



Congregational Meeting

February 4, 2024

2023 Annual Reports

Moderated by:
Rev. John Lyzenga

NEW BRIDGES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
26236 Adrian Ave.
Hayward, Ca 94545



NEW BRIDGES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
2023 ANNUAL REPORTS

AGENDA

Sunday, February 4, 2024

*Please read reports prior to
Congregational Meeting*

1. Opening Prayer
2. Presentation of the Reports made to the Session for 2023
3. A review of the 2024 Budget
4. Share the Nominating Committee Slate for nominations of Elders, Deacons, and Nominating Committee
5. Take nominations from the floor and vote.
6. Approval of the pastor's salary
7. Adjournment
8. Closing Prayer



**NEW BRIDGES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PASTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT
2023 JANUARY-APRIL**

This is the first half of the Pastor's Report for the Year 2023.

- I continued serving the Church as the Pastor starting June 1, 2022, when I took over from Rev. Dr. Sarah Reyes until April 15, 2023, when I officially handed over to the new Pastor, called by the Pastor Nominating Committee of the Church, Pastor John Lyzenga.
- My activities included Pastoral care, administration, finance, and issues requiring timely response from the congregation while also serving as Moderator of the Session. During this period, I was responsible for coordinating all the activities of the constituted Committees of the Church. With the guidance of God's spirit, I was also able to receive 10 new members into our church family on Easter Sunday.
- During the Congregational Meeting of Sunday, February 19, 2023, there was a congregational vote on the Motion to call Pastor John Lyzenga to serve as solo Pastor to New Bridges Presbyterian Church for a term of three years, with the option to continue the relationship at the end of that term should the Pastor and congregation agrees. He officially took over service of the Church on April 15, 2023.
- I headed the committee put in place by the Church and worked in collaboration with the Presbytery to plan the Ordination of our new Pastor, Rev. John Lyzenga. His ordination was celebrated on Sunday, June 4th, 2023.

Submitted by:

CRE Helen Gwanfogbe



**NEW BRIDGES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PASTOR'S REPORT
2023 APRIL-DECEMBER**

This Pastor's Report pertains to events following my starting date at New Bridges in April of 2023.

New Bridges Family,

I am so grateful for the ways that you all have welcomed me into your community. It has been a joy to get to know each of you and partner with you in the ministry of God's kingdom. As a church, we have done some wonderful things as highlighted by our Elders and Deacons in their reports. Some highlights of my duties as your new pastor have included:

- preaching and planning worship services and series in partnership with our Praise Teams,
- providing pastoral care for congregants, visitors, and friends of the church,
- moderating session; meeting with and supporting committees including Worship, Christian Education, Infrastructure, Finance, Deacons, Nominating, and Justice,
- performing marriage ceremonies,
- project managing the electricity and audio-visual upgrades, the new website, and the new logo, and bulletin design,
- moderating communications between Session and Presbytery,
- restructuring in collaboration with the Session our Committees and Ministries,
- and partnering with Teresa Perez in managing the property and New Bridges' relationship with its tenants,
- and more.

Our sermon series have included The Early Church, Genesis, Exodus, "Why Worship?" Advent and Christmas, and Ecclesiastes. I am excited to continue these lectionary-based series focusing on specific books of the Bible so that we may come to know our mysterious and loving God.

New Bridges has been such a blessing to me. I am amazed at the ways that you are embodying God's work in the world and living out God's love, and I am simply glad to be a part of it.

Blessings,

Rev. John Lyzenga



New Bridges Presbyterian Church, Hayward
Clerk of Session's Annual Report
Year 2023

I. Introduction

The Year 2023 was quite eventful as in-person worship resumed fully after the long period of hybrid worship, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Many more Christians attended in-person worship services and there was more participation in church activities. We had many new members join the Church in regular Sunday Worship. However, we still maintain our online worship services as we have live broadcast of our services both, for those who cannot make it to church in-person and other interested viewers.

The Pastor Nominating Committee finally found a candidate to serve the Church. In February 2023 Pastor John Lyzenga was called to serve as solo Pastor of New Bridges, he took over office on April 15, 2023.

II. Membership and other Ministries

Within the course of the year, membership has increased. We have received many new members and their families in church, although some of them are not yet registered. Friends and visitors of members of the congregation have increased to over 50 people. Average attendance in church on Sundays has gone up to 80 people excluding those online.

Elders - During the Congregational meeting of February 19, 2023, new Elders were voted to replace the outgoing elders. These were Vera Anye, Yvonne Mosi, and Charles Kenji. Therefore, the members of Session for 2023 of New Bridges were: CRE Helen Gwanfogbe, Sean Alfred, Jonas Ekwoge, Yvonne Mosi, Obadiah Kenji, Vera Anye, and Charles Kenji. Within the course of the year Sean Alfred left the Session because he moved from out of State and Jonas Enang-Ekwoge resigned because of family and work exigencies. These two must be replaced in the next Congregational meeting of 2024.

Board of Deacons - New Deacons were voted to replace the outgoing deacons. These were: Arnold Mbah, Justina Awazi, and Godlove Ngone. Therefore, the members of the Board of Deacons of New Bridges for 2023 were: Nelson Mosi, Daniel Gwanfogbe, Odim Ochuru, Arnold Mbah, Godlove Ngone, Justina Awazi, Jeanette Enang, and Akwi Awazi.

Nominating Committee for the Congregation - A new Nominating Committee for 2023 was put in place, it was made up of Elder Jonas Ekwoge, Deacon Nelson Mosi,

and from the congregation as members at large were: Ben Ezekwesili, Leo Wilkinson, and Celine Tsake.

The Congregation also voted on the Motion to call Pastor John Lyzenga to serve at New Bridges Church.

The following were constituted Committees of the Church in 2023 and each Chair of the committees is expected to write an annual report of their activities for the year:

1. **Worship** – Elder Obadiah Kenji as Chair/Moderator
2. **Finance/Personnel** – Elder Charles took over for Sean Alfred as Chair/Moderator.
3. **Christian Education** – Deacon Daniel Gwanfogbe as Chair/Moderator.
4. **Infrastructure/IT** – Deacon Odim Ochuru as Chair/Moderator.
5. **Justice/Outreach** – Elder Jonas Ekwoe as Chair but resigned later in the year.
6. **Deacons** – Deacon Nelson Mosi as Chair/Moderator
7. **Women’s Group** – CRE Helen Gwanfogbe as Moderator.

Each Committee has its terms of reference and is expected to write reports of their monthly meetings and forward them to the Session.

III. **Activities of the Church**

1. Upgrade and renovation of the Sanctuary, and the Fireside Room, Youth and Children Ministries.

There has been a lot of work and activities going on in the Church and its premises since the call of a new Pastor at New Bridges Presbyterian Church, Rev. John Lyzenga. Reviewing and upgrading the existing electrical and audio/visual structure in both the Sanctuary, and other Rooms on Campus in line with modern digital technology to make it more cost effective. The audio/visual upgrade of the sanctuary, a new air conditioning/heating unit for the sanctuary, air conditioning for the Fellowship Hall and a new wall heater for the Fireside Room. Building #5, formerly hired by Montessori but because of the drop in their enrollment they decided they had no use for the building. It has been updated and renovated specifically for the Youth and Children Ministries of the Church. The Fireside Room will then be a free space for other meetings and for outside discussions away from the Sanctuary. There is a plan to upgrade the electricity on campus to have the capacity to carry all the changes made in the Sanctuary and the other rooms on Campus. Quotes have been approved by the Session for the upgrades and renovation works. The Session had to request to use the New Bridges capital funds held by the Presbytery for the electricity, audio/visual and other upgrades on Campus.

2. Creation of new Church Website, Logo, and Installation of new internet mesh system

The Pastor constituted a committee led by him that created new website, email, and logo for the Church. The Church's new website is www.newbridgeschurch.org and the new email is, info@newbridgeschurch.org.

3. The Boy Scouts Property Use - Due to the dilapidating nature of the building accommodating the Boys Scouts (the old Post office), along with the disintegration of the Troop 819 they moved out as of December 31, 2023

4. Improving on giving in Church - In order to improve on giving in Church, the Session, with the help of the Pastor and Treasurer came up with some strategies that will improve giving online, especially for those who do not carry cash on them. A QR-code was created for the Church, which is found on the bulletin each Sunday to make giving viable through Apps like Venmo, Cash App, PayPal, and Zelle to ease payment online.

The Finance Committee also planned and implemented an end of year General Harvest Thanksgiving on December 4th, which was very successful. Details of this can be seen in the financial report.

5. All Presbytery Day Celebration - New Bridges was invited by First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley to join other Sibling Churches in a joint service on September 24 to celebrate the All-Presbytery Day in their Church. The Multicultural Choir of New Bridges Presbyterian Church was on the program to sing during the worship Service. It was a beautiful occasion.

6. Ethnic Concerns Conference (ECC) Gathering - This took place at Zephyr Point in Lake Tahoe from October 6th to 8th under the Theme - "This is the Moment". New Bridges registered 12 members of the Church to attend the gathering. It is important to note here that this is the second time the Church has sponsored its members to participate in the activities of the ECC. This year was the 51st year of ECC and they gather as a culturally and ethnically diverse body to consider the role of the Church in discussions of Justice, white supremacy, and colonialism. Many of the Youth of New bridges attended the gathering and participated actively in all the activities. They staged a presentation at the end of the gathering which thrilled the audience. A report was presented to the congregation by the Youth after the event. It is interesting to note here that Rev. Dr. Sarah Reyes, our former interim pastor was one of the Co-Moderators of the ECC.

7. Church Newsletter - The Pastor, Rev. John Lyzenga has instituted a weekly Newsletter for the Church, which carry announcements and other important information for the congregation via email each Wednesday.

8. New Job Title for Teresa Perez - The job title of Teresa Perez, formally the Church Administrator, has been changed to the Director of Operations in view

of the job she does for the church. This was approved by Session to take effect on January 1, 2024, with the implementation of the new Budget for 2024. The job promotion earns her a salary raise.

9. **Advent 4/Christmas Eve Service** – These two services were moved to Sunday Christmas Eve service so that we only have one service for the day. The Nativity of Jesus Christ as recorded in the Scriptures in Luke 2 and Matthew 2: 7-12 was enacted as a Congregational Christmas Pageant by members of the congregation dressed in various costumes representing Mary, Joseph, Baby Jesus in a Manger, the Angels, the Shepherds, the Animals, and the Wise Men. As each group processed into the Sanctuary, various Christmas carols were sung by the congregation to depict each scene. The appropriate scripture depicting the scene was then read by a member of the congregation. It was an exciting event and much appreciated by the congregation and very participatory. We all had fun.
10. **Reorganization and Renaming of Committees and Ministries of the Church-** Pastor explained the need to reorganize and rename some of the Committees and Ministries of the Church to reflect their activities. Ministries will fall under Committees in order to facilitate the coordination of their activities. Each Committee will have a Chair, who must be an Elder and will compose of 3 to 5 people (so that everyone in the committee is actively engaged), with a staff as a member of the committee. This will include a work plan for each Ministry and a calendar for Committee meetings. The following Committees and Ministries have been put in place:

- a) **Constituted Committees**

- i) **Communication**
- ii) **Education**
- iii) **Facilities**
- iv) **Finance**
- v) **Justice**
- vi) **Worship**

Each Committee will have a staff person they can go to, who should always attend the committee meetings.

- b) **Constituted Ministries** – Ministries are placed under the Committees. Each Ministry has a Head or Moderator, who is either an Elder or a Deacon, or someone with technical knowledge on the area of Ministry. These are:

- I) **Ministries under Education**
 - Nursery (Cheryl Stone)
 - Sunday School (Everenz Kucha)

- Youth (Daniel Gwanfogbe)
- Adult (Pastor John Lyzenga).

ii) Ministries under Justice

- Presbyterian Women (CRE Helen Gwanfogbe)
- Open Sanctuary (Pastor John Lyzenga)

iii) Ministries under Worship

- Multicultural Choir (Vera Anye)
- Praise Team (Obadiah Kenji)
- Audio/Visual (Fon Anye)

iv) Ministries under the Board of Deacons

- Sunday Lunch (Daniel Gwanfogbe)
- Hospitality
- Prayer Team
- Care Team.

All Committee meetings will be scheduled for the calendar year to ensure regular meetings.

IV. Conclusion

The year 2023 was a very eventful and busy one for everyone, especially with the call of a new Pastor for the congregation. With the presence of the Pastor many changes have taken place both in the infrastructure and management of the church. Worship service has been enhanced with the institution of a Praise Team at the beginning of the year. This has made the Worship Service more exciting and engaging for the congregation. The Congregation has also been involved in some outreach activities, carried out by the Presbyterian Women of the Church (see report). Some members of the Church lost their loved ones within the course of the year who were consoled by members of the congregation. There were also celebrations of birthdays and other events by members of the congregation. We are proud to have been able to achieve a lot within the course of this year. We thank God for a fruitful and successful year, and we give Him the Glory.

Respectfully submitted by:

CRE Helen Gwanfogbe
Clerk of Session



NEW BRIDGES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WORSHIP COMMITTEE 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Members,

As we reflect on the year gone by, it's with joy and gratitude that we present the annual report for the Worship Committee of NBPC Hayward for the year 2023. This report aims to highlight the various activities and developments that have taken place within our worship community.

Praise Team:

In 2023, our Praise Team experienced growth and innovation. We welcomed two new talented singers into our midst, enriching our worship experience with their voices. One significant change implemented was the adoption of a system of rotating worship leadership. This initiative not only diversified our worship leaders but also served as a platform for training others in the art of worship leading. We're pleased to report that by the end of 2023, all active members of the Praise Team had the opportunity to lead at least one song during our church services. Looking ahead to 2024, we plan to divide the Praise Team into four groups, facilitating a more efficient rotation system for leading worship.

Worship Enhancement:

In our endeavor to continually enhance our worship experience, we made significant strides in upgrading our audio-visual infrastructure. We finalized quotes for electrical and audio-visual upgrades, which include the installation of two TV monitors for projection purposes. Additionally, we are thrilled to announce that the entire electrical sound system will undergo a comprehensive upgrade. These enhancements will undoubtedly elevate the quality of our worship services and create a more immersive environment for congregational participation.

Worship Service Structure:

Recognizing the importance of setting the tone for worship from the very beginning of our services, we made structural adjustments to incorporate a "Call to Worship" song at the start of each service. This intentional addition aims to prepare our hearts and minds for worship, creating a seamless transition into the sacred space of collective praise and adoration.

As we look back on the achievements and improvements of 2023, we express our gratitude to all members of the Worship Committee, the Praise Team, and the congregation for their unwavering support and dedication. Together, we have strengthened the spiritual fabric of our community and deepened our connection with the divine through the act of worship.

May 2024 be a year filled with continued growth, harmony, and spiritual enrichment as we journey together in faith.

Kenji Obadia Mfuh
Chairperson, Worship Committee



**NEW BRIDGES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FINANCIAL COMMITTEE
2023 ANNUAL REPORT**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Warm New Year wishes from the financial committee. This year brought exciting additions to our giving methods—PayPal, Cash App, and Venmo alongside our traditional envelope system.

We're grateful for your generous contributions, even though we fell short of our budget balance by \$62,372. However, your support, especially during our inaugural Annual Harvest Thanksgiving, helped us raise \$4,000, significantly reducing our deficit. Thank you once again!

Looking ahead, we plan interim and final harvest thanksgiving services to meet our goal of increasing our budget. It promises to be an exciting and interesting year. We encourage continued generosity and suggest signing up for automatic donations as the spirit leads.

In service,

Eder Charles Kenji
Chair, Finance Committee



NEWBRIDGES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Introduction:

As we reflect on the past year, our Christian education program has experienced significant growth and achievement. The dedication of our teachers and the enthusiasm of our youth have truly made a lasting impact. This report aims to highlight the key accomplishments in 2023 and outline our aspirations for the coming year.

Accomplishments of Youth Going to College:

One of the proudest achievements of our Christian education program in 2023 is witnessing several of our youth successfully transition to college, (Khalon & Khiron Mosi, Akwi & Sharon Awazi, Ochuru Paul, Azah Anye). Their academic achievements and commitment to their faith have been commendable. We have seen them embrace their spiritual values as they navigate the challenges of higher education, exemplifying the strong foundation instilled during their time in our program.

Songs and Memory Verses Learned in Sunday School:

Our Sunday School sessions have been vibrant with the joyous sounds of hymns and the resonance of scripture. The youth have enthusiastically participated in learning and singing a variety of worship songs, deepening their connection to spirituality through music. Additionally, our dedicated teachers have diligently taught and reinforced memory verses, fostering a profound understanding of biblical teachings among our young participants.

Appreciation for Sunday School Teachers:

Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to the committed Sunday School teachers: Eva Kucha, Clovis Fomunkwin, Cheryl Stone, Aiden Gwanfogbe and Rodney Bachues, who have played a pivotal role in shaping the spiritual journeys of our youth. Their passion for teaching, coupled with their unwavering dedication, has created an environment where learning about faith is not just a task but a joyful and transformative experience. We express our gratitude for their selfless service and commitment to the spiritual growth of our community.

Looking Forward to 2024:

As we set our sights on the future, we are excited about the possibilities that 2024 holds for our Christian education program. Our goal is to build upon the successes of the past year and enhance the learning experience for our youth. We aspire to implement new initiatives, such as interactive workshops, community service projects, and mentorship programs, to further engage our young members in their faith journey.

In 2024, we aim to foster a sense of community and inclusivity within our Christian education program, ensuring that every member feels valued and supported. Our commitment to nurturing the spiritual growth of our youth remains unwavering, and we look forward to witnessing even greater achievements in the coming year.

Conclusion:

The year 2023 has been marked by growth, learning, and spiritual development within our Christian education program. We extend our gratitude to everyone who has contributed to these accomplishments, and we eagerly anticipate the positive impact we can collectively make in 2024. Together, as a community, we strive to deepen our understanding of faith, nurture our youth, to create a lasting legacy of spiritual empowerment.

As always, I will end by saying it is a joy to work with the kids every Sunday, and volunteers are always welcome.

Thanks,

Daniel Gwanfogbe, Deacon
Chair of Christian Ed. Committee



NEW BRIDGES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Committee members - Nelson Mosi
- Henry Mosi
- Benard Anye

During the year 2023 B/G accomplished the following:

- 1.- Cleaned & repair one of wall heater Montessori's classroom #5 at the recommendation of PG&E's annual inspection.
- 2.- The stove in the kitchen was repaired by replacing a safety valve and an oven thermostat, yet the oven didn't work, then it was discovered that the main gas coming in the stove where all the valves are supplied the gas to function needs to be unclogged and repaired. We are still waiting to finalize repairs of the oven.
- 3.- A total of 7 trees on campus were trimmed after a huge branch fell in our neighbor's back yard at the beginning of Fall.
- 4 Upgrade the electrical system in the sanctuary.
- 5.- The Building rental agreement policy was reviewed and updated with the approval of the Session.
- 6.- With the closing of Montessori's elementary school, the church was able to regain the use of the Youth Room, allowing a space for the Youth Ministry along with the purchase of a TV.
- 7.- Carpets in the Fireside Room and the Sanctuary were cleaned by Stanley Steemer.
- 8.- We had Mighty Men Pest Control setup traps on each side of the sanctuary to trap wildlife animal in a humane way. A total of 9 animals were trapped.
- 9.- Annual fire extinguishers maintenance was done in September which also included the purchase and installation of a new badger 5MB-6H for the sanctuary required per its square footage.
- 10.- We sign a new janitorial contract with "United Contract Services, Inc."

- 11.- The church office acquired a new copier machine with additional features, such as folding bulletins, stapling, etc. These features will enable fast and efficient workload in the office.
- 12.- We are working on how to improve the way we recycle our trash, after purchasing a three-stream recycling station for the kitchen and an outdoor trash can for the grassy area. It is phenomenal to experience improvement with our lawn free of trash. Everyone is encouraged to continue disposing of garbage properly. Thank you for your cooperation!

In service,

Elder Odim Ochuru
Chair Building & Grounds



New Bridges Presbyterian Church Deacons 2023 Annual Report

The Deacons have been instrumental in arranging delightful meals prepared by our church families for fellowship time after worship, we extend our heartfelt thanks to the men for their generosity in providing drinks and essential supplies, fostering a warm and welcoming atmosphere for our congregation.

Recurring Meeting Date:

In a unanimous decision, the Deacons of New Bridges Presbyterian Church voted to hold their regular meetings every 1st Friday of the month. This consistent schedule has facilitated effective communication and collaboration among the Deacons throughout the year.

Highlights:

1. Funeral for Rebecca Shepperd's Brother:

- On Friday, December 16th, New Bridges Presbyterian Church hosted the funeral service for Rebecca Sheppard's brother, David Long. Pastor John Whichman delivered a heartfelt sermon during the service.
- Cheryl, on behalf of the Deacons, arranged for refreshments to support the grieving family.
- Rebecca generously donated \$100 to the Deacons' fund in appreciation of the support provided during this difficult time.

2. Deacon's Outing:

- Cheryl proposed and initiated discussions about organizing an outing for the Deacons. The aim is to foster stronger bonds among members and brainstorm ideas for church improvement.

3. Deacon's Call List:

- Cheryl completed the Deacon's call list and submitted it to Nelson Mosi for approval. The finalized list is set to be distributed to Deacons within the next 2 weeks.

4. Kitchen Supplies and Covid Test Kits:

- An inventory of kitchen supplies will be taken to identify and purchase necessary items.

- Cheryl acquired 150 COVID test strips and made them available to the church for those in need.
5. **Cleanup Date and Damaged Gate:**
- Cheryl proposed a cleanup date for the church, scheduled for this spring/summer, in collaboration with Building & Grounds.
 - The damaged gate near Hesperian Blvd, next to Burger King, will be addressed with the assistance of Building & Grounds.
6. **Security Cameras and Wifi Connection:**
- Plans are underway to purchase security cameras for enhanced church security.
 - Cheryl will coordinate with Mr. Delong to install wifi in the fireside room for Sunday school children.
7. **Words from Pastor Helen:**
- Pastor Helen expressed gratitude to the Deacons for their outstanding contributions to the church. Special appreciation was extended to Elder Yvonne Mosi for her dedicated support.
8. **Discussion on Terms and Renewals:**
- Supplies for communion and kitchen have been managed by individual Deacons and the men's group, respectively.
 - Plans were discussed regarding the terms and renewals of Deacons, including virtual voting and financial support for Franklin.
9. **Vision for Deacons Next Year:**
- Pastor John outlined four areas of responsibility for the Deacons for the upcoming year: Lunch, Communion, Care, and Connection (hospitality team).
 - Inactive Deacons will be approached individually, and nominations are open for new members.
10. **Long-Term Planning and Training:**
- Pastor John emphasized the importance of planning the entire year in advance, including regular meetings and Deacon training sessions.

As we conclude the year 2023, the Deacons of New Bridges Presbyterian Church stand united in their commitment to serve and strengthen the church community. Looking ahead to 2024, we anticipate continued growth and impactful initiatives under the guidance of Pastor John Lyzenga and the dedicated Deacons team.

Thanks,

Daniel Gwanfogbe
Deacons Committee Secretary



**NEW BRIDGES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION
NEW BRIDGES CHURCH (PWANBC)
2023 ANNUAL REPORT**

- I. Introduction: The Presbyterian Women's Group of New Bridges Presbyterian Church is a part of the Presbyterian Women of the San Francisco Presbytery. We have our By-laws written by the members of this group in 2021 drawing inspiration from the By-laws of the Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery. The By-laws encourages every woman in the Presbyterian Church to be a member of the Presbyterian Women. The PWANBPC, which is the acronym for the name of the New Bridges Presbyterian Church Women's, is a constituted Ministry of the Church. Membership is opened to all the women in the Presbyterian Church. We pay dues of \$50 annually, which we use to pay our per capita in the PW of Presbytery and other dues to support the operating budget of Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery and the Synod.
- II. Meetings: In 2023, during the early months of the year, meetings were on zoom during the week, but attendance was not encouraging. Meetings were later scheduled for every second Sunday of the month after Worship Service. This improved the attendance as most members come for Sunday service. This was therefore maintained. Every meeting starts with the lighting of the Christ's candle and a short devotion before the business of the day.
- III. Activities: In 2023, the PW of New Bridges were actively involved in many activities.
 1. A Partnership was created between the PW of Sojourner Truth Presbyterian Church and the PW of new Bridges which led to the two groups working together on a grant project with a Non-Profit Organization, "Love Never Fails" based in our Hayward community, rehabilitating survivors of Human Trafficking and providing temporal home for GBV cases, and the homeless. This project was approved by the Presbytery and given a grant of \$100,000 to execute the project, which is managed by CRE Phyllis Givens, Moderator of the Sojourner Truth Presbyterian Women's Group. As part of the activities of this grant, the PW of New Bridges participated in a Sensitization Freedom Walk organized by Love Never Fails in Oakland on September 23, to stop Human Trafficking and Gender Based Violence (GBV), alongside over 15 churches and organizations.
 2. Joint meetings and activities with our partners: The PWs of Sojourner Truth PC and New Bridges PC jointly hosted the PWP (Presbyterian Women of the

Presbytery) Summer Gathering of June 3, 2023. Prior to the hosting, we had joint meetings in preparation for the hosting in May. During this meeting we had the opportunity to invite the Co-Moderators and Coordinating Team (CT) of the PW of the Presbytery to attend the Ordination of our new Pastor John Lyzenga on June 4th. We had two other joint meetings with our partners to discuss activities we can get involved with to support each other.

3. As part of our outreach activity, the PW of New Bridges organized a fundraising event in the Church to support the NGO Love Never Fails in their appeal on securing the home "I am Launch House" for the homeless. This is a 6-12-month housing program focused on empowering homeless and trafficked men, women and children based in Hayward. After several planning meetings, this fundraising event took place on September 3, 2023, after Worship service in the Fellowship Hall of the Church. Money raised was added to contributions from the women which came up to the sum of \$910.00 This amount was handed to Love Never Fails on Saturday, September 23 as we participated in the Freedom Walk. A letter of appreciation was sent to the Church from the Director of the Organization, Ms. Vanessa Russell.
 4. Other activities: The PW of New Bridges have been involved in other activities in the church such as planning and providing food for the Ordination of our Pastor, Rev. John Lyzenga, planning and entertaining our brothers on Father's Day, taking part in and supporting the church picnic with food items, and other church activities they are called upon to do.
 5. The PW participated in most of the Presbyterian Women's meetings of the Presbytery. This was very laudable and very encouraging.
- IV. The Way Forward: We intend to review our activities and focus more on activities on:
- Relationship building,
 - Spiritual development,
 - Open share time, etc.

We hope to get involved with activities that will be very interesting and more participative and reduce our outreach activities.

- V. Conclusion: Despite the few challenges we had at the beginning of the year to get more women involved in the PW meetings and activities, the year ended very well with more members participating and attending meetings. With our new Pastor, Rev. John Lyzenga, there are plans for revitalizing and bringing in new innovations and focus on the PW to make it more interesting and beneficial to members. We give God the Glory for the successful end of year 2023.

Submitted by:

CRE Helen Gwanfogbe - Moderator

New Bridges Presbyterian Church
Balance Sheet (UNAUDITED)
 Consolidated - December 2023

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	Current Year
ASSETS	
BANK ACCOUNTS	
CHECKING ACCOUNTS	
BMO - NB Check	\$154,229.90
BMO - ME Check	22,431.18
	176,661.08
Subtotal Checking Accounts	176,661.08
SAVINGS & ON LINE GIVING	
Synod 3209 \$50K emerg. fd	17,877.39
Synod-A 3210-capital only	3,437.24
Presbytery Capital Funds	1,151,178.25
BMO - Savings	15,197.51
CashApp	1,020.00
PayPal	735.00
Venmo	205.00
Presbyterian Fnd. On Line	465.00
	1,190,115.39
Subtotal Savings & On Line Giving	1,190,115.39
	1,366,776.47
Subtotal Bank Accounts	1,366,776.47
INVESTMENTS	
LPL (Waddell & Reed)	24,954.01
FIXED ASSETS	
LAND	
Land	400,325.00
BUILDINGS	
Buildings and Grounds	447,460.32
Parking Lot	156,670.00
Sanctuary Roof	158,720.00
New Windows	57,900.00
Accum Depr. - Parking Lot	(156,466.67)
Accum Depr. - Sanc Roof	(51,521.94)
Accum. Depr. - Buildings	(37,394.62)
	575,367.09
Subtotal Buildings	575,367.09
EQUIPMENT	
Equipment/Furnishings	48,517.73
Accum. Depr. - Equipment	(46,092.71)
	2,425.02
Subtotal Equipment	2,425.02
	978,117.11
Subtotal Fixed Assets	978,117.11
	\$2,369,847.59
TOTAL ASSETS	
LIABILITIES	
CURRENT LIABILITIES	
PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	
TAXES PAYABLE	
Federal Withholding	(\$3,459.69)
Social Security	5,496.03
Medicare	612.17

New Bridges Presbyterian Church
Balance Sheet (UNAUDITED)
Consolidated - December 2023

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	Current Year
State Taxes Payable	171.33
Subtotal Taxes Payable	2,819.84
Subtotal Payroll Deductions	2,819.84
Subtotal Current Liabilities	2,819.84
TOTAL LIABILITIES	2,819.84
NET ASSETS	
UNRESTRICTED	
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$2,309,987.01
DONOR RESTRICTED	
TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	
Memorial Fund	12,464.99
Deacons' Fund	6,572.81
Local Mission-Presbytery	2,032.46
Pastors Discretion-Presby	3,992.50
Hillside Fund-Leadership	5,021.77
Womens Assoc. Fund	806.00
Youth Fund	22.27
Youth Camp Fund	625.10
Scholarship Fund	1,747.00
Reade Fund	2,257.21
Arts Grant Fund	502.07
Per Capita	772.00
Renovation Fund	179.00
Worship Enhancement Fund	3,756.92
Wichman Program Fund	229.72
Peacemaking Local Fund	1,240.64
Christian Ed Snack Fund	355.85
Other Designated Fund	250.00
Tenant Security Deposits	14,212.43
Subtotal Temporarily Restricted	57,040.74
Subtotal Donor Restricted	57,040.74
TOTAL EQUITY	2,367,027.75
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$2,369,847.59

**New Bridges Presbyterian Church
FY2024 Operating Budget - Income**

INCOME:	2023	2023	2024
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
1 Pledges	57,000	38,573	85,289
2 Loose Offerings	2,800	8,586	3,000
3 Unrestricted Special Offerings	450	3,798	500
4 Investment & Banking Interest	35,000	45,004	46,000
5 Building Use	0	725	0
6 Cell Tower	39,867	39,867	39,867
7 Safari Kids	112,220	112,220	115,404
8 Montessori	54,880	54,878	54,880
9 * Shared Occupancy Costs	24,788	29,656	25,577
10 Churches	0	0	0
11 Other Groups	1	0	1
12 Presbytery Loan	0	0	0
13 Synod Loan	0	0	0
14 * Per Capita	1,750	1,362	1,750
15 Fundraising	0	0	0
16 Miscellaneous (Amazon Rewards)	<u>50</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>0</u>
 Total Annual Receipts	 328,806	 334,727	 372,268
Total Annual Expenses	<u>308,657</u>	<u>397,099</u>	<u>374,461</u>
Annual Excess / (Shortage)	20,149	(62,372)	(2,193)

* See Notes

2023 Additional Activity from Dedicated Giving which is not reflected in the Annual Budget

Spent Restricted Funds:	Fund
\$ 334.87 One Great Hour of Sharing	Spec. Offering
401.97 Christmas Joy Offering	Spec. Offering
66.00 Pentecost Offering	Spec. Offering
910.00 Love Never Fails	Spec. Offering
1,605.00 Leadership (ECC Conference)	Hillside Leadership Funds
475.00 Graduation Gifts	Scholarship Fund
135.00 Ordination Gift	Spec. Offering
742.79 Youth Trip (Raging Waters)	Youth Fund
570.80 Television for Youth Room	Wichman Fund
57.02 Material Donations	Material Donations
<u>\$ 5,298.45</u> Total	

2023 Improvements paid for with Capital Funds held by Presbytery and not reflected in Annual Budget

\$ 35,982.23 Sanctuary Audio & Visual Upgrades
<u>44,338.62</u> Electrical Upgrades
\$ 80,320.85

**New Bridges Presbyterian Church
FY2024 Operating Budget - Expenses**

	2023	2023	2024
EXPENSES:	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
1 * Pastor's Salary	52,500	46,667	83,920
2 Housing Allowance	0	2,000	0
3 403(b) Deferred Wages	0	0	0
4 * Pension & Health Benefits	20,475	20,690	34,673
5 Mileage Reimbursement	1,500	121	1,500
6 * Study Leave Reimbursement	1,000	99	1,900
7 Professional Expenses Reimbursement	1,000	301	1,000
8 SECA Allowance	4,001	0	0
9 Intern/CRE Salary	0	8,660	0
10 Mileage Reimbursement	0	1,503	0
11 * Director of Operations	66,144	66,240	72,530
12 Musical Director	0	0	0
13 * Accompanist	13,666	13,601	14,052
14 Janitorial Service	6,000	5,788	6,000
15 * Child Care	1,573	1,356	1,617
16 Staff Insurance/Medical	2,425	5,640	6,000
17 * Payroll Tax	6,201	10,444	6,721
18 Worker's Compensation	1,200	1,321	1,500
19 Office Expense	1,730	3,374	1,800
20 Postage	360	312	360
21 Property & Liability Insurance	24,571	22,563	39,258
22 Synod Loan Repayment	0	0	0
23 Professional Fees/Accounting/Legal	0	0	0
24 Phone & Internet	3,629	5,353	4,788
25 Church Website	500	581	500
26 Computer Equipment & Software	500	2,810	700
27 Copier Lease	6,782	5,529	6,082
28 * Property Tax	9,848	9,838	10,025
29 * PG&E	17,749	17,522	18,749
30 * Water & Sewer	3,523	5,034	5,538
31 * Garbage	4,113	5,858	4,113
32 Janitorial Supplies	600	66	600
33 * Repairs/Maintenance	18,476	93,388	8,700
34 * Grounds Maintenance	8,460	18,195	12,396
35 * Leadership	0	0	0
36 * Mission	6,400	5,557	6,000
37 * Christian Education	1,820	230	1,900
38 * Youth Camp	0	0	0
39 * Music & Copyright License	1,000	368	975
40 * Worship Expense	3,680	3,512	3,680
41 Pulpit Supply	1,500	954	1,500
42 * Membership / Fellowship	485	364	485
43 Outreach	600	200	700
44 Fellowship Meals	1,200	576	1,000
45 Kitchen Supplies	800	221	600
46 Youth Conferences	0	0	0
47 Adult Conferences	0	0	0
48 Per Capita	2,847	2,847	2,800
49 Fundraising	0	0	0
50 Miscellaneous (Pastor Search & Ordination)	<u>9,800</u>	<u>7,415</u>	<u>9,800</u>
Total Annual Expenses	308,657	397,099	374,461
Total Annual Receipts	<u>328,806</u>	<u>334,727</u>	<u>372,268</u>
	20,149	(62,372)	(2,193)

* See Notes

INCOME:

9	Shared Occupancy Costs	12% Montessori, 37.76% Safari
14	Per Capita	70 x \$40.00

EXPENSES:

1	Pastor's Salary	see detail below
4	Pension & Health Benefits	39% of salary & housing, plus dental & vision
6	Study Leave Reimbursement	\$1000/yr. (can accumulate over 3 years)
11	Director of Operations	see detail below
13	Accompanist	Current \$1138.80; increase to \$1,171.00
15	Child Care	Current \$30.25/wk; new \$31.10
17	Payroll Tax	6.2% Soc Sec & 1.42% Medicare
21	Property & Liability Insurance	15% inc. for 2024
28	Property Tax	2% increase for 2024
29	PG&E	7% increase for 2024
30	Water & Sewer	10% increase for 2024
31	Garbage	10% increase for 2024
33	Repairs/Maintenance	see detail, page 2
34	Leadership	see detail, page 2 - Use Hillside Leadership Funds
35	Mission	see detail, page 2
36	Christian Education	see detail, page 2
37	Youth Camp	Nothing budgeted for 2024, program to be self-supporting
38	Music & Copyright License	see detail, page 2
39	Worship Expense	see detail, page 2
42	Membership / Fellowship	see detail, page 2

2024 SALARIES:

Pastor's Salary - Does not include reimbursements

70,000	2023 Salary for 32 hours/week (includes housing allowance)
83,920	Proposed 2024 Salary for 40 hours/week (includes housing allowance)

Director of Operations (previously Admin.)

66,144	2023 Salary \$31.50 per hour
72,530	Proposed 2024 Salary \$34.87 per hour to reflect additional duties & COLA increase

Salaries for Musician and Childcare increased by 2.8% minimum to cover SF Bay Area CPI figures Oct. 2023-Oct. 2024

Repairs & Maintenance:

1,260	Terminix
800	Carpet Cleaning
600	Phone System
2,040	Fire Sys. Monitoring
9,196	Landscape Service
2,000	trees
<u>4,000</u>	Misc. Upkeep
8,700	

Additional Work Not In Budget

(Use Capital Funds in Presbytery Account)

30,372	Audio & Visual upgrades in Sanctuary
45,235	Electrical & lighting upgrades
10,000	Security Cameras
9,970	Seal & restripe parking lot, 130% of \$7670 paid in 2013
<u>44,000</u>	AC for Sanctuary, Fireside Rm. & Fellowship Hall
139,577	

Mission Budget:

5,000	Presbytery Gen. Mission
600	NkUMU FED FED
<u>400</u>	Pastors Compassion Fund
6,000	Does not include special offgs.

Music: 0

Leadership: Fund from Hillside-Leadership fund

600	Leadership Training
1,800	Ethnic Concerns Consultation (ECC)
<u>200</u>	Retreat
2,600	0 budgeted (restricted funds to cover)

Membership / Fellowship:

285	picnic reservation
<u>200</u>	Misc.
485	Membership/Fellowship
1,000	Fellowship Meals*
<u>600</u>	Kitchen Supplies*
2,085	*Seek donations of meat and other items for kitchen, picnic, etc.

Outreach:

200	More Light dues
400	Mandela Recognition
<u>100</u>	Misc.
700	

Music:

465	Piano maintenance
330	CLLI License/Song Select
100	Guest Musicians
<u>80</u>	Music supplies

975 Music

2,600	A-V Assistance
200	Decorations & flowers
100	Bulletins
580	Contribution Envelopes
<u>200</u>	Misc.

3,680 Worship:

Christian Education:

400	Background Checks (8)
-	Adult Ed.(Ministry & Bible Study)
<u>1,500</u>	Children's Ed: includes Bibles
1,900	Curriculum and materials
	Youth, Easter, Halloween & Christmas gifts & activities,

2024 Monthly Rents:

\$ 3,322.27	Cell Tower
\$ 4,573.30	Montessori + 12% SOC
	rent increase 9/01/24 5%=\$4801.97 ???
\$ 9,617.00	Safari Kids + 53% SOC

Deacon's Finance Summary
January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023

Beginning Balance		\$	6,208.97
Congregational contributions	\$	645.00	
Fund Raisers	\$	-	
Contributions from families for memorials	\$	-	
Total Income		\$	645.00
Communion Elements & Cups	\$	115.16	
Memorials	\$	-	
Congregational care	\$	-	
Donation to outside non-profits	\$	100.00	
Postage	\$	66.00	
Fellowship	\$	-	
Total Expenses		\$	<u>281.16</u>
Balance		\$	6,572.81



**NEW BRIDGES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PROPOSED NOMINATING COMMITTEE
2023 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Nominating Committee of New Bridges Presbyterian Church—comprised of Ben Ezekwesili (chair), Nelson Mosi, Leo Wilkinson, and Celine Tsake—is proud to present the proposed slate of Church Officers for 2024. The Nominating Committee prayerfully discerned leadership qualities of active members that would benefit our church in this season. We considered factors including church involvement, spiritual life, and personal strengths and qualifications. If elected, these individuals agree to serve a three-year term.

For your information, the ruling elders and deacons elected in 2022 and 2023 are provided below.

Current Elders and Deacons

2022 Ruling Elders

Vera Anye
Helen Gwanfogbe
Obadiah Kenji
Yvonne Mosi

2022 Deacons

Daniel Gwanfogbe
Nelson Mosi
Odim Ochuru

2023 Ruling Elders

Charles Kenji

2023 Deacons

Arnold Mbah
Godlove Ngone

Proposed Slate of Officers

2024 Ruling Elders

Dorene Halseth
Ada Ochuru

2024 Deacons

Faith Teneng
Cheryl Stone

2024 Nominating Committee

Benjamin Ezekwesili
Tobenna Ezekwesili
Nelson Mosi
Leo Wilkinson



Motion to Increase Pastor's Salary

In 2023 the congregation approved calling Pastor John Lyzenga to work 32 hours per week at an annual salary of \$70,000. The Session and the Pastor have agreed that to properly deal with the administrative duties required of the Pastor, his work hours should increase to 40 hours per week and that his annual salary should increase to \$83,920 to cover the increase in hours. The increase in hours and salary must be approved by the congregation. There will be no changes to his other benefits (medical & dental coverage, study leave, self-employment taxes supplement, vacation days or mileage and professional expenses reimbursement limits).

This is the motion to be put before the congregation:

Motion to increase Rev. John Lyzenga's hours from 32 to 40 per week and increase his annual salary to \$83,920 effective February 1, 2024.