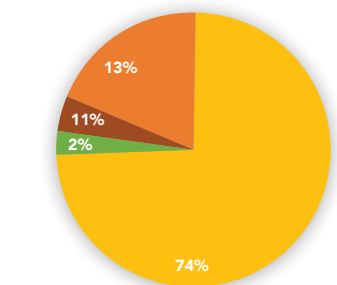
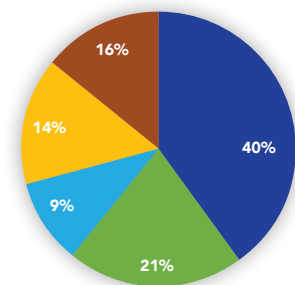


FINANCE

INCOME \$6.0M



EXPENSES 5.7M



- Sales & Other (2%) ■ Contributions (13%) ■ General Admin (40%) ■ Outreach (14%)
- Transfers In (11%) ■ Investment Income (74%) ■ Congregations (21%) ■ Education (9%)
- Ministry (16%)

During FY22 we focused resources on three strategic objectives: vision casting through strategized communications, strengthening organizational infrastructure, and improved employee development. In addition to the implementation of these long-term strategic objectives, each function within the central office continued to provide ongoing operational services, such as support for New Church Education, Outreach, Translation, Finance, HR, and Advancement. We believe these mission services are critical to our functioning as an organization and provide a foundation for each of the strategic goals. Below we share some of the ways our team obtained and deployed resources to support worship, congregations, New Church schools, small groups, and more.

- ▶ Revenue was supported by more than three quarters of a million dollars of unrestricted contributions to our Annual Fund from donors to church uses and fellowship in the Word. Additionally, income of approximately \$3.4M was generated from our investments.
- ▶ We are fortunate to have a healthy endowment and have benefitted from very strong market performance in FY21. However, FY22 has seen quite a change toward the negative, driven by increasing inflation, weakening market sectors and world events (Ukraine). Despite the recent downturn, our net assets, down approximately \$14M, ended the year at about \$159M, after all uses (payouts) and covering for inflation.
- ▶ During FY22 we spent approximately 5% of our operating budget on strategic offerings by elevating the Bishop's voice through newsletters, creating communication videos and sending out digital cards. In addition, we bolstered our support of employee development.
- ▶ About 9% of our budget was spent in support of New Church education through curriculum development and training teachers, as well as development and distribution of books for children, such as one on the Ten Commandments.
- ▶ Outreach efforts accounted for roughly 14% of our budget where we continued to reach people through short videos, social media, and facilitating small group participation.
- ▶ We spent about 16% of our budget outside North America. In March more than 20 people from eight different countries gathered in Ghana for regional treasurers meetings to discuss ways to support congregations and schools on the African continent.

David Butler, Controller
David.Butler@newchurch.org

David Frazier, Executive Director
David.Frazier@newchurch.org

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1100 Cathedral Road
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www.newchurch.org

FISCAL YEAR 2022 GENERAL CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT

a YEAR in REVIEW

*Let the words of my mouth and the
meditation of my heart be acceptable
in Thy sight, O Lord,
my Rock and my Redeemer*

— (PSALM 19:14)

Letter from Bishop Buss

The past church year might usefully be characterized as an endurance run. Such a race is spoken about in Psalm 19, a psalm about the glory of the Lord or about His truth that is embraced by good people. "In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun, which is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoices like a strong man to run its race...." (vs. 4-5, cf. *Prophets and Psalms* 269).

Building on this analogy, the church has been striving in many ways to orient all of us around the teachings of the Lord's Word, helping us to see that "the law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul" (vs. 7). As this publication indicates, worship services, teaching in schools, and church-related events continued, with many people actively engaged and served. I pray that you experienced episodes of closeness to the Lord in worship, advancements in your faith, and support for your efforts to live a principled and useful life.

An endurance run, however, also indicates a test — a difficult challenge. This past year saw the church facing an intense debate around marriage-related issues. It escalated in the months after the publication of my article in the January/February issue of *New Church Life* titled, "Standing for Marriage in Today's World" — an attempt to address an already-present subject which was causing strife within the church. As most know, voices of concern and support were raised in a variety of forums, culminated in a petition asking for greater consideration of those in the LGBTQIA+ community.

While challenging, I ask that we consider two foundational New Church principles that come into play during intense times. One is personal engagement in the Word, and another is the prompt to consider personal beliefs and values. The same two dimensions can apply to the church as a whole — our collective will to be led by the Word, and to consider how we will showcase heavenly values as we do so.

It has been an intense year in some respects, but one in which the hand of the Lord's providence has been in evidence. I invite us all to consider the final words of Psalm 19, thinking of them as a prayer for ourselves and wishing them on the church as a whole: "Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer" (vs. 14). Thank you for your participation in and care for the church.

With affection,



Rt. Rev. Peter Buss Jr.
Executive Bishop, General Church
Chancellor, Academy of the New Church
peter.buss.jr@newchurch.org



New Church



New Church

A YEAR IN REVIEW

Fiscal Year: July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

(Cover photo credit: Neva and Ned Asplundh)

OUTREACH {Community, Conversation, Connection}

- ▶ **258,337** unique visitors to the newchurch.org website.
- ▶ **360** new subscribers (**2,463 total**) for the Christmas Readings.
- ▶ **811** newcomers subscribed to various Journey Programs via email.
- ▶ **553** newcomers to Marriage Moats emails.
- ▶ **144** new subscribers (**3,606 total**) to the Daily Inspiration emails.
- ▶ **1,959,332** views of our YouTube channel videos.
- ▶ **401** newcomers contacted us via email for various discussions or questions.

New Church Groups

Formerly the Grand Human Project, **New Church Groups** has continued to undergo changes as we determine how best to serve our communities. Now participants can access everything they need without creating an account, and groups are searchable by name, location, and topic. We are working with community members to create and populate new groups like Mary Valentine's **Choose Joy Now**, which launched September 13th! Check out hers and other groups here — https://community.newchurch.org/view_only/events

New Church Social Media

A new Instagram account was launched this March. Content includes short videos on spiritual topics, doctrinal quotes, New Church artist features, and more! In just four months we have reached more than **56,000 accounts** and **53,000 views**. To help us reach more people with New Church thoughts, inspirations, and testimony, follow us on **Instagram @the.newchurch** or on **Facebook at The New Church!**

New Church Career Network

New Church Career Network, strives to facilitate meaningful connections between young adults and New Church professionals to support them as they pursue their uses. **Since its inception in 2020, the website has served more than 700 people, the group gained 144 members and the operation has successfully made 43 connections between young professionals and career building opportunities.**



GENERAL CHURCH EDUCATION

GCED published an **11-part lesson book on the Ten Commandments** for children 3–14. Copies were donated to all GC elementary teachers and were used at the Jacob's Creek Family Camp in 2022.



More than 2000 gifts were sent to families for Christmas, Easter & New Church Day. The Religion and English/Language Arts curriculum updates were completed and made available to teachers.

This year the General Church central staff celebrated the career and leadership of Scott Daum, who retired in June. GCED was pleased to welcome **Greg Henderson** to the office beginning July 1 as the **new Assistant Coordinator of New Church Schools.**



GCED's YouTube channel has more than **2.7 million total views** and about **3,800 subscribers.**

SOCIETY MILESTONES

Australian New Church

Hurstville New Church in suburban Sydney, Australia, celebrated the 100th anniversary of its church building in November 2021. Local historian Margaret Horner notes: **"this [1921] was a huge year for the Hurstville Society** because from having no permanent place of worship a block of ground was purchased and a simple building erected. The cornerstone was laid in July 1921 on the 16th anniversary of the Hurstville Society."

New Priestly Leadership Positions

Rev. Martin Gyamfi has the honor of being our first full-time Regional Pastor within the General Church. He has served as pastor in Asakraka, Ghana, and has worked to coordinate with pastors throughout the West Africa subregion. He has handed off his pastoral role to allow for most of his time to go toward supervising and supporting other pastors.

Clergy Meetings

For the year 2021, clergy meetings were planned regionally; sessions held August 16-19 and September 20-23 were designated for North American clergy. European clergy met from October 25-27, and West African clergy meetings were held from November 9-11.

International Council of the Clergy meetings took place in-person in Bryn Athyn in June 2022.

Ordinations

1ST DEGREE

(May 29, 2022)

Steven Gunther
Calvin Heinrichs
Hyun-Jin Young

1ST DEGREE

(April 2, 2022)

Patrice Hybo Saye
Roger Kladie Zoe

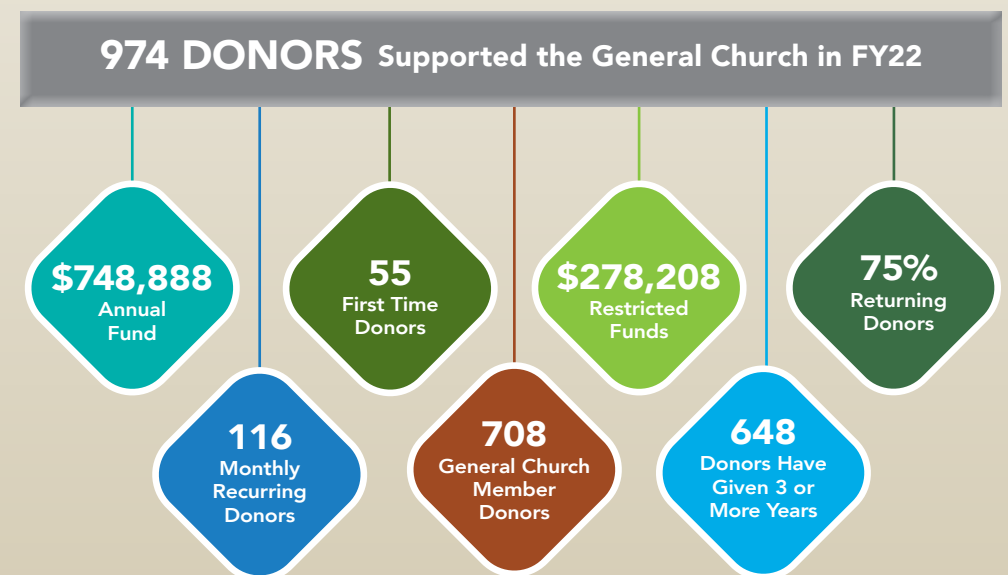
2ND DEGREE

(April 2, 2022)

Patrick Loba

DONOR PARTICIPATION

Gifts directly support the programs and resources mentioned in this report. Thank you to all who support the work of the General Church. We are grateful for the strong and steady gifts from our donors.



Membership

Membership July 1, 2021	5,384
New Members	49
Resignations	20
Deceased members	51
Membership June 30, 2022	5,362

Current as of June 30, 2022. Totals are subject to change. A complete membership report can be found in the November/December 2021 edition of *New Church Life*.

Current List Board of Directors (as of September 2022)

Kay Alden	Axel Coulibaly	Torrance Pitcairn
Stephen Ball	Charles Ebert	David Radcliffe
Darren Bau-Madsen	Gustav Fornander	James Uber
John Berridge	Charlotte Gyllenhaal	Ned Uber
Craig Bostock	Kirk Hasen	Wayne Wadsworth
Beth Brock	Grant Heinrichs	Tanya Woker
Jake Brown	Barbara Horigan	
Rhett Brown	Rene Johnson	Ex-Officio Members
Wade Buick	Mary Jane Junge	Peter Buss Jr.
Ian Carswell	Ethan King	David Frazier
Brynna Carswell-Smith	Stephanie Klippenstein	David Lindrooth
Jesse Cole	Catherine McQueen	Bradley Heinrichs

The mission of the General Church is to help people live a heavenly life through the teachings of the Lord God Jesus Christ in His Second Coming.