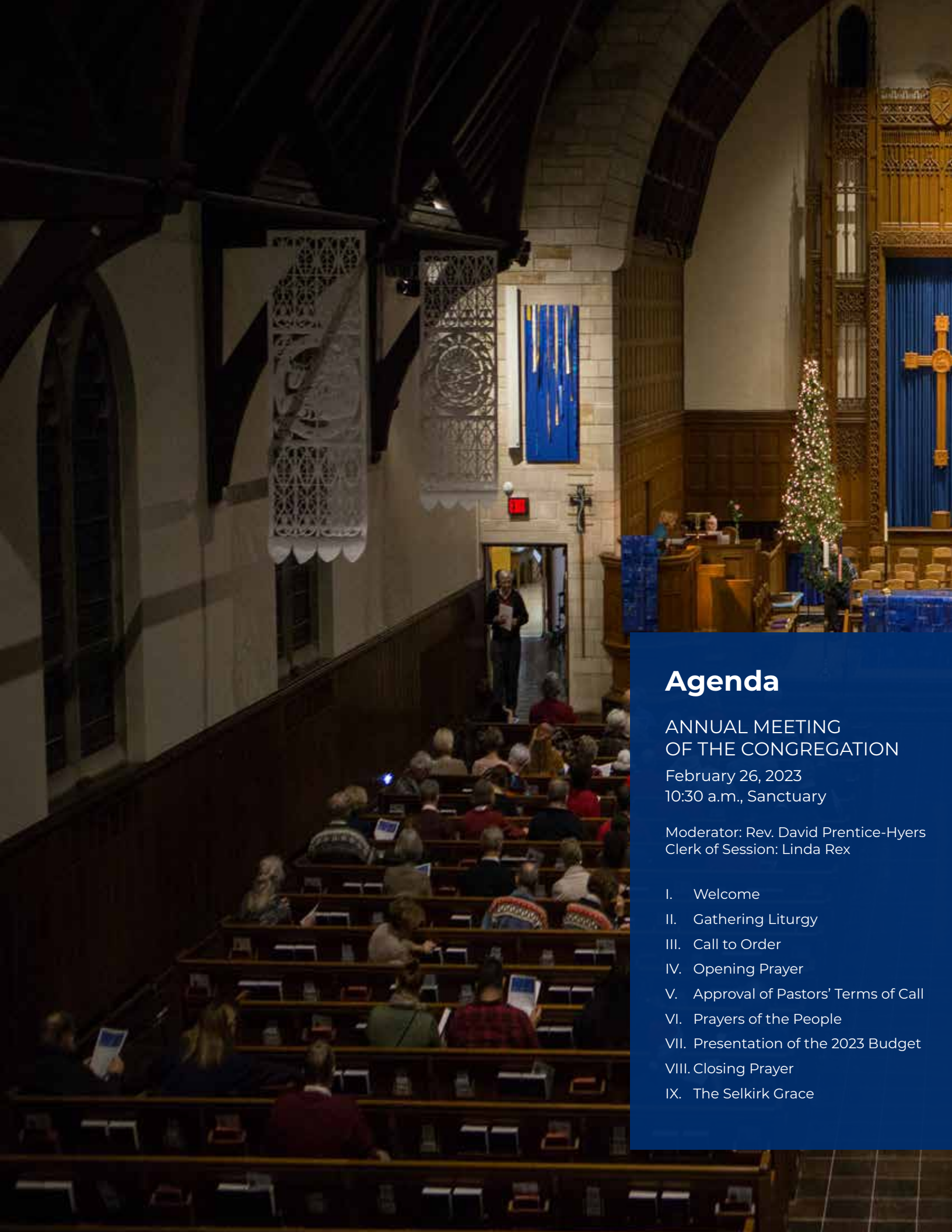


2022 ANNUAL REPORT





Agenda

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

February 26, 2023
10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

Moderator: Rev. David Prentice-Hyers
Clerk of Session: Linda Rex

- I. Welcome
- II. Gathering Liturgy
- III. Call to Order
- IV. Opening Prayer
- V. Approval of Pastors' Terms of Call
- VI. Prayers of the People
- VII. Presentation of the 2023 Budget
- VIII. Closing Prayer
- IX. The Selkirk Grace



Table of Contents

OVERVIEW

- Letter from the Lead Pastor 4
- Associate Pastors Reports 6
- Resident Ministry 14
- Membership16

MINISTRIES & COMMITTEES

- Campus Ministry..... 20
- Caring Ministries..... 22
 - Deacons
 - Parish Nurses
- Congregational Life..... 24
- Faith Formation 26
- Finance
 - Stewardship..... 32
 - Capital Campaign..... 33
- Mission..... 34
- Worship, Music & Liturgical Arts 36

- Administration
 - Integrated Communications..... 38
 - Property.....40
 - Safety41

- Committees
 - Congregational Nominating Committee ... 42
 - Strategic Planning Task Force 43

LEADERSHIP

- Session & Deacons..... 46
- Staff..... 47

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- Statements 50
- Mission Spending..... 52
- 2023 Budget 53


- 2022 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES..... 54**

Letter from the Lead Pastor


The particularity of our time draws us into the richness of God's love despite the hammering challenges upon our spiritual equilibrium. God is working new and renewed life among us. As I shared not long ago, week upon week, worship feels cozier as the pews continue to fill. Kiddos again crowd the chancel steps. We welcome fabulous new members, even as we reunite with more and more well-kenned faces. Our praise is ever richer as the choir overflows into the nave. We have seen a bountiful uptick in our pledges for 2023, and I can't express my thanks enough for your continued faithfulness and generosity. At the writing of this report, 220 families had increased their pledges, complemented by over 40 new or renewed pledges. Alongside many other faithful givers, our total is now north of 1.6 million. To



provide some context, this is over \$150k more than our 2022 goal and 90K more than our original goal for 2023. I'm sinfully proud to be a Presbyterian here in A2. I am thankful we meet these serious challenges with love, transparency, and creativity.



I am thankful we meet these serious challenges with love, transparency, and creativity.



These core values of First Pres are critical to our strategic plan and our spiritual well-being. These are religiously charged times when our most cherished words are often weaponized in a way that tears down rather than builds up. I recently joked that I wanted to title my sermon "If this scripture doesn't offend you, then you aren't listening." But I realized such bombast would be playing into the algorithms of anger that flow around us, drifting us apart. It's easier to listen to the prophets of rage than pastors of healing.

We are a sharp, loving, talented, and diverse bunch. Each time we gather for worship and light the Christ candle, we are reminded that God pours out love upon us all: Republican, Democrat, Libertarian, and Crypto-Anarchists (this is Ann Arbor, after all). God's love is for us all, young in stride and young at heart, orthodox, liberationist, and part-time agnostics. There is a place for those who love a good laugh and those who struggle to make it out the door. As Pastor Hannah told

the children, God says you are unique, you are important, you are loved, and you belong.

Selfishly I end each service with the same charge taken from scripture. It's my own form of spiritual resistance to the voices that seek to lead us down paths of hatred, disillusionment, and apathy. After years of recitation, they still weave new patterns of Grace upon my heart and push me toward love, transparency, and creativity. May they work their weaving into our lives, direction, and vision for FPC.

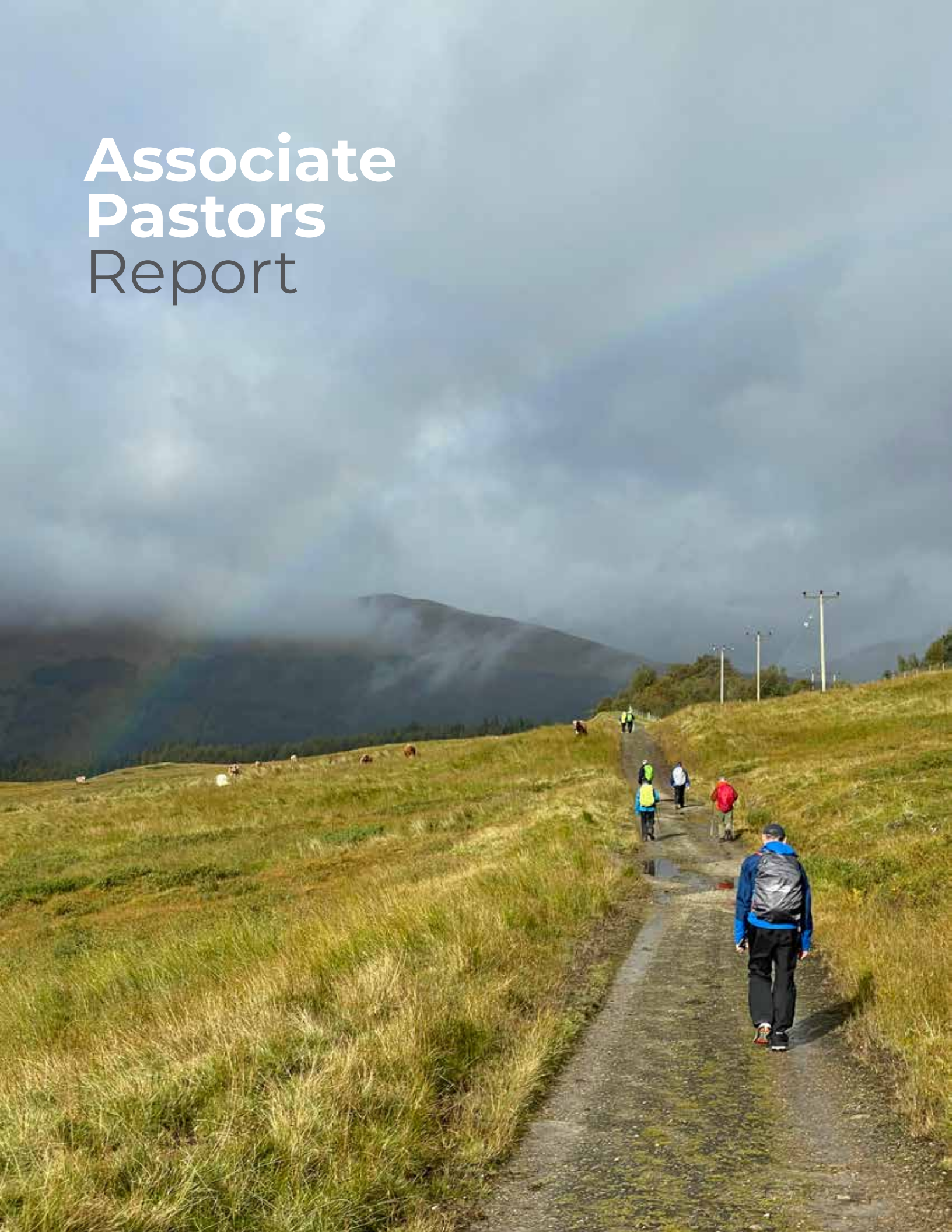
Go out into the world in peace.
Have courage.
Hold on to what is good.
Return no one evil for evil.
Strengthen the fainthearted.
Support the weak.
Help the suffering.
Honor all people.
Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Under the Mercy and Grace of God,



David Prentice-Hyers
Lead Pastor

Associate Pastors Report





PASTOR REPORT

Rev. Jay Sanderford

Associate Pastor

“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid.” –Matthew 5:13-14

Jesus calls the church, our church, to demonstrate and embody this truth. Be the light of the world. Where there are dark places, be the light there. Illuminate. Be the salt of the earth. Bring out the true flavor of what it means to be fully alive. Be life-givers to other women, men, children, families. That is what Jesus tells the disciples to be. That is what Jesus says to the church, tells us, to be and do. Love each other. Heal the sick. Raise the dead. Be a friend to unwanted, imperfect people. Cleanse lepers. Feed the hungry. Cloth the naked. Cast out demons. House the houseless. Speak for the voiceless. That is what loving each other means. In my view, this is what being a community of faith means.

In early 2022, we needed a bright source of holy light to illuminate a season of darkness, heavy grief, and loss. Our beloved Resident Minister Rev. Matthew J. Warfield fell ill with Covid in December 2021, and died tragically in early January 2022, following a long struggle. Matthew J’s death was a shattering loss for his family, our congregation, our Resident Ministry, and our First Pres Staff. It was compounded by the sudden death of Carter Hodgson, a beloved friend, elder, and leader on the same weekend in early January. Only the light of God could penetrate the darkness, and thankfully, it did, illuminating a hopeful path.

So much of what transpired at First Pres in this past year was guided by our Strategic Plan adopted by the First Presbyterian Session in December 2021 to “Make God’s Love Visible.” The core of the plan affirms that: our challenge is to serve God with joy and to bear witness to God’s transforming love made visible in Jesus Christ.

This plan guided our ministries, staffing, finances, worship, and facility planning for the past months and will set our path for some time to come. It impacted my work, my priorities, and my ministries at First Pres all through 2022. My gratitude goes to Elder Sue Gott and the Strategic Planning Group who were instrumental in shaping this crucial strategic path.

For the first half of the year, I served as Moderator of the Session and leader of the Core Leadership Team of pastors and leaders and worked to guide the day-to-day operations of the church. I worked closely with the Finance and Personnel Committees to plan for the immediate health of



our community. In this time between January and June, we provided a foundation for the beginning of a new era of pastoral leadership with the arrival of Lead Pastor Rev. Dave Prentice-Hyers, making all the complex preparations for a smooth transition. At the same time, I guided our staff as we said goodbye to Rev. Evans McGowan, our Campus Minister and Associate Pastor for Faith Formation as he intentionally stepped into a season of travel and discernment. Our colleague Rev. Mark Mares moved confidently into the role of our Associate Pastor for Youth Ministries and Faith Formation and assumed broad responsibilities for all areas of Christian Formation.

In the spring of 2022, I oversaw, with the Session, the launch of our “Embracing Hope” Capital Campaign with the formation of the Capital Campaign Committee with Deanne Woodruff and Dan Mitas as Co-Chairs. On Palm Sunday 2022, we continued the process of examining the state of our 80-year-old building and imagining new and renovated spaces for worship, formation, hospitality, and administration, as well as planning for a complete overhaul of our aging mechanical

systems—heating, cooling, ventilation, plumbing, electrical, technology and safety. Architect Anne Cox of A3C Architects was chosen as our principal guide and led a process of assessment, evaluation, and future planning that concluded in December. In mid-year, the Building Project Group was formed to thread all the technical and architectural data into a comprehensive plan, and Rick Ingram and Bill Upton have served as very able co-chairs. A feasibility study to assess our financial capacity for supporting a new vision for our facilities will take place during February 2023.

Since Dave Prentice-Hyers began ministry in late June, I have gladly and intentionally moved back into my role as Associate Pastor, and focused on Mission, Local Community Mission, the Resident Ministry Program, and the Capital Campaign/ Building Project.

Our Resident Ministry program is one of the unique features of First Pres, distinguishing us in remarkable ways. It represents devotion to our identity as a teaching community, ardent to the formation of young pastors in our Presbyterian





Church USA, and shaping the future life of congregations. Members, students, and friends share wisdom and insights with our Residents and they in turn offer gifts in pastoral care, worship and preaching, teaching and leadership, service, and community ministry. It is a joy to serve as Director of the Resident Ministry program and to direct the many aspects of this magnificent ministry. Our two Resident Ministers, the Revs. Megan Berry and Hannah Lundberg, excel in their ministries at First Pres and show growth, depth, humor, and character as pastors and leaders despite the grievous loss of our dear colleague, the Rev. Matthew J. Warfield, in January.

Our Local Mission projects are diverse yet share the aim to make our community reflect the hospitality and compassion of God. We continued in 2022 a

strong ministry with our Feeding Our Neighbors, a.k.a. Big House Food Rescue, reclaiming thousands of pounds of high-quality food after the University of Michigan athletic events. That food was then delivered to feeding ministries in Ypsilanti and Detroit. We connected First Pres volunteers, generosity, and compassion with the December programs' Fostering Futures and the Family to Family Christmas ministry of gift-giving. Three times each year, volunteers cared for children and families at Alpha House. At a crucial moment, First Pres assisted Alpha House with a measure of financial assistance. First Pres volunteers rehabilitated a house in Ypsilanti and renewed their faith along the way. I'm proud we support Friends in Deed and the Circles Ministry in Ypsilanti as we play a part in helping people rise from poverty. The hospitality and care of the Rotating Shelter program were engaged with full hearts. Ministries with Hope Clinic, as well as Cass Community Center in Detroit, continue. Our Local Mission Grant Program, guided by Martha Kershaw, directed more than \$75,000 to local programs and ministries. Our reach is broad and wide and tilted to caring for people and families in acute distress. We aim to keep people in our local community safe, dry, warm, and healthy.

I had a brilliant experience of spiritual, emotional, and physical growth trekking the 96+ miles of the West Highland Way in Scotland in October with a grand group of 8 men from First Pres. Developing the Social Justice Action group and supporting the Dismantling Racism Group have been two new, cherished roles for me in 2022.

If the church is doing things like this, then we are being what Jesus challenged us to be. If we are not doing things like that—no matter how many other good and useful things we may be doing—then we are not being what Jesus told us to be. It is as simple as that.



PASTOR REPORT

Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers

Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care & Congregational Life

In considering all the positive changes that came to First Pres in 2022, we cannot forget that the year began with incredible sadness with the deaths of two people who were significant to our congregation. The losses of the Rev. Matthew J. Warfield and Elder Carter Hodgson in the first two weeks of January pushed our congregation into a tough season of grief that continued through the year as other precious members joined them in eternal life. For all these, their memory will be a blessing.

We also bade farewell to those who moved away from our community, grateful for their time in Ann Arbor. We did the hard work of moving people off our rolls who had long ago detached from our community. It is right but hard to make our list of committed members as accurate as possible.

Yet, as the year unfolded, God infused our congregation with new life and gifted people—just as the Holy Spirit has brought to pass year after year. New friends came, bringing great energy and compassion, molding our church family with their love and desire to serve — and contributing their gifts in inspiring ways. The Congregational Life Committee welcomes and integrates these new members, and to help guide that work is a true blessing for me. They join me in the belief that everyone already belongs — but helping folks make a closer connection and commitment has rich blessings for them and for us. God's love for First Pres is revealed when these new individuals bring their curious questions, creative ideas, and articulate voices. We are a stronger and more vital congregation as we end 2022, even as we started the year in mourning.

In working with small groups — including the Promises group (our young adults with special needs), the Board of Deacons, the Helping Hands program, our Stephen Ministers, and the Congregational Life Committee—I try to help people make meaningful connections. With my encouragement, a new women's fellowship came together in 2022 which meets twice a month for conversation, prayer, and connection. A mixture of new members and long-time First Pres faithful, these women are forging bonds and growing together in lovely ways. My heart is touched when the Holy Spirit helps people find others to strengthen their faith and deepen their curiosity about who God is and where Jesus is calling us to serve. I hope to bring more of these small groups together in future years. Unique opportunities to engage our mature members in learning together through lecture and bus trips remain energized and demanding — something that could not happen without the incredible passion, hard work, and enthusiasm of member Brad Taylor.



Resourcing our various arms of pastoral care and supporting my colleagues as we aim to create meaningful and life-giving worship brings me joy. Special services, like the Longest Night service and services of wholeness and healing, help people grieve, mourn, and move through transition, aided by the Holy Spirit caring for them through our congregation. Special opportunities for fellowship call forth the excitement and commitment of our members — and the Strolling Reception this past Advent Season served as a beautiful example of a successful event that helps our congregation deepen ties.

For over seventeen years, it has been deeply fulfilling to serve in the areas of compassion, care, and congregational life. Helping guide people with pastoral gifts to build enriching ministries and transformative connections, and providing support to our lay leaders who encourage our members in acts of tangible service continues to be my calling. This year, I was on the receiving end of that compassion when my husband unexpectedly died. Over Jim's seven-year journey with dementia, our family more easily navigated the challenges of his decline through the generous care of our church family. The last months of his life were incredibly hard, and I was deeply stressed as I struggled to juggle all the areas of First Pres' ministries that I

resource. It was the love of our church family and the skillful care of our leaders who saw me through that time. Our sons, Charlie and Luke, were raised at First Pres and have been shaped by the many members who have nurtured, taught, and loved them. We know full well the blessings of a church family that offers strength and presence when tragedy occurs.

The thoughtful outreach of our members and pastoral leaders, particularly in the last six months of Jim's life, enabled me to feel the presence of God daily. My colleagues stepped in during the most intense days of grief when I needed to be with my children or simply sleep. With the help of an incredible team, the ministries I love and oversee carried on with less attention from me, but without losing intentionality or direction. Words are insufficient to thank you for walking alongside our family while stepping up to make sure our church members received the attention and love they needed.

I continue to emerge intact from sadness, finding myself overjoyed to continue in ministry here at First Pres, especially now with our new Lead Pastor in place. The future is bright. We will continue to love, to lose, to mourn, to rejoice, to grow, and to become. There is a time for everything, but all time is in God's merciful hands. Thanks be to God.



PASTOR REPORT

Rev. Mark Mares

Associate Pastor for Faith Formation and Youth & Family Ministries

There's a story I once told when I first joined the staff here at First Pres about something that happened at the small church I grew up attending. It was a Spanish-speaking church that my grandpa had planted in Holland, MI, back in the '70s. Many of the folks that made up this community were family members, but there were also folks whose stories mirrored my own family. They found Holland on their journey through life, searching for meaning, hope, and community.

My family was involved in the life of worship and faith at that church – my dad, siblings, and uncles all helped lead worship. My dad was the heartbeat of the band as he played the guitar (yes, we had guitars in worship, but I won't say more about the salsa and merengue). I wanted to be just like my dad in all ways, but especially as he played the guitar.

Well, one Christmas when I was eight, I received a small guitar that looked just like my dad's. I was ecstatic; it even had a little guitar amp with it! The very next Sunday, I waltzed into church with my guitar strapped on my back, my little amp in my hand, and a little swagger in my step. I went up to the second pew, right behind where the musicians sat, and prepared myself for worship as I tuned the guitar (or pretended to, I'm not sure I knew what I was doing).

We tried some things that worked, and we tried some things that didn't, but always at the forefront of our mission is to shape our ministries so that they connect with people of all ages and help them grow their faith.



It's what happened next that has stayed with me all these years later. Just as we were about to begin, the gentleman playing the bass guitar turned around and gestured toward me to come sit between him and my dad. I was just a kid. I didn't even really know how to play the guitar. But the act of inviting me into that space, to sit alongside the others leading worship, was so empowering and encouraging. The effects of this experience still ripple into my imagination to this day.

This past year brought on continued growth and evolution to the Faith Formation and Family Ministries at First Pres. We tried some things that worked, and we tried some things that didn't, but always at the forefront of our mission is to shape our ministries so that they connect with people of all ages and help them grow their faith.

As I transitioned from the role of Minister of Youth & Families to Associate Pastor of Faith Formation, Youth, & Families, I reflected on this story from my early formation. I'm so grateful for the opportunity to work with an amazing group of leaders, elders, and volunteers here at First Pres. My prayer is that we continue to lean into a curious imagination, filled with mystery, as we do the hard work of creating space for all people to find belonging, engage in honest questioning, share stories filled with truth-telling, and engage in justice-seeking work. Onward we go, with God leading us. May it be so.



Resident Ministry

LYNNE LANDE, Chair
Resident Ministry Work Group

In the late summer of 2021, Megan Berry, Hannah Lundberg, and Matthew J. Warfield arrived at First Pres to begin their two-year residency with us. They brought energy and new ideas and willingness to learn and engage with the congregation at every level. Most important, they brought their love for God and for God's people. We have been deeply enriched by their gifts and love.

In December 2021 tragedy struck. Matthew J. became ill with COVID. Hopes for his recovery rose and fell until his death on January 8, 2022. The loss of Matthew J. brought sorrow to the congregation and staff, especially to Megan and Hannah and Jay and Matthew J's close friend, Mark Mares. We grieved Matthew J's death, and we remember his life and time with us.

Hannah and Megan continued to grow strong in their ministry at First Pres: preaching, planning and leading worship, working with committees,

providing pastoral care, and working closely with Jay in learning the many facets of ministry. They each have chosen and developed a Capstone Project: Hannah is focusing on campus ministry, and Megan has pursued her interest in Faith Formation by developing curricula for different ages. Now, well into their second year with us, Megan and Hannah are thinking about their next calls to serve in churches as teaching elders.

The Resident Ministry Work Group has begun the search for the next cohort of Resident Ministers, who will join us in August. In response to financial downturns in the market and subsequent losses in earnings for the Resident Ministry endowment, we are seeking two candidates instead of three. We have received several excellent applications and are in the process of interviewing candidates.

The year that began with loss and sorrow has also seen strength and growth and joy in sharing our congregational life with Megan and Hannah. God is good.



Membership

25 & Under	179
26-40	170
41-55	203
56-70	384
Over 70	440

+ 45 GAIN
Certificate of Transfer; Youth Profession;
Reaffirmation of Faith; Other



In Memoriam

Joan Anderson
Ronald Austin
June Bixler
Carol Lee Charles
Elizabeth Elling
Robert Ellis
Douglas Gottliebson
Robert Hockett
Charles Hodgson
Phyllis Husted

Wanetta Jones
Tonetta Keuning
Mary Kinley
Lloyd Kooyers
Duane Locke
Pauline McLaughlin
Jeanne Merlanti
Virginia Patton Moss
Jane Pilcher
Jim Rogers

Waldemar Schmeichel
Leroy Taylor
The Rev. Matthew J. Warfield
Ann Wedemeyer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served Christ's church on earth who now rest from their labors.

New Members

Robin Agnew
Cherie Caverly
Tanner Caverly
David Chapel
Elle Chapel
Barbara Concannon
Janet Drummond
Jen Geer
Caryn Gehrke
Marty Gehrke
Cathryn Gray
Chris Hayes
Laura Hazekamp
Keanu Heydari

David Hufford
Karen Hutcheon
Brian Hutcheon
Jenny Keil
Dave Keil
Bill King
Cathy King
Melody Ku
Robert Laverty
Suzanne Laverty
Ashley Marentette
Brian Marentette
Lynn McQueen
Mike McQueen

Doug Menzies
Leslie Menzies
Randall Nicholls
Alex Novak
Lindsay Novak
Linda Robinson
Mark Robinson
Ankie Schuitema
Wendy Simmons
Donna Smith
Mikaela Trowbridge
Liina Wallin
Megan Wolfe

Confirmands

Cael Finnane
Jack German

Jamie Hollingsworth
Liam Phillips

Emma Schneidewind
Aaron Wisniewski

Baptisms

Vivienne English
Griffin English
Addison Kaercher
Wells Marentette

Zachary Novak
Warner Paine
Jesse Rugeberg
Clara Sawtell

Mikaela Trowbridge
Nora Wiczerza

Weddings

June 24, 2022
Lilly Esterline and Ryan Rego

June 25, 2022
Catie Holmes and Christopher Lelli

July 2, 2022
Amanda Blackson and Henry Pakela



Ministries & Committees





Campus Ministry
Caring Ministries
Congregational Life
Faith Formation
Finance
Mission
Worship, Music & Liturgical Arts

Administration
Committees
Congregational Nominating Committee
Strategic Planning Task Force





Campus Ministry

Campus Ministry at First Presbyterian Church continues in innovative ways. While you might not see many college students in the pews on Sunday mornings, students stay connected to the mission and heart of First Pres in a variety of ways. When Rev. Evans McGowan departed from First Pres in the summer, Rev. Hannah Lundberg stepped into campus ministry in an interim capacity, working to incorporate college students into the regular life of the church as we move toward the future.

Throughout the year we've gathered students for Sunday lunches and evening Bible studies, building connections with students and with neighboring campus ministry organizations. In particular, we've offered space for conversations about faith and social justice, sharing love and intentional welcome with LGBTQ+ students, and making space for emerging adults to ask big questions in a supportive environment. Through the year we have coordinated service projects with student organizations, finding new ways to connect with students who are approaching faith in different ways.



In December, we welcomed 81 students into the Social Hall for a late-night pancake supper, offering food, encouragement, and blessings for finals season. A number of students commented that they had walked past the church many times, but never expected such a warm-hearted welcome until they came for pancakes. First Pres volunteers made that possible, and continue to help college students and young adults know that they are beloved and important when they walk through our doors. To keep up with our campus ministry endeavors, you can follow us on Instagram @UKirkUMich.

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Caring Ministries

Board of Deacons

CAROL GOTTLIEBSEN and MICHELE MADDEN
Co-Moderators

The Book of Order calls ordained deacons to a ministry of “compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ.” Above all, it’s a person-to-person ministry. During 2022, fifty-four Deacons were gradually able to make more personal contacts with members within and beyond their chapel.

- We strived to establish a personal connection to every family in each chapel, including welcoming new members.
- We delivered bouquets fashioned from the chancel flowers every week to at least four members of the congregation.
- We shared the set-up and serving of communion with elders at both 8:00 and 9:30 services.
- We took home communion kits to those church members who were not able to come to church in person.
- We participated in the Sunday Prayer Ministry Team in Hillegonds Chapel.
- We served as a baptism host to those families who have a child being baptized.
- We engaged with the congregation by monitoring the Welcome Center and serving as greeters.
- We participated in the Care Card ministry in a new way (necessitated by the limitations of the pandemic). Being unable to share cards for signing at coffee hour, all deacons responded to the needs, events, and joys of 4 to 6 church members each week.

- We attended retirement village and nursing home gatherings.
- We celebrated milestones (e.g., taking communion, receiving Bibles, being confirmed) with children and their families.
- We sent a representative to Session meetings, reporting the business of Session back to the Board of Deacons and the business of deacons to the Session.

We are so grateful for leadership and inspiration that Melissa Anne Rogers provided; the support of our Parish nurses, Barb DeLancey and Stacey Pakela in helping us discern, with confidentiality, the needs of individual chapel members; the involvement of our resident ministers Hannah Lundberg and Megan Berry; and the behind-the-scenes support of Linda Robinson and Diane Knibbs.

We are grateful for the gift of being able to support the mission of the Board of Deacons.

Parish Nurses

On January 19, 2023, Barb DeLancey and Stacey Pakela marked their second year anniversary of serving the First Presbyterian Church community as co-parish nurses. Through the combined 15-hour staff position, we continue to find this calling to be a blessing in our lives. Here is a summary of our 2022 year of service:

1) Caregivers Group - Stacey continues to lead the Caregivers Group via Zoom every first Monday of the month. She consistently gets positive feed back from the members of the group that find this to be a safe and welcoming place to share about their journey of caregiving. The group was also able to meet in person over the summer for a coffee/tea gathering and there are hopes for more in-person visits in 2023.

2) Safety Committee - Barb is the primary staff/parish nurse liaison for this newly formed Committee of Session. Stacey attends meetings as often as she can. The head of this committee is former parish nurse, Sandy Talbott. The Safety Committee has continued to help set guidelines for returning to in-person worship post Covid vaccination. The committee also is working towards developing a Safety Team and continues to explore ways to keep our church a welcoming and safe place for worship and fellowship.

3) Pastoral Care – Both Stacey and Barb work side along our Pastoral Care Pastor, the Reverend Melissa Anne Rogers, to provide outreach and support for our church members. We meet weekly with Pastor Melissa Anne to discuss the pastoral needs of the congregation. In person pastoral visits, pastoral phone calls, and providing resource information for members and families are some of the things we do in this role. We also frequently identify members who may need some support and relay that information to our pastoral staff.

4) Mature Ministries – Both Barb and Stacey work to support Pastor Melissa Anne with the Mature Ministry events, specifically the Lunch and Learn gatherings on Thursday afternoons.

Our plans for 2023 include continuing our current roles and looking into providing more wellness support for our staff through helping them to develop an exercise/walking program. If it goes well, we would love to expand a wellness program to the church members.

We continue to be very grateful for this call on our lives to serve the Ann Arbor First Presbyterian Church community. We pray God continues to guide our work.

54 **DEACONS**

MINISTER TO THOSE WITHIN AND BEYOND OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH



DEACONS DELIVERED

208 **FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS**



AND SENT MORE THAN

11K **CARE CARDS TO MEMBERS**

ATTENDED GATHERINGS AT RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITIES WITH

61 **FIRST MEMBERS & FRIENDS**



OUR PARISH NURSES PROVIDED

780+ **HOURS OF CARE**

Congregational Life

GAIL GRADY

Chair

The Congregational Life Committee is responsible for making sure that everyone walking through the doors of First Presbyterian feels welcome and at home.

- Walking pilgrimages during Lent
- Outdoor special Easter coffee hour on the Circle Terrace
- Outdoor coffee hour during spring and summer on the Circle Terrace
- Weekend with Katie Brown including brunch, hospitality party, and Faith Formation hour for all
- All-church retreat on Mackinac Island in May
- All-church barbecue after Jazz Vespers in June
- Pizza supper after Jazz Vespers in July
- 52 new members welcomed and received
- New Member Classes and our first New Member Breakfast since 2019
- Tell Me More offered virtually and in-person
- On-going joining opportunities via Fast Track to Membership
- Ice Cream Social
- Continued Radical Hospitality work group; DIAA
- Assisted in the Reception following David Prentice-Hyers' Installation
- All-church family bonfire
- Strolling Reception following "Glorious Sounds of Christmas" along with the Deacons, Presbyterian Women, and Faith Formation

As Covid restrictions have eased, you at First Pres create a warm, welcoming and loving place. Every time we have folks join us at Fast Track, they very often say they want to join because they feel so welcome and at home here. We have every person at the church to thank for that. Let's all keep doing that so 2023 is better than 2022!

Members of Congregational Life:

Jill Binkley

Jim Cameron

Mary Jane Chase

Barbara Mueller

Maurine Nelson

Marita Servais

Nicki Sorter

Marti Wendler

Melissa Anne Rogers, Staff Liaison





Faith Formation

CHRIS WAHL and KATE KRAFT
Co-Chairs

The 20th century theologian, Karl Barth, toured the United States in 1962. During a Q&A session after one of his talks, he was asked if he could sum up his entire life's work in one sentence, and he replied, "Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so." It's a classic Sunday School answer, but one that speaks so beautifully to the simple Gospel message.

Our Faith Formation groups continued to evolve over the past year. There were several changes with new elders joining each work group, new members on work groups and committees, and even staff changes mid-way through the year. We also continue to process and adapt to changes brought on by the pandemic and a new reality that we find ourselves living in. Ministry is also contextual, and so we continue to create space for folks to encounter and grow their faith as they live and move in this community – all the while pointing towards the simple Gospel message: Jesus loves us this we know, for the Bible tells us so.

As we look toward 2023, we hope to continue to evaluate and evolve our faith formation ministries and seek to create opportunities for members to encounter God in our midst. Faith formation happens everywhere, in worship, in our congregational life, in classrooms, in a walk through the park, at Starbucks, at home, but no matter where they happen, we hope to create space for folks to be honest, engage in questions, be curious with the world, and open to the possibility that they might encounter a faithful response to God's love.

In the October Adult Formation e-newsletter, Elder Callie Feyen, wrote:

"A few months back, I sat in the social hall, this time for dinner and to listen to the 2022 confirmands give their statement of faith. One

boy expressed reluctance and doubt in one of the most vulnerable and honest statements of faith I've ever heard. He was confident and clear as he spoke and I'm not sure anyone in the room moved or breathed as we listened, probably because what he said was a little or a lot true for all of us.

"But I will try," he ended, and this last sentence, I believe, is how we respond to being wanted. This is the redeeming work of the confession: I am overwhelmed. I am frustrated. I am exhausted. I am wanted. I believe; help Thou my unbelief. I will try."

May we continue to have moments like these, moments that move us, that call to something deeper, that beckon us forward, that create space for us to encounter hope, and that form our faith.

Adult Formation

CALLIE FEYEN
Chair

The Twenties and Thirties of Ann Arbor (T2A2) continued meeting weekly for Bible and book studies and fellowship throughout the year. They held many fun fellowship opportunities throughout the year as well.

- Many of the Adult Formation programs are offered hybrid (with opportunities to engage in-person and virtually) or are recorded so that members can watch at a later time.
- Under the leadership of Beth Gerwig, Exploring the Faith continues to be a space within the Adult Formation Group that seeks to offer a variety of learning opportunities and engagement of faith exploration.
 - Elder Callie Feyen taught a wonderful Lenten series exploring art and scripture.



Then during Advent, she led a workshop that engaged a number of spiritual practices and exercises.

- The Bible at 11 o'clock, under the leadership of Ed Koster, continues to offer a weekly exploration of the Bible and the themes it uncovers. This year they have been working through 2 Corinthians.
- First Friends continues to be self-directed and leads a weekly discussion centered on the church calendar, and also collaborates with Exploring the Faith on occasion.
- Many other small groups and study opportunities continued over the past year (such as the men's group, Journeys, etc.).
- The 2022-23 program year kicked off with a big weekend and partnership between the Social Justice Action Group (SJAG) and the Dismantling Racism work group, to host Rev. Dr. Randall Jelks for a weekend of learning and conversation.
- In December, the Adult Formation Work Group alongside the Dismantling Racism

and Resident Ministry work groups presented to Session a proposal for the creation of the Matthew J. Warfield Library Collection; it passed and preparation continues to establish it.

- The Library Task-Force continues to clean the library space and update the space for continued use and engagement from the First Pres community.

May we continue to have moments that move us, that call to something deeper, that beckon us forward, that create space for us to encounter hope, and that form our faith.



Youth & Family Ministry

TIM WENDLER
Chair

- We held a Youth Sunday in the early part of the year with many youth participating in different roles, from playing musical instruments, to reading, to proclaiming a message, to leading liturgy.
- We held a confirmation class with six youth joining our church: Cael Finnane, Jack German, Jamie Hollingsworth, Liam Phillips, Emma Schneidewind, and Aaron Wisniewski.
- We held Faith Formation classes for middle and high school students throughout the year.
- In the fall, Rev. Megan Berry designed a unique curriculum for both middle school and high school classes. Mid-way through the fall, she adapted the middle high school curriculum to be a “middle/high curriculum.” The High School curriculum was then adapted for youth group.
- Youth Group continued to grow over the past year. In the early part of 2022, we focused on fellowship and building community. In the fall of 2022 and moving into 2023, we began thinking about faith and culture. In particular, adapting the high school formation curriculum to connect with our YG: Pop Culture and Sacred Stories. We also held other gatherings as a Youth Group outside the church:



- o Growing Hope service day.
- o Hikes around the Ann Arbor area
- o Lenten Book Read
- o Grief Group & Parent Conversation Group
- Created a Youth Leadership Task-Force connected to the Youth & Family Ministry Work Group
 - o Held a “Youth Leadership Development in the Church” training with a small cohort of youth.
 - o Several youth took leadership in Sunday school classes, child-care, and youth leadership team.
- Youth Summer Trips returned in 2022!
 - o Small group of four youth went to Frontera de Cristo, a borderlands ministry in Agua Prieta, Mexico and Douglas, Arizona. This trip served as one of our “Cultural Immersion” trips (three-year rotation for high school summer trips: cultural immersion, service/learning, mission trip, pilgrimage/spiritual trip).
 - o Led a small group of middle and high school students to Camp Fowler in Upstate NY.

Children & Family

KATE KRAFT
Chair

- Worship lab continued to evolve this year, with several volunteers from the congregation lending their time and gifts with our children.
- Worship Lab has taken a monthly role in baking the communion bread for worship the week before communion Sunday.
- Shayla Powell continues to build our children's choir and it is growing in size. They have led us in worship several times and have been featured alongside our Chancel Choir.
- Faith Formation classes continue to meet on Sundays. This year our 5th grade class introduced a new curriculum focusing on a missional response to faith.
- Milestone ministries continue to help families engage in faith at home and offer opportunities to connect.
- The Amazing Stuff class continues to adapt the curriculum it uses yearly and has added new members to the teaching team.
- Families engaged in leadership for several meaningful services, including Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Easter, and the Nativity service.
- Vacation Bible School continued last year with a small team of local churches engaged during the week.
- Special events like Advent Happening and Peeps & Pizza also continued over the last year.
- We held our first ever 'Family Retreat' with guest academic and an important voice in family ministries, Karen Marie-Yost, who joined us for the afternoon retreat.
- Last summer we had three summer BBQs at the homes of some of our families. This was a great opportunity to build community and connection between children, youth, and families.





FINANCE

Stewardship

BRUCE THOMSON
Financial Stewardship Chair

2022 was the third consecutive year that the church's budgeting and financial affairs were complicated by Covid and the resulting uncertainties regarding how much we would be open and how robust our program set would be. As a result we had budgeted for a deficit between \$200-\$300 thousand in each of the years between 2020-2022.

The good news was that in 2022 we were essentially fully active and fully staffed, especially after the arrival at mid-year of our new Lead Pastor, the Rev. David Prentice-Hyers. The bad news was that as a result our expenses were also higher and we tracked more closely to the budget than we did in 2020 and 2021 when our expenses turned out to be lower than forecast due to closures and vacant staff positions and we ended up those years being much closer to a break even financial result than the budgeted deficits.


Our revenue finished strong this year - especially in December which resulted in our deficit for

the year being \$230 thousand which was \$51 thousand lower than the budgeted deficit amount of \$281 thousand.


As we approached 2023 we were facing a much larger deficit in the coming year and recommended to Session a three month interim budget rather than a full year budget. As a companion to this interim budget, Session also approved a zero based budgeting exercise to be performed in the first quarter of 2023 led by Brent Ivey to finalize a full year 2023 budget.

This ZBB Exercise is currently underway and "Brent and the Magi" will better align our expenses and revenues on an ongoing basis consistent with our Strategic Plan goal of a balanced budget in 2025 (now moved forward to 2024) and to set the stage for a Capital Campaign to commence in 2023.

I want to thank everyone involved in the Annual Stewardship Campaign who achieved such outstanding results. We have received 431 pledges totaling \$1,677,787 (Average \$3,892) as of 1/24/2023 compared to 419 pledges totaling \$1,424,530 (Average \$3,399) as of 1/31/22.



The good news was that in 2022 we were essentially fully active and fully staffed, especially after the arrival at mid-year of our new Lead Pastor, the Rev. David Prentice-Hyers.



FINANCE

Capital Campaign Steering Committee

DAN MITAS and DEANNE WOODRUFF
Co-Chairs

The Capital Campaign was envisioned in the Strategic Plan of August 2021 to

- Create a transformative facility renovation plan that prioritizes reprogramming of space so as to accommodate contemporary methods of worship, mission, faith formation and compassionate care.
- Initiate a capital campaign to fund deferred maintenance, life safety building requirements and mission-driven priorities.

In the Spring of 2022, we began organizing a potential capital campaign.

Three full committees were formed to conduct the work of laying the groundwork for a capital campaign; the Capital Campaign Steering Committee (CapCom) and its two work groups, The Building Projects Work Group and the Capital Campaign Fundraising Work Group.

We have excellent and talented people who volunteered to serve on this project. CapCom members: Dan Mitas and Deanne Woodruff (Elder '23) Co-Chairs, Sue Gott (Elder '22), Kelsey Kaercher, Rol Kibler, Keith Molin (Elder '23), the Rev. Jay Sanderford and Pat Tamblyn. Building Projects Work Group members: Bill Upton and Rick Ingram (Elder'24) Co-Chairs, Steve Gerhardt (Elder '24), Sue Gott (Elder '22), Bill Kinley, the Rev. Jay Sanderford, Elizabeth VanVliet. CapCom

Fundraising Work Group members: Bruce Clyde and Sarah Phillips Co-Chairs, Steve Lisell, Rebecca Pagels, the Rev. David Prentice-Hyers (with Jennifer Edwards, Bill Brinkerhoff and Kathy Sample as advisors).

The Session hired local architects, A3C, to help lay the groundwork for this project. Eight focus groups composed of lay persons, staff, and clergy were completed with the help of A3C in May-June 2022, to discern what the capital campaign needed to focus on.

The Building Projects Work Group used the focus group data, along with the Strategic Plan, to create a vision for renovating the building in July 2022-January 2023, with help from A3C. A3C also helped develop the opinions of probable costs of potential projects.

The CapCom Fundraising Work Group conducted a search process for hiring a fundraising consultant to conduct a feasibility study. They identified nine potential firms, interviewed four finalists and made a final selection of JD Klote and Associates of Great Falls, Va. Session approved the contract with JD Klote at the October Session Meeting.

CapCom and its work groups are working to put the pieces in place for the future success of First Pres. Thank you to the dedicated volunteers who have contributed to making this dream a reality.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mission

JIM SCHAAFSMA
Chair

Local Mission

HELENA PRINCE and JIM PEGGS
Co-Chairs

In efforts to make “Make God’s Love Visible” in our Local Community, we worked with partner agencies to provide volunteer and financial assistance.

- The grant program distributed \$75,000 to 14 community agencies to help move people out of poverty, provide access to housing, shelter, and mental health and substance abuse treatment.
- In partnership with Adult Formation, the Social Justice Action Group provided opportunities for education, advocacy and action through the Climate Justice, Dismantling Racism, and Gun Violence Prevention issue groups.
- In coordination with Faith Formation, First Sunday events provided Caring Blankets for hospice patients, collected and packed school supply backpacks for local partners, Thanksgiving bags for Hope, and hygiene kits for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.
- In collaboration with Jewish Family Services, we co-sponsored a refugee family from Afghanistan.

First Pres Volunteers:

- Helped to lift families out of poverty through the Friends In Deed Circles program.
- Provided meals, pantry, and other items to Alpha House family shelter and acted as “host” for three separate weeks.
- Provided sack lunches and cloth shopping bags for Hope Clinic Food Pantry and restocked pantry shelves.
- Planted and harvested a kitchen garden at Cass Community Center and helped renovate a building for housing.
- Rescued food from UM football and basketball games for meal programs at Ypsi First Presbyterian and Detroit shelters.
- Helped remodel a house for first-time homeowners through Habitat for Humanity.
- Provided presents and gift cards through the Family-to-Family Christmas program in partnership with DHS, Fostering Futures, and Mott Hospital.
- Hosted the Rotating Shelter for unhoused men for two weeks.
- Collected monthly food donations for local food programs.

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Through gifts to special offerings we support ministries of compassion, justice, hunger, Christian formation, education, and peacemaking.

\$25,439



SPECIAL OFFERINGS

One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost, Peace & Global Witness, and Christmas Joy offerings

\$11,317

COMMUNION SUNDAY FOOD DRIVE



International Mission

While the primary emphasis of Mission effort has been local, First Pres continues to be involved with and support our international mission partners in Nicaragua, Israel/Palestine, and the Philippines. For several reasons, most notably the pandemic and political instability, international mission travel has not resumed or been practicable. In the year ahead, the Mission Committee endeavors to imagine and evaluate international mission opportunities and partnerships.

CEPAD-the Protestant Council of Churches in Nicaragua continued to operate many core programs in the countryside, supporting rural villages, farmers and community leaders. First Pres provided a \$5000 grant in support of CEPAD's vital ministries. In 2022, First Pres awarded grants totaling more than \$12,000 from a generous bequest to important ministries of education, hunger action and community support to our long-term mission colleagues in Dumaguete, Philippines.

Our traditional international teams—Nicaragua, Israel/Palestine and Philippines remained paused, and look forward to possibilities in 2022. Some activity could resume in Nicaragua if political conditions in-country allow travel in the second half of 2023. Otherwise, we anticipate that global mission connections will resume gradually across the coming year and that we will be able to host visiting mission workers again in Ann Arbor.

At the end of 2022, our First Pres Mission Committee awarded grants to our partner the Mar Elias Schools and \$2000 to Hand in Hand Schools. Ellen Smith, our longtime Presbyterian Mission CoWorker is now serving as Regional Liaison for Eastern Europe—Russia, Belarus, Ukraine and Poland.

In 2022 the Mission Ministry continued to engage people with opportunities to put faith into action and make God's love visible.

\$30,827

**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER
ASSISTANCE**



\$8,451

CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

Benefitting Interfaith Hospitality Network/
Alpha House, Shelter Association of Washtenaw
County, SOS Community Services



Worship, Music & Liturgical Arts

Thanks to many talented, committed, and hard-working volunteers and a most amazing group of colleagues, 2022 has been a wonderful year for the Ministry of Worship, Music, and Liturgical Arts. The Chancel Choir, at almost 90 members (the largest group of volunteers in the church), provided worship leadership week after week. The choir also offered an All Saints' Concert, that included Duruflé's beautiful Requiem, and the The Glorious Sounds of Christmas Concert that was attended by over 370 church and community members.

The Sanctus Ringers (Handbell Choir) played regularly in worship and represented First Pres at the regional handbell festival on Mackinac Island in late April. Earlier in the year they were

invited to present a concert at St. Timothy Episcopal Church in Perrysburg, Ohio. This fall we expanded the handbell program by adding a beginning handbell choir which has 16 members and has already played in worship.

The long-term success of any church's graded choir program is rooted in the participation of the congregation's children. Over the past year under Shayla Powell's gifted leadership, the Children's Choir has grown from 14 to 30 singers who are learning about worship leadership, choral singing, and music appreciation. The Children's Choir has sung in worship several times and participated in the Christmas Concert as well as the Nativity service.



was suspended over the chancel on Christmas Eve. This committee is also responsible for the hanging of the rotating art exhibits in Social Hall and the origami peace cranes which often soar above our heads in the sanctuary.

One of the most exciting new initiatives in 2022 was the inauguration of the Open Doors Creative Arts Series. An outgrowth of the church's strategic plan, the series' mission is to advance worship and community through offerings that enrich, engage, and are inclusive of people from a diversity of backgrounds, experiences, and identities. This year's performers included Eisenhower Dance Detroit, The Paul Keller Jazz Ensemble, and, in April of 2023, Erin Pitts, violist. Paired with each concert are stunning art exhibits. Dance Up the Walls: Paintings in Motion by Peter Sparling, The Artwork of John Onye Lockard, and The Cartography of Loss by Leslie Sobel. Each of these concerts and art exhibits focuses on issues of social justice, diversity, and environmental sustainability.

As noted at the beginning of this report, this has been a wonderful year — a year of significant growth, not only in numbers and participation, but also in the breadth and depth of our commitment, passion, and service to others. We can't wait for 2023!

FPC's Orchestra is also thriving. We have added new players in both the string and the wind sections. The ensemble plays one Sunday a month in our worship services.

Whether accompanying the choir, leading a hymn, or playing a voluntary, David Hufford's inspired organ playing takes our worship experience to new depths and transforms our worship services.

The Liturgical Arts committee has completed its multi-year commitment of cutting paper lace Advent banners, so we now have a complete set of banners for each of the three years in the Lectionary Cycle. They also cut the beautiful Madonna and Child banner which

Soli Deo Gloria,

DAVE VANDERMEER
Minister of Music and Fine Arts

RICK INGRAM
Worship Committee, Chair

SHERYL POWELL
Worship Committee, Vice-Chair

ADMINISTRATION

Integrated Communications

JENNIFER DAY
Chair

2022 witnessed positive change in the strategic direction of communication and continued growth in our use of technology at the church.

Technology Working Group made the important transition from our additional radio broadcast on Sunday mornings to a phone-based “podcast” of our Sunday worship service. Our continuously improving live stream of the worship service augments our in-person attendance by providing approximately 500 unique views of our service remotely on Sunday. It also allows those who spend both the winters or summers outside of Ann Arbor regular connection to worship and church, in addition to keeping a connection with our growing active congregation that is fully remote. In 2022, FPC hired new staff that is taking our communications in new and positive directions. Brent Ivey is leading our technology work and Esther Patrick, our new Communication Manager, is providing a fresh eye and skills to the rest of our communication products and planning across the church. With these additions, the Integrated Communications Committee was pared back and Technology, Communications and administration combined with Elder Jennifer Day reporting on the needs of these areas to Session.

The committee is busy recruiting more laity to assist with running our audio and visual equipment as the demand for live streaming continues to grow and serve the remote members of our congregation.



11.4k



HOURS OF VIDEO VIEWING

First Pres produced videos of worship, adult Faith Formation classes, musical performances, and more



37,510

VIDEO VIEWS

818

SUBSCRIBERS

+ 155

NEW SUBSCRIBERS
to our YouTube Channel

SOCIAL MEDIA

MORE THAN **33k**

PAGE REACH
an increase of 27%

MORE THAN **1k**

FOLLOWERS ON
FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM



WEBSITE

36k

WEBSITE VISITORS

FIRSTPRESBYTERIAN.ORG



TOP PAGE VISITS

Homepage	46,884
Sunday Morning	10,165
Staff	4,377
Events	4,008

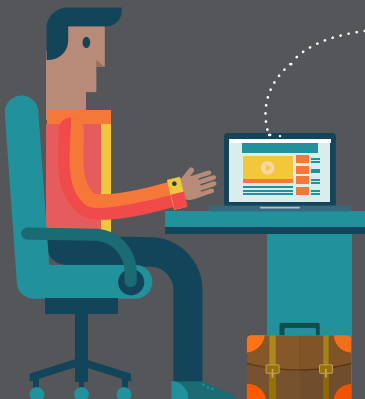


EMAIL

154k

EMAILS OPENED

First Pres moved to Mail Chimp (email service platform) for its greater email marketing capabilities



125k

WEBPAGE VIEWS



ADMINISTRATION

Property

CHRIS KING

Chair

The Church building returned to full utilization in 2022. The following highlights significant facilities updates and repairs for the year:

- Heating system:
 - We continue to have intermittent water leaking from the steam heating system. This year there was a significant leak repaired in the Youth Room.
 - In December we lost one of two circulating pumps for the systems. Repairs were carried out in January 2023.
 - One of the church's eight boilers failed and was refurbished with a new heat exchanger.

As was noted in last year's report where possible we have procured duplicates for some of the hard-to-find replacement parts to be ready for any future boiler failures that may occur. An emergency repair was required on the main pipe of our sewer system under the parking lot. Due to age, our sewer pipe collapsed near where we tie into the city sewer system. The necessary repairs to the pipe and parking lot were completed in June.
- The Blue-Stone surfaces were replaced with concrete on the Courtyard/Cross terrace, Welcome Center terrace exit, and the Playground sidewalk to improve safety on these vital walking surfaces. This project was completed in the fall.
- The Sanctuary trusses were scanned this year. No additional adjustments were required. At this point, 6 out of 10 trusses are realigned to the original 1938 position. The project will continue in the coming years.
- Repairs and repainting continue around the building. This year included replacing 1/3 of the engineered hardwood floor in the Youth Room, painting the Hillegonds Chapel, half of Lemon Chapel, and 2 offices. The carpet was replaced in Hillegonds Chapel and an office.
- Work around our grounds continued in 2022 with the addition of 4 picnic tables on the front lawn (Thanks to an anonymous donor). We continue to monitor our wonderful trees to ensure the safety of those on and around the property.
- As indicated in the Strategic Plan, a building renovation is needed to address some of the larger needs and aspirations of the church. Quite a bit of preliminary work was accomplished this year in conjunction with the CapCom Building committee. This included hiring architecture and mechanical systems consulting firms to help assess our facilities and guide the creation of a list of facility needs. Please see the CapCom report for additional details.
- An updated Annual Facilities Report was provided to Session in the spring of 2022. This report which includes a list of capital replacement projects was used as a starting point for the work within the CapCom Building committee.
- Many thanks to our Facilities Manager Adrian Prundeanu and our Maintenance Specialist Almer Harris for their tireless work on many of the items listed above (and many other items not listed here). Please give them your "thank you" for all they do for our building and grounds.



ADMINISTRATION

Safety

SANDY TALBOTT
Chair

It has been a busy year for Safety which is now a committee of Session. Well over 200 hours were spent getting ready for our FEMA grant, that would have provided \$150,000 over three years to upgrade and improve safety systems within our church. A complete safety assessment of the building was undertaken, emergency manuals and evacuation/ shelter in place plans were placed in all rooms, and companies that provide equipment for quick communication within the building and with first responders were researched. While we had letters of endorsement from US and State officials we, sadly, did not receive the grant. Our work has not been in vain, as the CapCom (Capital Campaign Committee) has all our information and recommendations.

We began using Ed Boguskewski as our Sunday security guard, and our survey found that, while

it is sad to think we now live in a time requiring such services (and we agree), we are grateful for Ed's easy presence every Sunday. Ed has been a valuable member of our Safety Committee, as well, offering suggestions to improve our building and congregational safety.

We are presently working on creating a Safety Team that will be the eyes and ears around the church on Sunday mornings for Ed, communicating by phone or walkie talkie whenever something unusual might arise. And we look forward to presenting the program "The Power of Hello" during the Faith Formation hour in March. This program helps us all feel a bit more comfortable engaging with people we don't recognize, while also keeping an eye out for suspicious behavior. Confrontation is NOT part of this program - welcoming the stranger IS.

As always, our congregation's safety is our primary concern, and we're grateful to be able to serve First Pres in this way.

COMMITTEES

Congregational Nominating

BILL MCPHERSON

Chair

The 2022 Congregational Nominating Committee (CNC) was made up of Bill McPherson (Chair, Elder), Jeff Teucke (Elder, at large), Becky Gaffney (at large), Downs Herald (at large), Elisabeth VanVliet (at large), Debbie MacVey (Deacon Representative), Sarah Glinka, and Jay Pflasterer. The committee met virtually many Sunday afternoons through the winter and spring. Having the meetings online enabled a high participation rate by the committee members and excellent sharing of ideas, nominees, congregational needs, and committee assignments in spite of illness, travel, and winter weather. The proposed candidate slates were approved unanimously at the congregational meeting on September 18, 2022.

The CNC's recommended slates for the Deacon's class of 2022 were:

Deacons – Class of 2025: Al Beery, Daniel Bizer-Cox, Bill Black, Nikki Black, Lois Bryant, Anne Colvin, Don Deatruck, Michele Derr, Barbara Dobson, Mark Gehrke, Carol Gottlieb, Prue Heikkinen, Matthew Hulbert, Virginia Koster, Amy Lindauer, Michele Madden, Holly Majorprice, Henry McQueen, Maurine Nelson, Brian Schneidewind, and Amy Shepherd.

Elders – Class of 2025: Jane Dutton, Mel Kesterson, Mark Lindley, Betsy McCallister, Tom McKarns, Jim Schaafsma, Diane Tamblyn, Susan Whitlock, Aidan Majorprice (one-year term)

The 2023 Congregational Nominating Committee welcomes Sara Glinka, Jay Pflasterer, Debbie McVey, Katrine Weismantle, Nancy Oliver and Margie VanTuyl. The Session will later name an Elder Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson.

COMMITTEES

Strategic Planning

SUE GOTT
Chair

- 2022 was a transitional year for the Strategic Planning Guiding Team with an intense focus on monitoring for alignment with the 2021 Strategic Plan, rather than generating further updates to the plan.
- The SPGT also put new work on hold, waiting for our new Lead Pastor to arrive and then allowing time for David Prentice-Hyers to assess all existing church needs and opportunities to help contribute and share our approach for 2023.
- Instead of generating a new 2022 Strategic Plan, Session's efforts to monitor various efforts proved to be a wise use of our collective 2022 energies to allow time to recover from COVID restrictions, welcome our new pastor, and address fiduciary responsibilities that were a focus of the original 2020 and 2021 Strategic Plans.
- Session's creation of the Capital Campaign Committee and the subsequent work of that committee is another direct accomplishment outlined in our Strategic Plan to address facility needs and transformative opportunities to galvanize worship, formation, service, hospitality and administration into our next century.
- As such, 2023 will be an especially critical upcoming milestone for our continued strategic planning as we weave perhaps new and existing initiatives into a framework that will refine our collective priorities and shape our future.





Leadership





Session
Page 46

Deacons
Page 46

Staff
Page 47



Session

Rev. David Prentice-Hyers, Moderator
Linda Rex, Clerk

Class of 2022

JP DiMaggio
Sue Gott
Carter Hodgson
Bill McPherson
Katie Parker
Paul Smith
Bruce Thomson
Chris Wahl
Marti Wendler

Class of 2023

Jennifer Day
Kate Kraft
Steve McKenny
Keith Molin
Renee Mulcrone
Len Rezmierski
Jean Song
Deanne Woodruff

Class of 2024

Jim Cameron
Callie Feyen
Steve Gerhardt
Gail Grady
Rick Ingram
Chris King
Lynne Lande
Marti Wendler

Deacons

Class of 2022

Sandy Anderson
Daniel Bizer-Cox
Dan Christensen
Nancy Janz Clark
Jim Douglass
Jan Fisher
Carol Fletcher
Carol Gottliebson
Amy Lindauer
Michele Madden
Holly Majorprice
Jeannette Middleton
Karen Moorhead
Merry Muilenberg
Chris Queen
Diane Tamblyn

Class of 2023

Betty Anderson
Anne Andrus
Kim Byers-Granito
Sharon Dort
Carol Downton
Jennifer Edwards
Pam Ehrhart
Kathy Hillig
Nicole Jolliet
Catherine Kendall
Linda Koos
Betsy McCallister
Angie Miller
Nelly Petrock
Brad Taylor
Nancy Tena
Felicity Williams

Class of 2024

Andrea Bare
Beth Caldwell
Heidi Dodson
Barbara Eichmuller
Rosanne Emanuele
Jesse Feyen
Beth Gerwig
Georgia Goodman
Shana Horan
Debbie MacVey
Chloe Majorprice
Mary McKeever
Nancy Oliver
Olive Rigotti
Norm Samuelson
Nicki Sorter
Jeanette Swartz
Sara Vander Voort
Julie Wheaton

Staff

Megan Berry
Resident Minister

Barb DeLancey
Parish Nurse

Pat Gilbreath
Welcome Center Coordinator

Almer Harris
Maintenance Specialist

David Hufford
Organist

Brent Ivey
Technology Coordinator

Diane Knibbs
Administrative Assistant

Hannah Lundberg
Resident Minister

Mark Mares
*Associate Pastor for Faith
Formation and Youth & Family
Ministries*

Joshua Marzan
Pianist

Anna Miller
Finance Manager

Merry Muilenberg
Welcome Center Assistant

Randall Nicholls
Beadle

Stacey Pakela
Parish Nurse

Esther Patrick
Communications Manager

Shayla Powell
Children's Choir Director

David Prentice-Hyers
Lead Pastor

Adrian Prundeanu
Facilities Manager

Linda Robinson
Church Operations Manager

Melissa Anne Rogers
*Associate Pastor of Pastoral Care
and Congregational Life*

Jay Sanderford
Associate Pastor

Beca Torres-Davenport
*Coordinator of Children & Family
Ministry*

David VanderMeer
Minister of Music & Fine Arts

Matthew J. Warfield †
Resident Minister (In Memoriam)

Thank You & Farewell

Robin Agnew
Administrative Assistant

Eric Banitt
Accompanist / Pianist

Nick Dibacco-Vaidya
Finance Assistant

Kathy Houser
Technology Coordinator

Evans McGowan
*Assistant Pastor of Faith
Formation and Campus Ministries*

Allie Milot
Communications Coordinator

Financial Statements



Statements
Page 50

Mission Spending
Page 52

2023 Budget
Page 53



Statement of Activities

Unaudited

INCOME/TRANSFERS	2021 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
Pledge receipts	1,454,732	1,475,000	1,431,101
Contributions	233,078	175,000	265,152
Other Income	24,261	13,350	28,061
TOTAL INCOME	1,712,071	1,663,350	1,724,313
EXPENSES			
Financial Stewardship	95,540	97,108	98,667
Integrated Communications	66,768	103,700	109,867
Christian Formation	16,272	64,700	8,781
Congregational Life	6,866	12,700	8,781
Mission	122,279	162,800	137,934
Personnel	1,136,750	1,323,784	1,313,939
Property	322,960	364,691	419,984
Worship	44,350	64,300	59,415
Residency Program	229,409	289,851	214,934
Transfer From Rm Endowment	(229,409)	(289,851)	(214,934)
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,811,627	2,193,784	2,183,733
OPERATING LOSSES	(99,556)	(530,434)	(459,420)
Unrestricted Endowment	50,326	36,696	36,696
Restricted Designated Funds	0	76,500	58,864
Restricted Endowment Funds	0	136,000	133,723
Transfers for Shortage (Surplus)	49,230	281,238	230,137
TOTAL TRANSFERS	99,556	530,434	459,420

Statement of Financial Position

Unaudited – All Funds

ASSETS	General Operating	Endowed & Special Gifts
Current	311,850	-
Investments	291,674	7,919,323
Receivables	1,110,695	-
Property & Equipment	2,268,373	-
TOTAL ASSETS	3,982,592	7,919,323
LIABILITIES		
Current	302,212	-
Memorials	55,545	-
Designated Funds	417,824	3,536,195
TOTAL LIABILITIES	775,582	3,536,195
EQUITY		
Bequests, Restricted & Unrestricted	-	4,383,128
Equity in promissory Note	830,107	-
Equity in Property	2,376,904	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	3,982,592	7,919,323

Endowment & Special Gifts

Statement of Fund Activity

BALANCE JANUARY 1, 2022	\$9,501,863
ADDITIONS	
Interest & Dividends	378,616
Donations Received	67,100
FPC Transfers	90,000
Residency Endowment	4,924
TOTAL ADDITIONS	540,639
DEDUCTIONS	
Administrative Fees	33,416
Decrease in Market Value	1,589,402
Expenses Paid	490,437
FPC General Fund Deficit Transfer	230,137
Distribution to General Operating Fund	36,696
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	2,380,088
FUND BALANCE DEC. 31, 2022	7,662,415

For Further Details, please speak to Bruce Thomson, Finance Committee Chair

Mission Spending Summary

BUDGETED

Campus Ministry	\$ 2,917
Israel/Palestine Mission Team	6,000
Nicaragua Mission Team	7,500
PCUSA Mission -	
Presbytery, Synod, General Assembly	24,300
Russia Mission Team	3,000
Local Mission	
Avalon House	5,000
Cass Community Social Services	5,105
Corner Health Center	5,000
Dawn Farm	5,000
First Presbyterian Church-	
Ypsilanti/Riverside Meal Program	3,000
Food Rescue	1,127
Friends in Deed	10,000
Girls' Group	3,000
Habitat for Humanity	10,026
Hope Medical Clinic	5,030
Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice	5,000
Interfaith Hospitality Network/Alpha House	7,750
Interfaith Roundtable	1,000
Open Door Ministry-	
Fort St. Presbyterian Church	4,500
Ozone House-Mental Health/Winter Coats	5,000
Refugee Assistance	2,301
Safe House	5,000
Shelter Association of Washtenaw County	5,000
SOS Community Services	5,000
Individual/Family Assistance	1,527
Designated Mission	
Funds to supplement budget	(104,584)

SUBTOTAL 33,500

NON-BUDGETED

Additional Mission Team Giving	
Nicaragua	200
Ash Wednesday Offering	
Student Advocacy Center	827
Christmas Eve Offering	
Interfaith Hospitality Network/Alpha House	2,817
Shelter Association of Washtenaw County	2,817
SOS Community Services	2,817
Boy Scout Troop #7	7,500
Campus Ministry Program	7,646
Campus Ministry Pancake Dinner	980
Communion Sunday Food Drives	11,317
Delonis Center	250
Family to Family Christmas	4,850
Friends in Deed	10
Interfaith Hospitality Network/Alpha House	1,580
Israel/Palestine (includes pilgrims of Ibillin)	6,000
Junteenth Celebration Donations	1,200
Local Mission General Donations	1,800
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance	30,827
Presbyterian Women	5,150
Presbytery of Detroit	
Theological Education Fund Scholarship	1,548
Refugee Support	4,985
Special Offerings (Denominational)	
One Great Hour of Sharing	14,601
Pentecost	3,595
Peace and Global Witness	2,782
Christmas Joy	4,461

SUBTOTAL 120,560

TOTAL FUNDS RECEIVED \$154,060

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Family to Family Gifts	36 families adopted
Michigan Stadium Food Rescue	1,000 lbs./week
Rotating Shelter Donations	25 scarves
	15 hats
	72 socks
	3 gloves
	25 undershirts
Hope Clinic	20 grocery bags
	2 boxes of diapers
Refugee Family	mattresses, furniture, &
	household goods
U of M Cardiovascular Center	46 blankets

2023 Budget

INCOME

Pledges & Contributions	
Total Pledges	1,702,321
Potential Unpaid Pledges	(68,093)
Net Pledges	1,634,228
Contributions & Other Income	222,470
Total Pledges & Contributions	1,856,698

EXPENSES

Financial Stewardship	58,237	
Worship	41,840	
Christian Formation	31,470	
Congregational Life	7,600	
Mission	37,500	\$110K of Local Mission funded from Designated Funds
Administration	42,875	
Integrated Communications	102,825	\$10K of IT replacement funded from Designated Funds
Facilities & Property	334,304	Not contributing \$100K to Capital Replacement Fund
Personnel	1,411,189	
Residency Program	-	Funded 100% from Residency Endowment
Total Expenses	2,067,840	
Total Deficit	(211,142)	

OPERATING RESERVES

Beginning Balance	552,000
Encumbrances	(160,000)
Deficit	(211,142)
Ending Balance	180,858

Minutes

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION Sunday, January 30, 2022

Because of continuing constraints on in-person meetings due to the COV/D pandemic, the Annual Meeting of the Congregation was held via Zoom, a video and teleconferencing platform.

Rev. Jay Sanderford welcomed participants as they joined via Zoom. A video presentation, Images of First Pres in Motion in 2021, was shown as members gathered.

Call to Order: Rev. Jay Sanderford (Moderator) called the Meeting to order at 4:07 p.m. Notice of the Annual Meeting of the Congregation, required per the Book of Order (G-1.0501), was cascaded to the Congregation on two consecutive Sunday's prior in accordance to the By Laws of First Presbyterian Church Ann Arbor

Call to Worship: Resident Ministers Rev. Megan Berry and Rev. Hannah Lundberg

Recognition of the Clerk: Rev. Sanderford introduced the Clerk of Session, Linda Rex, to serve as Secretary for the Annual Meeting. The Clerk declared a quorum was present. Total attendance: 168.

Opening Prayer: Rev. Evans McGowan

Rev. Sanderford asked for a vote from the Congregation to permit the Session to approved the Minutes of the Annual Meeting. Yes: 148; Opposed: 0. Request approved.

Introduction of Staff

The Staff of was "introduced" via video portraits.

WHERE WE'VE COME

Rev. Mark Mares read from Scripture, I Corinthians 12: 12-13, 26, which reminds us we are of one body, and the joys and sorrows of one are the joys and sorrows of us all. To illustrate the "one body" of First Pres, a slide show was presented of the many ministries in which the congregation is engaged, making God's Love Visible.

Rev. Sanderford then spoke of the Staff transitions during 2021, expressing gratitude for the gifts each brought to the service of First Pres. He also gratefully acknowledged the dedication and positive spirit of the current Staff which bring joy to each workday.

BUSINESS OF THE DAY

Congregational Nominating Committee

On behalf of Elder Bill McPherson, Chair, who was unable to participate, Rev. Sanderford put forth the following MOTION:

The Congregational Nominating Committee moves to re-affirm the following members to the Congregational Nominating Committee for 2022:

*Bill McPherson, Choir
Jeff Teucke, Elder*

*Downs Herold, Member-at-large
Elisabeth VonVliet, Member-at-Large
Becky Gaffney, Member-at-Large*

And, elect the following new members to the Congregational Nominating Committee for 2022:

*Debbie MacVey, Deacon
John DeLuc, Member-at-Large*

*Jay Pflasterer, Member-at-Large
Sarah Glinka, Member-at-Large*

Rev. Sanderford asked if there were any nominations from the floor, with the provision that the proposed nominees have been consulted and agreed to have his/her name put in nomination.

Hearing no nominations from the floor, Rev. Sanderford called for a vote on the members of the 2022 Congregational Nominating Committee. Yes: 147; Opposed: 0. Motion carried.

Rev. Sanderford, again on behalf of Elder McPherson, presented the following MOTION:

The Congregational Nominating Committee nominates Jim Schaafsma to the Office of Elder to fulfill a one-year unexpired term.

Rev. Sanderford asked if there were any nominations from the floor, with the provision that the proposed nominees have been consulted and agreed to have his/her name put in nomination.

Hearing no nominations from the floor, Rev. Sanderford called for a vote to elect Jim Schaafsma to the Office of Elder to fill a one-year unexpired term. Yes: 143; Opposed: 0. Motion carried.

It was noted there are still two Elder positions to be filled to complete unexpired terms. It is anticipated nominees to fill these positions will be brought to the congregation in the near future.

Finance Committee

Elder Bruce Clyde, outgoing Chair, thanked the Finance Committee for its hard work and focus during his tenure as Chair. He then reviewed the 2021 year-end financials, highlighting the deficit was only \$49,000 vs the budgeted \$285,000. Because of COVID restricting the use of the building/facilities, and reduced personnel spending, it was not necessary to draw as much as planned from the Endowment. However, he did say with the hiring of the new Pastor and the anticipated re-opening of the church building to full use in the coming year, the 2022 budget (approved by Session in December, 2021) may require most of the \$281,000 budgeted deficit from the Endowment. Because the Strategic Plan calls for a balanced budget by 2025, over the next 30 months the Finance Committee will be mapping out a plan to meet that goal.

Elder Clyde also shared data on the Endowment & Special Gifts Fund, comparison between 2020 and 2021 Income and Expenses, and summary of Congregational Mission Giving, totaling \$199,571.

Personnel

Elder Jim Cameron introduced himself as the newly-appointed Chair due to the untimely passing of Elder Carter Hodgson. He spoke eloquently of Elder Hodgson's leadership and how he would be missed.

Elder Cameron requested Revs. Sanderford and Rogers excuse themselves from the meeting during the following discussion on their Terms of Call. He then presented the following Motion:

The Personnel Committee moves the Congregation approve the 2022 Terms of Call for Associate Pastor Rev. Jay Sanderford for a total annual compensation of \$158,294.73, a 4% increase over 2021.

Upon asking if there were questions, and hearing none, a vote was called on the Motion.

Yes: 155, Opposed: 0. Motion carried.

Elder Cameron then put forward the following MOTION:

The Personnel Committee moves the Congregation approved the 2022 Terms of Call for Associate Pastor Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers for a total annual compensation of \$144,448.55, a 4% increase over 2021.

Hearing no questions, a vote was called on the Motion. Yes: 158; Opposed: 0. Motion carried.

Revs. Sanderford and Rogers were invited to rejoin the meeting following the votes.

WHERE WE ARE GOING

Pastor Nominating Committee (Elder Tom Brandt, Elder Jim Clark). Members of the Pastor Nominating Committee, Tom Brandt and Jim Clark provided an update on the search process and progress to call a new Pastor. Thanking the PNC for its time and prayerful deliberation in evaluating the many resumes received, the Committee has decided on three candidates for final consideration, and will be working to make a final selection within the next week. Once the call has been made, and accepted, the candidate will be invited to preach at First Pres, followed by a meeting of the Congregation to vote. With Easter soon upon us, and possible considerations for school-age children finishing out the term before moving, the PNC is hopeful we will have a new Pastor installed by mid-June.

A question was posed from the floor: If the preferred candidate does not accept our offer, will the PNC move to another of the Top Three? Elder Brandt said the PNC's deliberations would rank the candidates and the plan would be to move to second choice if the initial offer was not accepted.

Rev. Sanderford thanked Elders Brandt and Clark, and the entire PNC for their faithful work.

He then asked the Congregation if there were any additional items of business beyond what had been presented. Hearing none, Rev. Sanderford declared the business of the meeting concluded at this time. Rev. Sanderford then asked Rev. Rogers to give the Closing Prayer.

Following the Benediction, Rev. Sanderford asked for a Motion to adjourn.

So moved by Elder Jim Clark; seconded by Elder Bill Upton. By a show of hands, the Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,



Linda Rex
Clerkof Session
February 16, 2022



Your Support

During 2022, we gathered for worship, prayer, and fellowship; worked for love, peace, and justice; and welcomed all ages and backgrounds to come together to explore, nurture, and deepen their faith. Your financial support has helped make it all possible.

Thank you.

Please continue to support the ministries and mission of First Pres. Give online with a one-time gift or pledge commitment. To support the 2023 Stewardship campaign, scan the QR code below or visit firstpresbyterian.org.



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