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# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ANNAPOLIS

# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



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## REV. MIHEE KIM-KORT

Co-Pastor

This past New Year's Eve, our family stayed up until midnight to watch the ball drop in Times Square. I can't think of the last time I purposefully stayed up past 10:00 pm, and certainly it has been several years since we were awake to ring in the New Year. But, with little glasses of sparkling cider, our family of five toasted each other while watching Ryan Seacrest on *Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve* as we counted down the end of 2023. For some reason, it felt both surreal and especially poignant for me. *Have we really made it to 2024?* Although most days I feel a bit in denial, I am in awe of the way the world has changed so much, even in the last few months, and yet so much has remained constant: the power of kindness and compassion, the impact we make together as a community, how humanity continues to (Pastor Mihee cont'd. next page)

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## REV. DR. ANDREW KORT

Co-Pastor

I always find it to be an incredible experience to look back at the year and remember all that has taken place. I think there is something deeply theological about this act of looking back and remembering. It happens throughout the Bible. Time and time again the people of God are called to look back and remember God's steadfast love and faithfulness, because it is so easy to forget all that God has done among us. So, as I look back at 2023, it is wonderful to be reminded that God's faithful love was once again with us. For this, I give thanks.

While it is impossible to capture everything from the past year, some of my activities have included: (see Pastor Andy's report continued on page 3, column 2)

Cover : sanctuary chancel in winter, picture by Ted Foster

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**(PASTOR MIHEE, continued from page 1)**

Pastor Mihee, Clerk of Session Helen Krone and daughter Lauren Krone (Easter morning)

shock and surprise, and the goodness of God's presence. As we continue in our fourth year together, I remain full of gratitude for all we have experienced together, and inspired by what our community is doing in the world.

Over the last year we built on what it looks like to "connect + engage" — those intentional practices that are necessary: for community, for building a sense of purpose, for work together that is meaningful. This often looked like the slow work of (re)building relationships with one another. Celebrating one another. The invitation to work together toward so much good. Caring for and holding each other in the midst of grief and loss. Experiencing our faith in new ways. All of this as a way to connect and engage with the church's commitment to the Matthew 25 movement in the PCUSA and the very poignant call to radical welcome. But, specifically in September 2023 we kicked off the start of the program year with how we might connect + engage ... and *inspire*. We added the word "inspire" to this little formula as I wrote in the newsletter earlier this year: To inspire and be inspired is about the most basic: breath and breathing. This little word has roots in the Latin *inspirare* ("to breathe or blow into"), which itself is from the word *spirare*, meaning "to breathe." There is also the connection to God's spirit, which gives us life and animates our work as individuals and as a community. It feels fitting then to reflect on the past year in terms of God's spirit, God's breath, and the constant that is God's presence.

The steady breathing in and out of the congregation emerged in numerous familiar ways, and it was always a joy to enter into that rhythm: supporting the wonderful committees and their work, especially the Spiritual Formation (and Lecture Committee), Membership, Communication, Congregational Life, Nominating, and Youth and Family Ministry

committees in their outreach and programming. There were also the gatherings that have happened here for a long time: Wednesday Bible Study, and sometimes leading in the Fellowship of the Bean (it was fun to do a three-week series on the Bible and Culture), the Sunday School class led by Debbie Mitchell, the Women's Book Club, and the Lenten Circles, which were centered this year around the Matthew 25 PCUSA initiative. And then the smaller things: helping to plan or be present in churchwide fellowship gatherings and meals, Hands + Feet intergenerational events, and caroling, and the joy of working with Miss and the youth preparing for their Youth Sunday, especially the seniors as they prepared sermons for the day.



Pastor Mihee at Rev. Denise Anderson's fall workshop

2023 was a confirmation year. We kicked off the class with confirmands and covenant partners together at the Claggett Center in February, had weekly gatherings into spring, and went on a trip in July to the Iona Youth Fest, of which a majority of the newly confirmed participated. Speaking of which, this was the summer of returning to the numerous youth trips the church had offered before Covid including the Massanetta Youth Conference with the middle schoolers and a new trip for college age and young adults at Taizé, an ecumenical monastery focused on faith, peace and reconciliation that is globally known for its outreach to young people.

(Pastor Mihee's report concludes on page 3)



Pastor Mihee at Massanetta Youth Conference (July)

**(PASTOR MIHEE, continued from page 2)**

The steady breathing includes pastoral care, phone calls, cards, visits, homebound communion, meetings with new members, outreach to college students local and out-of-state, and simply being with people in joy and sorrow, such as weddings and funerals, as well as rejoicing with families at the birth of babies, and if we're lucky — their baptisms -- that is simply being with families during these seasons. Breathing in and out involved the typical business of the church: work on the website and social media, and then, the day in and day out of regular staff meetings, program staff meetings, meetings with the wonderful Miss Good, Session and deacon meetings, and other groups including the Committee on Antiracism and Racial Equity, though thankfully not as frequent, check-ins with the Covid Task Force. And always the work of being God's breath in the world means service in the wider community in other ways including the PTA and volunteering at Annapolis Elementary School and Bates Middle School, serving on the STAIR Board, and continuing on the Commission for Ministry in the Presbytery of Baltimore.

For me, and for many, worship is the primary venue for connecting with God's breath, God's presence, and finding inspiration for the work we do in the world. It was a lovely full year with all our regular weekly services, as well as the services during the seasons of Lent and Advent, our summer services out in the beautiful courtyard, and special services like World Communion Sunday where we celebrated the numerous pilgrimages the church participated in this summer, All Saints Sunday, the Blue Christmas liturgy in Shaw Chapel. I could go on, but will conclude here with a word of gratitude for the church, for the committees and boards, for the groups and volunteers, for the youth, for the children, for the staff — how you inspire and sustain me, and especially the church in this work.

Truly, this is both a mysterious and wondrous calling, our call to be the body of Christ in the world. Thank you for the ways we do this work together, for all the ways you encourage me. May you find in the following pages examples of courage, of love and compassion, and continue in that good and faithful work in this upcoming year. As we continue in 2024 I invite us to keep on thinking about this radical welcome: what it looks like in the everyday and ordinary of our lives. To connect, to engage, to inspire and to be inspired for God's life-giving, love-filled work in the world.

Blessings,


**(PASTOR ANDY, continued from page 1)**

Pastor Andy leads the children's message (May)

**Worship.** 2023 began on a Sunday, a day of worship. This is fitting because I believe worship sets the tone for all that we do and reminds us of why we do it. As always, I enjoyed the planning and leading of worship alongside of our talented staff and leaders. The gifts of our choirs, Grace Oh, Miss Good, Jill Woodward, and Mihee Kim-Kort abound. It is a joy to share in leading worship with them. I also want to thank the Worship and Music Committee, John Jamieson, Albert Johnson, and Chris Au for making sure things run smoothly, and of course Sharon Wiegand for her administrative work. All that happens behind the scenes each week is amazing. As we have done each year, Mihee and I once again typically alternated preaching. Together, we celebrated special services: Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday/ Good Friday, Christmas Eve, Blessing of the Animals, funerals, and weddings. We joyfully worshiped outside during the summer months. We also celebrated the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper, remembering how we are so very loved by God.

**Pastoral Care.** Once again, walking alongside of the members in times of sorrow and sadness, joy and celebration, is one of the greatest blessings of my work. These tender moments remind me of the constant presence of God in our lives, and for that I am grateful. I visited with members and friends in hospital rooms, homes, care centers, my office, over coffee and lunch. We benefited from the ability to also be connected in care over text messages, emails, video calls, and phone calls. Beyond connections in times of trouble, we have also connected for pre-marital counseling, baptismal counseling, and fellowship. There were informal points of connection in casual conversations on Sundays, in Fellowship Hall over coffee, and quiet conversations in hallways. Caring for God's people was done by more than just me, and it is a joy to share this ministry. Thank you to Mihee, the deacons, the care and support groups  
(Pastor Andy's report concludes on page 4)

**(PASTOR ANDY, continued from page 3)**

and the many of you who do so much in this way. You help remind me of God's incarnational love.



The pastors at Ash Wednesday worship (February)

**Christian Education.** I hope that we never think we know enough about God and stop learning. I find you all to be a very curious and insightful congregation, which makes Christian education a fun journey. This past year I have worked with you in settings such as New Member Classes, Fellowship of the Bean, Wednesday Bible Studies, and a Matthew 25 Circle. Like you, I am on a lifelong journey of learning. To that end, this year I read many books related to faith, theology, and ministry. I also had a week of study leave with colleagues in ministry exploring challenges facing both clergy and the church. A highlight for me this year was a study tour in Ireland, which was a part of the Wabash Pastoral Leadership Program funded by the Lilly Endowment. In Ireland we learned about the Troubles and the work of art, healing from trauma, peace, and reconciliation.



Pastor Andy with youth in Letohrad (August)

**Administration.** It is incredible the amount of administration required in the functioning of an

institution. The church is no different. I participated in this through weekly staff meetings, ongoing meetings with Mihee, Jill, and Miss. This year I worked closely with Stewardship and Finance, Membership, Personnel, Planned Giving and Memorials, Worship and Music, and Mission. I also shared in the work of the Board of Trustees, the Emergency Response Team, the Bylaws Working Group, and the Czech Partnership. I also moderated meetings of the Session and congregation. As always, I am so very grateful for the work and leadership of our staff, the Session, the deacons, and the trustees. They continue to do amazing things.

**Other.** A big change happened as I moved my office to the first floor of the Kinhart Center. This has been a fantastic shift and has allowed me to be more in "the middle of things" and available to people as they visit. However, moving down from the 4<sup>th</sup> floor was not the only adventure. This year I also traveled to Letohrad, Czech Republic to experience our partnership firsthand. Beyond the walls of our congregation, this past year I continued to serve as a trustee for the Presbytery of Baltimore, serve on the Administration Committee of the presbytery, serve on the Board of Directors for the Light House, and serve on the Spiritual Care Advisory Committee for Luminis Health. It is a pleasure to represent First Presbyterian in the broader community.



Pastor Andy leading his Matthew 25 Circle (March)

Looking back over the year, I am struck by the good work that God has done in this place. It fills me with gratitude and eagerness to continue moving forward together, with all of you, as we do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God (and one another), here on Duke of Gloucester Street and around the world.

Peace, 

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Edited by Susan Gross, Chris West, Miss Good, John Jamieson, Pastor Mihee, Pastor Andy, Dottie Ballard, Sharon Wiegand

**ANTIRACISM + RACIAL EQUITY**

Deb Mitchell, Chair

The Committee on Antiracism and Racial Equity (CARE) began the year as the "Anti-Racism Team" (ART) but decided the title was confusing the group with Anne Arundel Connecting Together (ACT). The group rebranded and thus "CARE" emerged.

For 2023, CARE focused in three areas: educate and engage the congregation regarding antiracism issues; team with ACT and the Mission Committee to clearly link antiracism work and specific projects those groups are driving in our community; and provide support and guidance to FPC leadership for "operationalizing" antiracism. FPC has chosen to be a Matthew 25 church

and CARE's focus is on naming, driving, and supporting the work involved needed to realize the third Matthew 25 pillar: dismantling structural racism.



Matthew 25 Church logo

Here are a few samples of what we worked on to support these objectives in 2023:

- Volunteer support for the Turnaround Thursday project which assists citizens returning from incarceration to prepare for and find jobs;
- Engaged in a training program provided by Next Church on becoming an antiracism organization;
- Met with State Delegate Shaneka Henson to discuss the role of CARE in legislative initiatives;



CARE with delegate Henson (September)

1. Sponsored the *At the River* film viewing in the fall, a fascinating and poignant look at the experiences of Presbyterian pastors in the deep South during the Civil Rights era of the 1960's;
2. Hosted weekend workshop with guest preacher Denise Anderson (PCUSA Office of Public Witness);

- 3. Joined St. Phillip's Reconciliation Conversations group and participated in discussions
- 4. Contributed financially to repair of Fowler UMC after damage caused by racist acts of violence;
- 5. Engaged in ACT's work to ensure affordable and equitable housing in the county;
- 6. Provided an advice package to Session, deacons and trustees for how to weave antiracism efforts into on-going work of First Presbyterian of Annapolis.

## ARCHIVES PROJECT

Bernie Wulff, Tom Goodridge, Chris West

Big news for the Archives Project in 2023! Thanks to the domino effect of several office moves, the Archives Project relocated from the sixth-floor attic, which we shared with STAIR, to two rooms on lower levels in the Kinhart Center. General information related to our church history is now stored on the fourth floor in room 4b (Pastor Andy's former office), with access through the large conference room on that floor. Historic records for the PWC (Presbyterian Women in the Congregation) are now stored on the fifth floor (room 5a) located at the end of the hallway that also serves the business office.

Wall displays posted in the main Archives room and the adjacent conference room highlight significant information about our church's history, including biographical abstracts for our co-founders, Dr. John Ridout and Professor Arsène Napoléon Girault, and all sixteen pastors who have served our church since its founding in 1846.



Archives space, 4<sup>th</sup> floor (Pastor Andy's former office)

The Archives Project on-going work involves reviewing, labeling, organizing, and indexing church-related documents and materials for easy retrieval by church members and staff. File cabinets and bookshelves contain historical records, bulletins, newsletters, annual

reports, newspaper clippings, photographs, meeting minutes for church boards and committees, staff records, membership records, and oral histories of long-time members. The PWC archives space includes meeting reports, church photo albums, scrap books, guest books, and new member books, as well as records of the National Naval Memorial of the PCUSA.

Volunteers are welcome to help with collecting and organizing information related to our church programs and activities, including developing digital files for oral histories, photos, slides, and other materials of archival interest and importance. Anyone who has an interest in helping to research and preserve any specific aspects of our church's history should contact the church office.

## BUSINESS OFFICE

Dottie Ballard, Business Manager



Dottie Ballard, right (Sharon in church office, left) at the Grand Opening of the Hillman Garage (June)

### Happy New Year from the Business Manager!

You are a fabulous congregation that cares deeply about your church, and I am always impressed by your dedication to the mission of First Pres. Everything from keeping the sidewalks clean, buildings painted, and flowers watered, to caring for each other, the staff, AA, and those in need locally and across the globe, to teaching and learning about what it is to believe, you step up and do what is needed. You make it a joy to work here. Thank you!

On page 30 of this Annual Report is a table showing activity in funds other than the general fund that you hear so much about. When you see the general fund budget, it does not include all the wonderful programs you are supporting as well. This table shows what the

balance was in each fund at the beginning of 2023, what came into each, what went out, and the balance at the end of the year. Take a look at what you have accomplished! And on page 29 is a table showing the operating income and expenses for years 2021-2024.

On another note, I have been taking classes to become a Certified Church Administrator. The program includes classes on many topics related to working in a church -- accounting, legal, personnel, self-care and much more. As part of the requirements, I will be doing a project for First Pres to help develop a strategic plan. I will work closely with several committees to build a framework for how to best use the church assets to continue its mission for years to come. The world has changed, and we must figure out how to keep up. People choose to donate, attend, participate and support what they care about in many more ways than before. As part of this project, I will be reaching out to you, the congregation, asking your opinions on a few items such as where and why you support the church and other charities. Don't worry -- it will all be voluntary and anonymous! I just want to see where you are coming from so that I can better guess where to go. Look for more on this in the newsletters this year.

Thank you for all you do, and feel free to contact me with questions, concerns, suggestions!

# COMMUNICATIONS

Susan Gross, Elder



Susan Gross (right), Rally Day planning meeting (June)

The mission of the Communications Committee is to inform both church members and the community of events, ministry and mission of FPC.

The committee oversees the banners that hang on the exterior sanctuary wall. Banner words convey our beliefs and values to passersby. We are grateful to John Jamieson who hangs these signs. This year we replaced a

banner twice, once due to strong winds and once from vandalism. We hung the flag of Ukraine on our sanctuary doors when Ukraine was invaded and replaced the flag with "Peace" banners when another war broke out in the Middle East.



A facebook post promotes flower workshops (February)

The committee works behind the scenes. We use print and online media to promote special events or services, such as 2<sup>nd</sup>@5. However, most of our communication is with members. Our committee works with other church groups and committees to promote their activities.

We work closely with the church office to use the church Sunday bulletins, the Friday congregational emails, regular Facebook posts, the monthly newsletter, posters around the church and sandwich boards outside the sanctuary to let members know about upcoming events. We are fortunate that both Sharon Wiegand and Pastor Mihee are great at producing eye-catching graphics to promote church events. If you miss a church service, you can hear the service online and click on a link for that week's bulletin to see the latest announcements. (If not receiving congregational emails, contact the office; emails are the perfect way to stay informed of church happenings from week to week!)

We also worked with the Congregational Life to participate in the Annapolis Pride event with a booth

and members who marched in the parade. We continue to look for events where we can be a presence. In the past year, we have added equipment to the sanctuary to enhance the streaming of our Sunday services. We also have been honing the website and adding photos of recent events. We are beginning the process of editing the website pages so that they showcase all that the church is doing. We are beginning to add blogs and videos. (If you have an idea you think might be a good subject for a blog or a video or if there is an upcoming event you want promoted, contact Susan Gross, elder and chair of Communications.) The committee looks forward to sharing church news!

## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Betty McGinnis, Elder



Betty speaks at one of many CLC events (February)

The responsibilities of the Congregational Life Committee (CLC) are captured in these three words: **CONNECT + CARE + CELEBRATE**. The goals of the committee intertwine with the church's ministry from birth to death. Researching, listening to, and coordinating with other boards and committees (including deacons, Worship, Family Ministry, and Mission) offer insight and direction to the needed work of CLC and with great benefit of our church.

### INTERGENERATIONAL EVENTS

1. Winter Potluck Soup + Salad. With the theme of "Storytelling" (stories of kindness, care, outreach). Member Barbara Jacobs told her story of kindness and care while each table shared stories with prompts at the tables (February).



Scenes from the Storytelling luncheon (February)



Leanne Kreis (right) assists at Hands + Feet (April)

2. Palm Sunday Intergenerational Event. Event included Czech Partners demonstrating and teaching egg-waxing craft; a Czech Easter traditions presentation; onion skin egg dyeing with Elizabeth Hancock, Lisa and Jessica Allison; Palm Crosses with Russ Good and Barbara and Mark Jacobs; Easter cards for homebound members with Judi Dunn and Marion Schilder; Easter lambs and cards for children with Anna Arbes and Leanne Kreis; Easter banner for our partners designed by Laurie Hewitt; Garden bags with story gave families an early start for their spring gardens; Easter breads with recipes from Czech Republic, Italy and Ukraine; and Felt Easter Bible Story activity (April).
3. Church Member Presentation. "The 1649 Puritan Settlement that Became Annapolis" by Chris West. The committee highlights the talents and interests of members periodically (June).
4. Softball + Tailgate. For all members to cheer on the softball team and enjoy camaraderie + food (July).
5. Rally Day. Included small flower arrangements for homebound, songs for children, and information on upcoming experiences (September).
6. All-Church Annual Fall Picnic. At the Cape St. Clair Clubhouse, the picnic was a festive time with fellowship and favorites foods. Thanks to Dorothy and Charles Hargrove for their leadership and to the youth, who led games and activities. The location was a fantastic change of venue, allowing everyone to sit inside, out of the rain, and enjoy great conversation (September).
7. Marionettes. Were invited to perform in the sanctuary for church members and neighbors because art of all genres is an important part of our ministry. A large group of diverse backgrounds and ages were in attendance. The Marionettes, hailing from China, and their invited guests enjoyed a potluck following the concert (October).



8. **Singing.** The committee believes that music and singing is a unifying part of the congregation. Many activities included singing and music. Thanks to David Hancock, Jill Woodward, Jesko Hagee and others who made this possible throughout the year.



Men's Summer Sing with David Hancock (tallest)

### INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS

A decision was made to have one registrar for all interactive workshops to help coordinate with the leaders, congregation, and participants. Many thanks to Helen Foxwell who agreed to serve in this role!



Teacup Flower Workshop (February)

**Flower Workshops.** Offered with the assistance of Helen Foxwell, Carol Patterson, and Barbara Morris. Sessions included tea cup arrangements in February, large arrangements in April, and table vases in May (with Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church). Denise Ferguson coordinated fall workshops; pumpkin and wreath making themed arrangements were held in November and December.

**Photojournalism.** Began in November with Kirsten Elstner in the lead. (Next session in February 2024. All are welcome!)

**Summer Softball.** Reorganized with a tailgate at summer's end. Russ Good led the Dukes in a successful season. (Softball resumes in June 2024. Come play ball!)

**Pickleball.** At Truxton Park, continued under the leadership of Mary Stuart Kempton with much interest.



Mary Stuart Kempton (bottom right) graciously coordinates monthly church pickleball (March)

**Ice Cream Social.** With former Associate Pastor David Evans, a gathering was held at the Foxwell home. Four generations were in attendance; it was a great event with all sharing FPC stories.

### CARING + CELEBRATION

**Members Moving?** The committee remembers those who are relocating. "Bread for the Journey" was organized to both recognize and celebrate their time with us. Pottery plates with the church's image were made with our partner church in Letohrad, Czech Republic, to present as an expression of gratitude and bidding them farewell with our blessings. (Members are invited to let the pastors know if a move is planned.)



The Skalski family, long-time members, given "Bread for the Journey" and a church keepsake (September)

**Recognition of Senior Members of the Church.** Annual recognition and celebration of members (85+ years of age) and their contributions to the church occurs in worship on the first Sunday following Easter. Members' past and current ministry was acknowledged. Notes went to each member in advance. In worship, a candle was lit in their honor, seats reserved, and flowers placed in the chancel. As each was recognized, a flower was taken from the arrangement and presented to each senior member (April).

**High School + College Senior Recognition.** First Presbyterian graduates shared church memories and their "next steps" (in their education and careers) in the newsletter and bulletin. A reception was held with refreshments and special gifts for our graduates. In worship, seniors were recognized by Pastor Mihee and a blessing given on their journey (May).

**Grief Support Group.** Coordinated by Marion Schilder, the group meets regularly via Zoom. Loss comes to us in so many ways. Grieving is hard work and drains us emotionally, physically and spiritually. This group is open to all and will help one grieve honestly and seek the care provided in community, prayer, and God's word. Join us for these supportive, hope-filled sessions. Email [office@annapolis-presbyterian.com](mailto:office@annapolis-presbyterian.com).



Gathering of Caregivers (as they pickup farm-fresh eggs often donated to the church by FPC member, Tom Jett

**Caregivers Support Group.** Marion Schilder meets periodically with caregivers in-person and on Zoom, and relays needs to others who can assist in supporting our caregivers. In addition to regular meetings, a luncheon was planned but canceled due to weather.

**Members Assisting Caregivers.** This group supports the work of the caregivers by lending a hand periodically. (Email [bjacobsrn@gmail.com](mailto:bjacobsrn@gmail.com) to help).

**Prayer.** Discussion centered around the importance of prayer in our congregation. This brings people closer to one another and allows for mutual support. Passing of the peace in worship was discussed, to help connect people and allow them to know one another.

**Parents' Night Out.** With activities and fun for children 10 years and under, a Parent's Night Out was held in Advent, led by Dorothy Hargrove (December).

**Deep Gratitude.** Appreciation is given to the faithful Congregational Life Committee for their service: Denise Ferguson, Jane Garbacz, Deborah "Didi" Gundry, Charles Hargrove, Dorothy Hargrove, Barbara Jacobs, Mary Stuart Kempton, Gregg LeBlanc, Russ Good, Florence Smoot, Louise Wulff. Thank you for making "congregational life" possible. Throughout the year, many other members of the congregation assisted with many programs of the committee's ministries with added creativity and impact. The youth added wonderful energy to several events. As well, our thanks and blessings to staff who supported us: Mihee, Andy, Miss, Sharon, John, Al, Dan, and Jill! Thank you all "good and faithful servants"!

As chair of Congregational Life, I found great joy serving as we emerged from the pandemic. I learned that the importance of the ministry of this committee can NOT be taken for granted. All things are possible when a congregation connects, cares and celebrates, uniting the community of faith together.

## DEACONS

Becky Hagee, Jim Allison, Co-Moderators



Becky Hagee (left) and daughter Allison with Czech visitor, Josefina, attended Dianna Young's event to prepare food for the Light House (August)

The deacons had a busy year! Those serving were Jim Allison and Becky Hagee (co-moderators), and Dianna Young, Chris West, Allison Taylor, Christina Laukaitis, Bill Hughes, Vanessa Forisha, Deborah Dixon, Todd Pekel, Marion Schilder, and Anna Balcer (youth).

We were back in full force this year after the changes that Covid required. We started our year with all the deacons receiving training in using the kitchen, serving

coffee hour, and delivering flowers. We returned to all in-person meetings, which made a real difference in getting to know one another and becoming a team. We also returned to serving home communion in teams; on the first Sunday of each month, when our congregation has communion, deacons serve homebound members. After the service, deacons serve communion, a sacrament greatly appreciated, to homebound members who have requested it.

Each deacon is partnered with a homebound member with whom we visit, call, and send cards. Unfortunately, several homebound members died this year including Helen Mansfield, Shirley Pritchard, Alice Hunter, Julie Wilharm, and Nancy Parker.

In addition to the church's homebound members, deacons are updated on any members experiencing difficulty, such as loss, surgery, or illness. Flowers are delivered on Sunday, and prayers are offered at each meeting. For those requiring meal assistance, we have deacons that coordinate a "meal train" according to the members' needs. (Deacon Marion Schilder continues to lead groups on grief support and caregiving, both groups now under the auspices of Congregational Life.)

On Rally Day, deacons baked cut-out cookies representing the entire year. Church attendees decorated cookies as they passed through the kitchen on the church pilgrimage. After church, the treats were delivered to our homebound partners, to remind them they are thought of all through the year.



Left: Rally Day deacon cookie-baking (September);  
Right: Christmas Carolers (December)

Deacons finished the year with four groups caroling to several homes bringing cheer, goodies, and song. Caroling is a personal favorite – and at some facilities, we packed the house! It brings great joy to the recipients, but I think even more to the carolers!

Lastly, we thank our outgoing deacons Dianna Young, Chris West, Allison Taylor, Jim Allison, and Anna Balcer for their service.

## FAMILY MINISTRY

Miss Good, Director, Mindy LeBlanc, Elder



Miss Good leads children on Palm Sunday (April)

2023 was an active and vibrant year for the youth and families of FPC. Under the experienced and loving guidance of Director of Family Ministry Miss Good and with support and guidance from the Family + Youth Ministry Committee and Youth Leadership Team, numerous events and activities were offered. Highlights:



Summer Pop-Up Playdate at the church playground coordinated by Mindy LeBlanc (left)

**Confirmation.** In 2021 a virtual confirmation class was offered; and two years later, we were finally able to give our 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders an *in-person* experience! Under the thoughtful leadership of Pastor Mihee, nine confirmands and their covenant partners began a five-month confirmation journey with a meaningful overnight retreat. All nine members of the class joined the church in June: Gracie McLemore, Jackie Hudiburg, Sami Jett, Bridget Bell, Gil Johnson, Jackson Lastowski, Jeannette Manseau, Amanda Ford, Eva Barret.



Youth Sunday group and Balcer sisters (April)

**Youth Sunday.** The youth dedicated the entire spring to creating and then presenting a meaningful service. This year's theme was: "Welcome." 25 youth came together to design the liturgy, visual arts, music and sermon reflections for this meaningful worship.



Children welcome Miss Good post-sabbatical (August)

**Sabbatical.** After 20 years of serving on staff at FPC, Miss Good asked for and was granted a three-month sabbatical starting in Taizé, France, and ending at the Kripalu retreat center in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, where she chose to spend the week in silence. This gift of time allowed her to rest, reflect and reconnect with many family members and friends. During this time, Miss was able to create daily spiritual practices to help "be present" and practice *mindfulness*. This sabbatical allowed time to recharge and return renewed, to continue serving the families and youth.



Scotland (July)

**Summer.** 2023 brought a busy season for the youth of our church! Three international trips were offered for high school students and a youth conference to Massanetta to our middle schoolers. Thanks to the generosity of the PWC, Czech Partnership, Family Ministry Committee and the Moran Endowment, close to \$40K was given in scholarship assistance.

- **Taizé.** A group of five young adults and four adults made their way to Lyon, France and then to Taizé for a week of prayer and service where they joined with others from all over the world.
- **Iona** – Eight youth and five adults traveled to Iona, Scotland to experience the International Youth Conference. Planes, trains, buses and ferries carried them to the island for a week of learning.
- **Czech** – After waiting two long years (again, the pandemic), three youth and two adults traveled to the Czech Republic to lead the English to the Church (ETTC) camp.
- **Massanetta** – Five middle school youth and two adult leaders joined the Presbytery at large to experience this beloved summer camp.
- **VBS** - We partnered with St. Anne's to offer evening VBS and dinner for children in prek-5<sup>th</sup> grade following the theme *Abundance Orchard*, "where faith grows and hungry people are fed."



Crossroads Choir led by Jill Woodward (winter)

**Crossroads.** The Crossroads education program was offered on certain Sundays at the 11:00 am service. With a dedicated team of teachers and Jill Woodward offering music, our prek-5<sup>th</sup> graders learned the sacred stories of the Bible through hands-on experiences. A huge thank you to adult volunteers: Jennifer Meixell, Vanessa Forisha, Kelly Friends, Lindsey Seynhave, Agnes Cobbum, Britt Griswold, Olivia Meyers.



Miss Good leads Time with Children (September)

**Nursery.** Our nursery remains busy on Sunday mornings! We had a great deal of transition in our nursery with several childcare workers leaving to pursue full-time careers. We welcomed two new faces in the fall -- Alejandra Lewis and Brody Moran. Member Dorothy Hargrove continues to share "Felt Bible" story time -- with manipulative felt pieces of fabric on a story board -- with children on Sundays. What a treasure to witness these sacred moments.



New hires (Ali + Brody); Picabo plays with bubbles; I'kea + Baby Otto (October)

**Fall Youth Fellowship + Events.** Youth gathered on first and third Sundays of the month for fellowship, fun and meaningful connections. Some of those included yard work for the Barbour family, CPT Comunidad Presbiteriana La Trinidad garden cleanup with José Lopez, a bonfire on the beach and Christmas party.



Sunday Evening Youth Fellowship dinnertime (October)

**Youth Leadership Team.** The YLT -- Ben Lander, Caroline Kempton, Sophie Hudiburg, Anna Balcer, Gracie McLemore, Jackie Hudiburg, Amanda Ford -- continues to provide meaningful leadership for the youth guiding the planning year to include more local mission projects. Ben Lander served for one year as Youth Elder and Sophie Hudiburg, Youth Deacon.



Youth Leadership Team (August)

**Christmas Eve Family Worship.** To end our year, the Crossroads Choir and youth worked hard and presented a fun-filled musical and skit with the skilled leadership of Jill Woodward: "The Amazing Christmas Maze." The Seynhave family brought fur-baby, dog Sailor, to join us on our "journey" to Bethlehem.



Youth rehearse for Christmas Eve (December)

**Family + Youth Ministry Committee.** Because they are so interconnected, the Family Ministry Committee and the Youth Ministry Committee combined to form one group. The committee meets quarterly and has grown to include a diverse group of adults representing all parts of families, plus one youth elder, yay!

## MEMBERSHIP

David Richardson, Elder



Dave Richardson (right) at New Members Class (May)

The membership team had a wonderful 2023 while we welcomed several new individuals and families into our community. Pastor Andy helped with the spring New Member's Class; Mary O'Hara Smith, Larry and Betsy Hill, Vicky and Brett Shoemaker and Sarah and Darrel Reel all participated and joined the church. Pastor Mihee led the fall class; Meghan and Graham Billings, Lowell West (Kardish), Hilary Thompson, Michelle Dina, and Cynthia Gurne joined the FPC family.

## **2023 MEMBERSHIP**

<b>January 1, 2023</b>	<b>661</b>
new members	+13
confirmands	+9
transfers out	-9
deaths	-10
delete from active	-8
<b>January 1, 2024</b>	<b>656</b>

Many thanks to both Andy and Mihee, as well as Vicky and Brett Shoemaker, Bill Hatchl, Cecilia Richardson, and others who continue to help welcome new members to FPC. To join the church, New Members Classes will be held April 14, 21 + 28 and again in the fall.

Stay tuned for a special gathering this spring for those who have joined the church in the past few years!

# **MISSION**

Lizi Schilder, Elder



Cathy Starnes, Oliver Durland, Linda Barbour, and David Hancock pack boxes for "Food Fridays" held weekly at the Pip Moyer Center(August)

Thank you to everyone at First Presbyterian for the continued support of our mission activities. From Cathy Shultz, Lizi Schilder took over as chair a year ago, and has been working ever since to figure it all out! We were very happy to have Betsey Todd assume the role of liaison to the Light House, after Cathy Starnes stepped down after 20 hard-working years in that position. Thank you to Cathy for years of service and to Betsey, for stepping up!



Former Mission Committee elder Cathy Shultz at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation (January 2023)

Over the summer, we hosted an ice cream social as a way to let the congregation join us and discover what our missions are. This was a fine chance for everyone to gather, ask questions, and become familiar with our mission work. Plus, there was ice cream!

At year's end, the committee hosted the annual Mission Fair and Alternative Gift Market, the first time in full swing, since the pandemic. It was a great success! Several missions are also highlighted below:



Chaperone Lois Lander (left) in Letohrad (August)

**Czech Committee.** The committee worked this year to recommit to the partnership between our two churches. Lizi Schilder and Russ Good assumed the co-chair roles. We were able to have two women from the Czech Republic, Nadia and Sharka, visit in April and

Josephina Suchomelova, a 19-year-old, in July. Nadia and Sharka helped on Palm Sunday, teaching Czech egg dying. They toured Maryland and stayed with several church families.



Gracious host Vern Penner with Czech visitors (March)

Josephina was here for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and able to witness American patriotism firsthand! She also did quite a lot of touring in Maryland, went to the beach, was out on boats, tried lots of seafood, played flute during a church service, and helped with VBS. Once back in the Czech Republic, she helped with the our "English to the Church" camp there. Having all three of these women visit was a lovely continuation of our partnership.

**Coats for Kids.** This program provided coats to 201 kids, more than any other year. Center of Help received 82; THRIVE Behavior Health, 63; Georgetown East, 48; and Eastport Elementary, 8. Know that all politely asked if there was a limit; thanks to FPC, we have never had to limit our distribution.

*Thank you again for your tremendous support. The first coats were distributed and students were so excited. Coats for Kids is such an amazing resource.*  
- Georgetown East Elementary

*Thank you very much!  
May God bless you and your church!*  
- Center of Help

**Give Teachers Some Love.** This is the second year of supporting teachers at Georgetown East Elementary School (GEES). Church members donated items for the "goodie cart" which are then offered to teachers throughout the year to brighten their day.



Barb Hatchl (left) coordinates "Give Teachers Some Love" (January); our refugee family's youngest child, Zainab (right), celebrates her US citizenship (March)

### Refugee Committee:

- ✚ **Abed Family.** Children Fatimah, Mahdi, and Zainab each obtained US citizenship this year! Application fees for all the Abeds were covered by First Presbyterian Church. Parents Yasir and Noor obtained their citizenship in September of 2022.
- ✚ **Abawi Family.** Shortly after the Taliban took over Afghanistan in 2021, the Refugee Committee began looking for ways to assist a refugee family from Afghanistan, given the influx of families to the US. In early 2022, First Presbyterian Church and Ark and Dove Presbyterian Church of Odenton, agreed to partner with the resettlement agency Lutheran Social Services in order to assist a family.

In May 2022, we were paired with the Abawi family of six. The four Abawi children range in age from 16-23. Since that time, members from both congregations have worked to assist the family in locating a rental home (they currently reside in Berwyn Heights, MD), and readying the home for the family through sweat equity and furnishings. Both churches continue to assist with paying utility, internet, grocery assistance, and cellular bills. This summer, we were able to provide the family with a donated car (thank you Voudrie family!), which has *literally* changed their lives!

Employment has been challenging for the family but currently two of the children are employed, one full-time and one part-time. After a six-month employment contract with the University of Maryland ended this fall, Mahbooha (the matriarch of the family) continues to seek full-time employment. All of the children are engaged in educational pursuits from high school to community college classes. Four of the family members deal with chronic medical conditions which require frequent medical follow-up.

**Haiti Reforestation Partnership.** Despite the turmoil in Haiti, our Haitian partners have planted over six million trees and can seemingly overcome any adversity. We continue to “sell” trees and this year added picks and shovels that are always needed!

**Food Drive.** This year, the drive for the Light House moved from August to September. The congregation donated \$1,894 financially and brought at least 37 bags (we forgot to count one Sunday), plus two cases of canned goods. Our food donations are back up to our pre-pandemic levels, and we look forward to continuing our support of that mission.



Youth prepare dinner for the Light House (December)

**Mission Fair and Gift Alternative Market.** The congregation overwhelmingly supported the church's missions at the December event. Together, we raised \$10,974.75 to reach more members of our community and people in far-away places. Church members took advantage of this year's expanded fair hours, allowing for more opportunities to shop.

**ACT Is Back!** At the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Action in November, ACT came together 425 strong to celebrate and proclaim that ACT is Back! During our first five years we learned, built, explored, and grew. We won important victories for justice: removing lead from the water in public schools; passing fair housing legislation; organizing and standing in solidarity with the residents at low-income housing, Woodside Gardens; providing 200,000 meals with 75 restaurants through Feed Anne Arundel; creating Turnaround Thursday, a second-chance jobs movement; and listened to 1,200 community members to create Action Research Teams.



Pat Foye (center right) and Butch Hammersmith (right) participate in an ACT listening session (July)

In 2024, ACT will be paving a path to a bolder future. We will be building our power by inviting new member organizations and diverse leaders to join our Strategy Team and Action Research Teams. Together we will be fighting for: mental health resources for youth, educators, and communities experiencing gun violence, housing that is fair and affordable, funding for a Wellness and Social Emotional Specialist position in the county school system's budget strengthening the resources for Turnaround Thursday participants.

## MUSIC MINISTRY

Jill Woodward, Director of Music



Jill Woodward directs the "Summer Sing" choir with Grace Oh on the piano (June)

The journey of our music ministry in 2023 has been a harmonious blend of joy, inspiration and growth. From Crossroads and youth to adults, we have found new ways to connect through music.

**Organist.** We are so blessed to have Grace Oh as our organist. Grace is an award-winning organist and has continued to add beautiful music to each worship service. Outside of church, she continues to give recitals in Annapolis and around the world. Grace also adds "Music Notes" -- a wonderful way for the congregation to learn and connect more with her music selections -- to the bulletin each week. We are very grateful for all that Grace does to enhance our worship and music.





Bell Choir (March)

**Bells.** Notably, our Bell Choir has experienced remarkable growth by expanding its membership by an impressive 33%! This dedicated group has not only increased in numbers but has also embraced more challenging musical pieces, showcasing their commitment to excellence. The increased complexity of their repertoire is a testament to their dedication and the rewards of those musical challenges have been shared joyously with the congregation throughout the year, most notably in December, during Advent.

Special thanks to Laura Austin for her organization and keeping us on track with music, folders, gloves and more. We are also grateful to John Jamieson and Albert Johnson for transporting the bells to and from the Bell Choir room. The addition of the lift has also made all of our equipment moves much easier!

**Children + Youth.** The youth engagement in music activities has been particularly noteworthy this year. Their enthusiasm and talent infused a vibrant energy into the music ministry and our worship, making them an integral part of the music ministry at FPC. I love going up to Crossroads each week to sing music with the children -- music that reflects the sermon theme of the week. The children have learned about their singing voices and how music enhance worship!

During our heartwarming 5:00 Christmas Eve service, the spotlight shone brightly on our talented youth, particularly the middle and high school students, who took on key roles in a musical adventure; their spirited portrayal of characters making their way through a maze to Bethlehem infused the sanctuary with energy, resonating with the true meaning of Christmas. It was delightful to witness the dedication and participation Miss Good inspires with our youth and to see so many

younger children who joined in, creating a joyful experience.

**Chancel Choir.** From beginning to end, the choir fills the sanctuary with beautiful music. The choir was joined at Easter by a brass quartet and on Christmas Eve by a string quartet. Christmas Eve also started with a prelude including Frank Lyman and David Hancock. We continue to add other instrumentalists throughout the year, to enhance our worship and music as well. The membership of this group grew immensely as well, with almost ten new members!

A special thanks to Anne and Ted Foster for keeping our music library organized and making sure everyone has the music they need, and to Linda Barbour for her dedication to keeping our choir connected through birthdays and announcements and keeping us looking great in our robes! Throughout the summer, our choir continued to grow and flourish, showcasing their dedication and passion for music through the once-a-month "Summer Sings" choir. Please come join us next summer – it is a great way to get started. The choir tackled a large group of John Rutter pieces for special music Sunday. As always, their singing and musicianship added so much to the worship. I am proud of their growth and musicianship – these people are amazing!



A special Choir Coffee Hour courtesy PWC (April)

**Thank You!** As we conclude another remarkable year in our musical and spiritual journey, I am filled with immense pride and joy to be part of such an exceptional community. The excellence achieved by our members in every service and special event reflects the dedication and talent within our congregation. I extend a heartfelt thanks to each member of our music groups and the youth for their selfless volunteerism, which has significantly enhanced our worship experience. Being the Music Director at FPC is a privilege, and witnessing the growth and harmony within our musical family brings me great joy. Here's to another year of shared melodies, collective growth, and the continued celebration of our faith through music.

# NOMINATING

Karen Smith, Elder



Karen Smith offers a Minute for Mission (December)

The Nominating Committee included at-large members: Linda Barbour, Jesko Hagee, Sharon Olson, Sherrie Smith, trustee rep, Anne Weigt; deacon rep: Marion Schilder, elder reps: Cathy Shultz (former) and Karen Smith (current); and staff liaison, Pastor Mihee.

The committee began meeting in August and continued into October. In November, the committee sent to Session the following candidates for the class of 2026: elders - Chuck Dixon (Stewardship), Mike Shultz (Planned Giving), Lois Lander, (Worship + Music), Barbara Jacobs (Congregational Life), Gracie McLemore (youth); deacons: Jeannie Heimann, Colleen Hayes, Jenny Kennedy, Marilyn Outerbridge, Keith McNally (2-year term), Bridget Bell (youth); trustees: Roger Krone, Linda Hanifin Bonner, Melissa Kardish. Candidates were unanimously approved by the congregation at a Congregational Meeting on December 4, 2023, and installed on January 7, 2024.



New Officer Ordination + Installation (January 2023)

Each year the Nominating Committee strives to select candidates with both the skills and the diversity to represent the whole congregation. As in past years we were intentional in seeking a balance between new voices and experienced perspectives to help guide our church. We are grateful for these new officers and committee members who have stepped forward to join in church leadership in 2024.



Elders Mindy, Gracie, and Ben at Mission Fair + Market (December)

And finally, my personal thanks to our amazing committee members who thoughtfully and carefully discovered, reviewed and evaluated the wealth of potential candidates we are blessed to have in our congregation. It has been a joy and privilege!



Karen Smith (in pink) at a joint meeting of Session and the Board of Deacons (May)

# PERSONNEL

Brad Olson, Elder



Sharon, Miss, John, Dottie, Andy, Al, Mihee (left) and office helpers Sarah + Fox (right) at the Annual Staff Christmas Party, held this year in the ZW House

*Individual commitment to a group effort, that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work. - Vince Lombardi*

People are the greatest asset of any organization. We are truly blessed to have a hard working, dedicated, and compassionate staff at FPC. It is always a joy to recognize the stability of our staff this last year. I would urge you all to take time to thank each member of our staff for their contributions to the workings of our church and to visit our website to learn more about the impressive FPC team.

Program staff members are Co-Pastors Andy and Mihee; Director of Family Ministry, Miss Good; Director of Music, Jill Woodward; and Organist, Grace Oh. Support staff include Sharon Wiegand, Office Administrator; Dottie Ballard, Business Manager; John Jamieson, Facilities Manager; Albert Johnson, Custodian of Facilities; Dan Arnold, Assistant Facilities Manager; Chris Au, Audio/Visual; nursery staff: I'kea Pope, Jordan Goodman, Alexandra Lewis, and Brody Moran.



"I Spy Dan" @work (March, June, August, December)

The Session recognized Andy and Mihee at the December meeting for their hard work and diligence through Covid, garage rebuilding, changes in personnel since their arrival at FPC, and changing economic environments all while relocating a family of five.



"Welcome Back Miss!" Wednesday Staff meeting (fall)

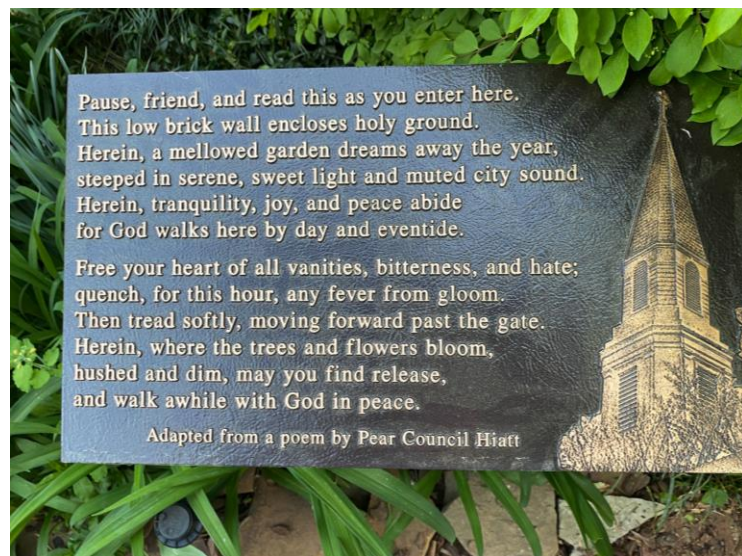
A sabbatical is a gift from the congregation that is used for a time of renewal, reflection, and education. Miss Good took a summer sabbatical (May 29-August 29). In her report to Session, Miss stated: "Thank you Session

and Personnel Committee for supporting me and giving this time away. I am deeply grateful. It was a very restorative time that gave me an opportunity to pause and look at the way I spend my energy both personally and professionally. It has given me perspective to come back and see this ministry work with fresh eyes and renewed energy to continue serving this church."

I would like to recognize the committee for their encouragement and feedback: Deborah Dixon, Betsey Todd, Erin Jones, and Beth Hiltabidle.

## PLANNED GIVING

Ray Hashem, Elder



Proposed + designed by Bernie Wulff, this sign in the Memorial Garden was approved by Session and funded by an Endowment Fund grant (March)

In 2023, members of the Planned Giving and Memorials Committee (Ray Hashem, Pam Mussenden, Christopher White, Martha Moore Woolridge, Pastor Andy) worked to manage the church's endowment and distribute grants from funds according to church policies.

In 2023, the committee considered and funded a number of grant requests for programming, mission, and improvements to facilities and equipment. The committee continued FPC's support of the educational work being done by STAIR and contributed 50% toward the purchase of a new vehicle to support the Haiti Reforestation Project. It also provided grants for videoconferencing equipment for Spiritual Formation, equipment to improve FPC's emergency readiness, and computer equipment for the Children's Ministry. Endowment funds also filled gaps in financial support for youth trips resulting from unforeseen increases in

travel and lodging prices during the year. In total, the endowment provided \$47,391 in financial support.

In May the committee presented an informational session to educate members about the endowment, how it is used, and how they can contribute to the endowment through bequests and other gifts.

In November and December 2023, the committee considered and provided recommendations as part of Session's ongoing review of FPC's financial policies. The committee is hopeful that the work that has been done and continues to be done on that front enables the endowment to continue supporting FPC's mission and activities in a sustainable way into the future.

2023 saw a modest recovery in the financial markets, as compared to 2022. The value of endowment funds increased by \$284,944.80 due to market gains and contributions -- partially, but not completely, offsetting the \$339,961.57 decrease in funds during 2022. At year-end, the value of the endowment was \$2,276,793.02.

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN IN THE CONGREGATION

Judi Dunn, Moderator



PWC Moderator, Judi Dunn (white shirt) made cards with Czech friends, Nada + Sarka (bottom left) in April

The Presbyterian Women in the Congregation (PWC) includes all the women of the church. In 2023, its activities were led by an elected board: Judi Dunn, Moderator; Gwen Johansen, Vice Moderator; Nancy Campbell, Secretary (still taking and sending minutes from Texas!); Carol Poole, Corresponding Secretary; Christine West, Treasurer. Committee chairs are: Carol Patterson, Flowers + Garden; Anne Cobb, Becky Hagee,

Memorial Receptions; Judy Dryden, CLAMS; Fran Jaques (who died November 26), Christine West, Historians; Anne Cobb, Carol Patterson, Elizabeth Hancock, ZW House; Louise Wulff, then Dorothy Hargrove, liaison to Congregational Life.



Garden Team: Sandy, Anne, Dorothy, Carol (monthly)

We have all-member meetings the first Thursday of the month (not during summer) on Zoom, allowing members near and far to participate.

PWC is still in good financial standing, thanks to another successful pledge drive. These donations covered our intended outreach commitments. This year's gifts went to Backpack Buddies, CASA, Family Support Center, Good News Ministry, Habitat for Humanity, the Haiti Reforestation Partnership, the Light House, Meals on Wheels, Providence Center, Samaritan Women, STAIR, and the YWCA Women's Center. We also gave \$1,500 for youth scholarships to assist with mission trips, and pizza for Christmas carolers.

**Flowers + Garden.** The Memorial Garden continues to flourish under the leadership of Carol Patterson. The committee works hard to keep the garden weeded and mulched, and making sure it remains beautiful in all seasons for church members and the community to enjoy. The pots in front of the church are also maintained. 150 new tulip bulbs were planted this year in addition to more crocuses and daffodils.

The committee also made sure there were May baskets on the doors of the church and ZW house. In December as always, PWC purchased fourteen evergreen wreaths, adorned them with red bows, and hung them on the outside doors and in the sanctuary.



4 generations of Campbell church members (March); Nancy Parker's memorial reception (November)

**Memorial Receptions.** What a joy it was to be able to offer memorial receptions again! Becky Hagee has joined Anne Cobb in setting up and organizing receptions. In November, we helped say farewell to Nancy Parker. In addition to the regular board members and volunteers who bake and set up, we were joined by church friends of Rick Parker, Nancy Parker's son; those friends pitched in to help prepare and serve a lovely buffet of finger foods and a tempting cookie table. In December, we gave a memorial reception for one of our own board members, Fran Jaques. Once again, a reception gives an opportunity for family members to greet those who attended the funeral, church friends, out-of-town guests, and members of the community.

waters for returning to live/hybrid sessions. Zoom has allowed us to stay in touch with members who have moved away but still want to create items for us.



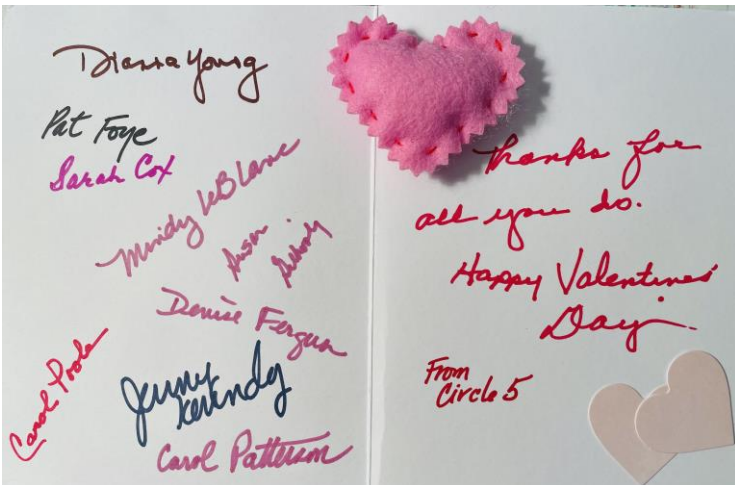
CLAMS donated yarn to CEDEPCA, hand-delivered by Susan Gilhooly on a mission trip to Guatemala (March)



Circle 5: Mindy, Carol, Pat, Dianna, Sarah, Carol, Susan, Denise Christmas Gathering (December)

We donated 86 hand-made hats to STAIR this year. With PW funds we purchased 26 pairs of gloves and 6 twin/full blankets for the Arundel House of Hope (Winter Relief). We have been blessed with many donations of yarn, knitting/crocheting equipment, and other odds and ends by members who have either moved away, had to give up the craft, or have cleaned out their closets. As we tell our donors, when we cannot use a yarn donation, we pass it on to good causes. This year that included the Guatemalan mission and Georgetown East Elementary School's art department. Georgetown used its to make fairy houses for the school's participation in the Quiet Waters Fairy Festival, the donation having been Elspeth Adam's gorgeous collection of shells, and a testament to recycling!

**Circles.** Circle 5 is back to meeting in-person, and there is a circle of young mothers, as well. Contact us if you'd like to join one of these circles or form a new one. We welcome you to any of our gatherings!



Circle 5 gave gift bags to each staff member (February)



Susan Gilhooly (grey shirt, glasses), Guatemala (March)

**CLAMS.** CLAMS continued with monthly zoom meetings (third Wednesday) with the exception of a July-August summer break. We also had an in-person meeting at Barnes and Noble in November to test the

Prayer shawls (large and pocket) continue to be an important part of our mission. This year pocket shawls were given to the confirmand class and their partners. Please remember that pocket prayer shawls are always

available for anyone to take, in a basket at the rear of the sanctuary. As always, large prayer shawls were distributed upon request to those needing comfort. (To request, phone Judy Dryden, 410-263-8334).



May Day flowers on sanctuary doors, courtesy PWC

**Looking Ahead.** During the periods of Covid and no parking garage, we learned to depend on Zoom. After it was no longer absolutely necessary, we chose to remain on Zoom as it is a wonderful way to connect with those unable to attend physically (by circumstance or distance). We currently have regular attendees from San Antonio (our secretary), Georgia, and Baltimore. We look forward to 2024, but plan to continue on Zoom. Monthly board meetings are for *all* PWC members (not just board members). Join us the first Thursday of the month at 9:30 am!

## SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Pat Foye, Elder



Pat Foye (right) and Julie Carlson (second from right) chaperone youth in Taizé, France (May)

Adult Spiritual and faith formation, and cultivation, occurred in numerous ways throughout this year. Programs were offered in both in-person and online formats. We were blessed by the many volunteers who provided their gifts and talents to support our life-long spiritual journeys.

**KC4a Adult Christian Education class**, was led by Debbie Mitchell. The class wrestled with a variety of topics from Celtic spirituality (in preparation for the Iona pilgrimage in June) to the Gospel of John, to biblical interpretation around transgender issues, to reminders from Walter Brueggemann to focus on the “hopes that drive us onward,” in resistance to “the fears that hold us back” where he takes on the dominant narrative of our society these days of scarcity, fear, greed and violence. Class discussions – as always – were lively and far-reaching. (There is always room for more participants, if anyone cares to join us!)

Books studied included: *Transforming: The Bible and the Lives of Transgender Christians*, by Austen Hartke; *Sacred Earth Sacred Soul: Celtic Wisdom for Reawakening to What Our Souls Know and Healing the World*, by John Philip Newell; *Encounters with Jesus: Studies in the Gospel of John*, by Frances Taylor Gench, and *Resisting Denial, Refusing Despair: And Other Essays*, by Walter Brueggemann.

**Fellowship of Bean**, coordinated by Martha Wooldridge, offered lively discussions (and coffee!) in the ZW House and on Zoom. Weekly Sunday morning meetings were facilitated by Bean participants, and occasionally by pastors Mihee and Andy. Diverse topics were covered including the Bahai faith, forgiveness, loss, what keeps us up at night, spirituality, World Communion Sunday, and how to respond to the challenges of living with others in today's world. The Bean is a caring community of First Presbyterian and always welcomes new participants.

**Women's Book Club**, led by Julie Carlson, met monthly on the last Monday evening of each month. Ten books were read and discussions were facilitated by group members. This year's books chosen by the group included: *Eat this Book* (Eugene Peterson), *Four Quartets* (T.S. Eliot), *The Antidote* (Oliver Burkeman), *Crying in H Mart* (Michelle Zauner), *Lucy by the Sea* (Elizabeth Strout), *The Reading List* (Sarah Nisha Adams), *Horse* (Geraldine Brooks), *Demon Copperhead* (Barbara Kingsolver), *A Long Petal of the Sea* (Isobel Allende), *The Music Shop* (Rachel Joyce). Meetings were held in-person, in the courtyard, and at the ZW House with the option of joining via Zoom.

Spiritual Formation participated in the planning for this year's **Matthew 25 Circles** (a renaming of "Lenten Circles") which included eight classes centered on the theme of FPC's designation as a *Matthew 25 Church* ([www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/)). The hope and wish of these Circles was to "connect with one another, engage our larger community, and to be a witness of God's love and grace in the world."

Circles were: *Compassionate Parenting*, led by Allison Taylor; *Belonging*, a book study with Pat Foye; *Queering Church*, led by Pastor Mihee; *Our Confessions*, led by Pastor Andy; *Mathew 25 + Lament*, led by Debbie Mitchell; a *Men's Group*, led by Brad Olson; *Hiking + Earthcare*, led by Cecilia and Kai Richardson; and *Disability Justice*, led by Vanessa Forisha.

**Year of the Bible** program wrapped up in September. Several people joined this yearlong commitment to follow a daily reading schedule using material from *The Year of the Bible*, by James E. Davidson. In addition to supporting people in their desire to deepen their understanding of scripture, it provided an opportunity to connect with members. A follow-up meeting is planned for early 2024 to discuss the impact this program has had and to consider ways to continue to support this daily spiritual practice.



Denise Anderson led an art workshop (September)

A highlight of the year was a weekend with guest speaker and pastor, **Rev. Denise Anderson**. Rev. Anderson is the Director of Compassion, Peace and Justice for the PCUSA. On Saturday, September 23, Rev. Anderson led an art workshop and discussion on the topic of *The Imaginative Church: Resisting Survival Mode through Creativity*. On Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup>, she preached at both services and provided a faith forum and Q&A at the education hour.

**Retreats.** This year also saw the return of in-person retreats. In June, 10 members and friends of our congregation travelled to **Iona, Scotland** for a week led by author and retreat leader, John Phillip Newell. The focus was on Celtic spirituality based on Newell's book *Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul*. Participant reflections

included: being able to worship in the "cathedral of earth, sea, and sky;" morning meditations / Ohm, Shalom, Amin; experiencing "a thin place;" awakening spirituality; and making new friends.

An outcome of the young adult **Taizé France Retreat** held in May, was a Taizé Prayer in October led by Br. Emile of the Taizé community. Past Taizé Annapolis members of FPC and St. Mary's Church were invited to this special service in our sanctuary. Br. Emile and participants met at noon on the front steps of our church and took a short pilgrimage to City Dock to visit the important Alex Haley Kunte Memorial where they considered one story of peace-making and justice. Participants then returned to our sanctuary for a Taizé prayer, and a short time of discussion. It was a meaningful experience, especially, as we hold together all that desperately needs peace in the world right now.



Attendees of the Montreat women's retreat (August)

In August, members and friends of FPC attended the Montreat Annual conference, **Women's Connection**. This retreat was an opportunity for "women to connect with old and new friends, a time to care for yourself; a time for space and Sabbath." Kate Bowler, author of a Lenten devotional, was the keynote speaker.

2023 ended with **Advent** resources from A Sanctified Art, which included a devotional booklet based on Luke's Gospel, titled, *How Does a Weary World Rejoice?* From the introduction of this Advent booklet we are reminded to "hold space for our weariness *and* our **joy**... seek a 'thrill of hope' in our hurting world... In this weary world, may we find many ways to rejoice."

## STEWARDSHIP + FINANCE

Chris White, Elder

**Thank You FPC.** First and foremost, thank you, to the members and friends of First Presbyterian Church for your generous contributions of time, talent and treasure

which continue to make our ministry and mission possible. It is through your support that we are able to sustain the life-giving, joyful ministries focused both inside and outside of our walls. Charged by the Session to oversee church financial resources, the committee:

- ✚ plans and conducts the annual pledge drive;
- ✚ works with the trustees assisting in preparation of annual budget proposal for submission to Session;
- ✚ manages and coordinates special financial drives.



2024 Stewardship brochure designed by Bernie Wulff

Chaired by Chris White, the committee includes Chuck Dixon, Dave Heimann, David Lanenga, and Pastor Andy. Stewardship appreciates the support of Dottie Ballard, Business Manager; Sharon Wiegand, Secretary; and Bernie Wulff, church member who assisted with the design of stewardship material. The committee worked hard to continue the church's "Seeds of Generosity" program and build on the work of 2022.

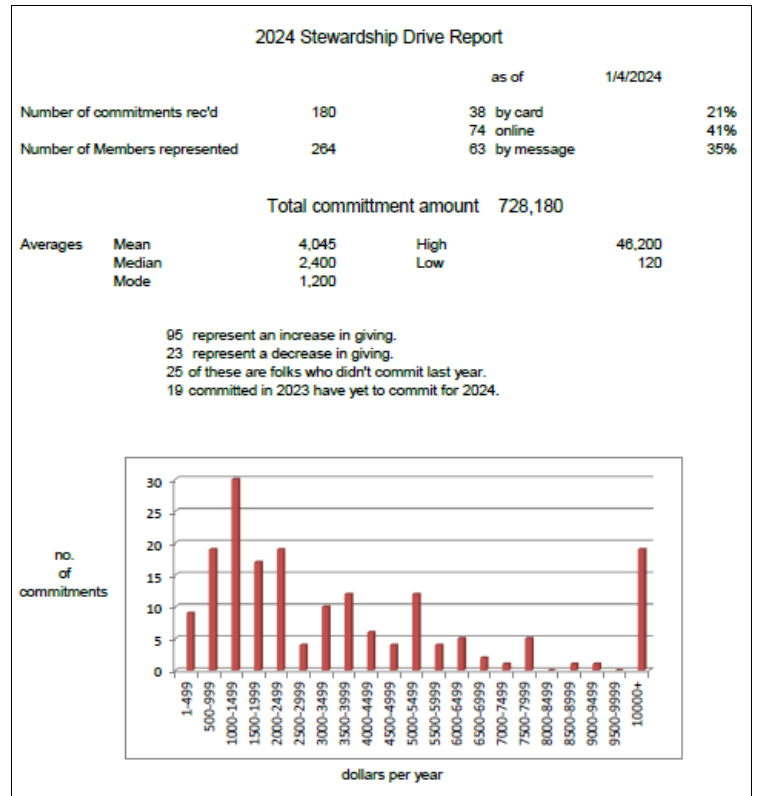
**Special Offerings.** For the second year in a row, FPC contributed to all four of the Presbyterian Church (USA) Special Offerings for a combined total of \$8,378, an 8% increase over last year. These offerings support the PCUSA and FPC:

1. One Great Hour of Sharing (\$5,238) – Provides relief to those affected by natural disasters, war, and political unrest. Provides food to the hungry and empowers the poor and oppressed.
2. Pentecost (\$1,068) - Helps the church encourage, develop and support its young people and address the needs of at-risk children. FPC retained 40% of this offering for use by our Youth Ministry.
3. Peace & Global Witness (\$942) - Promotes the peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world. FPC retained 25% for use by mission.

4. Christmas Joy (\$1,130) - Financial assistance to church workers and families; enables students to attend Presbyterian racially and ethnically diverse schools.

**2023 Giving.** From a financial perspective 2023 was a challenging year as the church was not immune to the inflationary realities we are all experiencing. While our estimated commitments and giving have remained stable the past several years, our costs continue to increase in nearly every category. In the summer we sent a letter informing the congregation of our financial situation, and several members responded, providing additional funds. The month of December again saw a generous influx of additional gifts from members -- which will allow us to carry a slight surplus into 2024. For this we feel truly blessed, especially given the \$30K deficit we were anticipating last summer.

**2024 Stewardship Campaign.** In October we launched our 2024 "Seeds of Generosity" stewardship campaign with the goal of increasing the base number of contributors and hopes to achieve at least \$750,000 in estimated commitments for 2024. As of 1/4/24, we are approaching our goal, and hope to receive a few final commitments which may bring us across the finish line.



To date, we have received 180 Estimates of Giving (representing 264 members) totaling \$728,180 in 2024 commitments (an increase of \$40K compared to this time last year). In the previous year's drive, our church ultimately finished with \$727,042 in commitments; thus I



suspect we are in reach of our 2024 goal of \$750,000; if you have yet to make an estimated commitment for 2024, please do so now!

We are grateful to see the continuing commitment of members and friends. On behalf for the Stewardship & Finance Committee, we thank you for your generosity.

# TRUSTEES

Mike Derby, Chair



John Jamieson and Bernie Wulff hang the 2023 All Saints banner (November)

**Facilities.** As of last year’s annual report, the trustees, through the hard work of Facilities Manager, John Jamieson, had successfully removed the inoperable elevator lift in the south end of the education building and boarded up the empty shaft. In 2023 the church completed the installation of the new replacement elevator that serves four stops: behind Fellowship Hall, the music room level, the stairway landing exit to the columbarium and chapel, and the sanctuary (behind the door to the left of the pulpit). We are most happy to have restored barrier-free access to the music rooms!

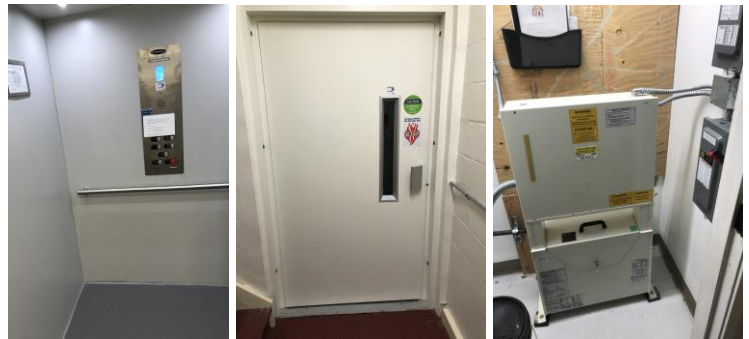
More behind-the-scenes work upgraded the efficiency of the Kinhart Center offices by bringing the copy and work area (known as the "volunteer office") closer to Sharon's office, thus moving Pastor Andy closer to "the action" on the first floor. Another result of these

relocations was an increase of space for the Archives Project (in KC4b) and more space for STAIR (KC6a).

John also kept busy with the important work of fixing things that time wears down, such as replacing the ZW House fire alarm panel after it was discovered to be starting to fail. And many thanks to Assistant Facilities Manager, Dan Arnold, for his hard work doing a lot of repair and repainting on the street-facing portions of the Kinhart Center, and interior work in the main building.

**Finances.** From a budget standpoint, the trustees kept a sharp focus on the revenues and expenditures. As mentioned at last year’s annual meeting, members had provided estimates on their giving for 2023 of \$692,000. Based on our experience over many years, we increased that amount by \$158,000 to account for additional giving that historically is made above the received estimates. Thanks to your generous response to some urgent appeals over the last few months, we exceeded that number by \$979. Every gift counts!

For 2024 we are preparing for similar challenges. As of this writing, we have \$729,380 in estimated giving planned -- 5.4% increase over the same time last year. However, that still leaves us with \$172,474 we will need to find over the course of the year in order to balance our budget. Trustees met with Session several times in 2023 to track our progress to meet last year’s budget and are planning a way forward to meet these challenges in the years ahead. Expect more information from the trustees in 2024 as these important plans progress. Thank you for your continued generosity.



Visit the new elevator! Accessible from the door to the left of the pulpit, in the sanctuary.

## 2024 Budget Highlights.

1. Our ability to switch to High Yield Savings / CDs that were not available when we made the budget in 2023, is expected to yield \$10,000 of new income.
2. Trustees will be more transparent with the congregation about certain mandatory fees that we absorb such as bank fees for receiving donations by

credit card rather than check or Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT, about \$5,000) and the per capita, which is an annual \$40 charge to the church per member (\$26,440).

3. 2023 actuals saw expenses exceed income by 2.7% (\$23,800). This reduced our available carryover available toward 2024's budget to \$8,100. Session has agreed to allocate some limited amount of interest income from the endowment (\$45,554) in order to balance our 2024 budget with the understanding all efforts are made to minimize that amount through increased income from other sources (including the remaining carryover from 2023).
4. On the expense side, committees have continued to tighten their belts while still delivering on valued work of each group towards the church's mission. \$27,950 is actually 25% lower than last year's budget. Great work being smart with our resources!
5. All of this hard work and generosity ensures we can continue to compensate our pastors and staff fairly for the great work they all do.

**Welcome + Thank You.** A big welcome to incoming trustees Linda Hanifin Bonner, Melissa Kardish and Roger Krone, as well as a big thank you to continuing trustees Anne Weigt, Dick Shakeshaft, Dave Lanenga, John Elstner, Randy Habeck and Betsey Todd for their continued hard work. A special thanks to Barbara Vosbury and Paul Schilder who join me in stepping down after three exciting years serving as your trustees.

## WORSHIP + MUSIC

Dibby Gundry, Elder



Elder Dibby Gundry (pink shirt) helped to coordinate the end-of-season softball team tailgate (July)

The mission of the Worship + Music Committee is "to collaborate in planning services and to help create, prepare and support the components of worship." 2023

was the first year since the pandemic that FPC was able to offer worship in-person every Sunday. The services were also recorded and streamed for members and friends to feel close to church, whether from near or far. Some of the baptisms were viewed by family far away, unable to travel but eager to participate.



Todd Pekel assists at "The Family Table" (March)

After being present for a year, the children's craft table in the front of the sanctuary was renamed the "Family Table." Parents were encouraged to sit with their children at the table or nearby in the first few pews so as to be available to the children and keep noise at a level respectful to others in worship. The area rug was removed to allow for more space at front when there were additional parts in worship (such as baptism, bells, communion, new members, etc.). Acolytes Mary Storer and Carolina Friends lit the altar candles every first Sunday of the month. Thank you, Mary and Carolina! (Contact Miss Good if your child would care to acolyte.)

**Flowers.** Coordinator Dianna Young ordered eco-palms for decorating the sanctuary and distributing to persons who attended Palm Sunday worship. Homestead Gardens provided lilies, tulips, and hydrangeas for Easter. Then plants were shared with homebound members, plant donors, and the church garden. Due to our budget and a generous 2022 gift, Dianna was able to provide arrangements for the chancel from York Flowers every Sunday (not Lent or Advent). Because flowers add beauty and also because they are delivered to homebound members, the flowers are deemed a vital part of worship. Members were invited to give arrangements in honor and in memory of a birthday or other special occasion. (Reach out to the office to do so in the future!) On the fourth Sunday in Advent, red and white poinsettias in the sanctuary enabled members to "honor and remember" loved ones.



College youth return to acolyte (April); Dianna and Elizabeth prepare nativities for worship (December)

**Art.** Elizabeth Hancock was responsible for our church art. She planned the appropriate seasonal banners that hang in the chancel including: Around the World (Bernie Wulff), Pentecost with butterflies and ribbon rainbow panels (new) both by Elizabeth, and the new Christmas banner made from silk scarves by Laurie Hewitt. Elizabeth also decorated the altar for World Communion with rocks from Iona, blocks from Taizé, handwritten notes from the Czech Republic, and the deacon communion boxes with elements. Her Thanksgiving altar had a wheat and fruits arrangement. During Advent the windows were filled with greens, candles, fruits and nuts.



Laurie Hewitt with the new banner (December)

**Music.** Jill Woodward, Director of Music, has led our choir for two years now and reports the bell and chancel choirs have added quite a few new members this year. The Bell Choir participated a number of times in worship. Thursday evenings mark an important time for choir members to learn music for worship and concerts and to gather in fellowship around this joyous form of worship. Even on break over the summer, the choir gathered three times before the 9:30 summer service to sing together in the sanctuary.

**Ushers, Liturgists, Guest Preachers.** Bob Foye managed usher recruitment by offering an online signup genius and by asking members to assist. All members are asked to usher twice a year so that Sundays are covered. Pat Foye attends to liturgists and advent candle lighter volunteers during the Advent and Lenten seasons. In 2023, we enjoyed time with preachers Susan Boucher, John Schmidt, Kate Foster and Dottie LaPenta when they covered for our pastors, when they were on vacation or travelling.

**Other services.** Several times "2<sup>nd</sup>@5" was offered with for a unique and casual service, such as the "Blessing of the Animals," held with Pastor Andy in the fall. On December 12, Pastor Mihee made time in the Shaw Chapel for those experiencing a loss and grief with a "Blue Christmas Worship." (For private prayer time in the Shaw Chapel, please visit the chapel weekdays between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm; it is kept open. At other times, contact the church office.) Linda Hanifin Bonner keeps the chapel looking inviting, hopefully making it a warm place for spiritual connection.



In keeping with FPC's designation at the "National Naval Memorial of the PCUSA," Session approved and recorded the baptism of Quinn Maruca with parents Ali & Nic, aboard the USS Dewey, Japan (August); former youth elder + liturgist and current US Navy midshipwoman, Avery Morrison (September)

**Baptisms.** Dibby Gundry assisted with five baptisms: Alma Shoenfelt, Bailey Anderson, Picabo Richardson, Andrew Duggins, and Taylor Boyle. Church members Nic and Alison Maruca had their daughter Quinn

baptized onboard the USS Dewey and recorded with FPC while on active duty in Japan.



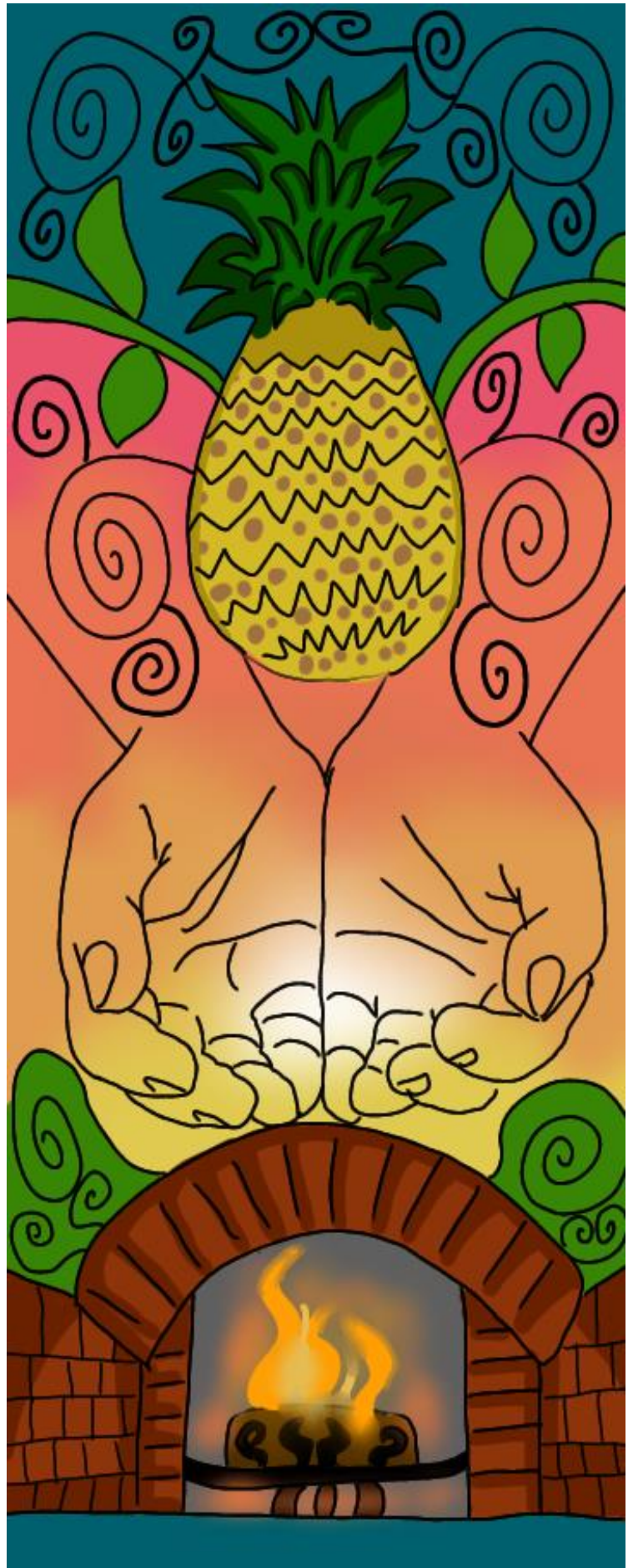
The Memorial Garden (July)

**Communion.** Each month the elements were prepared by Elizabeth Cassidy, Barbara Pratt, Betsy Stewart or Pat Foye for the early service. Cathy and Todd Pekel and Matt and Emily Coffey have organized communion for the later services. (Training was and is available for those interested in being part of this meaningful ritual.)



A special Pride Ecumenical service hosted at FPC (June)

**2024.** We encourage ordained members to serve communion and invite the congregation to usher, water holiday plants, light candles, maintain banners, prepare elements and decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. These are all ways of enhancing worship, keeping this sacred space looking its best and contributing to our worship experience, as a church community.



Youth Sunday artwork, "Welcome" by Amanda Ford

# BUDGET YEARS

Categories	2024 <b>Approved Budget</b>	2023 <b>End Total</b>	2023 <b>Budget</b>	2022 <b>End total</b>	2021 <b>End total</b>
<b>Operating Income</b>					
Donations	\$824,300	\$850,317	\$850,000	\$833,286	\$778,569
Other income	\$35,200	\$3,798	\$15,000	\$3,501	\$1,861
Interest	\$55,554	\$694			
Facilities Use	\$22,000	\$17,986	\$30,000	\$28,469	\$17,865
<i>Total Available Income</i>	<i>\$937,054</i>	<i>\$872,795</i>	<i>\$895,000</i>	<i>\$865,256</i>	<i>\$798,295</i>
Carryover used to balance		\$23,800			\$14,300
<b>Operating Expenses</b>					
Antiracism Team	\$6,500	\$5,720	\$10,000	new for 23	
Communications	\$14,200	\$17,635	\$19,000	\$15,815	\$14,200
Congregational Life	\$4,000	\$3,132	\$4,000	\$911	\$274
Deacons	\$1,250	\$966	\$1,750	\$1,211	\$653
Membership	\$300	\$0	\$300	\$0	\$0
Session	\$400	\$0	\$500	\$101	\$161
Spiritual Formation	\$800	\$622	\$1,000	\$196	\$676
Stewardship	\$500	\$204	\$500	\$86	\$1,249
Family Ministry	\$6,000	\$6,380	\$6,000	\$6,586	\$6,667
Worship & Music	\$12,045	\$13,113	\$14,750	\$9,976	\$10,725
Campus Maintenance	\$80,474	\$78,099	\$74,556	\$85,191	\$80,980
Manse	\$10,080	\$8,794	\$10,562	\$10,543	\$9,350
ZW House	\$12,800	\$8,607	\$14,877	\$12,105	\$8,408
Other property expense	\$1,000	\$1,119	\$1,000	\$900	\$0
Trustee Operations			\$3,000	new for 23	
Office Expenses	\$43,885	\$42,592	\$44,000	\$42,604	\$40,020
Mission	\$51,550	\$57,750	\$60,000	\$44,510	\$45,000
Per Capital Payment	\$26,440	\$26,280	\$26,280	\$24,365	\$20,158
Pastors	\$311,019	\$294,946	\$296,487	\$281,104	\$267,180
Non-clergy staff	\$353,811	\$330,636	\$337,112	\$318,935	\$306,894
<i>Total Operating Exp</i>	<i>\$937,054</i>	<i>\$896,595</i>	<i>\$925,674</i>	<i>\$855,139</i>	<i>\$812,595</i>
<b>Year-End Profit/ Loss</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$30,674)</b>	<b>\$10,117</b>	<b>\$0</b>



Christmas Eve Worship (December)

## INCOME + EXPENDITURE FOR NON-BUDGET DESIGNATED ITEMS

	Jan 1 Bal	Receipts	Disbursements	Dec 31 Bal
ACT	4,085	285		4,370
Archives	636	200		836
Backpack Buddies	575	1,211	577	1,210
Christmas Joy	0	1,130	1,130	0
Coats for Kids	6,639	1,310	4,515	3,434
Columbarium	7,545	2,789	2,239	8,094
Confirmation Retreat	349		349	0
Congregational Events	874	138		1,012
Cuba Partnership	2,245	150		2,395
Czech Partnership	9,916	2,432	6,481	5,867
Disaster Fund	0	275	275	0
Endowment Accounts	2,132,309	280,665	136,182	2,276,792
Facilities Maintenance Fund	9,356	39,843	9,845	39,354
Family Ministries	525		525	0
FPC Action	967	141	2	1,107
Guatemala Gift Fair	0	1,070		1,070
Haiti Reforestation	0	6,437	8	6,429
Hathaway Halsey Fund	938	269		1,207
Kaderly Assistance Fund	11			11
Kinhart Fund	5,197		4,775	422
Lecture Fund	261			261
Library Support Fund	11,495			11,495
Lighthouse shelter	0	3,953	3,953	0
Memorial Fund	27,164	18,595	24,640	21,119
Mission Discretionary Fund	12,535	2,613	988	14,160
Mission Fair	0	10,858	10,858	0
Montreat	0	350	350	0
Music Funds	37,272	11,745	5,521	43,496
One Great Hour of Sharing	0	5,238	5,238	0
<i>OutLove</i> Event	1,136		1,136	0
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	840		422	418
Peace & Global Witness	0	942	942	0
Pentecost	0	1,068	1,068	0
PWC	0			0
Refugee Assistance Fund	2,587	4,196	4,637	2,146
Revolving Fund	5,939	335		6,274
Rwanda Projects	0	1,020	1,020	0
SERRV	1,972	1,280	668	2,584
Spiritual Formation	461		375	86
Souper Bowl of Caring	0	799	799	0
STAIR	0	1,567	1,567	0
Westminster Foundation	1,403	360		1,763
Winter Relief	7,455	2,270	739	8,985
Wish List items	1,752		1,008	744
Youth Activities	31,377	23,482	52,431	2,428

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# OFFICERS @FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ANNAPOLIS

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**Class of 2024**

**2025**

**2026**

## SESSION

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Membership

Lois Lander

Worship & Music

Karen Smith

Nominating

Lizi Schilder

Mission

Mike Shultz

Planned Giving

Pat Foye

Spiritual Formation

Mindy LeBlanc

Family Ministry

Barb Jacobs

Congregational Life

Susan Gross

Communications

Brad Olson

Personnel

Chuck Dixon

Stewardship

Gracie McLemore (youth)

## TRUSTEES

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Dick Shakeshaft

Dave Lanenga

**Randy Habeck, Chair**

John Elstner

Betsey Todd

Roger Krone

Linda Hanifin Bonner

Melissa Kardish

## DEACONS

**Becky Hagee, Co-Moderator**

Bill Hughes

Vanessa Forisha

Christina Laukaitis

Bridget Bell (youth)

**Deb Dixon, Co-Moderator**

Marion Schilder

Todd Pekel

Keith McNally

Colleen Hays

Jeannie Heimann

Jenny Kennedy

Marilyn Outerbridge

## RETIRING OFFICERS (2023)

Session:

Dibby Gundry, Ray Hashem, Betty McGinnis, Chris White, Ben Lander

Deacons:

Jim Allison, Allison Taylor, Chris West, Dianna Young, Anna Balcer

Trustees:

Mike Derby, Paul Schilder, Barbara Vosbury

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**WE ARE CALLED TO DO JUSTICE, LOVE KINDNESS  
AND WALK HUMBLY WITH OUR GOD. ~ MICAH 6:8**