



**LONG ISLAND
COUNCIL OF CHURCHES**

ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, May 3, 2018

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
175 East Main Street
Smithtown, New York 11787**

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REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MISSION AND MINISTRY

Long Island Council of Churches

Annual Meeting

May 3, 2018

OUR MISSION: The Long Island Council of Churches unites diverse Christians to work together to improve living conditions on Long Island and to promote interfaith understanding and cooperation.

The past year has been one of the most difficult and challenging in the LICC history. While our fiscal difficulties have been persistent through the years, they reached a crisis point this year which called for a radical restructuring. Much of our time and energy has been spent with this reorganization. Others will detail the background and current fiscal and organizational situation.

The Board of Mission and Ministry is concerned primarily with the work of our six committees, half of which have been affected by the fiscal crisis.

The Dialogue Committee continue to immerse themselves in other religions with field trips and book studies. They truly fulfill our mission of mutual interfaith understanding.

The Multi-Faith Forum Committee takes the rich diversity of Long Island faith communities out into schools and other places. They especially increase tolerance through understanding.

Our Public Issues Committee is always on the cutting edge of matters of social justice and human welfare. Whether on immigration or health care or prisons, etc., this committee studies and responds. At least three issues will come before the Annual Meeting.

The three other committees have all been involved with the cutbacks and downsizing. The Pastoral Care Committee has been a part of the staff readjustments in the chaplaincy programs. In the past, the members of this committee have had a number of hospital chaplains, as well as pastoral counselors, where mutual sharing could be an asset.

The Western Area Steering Committee, while not directly involved, have been witness to the absorption of the Hempstead food pantry and offices into the newer Freeport facility, and the necessary reduction of staff.

The Eastern Area Steering Committee has been intimately involved in the closing of the Riverhead food pantry, with the transfer of material to Freeport and the sale and disposal of property, largely by the Chairperson, Lorraine DeArmit. But, as you will see from her report, the committee has also engaged in other significant activities consistent with our mission.

While financial issues will always be with us, it is our hope that we may now focus our energies on the real mission and ministry of the LICC. The support will surely come when we truly unite our diverse faith communities in efforts to improve living conditions and promote mutual understanding and cooperation.

Yours in God's Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jack K. King". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Jack K. King, Chairman of the Board
of Ministry and Missions of LICC

Community Resources Summary

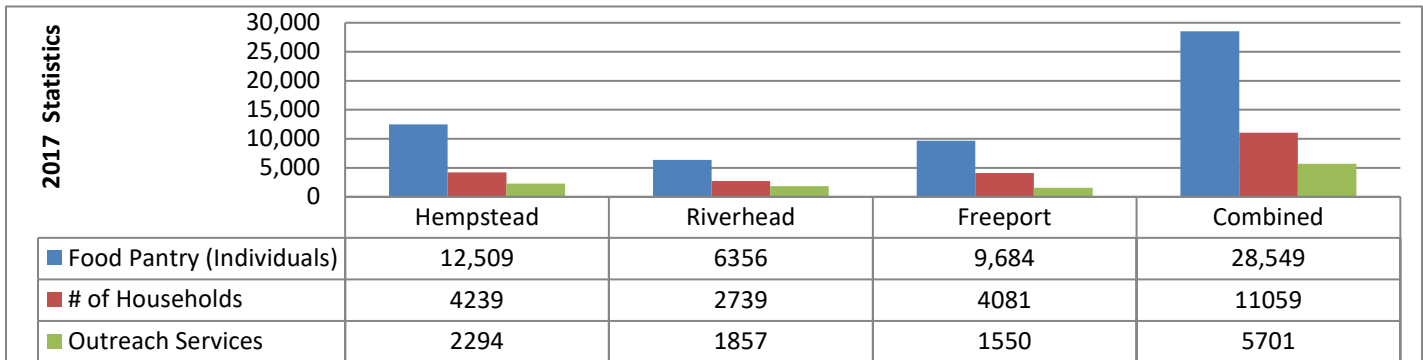
Annual Report

Submitted by Yolanda Murray, Pantry/Resource Coordinator

Many blessings to all of you for your continued support. We appreciate all of you that advocate on behalf of The Long Island Council of Churches. With the Restructuring and Staff changes we have still managed to do outstanding numbers for the people we serve. Thank you to the many churches, volunteers and organizations that donate Food, Money and Time to help us serve our neighbors in need.

Long Island Council of Churches Food Statistics

MONTH	HOUSEHOLDS	CHILDREN	ADULTS	SENIORS	INDIVIDUALS	MEALS
January	789	882	2577	235	3694	33246
February	693	729	2176	207	3112	28008
March	879	866	2742	193	3801	34209
April	541	665	1900	144	2709	24381
May	912	1030	3010	295	4335	39015
June	900	966	2927	286	4179	37611
July	854	764	2577	310	3651	32859
August	1005	1035	3128	366	4529	40761
September	1039	1007	3372	329	4708	42372
October	1258	1337	4218	357	5912	53208
November	1214	1330	4159	355	5844	52596
December	975	1195	3493	252	4940	44460
TOTALS	11059	11806	36279	3329	51414	462726



Eviction & Foreclosure Prevention

****Emergency Food & Shelter Program***

Assistance to 167 families in Nassau

Utilities *Project Warmth Assistance

(Fuel Oil, Gas/Electric) 7 households

In Suffolk, In Nassau 32 Families

Transportation Assistance

****Everybody Rides Nice Program***

137 Individuals Assisted in Nassau

*On behalf of our neighbors we thank

The United Way of Long Island for making those programs available to our neighbors.

Transportation Assistance in Suffolk

(Donated Bus Tickets) 10 Adults

Easter Baskets: 100 Families in Nassau

School Supplies: 95 Students in Nassau

Household Items: 1200 Families in Suffolk

Thanksgiving/Migrant Dinner

Migrant dinner (Suffolk) fed 450 Individuals (Nassau) Thanksgiving baskets - 100 families

Christmas: Toys & Gifts – Nassau (70 Families & 175 children)

Christmas Food Baskets - 138 Families

Prescriptions Assistance: 15 Families

Thank you for your continued support.

Development Committee

Annual Report

The majority of the time of the Development Committee during 2017 was spent planning for and executing the Council's "Share The Harvest" celebration, which honored our partner AHRC Nassau, and the Executive Director, Stanford Perry.

As usual, "Share The Harvest" didn't disappoint. The gala continues to produce strong financial results and adds significantly to the treasury of the Council:

- Attendance was strong, with well over 100 people attending.
- Revenues increased approximately \$5,000, going from \$71,000 to over \$76,000.
- We continued to control costs, which had hit a record low in the prior year (2016, which went from \$26,000 to \$16,000), and were further reduced in 2017 by another \$4,000 to \$12,000.
- Net income, designated to help "Our Neighbors in Need" increased to \$64,600, from the prior year's total of \$55,000. (Net income in 2015 was \$33,000.)

In the last two years the work of the Committee has virtually doubled the net income realized from the Share The Harvest gala.

All of this was made possible by the efforts of the Development Committee, particularly through the volunteered time of Helene and Jeff Denecke, and Debbie and Tom Wallace. The Committee would also like to thank all of the people who donated auction items. This year, we changed the format for our own auction tables, and offered a "Pick A Prize" Auction, where our guests purchased tickets and chose the prize they hoped to win. This format raised over \$1,600, an increase over prior years' silent auctions, 100% of which will go to the work of the Council. The "Pick A Prize" auction included a wide-screen HDTV, wine tastings, house seats to a Broadway show, restaurant gift certificates, handmade jewelry, spa and personal care gift sets, plus many other unique and interesting gift items. A record number of auction items were donated this year, with four items valued at over \$500 each.

The evening's festivities included presentations from staff members who highlighted the Chaplaincy Program, and new and innovative ways the Council is reaching out to our "Neighbors in Need." Of, course, one of the liveliest events of the evening is the live "auction" for donations to feed a family, which continues to receive record support from our attendees, raising over \$17,000 this year.

The Development Committee also developed several ideas and plans for additional fundraising opportunities, as well as brain-storming revenue raising suggestions for grants, donations and bequests. As the Council continues to regain its financial footing, the Development Committee will continue to look toward new and innovative ways to support the Council financially.

Dialogue Committee

Annual Report

Dialogue Committee:

Co-chairs: Rev. Vicky Eastland and Rev. Canon Richard Visconti

Members: Irene Goodman, Rev. Dr. Walter Kedjierski, Imam Khalid Lateef, Rev. Forrest Parkinson, Rev. Erik Rasmussen, Rev. Ian Rottenberg and Arvind Vora

Purpose:

The purpose of the Dialogue Committee is to encourage ecumenical and interreligious dialogue, to help the Boards understand interdenominational and interfaith issues, and to help our members build ecumenical and interreligious relationships.

The Dialogue Committee has organized and led the following field trip experiences and events to help promote interfaith dialogue and understanding.

March 8, 2017 - Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington, NY. Thank you to Rev. Dr. Walter Kedijerski for organizing and leading this tour.

June 28, 2017 - Riverside Church and the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City. We received a tour of the Riverside Church along with a journey up into their bell tower. We also toured the Jewish Theological Seminary, attended a prayer service in one of their small synagogues and attended a class. Thank you to Rev. Forrest Parkinson for organizing this trip.

Our regular meetings were held on February 1, April 5, October 4 and December 6.

We continue to study a book by William Dalrymple entitled: Nine Lives - In Search of the Sacred in Modern India.

Eastern Area Steering Committee

Annual Report

The EASC continues to be an active group, dedicated to promoting the LICC in Eastern Suffolk and throughout the Island, working to be aware of the needs of congregations and communities on the East End, interested in fostering unity and vitality among faith communities, and supporting the Riverhead office.

On May 13 of last year, we sponsored a convocation “Immigration and the East End: How Can I Help?” to foster a discussion between Riverhead Town Supervisor, town police, those working directly with the immigration population, and church and community members who were interested in learning more about what laws and policies impact the community, and how we can help support all our neighbors. It was fairly well attended, and useful.

We also sponsored a worship service held at First Baptist, Riverhead, on the 50th anniversary of the death of Martin Luther King, Jr. That also was well attended by a good diversity of persons, and very well received. In this way, the EASC of the LICC continues to be a leader in the larger faith community. Through strife, both internal and external, we have managed to meet together on a monthly basis with good attendance, to practice honest discussion, and to be a loving presence to each other.

The EASC has provided on-going support to the Riverhead office in many ways: our individual congregations collecting and delivering food and other items for the use of the office and our neighbors, doing large food pick-ups through Island Harvest, providing volunteers to help at the office, supporting staff through our annual Christmas staff-appreciation luncheon, helping first Marianita make the transition out of the Council, and then Olga, whose employment was terminated April 1 as the office closed. We provided many volunteers to move food and other supplies [with thanks to Riverhead Building Supply for the use of a truck as well as staff] on Moving Day.

During 2017, the Riverhead office provided 57,879 meals to 6,431 persons in 2,731 households, as well as rent and utilities assistance, help with prescriptions, clothing, toys and books, friendship to the needy and always a friendly face to those who visited our office. I want to thank all our members, and their congregations for the good work of this Committee. I especially want to thank our staff, Marianita Reyes and the incomparably competent Olga Cortez, who was a dedicated worker right up to the closing of the office.

We of the EASC plan to continue our habit of meeting, considering the needs of the East End, providing support and leadership to faith communities, to the end that we might experience enhanced unity and fruitfulness in our journey together.

Respectfully submitted, the Rev. Lorraine De Armitt, chair of the EASC

Finance Committee

Annual Report

This has been a very difficult year for LICC. While finances have always needed to be watched carefully, this year has been particularly challenging with respect to maintaining income. In 2017, income over expenses and cash flow were carefully monitored and starting in July 2017 it was determined that the current rate of expenditures could not be sustained and LICC would not be able to meet its financial obligations including paying personnel by the fall. The finances became the central focus of the Board of Directors this past year and with close coordination with the finance committee it was decided that expenses had to be cut.

Prior to 2012 the LICC operated on a breakeven budget. Generally, our income equaled our expenses and we had little, if no, reserves to fall back on, however LICC was able to pull through. In 2012 LICC received a large bequest which over the next five years which provided about \$600,000 in income. We originally thought that we would "bank" these funds and research ways to provide new outreaches or keep it in reserve for a rainy day. But declining income and increasing costs, some of which were unexpected, precluded achievement of that goal.

Salaries and benefits represent the major expense in the budget and many hard and difficult decisions had to be made. The initial determination was that the position of executive director could no longer be financially supported and was eliminated in Sept of 2017. In parallel, in the summer of 2017, the Executive Committee and Board of Directors began to restructure LICC operations to preserve its core ministries and marshal resources necessary to transform the council into a more resilient organization.

Since last September, the Restructuring Task Force has (a) closed one location (Hempstead), and (b) reduced staff further-from 12 people to six (including two consultancy positions) and reduced rental and facility costs. In January of 2018, the Hempstead office/food pantry was consolidated into one with the Freeport Facility. Despite intense activity, attempts to move the Riverhead food pantry to a rent-free facility were not fruitful and in March 2018, the Riverhead pantry was also closed. All the food pantries and LICC day to day operations have been consolidated in the remaining food pantry in Freeport.

The press generated by the outgoing ED, resulted in key donors refusing to fund the council and the resignation of some volunteers. While dedicated board members have donated funds and some grants have come in, it remains a struggle to marshal sufficient volunteers and funds to sustain the organization.

The committee thanks Uriel Welch, the LICC Accountant/bookkeeper, for her efforts in support of the committee and though she officially retired in December of 2017, continues to support LICC into 2018.

For 2018 we have prepared a balanced budget, which we think is achievable. It is based on (a) the remaining Nassau county contracts, (b) the core support of our member congregations and individuals, and (c) about a dozen grants that we continue to receive. The restructuring of the staff and the decision to close Hempstead were then driven by this estimate of our income. The finances of LICC continue to be of concern as we go into 2018 and challenges remain to be addressed.

Respectively Submitted
William Russell
Finance Committee Chair

Pastoral Care Committee

Annual Report

Prepared by the Rev. Karen Jones and Tom Regan, Co-Chairs, Pastoral Care Committee

Upon the recommendation of Reverend Dr. Cecily P. Broderick-Guerra, Vice President of Mission, Episcopal Health Services, who left the Committee to serve on the LICC's Board of Directors, Christiane Depestre, Rev. Karen Jones and Tom Regan accepted the responsibility to share leadership as co-chairs for the Pastoral Care Committee. Due to her academic responsibilities in seminary, Christiane was unable to serve. The core of the Committee met regularly, at the administrative offices in Hempstead and Freeport (after re-location).

In June 2017, the following goals were identified as Committee priorities for the 2017-2018 season:

1. Develop training and education for congregations and individuals who offer religious care at the Jail.
2. Create and offer worship services in the community to recognize, give thanks, or dedicate/commission officers and their families, former inmates and families of inmates.
3. Use data collected by chaplains at Jail and in other facilities to report on the impact of Pastoral Care provided to inmates, officers and loved ones.
4. Define the work that chaplains could/should be doing with loved ones of inmates.
5. Network with congregations and agencies that support formerly incarcerated, the incarcerated and their loved ones.
6. Identify ways to involve congregations in the ministries performed by LICC chaplains.
7. Continue to offer cookie, candy and stamp distributions to inmates/officers.

However, as a Committee we had to address our limitations—related to the substantial personnel changes and the restructuring of the LICC—in meeting those goals. Although we wanted to say “yes” to the above priorities, we were faced with the narrowing possibility each time we met due to limited resources of funds and staffing. We focused instead on one clear (1) priority, along with a secondary task:

1. Discerning the current mission, role and responsibilities of the Committee.
2. Providing pastoral care to the chaplains who provide ministry in the prison/jail.

To continue the discernment process, the Committee submits the following questions to the Board:

1. How is the Committee to function within the current restructuring of the LICC?
2. What is the role of the Co-Chairs of the Committee to the LICC Board?
3. What is the Committee's role in providing supervision for the chaplaincy ministry?
4. What is the role of the Committee in working with the Personnel Committee?

Moving forward, a late version of the three line prose of American theologian Reinhold Niebuhr's Serenity Prayer offers a framework for how we will be guided in our work as the Pastoral Care Committee:

*God, give [us] grace to accept with serenity
the things that cannot be changed,
Courage to change the things
which should be changed,
and the Wisdom to distinguish
the one from the other.*

Amen.

Public Issues Committee

Annual Report

From May of 2017 until May of 2018 this committee met seven times. In the spring of 2017 we concentrated on immigration, particularly supporting the Dreamers Act allowing the students brought to this country illegally as children to stay and work or study in this country without danger of deportation. We already had a position paper on immigration reform allowing for amnesty and keeping families together, so we did not recommend something further. However, in October we did vote to join an interfaith protest on November 12 of 2017 in support of the Dreamer act for DACA persons. It was a march to Peter King's office in Hicksville.

A second topic was and still is the problem of reform in the Nassau County jails. Visiting hours for family have been severely cut and we joined others against that restriction. We also supported legislation separating juveniles, 18 and under, from incarceration with adults. We supported lessening of solitary confinement to no more than 15 days while many are incarcerated now for as much as 30 years in solitary. This is inhumane treatment. Other reforms are being suggested and pushed, by the UU, ACLU committee. We will study their actions and give whatever support we agree upon as the case develops.

We have also discussed the NYHealth bill which passed the NY Assembly for the third time last year and we are proposing supporting that bill at the annual meeting. We already have taken a position in favor of universal health care (single payer or improved Medicare for all).

During October and November and even in January we were more concerned with the changes in the Council structure and what it means for all of us. We hope that we will be able to set up more actions and active advocacy in the year ahead.

Submitted by Mary Dewar, Chair

LONG ISLAND COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

2018 BUDGET

	<u>2018</u>	<u>Ongoing</u>
Income:		
Contributions from Congregations, Individuals, Denominations	\$100,000	\$100,000
Special Appeal (See Note)	75,000	0
Grants from Corporate and Private Foundations	75,000	75,000
Government Contracts	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>
Total Income	<u>\$350,000</u>	<u>\$275,000</u>
Expenses:		
Payroll	\$175,000	\$130,000
Consulting Services (Finance and Development)	85,000	85,000
Benefits (Primarily Health Insurance)	12,000	10,000
Services (Legal and Accounting)	28,000	15,000
Office Expenses	40,000	25,000
Publicity and Development	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$350,000</u>	<u>\$275,000</u>
Net Income	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>

Note Re: Special Appeal: The letter campaign recently begun must raise \$75,000 in 2018 in order to balance the budget. There are no reserve funds to fall back on. Note that this is IN ADDITION to the normal support received from congregations and individuals. Ideally, this campaign should raise an additional \$25,000 – 50,000 in order to provide the Council with working capital reserves that will permit it to operate uninterrupted throughout the year. The cyclical nature of the Council's income (i.e., most of it comes in during the fourth quarter) historically causes cash flow problems during the summer.

LONG ISLAND COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, INC.
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED	TOTAL
SUPPORT AND REVENUES				
Grant/contract support	\$ 367,299	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 367,299
Contributions - individuals	28,764	0	0	28,764
Contributions - foundations	25,500	9,000	0	34,500
Contributions - other	231,461	0	0	231,461
Contributions - in kind	153,718	0	0	153,718
Special events, net	61,727	0	0	61,727
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUES	868,469	9,000	0	877,469
NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS				
	60,000	(60,000)	0	0
	928,469	(51,000)	0	877,469
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Program services	785,188	0	0	785,188
Management and general	294,354	0	0	294,354
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	1,079,542	0	0	1,079,542
OPERATING EXPENSES IN EXCESS SUPPORT AND REVENUES	(151,073)	(51,000)	0	(202,073)
NON OPERATING GAINS AND LOSSES				
Dividend and interest income	475	0	732	1,207
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments	0	0	3,730	3,730
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(150,598)	(51,000)	4,462	(197,136)
NET ASSETS				
Beginning of Year - January 1, 2017	272,904	60,000	18,944	351,848
Released to unrestricted assets	0	0	0	0
End of Year - December 31, 2017	\$ 122,306	\$ 9,000	\$ 23,406	\$ 154,712

LONG ISLAND COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, INC.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016

	ASSETS		
	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>VARIANCE</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 173,845	\$ 298,285	\$ (124,440)
Grants and accounts receivable	19,000	84,778	(65,778)
Miscellaneous receivable	0	937	(937)
Investments	42,880	38,418	4,462
Prepaid expenses	3,786	5,945	(2,159)
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	<u>239,511</u>	<u>428,363</u>	<u>(188,852)</u>
NONCURRENT ASSETS			
Property and equipment, at cost			
less accumulated depreciation	9,653	14,588	(4,935)
Security deposit	3,200	3,200	-
TOTAL NONCURRENT ASSETS	<u>12,853</u>	<u>17,788</u>	<u>(4,935)</u>
 TOTAL ASSETS	 <u><u>\$ 252,364</u></u>	 <u><u>\$ 446,151</u></u>	 <u><u>\$ (193,787)</u></u>
 LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable	\$ 1,365	\$ 5,287	\$ (3,922)
Accrued expenses	25,918	3,798	22,120
Deferred Grant Income	70,369	85,218	(14,849)
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>97,652</u>	<u>94,303</u>	<u>3,349</u>
 NET ASSETS			-
Unrestricted	122,306	272,904	(150,598)
Temporarily restricted	9,000	60,000	(51,000)
Permanently restricted	23,406	18,944	4,462
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>154,712</u>	<u>351,848</u>	<u>(197,136)</u>
 TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	 <u><u>\$ 252,364</u></u>	 <u><u>\$ 446,151</u></u>	 <u><u>\$ (193,787)</u></u>