

The First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn



Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Annual Report for 2022

February 12, 2023



Our Mission Statement

We glorify Christ by being and making disciples who share God's love,
seek His truth, and serve His world.

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Agenda

The First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn Annual Meeting Sunday February 12, 2023

Call to Order and Opening Prayer	Rev. Jim Faile
Establish Quorum and appoint Secretary	Rev. Jim Faile
Report of the Clerk of Session	Elder Carole Higgins
Roll of the Church Triumphant	Elder Carole Higgins
Action Items	
Election of Nominating Committee at large members	
Report of the Interim Pastor	
Report of Session Committees	
Report of the Board of Deacons	
Meeting of the Corporation	
Report of the Treasurer	
Unfinished Business	
New Business	
Adjourn with Prayer	



The First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn
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Clerk of Session Reports

**The First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn
Called Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes
Sunday, February 13, 2022**

The called annual meeting of the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn convened on Sunday, February 13, 2022 at 10:58 am in the sanctuary immediately following morning worship. The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by Rev. Jim Faile. The Clerk of Session, Carole Higgins, attested to a quorum.

Report of the Clerk of Session: The report was reviewed by Carole Higgins

Roll of Church Triumphant: Robert Brinton, Marsha Baumgartner, Beverly Fisher, Marilyn Joachim, Luz Reiter, Dottie Riga, Dorothy Wright

Action Items: Nominations for Elders, Deacons, and the Nominating Committee at large will be presented soon when the slate is complete.

Report of the Interim Pastor: Notes reviewed by Rev. Jim Faile. As of May, he will have been here for a year. He thanked those who serve.

Report of the Session Committees: referred to print version by Pastor Jim. Invited anyone with questions to bring them forward. (No one came forward.)

Report of the Deacons: The report was reviewed by Charlie Aaronson. Anyone with any questions should contact the Deacons.

Meeting of the Corporation

The regular congregational meeting adjourned. So moved. Approved by consensus at 11:08 am.
The Corporate meeting began at 11:08 am.

The nominations for officers were reported. These were elected by Session on Jan 18, 2022.

President: Jan Witkowski
Vice President: Joel DeHamer
Treasurer: Cathy Stormzand
Secretary and Agent: Jim Barber

The Corporate meeting was adjourned at 11:09 am by consensus.
The Regular Congregational Meeting resumed 11:09 am

Report of the Treasurer: The report was reviewed by Cathy Stormzand. She asked if there were any questions. None were asked.

Unfinished Business: Jim Barber asked if there was any unfinished business. There was none.

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Unfinished Business: Jim Barber asked if there was any new business. There was none.

The meeting was adjourned in prayer by Rev. Jim Faile at 11:16 am.

Carole Higgins, Clerk of Session

**First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn
Special Congregational Meeting Minutes
Sunday, July 10, 2022**

Meeting was called to order at 10:01 am by Rev. Jim Faile who gave the opening prayer.

A quorum is present.

Minister: Rev. Jim Faile

Clerk: Carole Higgins

The purpose of the meeting is to elect an elder to the Session for the open position.

Karen Fink presented the recommendation from the nominating committee for Bob Missler to fill the open position in the class of 2025. Seconded.

Rev. Faile asked if there were any other nominations or discussion. Seeing none, he called for the vote.

APPROVED

MOTION: Gene Smith moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded.

APPROVED

The congregational meeting was adjourned at 10:04 with prayer by Rev. Faile and the service continued.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole Higgins, Clerk of Session

Minutes of Congregational Meeting

**The First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn
Called Congregational Meeting Minutes
Sunday, November 13, 2022**

The meeting was called to order by Rev. Faile at 11:00 am.

Rev. Faile appointed the Clerk of Session as the recording secretary for this meeting. Also noted that a quorum was present.

Karen Fink was called on to give the report of the nominating committee for the PNC. Working on this committee with her were Rebecca Scott, Jan Smith, Alyssa Husby, Andrew Mayer and Doug Stormzand****

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The nominees for the PNC are: Jeremy Hughes, Anne Witkowski, Bob Carlson, Nancy Slanec, Kim Doverspike, Matt Higgins and Cathy Stormzand.

Rev. Faile asked if there were any nominations from the floor. He repeated that question twice. Hearing there were none, moved to a motion.

MOTION: Dottie Kennedy moved that we elected the nominees to serve as the PNC. Seconded by Bob Missler. APPROVED

Rev. Faile asked for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: Brian Mayer moved for adjournment. Rev. Faile noted that a motion to adjourn is not debatable. APPROVED

The meeting closed in prayer by Rev. Faile at 11:05am

Respectfully submitted,

Carole Higgins, Clerk of Session, 11.13. 2022

Roll of the Church Triumphant - 2022

Shirley Painter, Margaret Japel, Audrey Schmatz, Richard Fisher, Patricia Doyle, Vic Todor

Membership Report as of December 31, 2022

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Interim Pastor's Report – 2022

Report of the Interim Pastor to the Annual Meeting of the Congregation February 12, 2023

Greetings members and friends of the First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn!

The pages of this Annual Report and the words shared at the Meeting of the Congregation might lead the reader to believe that it's business as usual. In a sense, that's true. Committees met, classes were held, Deacons served, Elders debated. The Finance Committee saw that the bills were paid; the building and grounds were cared for. The Sacraments were properly administered and worship continued in person and on line. Those members and friends whose lives have been completed were remembered and celebrated as the promise of eternal rest and peace was again proclaimed.

All in all, the way things have been for years.

So, as usual, I thank the staff: Director of Music Brenda Ferguson, Business Manager Karen Fuller, Christian Education Director Emily Kaltz, Parish Nurse Chris Mayer, Office Administrator Jennifer Taub, Custodian Wendy Palmer (20 years at FPCD!) and Pastor Emeritus Don Wright. My thanks, too, to the Elders and Deacons, all the committees, the Tech Crew, the Choir and Bell Ringers, the office volunteers and all who gather in worship and service.

But it's not been all business as usual. Many of the tasks of the Interim period have been completed. The Congregational Self-Study was written and approved by Session and the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry. The Pastor Nominating Committee has been elected and is at work, guided by COM Liaison Rev. Jacqueline Spycher of the First Presbyterian Church of Northville. Major steps in the search for the next called pastor have been accomplished. I ask for your prayers, patience and confidence in the PNC and the process.

Other out of the ordinary events include the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, the return of the choir and fellowship times. There have been Town Hall meetings; to hear from you, to share information about the life of the church and the Call process, to learn of the work of missionaries supported and the work of the Presbytery.

In all these things, even in these challenging times, the Spirit has been present and active with the assurance that God's love remains steadfast as Christ is proclaimed.

I have been blessed and honored to serve you as Interim during these transitions; I look forward to our continued time together.

Blessings on one and all!

Jim Faile
Interim Pastor

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Session Committees Reports

Christian Education Annual Report – 2022

We, thankfully, have become more normalized following the COVID-19 pandemic that caused so much to be canceled in 2020, and 2021. Still, we are seeing a hesitancy of many church members to participate in group settings. This past year has brought about a recognition of how important church and social activities are to the health, happiness, and welfare of the congregation. To that end, the committee has strived to maintain and introduce exciting and meaningful events to help the church members and friends grow in their faith.

The opening of the church has seen the return of newborns and the need to operate the nursery. This allows parents of newborns to be a part of the sanctuary service and fellowship with attendees.

The summer of 2022 brought on the advent of "Holy COW"(Carry-Out-Wednesday). This was an event where families would bring their own Carry Out dinners to the church, dine with others, enjoy dessert prepared by the CE Committee and interact in a Bible activity. Because it was well received and well attended, we would like to consider this event for the summer of 2023.

Of note:

- Sue Young stepped down as CE Chairperson and Laura Thormann has picked up that responsibility.
- We have temporarily paused Sunday School education. This was due in part to several high school students being enrolled in parochial high schools and receiving their Christian education on a daily basis. We continue to operate Youth Group activities for that age group.

I now present to you the following actions of the 2022 Christian Education Committee.

Sunday morning classes were taught by:

- Adults: Shereen Lind and Pastor Jim Faile
- Children's Church: Emily and Barret Kaltz
- Nursery: Pam Dickieson, Rachel Nikolajevs, Kim and Ivan Doverspike, Shereen Lind, Laura Thormann, Emily & Barrett Kaltz, Lynette & Bob Carlson
- Confirmation Class: Jim Dickieson and Sue Young
- Youth Group (Sunday afternoons): Emily & Barret Kaltz

Adult Sunday Morning Bible Study/Education Classes – Shereen Lind and Kevin Watts facilitated a contemporary book and video series from the popular television show titled *The Chosen* by Dallas Jenkins studying the book of Isaiah. Currently Shereen is facilitating a study on the second book of the *Chosen* which focuses on how Jesus was viewed through the eyes of his disciples. The group continues to enjoy the topics and discussion opportunities which this class offers.

Come be a part of the series each Sunday at 9 AM for a transformational experience in which you can grow, whether you are 18 or 80! As Christians, we are always growing. Please join us!

Additionally, Pastor Jim taught a 6-week class, "What it means to be Presbyterian". This class met immediately following church. And Chris Mayer and Carrie Bastin offered a Wednesday night Bible study based on the book *Pursued* by Jennifer Cowart.

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Finally, we are considering a new program related to Outreach and Mission. The name of the program is The Matthew 25 Initiative. Each committee will be asked how they can support the three pillars of the initiative (*Building Congregational Vitality, *Dismantling Structural Racism,*Eradicating Systemic Poverty).

Confirmation Class – We began the 2021/2022 confirmation class with 3 students with only one student (Lily Best) completing the class and being confirmed. This Confirmation Class used a new confirmation curriculum developed and published by PCUSA: Big God - Big Questions: Confirmation for a Growing Faith. It was focused on preparing youth to authentically answer the traditional membership questions. Although it included some positive aspects, the confirmation teachers (Sue Young and Jim Dickieson) concluded that it didn't embrace the attention of the students as in previous years. Further, we requested feedback from many in the congregation on their views of Confirmation. From the responses, we are considering using the methodology that has been utilized in past years and opening up Confirmation Class to all congregants when classes resume in the fall of 2023.

Children's Church - For Children's Church, we are continuing the ShareFaith curriculum. This curriculum takes the children through the Bible stories in chronological order. The sessions are full of fun games, Bible stories come to life in videos and comic books, and question and answer sessions that really encourage our children to deeply understand these stories. The parents are given packets of activities that can be done at home with a QR code that leads them to a family devotional that connects to the curriculum. Different committee members teach each week. Additionally, we've used the ShareFaith curriculum with the congregation on Sunday mornings in a few of the services, led by Emily.

Youth Group – The youth were requested to provide input and suggest changes they would like to include. They chose a format that would meet twice a month. The first week of the month would include a chat on topics of interest. The third week of the month would be an activity. Anne Witkowski has taken on the role of leading the youth but each month, two additional adults from the CE Committee are jumping in to assist.

Church Library – Dottie Kennedy had faithfully served in the role of our church librarian but decided to step down. Rebecca Scott has taken on this role and has worked with a team that included Emily Kaltz, Jim Scott, Savannah Capote, and Dottie Kennedy. They have been diligent in logging all the library inventory. We have a website where church members can see what we have in the collection. It is at <https://www.librarycat.org/lib/FirstPresDearborn>. All books show that they are available as we do not yet have an online circulation system functioning; resource check-out is still a manual process. We have not yet completed the cataloging process for all library resources and hope to complete that process in the coming year. Finally, digital copies of the Self-Study document have been sent to all members who have requested it.

Book of the Every Other Month Club has been meeting without interruption for 33 years to discuss a variety of books, proposed by participants, from a Christian perspective. The 2021- 2022 program year concluded with discussions of *Faith after Doubt: Why Your Beliefs Stopped Working and What to Do about It* by Brian McLaren in March and *Southernmost* by Silas House in May.

Selections for the 2022-2023 program year to date have included *Cloud Cuckoo Land* by Anthony Doerr, *Jesus and John Wayne: How White Evangelicals Corrupted a Faith and Fractured a Nation* by Kristin Kobes Du Mez, and *Buechner 101: Essays and Sermons* by Frederick Buechner, with an introduction by Anne Lamott. Remaining meetings in this program year will take up *Starry Messenger: Cosmic Perspectives on Civilization* by Neil deGrasse Tyson (a special recommendation from our pastor) on March 11 and *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks on

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May 13. We will be selecting next year's books at our May meeting, so if you have a book you would like to read and talk about with friends, please let us know. Suggestions are welcome.

Meetings take place the second Saturday of every other month from September through May. If you are not on our e-mail list and would like to be, please e-mail Janet Witkowski at janwit1978@gmail.com. All are welcome!

Respectfully submitted by James Dickieson, Christian Education Committee

Our 2022 committee members: James Dickieson, Barret Kaltz, Shereen Lind, Elissa Osborne, Laura Thormann, Emily Kaltz, Jim Scott, and Rebecca Scott.

Finance Committee Annual Report – 2022

The Finance Committee meets monthly. It receives reports from the Endowment/Investment subcommittee. In addition, the Finance Committee receives a monthly Treasurer's report in which it reviews and analyzes the monthly financial statements of the church. The Committee's major purpose is to ensure the financial soundness of the church and to assure that adequate funds are available to support the Session's planned programs.

2022 Activity

Treasurer reported financial results to Session at least quarterly and upon request of the committee.

- During the year the committee sent financial updates to the congregation
- The Endowment/Investment subcommittee is continuing to support our financial needs with over \$100,000 provided to the operating fund in 2022
- Though pledges and offerings remained below pre-COVID levels, FPCD was able to realize a net surplus for 2022 due to one-time bequests in excess of \$60,000
- During 2022 FPCD received a significant undesignated bequest in late December that will be used in 2023 to support operations, FPCD's ministries today and in the future, as well as future operational support through the Endowment. We're incredibly thankful for the generosity of our church members.
- The Committee, in conjunction with the Business Administrator, Digital Administrator and tech support, replaced the legacy phone system with the latest technology to better support church operations and its staff
- The Committee has had a broader initiative to better align the financial reporting to industry practice, which continues
- The Committee recommended to Session that FPCD pay 2022 Per Capita of \$11,942. The Finance Committee thanks those congregants that provide Per Capita gifts to cover a portion of this cost.
- Our congregation remains faithful in its giving. In addition to pledged giving, the congregation gave more than \$26,000 to other programs and missions in 2022. The most significant of those were: General Reserves Maintenance \$3,500, Presbyterian Women \$3,900, Diaper Ministry \$1,400, Member Mission Fund (currently supports Greenman's ministry) \$1,900, Christmas Joy \$2,100, Touch of Hope \$3,400, and One Great Hour of Sharing \$3,200.
- The Committee also worked with the other committees to ensure fulfillment and usage of donor restricted gifts including approximately \$128,000 provided to various outreach and mission and ministry support.

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2023 Goals/Activities

We ask that the congregation offer their prayers to support our achievement of the following goals:

- Partner with Session and other committees to identify funding for future ministries (e.g. Matthew 25, Ministry to the Unaffiliated, etc.)
- Monitor on-going costs and revenues. We welcome cost containment and cost reduction ideas from the congregation and will refer them to the appropriate committee and/or staff follow-up
- Continued refinement of the financial statement format to better align financial reporting to industry practice and improve usability
- Work with Session and committees to improve the budget process

The Finance Committee consists of the following members:

- Cathy Stormzand, Chair and Treasurer
- Joel DeHamer
- Jim Faile, Pastor
- Jim Barber
- Dan Kutt
- Bob Putnam
- Nancy Setterlun
- Gene Smith
- Karen Fuller

The Endowment/Investment sub-committees consist of the following members:

- Gene Smith, Chair
- Joel DeHamer
- Dan Kutt
- Bob Putnam

2022 Annual Report to Finance- Business Administration

Administration of our church's business affairs includes oversight of the financial day-to-day operations of FPCD. The financial operations include accounting of contributions, preparation and submission of payroll, vendor payments, and entry of these data into our ACS computer system, and monthly financial statement and bank reconciliation preparation.

In addition to ongoing operations, projects completed include the annual pledge campaign, quarterly contribution statements and various financial analysis projects to support management decisions. Also included in the Finance-Business Administration responsibilities is the 2023 annual budget preparation.

The operations of the church resumed a more normal level of activity this year with some recovery from the pandemic. The installation of the new phone system went very well and we are all enjoying a much improved phone service. My work has been greatly facilitated by the expert guidance of the Finance Committee members and support of our Interim Pastor Jim Faile. Additionally, the church wide support has been very beneficial and appreciated.

Karen Fuller, Business Administrator

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Endowment Fund Annual Report for Twelve Months ending September 30, 2022

Purpose of the Fund To serve as a depository for gifts and bequests to be invested from which the income and a portion of the appreciation will be used to continue, strengthen, expand, and enrich the mission, ministry, and work of The First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn, Michigan in particular and also its related presbytery, synod, boards, agencies, or other programs of the Church.

Financial Summary As of September 30, 2022, the Church's Endowment Fund totaled \$2,649,426.00. This amount represents the market value of locally-controlled funds, \$2,238,422.00, with an original contribution of \$1,908,728.00. Included in the total Endowment Fund value, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Foundation holds an investment account identified as the Murray D. Wilson Memorial Fund carried at the original investment of \$411,004. The Wilson Fund's income is provided to our Church; the principal is not under local control.

Financial Details The information below represents significant portfolio transactions and data for 12 months ending September 30, 2022.

Endowment Funds transferred to church operating funds	\$137,586.00.
Gifts to Endowment Fund received (10/1/21 through 9/30/22)	\$2,200.00.
Locally controlled Fund's value above the donors' original contributions	\$329,698.00

Asset Allocation of Portfolio:

Equity funds	61%
Bonds, bond funds, and notes	38%
Cash and money market accounts	1%

The Endowment Fund promises donors that the dollar value of their bequest/gift will be preserved for investment purposes so as to increase the Fund's value and to allow the annual transfer of a portion of the Fund's appreciation to the church's operating funds. The initial value of their bequest/gift will not be invaded.

Locally-controlled funds are invested through TD Ameritrade and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Foundation's New Covenant Funds. The Investment Sub-Committee reviews their performance quarterly and authorizes changes when and if advisable. For locally-controlled funds, the annual contribution to church operations equals 5-1/2% of average market value at the end of the three prior years, unless such payments would cause the Fund's market value to fall below original cost resulting in the Sub-Committee authorizing a lower contribution. The Murray D. Wilson Memorial Fund contribution to operations is equal to income received.

The Investment Sub-Committee thanks all those who have contributed to the Fund since its inception. Contributions to the Endowment Fund can be made in any amount by outright gift, memorial gift, bequest, charitable lead or remainder trust, appreciated securities, or the purchase of insurance naming the Endowment Fund of The First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn as beneficiary. The continued support of the membership is appreciated, as revenues from the Fund are clearly essential to the maintenance of the church's programs.

Respectfully submitted, Gene Smith, Chairperson
Sub-Committee Members: Joel DeHamer, Dan Kutt, and Bob Putnam

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2022 Financial Summary and 2023 Approved Budget

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DEARBORN 2022 FINANCIAL SUMMARY OPERATING REVENUE & EXPENSE PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2023 APPROVED BUDGET					
	Y/E	Annual			2023
INCOME	Actual	Budget	Variance	%	Budget
Offerings & Pledges	\$339,075.00	\$417,760.00	(\$78,685.00)	(18.8)	\$366,134.00
From Endowment	\$106,508.00	\$106,508.00	\$0.00	0.0	\$126,540.00
Undesignated Bequests	\$840,000.00		\$840,000.00		
All Other	\$122,965.00	\$30,000.00	\$92,965.00	309.9	\$40,000.00
Total Income:	<u>\$1,408,548.00</u>	<u>\$554,268.00</u>	<u>\$854,280.00</u>	154.1	<u>\$532,674.00</u>
EXPENSE/DISBURSEMENTS:					
Finance Committee	\$70,657.00	\$80,561.00	\$9,904.00	12.3	\$79,829.00
Property Committee	\$102,832.00	\$111,725.00	\$8,893.00	8.0	\$108,225.00
Christian Education	\$1,997.00	\$6,000.00	\$4,003.00	66.7	\$6,000.00
Outreach Committee	\$50,450.00	\$30,450.00	(\$20,000.00)	(65.7)	\$30,450.00
Worship & Arts Committee	\$2,837.00	\$14,150.00	\$11,313.00	80.0	\$8,100.00
Deacon Committee	\$3,761.00	\$4,260.00	\$499.00	11.7	\$3,020.00
Personnel Committee	\$353,683.00	\$355,170.00	\$1,487.00	0.4	\$395,260.00
Session	\$780,000.00	\$0.00	(\$780,000.00)		\$0.00
Total Expense/Disbursements:	<u>\$1,366,217.00</u>	<u>\$602,316.00</u>	<u>(\$763,901.00)</u>	(126.8)	<u>\$630,884.00</u>
\$ Surplus/(Deficit):	\$42,331.00	(\$48,048.00)			(\$98,210.00)
% Surplus/(Deficit):	3.0%	-8.7%			-18.4%

Note: In 2022 Offerings and Pledges remained below Pre-Covid giving, however, there was over \$60,000 in one-time undesignated bequests that resulted in the \$42,000 + surplus for the year. In addition, on December 28, 2022 FPCD received a very generous \$780,000 undesignated bequest which is included in Undesignated Bequests in Income and also as Session Expense for 2022. In January 2023, the Finance Committee recommended and Session approved allocating that \$780,000 gift to future mission and ministry work, operational and maintenance reserve support and the Endowment.

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Outreach and Mission Annual Report – 2022

2022 Members: Jeremy Hughes (Chairperson), Joel DeHamer, Bob Missler, Doug Stormzand, Charlotte Aronson, Don Mys

The Outreach and Mission Committee (OMC) is pleased to report that the First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn (FPCD) supported the following ministries through the Session-approved budget for a combined total of \$30,450: Alternatives for Girls (\$1,000), Dearborn Pastoral Counseling Center (\$2,000), Presbyterian Village (\$1,000), Ministry of Hope Malawi orphans in the Khawamba Feeding Center (\$2,550), Thailand Mission (\$1,000), World Mission Initiative (\$2,000), Medical Benevolence Foundation (\$2,500), Bridging Communities (\$500), Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) (\$3,000), Outreach Foundation (\$1,000), Presbyterian Frontier Fellowship (\$500), First Step (\$1,300), Gleaners Food Bank (\$800), Cherry Hill Presbytery Church Food Bank \$1,450, Turk Mission – Madagascar (\$2,000), Second Mile (\$1,800), Starfish (\$1,300), Marion Medical Mission (\$1,500), Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries (\$2,000), and local economic need (\$1,250).

Apart from the Outreach and Mission budget items listed above, the Committee used funds bequeathed to the church to make the following special donations: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (\$4,300) and Cherry Hill Presbyterian Food Bank (\$1,000).

The congregation also gave generously to ministries not included in the Outreach and Mission budget which, nonetheless, constitute a mission outreach of the church itself. Among them were: Christmas Joy Offering (\$2,090), the One Great Hour of Sharing (\$3,670), Touch of Hope (\$1,794) and support for our church member's work in Peru (\$20,000). Finally, the congregation supported fund-raising activities for the Diaper Ministry (\$2,754).

In addition, thank-you to the congregation for the many donations of time, talent, and treasure that are not quantified above but are well known to our Lord.

The following are the subcommittees of the OMC and their liaisons: Sue Ingram: Presbyterian Women; Lynn Hoffman: Peru Mission; Lynn Campbell: Singles Outreach and Renewal (SOAR); Kevin Watts/Anne Witkowski: ChristNet; Charlene Reid/Tracie Szczechura: Diaper Ministry.

For 2023, the OMC has submitted a budget to support the same ministries as in 2022, for the same overall budget total of \$30,450.

The OMC again plans on providing opportunities for members of FPCD to directly participate in outreach and mission activities. Please look for these activities in the church bulletin in 2023. Please prayerfully consider enhancing your support of our on-going ministries in the name of Jesus Christ. If you would like to learn more about the OMC, or if you are interested in joining this committee, please contact a committee member listed above.

Following are reports from subcommittees that report to the Outreach and Mission Committee.

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SOAR (Singles Outreach and Renewal) 2022: SOAR provides fellowship and connections for spiritual growth and general fun other single adults from a variety of churches and people who are still seeking.

We meet regularly for Sunday Brunch, several in-person events were held outside, and a few other Fridays via Zoom.

Our major outreach was assisting in the preparation and distribution of dinners to about 300 people on Thanksgiving Day. SOAR provided the turkeys, and we used the FPCD ovens to cook them.

The Monthly Message- my weekly blog- reaches about 155 people through email and about a dozen more via personal sharing. Together with 188 followers on Facebook and 1612 people in the Meetup online community, that's a lot of people who are reached by our Christian messages.

Thank you for your support.

Lynn Campbell, Chair

ChristNet: The ChristNet mission at FPCD in 2022 continued to show signs of the lingering restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic, but mixed with more incremental moves toward pre-pandemic functions.

As in 2020 and 2021, due to safety concerns relating to the pandemic, FPCD and other churches were still unable to offer the traditional hosting services for homeless ChristNet guests. ChristNet was again able to offer only modified sheltering services through a centralized facility, rather than through the rotating weekly shelters at local churches.

However, in 2022, ChristNet Services once again called upon local churches to provide meal support for guests of the program—this time, in the form of full dinner and dessert meals for each night of an assigned week. And as in so many years past, FPCD volunteers stepped up to fill this critical need. For each night from December 4-10, 2022, FPCD volunteers provided hot dinners and desserts for 32 guests of the ChristNet program. Volunteers filled a number of roles, including: purchasing meals and supplies, preparing and packaging the meals, and delivering the meals to the Taylor motel currently serving as ChristNet's overnight facility.

In addition to the generous contributions of those who purchased the meals and supplies, the mission also received a boost from multiple donors who provided new clothing items (t-shirts, coats, and bags), as well as financial donations from FPCD members and Cherry Hill Presbyterian Church. It is possible that the ChristNet program will return to its prior format whereby churches host and house guests overnight for one week a year. Preliminary discussions on that front have begun, which we will continue to monitor. Regardless, we remain dedicated to providing the support we reasonably can to ChristNet, and to all of our brothers and sisters in need served by this amazing program. Thanks to all at FPCD who continue to bless and support this mission.

Kevin Watts and Anne Witkowski, ChristNet Coordinators

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Diaper Ministry: Due to circumstances beyond our control, the Diaper Ministry was able to host only one event this past year, the annual Super Bowl drive. Nonetheless, thanks to the ongoing support of the congregation, we were able to donate 5,939 diapers and 6,148 baby wipes to Starfish.

We hope to host another Super Bowl drive this year with our signature box lunches. Watch your bulletin for details.

Thank you for your continued support.

Charlene Reid and Tracie Szczechura, Co-Chairs

Peru Mission: There was no activity in 2022 since a mission trip to Peru was not held in the summer of 2022 nor is one planned for the summer of 2023 because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Lynn Hoffman, Chair

Personnel Committee Annual Report – 2022

This past year we have updated the job descriptions of several of the staff reflecting their actual jobs. This was done primarily by Dave Smith with committee approval.

The committee updated the Personnel Policy Handbook and also created a Nepotism policy. The Nepotism Policy was passed on to the Nominating Committee for their use.

We reapproved Pastor Jim's contract and it was sent to Session for their approval. Session approved his contract and Sue Smith contacted the Committee on Ministry regarding the contract renewal.

Running our tech booth requires both technical expertise and knowledge of our equipment and systems used to provide audio/visual support within the sanctuary and the YouTube livestream for our shut-ins and remote worshipers. As volunteer members of our Tech Team have left for college, prefer to contribute their talents in other aspects of the worship service, or would simply like to take a vacation occasionally, it became increasingly difficult to keep the booth staffed with volunteers. Accordingly, Session approved up to three new part-time positions to fill this need. We are fortunate to have hired two new members of the Tech Team. Jonathan Begin and Peter Adzema began their new jobs on November 6, 2022 and are providing much-needed assistance in this area. Welcome, Peter and Jonathan!

Staff evaluations were done by Pastor Jim. The evaluation of Pastor Jim was done by the Personnel Committee. Pastor Jim's evaluation was forwarded to Session who approved his evaluation.

Christmas bonuses were paid to all staff members and a bonus was paid to Wendy during the year. A salary increase was approved for all staff except the two new Tech Team members who had just been hired.

The church is fortunate to have such a competent and dedicated staff. We are grateful to each member of our team for all they do.

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This committee has worked hard this past year. I thank them all for their hard work and dedication to the committee.

Members of the committee are Karen Fink, Matt Higgins, Dave Smith and Janet Witkowski. Pastor Jim Faile also attends the meetings.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Smith
Chair, Personnel Committee

Property Committee Annual Report – 2022

The Property Committee coordinates the maintenance and improvement of our church building and grounds. When possible, it assists other groups or projects. Some of the projects coordinated or work performed by

Property this past year were:

- New LED exterior sign
- Removal and trimming of trees and bushes
- Spring cleanup
- Lawn service
- Snow removal service
- Lawn sprinkler spring repair and fall winterization
- Sewer line to street snaked out
- Repainted parking spaces
- Lighting repair and bulb replacement
- Christmas Tree erection and dismantling
- Nativity scene setup and dismantling

Wendy Palmer constantly checks the building and all its systems. When heating, cooling or plumbing systems require attention, she contacts the appropriate company. For smaller repairs she informs the Property Committee. Wendy keeps the building running smoothly.

A big “thank you” goes out to the Treasure Chest. The hard work of its team leader, Karen Fink, and all the other volunteers resulted in funds covering the total cost (approximately \$19,000) of the new LED sign.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Missler, Property Committee Chairman

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Music Ministry– 2022

Our Music Ministry is coming back from the 2020 COVID-19 restrictions which affected not only our church, but the world. We have taken every precaution to protect our congregation and our musicians, including on line services, fans and air filters in the sanctuary, closing the balcony, wearing masks, social distancing, and encouraging vaccinations and boosters. Because singing is a greater risk in spreading the virus, and singers breathe deeply and can become infected also, we decided to suspend choir practices and rely on one or two Cantors to lead our worship hymns and Offertories. After two and a half years, we are now cautiously returning to normal.

Sanctuary choir began Wednesday evening rehearsals again in September with tears of joy, as we reunited this great family of singers. In order to lead hymns and anthems in worship each week, some changes were made for safety. We rehearsed and sang on the sanctuary floor with singers separated by 6 feet, fans, and sitting in the first three pews. Masks were worn by many. We stood separated on the Chancel in worship, instead of crowded and close in the balcony choir loft. We overcame the obstacles of where to store our folders, music and robes. For the first time in three years, we were able to present our Christmas Cantata on Sunday, December 18 with 25 singers. Unfortunately, eight of our choir members were not able to be there because of a COVID-19 outbreak in the community, or they were out of town. But Christmas 2022 brought us together for Christmas Eve 9:00 pm Candlelight service, and Christmas Day worship. God Bless this wonderful choir! We are back!

Cantors led our worship services beautifully with solo singing during the pandemic. All are volunteers from our Sanctuary Choir, and they diligently came for individual rehearsals throughout the week. You saved our Music Ministry with your willingness to serve.

Bells of Heaven continued to practice on Thursdays throughout the pandemic as they wore masks and gloves. We are a merry band of musicians, and really enjoy working together. Hand bell music is in worship services, Easter, Advent, and a very special Christmas Concert at American House on December 3. We represented First Pres Dearborn with jolly fun, gifts, sing-a-long carols, and lots of Christmas cheer. Behind the scenes, they also set up the equipment: tables, mats, stands, lights, music, mallets, gloves, and heavy cases of hand bells. Thank you ringers! Carole and Matt Higgins, Dottie and Bill Kennedy, JoAnn Isaacson, Bunny Barr, Jane Mykytenko, and me.

Instrumentalists Dean Masouredis plays his trombone - with a little mask on its bell, for beautiful preludes, offertories, and postludes. Beckie Dicks graces our services with her own original flute hymn descants, and Classical Haydn and Bach preludes and postludes. Jane Mykytenko, Dottie Kennedy, and Carole Higgins provide piano and organ music. Much appreciation to these musicians!

Melodia is an acapella vocal ensemble of our college musicians who sing here in their home church when they are on break. Always superbly talented, they have continued to bless us with their gifts. We are truly fortunate to hear them, as soloists or in ensemble. Catherine Dicks, Elizabeth Dicks, Alexandra Slanec, Heather Slanec, Emma Scott. Add a great bass, Geoffrey Dicks, and a terrific tenor, Andrew Mayer, and we have Renaissance Camerata. Super stars!

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New this year - **Youth Music** made its debut on Palm Sunday with Bible readings and an exciting anthem. "Hosanna!" rang with children's clear voices. Lorelei Bryson, Charlotte Hartig (cello), Isabel Thormann, Lydia Thormann, Luke Thormann (bongos), Izzy Watts, and Music Intern Geoffrey Dicks (conga).

This choir began rehearsals in September and gave a perfectly delightful Youth Musical for 5:30 pm Christmas Eve Family service, *Shobi Shares a Miracle*. We had shepherds, Geoffrey and Elizabeth Dicks, and Kevin Watts as Reuben - quite a professional Cast! Assisted by Mary Currie, we gave Broadway a little competition. Thanks to all, especially parents and families, and our choreographer, Elizabeth Dicks.

Music Intern Geoffrey Dicks gave us four months of his time this spring and summer before he left for college. He did everything: worked with Youth Music, played guitar and conga, sang with Sanctuary Choir, Renaissance Camerata, worked and presented Offertory solos, spent one hot August day replacing hymnals in the sanctuary and boxing old ones, and managed it all with the composure of a professional. We wish him the very best in his studies and college life. Thank you, Geoffrey!

Organ Meditations are an outreach to our congregation and community offered on selected Wednesdays @ Noon. They have a different theme each time, showcasing our sanctuary Aeolian-Skinner pipe organ and our very nice Chapel pipe organ. Sacred Music in a Sacred Space is educational and interactive. Thanks to Mary Ann Bassett for bringing busloads of her musical friends! We always go home with a little baked bite of a favorite family recipe or a rose. And family pictures are always taken!

We need Tech and we have the best. Thanks to Brian and Andrew Mayer and their team for all the work they do with Music. We all work together in Worship and Arts Committee, thanks to Jane Mykytenko and Dave Young, Co-Chairs.

Pastor Jim Faile coordinates everything we do, whether in worship, concerts, or special events in the community. We very much appreciate his leadership and professional guidance.

GOD Bless Us, Everyone!
Brenda Ferguson
Organist / Director of Music

Worship & Arts Annual Report – 2022

Easter Breakfast: We continued the tradition of providing Easter breakfast sponsored by the Worship & Arts committee and choir members with the leadership of Dave Young.

Worship Technology Report: Projection, sound, camera and streaming equipment were operated by Noah Husby, Geoffrey Dicks, Brian Mayer, and Anne Witkowski to serve Worship, Funerals, and Events and provide for remote viewers unable to attend in person. Jonathan Begin and Peter Adzema joined the church staff to continue providing the sound and video technology support.

- FPCD YouTube Annual Metrics: 6300 views, 1500 hours viewed, and 208 subscribers
- FPCD Website 90 Day Metrics: 6800 impressions and 317 unique visitors

Instrument Maintenance: Pianos and organ have been tuned and are in perfect condition. Bells are used regularly and maintained.

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Music Medley Series: We have offered an instrumental music series featuring musicians from our Dearborn Symphony Orchestra. This has proven to be a great community outreach with many community members visiting FPCD for the first time. The musicians are impressed with the acoustics and are enjoying the performances.

Respectfully Submitted,
Worship & Arts Committee
Dave Young, Co-chair
Jane Mykytenko, Co-chair
Brenda Ferguson, Director of music
Bill Kennedy, Carole Higgins, Lynette Carlson, Andrew Mayer, Brian Mayer, Mary Currie

Deacon Board Annual Report – 2022

Currently, the Deacon Board is comprised of eleven dedicated Christians who serve our congregation in the name of Jesus Christ by providing services, support, and loving care for those in need on an ongoing basis.

The Deacons meet monthly to review the progress of designated Ministries and Support Services for the previous month and to pray for guidance in sharing God’s love and serving His world.

The following Ministries and Support Services describe the responsibilities undertaken by the Deacon Board of First Presbyterian Church of Dearborn.

Ministries

Card Making	Coordinator, Chris Mayer
Cards Sent to Homebound	Coordinator, Jan Smith
Cards Sent for Special Occasion	Coordinator, Nancy Barber
Grief Support	Coordinator, Chris Mayer
Mat Making for the Homeless	Coordinator, Charlie Aronson
Parish Nurse Health Concerns	Coordinator, Chris Mayer
Touch of Hope	Coordinator, Chris Mayer
Visitation	Coordinator, Matt Higgins
White Rose	Coordinator, Dorinda Hughes

Support Services

Communion Prep for Church	Coordinator, Nancy Barber
Communion Served for Homebound	Coordinator, Jan Smith
Funeral & Memorial Meal Service	Coordinator, Dorinda Hughes
Monthly Family Lunch	Coordinator, Chris Mayer
Meals Requested & Delivered	Coordinator, Carol McFadden
Meal Train Delivery	Coordinator, Bud Cashwell
Special Needs	Coordinator, Chris Mayer
Transportation	Coordinator, Bud Cashwell

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In addition to the Ministries and Support Services provided, designated Deacons also attend Committee meetings as representatives of the Deacon Board. Below are the different committees attended and their representatives.

Committee Representatives

Christian Education	Representative, Barret Kaltz
Finance	Representative, Nancy Barber
Nominating	Representative, Jan Smith
Outreach & Mission	Representative, Charlie Aronson
Personnel	Representative, Matt Higgins
Property	Representative, Nancy Barber
Session	Representative, Charlie Aronson
Worship & Arts	Representative, Lisa Kanninen

Deacon Service by the Numbers for 2021/2022

Card Making	(458) cards were handmade
Cards Sent to the Homebound	(141) cards were sent
Cards Sent for Special Occasions	(115) cards were sent
Mat Making for the Homeless	(18) mats were made by the community
Phone Calls	(644) phone calls were made
Touch of Hope	(26) families in need were provided support
Visitation	(116) visits were made
White Rose	(3) roses were provided
Communion Prep for Church	(11) church communions were prepared
Communion Prep for Homebound	(0) due to COVID
Funeral and Memorial Meals	(2) meals were prepared
Meal Train for Special Needs	(3) meals were prepared
Meals Requested & Delivered	(7) meals were prepared
Name Tags	(4) name tags were provided
Special Needs	(1) service was performed
Transportation	(5) rides were provided

Note: The above numbers do not include services rendered in December as the moderator failed to insure the numbers were collected in a timely fashion.

Note: In December, two Deacons resigned for personal reasons. The moderator of the Deacons informed the nominating committee that no replacements were necessary at this time.

Parish Nurse Health Ministry

The Health Ministry continues to be a vital part of our church's ministry to our members, as well as others in the community. It was much easier to do ministry in person in 2022, with less overall serious risk due to COVID-19. However, plenty of precautions were still taken as appropriate.

As the Parish Nurse, a majority of my work is done through consulting/supporting via phone calls or texts, cards, and in-person visits.

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Our support of those who have lost loved ones due to death has continued. Last year I held one "GriefShare" series (12 weeks) via Zoom, we connected folks with New Hope Center for Grief Support for other 8-week in person support groups, phone call support and follow-up through New Hope, as well as their various teen groups support via Zoom. At First Pres Dearborn, we also serve the church and community through a specific grief ministry to those who have lost spouses. It's called "Starting Again", supported through New Hope, but housed here at the church 2 Thursday evenings a month (second and fourth Thursdays from 7:00-8:30 p.m.) and was facilitated by Donna Barranger and others who have experience loss of a spouse, but have now moved through their grief and desire to support others on that journey. Donna has since moved away, but it is still being facilitated by volunteers who have been with the group for a couple of years.

Our Card Ministry, called "First's Impressions" has been working overtime the past few years, to make handmade cards to send to our Homebound or Special Care members. We have a group of 7-10 dedicated people who meet monthly to make cards for the Deacon's to send out, including, 35+ cards (some months) to our Homebound/Special Care folks 6-7 times per year near various holidays, to remind them that we are thinking of them. It is a delightful opportunity to fellowship with a purpose. We currently meet every month on the second Tuesday of the month from 1:00-2:30 pm. If you would like to join us, all are welcome! You can contact Chris Mayer at 313-575-5853 or Jan Cobb at 248-838-8279, or just show up on the second Tuesday!

The other ministry that we have been doing sporadically during this time of COVID-19 is "Family Lunch". This is an opportunity for our church family to gather and get to know each other better. We offer this after worship once per month (when respiratory-borne illnesses are not high) for a light meal and fellowship. There is no charge for this ministry. If there is anyone interested in helping plan and carrying out this lunch, with the support of others, please let Chris know.

Our Board of Deacons is a huge part of our Health Ministry. There are 12 individuals that serve in 3 year terms. They serve as the "Hands and Feet of Christ" by serving in different roles as needed. Some of these are: Transportation, Meals, funeral Meals, making phone calls each month, visits, Communion and sending cards. I appreciate each and every one of them!

I am praying that 2023 will be filled with many new opportunities to interact together and serve the needs of our community. If you have any ideas, please share them!

Nominating Committee Annual Report - 2022

The 2022 Nominating Committee presented a slate of nominees for the office of Elder and Deacon for election at the May 8, 2022 Meeting of the Congregation and presented a slate of Nominees for the Pastor Nominating Committee for election at a Special Meeting of the Congregation on November 13, 2022.

Nominees for the next class of Elders and Deacons will be presented at the spring Meeting of the Congregation.

Elder Karen Fink, chair.

