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ANNUAL REPORT 2019

The mission of historic First Church is to bring diverse people of metropolitan Buffalo together to follow Jesus Christ through worshiping God, fostering spiritual growth and serving the community.

First Presbyterian Church Financial Report

INCOME	<u>2019 Budget</u>	<u>2019 Actual</u>	<u>2020 Budget</u>
Total Pledged Receipts	138,608	132,157	154,865
Total Plate Receipts	18,000	11,356	12,000
Total Rental Revenue	120,000	119,639	120,000
Total Fund Transfers	27,600	18,889	27,300
Dividend checks	70,000	67,490	70,000
Total Other Income	<u>2,700</u>	<u>7,174</u>	<u>3,200</u>
TOTAL INCOME	376,908	356,705	387,365

EXPENSES			
Personnel	352,734	321,877	398,428
Administration	76,966	74,177	52,200
Land & Buildings	163,333	182,345	145,524
Mission	20,927	17,560	20,927
Program	9,200	3,819	8,500
Membership	<u>17,410</u>	<u>9,529</u>	<u>18,110</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	640,570	609,307	643,689

Budget Deficit	-263,662	-253,000	-255,924
Deficit support	<u>115,000</u>	<u>281,863</u>	<u>255,924</u>
Balance to budget	-148,662	28,863	0

FUNDS	<u>01.01.2019</u>	<u>income</u>	<u>expense</u>	<u>12.31.2019</u>
Lyon Food Fund	4,215	8,248	7,814	4,649
Camp Tea Fund	3,325	0	0	3,325
Haskin Music Fund	2,473	2,312	950	3,835
Smiley Mission Fund	1,469	2,845	0	4,314
Memorial Fund	4,576	0	105	4,471
Youth Fund	1,546	0	0	1,546
Neuschel Flower	1,593	0	0	1,593
Wadsworth Flower	170	0	64	106
Olmsted Organ	29,868	6,264	11,024	25,108

INVESTMENTS	<u>01.01.2019</u>	<u>12.31.2019</u>
	2,559,962	2,644,860

The church received a substantial bequest in 2019. Instead of investing it in stocks or bonds, it was kept in two money market accounts for liquidity. This cash was used to support the 2019 operating budget and the initial payments for the tower restoration. Because of the bequest, it was not necessary to invade principal or sell bonds to support the budget in 2019.

Board of Deacons

The Board of the Deacons has been very active in serving our congregation in our Ministries of Compassion and Hospitality. We continue to identify and connect with members whose active participation may be limited due to disability or health issues through phone calls, visitation, or care cards. We serve to greet everyone who enters our church on Sunday mornings, as well as other events, to extend a warm hand of friendship and welcome. Our hosting of breakfasts and luncheons to build and strengthen friendship and community for members, non-members, and visitors has been well-received, and enabled us to enhance our relationship with one another as we strive to be a caring and compassionate faith community serving our God and community.

Our mission is one of service, and we are grateful for the work of all members of the Board of Deacons.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Field
Lou Ann Luther-Riegle
Co-moderators

Membership Committee

- Front Page News Event--Building the Buzz About Buffalo with Brian Hayden of Visit Buffalo Niagara
- Mourned the Loss of our Department Chair, Jose Gomez in June
- Host for Sacred Sites Open House Weekend with New York State Landmarks Conservancy
- Participated in Porch Fest and National Night Out
- Escalate Peace Week-- We hosted International Peace Maker Thang Van Lean, networking with other Presbyterian churches.
- Co-hosted with Church Life Oktoberfest at the Kamke's farm in Angelica
- Welcomed into our congregation 6 new members, and two children.

Building repairs completed or started in 2019

- Replaced electronic switching system in the Noehren Organ
- Installed panic hardware on all exterior doors
- Repaired exterior lighting
- Repaired Sanctuary lanterns
- Repaired sewer line on Wadsworth
- Repaired water line on Pennsylvania
- Painted & renovated additional office space
- Tower restoration – Phase 1 is 90% complete
- Installed new dispensers in all restrooms
- Started repainting CE rooms
- Started renovation of the 2nd floor kitchenette

Worship and Music Committee

- Purchase of beautiful new banners to decorate the sanctuary in Common times and for special seasons
- Recognized Epiphany as a special day to celebrate each year
- Offered new service formats for Palm Sunday, Pentecost and the Sunday before Christmas

Church Life

Church life plans and carries out the social activities within the church. We have been very busy this year and have made a lot of memories!

Some of the events the church enjoyed were bowling at Voelker's, theatre parties, a Souperbowl fundraiser for the food pantry, a WNY Presbytery dinner, a wedding shower for two of our members, an autumn picnic at the Kamke's farm in Angelica, various BBQs, a winter clothing drive in conjunction with CMO and the deacons which benefitted 5 charitable groups, and the annual Dickens' A Christmas Carol Reading.

Our after worship coffee hours are planned and carried out by church life and we would like to thank all who donate, bake and shop as well as Rama for his setup and cleanup. We also appreciate all that Christina does to promote our activities!

Thanks also to the hardworking members of our committee - Ellen Henry, Pam Hughes, Elizabeth Kamke, Karen Lewis and Jean Hess.

Coming attractions? We have two music series in the works beginning in February - Jazz on The Circle and a 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Noehren Organ!

Watch for details in the newsletter, bulletin and our social media sites. Church life welcomes new members and new ideas - come join the fun!

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Hess

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry of First Presbyterian Church gathers on Monday evenings at the Eggertsville-Snyder Library on Main Street. There are about 8 active knitters in our group. We meet to knit and crochet shawls which are then blessed and given to those with special concerns. Our group has been meeting for over a decade but we love to welcome new members. JoAnn Doerr or Ellen Henry can give you information if you are interested in joining us.

We continue to give thanks to the Women's Association for their gifts which allow us to purchase yarn and needles.

This year we presented 13 prayer shawls, bringing the total number given to 300.

Ellen S. Henry

CMO Committee

- Hosted an Adult Forum with the Christian Education Committee on the topic of a school in Haiti
- Distributed 20 turkey baskets donated by North Presbyterian Church to members in need and our friends at Holiness Mennonite Church
- Continued operation of the Lyon Food Pantry every Tuesday at 12:30 PM
- Coordinated serving meals at Friends of Night People when there was a fifth Wednesday of the month. Record numbers were noted on two of our dates.
- Financial donations to approximately ten local organizations
- Recommended to Session participation in our denomination's International Peacemaker program, which resulted in "Escalate Peace."

Women's Association

Our annual Theme Basket Raffle on Mother's Day was a success, thanks to the generosity of First Church members. Winners of the baskets were pleased with their good fortune. We also provided the delicious cake that celebrated Mothers.

Although we no longer meet monthly, it is a joy to still provide what we do

In December, we had the 36th annual participatory reading of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol". Those who were able to join us in historical hall had a lot of fun taking different characters' parts.

Our sale of Claxton fruit cakes during the Christmas season is one way we partially replenish the group's funds.

We are hoping to have a fund-raiser early this year.

Did you know that all women members of First Church are also members of the Women's Association? We welcome any of your contributions and suggestions.

As we always do, Women's Association made donations to several charities and to programs of First Church. These are:

Jericho Road Ministries
Ronald McDonald House
Hospice
Haven House
Habitat for Humanity
Planned Parenthood
Harvest House
Friends of the Night People
Boys & Girls Clubs of North Buffalo
Teaching and Restoring Youth
One Symphony Circle
Geri Lyon Food Shelf
Smiley Mission Fund
Haskin Music Fund
Prayer shawl Group
Church employees

Respectfully,
Nancy Barry, Co-Moderator

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OFFICERS

SESSION AND TRUSTEES BY CLASS AND TERM

Class of 2020
Lucas Lloyd (2)
Janet Hill (1) *Clerk*
Henry Porter (2)
Sue Snyder (2)

Class of 2021
John Darby (2)
James Gardner (1)
Jean Hess (1)
Tina Osei (1)

Class of 2022
Mark Armesto (2)
Don Houck (2)
Liz Kamke (2)
Gifty Koramoah (1)

BOARD OF DEACONS BY CLASS AND TERM

Class of 2020
India Asplundh (1)
Barry Farmer (1)
Madeline Mason-Brandon (2)
Suzanne Pilon (1)
Lou Ann Luther Riegle (2)

Class of 2021
Mary Field (2)
Jim McKeel (1)
Sheila Miller (2)
Shannon Rogers (1)

Class of 2022
Russell Carlson (1)
Olga Rico-Armesto(1)
Denis Wettlaufer (2)

OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION

Michael Henry, President
[Vacancy], Vice President
Mark Armesto, Treasurer
Janet Hill, Secretary

FIRST CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Ken Hughes, *Pastor*
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The Reverend John Long, D.D.
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The Reverend Jack Smiley, *Pastor Emeritus*

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