and most visible outcome of those efforts is the revised vision statement, "... to seek, embrace, and nurture disciples within a community of hope that plays together, sings of God's glory, and celebrates Jesus Christ through service." Through all that we do as a Session, we seek to live into that revised mission statement.

One of the more notable things the Session worked on during the first half of 2015 was same-sex marriage. This process began in January with a book that all the Session members read entitled *The Bible's Yes to Same-Sex Marriage: An Evangelical's Change of Heart* by the Rev. Dr. Mark Achtemeier. The author is a PCUSA pastor, writer, and theologian who spent fifteen years on the faculty of Dubuque Theological Seminary. Using this book and additional Biblical guidance from Dr. Bell, the Session spent multiple months, as noted in John's letter to the congregation in late April, studying, discussing, and praying about the issue before voting unanimously to allow and support same-sex weddings at Wellshire. We yearn to continue education and discussion about this with the congregation, including offering a study class this fall using the Achtemeier book. Please make an effort to be involved in this unique opportunity in the life of Wellshire.

As clerk, one of my duties is to prepare a statistical report for the General Assembly each year. I will summarize the results of the most recent report here. Note that these reports are on a calendar year basis, so this information is for calendar year 2014 and totals are as of December 31, 2014. Our official number of members stood at 1,740 as of that date, with total membership gains (new members) just one more than total losses (deaths, move-aways, etc.) for the year. When baptized children of members are also included, the number was very close to 2000 (1988 to be precise).





There were 22 baptisms at WPC in 2014, and seven baptized young adults became members through the confirmation process. Our Christian Education programs continue to thrive with nearly 50 preschool-aged children and participation by over 300 adults either as volunteers with children and youth or as participants in adult education (or both!). For those who are interested to dive deeper into these numbers, details are available on the denomination's website ([www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org)). On a personal note, I wish to acknowledge the excellent support I receive as clerk from the entire church staff, but most especially from Director of Congregational Life Beth Hamstra, who works tirelessly to support my record-keeping functions.

We say thank you to the Ruling Elders whose time on the Session came to a close at the end of 2014: Carolyn Cremer, Julia Kalan, Dave Martinez, Tom Reif, and Jim Wiltshire each served with "energy, intelligence, imagination, and love," and we have been blessed to be Session members with them.

I continue to be privileged to serve as your Clerk of Session and I'm reminded frequently that God continues to bless Wellshire Presbyterian Church.

FAITHFULLY SUBMITTED,

**Paul Day-Lucore**  
Clerk of Session



# Global Service Ministries

## The Purpose of Global Service Ministries:

We will encourage development of relationships between Wellshire Presbyterian Church, our partners, and our PCUSA mission co-workers and develop knowledge of the global mission of the church. We will encourage and support mission outreach beyond our presbytery's borders through prayer, education, storytelling, service opportunities, fundraising and/or direct funding. We pray to be God's hands, to show God's love. *(revised August 2015)*

## Global Mission Activities 2014-2015:

**Lomagundi Health Mission Partnership** – Supports the medical clinic at Lomagundi Presbyterian Church in Chinhoyi, Zimbabwe.

- A swing dance fundraiser was held in October 2014, raising \$900.
- \$2,000 direct funding came from the operating budget.
- \$2,436 came from One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering and other donations.

**Zimbabwe Mission Partnership** — Supports the Heather Chimhoga Orphan Care Center with meals, healthcare, school fees, and social and spiritual counseling in the Murewa District.

- Elephant Rock Bicycle Festival – 20 riders from Wellshire participated and raised over \$10,000 for the ZMP!
- \$2,000 direct funding from the operating budget.

**Russian Ministries** - Wellshire has a long-term "twinning" relationship with Golgotha Baptist Church in Moscow aimed at developing mutual understanding and ministry support. During 2014-2015, the following events and communications occurred:

- Frequent Skype conversations with Golgotha
- \$2,000 direct funding for PCUSA coworkers in Russia, Ellen and Al Smith.
- Ellen Smith, mission coworker in Russia, visited Wellshire.
- Amy and John Ruby attended the PCUSA Russian Mission Network conference.

**Zambia** — Well-trained pastors who can faithfully proclaim the Scriptures are a growing need in Southern Africa. We support PCUSA mission coworkers Dustin and Sherri Ellington who work with students at Justo Mwale Seminary. In 2014-2015, this ministry included:

- \$2,000 direct funding.
- Email exchanges between Wellshire members and seminary students.
- Dustin Ellington visited Wellshire in summer 2014.
- Greek New Testaments were purchased for students.



**Haiti Partners** — Haiti Partners helps Haitians change Haiti through education. Haiti Partners work with schools, churches, and organizations to transform communities.

- \$2,000 direct funding from the operating budget.
- John Simonton serves on Haiti Partners' Board.

**Building Bridges** — Building Bridges serves diverse teens and young adults globally and locally through participation in cross-community training. Its flagship program brings together young women ages 14-18 from America, Israel, and Palestine. Building Bridges provides similar programs in metro area high schools. This year, Wellshire's involvement included:

- Past participants shared about their experience during a Minute for Mission in Fall 2014.
- \$1,410 from Peace and Global Witness Special Offering and \$1,000 direct funding.
- Members baked treats for students at the metro area gathering at Balarat.
- Members attended the Building Bridges fundraiser, Circles of Change.

**Wellshire Microfinance** — By the end of July 2015, the Wellshire Microfinance members had invested in 1,598 loans worth \$41,975 (since 2013) through [www.kiva.org](http://www.kiva.org). Through this program, people all over the world are able to start or improve businesses and provide for their families. Funds include an initial contribution from Global Mission, from individuals, and revolving loan paybacks that are reinvested on a regular basis. Learn more at the Wellshire Microfinance blog at [www.wellshirekiva.blogspot.com](http://www.wellshirekiva.blogspot.com).

**The Fair Shake Shoppe** — The Fair Shake Shoppe sells food and goods produced by poor people and charitable institutions. In 2015, \$800 in profits were distributed to The National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon in their efforts to provide education for Syrian refugee children and to support literacy training of women in poor rural Presbyteries in Guatemala. The other major endeavor of the Fair Shake Shoppe was the **Alternative Christmas Market**. In the 2014 year, the Market took in over \$8,000.

**New Initiative: Ending Violence Against Women and Children**— In May 2015, a new initiative to explore ways of joining the PCUSA's initiative on reconciliation and ending violence against women and children was formed. Eight WPC members have begun studying the topic and concrete actions that we could take.



### **Goal Setting:**

Members of the ministry team worked in 2015 to develop goals related to evaluation of ministry activities, creating mission trip opportunities, and providing ways for more Wellshire members to learn about and actively pray for our mission partners. Look for ways that YOU can get involved in 2015 and 2016!

### **Members:**

Mary Burbridge; Rev. Katie Robb Davis; Ron Hileman; Julia Kalan; Dora Lodwick, John and Amy Ruby; George Scheuernstuhl; Martha Turner; Terri Kipple Shaffer; John Simonton, moderator.

**The Rev. Katie Robb Davis**  
Associate Pastor of Mission and Congregational Care



## ANNUAL REPORT

# Local Service Ministries

*(Serving several, not just one!)*

In keeping with Wellshire Local Service Ministries Mission Statement, our members served those in need and, in turn, deepened and expanded our spiritual growth. This past fiscal year, we were most fortunate to receive \$15,000 from the operating budget, as well as additional monies from the Alternative Christmas Market, the Swing Dance, and the Endowment Fund.

To that end, we issued the following amounts to our Partner Agencies to provide requested services and supplies:

- **Baby Haven:** \$2,273
- **Family HomeStead:** 3,123
- **Metro Caring:** 3,585
- **Schmitt Elementary:** 1,240
- **Urban Peak:** 1,714

We also contributed to the Presbytery and to the needs of our Support Agencies:

- **Presbytery:** \$6,875
- **Central Visitation:** 245
- **Denver Inner City Parish:** 150
- **The Gathering Place:** 218
- **Habitat for Humanity/Carpenter’s Helpers:** 2,500
- **Hands Up for the Children:** 1,000
- **Hunger Task Force:** 250
- **New Genesis:** 250
- **Pastor/Deacon’s Fund:** 449

Reverse offerings netted more than 1,400 lbs. of food for Metro Caring, art supplies worth over \$500 for Urban Peak, and a bountiful collection of school supplies for Schmitt Elementary.



Local Mission also decided to track volunteer hours spent on Wellshire and non-Wellshire related activities, which totaled 1,200 hours for Wellshire and 800 for non-Wellshire – WOW! These were hours well spent, which included much needed help from other members of the congregation as well:

- 850 hours tutoring at **Schmitt Elementary**
- 50 hours cleaning and painting an apartment for **Family HomeStead**
- 60-75 hours purchasing, preparing, and serving one dinner per month at **Urban Peak**
- 200 hours stocking food and helping clients shop at **Metro Caring**
- 150 hours building homes for **Habitat for Humanity**

Looking toward 2015/2016:

We will determine how to distribute the \$17,500 that we were given from the Operating Budget at our September meeting; we are tentatively planning to fund a large project at one of our partner agencies.

If you are interested in joining our ministry or learning more about Local Service Ministries, please contact Dinah Gow by phone at 303-668-1991 or by email at [dgow1109@comcast.net](mailto:dgow1109@comcast.net).

THANK YOU,  
Dinah Gow



## ANNUAL REPORT

# Music Ministries

The Wellshire Department of Music Ministries consisted of a number of ensembles and activities that helped make 2014-2015 another successful year of music leadership in worship.

**CHILDREN** — In the fall of 2014, ReSound Kids and ReSound Youth rehearsed between worship services, focusing more on an educational than “performance” experience. They did sing periodically in worship with Juli Dowell as their director. Susan Lewkow provided piano accompaniment for them in worship.

**CELEBRATION RINGERS** — Sue Hahn directed Celebration Ringers, playing in both Living Water and Traditional Worship. Throughout the year, the group rehearsed on Thursday evenings in the Ensemble Room. In April, Celebration Ringers participated in an area handbell festival featuring over 180 ringers from around Colorado.

**CONFLUENCE** — In the fall of 2014, Donna Wickham took charge of Confluence and Living Water worship, rehearsing on Wednesday evening at 7:00 pm. They were led vocally by Juli Dowell, Martha Cearley, Bruce Kirkpatrick, and David Farwig. Highlights included a Jazz Christmas service and two Lenten Taizé services. On July 18, the Confluence rhythm section provided cocktail jazz for the wedding reception of Betsy and Ed Soto.

**CELEBRATION SINGERS** — Celebration Singers rehearsed Wednesdays from 6:00-6:50 pm directed by Tegan Palmer and accompanied by Jane Ripper. The group sang regularly during the year for Living Water. Celebration Singers combined with Confluence to present *A Jazz Christmas* on the December 21. In addition, the women of Celebration Singers joined Confluence for *An Acoustic Christmas* on Christmas Eve.

**SANCTUARY CHOIR** — Under the direction of Dr. Michael Pohlenz, the Sanctuary Choir rehearsed on Wednesday evenings and sang in Traditional Worship September through July. Highlights included Malcom Archer’s **Requiem** with organ accompaniment on All Saints’ Sunday; *A Festival of Carols* with organ accompaniment on December 7; Gerald Finzi’s *In Terra Pax* plus carols with orchestra during the *Candlelight Carol Ceremony* on Christmas Eve; a variety of music appropriate for *Tenebrae* on Good Friday evening; and two services on Easter Sunday with music by Beethoven, Brahms, and Handel, accompanied by orchestra. Throughout the year, Jane Ripper accompanied the Sanctuary Choir, vocal and instrumental soloists, small ensembles, and orchestra on organ, piano, and harpsichord. Michael coordinated programming at Wellshire for the Baroque Chamber Orchestra of Colorado, Canto Deo, and the Colorado Chorale to enhance Wellshire’s visibility within the greater Denver community. These choirs periodically sang in Traditional Worship during the church year.



The staff, volunteers, and families of ReSound Kids, ReSound Youth, Celebration Ringers, Confluence, Celebration Singers, and the Sanctuary Choir routinely invest an extraordinary amount of time and talent to provide musical leadership in the worship life of Wellshire Presbyterian Church. Some of the future energy and growth of our church will stem from the successful musical activities of these organizations. The faithful support of the Music Department by all church members will ultimately benefit everyone as we grow a church in the Denver community worthy of the high calling of Christ.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

**Dr. Michael Pohlenz**  
Director of Music Ministries



## ANNUAL REPORT

# Youth Ministries

The Youth Program at Wellshire had a full year. Supported by amazing youth sponsors and passionate parents, the Rev. Kira Stringer's first year was a busy and exciting one. Our weekly programming changed to offer a time set aside for the middle school youth and high school youth to meet separately. The meetings were connected by the parents providing dinner for the all the youth to come together around the table each week. The year included Sunday night youth group, games, raising funds for our New Orleans Mission Trip, confirmation, and Youth Sunday. In Fall 2014, we added a middle school overnight retreat where the middle school youth came together for a night of games and spiritual renewal. We plan on making this an annual event for our middle schoolers.

26 high school youth and six sponsors traveled to New Orleans, Louisiana to serve with Camp RHINO from June 7 through 13, 2015. RHINO (an acronym for Rebuilding Hope In New Orleans) is a ministry of St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church and was created in September 2005 to provide relief to those impacted by Hurricane Katrina; it serves as a local, direct link to address the needs of congregants and the greater community using a systematic approach in combination with established humanitarian agencies. Camp RHINO is a subset of this program, offering a week of "intense urban mission, exposing the needs of New Orleans while being a part of rebuilding it" to youth. Capitalizing on existing channels, Camp RHINO houses volunteers in the nearby Tulane University dorms and partners largely with Habitat for Humanity to address rebuilding needs in the city. To date, over 6,000 volunteers have contributed to the construction of more than 30 homes. On this tenth anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, the Wellshire Church youth added their efforts and talents to this program. They helped rebuild five different homes that week and worshiped each night with RHINO. All this was made possible through fundraising, the support of Wellshire members, and a grant through the AJL Charitable Foundation. It was a transformative week.

The Confirmation Program was reshaped and restructured. In 2014-2015, six ninth graders and one tenth grader went through the confirmation program and were all confirmed in April 2015. They were each paired with a mentor (an adult member from Wellshire) to help them learn about the church and explore their faith. From October to May, they met once a month during Sunday School with lessons taught by the Rev. Kira Stringer. They had guest speakers including a panel discussion with the Wellshire clergy. Each confirmand student had to complete multiple requirements to be confirmed in April. Examples of the requirements include: ten service hours completed through Wellshire's existing mission programs, attending churches outside the PC(USA) and writing up their experiences, writing and presenting their own Statement of Faith to the Wellshire Session, and much more. The confirmands, with help from their families and mentors, worked hard. It was a fruitful and active program.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

**The Rev. Kira Stringer**

Associate Pastor of Youth and Young Adults





## ANNUAL REPORT

# Young Adult Ministries

### NEXT

The Rev. Kira Stringer gave Wellshire's former young adult ministry group YAX a makeover, renaming it NEXT and restructuring it with new meeting times and programming. NEXT Young Adult Ministry is a group for those in their 20s or early 30s in transition with school, entering the workforce, and everything in between. For a new ministry, NEXT had an eventful and successful first year. The group met for Theology on Tap on the first Tuesday of each month at local pubs and restaurants around the Denver area for fun, safe, and real conversations on faith and life over food and drink. Attendance varied greatly each month, ranging from 7-27 young adults with an average attendance of 10. NEXT also had two Bible study series during the year called "Gathering at the Table." The group members met for a meal and lesson once a month for the four-week curriculum series "The Ethics of the Ten Commandments" and "At the Park Eco-Theology." In addition to their monthly programs, they met for fun events including a BBQ, Halloween Party, and Christmas Party. Along with the CORE ladies, the ladies of NEXT had their first annual GALentine's Day Brunch in February with a brunch at Wellshire celebrating being women created and loved by God. It was an exciting year for a rejuvenated ministry and its new programming.

### CORE

CORE continued to have another great year as a fellowship and service group for those in their 30s and beyond. The group's annual Friendsgiving was a huge hit with a house filled with a lot of laughs and food. The members also continued to meet for events around Denver almost each month. Events included the Chatfield Corn maze, BBQ, Christmas Shenanigans, a Rockies game, Whist Night, and much more.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

**The Rev. Kira Stringer**

Associate Pastor of Youth and Young Adults





## ANNUAL REPORT

# Congregational Care

The Wellshire Care Center continues to provide regular contact through phone calls, cards, and worship CDs with those in our congregation who may have experienced significant life events throughout the year.

The **Wellshire Care Center**:

- Provided more than 750 hours of care to members at Wellshire
- Mailed more than 450 cards with handwritten notes to various members of the congregation during significant moments of their lives
- Mailed more than 1,125 bulletins and 1,050 worship CDs to our homebound members

The **Board of Deacons** continues their support of the congregation by:

- Serving homebound communion
- Provided meaningful contact as part of the Deacon Care Friends program
- Delivered flowers to many of our homebound members during the late summer
- Provided meals to families with new babies and those experiencing other adjustments

The **Stephen Ministers** continue to provide spiritual care for many members of Wellshire Church who find the need for companions throughout the year.

The **Pastoral Staff** has provided many hours of visitation and counsel throughout the year. We have spent time in hospitals, hospices, and rehabilitation centers visiting the dying and the ill. We also

- Performed 29 baptisms for both children and adults, with each infant and young child receiving a baptismal quilt crafted by the Wellshire Sewing Fellowship
- Performed 25 memorial services, as well as provided care for the grieving

The **Wellshire Knitters** knitted, blessed, and gave 21 prayer shawls to those who might benefit from a warm hug to wrap themselves in.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

**Beth Hamstra**  
Director of Congregational Life





## ANNUAL REPORT

# The Generosity Workgroup

*Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, which richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.*

1 Timothy 6:17-18

Our annual generosity campaign was highlighted this year by “The Currency of Generosity” – a theme which described a number of areas and missions in the church where generosity was exhibited. Our goal was to encourage everyone to make a financial commitment to the mission and ministry of Wellshire Presbyterian Church.

We were blessed to receive 326 pledges for 2015 totaling \$1,226,000 – the highest pledge amount in the last decade at Wellshire. Of that, 140 pledged what they gave in 2014, 30 decreased their pledge, 120 increased their pledge, and we received 36 new pledges. Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity.

A huge thanks to our workgroup which consists of Beryla Wolf, Holly Inglis, Martha Cearley, Carl Franz, Bob Stubbs, Glen MacCallum, and Chuck Sparks.

**Chuck Sparks**  
Director of Operations



ANNUAL REPORT

# 2014 Necrology Report

Mary Ellen Dumm	January 3, 2014
Mary Ann Leo Kishiyama	January 18, 2014
Helen Beatrice Wenger	January 25, 2014
Virginia Smith Considine	February 9, 2014
Maxine Alma Lebo	February 25, 2014
Eileen Binkley Hill	April 30, 2014
Dorothy Brunsdon	May 2, 2014
Derryl Donald Stagg	May 8, 2014
Carol Lee Moore	May 10, 2014
Lucille McCorkle	May 12, 2014
Bobby Christopher Crowson	June 13, 2014
Joan "Jannie" Hazen Chisholm Morrison	July 14, 2014
Jovan Dawson	July 17, 2014
Betty Lou Shedd	August 7, 2014
Robert Edward Moser	August 9, 2014
Berniece May Fountain	August 14, 2014
Thomas Robert Overton	August 22, 2014
Martha Jane Wren	September 20, 2014
Elizabeth Brooks Thal	November 2, 2014
Shannel Becker Lorance	November 13, 2014
Judith Ellen O'Dowd	December 8, 2014
Marilyn Cooper Metz	December 21, 2014
Vernon Fey	December 26, 2014



ANNUAL REPORT

# 2015 Necrology Report

Wilma Wheeler	January 3, 2015
Nancy Morrison	January 10, 2015
Richard LeRoy Hahn	January 25, 2015
Clara Jean Whitman	March 14, 2015
Margaret Barringer Frank	March 16, 2015
Kathryn Dennison Petterson	May 2, 2015
Orville Kenneth Roe, II	May 11, 2015
Alys Irene McMunn	May 28, 2015
Anita Natalie Austin Watson	June 3, 2015
David Lavan Tayman	June 4, 2015
Lorna Grace Houtchens	June 13, 2015



## ANNUAL REPORT

# The Hunger Task Force

Over the past year, Wellshire's Hunger Task Force (HTF) continued its efforts to provide food and "Brighter Days" to thousands of people in the Denver metro area. We purchased, organized, and delivered food to 111 families (500 people) with Wellshire's annual Christmas Basket program. In addition, all throughout the year, we purchased food and funded hunger-related programs for a diverse set of agencies in Denver.

All of this was made possible through the generosity of the Wellshire members, who enable this ministry by contributing funds into the "Brighter Days" envelopes found in the pews. In total, the HTF was able to transform over \$14,000 into food to combat hunger in our community.

### Who does the Hunger Task Force Help?

Along with the Christmas Basket Program, the Hunger Task Force continued its support of three agencies in the city of Denver. These agencies serve different populations but are aligned in the fight against hunger:

- **New Genesis** – the only Denver area homeless program for working people. Each year, New Genesis helps 600 people get off the streets and back to a fully productive lifestyle. If you live there, you are required to hold a full-time job and be substance free. In the past 12 months, the HTF continued to support their mission by providing \$2,400 for the purchase of food, in addition to serving meals to the men who live there.
- **The Gathering Place** – Denver's only daytime drop-in center for women and children who are experiencing homelessness and poverty, the Gathering Place serves over 60,000 meals annually. Each week between July 2014 and June 2015, the HTF purchased food from the Food Bank of the Rockies and delivered it to the Gathering Place, funding approximately \$600 worth of "brighter days" over the course of the year.
- **Schmitt Elementary** – this local elementary school, with the help of the "Hands Up for Children" organization, offers a backpack program that enables children to bring healthy food home on the weekends so they can meet their nutritional needs. Our relationship with this organization has increased in support of the partnership between Wellshire and Schmitt. Since last July, the HTF provided \$2,050 to support the organization's efforts to provide nutritional food on weekends to those children who need it most.

### What about the Christmas Basket Program?

Every year at Christmas, the Wellshire congregation joins together to provide boxes of food to families throughout the Denver Metro area who are in need of some assistance. On December 13 and 14, 2014, we stocked the shelves of Wellshire's "store" with over 8,500 items of food. Wellshire members then went shopping for 111 families (a total of 500 people), before delivering Christmas boxes to these appreciative families. Thank you for helping us make 500 Christmases a little brighter.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

**Andy Zurcher**  
Hunger Task Force





## ANNUAL REPORT

# Stephen Ministry

### Stephen Ministers

- continue to provide confidential Christian care and support to both our church members and non-members who have found us on the Wellshire website. God uses technology!
- meet twice monthly for supervision and continuing education.
- maintain the Care Notes found in the Narthex and Chapel entrance.
- send a series of four "Journeying Through Grief" booklets to family members after the death of a loved one.
- dress up in orange or green vests on the first Sunday of each month and offer assistance in the parking lots.
- hosted the annual "Longest Night" candlelight service and soup supper in December for those grieving the loss of a loved one.
- welcomed new members Dick and Judy Sawdey to our ministry.

We are here for you. If you are experiencing a difficult situation, we offer one-on-one confidential, caring support. It doesn't have to be a crisis. You can contact a Stephen Minister by calling our confidential voicemail at 303 758-2233, ext. 251. Our confidential email is [stephenministry@wpcdenver.org](mailto:stephenministry@wpcdenver.org).

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

**Pat Van Bramer**  
Stephen Ministry Leader



## ANNUAL REPORT

# The Kendall Memorial Library

The Kendall Memorial Library Committee has continued to maintain and update the collection while making the congregation aware of available materials through book displays, notices, the weekly eNews, and librarian presentations.

New books have been purchased, catalogued, and prepared for circulation. A special effort has been made to remove books no longer needed. This has made room for new books, adjusted the shelving, and eliminated some of the tight spaces. The database for the computerized catalog is updated as books are added or removed.

A Bible Buddies Summer Reading Program encouraged children and youth to use the library. Each person was required to read five books from the library, provide a log of books read and write brief reports on two of the books. Nine participants completed the requirements in August 2014. Each family was included in a drawing for a family prize. Recently a record number of children have signed up for the program.

The committee continues to sponsor a Book Club where participants review and discuss selected books.

Used Book Sales were conducted in February and June with proceeds going toward library needs. Generous support is appreciated! In February, the library received special recognition from the congregation.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

**Carol Britt**  
Library Committee



## ANNUAL REPORT

# The Community Life Committee

The mission of Community Life is to develop and help implement activities throughout the year where people can experience the love of Christ as well as relationships with others. Recreation Ministry is included under the umbrella of Community Life; its purpose is to build community through play.

An effort was made to expand and involve members and the community through small- and large-group fellowship.

### Spring:

- Denver Brass Concert

### Summer:

- Elephant Rock Ride (Recreation Ministry)
- Bike to Church Day (Recreation Ministry)
- Ice Cream Social
- Holy Smokes Pig Roast
- Race 4 Research (Recreation Ministry)
- Jubilee Weekend: Day of Service, Day of Scenery and Day of Song: Day of Scenery Hike (Recreation Ministry)

### Fall:

- Blessing of the Animals

### Winter:

- Living Nativity

In addition, Community Life has assisted with planning and cooking for all 6th Day luncheons.

Special thanks to Family Ties Fellowship Group for decorating the Sanctuary and Chapel for Christmas and to the Quinty Family for decorating the Christmas Tree.

Members of the committee are Susan Baak, Margaret Ellsworth, Sharon Newman, Jean Simonton, Carol Strickland, Stacey Walker, Sondra Plachy, Jean Hein (elder), and Beth Hamstra (staff).

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

**Beth Hamstra**  
Staff Liaison





## ANNUAL REPORT

# Endowment

A Session-approved distribution of \$24,720 was made from the Endowment Funds to committees and the operating budget. These proceeds from the Endowment Funds (5% of the average market value of the funds averaged over the prior 12 quarters) are gifts that provide a reliable income stream to Wellshire. These distributions were made as follows:

Session for various ministries	\$16,500
Memorial Garden	\$2,300
Mission	\$4,600
Scholarships	\$1,200
<u>Ammons Preaching</u>	<u>\$120</u>
Total	\$24,720

The Endowment Funds ended the year with a balance of \$555,294.

Wellshire's Endowment Fund is a collection of funds that are maintained and invested for the benefit of the church. Through the Endowment Fund, we honor Christ by providing sustainable financial resources and providing an opportunity to enrich our own individual faith by helping to strengthen and support Wellshire's ministries well beyond our physical lifetime.

The Wellshire Endowment is managed by the Endowment Management Workgroup and the Finance Committee. The Endowment Management workgroup members are Steve McDonald, John Winslow, and Michael Pasquariello. Please contact any of them with questions.

MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS WELLSHIRE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

**Chuck Sparks**

Director of Operations





## ANNUAL REPORT

# Memorial Gifts

Wellshire Presbyterian Church was kindly and generously remembered by many who gave memorial gifts to honor and remember their family members and friends. **Over \$24,000 was given in support of music, youth, and the Joseph Hadley Theological Education Fund.** Thank you to all of you and your friends for their generosity. Memorial Gifts were received in memory of the following dear Wellshire members:

- Don Fink
- Berniece Fountain
- Margaret Frank
- Kermit and Elizabeth Gallagher
- Rick Hahn
- Norma Johnson
- Kay Long
- Lucy McCorkle
- Alys McMunn
- Nancy Morrison
- Tom Overton
- Betty Peterson
- Connie Petterson
- Doris Robinson
- Gerri Satterfield
- John Shada
- Betty Lou Shedd
- Dorothy and John Talbott
- Betty Thal

MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS WELLSHIRE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

**Chuck Sparks**

Director of Operations



## ANNUAL REPORT

# Legacy Gifts and Bequests

Throughout scripture, God's purpose is one of "faithfulness to all generations" (Psalm 100). This, in turn, is our purpose as well – to let our love endure forever and be faithful to all generations.

Wellshire Presbyterian Church's legacy gifts from members – through wills, trusts, or other estate gifts – ensure the continued vitality and development of Wellshire Church from one generation to the next.

*Over the last 18 months, Wellshire has received \$155,000 in bequests from the following:*

- Joanne Carr
- Virginia Considine
- Anna and Vernon Fey
- Clifford Greene
- Dottie and John Talbott
- Elizabeth and Donald Granicher

At the August 2015 Session meeting, Wellshire's Session voted to move these faithful bequests to the Wellshire Endowment so that they may serve generations to come.

Please prayerfully consider including Wellshire in your will or estate plan and let the church know by contacting Chuck Sparks at [csparks@wpcdenver.org](mailto:csparks@wpcdenver.org) or 303-758-2233, ext. 212.

MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS WELLSHIRE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

**Chuck Sparks**

Director of Operations





ANNUAL REPORT

2884 S. Harrison St.

A resolution authorizing the sale of the property located at 2884 S. Harrison Street,  
Denver, CO

Be it resolved that the Session, Finance Committee, and staff of Wellshire Presbyterian Church be authorized to list for sale, sell, and close the sale of the property commonly known as 2884 S. Harrison St., Denver, CO 80222 for such amount and upon such terms as they deem appropriate. The sale proceeds must be payable in cash or its equivalent. The church may pay such amounts as are necessary and customary in Denver to effect the sale, including but not limited to a real estate commission and other costs and expenses of sale as are necessary to complete the transaction. This resolution shall be effective for a period of one year from the date of its passage.

MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS WELLSHIRE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

**Paul Day-Lucore**  
Clerk of Session



ANNUAL REPORT

# Actual Financial Statements

## Wellshire Presbyterian Church

	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
	Actual	Actual	Budget
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
<b>CONTRIBUTIONS</b>			
General Fund Pledges	1,227,038	1,212,924	1,225,000
General Fund Contributions	183,416	145,593	155,600
Endowment Distributions	16,541	16,500	16,500
Loose Offering	14,726	11,737	12,000
Per Capita Contributions	8,688	9,006	9,000
Designated Funds	95,995	74,500	98,100
<b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	<b>1,546,404</b>	<b>1,470,260</b>	<b>1,516,200</b>
<b>OTHER RECEIPTS</b>			
Building Use Income	58,130	69,940	65,000
Miscellaneous Income	6,945	7,246	7,500
Rental Income	20,791	25,103	23,000
<b>TOTAL OTHER RECEIPTS</b>	<b>85,866</b>	<b>102,289</b>	<b>95,500</b>
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>1,632,270</b>	<b>1,572,549</b>	<b>1,611,700</b>
<b>EXPENSES (see Note below)</b>			
Nurture & Care	167,048	154,238	136,580
Community Life	60,993	62,700	61,657
Mission	126,065	138,793	154,590
Evangelism	5,737	1,651	5,000
Denominational Expense	51,808	47,840	45,000
Worship & Arts	406,738	418,341	427,767
Youth & Young Adults	101,234	105,656	103,000
Office Operations	312,935	291,054	293,495
Property Management	272,030	297,522	305,011
Debt Service	80,261	79,236	79,600
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,584,849</b>	<b>1,597,031</b>	<b>1,611,700</b>
<b>NET RECEIPTS OVER(UNDER) EXPENDITURES</b>	<b><u>47,421</u></b>	<b><u>-24,482</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>

**Note:** Personnel costs of \$1,021,434, \$1,048,381, and \$1,048,000 have been allocated to each Mission or Ministry for Actual 2014 and 2015 and Budget 2016, respectively.

MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS WELLSHIRE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,  
 Chuck Sparks, Director of Operations