

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

Energy • Intelligence • Imagination • Love

First Presbyterian Church of Davenport Iowa

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PASTORS STATE OF THE CHURCH ADDRESS

It is hard to believe that another full year of ministry together has passed. As I reflect on our second year together at First Presbyterian Church of Davenport, I am filled with gratitude for the many ways we have grown, served, and celebrated as a community of faith.

This year, we took significant steps in our commitment to justice and inclusion by leading the congregation through anti-racism training. This journey challenged us to listen, learn, and embody Christ's call to love our neighbors fully.

We also welcomed two new Co-Directors of Christian Education, whose leadership and passion are already making a meaningful impact on our children and youth ministries.

We experienced the joy of Easter in a powerful way, celebrating the resurrection and new life in our church. Our faith in a resurrected Christ was made visible beyond our sanctuary as we stepped out into the community, participating in QC Pride and the Davenport Juneteenth celebrations—opportunities to live out our call to love and serve all people.

One of my highlights of the year was our fellowship and educational trip to Scotland, where we explored the rich traditions of Celtic Christianity and the Reformed faith. This journey deepened our understanding of our spiritual heritage and strengthened our bonds as a community.

In the Fall we dedicated time to learning and practicing skills for compassion-based civil discourse, equipping ourselves to engage in meaningful and respectful conversations in a divided world.

As a congregation, we continue to care for one another. Our Deacon Member Care Teams have strengthened our connections as we continue working to ensure that no one in our community feels forgotten or alone. Though we still have work to do, we have made great progress in our care for one another. We remained active in mission, contributing time to Habitat for Humanity and Kids Against Hunger, and expanding the outreach of our Caring Closet, which now also serves lunches.

Our Community Picnic and Trunk-or-Treat events saw increased participation, drawing both church members and neighbors into joyful fellowship.

We were blessed with an incredible season of the Performing Arts Series, including the phenomenal *1776* musical, outstanding musical programs, and a Christmas concert that was a true gift to the soul. And as the year came to a close, we gathered once again to celebrate the birth of Christ, rejoicing in the light that shines in the darkness.

Our church continues to navigate transition, but we do so with faith and hope. We now have a Strategic Discernment Team which is actively working, at the direction of our Session, to help discern where God is calling First Pres in the 21st Century. We are learning to be faithful stewards of the resources God has given us, working toward a sustainable future as a vibrant and vital congregation. While we acknowledge the challenges ahead, we also recognize the new life emerging within our congregation. In 2024 worship attendance was up, more members were actively engaged in ministry, and our pledges for 2025 increased from the previous year.

God is always doing a new thing, and we are blessed to be part of it. Thank you for your faithfulness, your generosity, and your willingness to journey together as we continue to seek where the Holy Spirit is leading us. May we step into this next year with courage and joy, trusting that God is at work in and through us.

The Rev. Dr. Kristopher D. Schondelmeyer
Pastor/Head of Staff

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CLERK OF SESSION

The First Presbyterian Church of Davenport, Iowa is a member of the Presbyterian Church (USA), the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, and the Presbytery of East Iowa (PEIA).

Participation in PEIA during 2024

- Elders Vicki Stegall, Mark Jones, Kristine Oswald, Nancy Chapman, Karla Ruiter, Kirk Christie, Bonnie Johnson, and Jed Steckel served as Commissioners to one or more PEIA meetings.
- Rev. Dr. Kristopher D. Schondelmeyer served as Co-Chair of the Commission on Ministry and Vitality and as Vice-Moderator of the Presbytery.
- Elder RuthAnn Tobey Brown was elected for a 3-year term to the Committee on the Preparation for Ministry.
- FPC hosted the 211th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery, March 9, 2024.
- FPC hosted the Covenant Network of Presbyterians, *Covenant Conversations*, co-sponsored by the Presbyteries of East Iowa and Great Rivers, April 27, 2024.
- FPC provides storage/workspace for PEIA permanent records.

The Session

The Session is charged by the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (USA) with the oversight of the local congregation's government and mission.

The Session of First Presbyterian Church of Davenport, Iowa, for 2024 consisted of twenty-two elders in active service. Session was Moderated by the Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer. Marty Bowles Edwards and Mark Jones served as Co-Clerks of the Session.

Leadership training for the newly elected Elders and Deacons for 2024 was held on Saturday, December 9, 2023 and Saturday, January 13, 2024, led by Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer.

Elders Denny Jorgenson, Dianna Darland, Rachel Frohlich, and Kathy Knox were ordained and installed on Sunday, January 21, 2024. Elders Cathy Pratscher-Woods, Diana Miller-Bur, and Jed Steckel were installed on the same date.

The Session held 11 stated meetings in 2024, meeting monthly except in July. The Session held 2 called meetings: January 12, 2024 to discuss cancelling our Sunday service because of impending severe weather and January 13, 2024 to examine newly elected officers.

The Session held two leadership retreats: Saturday, February 3, 2024, 9AM-3PM and Saturday, September 28, 2024, 9AM-2PM, both led by Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer.

Elders are elected for three-year terms. The respective classes during 2024 were:

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Paula Burnett <i>Hospitality & Welcoming</i>	Dan Breinich <i>Personnel</i>	Dianna Darland <i>Hospitality & Welcoming</i>
Kirk Christie <i>Adult Spiritual Growth</i>	Nancy Chapman <i>Finance</i>	Rachel Frohlich <i>Worship & Music</i>
Nancy Foster <i>Finance</i>	Bonnie Johnson <i>Stewardship</i>	Denny Jorgenson <i>Congregational Fellowship</i>
Bev Koos <i>Worship and Music</i>	Nathan Kabel <i>Buildings Grounds & Safety</i>	Kathy Knox <i>Christian Ed & Fellowship with Youth</i>
Diane Roebuck* <i>Christian Ed & Fellowship with Youth</i>	Kristine Oswald <i>Worship & Music</i>	Diana Miller-Bur <i>Worship & Music</i>
Karla Ruiter* <i>Buildings Grounds & Safety</i>	Mark Ruebling <i>Congregational Marketing & Growth</i>	Cathy Pratscher-Woods <i>Stewardship</i>
RuthAnn Tobey-Brown* <i>Personnel</i>	Vicki Stegall <i>Personnel</i>	Jed Steckel <i>Adult Spiritual Growth</i>
Jay Williams <i>Adult Spiritual Growth</i>	*Serving a second 3-year term	

Session Highlights for 2024

- In January, welcomed the new Elders to the Session following their training and ordination/installation. Approved Mark Jones and Marty Bowles-Edwards as Co-Clerks for 2024. Received a report from the Finance Committee that FPC finished 2023 with a surplus of \$61K. This includes two extraordinary incomes from Birdies for Charity and from pandemic-related government payments. Without these two one-time incomes, FPC would have finished with a deficit of \$109K. Approved a deficit 2024 budget of \$140K.
- In February, approved job descriptions for a Part-Time Director of Christian Education, a Visitor & Volunteer Coordinator position (unpaid), and an updated job description for the Director of Music and Arts. Approved an agreement with Scott County to be a polling place for 4 elections in 2024.
- In March, approved changes to the title and scope of work for two Session standing committees. *Adult Christian Education* will now be *Adult Spiritual Growth* and expand their efforts beyond their focus on adult Sunday school. *Congregational Development and Fellowship* will now be *Congregational Fellowship* and focus their attention to the many fellowship events at FPC. As he did at the Annual Meeting, Pastor Kris shared his 2024 goals with the Session.
- In April, the 2024 Confirmation Class met with the Session and were received into active membership at FPC. Approved the creation of a Building Use Commission to decide on requests for the use of FPC for non-church related activities. Approved the congregational members that will serve on Session committees in 2024.
- In May, received the following people into active membership at FPC: Andrew Darland, Dan Darland, Sean Jacobsmeier, and LuAnne Campbell. Approved the job description for a temporary parttime assistant to the Pastor/Head of Staff.
- In June, approved funds for remediation of water damage from plumbing break in the CE building. Approved purchase of new playground equipment based on a donation that will cover the costs.

- In September, approved a bid for necessary tuckpointing on the exterior of the CE building. Approved non-partisan outside signage providing information on how to register to vote and where to vote in the precinct around the church.
- In October, received 4 new members into the fellowship of FPC: Deanna Herman, Bonnie Parriott, Carole Scherz, and Carol Burrus. Approved an update to the Memorial Gift Policy. Approved the purchase of an outside electronic message board to be installed on the corner of Iowa Street and Kirkwood Blvd.
- In November, approved an updated Child, Youth, and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy and an updated Building Use Policy.
- In December, approved funding for a juried arts competition for middle school-aged youth from FPC, Sudlow Junior High and the Creative Arts Academy. The Session met with the newly elected Deacons and Elders and scheduled their ordination/installation for January 12, 2025.

Deacons

Reports from the Deacons can be found in other sections of the Annual Report. Deacons are elected for three-year terms. Those serving during 2024 were:

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Anna Putman*	Mitch Doremus	Lois Boyer
Glen Roebuck	Colleen Duenas*	Connie Connolly
Andy McNeil	Julia Meyer	Andy Edwards
Tom Vacarro	Terri Sheetz*	Al Frohlich*
Paula Hartmann*		John Gere*
Sherry Williams		Bob Lehnherr
		Phylis Pecoraro
		Amy Saskowski
		Sarah Soenksen
		Katrina Williams*
* Serving a second consecutive 3-year term		

The 2024 Corporate Officers

Nancy Chapman – President

Tom Spitzfaden – Vice President

Pam Paulsen – Treasurer

Mark Jones and Marty Bowles-Edwards – Co-Secretary

Members of the Board of Trustees of the First Presbyterian Church Foundation

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Harry Hoyt	Heather Calvert	Rob Lamb
Jeffrey Gomez	Samantha Crow	

The Congregation

The congregation held the following meetings in 2024.

- The Annual Meeting of the Congregation was held on Sunday, February 25, 2004. The congregation received the 2023 Annual Report, approved the 2024 Terms-of-Call for Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer, and received a variety of other reports including the 2024 budget approved by Session.
- A called meeting of the congregation was held on Sunday, December 1, 2024 to elect officers and the Congregational Nominating Committee for 2025, and to approve the 2025 Terms-of-Call for Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer.
- An informational meeting of the congregation was held on Sunday, September 8, 2023 to hear mid-year reports from many church committees.

Celebrations of The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in 2024.

- Sunday, February 4, 2024, 9:30AM worship, officiated by Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer.
- Ash Wednesday service, February 14, 2024, 7:30 PM, officiated by Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer.
- Maundy Thursday, March 28, 2024, 7:30 PM, officiated by Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer
- Sunday, April 7, 2024, 9:30AM worship, officiated by Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer
- Saturday, April 27, 2024 at the Covenant Conversations worship service held at FPC, officiated by Rev. Katie Styr, FPC, Milan, IL and Rev. TJ Remaley, Southminster Presbyterian Church, Boise, ID.
- Sunday, June 2, 2024, 9:30AM worship, officiated by Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer
- Saturday, August 31, 2024 at the FPC Choir retreat, Christ the King Chapel, St. Ambrose University, officiated by Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer.
- Sunday, October 6, 2024, World Communion Sunday, 9:30 AM worship, officiated by Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer.
- Sunday, October 27, 2024 (Reformation Sunday), 9:30AM worship, officiated by Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer.
- Sunday, December 1, 2024, 9:30AM worship, officiated by Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer.

The following persons joined the fellowship of First Presbyterian Church as active members in 2024.

- Pat Cresap, reactivation of membership, March 2024
- FPC Confirmation Class, April 2024
 - David Jacobsmeier, Profession of Faith
 - Natalynn Kabel, Profession of Faith
 - Aidan Price, Profession of Faith
 - Keian Price, Profession of Faith
 - Brady Knox, Profession of Faith
 - Zoe McCullum, Profession of Faith
- Andrew Darland, Profession of Faith, May 2024
- Dan Darland, Reaffirmation of Faith, May 2024
- Sean Jacobsmeier, Reaffirmation of Faith, May 2024
- LuAnne Campbell, Reaffirmation of Faith, May 2024
- Julia McCullum, reactivation of membership, May 2024
- Pat Umland, reactivation of membership, June 2024
- Cheri Umland-Burns, reactivation of membership, June 2024
- Carol Burrus, Letter-of-Transfer, October 2024
- Carole Scherz, Reaffirmation of Faith, October 2024
- Bonnie Parriott, Reaffirmation of Faith, October 2024
- Deane Herman, Reaffirmation of Faith, October 2024

The following persons left the membership of First Presbyterian Church in 2024.

- Mary Tofilon, removed by request.
- Robert William Eby, removed by request.
- James Petz, action of Session.
- Denise Petz, action of Session.

Baptisms: The following baptisms were celebrated at FPC in 2024:

Brady Knox, daughter of Kathy Anne Knox and Kevin Knox, born February 22, 2011, was baptized at First Presbyterian Church, Davenport, IA on Sunday, May 19, 2024, Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer officiating.

Zoe McCullum, daughter of Julia Anne Darbyshire, born October 22, 2006, was baptized at First Presbyterian Church, Davenport, IA on Sunday, May 19, 2024, Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer officiating.

Weddings: The following weddings were celebrated at FPC in 2024

Anna Putman and Alex Gilson were married on October 5, 2024. Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer officiated.

Rebecca Chomycia and Eric Scholl were married on October 26, 2024. Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer officiated.

The Session recognizes and pays tribute to the memory of the following Active Members of the congregation whose deaths were recorded in 2024:

Name	Date of Death	Year Joined FPC
Jeannette L. Green	April 28, 2020	1991
Norma Jean Blake	November 19, 2022	1982
Merrill Lorraine Soult	September 24, 2023	2005
Phyllis Ann Affre^	January 23, 2024	1999
Ruth Jean Rensberger	March 30, 2024	1949
Sharon Hickenbottom	April 11, 2024	1956
Roger Warren Powell^	July 1, 2024	1978
Diane E. Gere*^	July 13, 2024	1977
Ralph George Ruebling	October 27, 2024	1993
Patti Hoos^	November 9, 2024	1998
Jane Alice Magnusson*	November 13, 2024	1983
Melanie Sue Steckel	November 28, 2024	1964
*Elder ^Deacon		

The session recognizes and pays tribute to the memory of the following former members or friends of FPC who died in 2024.

Name	Date of Death
Paul Renaud	February 4, 2024
Logan Jacob-Howard Klein	February 13, 2024
Robert Walston Smith	May 4, 2024
Sidney Herzberg	June 8, 2024
Barbara King Heninger Spiker	July 25, 2024
Roger Rittmer	August 9, 2024
Sarah Marie Woods	October 5, 2024
Mary Arnold	October 9, 2024
Donald Arp	November 15, 2024
James Partridge	December 14, 2024

Membership Changes in 2024

Congregational Gains and Losses in Membership during 2024

Total Active Members December 31, 2023			534*
Gains for 2024	Profession of Faith	-	
	Reaffirmation of Faith	6	
	Letters of Transfer	1	
	Confirmation	7	
	Restored to Active	4	
	Total Gains for 2024	18	+18
Losses for 2024	Letters of Transfer	0	
	Removed by request	2	
	Removed by Session	2	
	Death	12	
	Total Losses for 2024	16	-16
Total Active Members, December 31, 2024			536
*This is a corrected number from previous reports showing 535			

Adherent Membership of First Presbyterian Church, December 31, 2024:

	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2024
Total Active Members	534	536
Total Affiliate Members	15	15
Total Baptized Members	320	167
Total Adherent Membership	860	718

Mark Jones and Marty Bowles Edwards, Co-Clerks of Session

ADULT SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Introduction

The Adult Spiritual Growth Committee (ASGC) has undergone significant developments in 2024, reflecting its commitment to fostering spiritual growth and connection within the congregation. This report summarizes the committee's initiatives, accomplishments, and plans throughout the year, highlighting its efforts to provide meaningful programming, adapt to the evolving needs of the church, and align with the broader mission of fostering compassion and spiritual growth.

Highlights of 2024

Committee Transition and Vision

In February 2024, the committee formally transitioned from "Adult Christian Education (ACE)" to "Adult Spiritual Growth (ASG)." This name change reflects a broader mission that integrates various aspects of congregational life to promote spiritual growth and connection to God beyond traditional Sunday services.

The mission now emphasizes spiritual awareness, likeness to God, and intentional growth in Christ-like ways, addressing the spiritual needs of adults beyond high school.

A draft of the revised vision and mission, combining the teaching elements of ACE with the aspirational goals of ASG, was prepared for review and consideration by the church's Session in March.

Programming Initiatives

1. Spring Programming:

The committee prioritized adult Sunday school programming with a focus on civility and compassion.

A series of offerings, including a four-part book study on **Poverty in America** and a two-part **Faith in Film** series, were held in May and July, respectively.

Plans were made to host a fall retreat on civility in politics, which included contemplative practices and supervised breakout group discussions.

2. Summer Initiatives:

The committee explored creative approaches to summer programming, including intergenerational trivia nights and discussions on pilgrimage and spirituality.

A potential midweek Bible study was considered, focusing on compassionate conversations and spiritual growth.

3. Fall and Winter Programming:

The ASGC aligned its fall offerings with the Year of Compassion initiative and the **Sailboat Church** book study.

Two four-week explorations were developed—one on prayer and the other on forgiveness. These studies included practical applications, biblical foundations, and group discussions.

The committee supported Pastor Kris's midweek Advent devotionals and began planning for a Lenten series in collaboration with Dr. Frank Rogers that emphasized compassion practices. Unfortunately, Dr. Roger is unavailable during Lent, so a four-Sundays series on forgiveness will be held.

4. Library and Publications:

Efforts were made to update the church library with new titles, including children's books and the *Poverty by America* series.

Committee members contributed articles for the new church website, focusing on spiritual growth and compassion.

Key Accomplishments

Collaboration and Remote Work: The committee adopted a remote interdependent working model, enabling members to contribute effectively despite schedule conflicts.

Intergenerational Engagement: Events like trivia nights and Compassion Camp fostered connections across age groups, enriching the church's community life.

Compassionate Conversations Framework: The committee laid the groundwork for integrating this framework into retreats, Bible studies, and Sunday school programs.

New Website Content: Members provided content for the church's updated website, including book reports and articles aligned with the ASGC's mission.

Increased Focus on Prayer and Forgiveness: The fall curriculum emphasized these themes to support the congregation's spiritual discernment.

Planning and Challenges

1. Planning and Alignment:

The committee faced challenges aligning programming with the church calendar and fiscal year. Efforts were made to coordinate with other committees and prioritize key initiatives.

Summer planning was more flexible, allowing for creative and exploratory offerings.

2. Resource Development:

Members adapted existing materials and drafted new lesson plans, particularly for the prayer curriculum.

The committee emphasized collaboration in developing high-quality, engaging content for adult education.

3. Security and Website Development:

Concerns about website security were addressed, ensuring a safe platform for sharing resources and publications.

Plans were made to publish articles monthly and to highlight the church library's offerings. Progress on website development is unknown.

Goals for 2025

Expand Programming: Build on the success of the prayer and forgiveness explorations by offering additional studies on compassion, civility, and spiritual growth.

Enhance Digital Resources: Continue updating the church website with new content and ensure accessibility for members.

Foster Intergenerational Connections: Develop more programs that engage all age groups and encourage participation across generations.

Focus on Retreats and Small Groups: Host retreats and workshops that deepen spiritual practices and create spaces for meaningful conversations.

Strengthen Collaboration: Work closely with other committees to streamline planning and align programming with the church's mission and calendar.

Conclusion

The Adult Spiritual Growth Committee has made significant strides in 2024, embracing its expanded mission and providing diverse opportunities for spiritual growth. Through thoughtful programming, collaboration, and a commitment to fostering compassion and connection, the ASGC has laid a strong foundation for continued success in 2025 and beyond. The committee remains dedicated to supporting the congregation's journey of faith and spiritual transformation.

Prepared by: Jay Williams
The Adult Spiritual Growth Committee

BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND SAFETY

2024 was a busy year at FPC. Here are some of the highlights of various projects and things that were done throughout the year.

1. The tuckpointing was completed on the CE building by TnT.
2. Two new toilets and a new faucet were installed in the 3rd floor men's restroom.
3. Werner Restoration completed necessary ceiling and floor repairs – 1st floor music room, 2nd floor CE office, and on 3rd floor that were caused by the water leak damage.
4. The playground concrete was removed and replaced with some new equipment and mulch.
5. The washer and dryer were installed and hooked up for use by the Caring Closet.
6. A new refrigerator with ice maker was installed in the Parlor kitchen.
7. Many trees and bushes were removed around the property and new landscaping was done.
8. The third floor craft room received a new sink and faucet.
9. Seven rooms on the 3rd floor received new child proof electrical receptacles.
10. A six foot section of the fence by the equipment shed was replaced after blowing down in the storm.
11. Both of the elevators emergency light batteries were changed out.
12. Ten other emergency light batteries were also changed out.
13. Many fluorescent light bulbs were changed out to LED and will continue to be changed when they burn out until all are completed.
14. Two front landing post lights were changed to LED and all new wiring installed to the two post lights.
15. Thirteen post lights around the church were also changed out to LED.

Thank you Darren, Chad, and ALL who have helped with many of these projects and other things each and every day. It could not be done without all your help!

Five yearly inspections were conducted and we passed them all.

1. Fire extinguishers
2. PerMar
3. Davenport FD
4. Kitchen exhaust in Fellowship Hall
5. Boiler inspection

We have many ongoing projects and will continue to have more things coming down the pipeline. This is never ending when building and property is involved.

Things we will continue working on heading into the new year include:

1. Perkins has been hired and will be our new snow removal company.
2. A memorial bench has been approved and will be installed sometime in the spring/summer for Sarah Woods.
 1. The bench is being purchased by her family with money received in her memory.
 2. BGS / Foundation will get estimates for the necessary removal of a garage at 1725 Pershing (on Foundation property.)
3. New steam coils are being built and will be installed in the Fellowship Hall and southwest entryway elevator lobby as soon as we can get them. They have to be built from scratch as the equipment is obsolete.
4. New electronic signs will be ordered and installed for outside use—Kirkwood / Iowa corner and the Iowa entrance of the CE building.
5. Two new security cameras will be purchased and installed. One will be for the playground and the other for the Kirkwood / Iowa corner after the new electronic sign has been installed.
6. Carpetland to install the new floor in the CE room.
7. The "Clean Team" was started and will continue every week on Thursdays from 2 to 4 PM. If you have any free time and want to come help, all are welcome and appreciated.

Thank you EVERYONE for your continued support and assistance with all things to keep our Buildings and Grounds a safe space and environment for everyone. Without all the help we receive year-round, day in and day out, this would not be possible.

The entire BGS Committee would like to wish everyone a very Happy and Healthy New Year. See you soon and can't wait to continue working with and for you in 2025!!!

Blessings and Peace

Respectfully submitted,
Karla Ruiter BGS Co-chair 2024

BUILDING USE COMMISSION

The Building Use Commission was created by Session in April 2024. This Commission was charged with the review of any requests for the use of FPC facilities for non-church functions. This would include requests from outside individuals or organizations but also requests from church members for non-church events (ex. a family reunion). The Commission members include the corporate officers of FPC and the Head of Staff. In 2024 this included Nancy Chapman and Tom Spitzfaden, Co-Chairs of the Finance Committee, Pam Paulsen, Church Treasurer, Marty Bowles Edwards and Mark Jones, Co-Clerks of Session, and Kris Schondelmeyer, Head of Staff.

As stated in the FPC Building Use Policy, "We consider our church building and grounds to be assets to be shared - with respect and care - as part of our mission to the larger community. Our goal is to welcome others as we would welcome Christ. Although the building and equipment of First Presbyterian Church exist for the primary purpose of supporting the ministries of FPC and its members, they are also an instrument of Christ's mission."

The newly formed Commission updated the FPC Building Use Policy and Fee Schedule. The FPC *Child, Youth and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy* was also modified to be appropriate for non-church functions at FPC. These policies and related documents were approved by Session in November. The goal of the Fee Schedule is to cover our expenses (staff and overhead). In 2024, the Commission approved four building use requests with one additional request in process.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND FELLOWSHIP WITH YOUTH

This has been a year of change and rejuvenation. Kristy Woodrow resigned as Director of Children and Youth Ministries effective February 29, 2024, to pursue her call for advocacy work. Abby Schondelmeyer and Marty Bowles Edwards were assigned serving as Interim Co-Directors. On May 1, 2024, Abby and Marty were officially employed as Co-Directors of Christian Education.

- The Sunday School year was completed as designed by Kristy Woodrow. Spring Semester Highlights included Confirmation Sunday Celebration, and Teacher Recognition on May 19, 2024.
- CEFY and Congregational Fellowship Committee worked together for the ice cream social and celebration. Youth Group met for dinner and programming on Sunday evenings, alternating weeks with Confirmation. CEFY, Congregational Fellowship Committee, and Music representatives worked together, expanding monthly Manna and More to include intergenerational activities, and singing for all ages.
- The Playground was added to the Sanctuary as a space set aside for children to actively use their hands while listening to the service together. Simple toys, drawing, and craft projects are provided weekly and supervised by Staff and Parents. When the children do not sing in worship, they go up to Kirkwood Choir or Cherub Choir after the Children's Sermon.
- Thanks to generous donors, and the kind efforts of the Scout Troop and church volunteers, the playground was refurbished for the children to enjoy. Additions of preschool sized equipment and full-size swings have provided increased opportunities for play, exercise, and fellowship.
- Compassion Camp, June 10-14, was written by our Staff with the theme, I am Powerful With God. Children participated in worship and activities to learn about hearing the Holy Spirit through Earth, Wind, Light, and Water. The final day, Heart Day, was mission focused. Our fun week together culminated in leading worship on June 16, sharing our learning with the congregation.
- A Family Picnic was enjoyed on June 23rd, as a combined event with the Worship and Music department. Water play, yard games, fellowship, food, and sunshine created an enjoyable event.
- The Youth Group enjoyed a pool party in August to reconnect with each other and with mentors in preparation for the Fall.
- The summer was used to sort, clean out, organize, and refresh the 3rd floor of the education building. Rooms were redesignated to provide an expanded youth room, expanded Kirkwood Choir room, video room, 3rd-5th grade room, a PreK-2nd grade room, Musikgarten / Cherub Choir Room, and the Nursery.
- Fall Sunday School was based on learning the Lord's Prayer in five segments. The children learned sign language concepts and actions to bring to life each section of the prayer. Activities and crafts were used to deepen their understanding of the prayer. The prayer is led in the Playground during that portion of the service, when the children are present.
- The Youth Group began meeting on a weekly basis on Sunday evenings. We have a wonderful core group of committed youth and volunteer mentors. The relationships the youth are forming have helped to create safe and sacred space for each of them. There are a few youth from the new Youth Choir that join us weekly for Youth Group. We are looking forward to continuing to provide space for fellowship and faith formation. We want to thank those that have made meals or donated funds for weekly dinner for the youth.

- October 20, 2024, CEFY hosted a fellowship outing at Pride of the Wapsi, including the FPC Scout Troop. In keeping with the season, October 27th CEFY partnered with the Deacons to host Trunk or Treat for approximately 200 participants in the Iowa Street parking lot.
- November Sunday School was a mission theme, acting on our faith and our love of neighbors. The children made personal care kits and meal treat bags to donate to the Caring Closet.
- November 9 CEFY families were encouraged to participate in the Deacon sponsored Kids Against Hunger meal packaging event.
- December Sunday School was an opportunity for the children to learn and enact the Christmas Story with costumes, props and much fun. A Christmas Eve Family service was provided at 4:00, bringing the children together to hear an illustrated storybook by Andrew Clements entitled, "Bright Christmas, an Angel Remembers."

CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

2024 has been a very busy year for this committee. The following events were planned and executed:

January:

- Carnival Sunday

February

- Manna and More

March

- Manna and More, combined with Intergenerational Committee
- Served snacks and lunch for Presbytery

April

- Manna and More
- Covenant Network served snacks and lunch

May

- Manna and More Ice cream social, combined with CEFY to honor teachers, graduates, and Confirmation class

July

- Blessing of the animals
- Bix race day; passed out doughnuts and beverages

August

- Bix cookie reception

October

- Manna and More
- Scottish reception with shortbread

November

- Manna and More
- Pie fellowship following Thanksgiving service

December

- Manna and More

First Night Out - reorganized in October to plan monthly events

FINANCE

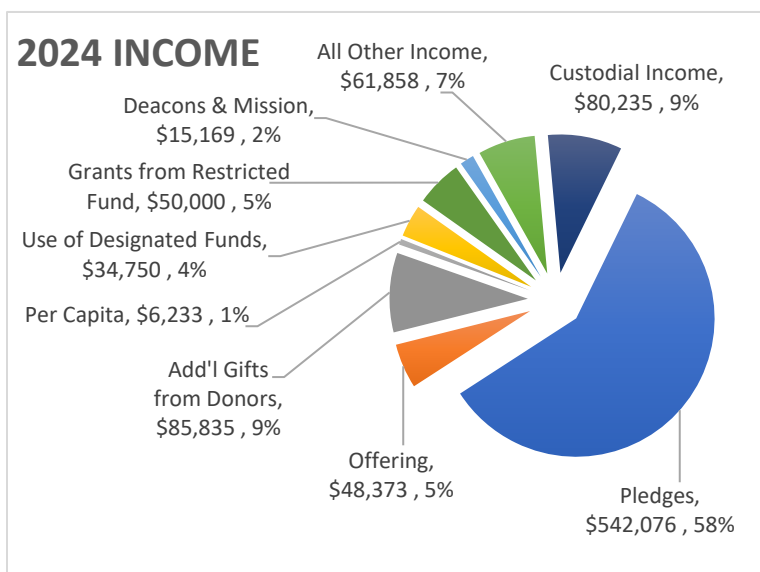
Calendar year 2024 financial results were better than anticipated. A bottom-line deficit of only (\$16,562) was achieved! Giving exceeded expectation by about \$48,000 (THANK YOU!). In addition, some expenses were lower than budgeted. And as in the last several years, long term savings were used to fund current year expenses. For 2024, this amount was about \$85,000.

Looking forward, the 2025 budget anticipates a deficit (\$87,000) as we continue to rely on previously donated money to support our revitalization. While the string of deficit budgets continues, the size of the forecast budget deficit is decreasing each year, and the actual outcomes have been better than the budget forecast.

Income - \$924,528 total

Compared to 2023, income is up \$85,000. The increase is due to larger donations from the congregation (\$29,000 increase) and supplemented by using long-term savings.

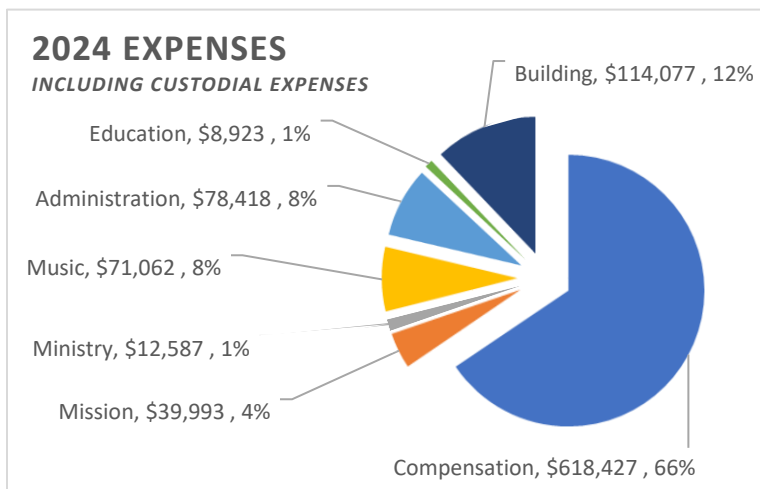
NOTE: "Long-term savings" come from Restricted/Custodial/Designated funds donated in the past for a specific, limited purpose or use. For example, prior years contributions designated to support music programs were spent this year for that purpose and recognized as income and expense this year.



Expenses - \$943,487

Total expenses for 2024, including expenses funded by long-term savings, decreased by \$86,000 compared to 2023. Compensation expense (which includes benefits) is the largest expense category. Comp expense for the last five years was: 2024- \$618,000; 2023 - \$678,000; 2022 - \$542,000; 2021 - \$467,000; and, 2020 - \$550,000. While compensation decreased in 2024, this level of compensation may not be sustainable in the long run. Building expense, the second largest category, was \$114,000.

Expenses other than compensation and building were \$211,000 in 2024. This included \$56,000 for the Performing Arts Series which is included in the Music department expenses.



Other points

During Fall 2024, tuckpointing work was completed on the exterior of the Education Building. The \$85,000 cost was funded from three sources: the General Fund Building Reserve, the Foundation, and the Capital Preservation Fund.

At December 31, 2024, the general fund had \$845,000 in available cash in four federally insured financial institutions. This cash largely results from accumulated prior year surpluses and the remaining balances of the long-term savings.

An Agreed Upon Procedures review by an outside audit firm performed during the 2nd quarter 2024 covering the period October 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023. No material internal control issues were noted.

Withdrawals from long-terms savings in 2024 included a \$50,000 transitional grant from the Sesquicentennial Fund. A similar sized grant from the Sesquicentennial Fund is included in the 2025 budget. The balance in this fund at the end of 2024 was \$65,000 .

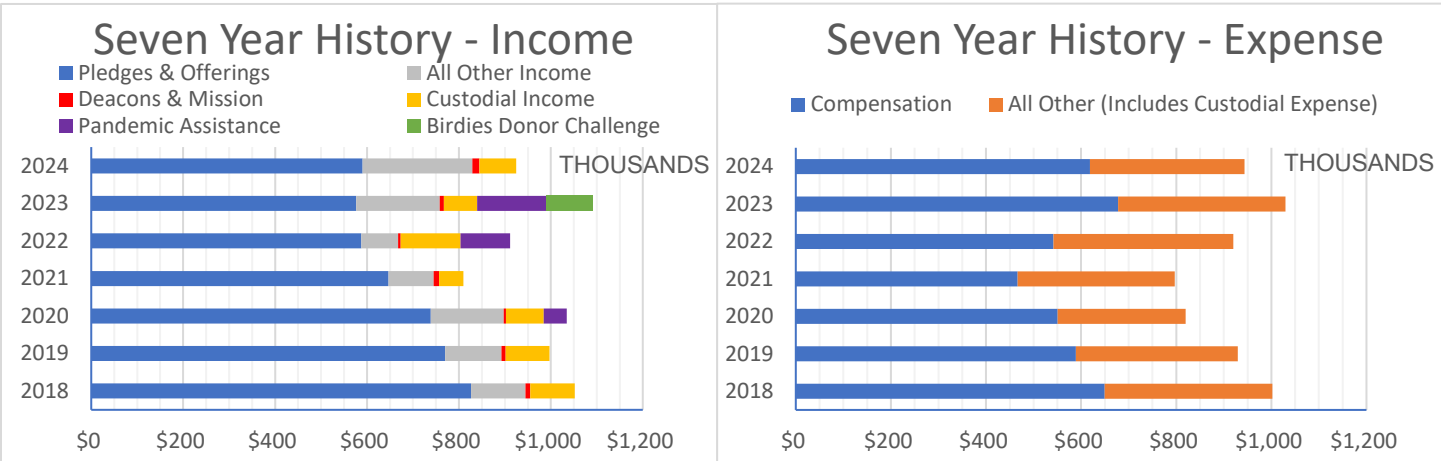
2025 Budget - Projected Deficit - (\$87,000)

Total income is expected to be \$828,000, which includes Pledges & Offerings of \$664,500. It also includes the use of Restricted/Custodial/Designated funds totaling \$65,000.

Budgeted expenses in 2025 are \$915,000, which is similar to 2024 budgeted expenses. Actual 2024 expenses totaled \$944,000. Compensation expense, continuing as the largest expense, and is budgeted to be about \$637,000. compared to 2024 actual of about \$618,000.

Seven Year Comparison

Bar charts showing total income and expenses and simplified categories for 7 years provide longer term perspective. Note that giving levels, while increasing from 2023 to 2024, remain below pre-pandemic years.



Long term Considerations

After some challenging years due to turmoil and pandemic, our congregation is experiencing an exciting and different future. Annual giving increased in 2024; however, we continue to rely on long term savings to support our current expenses. A Strategic Discernment Team is working to make recommendations to Session as to how our congregation can best serve and support God's call to make our world better. Our financial resources are limited and must be used wisely to support the programing and staff that supports the Strategic Discernment Team's recommendations as agreed upon by Session and the congregation. Questions like those that follow may aid us in making wise financial choices.

As the Strategic Discernment Team completes its work, how may our financial resources (both current and long-term) be best used to implement its recommendations?

Given that compensation expense is our largest annual cost, what choices will we make about staff size and salary & benefit levels?

With annual building costs exceeding \$100,000, and likely to increase, what choices are we willing to consider relative to our building?

How much of our long-term savings should we use each year, and will we be able to restore them over a long period of time?

How important is an annual budget that shows a zero or slightly positive bottom line?

How will each member choose to participate in the Strategic Discernment Team's recommendations?

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
GENERAL FUND
2024-2023 INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT**

	<u>2024 Actual</u>	<u>2024 Budget</u>	<u>2023 Actual</u>
INCOME			
PLEDGES	\$ 542,076.19	\$ 550,000.00	\$ 491,212.75
OFFERINGS	48,372.68	58,500.00	85,282.23
ADDITIONAL GIFTS FROM DONORS	85,834.71	30,000.00	76,955.00
PER CAPITA GIVING	6,232.58	6,200.00	5,719.12
DEACONS & MISSION CONNECTION INCOME	15,169.00	5,000.00	9,329.53
ESTATE INCOME	7,000.00	7,000.00	7,040.00
FOUNDATION & RESTRICTED FUND GRANTS	50,000.00	57,000.00	-
USE OF DESIGNATED FUNDS	34,750.00	35,750.00	
RELEASE OF ASSOCIATE PASTOR RESERVE	-	-	51,483.53
ALL OTHER INCOME <small>(2024 Actual includes JDC Birdies Match of \$11,085.91)</small>	54,858.45	28,860.00	40,533.26
INCOME SUBTOTAL	\$ 844,293.61	\$ 778,310.00	\$ 767,555.42
CUSTODIAL/DESIGNATED FUNDS INCOME	80,234.96	-	72,313.56
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 924,528.57	\$ 778,310.00	\$ 839,868.98
EXPENSES			
MINISTERIAL STAFF	\$ 188,834.39	\$ 191,150.00	\$ 187,382.95
DEPARTMENT MANAGERS	304,771.28	311,886.00	324,525.57
SUPPORT STAFF	124,821.78	140,379.00	165,948.65
COMPENSATION SUBTOTAL	\$ 618,427.45	\$ 643,415.00	\$ 677,857.17
MISSIONS	\$ 32,970.71	\$ 40,290.00	\$ 31,217.20
MINISTRY & FELLOWSHIP EXPENSES	6,832.71	8,100.00	9,581.80
EDUCATION EXPENSES	7,716.51	10,335.00	5,112.31
HOSPITALITY & WELCOMING EXPENSES	219.95	600.00	99.49
MUSIC EXPENSES	6,139.18	7,900.00	7,035.46
OFFICE & COMMUNICATIONS EXPENSES	50,765.70	38,600.00	36,344.26
CHURCH UTILITIES	30,672.42	51,600.00	31,388.14
MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS EXPENSES	36,283.19	43,200.00	31,541.28
CONTRIBUTION TO BUILDING RESERVE	-	-	60,000.00
PROPERTY/LIABILITY INSURANCE	47,121.00	47,177.00	39,548.00
FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES	26,102.89	27,800.00	27,704.20
NON COMPENSATION SUBTOTAL	\$ 244,824.26	\$ 275,602.00	\$ 279,572.14
CUSTODIAL/DESIGNATED FUND EXPENSES			
MISSION CUSTODIAL EXPENSES	7,022.17	-	7,526.72
MINISTRY & FELLOWSHIP CUSTODIAL EXPENSES	5,533.77	-	2,211.30
EDUCATION CUSTODIAL EXPENSES	1,206.73	-	1,244.30
HOSPITALITY & WELCOMING CUSTODIAL EXP	-	-	-
MUSIC CUSTODIAL EXPENSES	64,923.02	-	58,411.40
OFFICE & COMMUNICATIONS CUSTODIAL EXP	833.34	-	2,213.79
MAINTENANCE CUSTODIAL EXPENSES	-	-	-
FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION CUSTODIAL EXP	715.93	-	706.05
CUSTODIAL/DESIGNATED FUND EXPENSES SUBTOTAL	\$ 80,234.96	\$ -	\$ 72,313.56
TOTAL NON COMPENSATION EXPENSES	\$ 325,059.22	\$ 275,602.00	\$ 351,885.70
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 943,486.67	\$ 919,017.00	\$ 1,029,742.87
INCOME OVER (UNDER) EXPENSE FROM OPERATIONS	\$ (18,958.10)	\$ (140,707.00)	\$ (189,873.89)
NET INSURANCE CLAIM PROCEEDS/(EXPENSE)	\$ 2,395.91	\$ -	\$ -
BIRDIES DONOR CHALLENGE	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000.00
PANDEMIC RELIEF FUNDS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 151,058.75
CHANGE IN GENERAL FUND BALANCE	(16,562.19)	(140,707.00)	61,184.86
BEGINNING GENERAL FUND BALANCE	\$ 536,716.32		\$ 475,531.46
ENDING GENERAL FUND BALANCE	\$ 520,154.13		\$ 536,716.32

HOSPITALITY AND WELCOMING

A welcome desk and host have been provided at the back of the church. The welcome desk host greets new members and visitors each Sunday. We created name badges to help visitors and members get acquainted.

Friendship pads are put out each Sunday. From the friendship pad, visitors are sent thank you notes for visiting. If there is interest in membership, a packet is sent out about our church and how to join. Follow-up phone calls or personal visits are done, and a new member inquiry is suggested for them to attend.

We had two new member inquiry meetings this year and have eight new members from those meetings.

Each Sunday we visit new members and if they are interested in volunteer activities are given the appropriate person to contact.

The committee helps arrange worship hosts (ushers) for each Sunday and events that require ushers. There are scheduled teams for each Sunday and the teams rearrange if they are going to be absent. We continue to have a need for worship hosts.

LIBRARY

The Donald B. Blackstone Library
First Presbyterian Church

What's new in The Donald B. Blackstone library:

We ended the year with over 3000 books for your selection, 55 books added this year. We averaged 20 books checked out each month. The selections include children, young adult, reference, historical, biography, fiction, mystery, and a large print area. We continually add new books, with emphasis this year on children books, adding 31. This year some of the latest books came from the FPC BTC book group future reading list. Recommendations are welcome for future purchases. Some of the authors include Donna Leon, Patrick O'Brian, Louise Penny, and Jacqueline Winspear. Thank you to all that have donated to and use the library.

Library committee members:

- Kirk Christie (chair)
- Dan Breinich
- Irene Huffman
- Bev Koos
- Vicki Stegall

PERSONNEL ANNUAL REPORT

The Personnel Committee is a committee of the Session charged with supporting the Head of Staff in their leadership of the staff employees and to support Session leadership of the Congregation.

Session members: Ruth Ann Tobey-Brown (chair), Dan Breinich, and Vickie Segall. Congregational members include Brian Price and Dick Koos. The staff member is Rev. Dr. Kris Schondelmeyer.

Accomplishments for the 2024 year include completion of annual reviews. Review and development of church office staff description, assisted in interviewing and hiring new part time employees, we reviewed the budget and made suggestions as we move forward.

The committee continues to monitor and provide timely reviews and goal setting for all staff members

SOUTHWOOD HERITAGE CENTER

The work in the Southwood Heritage Center to preserve historic records of the church is on-going. Volunteer, Janet Greenlee, continues her work to catalog every item in the Center. As new materials come into the Center, they are cataloged and filed.

Several significant items were added to the Center this year. The official church records of 2023 are now in the Center. This includes Session and congregational meeting minutes, membership rolls, baptisms, and the annual report. A set of documents related to the turmoil times have been collected as recommended by Session. Church member Harry Hoyt contributed much of the research material used by Gay Hoyt in preparing a book on the church's art glass windows.

The Heritage Center received a number of requests in 2024 to research past memberships, baptisms, and confirmations. Our collection of letters written to and received from those serving in WWII was shared with a family researching information about their father.

Mark Jones, Co-Clerk of Session and Session Liaison to the Heritage Committee

SCOUTS

2024 has been a great year for scouting units at FPC Davenport. We continue to grow our numbers to a sustainable level. We have enjoyed numerous outings at local and regional sites including Camp Loud Thunder, Wild Cat Den, Maquoketa Caves, and participating in the Grant Pilgrimage in Galena, IL. In addition to our weekend outings, the troops have also taken advantage of using the church for lock-ins (camp-ins) where we are able to spend time on merit badges, games, and then attending and participating in Sunday Morning Services. At one such camp-in and service we paid respects to two great leaders in Troop 7's long history. Shadow boxes were prepared and presented during the service honoring Dave Hill and Tom Ervin. These tributes will find a permanent display location in the church in the near future.

Troop 7 attended two week-long summer camps. The first at our local council camp at the Loud Thunder Scout Reservation and afterwards at Pfeffer Scout Reservation in Kentucky. At Loud Thunder the scouts worked on numerous merit badges and attended jointly with Troop 1107. At Pfeffer some scouts participated in a week-long sailboat, hi-adventure activity while others participated in merit badges at base camp. While we are fortunate to have a great, local camp and enjoy supporting it, we also are focused on providing new opportunities for the scouts.

In Aug Troop 7 and 1107 elected to participate in a pilot program where the two troops were combined as one, co-ed troop under Troop 7's heritage. The new troop is under the direct leadership of our new Scout Master, Theresa Jacobsmeier. Former Scout Master, Dan Darland, is now the Charter Organization Representative and will support the troop by being its advocate on Session.

Another very exciting development in 2024 is that we started a Pack 7 for younger scouts. Working with the council and a few local elementary schools, our Pack is off to a great start and will serve as a feeder organization to Troop 7 to keep our numbers at a good level and ensure the longevity of Troop 7 for many more years. Pack 7 is led by Cubmaster Sean Jacobsmeier and we thank Sean for spearheading this effort.

The end of 2024 was celebrated by a weekend outing back at Camp Loud Thunder in the R.D. Duncan Lodge, where the adult leaders took care of the cooking and other chores typically executed by the scouts as a "Christmas Present" to them in the spirit of Boxing day. It was a great weekend culminating in a Christmas Party. We hope this becomes a new tradition.

Thanks,

Dan
COL Daniel D. Darland, US Army (Ret)

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

This committee strives to support both the Pastor and the Director of Music & Arts in order to further the church community's spiritual and musical needs for Sunday worship, as well as sharing the good news with our wider community through musical events. FPC has a thriving music department – Sanctuary Choir, Kirkwood Choir and Musikgarten, Chamber Chorale, Vesper Bells, and our very talented organist Alex Gilson – along with a successful Performing Arts Series.

Our Sunday morning worship is enhanced by having a plethora of different service styles, many being led by the Sanctuary Choir, others involving Chamber Chorale and Vesper Bells.

Some of the noteworthy services this past year are:

Chamber Chorale's Choral Evensong (Mar 17)

Maundy Thursday Service (Mar 28) occurred in Fellowship Hall with communion and a soup dinner to emulate Jesus' Last Supper along with dramatic readings and hand washing

Good Friday Tenebrae Service (Mar 29) which included the Sanctuary Choir, Vesper Bells, and a string quartet

Easter Sunday (Mar 31) led by the Sanctuary Choir along with a brass sextet, harp, and percussion

Chamber Chorale's Eastertide Lessons and Carols Service (Apr 14) including the premiere of an arrangement of the Greek carol "Mana mou, mana" by Sofia Gioldasi

Festival of Hymns Service (May 5) with the Sanctuary Choir and Vesper Bells leading the congregation in music in honor of Alice Parker's marvelous musical career

Mother's Day Service (May 12) during which the Sanctuary Choir premiered the commissioned choral piece "Message Out to Sea" by Saunder Choi

Kick-off Sunday Service (Sep 8) involved a liturgical dance performed by 4 of our youth

All Saints Day Service (Nov 3) involved a poignant announcement of our loved ones who passed in 2024 with the placing of white roses up front in the sanctuary

Our 2024 Advent Series included:

Community Organ Recital of 4 local organists (Dec 1) Alex Gilson from FPC, Riley Sindt from Trinity Lutheran, Chris Nelson from St Paul Lutheran, and Michael Elsbernd from Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

Chamber Chorale's Advent Lessons and Carols (Dec 8)

Blue Christmas Service (Dec 11)

FPC's Christmas Concert "From Heaven Above" (Dec 22) which included the Sanctuary Choir, Chamber Chorale, Vesper Bells, Quad Cities Youth Choir, orchestra, and organist Alex Gilson along with a partnership with Safer Foundation for which monetary donations were collected.

Candlelight Lessons and Carols Christmas Eve Service (Dec 24, 9pm)

We even brought in outside musicians like Ivory & Gold for *Carnival Sunday* (Jan 21, 2024) and a group of 5 musicians for *Bix Sunday* (Aug 4) – Jeff Barnhart, Colin Hancock, Brandon Ali, Mikiya Matsuda, Gina DeGregorio – as well as a bagpiper, Bill McInnes, for *Scottish Communion Sunday* (Oct 27).

The Performing Arts Series is a well-loved part of community life at FPC and in Davenport at large. In 2024, there were 5 events hosted by FPC:

March 15 - Night of Comedy with Karen Bergreen

April 20 - Genre-bending jazz group: Josh Espinoza Trio

June 28-30 - 1776 Musical

November 9 - Japanese Drummer group: Ho Etsu Taiko

December 22 - "From Heaven Above" Christmas Concert

FPC's Music Director, Matt Bishop, is now directing the Justice Choir of the Midwest, a new community choir, hosted by FPC, which held its inaugural concert on November 10. The concert, titled "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot," was a partnership with Care QC, for whom monetary donations were collected. Additionally, the Quad Cities Youth Choir began this past fall semester and performed during FPC's Christmas Concert.

Outside of Sunday worship at FPC, this committee also hosts fundraisers throughout the year leading up to a choir outreach trip, including a Leap Year Party hosted at the Brown's on February 29 and the Thanksgiving Pie & Baked Goods Sale in November.

The committee has even broadened its scope this past year by decorating the Sanctuary for thematic effect (i.e. rainbow fabrics on the cross and communion table during Lent) and hopes to continually grow in this area for years to come.

2024 has been a wonderful year for the music and worship life at FPC. We can but hope that each subsequent year will be even better than the last.

Diana M Miller-Bur
Elder and Co-Chair of W&M Committee

DEACONS REPORT TO THE CONGREGATION

Your Board of Deacons continues to drive the strategy and initiation of mission work within First Presbyterian Church. Many thanks go out to our congregation who continues to devote time, talent and treasure to serve the mission of Christ in the world, including our back yard.

Our Mission Strategy: All the work of the Deacons at First Presbyterian Church is centered around the Matthew 25 initiatives sponsored by the PCUSA. The three components of Matthew 25 are:

1. Building congregational vitality;
2. Dismantling structural racism; and
3. Eradicating systemic poverty.

All the mission work we do at FPC centers around the Matthew 25 initiative of the PCUSA. This ensures our time and financial resources remain focused to achieve sustained, impactful results. This also means that we will choose to not engage in some missions that do not meet this criterion. 2024 was also our first year of MemberCare support, and we continue to refine the process to timely connect with congregation members who need prayerful support. Remember to reach out to your MemberCare leader, or any Deacon, if you need support.

You can learn more about Matthew 25 at:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/>

Our Partnerships: We can accomplish more in partnership with others than as an individual congregation. This year, we enhanced our services at the Caring Closet by beginning to partner with the Carol Center, an outreach of Vera French Mental Health Services. We have successfully referred Caring Closet customers to the Carol Center to receive counselling and housing assistance. In addition, we are now a regular partner with Community Health Care's Outreach Committee, a group of a few dozen area non-profits dedicating to serving the community. This allows us to more clearly see community needs and determine how we can respond. In addition, we have worked with The United Way Quad Cities to ensure that going forward the Caring Closet is listed as services in their directory. Recently, we have created a directory of community services available at the church office, the Caring Closet and the rear of the church to provide support and direction to anyone in need.

We also continue to critically review existing missions and hold them accountable for performance and information when we are providing financial support. Our partnership with Humility Homes and Services to support transitional housing and Café on Vine continues to be a huge success, and we are working with them more closely this winter to address an increase in homelessness in our community. We have suspended financial support to ILUGUA, given the changing climate in Guatemala and departure of the mission leadership who have sought asylum in the U.S. We have also recently suspended financial support for Alice Chikomo Ray of Vision, a longstanding mission we have supported in Africa, until we can verify ongoing mission activity.

Our current partnerships include:

P.U.N.C.H.(People Uniting Neighborhoods and Churches)
Habitat for Humanity
Humility Homes and Services (inc. Café on Vine)
Community Health Care
Churches United
Sudlow Intermediate School
Christian Care for Men
Camp Bear Creek
Dresses for Africa
Kids Against Hunger

Financial Stewardship: With more limited financial resources, it is imperative that we optimize every opportunity to ensure the dollars we have make a difference. Deacon funds include custodial accounts, often with a dedicated purpose, and invested accounts, such as the Deacons Mission Fund and Weibener Fund, which yield investment growth we can then use for mission activity. Due to the generous giving of this congregation to the mission of FPC, we did not have to access the investment fund growth for mission work in 2024. Thus, those funds continue to grow.

In addition, we ended some custodial funds whose original purpose was no longer relevant to our current church life and redirected those funds to invested funds. Thus, we increase the value of those invested funds as well as the potential investment growth that can be used for future mission work. This is a long term strategy designed for future planning: imagine a fund strong enough to financially support a part time mission-related ministerial staff member simply by accessing the investment growth? With your ongoing prayerful and financial support, this can be a realistic opportunity in the not-too-distant future.

And finally: One need not be a Deacon to experience the fulfilling promise of enriching God's Kin-Dom through mission work. Whether donating to the Caring Closet or Paper Hearts Drive, helping with the Community Picnic, supporting a Habitat for Humanity building project, making meals for Kids Against Hunger, or any one of our many mission opportunities, you can actively take part. Watch the E-News, bulletins, and announcements for opportunities to serve through the mission work of First Presbyterian Church in Davenport.

FPC STAFF

First Presbyterian Church ♦ 1702 Iowa Street ♦ Davenport, Iowa 52803 ♦ Phone: 563-326-1691

Our Staff

Rev. Dr. Kris Schondelmeyer, <i>Pastor/Head of Staff</i>	Ext 230	schondelmeyer@fpcdavenport.org
Rev. Pat Halverson*, <i>Parish Associate</i>		
Marty Bowles-Edwards*, <i>Co-Director of Christian Education</i>		cefy@fpcdavenport.org
Abby Schondelmeyer*, <i>Co-Director of Christian Education</i>		cefy@fpcdavenport.org
Kathy Knox*, <i>Nursery Caregiver</i>		
Madison Hanssen*, <i>Nursery Caregiver</i>		
Matt Bishop, <i>Director of Music & Arts</i>	Ext 201	bishop@fpcdavenport.org
Alex Gilson, <i>Principal Organist & Assistant Director of Music</i>	Ext 223	gilson@fpcdavenport.org
Linda Bengfort*, <i>Assistant Choral Director</i>		
Kathy Middleton*, <i>Assistant Choral Director for Children</i>		
Jim Middleton, <i>Director of Office Administration</i>		office@fpcdavenport.org
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Tammy Versluis*, <i>Accounting Assistant</i>		
Darren Long, <i>Director of Building and Grounds</i>	Ext 205	long@fpcdavenport.org
Chad Dean*, <i>Custodian</i>		

* Part-time employee

ELDERS AND DEACONS

Elders

<i>Class of 2025</i>	<i>Class of 2026</i>	<i>Class of 2027</i>	<i>Co-Clerks of Session</i>
Dan Breinich	Dianna Darland	Dan Darland	Julia Meyer
Nancy Chapman	Denny Jorgenson	David Edwards	Mark Jones
Bonnie Johnson	Kathy Knox	Craig Foster	
Nathan Kabel	Diana Miller-Bur	Paula Hartmann	
Zoe McCullum	Cathy Pratscher-Woods	Sharon Simmonds	
Julia Meyer	Jed Steckel	Jay Williams	
Kristine Oswald		Erin Yingling	
Mark Ruebling			
Vicki Stegall			

Deacons

<i>Class of 2025</i>	<i>Class of 2026</i>	<i>Class of 2027</i>
Colleen Dueñas (<i>Vice Moderator</i>)	Andy Bowles Edwards	Elizabeth Breinich
Terri Sheetz (<i>Moderator</i>)	Lois Boyer	Andrew Darland
Doug Wells	Connie Connolly	Steve Earp
	John Gere	Sue Ervin
	Al Frohlich	Heidi Pedersen
	Bob Lehnher	Mason Pedersen
	Amy Saskowski	Sherry Williams
	Sarah Soenksen	
	Katrina Williams	



Energy • Intelligence • Imagination • Love

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