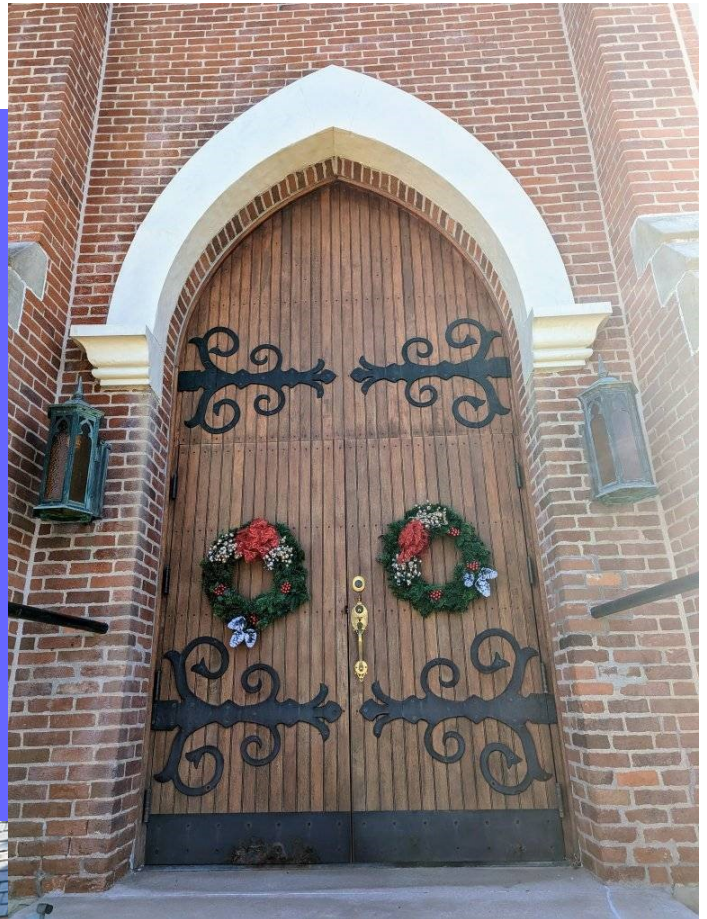


2022 Annual Report



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
512 Seventh Street, Columbus, Indiana 47201
Telephone (812) 372-3783; FAX (812) 372-9533
www.fpccolumbus.org

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents.....	2
Mission Statement.....	3
Staff.....	3
General Statistics.....	4
The Rev. Dr. Felipe Martinez, Pastor.....	5-7
Dianne Sprunger, Organist; Jenny Heichelbech, Choir Director.....	8-9
April Hemmerlein, Preschool Director.....	10

Reports from the Session

Adult Fellowship & Education.....	11
Children’s Nurture.....	12-13
Youth Nurture.....	14-15
Mission Support Grants.....	16
Personnel Committee	17-18
Property Committee	19-20
Safe Church Committee	21
Social Justice Committee	22-23
Open and Affirming Subcommittee.....	24
Stewardship & Finance Committee.....	25-27
Pastor’s Compensation Report.....	28
WoodWeShare.....	29
Worship Committee.....	30-32

Other Reports

Deacons.....	33-34
Presbyterian Foundation.....	35-36

MISSION STATEMENT

To be an active, growing, inclusive and caring church family that witnesses to God's love and shares the good news of Jesus Christ. Our mission leads us to invite all people to participate fully in our community and worship life as safe, loved, and accepted children of God, including:

- Conventional Christians and questioning skeptics
- Children and adults of all ages
- People of all sexual orientations, gender identities
- People of all races & cultures
- People of all socioeconomic situations
- People of all mental and physical abilities
- Those who bring hope to the world and those who seek hope

STAFF

PastorThe Rev. Dr. Felipe Martinez
Organist.....Dianne Sprunger
Choir Director.....Jenny Heichelbech
Preschool Director.....April Hemmerlein
Church Administrative AssistantBrook Brown
Financial Administrative Assistant.....Christy Jerman
Interim Director of Children and Youth Ministries.....Tonja Gerardy
Sunday Custodian.....Wayne Huff

First Presbyterian Church
512 Seventh Street
Columbus, Indiana 47201-6293
Phone: (812) 372-3783
Fax: (812) 372-9533
Website: www.fpccolumbus.org

A Presbyterian Church (USA) congregation; member of the Synod of Lincoln Trails; the Presbytery of the Ohio Valley; the Ecumenical Assembly of Columbus, IN; MoreLight Presbyterians.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Membership

*Information provided in this Annual Report covers
January – December 2022*

Active Members as of 12/31/21 **435**

New Members **5**

Caeden Sych and William Anderson (6/5/22); Richard Price,
Katie Frazier and Jose Lopez (8/10/22);

Deceased Members **3**

Kent Ziegler (2/14/22); Peggy Dunlevy (10/9/22); Jerry
Pennington (11/3/22)

Baptisms

Children **3**

Caeden Sych (6/5/22); Levi Porter (11/13/22); Iyla Snodgress
(12/11/22)

OUR STAFF

Pastor's Annual Report, 2022 Rev. Dr. Felipe N. Martínez

I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.
Matthew 25:35-36

As we look back at 2022 and we look forward, I feel proud of the ministry we are a part of together. 2022 was a year which saw us worshipping and serving together in spite of the pandemic, welcoming families from Afghanistan, turning our focus to the justice priorities of the Matthew 25 initiative, and saying farewell to Marietta after leading us for seven years.

The whole church has shown remarkable flexibility, patience and creativity since the pandemic started impacting our worship life back in March 2020. Though we started 2022 worshipping in person, we had several weeks in January and February when our session decided to pause in-person worship because of the high COVID numbers in Bartholomew County. We returned to worship in the sanctuary late February, physically distanced by blue painter's tape sectioning off parts of pews, and requiring all people to wear a mask. Soon after that the tape came down, as did the mask requirement. This happened just in time for us to have our Easter services and even our traditional Easter brunch, which we hadn't had in two years. During the summer months, new high COVID levels made mandatory masks return, but by September the decline in numbers allowed us not to require masks, and we followed CDC guidance saying that people may opt to wear a mask based on their personal or family health realities. The choir has made the commitment to continue to wear masks when they lead us in worship. We were fortunate to have our Christmas Eve Service in person in the sanctuary, this year combining our usual two services into one at 7pm, with the children reenacting the birth story and the choir leading us with special anthems, culminating in the congregation singing Silent Night by candlelight. We had a communion service Christmas Day, which this year was a Sunday. Starting this Advent, our Sunday readings come from *The Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church*, by Wilda Gafney. I want to thank Jenny Heichelbech, Marietta Macy, Dianne Sprunger, our Sanctuary and Bell Choirs, our Worship, Children's Nurture and Youth Nurture committees, and the Board of Deacons for all their faithful work!

By far our biggest ministry effort in 2022 was our work with six other local congregations to resettle seven Afghan families who were evacuated from Afghanistan after the U.S. military withdrawal from that country. Our organizing work began when 7,200 Afghans were housed at nearby Camp Atterbury late summer 2021; FPC members started to volunteer there, and members urged the congregation to sponsor an Afghan family in Columbus. Initially working with Exodus but then switching to Church World Service, FPC led the effort to create a partnership to resettle at least three Afghan families (we had been told we would only be allocated families if we brought several so they could have a sense

Pastor's Annual Report, 2022 Rev. Dr. Felipe N. Martínez

of community). The final list of local partners involved became: the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, First Baptist, First Christian, First Presbyterian, First United Methodist, the Islamic Society of Columbus, and St. Bartholomew (working with Catholic Charities). A group of individuals led by Carol and Glyn Price came together to sponsor one family (post-resettlement agency support). We eventually called ourselves Faith Partners in Compassion (FPinC), and through the support from over one hundred volunteers, raising about one hundred thousand dollars, and investing thousands of hours, FPinC has been able to resettle seven Afghan families in Columbus (with an eighth family potentially transferring from Colorado in 2023 post-resettlement agency support). This ministry has been challenging, rewarding and inspiring. All the families are acclimating to their new community, several living in the same apartment complex, and a couple living nearby. We have a total of 13 adults and 16 children (the wife of one of these Afghan adults couldn't leave Afghanistan, and we're hoping to reunite her with her husband here). All families have at least one adult employed, almost all are full time, several work at Cummins. All school-age children are attending BCSC schools and doing well. I want to thank our FPC leadership team and the dozens of volunteers and donors they mobilized to support the Afghan family we are sponsoring (as well as offering additional support to the family sponsored by the Islamic Society and First UMC): Jayne Farber, Debbie and Chris George, Lynne Hyatt, Ann Jones, Vern Jorck, Jeff Karr, Joy King, Lauren Millwood, Dale Nowlin, Carol and Glyn Price, John Seltzer, Janet Sharpe, Janet Ward.

Our church became a Matthew 25 congregation (a Presbyterian Church (USA) initiative) in 2021, and in 2022 we've been working to implement a vision towards eradicating systemic poverty. Under Cara Bywater's leadership, FPC is partnering with First Presbyterian Bloomington and Fairlawn Presbyterian to work on the other two Matthew 25 goals (Bloomington: Dismantling structural racism; Fairlawn: Building Congregational Vitality). With grant money from the Myrtle Collaboration (a Lilly grant managed by Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary), our Matthew 25 partnership offered an adult retreat (on the three goals) and a youth retreat (focused on anti-racism) both at Pyoca Camp and Conference. We offered a Zoom Matthew 25 Lenten study for our partner congregations. FPC is focusing on how the lack of affordable housing is a key component to systemic poverty. Tracy Heaton de Martinez offered a two-session "Housing 101" Adult Fellowship and Education class after worship and is planning another multiple Sunday AFE class in 2023 on the need and options for affordable housing. FPC also helped host a Hoosier Action summit on housing in our sanctuary, which included elected officials and local activists seeking to organize the community around the issue of housing. We are planning an Interrupting Racism training in Columbus (March 2023) and Bloomington (Fall 2023) for members of our congregations. Our Matthew 25 cohort was featured in a Presbyterian Church News Service article https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/we-have-co-laborers-to-carry-out-the-work/?fbclid=IwAR2jMzMzh7pt7REgN51yrI3x0esPV_2Nm1PyDWJntUqMeNPuQUUV8VeVPTI .

Pastor's Annual Report, 2022

Rev. Dr. Felipe N. Martínez

My thanks to Cara, Tracy, Stephanie Carmer and all who have been participating in our Matthew 25 work.

At the end of August 2022 we said goodbye to Marietta Macy, Director of Children, Youth and Young Adult Ministries, who served here for seven years. We are in the midst of a search for a new Director, which has not been as quick as we would have liked. However, we are blessed that Rev. Tonja Gerardy will serve as part-time interim for this role for a few months in 2023 to assist us in the transition.

My work in the life of the community and the larger church continues. I was once again a General Assembly commissioner for Ohio Valley Presbytery (225th GA, 2022), where I served as vice-chair of the Financial Resources Committee. Stemming from that role, I was appointed co-moderator of the Commission to Unify the Office of the General Assembly and the Presbyterian Mission Agency, a task which will go through June 2026. I served as vice-moderator of Ohio Valley Presbytery. I continue as a board member of Heritage Fund, Su Casa Columbus, and as a Trustee at Hanover College. I lobbied state and federal elected officials on issues of justice and supported our Library Board against a recent book banning effort.

Lastly, I am grateful that the session and congregation approved my three-month sabbatical for summer 2023, and I have been working with church leaders to prepare the church for it.

Shalom and Salaam,
Pastor Felipe

OUR STAFF

Dianne Sprunger, Organist & Jenny Heichelbech, Choir Director

At the end of 2021, Dianne asked that the Choir Director/Organist position change to be a shared job. Personnel and Session agreed. After a search, Jenny Heichelbech joined the staff in March.

Here is how we have shared our jobs:

Jenny has planned, rehearsed, and conducted the Sanctuary Choir in worship services. Throughout the summer, she arranged special music with many different musicians. She has spent considerable time acquainting herself with the music library and organizing those files. She attended the choral workshop for Indianapolis Children's Choir, Montreat Worship and Arts conference, and studied conducting with Ruth Dwyer. She has been introduced to handbells and worked with the professionals at Montreat to learn more.

Dianne has been playing the organ and piano, mentoring Jenny, continuing to conduct bells, facilitating guest musicians, duets, and collaborative music-making. In addition to those visible (and audible) tasks, behind the scenes she registers our music selections with CCLI and OneLicense to comply with copyright obligations for the church, prepares and edits PowerPoint slide for on-line worshippers, and adapted the instrumental music for the cantata. She attended the Hymn Society Conference and Augsburg Summer Music workshop. She continues to find creative ways to enhance the worship on Sunday mornings, including our Thanks leaves in the sanctuary and gym bulletin board (with help from the Art Group), World Communion Sunday, sheep art, and many others.

The *Holy Light* cantata was the culmination of a year of collaboration and learning. Celebrating the coming of the True Light with singers, dance, poetry, instruments, and congregational singing showcases what our music is at First Presbyterian Church, Columbus, Indiana.

Jenny and Dianne have been planning and implementing the Worship Arts program with Lisa Porter.

Jenny's enthusiasm has enhanced the wonderful experiences the youngsters get from the WA program with chimes, games, and songs. We enjoy the exuberance, energy and musicianship that our children have contributed to our Sunday mornings and our worship services.

Jenny and Dianne have continued their collaboration with each other, met for the weekly worship planning meetings with Felipe, and attended various monthly committee meetings (session, worship committee, Worship Team, and sabbatical committee).

Thank you to all the groups (Sanctuary Choir, Livin' by Faith, Worship Arts, Bell Choirs, special music players and singers) that continue to make music with us and for us all.

Joyfully,
Dianne & Jenny

OUR STAFF

April Hemmerlein, Director of First Presbyterian Preschool

The 2022 calendar year began with a heightened awareness of Covid-19. Preschool, with the help of our Policy Board, continued with mitigation strategies to keep students and families healthy. We were successful in being able to keep all classrooms open and staffed to provide education and care for all students.

In June, we were again able to offer a three-week summer program to all current students. We shifted the focus from a camp-like atmosphere to an "extension of the school year". The program was full and attended by over 50 students and taught by 7 staff members.

In fall of 2021, Preschool applied for and was awarded the Build, Learn, Grow Stabilization grant. The funding from this grant is aimed at helping strengthen and support Early Childhood programming in the state of Indiana. In 2021, it allowed us to provide bonuses to staff, fund a temporary raise in our hourly pay rates, share in the cost for new LED lights in the gym, replace outdated heating, air and windows in the preschool business office, as well as purchase Covid-19 supplies to maintain a safe and healthy environment. In 2022, we were able to take on larger scale building projects. A new playground and new ground surfacing were installed over the summer and preschool halls and common areas were painted. Preschool and the church foundation provided the funding together for a complete bathroom renovation project in the Donner wing.

In October, preschool was able to continue with family engagement events that have been on hold during Covid. We had a fall family event that was well attended and enjoyed by our preschool families. We were blessed with beautiful weather for the event.

In December, applications for our scholarship program were made available to all students and community members. We anticipate being able to fund over \$18,750 in preschool scholarships with the help from the Policy Board, church and its members, and community and preschool donors. We are grateful for the generosity of others and the church to again make this possible. Scholarships will be awarded in early February 2023. In addition, scholarships and assistance with Wee Care costs have been provided to three recovery families this past spring and two families so far this fall through a Mission Support grant.

As the year closes, we are fortunate to be in a place where preschool is thriving. We have 184 of our 186 spaces filled and employ 28 staff members. Having a thriving early childhood program is not the case for many places in our county or region. We are blessed to have wonderful families, students, staff and a supportive church family!

April Hemmerlein

SESSION REPORTS

Adult Fellowship and Education (AFE)

Members: Dale Nowlin (Co-Chair), Sandy Thomas, Bill Jones, Johanna Anderson, Tracy Heaton-Martinez, Leah Jackman-Wheitner, Donna Brand, Joy Basa-King (Chair)

The goal of Adult Fellowship and Education (AFE) is to encourage everyday spirituality, reach out to young adults, and address social justice issues through formal and informal sessions and fellowship. This was accomplished by the following:

Throughout the year, AFE hosted a virtual Coffee Hour and Sunday Education following most Sunday worship sessions by Zoom with a synchronous in-person opportunity for fellowship in the Laws Room. The combination of coffee and education would last about an hour. Leah led the unstructured conversation coffee time followed by Sandy facilitating a discussion on the worship's scripture and sermon to support deepened understanding and connection. This time also provided an opportunity to connect with other people, get to know new folks, or get to know people better. Discussion and interaction were part of the sessions, and to join in, it was not necessary to be a Bible expert and it was acceptable simply to join to listen. Most often the questions people bring spur the most robust conversation. Because of high interest and attendance, AFE plans to continue with Coffee Hour and education discussion time. Open to all to join, the zoom link can be found weekly in the newsletter and Friday e-blast. Also, here is the link: <https://zoom.us/j/214025301>

Additionally, AFE sponsored a four-week small group study led by Dale and Amber Porter on the book *How the Word is Passed* by Clint Smith. The book was chosen due to an alignment with the congregation's commitment to Matthew 25. Through exploration, the reading deepened awareness of the legacy of slavery and its imprint on American history. Five small groups made up of about six participants met over four weeks to discuss insights on how both the history and memory of slavery continue to shape our everyday lives. Amber also coordinated an Indy Through2Eyes Black History walking tour with Sampson Levingston. About 30 people attended.

In the summer, Patio Parties were an additional opportunity to meet in person over a shared meal. Thank you to the Herrick's, Daiker's, Summerville's, Sander's, Price's, Cara Bywater, and Stark/Teide families for hosting in homes or restaurants to strengthen congregational fellowship amongst people who are close and those who have just met. A summer Fairlawn co-sponsored discussion and gathering event further supported interchurch relationship building on Mathew 25 topics. AFE wrapped up the year with an Advent Study led by Sandy on the topics of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love using the poetry of Mary Oliver. Finally, if you would like to be a part of AFE, we welcome your input and participation.

Special appreciation to Leah Jackman-Wheitner, Sandy Thomas, and Dale Nowlin for their faithful weekly AFE contributions. AFE is continuing to adapt to our current environment to achieve its strategic purpose in providing fellowship and meaningful learning activities for our congregation supporting growth in relationship with each other and with God.

Respectfully submitted,
Joy Basa-King

SESSION REPORTS

Children's Nurture (CN) Committee

Members: Erik Anderson (Chair Jan-Aug), Breanne Vogelpohl, Stephanie Cunningham, Izzie Nowlin, Terri Glackin, Colleen Herrick, Sunny Currier (co-chair Sep-Dec), Lisa Porter (co-chair Sep-Dec). Marietta Macy (Staff Jan-Aug),

2022 proved to be another interesting adventure for Children's Nurture Committee with its continuous goal to stay connected with young families in our church. Overall, it was great to have Sunday School become part of the church life again. We also dealt with the bittersweet news of Marietta Macy leaving at the end of August. She had such an integral role with the children and youth in this church family. We were sad to say goodbye and wish her well.

During the first part of the year, Sunday School was on hold along with the various covid precautions. We were intentional in re-envisioning what post-pandemic Sunday School would look like. We listened to parent's schedule suggestions. We listened to the children, who feel they have enough school during the week, causing us to re-brand Sunday School as Kid's Church. Re-starting after the long absence was a challenge. With the number of children starting small and gradually increasing, we've had to reconfigure classes, schedules, and curriculum more than once this fall. Additionally, teachers and helpers needed to be recruited, and more are needed. With Marietta gone, her responsibilities still had to be carried out, divided between committee members, Personnel, and Felipe.

Below are a few of the special projects Children's Nurture coordinated:

- Five senses with God project which incorporated a scavenger hunt and pizza party
- Family cooking night/Senior Project (Michael Martinez)
- Easter Egg hunt
- Bagel gathering with parents to get feedback in May
- New baby welcome letters and baby blankets to two families
- Baptism books given to two babies being baptized
- PYOCA Camp family day in August
- Around the world/back to school party in August
- Goodbye party for Marietta
- Tween Time monthly youth group
- Trunk or Treat event in October
- Worship Arts participation in the worship service
- Advent workshop: making advent wreaths and cookie decorating
- Christmas Eve service retelling of the gospel story
- \$3,600 donation to support additional scholarships for families in need at the preschool
- Sponsored a Foundation grant to supplement funds for the Preschool's new bathrooms

SESSION REPORTS

Children's Nurture (CN) Committee

As we look back at 2022 the committee felt proud of the events created and are excited and hopeful for the year ahead with a new Interim Director of Children and Youth Nurture.

Respectfully submitted by Erik Anderson and Sunny Currier

SESSION REPORTS

Youth Nurture (YN) Committee

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity. 1Timothy 4:12 (NRSVUE)

Members: Stephanie Cunningham, Sunny Currier, Julie Daiker (Chair) and Staff-Marietta Macy

The Youth Nurture word of the year was *creativity*. Our 2022 challenge was the current low number of church teens. With a lot of creativity, we were able to continue to serve the church and the community, learn some things, and have fun. We are looking forward to more children moving up to the teen program starting next year. We have continued our focus on Matthew 25 in much that we do. Youth leaders attended the Matthew 25 Youth Retreat at Pyoca, and came home full of excitement and ideas.

Guiding and nurturing faith formation is an important part of our programming. During spring semester Sunday School, we offered a Confirmation class. Three teens were confirmed and welcomed as new members. Youth also served as lay leaders in the worship service. Towards the end of 2022, Sunday School went on hold as teen schedules leaned into more Sunday evening attendance.

In conversation with other churches youth leaders, we discovered that they too were very low on teen numbers. We hosted a game night before the end of the school year, and invited three other youth groups to attend. The large turnout was fun, and led to a monthly Mega Youth Group partnership with First United Methodist. We are all exploring Matthew 25 together, as well as making connections and enjoying the benefits of a larger group. Our First Pres group meets once a month as well, and we enjoy our small group also. We went to 812 Escape, and learned a lot about teamwork.

Youth Nurture is a relational ministry. We started forming new relationships with the 6th graders during our Halloween Spook Night party, by leaving pumpkins, candy, and a "see you in youth group next year" note on their porches. We celebrated our high school grads in worship with personal videos and gifts. We continued to nurture long-standing relationships with our college and career aged students by sending care packages for spring and fall finals, as well as birthday cards & surprises. Those in their first semester away from home received a Halloween surprise. Thanks to Brook Brown for organizing, and to Nancy Edwards and Debbie George for stuffing 30 boxes.

By organizing and carrying out service projects, our youth are able to see how much more we can accomplish for our community when we work together. They serve on a monthly Hot Meals team. They have donated food to the Little Pantries downtown as part of a youth group Matthew 25 lesson. They selected Turning Point's initiative of creating a safe space for teens as the recipient of the

SESSION REPORTS

Youth Nurture (YN) Committee

2022 Pentecost Offering. Inspiring the congregation to contribute resulted in a \$452.00 donation. With some inspiration from Matthew 25, the youth Heart Tree project this year was a collection of warm hats, gloves, and socks for our Hot Meals guests. With a major contribution of hygiene items and candy from Cara Bywater, and a grant for gift cards from Mission Support by Sarah Sanders, the youth bagged it all up and distributed it to our guests a week before Christmas. For the first time since the start of the pandemic, we were able to resume our tradition of caroling and sharing dessert with the senior citizens at the Armory Apartments.

After learning the importance of the Pride Festival to so many youth during the process of designating the 2021 Pentecost Offering, Youth Nurture applied for and received a Mission Support grant for Pride 2022, and asked the Social Justice Committee to consider it for their annual community giving.

Our Whole Lives (OWL) sexuality education, middle school level, was offered for the 2022-23 school year.

For the past seven years, Marietta Macy has led our Nurture Committees. We are grateful for her leadership, support and encouragement, and her dedication to the faith formation of our children and youth. In August, we enjoyed planning a Pirate Party to celebrate her ministry with us, and we wish her well as she moves on to her next chapter. We are excited to share that we commissioned Marietta to make a Youth banner. It will be dedicated on Youth Sunday.

SESSION REPORTS

Mission Support Grants for 2022-Annual Report

Mission Support was allocated \$42,224.76 in January from the First Presbyterian Church Foundation to distribute funding among nonprofit organizations in our world and community. Mission Support grants are intended specifically for mission or outreach purposes not included in FPC's operating budget, usually as supported by members or friends of FPC who want to do Christ's work in the world. This distribution from the Foundation was added to the remaining 2021 balance.

Remaining 2021 Balance		\$12,538.51
2022 Grant Allocation from FPC Foundation		\$42,224.76
Total Available in 2022		\$54,763.27
Bartholomew County Works - Career Focus Group	1/22/22	(\$2,000.00)
Columbus Pride – Annual Festival	1/22/22	(\$1,500.00)
Power of Love-business training for women in Zambia	4/18/22	(\$5,235.00)
Family Service – counseling services for Spanish speaking community	6/5/22	(\$10,000.00)
VIM Care-Medication Assistance Program	7/25/22	(\$5,000.00)
Community Storage	7/25/22	(\$1,200.00)
Columbus Fellowship Club – parking lot reconstruction and resurface	8/22/22	(\$5,000.00)
FPC Preschool – scholarships for children of women in the Fresh Start Recovery Program	10/9/22	(\$5,000.00)
Heart Tree Gift Cards - for Hot Meals	11/5/22	(\$2,000.00)
Christmas Stockings & Sewing Projects	11/5/22	(\$2,000.00)
Turning Point – Client Assistance	11/5/22	(\$5,000.00)
Hot Meals - Supply closet	12/12/22	(\$750.00)

We thank the First Presbyterian Church Foundation for providing funding to support these worthwhile organizations and programs.

Kelly Geckler, Moderator, Julie Daiker, Vern Jorck, Dale Nowlin, Felipe Martinez, Mary Ann McCray, Pam Robertson, and Sarah Sanders.

SESSION REPORTS

Personnel Committee

Committee: Lynne Hyatt (co-chair through 12/31/22), Leigh Ann Figg (co-chair), Pastor Felipe Martinez (staff), Janet Sharpe and Karlene Kurtz

Mission: To oversee and administer personnel-related activities of the church in accordance with the Book of Order and the First Presbyterian Personnel Policy Manual in a manner that supports and furthers the mission of First Presbyterian Church, Columbus Indiana.

Summary of 2022 Accomplishments:

1. Felipe's 2021 Review: In January of 2022, Leigh Ann and Janet conducted Felipe's annual performance review for 2021.
2. Addition of Choir Director: In late 2021, a proposal regarding a change in the music ministry was reviewed with a request to add a Choir Director. The proposal was approved by Session in January 2022. Dianne Sprunger is ready to step back from some her existing duties and this change redefines the Music Director to two positions: (a) Choir Director and (b) Organist. The Committee supported the addition of the Choir Director with the hiring of Jenny Heichelbech, including the review of proposed updates to related job descriptions. Dianne and Jenny are each working approximately 12.5 hours per week and as Jenny is picking up more responsibilities. By the Fall of 2023, Dianne would like to transition the positions so that Dianne is working approximately 10 hours per week and Jenny is up to 15 hours.
3. Sabbatical Leave Policy: In February of 2022, the Session and Deacons discussed the granting of a Sabbatical to Felipe in the Summer of 2023. The Committee drafted a Sabbatical Leave Policy that was later approved by the Session.
4. Search for new Director of Children, Youth and Young Adult Ministries: In the Spring, Marietta Macy notified the Committee that she would be resigning in August. The Committee launched a search committee for a new Director of Children, Youth and Young Adult Ministries (DCYYAM). The role was promoted in over 20 sources and the search committee interviewed four (4) candidates. An interim Director, Tonja Gerardy, was approached by Felipe and she showed strong interest. After a search committee interview and support by the Committee, the Session approved the hire of Tonja on an interim basis starting in January 2023.
5. Felipe's Anniversary: In November of 2022, the Committee organized the recognition and celebration of the 30th Anniversary of Felipe's ordination.
6. Staff Reviews: In December of 2022, the Committee supported Felipe's staff performance reviews and Leigh Ann and Karlene conducted Felipe's annual review. COLA increases for the staff and Felipe were approved by the Session at 5% effective January 1, 2023. Christmas Bonuses were given at the end of the year to the professional and support staff to show appreciation for their good work and dedication.

A look ahead to 2023:

Sadly, Karlene has resigned from the Committee effective December 31, 2022 due to family conflicts and Leigh Ann will be the sole Chairperson. The Committee will meet in early 2023 to decide if we need to replace Karlene.

The Committee will continue to support the search committee in sourcing and hiring a new DCYYAM, with Leigh Ann chairing the search committee.

In the first half of 2023, the Committee will complete compensation reviews for the staff roles and will document the process.

A formal job description for the FPC Pastor shall be facilitated by the Committee.

The Committee will continue to work with the Sabbatical Committee and other affected committees on the proper staffing needed during Felipe's Sabbatical.

Timely reviews of Felipe and the staff will be coordinated and supported by the Committee.

The Committee is exceedingly appreciative of the guidance of Karlene Kurtz over the past couple of years and thank her for her leadership.

Respectfully submitted,
Leigh Ann Figg

Session Reports

2022 Property Committee Report

Committee: Ben Bush, Terry Molewyk, Danny Sanders, Jim Farrar, Bob Smitherman, Doug Sprunger, David Tiede, and Zack Ellison (moderator)

Mission: The purpose of the Property Committee is to ensure the church building and grounds are maintained and updated as needed. 2022 was a good year with the Property Committee overseeing the projects listed below.

Projects for 2022:

1. In 2021 FPC had a significant boiler failure, on our 1950 era gas fired boiler. This failure has required boiler replacements. The replacement boilers are 95% efficient gas fired boilers. We are replacing the old cast iron (large) boiler with two smaller boilers (240M BTU each). That will give us three modern boilers that are 95% efficient. The gas boilers provide heating for the entire church, except for the sanctuary, which has an independent gas furnace and air conditioner system. The boiler replacement work was completed in early 2022.
2. The 30 overhead lights in our gym have needed replacement. They have now been replaced during our 2021 Christmas break, with all new flat panel high intensity LED lights. This work required scaffolding and 3 electricians working for 3 days. It was a large job, and you will notice a big difference.
3. We installed all new overhead LED panel lights in the choir practice room, and the 2 restrooms on either side of the choir room.
4. We had both girl's and boy's bathrooms, in the lower Donner preschool wing, refurbished/updated. This was a larger job than predicted due to material cost increases and additional demolition labor. This work was paid for by 2 grants, the FPC Foundation, and some money from a Covid 19 grant that went to the Pre-School. We are thankful for both grants.
5. There was regular routine maintenance work to keep the buildings running;
 - a. Light changes, door closer repairs, door hinge replacement, water leaks, faucet repairs, roof leaks, etc.
 - b. The major ongoing expense is paid to our Mechanical contractor, Marshal Mechanical, to keep the boilers, furnaces, and air conditioner systems working. We have a maintenance contract with them, but when there are unit failures, we pay for those repairs on top of the normal maintenance expenses.
6. Repainting the gold FPC sign on the outside sanctuary wall on Franklin Street.

Session Reports
2022 Property Committee Report

Projects planned for 2023:

1. Refinish (paint black hinges, stain, and varnish wood) the sanctuary doors, and adjust them to reduce the opening effort required.
2. Clean and recaulk around the sidewalks and limestone stairs.
3. Major clean up of stuff stored in the boiler and storage rooms in the basement.
4. Purchase a new mower, blower, and rebuild/re-roof the outside storage shed.
5. Add additional doors and locks to secure the sanctuary/Laws Room from the preschool areas.
6. Add a fire alarm system for the sanctuary.

Respectfully submitted,
Zack Ellison
Property Committee Chair

SESSION REPORTS

Safe Church Committee

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." Mark 10: 14

Committee Members: Brook Brown, Mary Ann McCray, Sunny Currier-Chairperson. Marietta Macy, Staff.

Mission: The mission of the Safe Church Committee is to support and enable First Presbyterian Church in providing a safe environment for children and teens to learn, grow, and experience God's love. Effective ministry for children and teens requires relationships with caring, loving, and mature adults, who can demonstrate God's love to them. By setting and supporting appropriate guidelines and boundaries, we can create an environment that is safe for children, teens, and the adults that interact with them.

The required annual training of church officers in the Safe Church Policy was done in May (Deacons) and June (Elders) as there was no earlier opportunity or Officer Retreat due to Covid constraints.

Two of our facility safety goals were completed this year. Due to special fund availability, one of our goals, an ADA compliant accessible entrance, was completed. Another goal was to add security camera coverage, but due to the age of our camera system, it was not possible to add to it. After a vandalism incident to our property, the Foundation offered to make funds available to replace the security camera system with a new, technically updated system. This was completed, and our whole security system and WiFi are now updated, more complete, and easier to monitor. Big thanks to the Property Committee for making it all happen.

As we navigated livestreaming our worship service, we discussed safety and privacy concerns with the public sharing of medical prayer requests, and with congregants appearing in the video feed. We discussed these concerns with Staff, and communicated to the congregation in the September Newsletter, Friday reminder, and on Facebook, the guidelines by which we can protect personal privacy in sharing prayer requests. The back pews were designated to be a video-free zone.

We completed work on the Emergency Procedures document for use in case of fire, tornado, or active shooter. It was submitted to Session in 2022, and we hope to implement communication and training with the congregation in the spring. We made recommendations for the Facility Use Agreement, which is being updated in consideration of recommendations from our insurers. In collaboration with the Columbus Fire Department, we held a fire drill in September.

Sunny Currier, Moderator

SESSION REPORTS

Social Justice Committee (SJC)

Committee membership: Ann Jones, Sarah Sanders, Cara Bywater, Tess Weathers, Heather Reeves, Amy Hale, Vern Jorck, Richard Safford with staff support from Felipe Martinez

Matthew 25: 35-36 "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."

In 2021, the Social Justice Committee made the proposal to the Session that First Presbyterian Church begin the journey to become a Matthew 25 church. Matthew 25 churches are PC(USA) congregations that align their social justice objectives to the goals of Building Congregational Vitality, Dismantling Structural Racism and Eradicating Systemic Poverty. This year, the Social Justice Committee will support this work. Thank you to Cara Bywater for leading this initiative in 2022.

This has been a tough year for the committee after we lost both Sherm Franz and Gretchen Laemmer. Their contributions to the social justice committee spanned decades and made a real difference in the church and the community. We miss them, and we hope that our work honors their memory. In 2021 the Social Justice Committee continued to work on ways First Presbyterian Church can help those facing hunger and poverty; we also focus our efforts on homelessness, racism, healthcare, climate change, and fair immigration reform. The work of this committee is often geared toward allocating funding to support people and organizations already working toward these goals. However, we try to intentionally design opportunities for engagement and education, not just on financial giving.

Here is some of the work we contributed to in 2022:

- We submitted a second multi-year Foundation grant for \$40,000 to be used over 4 years to support undocumented Latino students. If the grant is approved, our funds will be matched by private donations. Matt Souza spoke about this work during church and adult fellowship on 1/16/22.
- We approved a grant for \$7500 to pay for the installation of a new HVAC system at Horizon House shelter operated by Human Services for homeless families with children.
- We donated our 25% share of the Peace and Global Witness Offering to Team Rubicon to support Afghan resettlement to align with the work of other groups within the church to sponsor an Afghan family locally.
- We decided to make our financial support of Bright Stars in Bethlehem (2021) and Power of Love (2022) recurring line items in the church budget so that our annual giving can help provide higher education opportunities to Muslims and Christians in Palestine and help eradicate pediatric AIDS & HIV and provide micro-loans to individuals working toward self-sufficiency in Zambia.
- We led an effort to provide bags with PJs and other necessities to Bethany Christian Services for immigrant children arriving through the US southern border who will be reunited with family members in the US

SESSION REPORTS

Social Justice cont.

- We supported the African American Fund's Community Anti-Racism Films Screenings, including Good Trouble: The John Lewis Story.
- We participated in the annual Bread for the World letter writing campaign which was successful in lobbying the government for continued funds to address food insecurity at home and abroad.
- We approved a Mission Support Grant for landscaping tools for the new Fresh Start Recovery building and scholarships for children from there to attend our pre-school.
- We continued to show our support for the LGBTQ+ with our flags in the loggia, and in September our Pride 'Doors are always open' display outside and presence at the Columbus Pride Festival.
- Janet Sharpe and her team continued the Sweet Dreams Mission and made Christmas stockings for Hospice and children in need in our community.
- We increased the Hot Meals budget substantially to help pay for additional food and containers for the increased need during the pandemic.
- We decided to begin sponsoring a quarterly Adult Education Hour on topics related to social justice locally, nationally, and internationally. Our first session will be in response to drone warfare.

Through the Community Mission budget, FPC also provided financial support totaling \$31,588 to a variety of local organizations – The Ecumenical Assembly of Bartholomew County (Love Chapel & Brighter Days), BCSC Book Buddies, Family Self-Sufficiency, Horizon House, Hot Meals, The Mill Race Center, Turning Point, Just Friends, FPC Pre-School Scholarships, and Su Casa.

We have also continued in our support of two mission co-workers – Luta (and Jeremy) Garbat-Welch in Malawi and Doug Dicks in Israel / Palestine.

Thank you for your continued support.
Sarah Sanders and Ann Jones
Moderators of the Social Justice Committee

SESSION REPORTS

Open & Affirming Sub-Committee of Social Justice

Mission: The mission of the Open and Affirming Committee is to nurture a welcoming ministry for all of God's children, both in our congregation and in our community, including persons of any sexual orientation or gender identity and their families. FPC desires to be an open church, and an affirming Church, in an open and affirming community.

In 2022, First Presbyterian and the Open and Affirming Committee participated in the community's Columbus Pride Festival, held on September 24, 2022, at Mill Race Park. The Pride Festival was held safely on a sunny, warm Saturday afternoon with nearly 100 vendors and exhibitors, and more than 3,000 people attending – individuals and entire families. FPC was an exhibitor and volunteers from our church shared flags and pins and information about our church during the expanded six-hour event. This year's festival, the biggest yet held in Columbus, was a welcoming and affirming event, celebrating the inclusion of all into the life of our community.

Then, on Monday evening, November 21, members of the Church and community gathered for a meaningful service for the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance. This service is meant to be an annual observance that honors the memory of the transgender people whose lives have been lost in acts of anti-transgender violence. The worship service not only looked back in remembrance, but looked forward to a time when no more lives will be lost, and all lives will be included and valued.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God." Matthew 5:9.

"Never forget that both John the Baptist and Jesus sided with the poor, the marginalized and the disenfranchised." Father James Martin, S.J.

Wishing God's peace for each and every one of us, from your Open and Affirming Subcommittee.

SESSION REPORTS

Stewardship & Finance Committee

Our Team

- Members who served on Stewardship and Finance Committee for some or all of 2022 included: Treasurer Jayne Farber, Cindy Frey, Lynne Hyatt, Mary Ann McCray, Chip Orben, Luther Pierson, Vern York, and Rich Stenner. Reverend Felipe Martinez provided staff support to the Committee.

Our Purpose:

- Our Stewardship and Finance Committee is a committee of the Session and exists to:
 - monitor church finances and accounts throughout the year (with the Treasurer)
 - provide monthly and annual financial reports of the Church's finances with year-end audits/reviews/compilations (using staff and volunteers)
 - Conduct the annual stewardship campaign securing pledges of support for the next calendar year
 - Conduct the Christmas Joy offering

Our Work

- The Committee is thankful for the resiliency and generosity of our members. Despite inflation and the continued presence of COVID in our community combined with fewer in-person worshipers than pre COVID we did reach our targeted income goal for 2022. We are truly a blessed and giving congregation.
- FPC achieved 100.2% of its targeted total income goal and ended the year at \$629,638, which is \$1,038 more than the budgeted goal of \$628,600.
- The Fall 2022 annual stewardship campaign theme was "God's Work Our Hands". There were traditional mailings to the congregation, 4 moments for missions from a diverse group of members, consecration breakfast hosted by Deacons, numerous reminders in newsletter and weekly updates regarding the campaign. We encouraged members to prayerfully consider a 4% increase for 2023 to help offset the impact of inflationary pressures at FPC.

SESSION REPORTS

Stewardship & Finance Committee cont.

2023 Stewardship Campaign Results

- Our campaign in 2023 is drawing to a close. Thus far we have 11 fewer pledging units than at a similar time in 2022. We are prayerful, we will receive additional pledges from traditional givers and /or new members.
- We also recognize there are members who traditionally give to FPC but do not fill out a pledge card. Typically, we look at prior years history to estimate this pledge income.
- As of mid-January 2023, there are 82 pledges totaling \$483,535 which is 78.7% of our budget of \$614,550.
- We anticipate additional pledges this year and membership growth along with continued giving from our members who are faithful givers but elect not to pledge.
- Our Treasurer drafted the Church's budget for 2023, based on input from all the working groups with the Church, which the Session approved in December 2022.

2023 PRELIMINARY BUDGET - Session 2nd Reading (12.21.2022)

12.21.22 jmf .Session 2nd Read (12.21.22)		2022	2023	CHANGE	2022-23 % CHANGE
INCOME					
PLEDGE AND GIFT INCOME					
Pledge And Gift Income	\$	588,509	\$ 614,550	26,041	4.42%
OTHER INCOME					
Other Income	\$	40,191	\$ 37,980	(2,211)	-5.50%
* TOTAL INCOME	\$	628,700	\$ 652,530	\$23,830	3.79%
EXPENSES					
CHURCH PROGRAMS					
WORSHIP & MUSIC	\$	11,568	\$ 12,835	1,267	
NURTURE	\$	18,314	\$ 18,532	218	
OTHER CHURCH PROGRAMS	\$	8,140	\$ 8,140	-	
TOTAL CHURCH PROGRAMS	\$	38,022	\$ 39,507	\$ 1,485	3.91%
MISSION GIVING					
Presbyterian Mission	\$	28,495	\$ 30,818	2,323	
Mission Coworkers	\$	6,000	\$ 6,000	-	
Bright Stars of Bethlehem	\$	5,000	\$ 5,000	-	
Community Mission	\$	33,265	\$ 34,500	1,235	
Power of Love	\$	4,800	\$ 7,200	2,400	
Theological Seminary Fund	\$	250	\$ 250	-	
TOTAL MISSION GIVING	\$	77,810	\$ 83,768	\$ 5,958	7.66%
PROF. STAFF EXPENSE (5% COLA)					
PASTOR (Base \$56,111)	\$	124,452	\$ 136,483	12,031	
*** DCYYAM (Base \$45,000)	\$	70,458	\$ 63,793	(6,665)	
TOTAL CHOIR DIR & ORGANIST	\$	56,313	\$ 59,027	2,714	
PROFESSIONAL STAFF EXP TOTAL	\$	251,223	\$ 259,303	\$ 8,080	3.22%
OFFICE EXPENDITURES					
Salary Expenses (5% COLA)	\$	57,138	\$ 60,515	3,377	
Office Expenses	\$	31,865	\$ 33,245	1,380	
Office Expenditures	\$	89,003	\$ 93,760	\$ 4,757	5.34%
FACILITY EXPENSE					
Facility Salaries	\$	8,190	\$ 8,538	348	
Other Facility Expenses	\$	144,568	\$ 147,728	3,160	
Facility Expense	\$	152,758	\$ 156,266	\$ 3,508	2.30%
PER CAPITA					
**** Apportionment (\$50.15 x 436 est)	\$	19,780	\$ 21,865	\$ 2,085	10.54%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$	628,600	\$ 654,469	\$ 25,869	4.12%
			\$ 652,530		
			\$ 654,469		
			\$ (1,939)		

- * The increase in TOTAL INCOME from 2022-2023 is used to calculate the 25% increase to Mission Giving= \$23,830
- ** 25% of \$23,830 = \$5,958. This is the amount that is added to MISSION GIVING \$5,958
- *** Projected Salary for New Hire DCYYAM - BASE \$45,000
- ****2023 Per Capita \$50.15 x 436 members = \$21,865 \$21,865

The Reverend Felipe Martinez, Full-time Senior Pastor/Head of Staff
2023 COMPENSATION

<u>CASH COMPENSATION</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	
Cash Salary <small>2022 - includes 7.65% SECA</small>	\$53,439	\$51,819 <u>1/</u>	Represents 5% COLA increase minus 7.65% SECA tax of \$4,292 (\$56,111 minus \$4,292)
Housing Allowance	\$32,657	\$34,290	Represents 5% COLA increase (\$1,633)
Effective Salary	\$86,096	\$86,109 <u>2/</u>	Cash Salary (as adjusted) plus Housing Allowance
Pension/Health <small>2022 – 37% of Effective Salary</small>	\$31,856	\$33,582 <u>3/</u>	2023 - calculated at 39% of EFFECTIVE SALARY
SECA		\$4,292 <u>4/</u>	SECA = 7.65% of Cash Salary adjusted with 5% COLA increase. \$53,439 x 105%=\$56,111.
Vouchered Professional Expense	\$2,500	\$2,500	
Vouchered Continuing Education	\$3,000	\$3,000	May be accumulated up to 3 years
Vouchered mileage estimate	\$1,000	\$1,000	Reimbursed at current IRS rate
TOTAL PACKAGE	\$124,452	\$130,483	

OTHER COMPENSATION

Vacation	5 weeks	5 weeks	
Study Leave	2 weeks	2 weeks	
Sick Days	10 days	10 days	Cumulative up to 120 days; lost at end of employment; eff 01.01.2022
Sabbatical		10 weeks	3 months plus 14 days: 22 MAY - 5 SEP 2023 Liturgy of Sending - May 21, 2023 Liturgy of Return - September 10, 2023

2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

- a. For 2023 a 5% COLA increase was approved by Session for Pastor Felipe Martinez. This 5% COLA was applied individually to both Cash Salary from 2022 and Housing Allowance from 2022. 2023 Salary with COLA = \$56,111 (\$2,672 overall increase)
- b. For 2023, a new SECA line-item has been created, as directed by Pastor F. Martinez. See item 4/ below.
- c. For 2023, Pension Dues increased from 37% to 39% of Effective Salary.

1/ Cash Salary reflects 5% COLA increase over 2022 Cash Salary, minus SECA for 2023. (SECA for 2023 is \$4,292.)

5% COLA = \$56,111. SECA = \$4,292. Cash Salary = \$56,111 minus \$4,292 = \$51,819.

2/ Effective Salary is Cash Salary (as adjusted for SECA) plus Housing Allowance.

3/ Pension dues for 2023 are based on 39% of Effective Salary (up 2% from 37% in 2022).

4/ SECA = 2023 SECA tax rate is 7.65% of Cash Salary from 2022 plus the 5% COLA increase.

~ In 2023 Pastor Felipe Martinez directed a new SECA line item be created that will reflect a revised calculation available for PENSION dues. PENSION dues are based on Cash Salary minus SECA. Savings to FPC in 2023 will be \$1,674 in Pension dues

~ SECA stands for Self-Employed Contributions Act. SECA Allowance to ministers is considered taxable income.

SUMMARY: Overall CASH INCREASE to Felipe is net \$4,304 over 2022.

WoodWeShare Ministries 2022 Annual Report

After graduating two families from last year, WoodWeShare is again serving five families for the 2022-2023 heating season with another two receiving occasional assistance. Jacob Virostko donated firewood which was delivered directly to families in western Bartholomew County. Danny and Sarah Sanders donated two trees which is fueling our WWS-companion, post-holidays exercise program: WeightWeShed.

Speaking of exercise, why sweat just for yourself? With WWS your exercise benefits others in an immediate and tangible way. Some volunteer just once while others are fanatics. Whatever your participation, you can see God's love through nature and for those who can use help with a basic need.

Submitted by Doug Sprunger, Jan. 6, 2023

SESSION REPORTS

Worship Committee

Committee Members: Terri Glackin, Kimberly Hoffman, Amy McCormick, Anthony Merida, Clare Moore (Moderator), Lisa Porter, Hanna Salas, Judy Summerville, Warren Ward, Jenny Heichelbech (staff), Felipe Martinez (staff), Dianne Sprunger (staff).

Mission Statement: To create and nurture a climate that will enable members, friends and visitors of our congregation, both individually and cooperatively, during worship to respond to God's love for us. We strive to do this in a manner that everyone, regardless of age, social, economic or family situation will be personally affirmed in that love.

Committee Responsibilities: In consultation with the pastor or others leading worship, utilize creative approaches to enhance the worship experience of attendees through integration of visual, auditory, and other sensory stimuli, including banners, lights, foliage, movements, spoken word, activities, decorations, and sacraments for Sundays and special liturgical holidays and seasons. Specific duties include preparation and set-up for communion once a month and for special services, recruitment of adult and youth lay liturgists for worship services, purchase of poinsettias at Christmas and lilies at Easter and delivery of them to members unable to join us for worship, supporting last minute prayer requests during the service, and preparing the PowerPoint service bulletin. Additionally, we respond to requests from the Celebration of Life committee with preparation of the sanctuary for funeral and memorial services, and otherwise assist and support pastors with special events and services as requested.

Of special note in 2022:

In January, worship services were paused for 'in-person' attendance and shifted to streaming only for the last three Sundays of the month. Choir practice and bell choir practice were also on hold during this time. Ray Hass contributed to a couple of services by playing the organ while Dianne was on vacation. During the January Worship Committee meeting (held on Zoom for January as well as for the entire 2022 year), the group reviewed and refamiliarized themselves with the committee mission statement. The AV production of services for streaming was fully implemented with the construction of a new booth, camera and other improved equipment.

Even as in-person worship resumed for the rest of the year starting in February, members of the committee continued to support our streamed services with modifications required for safety including changes to communion and provision of PowerPoint bulletins.

Session approved for Dianne's position to be split – she remains as organist and Jenny Heichelbech was hired to lead the choir.

Our Lent and Easter plans included in-person, modified options, although restrictions were still in place as COVID numbers were high but dropping.

In May, as COVID numbers continued to drop, the Worship Committee and Children's Nurture recommended resuming certain familiar pieces to worship that had been paused – including passing of the peace, Words of Affirmation, Time with Children, Passing the Offertory Plate, and a

SESSION REPORTS

Worship Committee cont.

modified Communion process (where worshipers could come forward to receive a cup and a cube of bread (given to them with tongs).

Communion by intinction would still be on hold.

Due to such a lengthy time of being unused, our communion silver had become very tarnished. A 'polishing party' consisting of a few committee members and friends was held on a Saturday to restore the pieces to a good condition.

After so many months of not seeing each other in person due to COVID, we launched a project to create new name tags for each member as well as frequent visitors, with disposable ones available for 'walk-ins' and folks who forgot theirs.

Anthony Merida introduced an Art Group to be held following AFE on Sundays. Folks of all ages were encouraged to come and create visual art to be shared at future worship services. This group's efforts have since produced several colorful displays that have delighted those in attendance during worship.

Jenny & Dianne worked together to create a summer music schedule to include many talented guest vocalists and instrumentalists. The variety was interesting and engaging.

On June 19 (Fathers' Day and Juneteenth), we held our annual summer service at Donner Park. The Livin' by Faith band provided music. We were able to include our traditional picnic lunch following the service. Many people attended.

On August 7 a committee fair was held to share information to all about the work of our church committees. A scavenger hunt, a creative project and treats were highlights.

Several members of the committee attended the Montreat conference and returned with many creative ideas and perspectives on how to enrich the worship life of the church.

Starting with Advent, we moved from the Narrative Lectionary to a Womanist lectionary written by Wilda Gafney. Following Advent, we will use Gafney's A Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church. Gafney provides a women's perspective in her lectionary interpretations, inviting us to rethink Bible stories in a new light.

Dianne, Lisa and Kimberly collaborated on the creation of an Advent liturgy. A separate Advent candle liturgy was also written.

Because Dec. 25 fell on a Sunday this year, we designed a special schedule – a) a 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service with children's participation in the nativity story (no communion), and b) a 9:30 a.m. 'light' service with communion on Christmas Day. The Christmas Eve service was extremely well attended (200 people?), and the Christmas Day service was very lightly attended with no more than 30 people.

Many people beyond the core group of Worship Committee members provided immeasurable support to our Sunday morning services this year. Special thanks to all the children, youth, and adults who have provided

SESSION REPORTS

Worship Committee cont.

support by being Lay Liturgists. In addition, many people enriched our services immensely with their music – these folks include choir members, individual vocal soloists, instrumentalists, bell ringers, and Danny Clark and the Livin' by Faith Band. We also extend sincere gratitude to Leah Jackman-Wheitner who has faithfully hosted the Zoom worship participants each Sunday, and the AV team consisting of Luther Pierson, Chris George, and Jason Tracy for the dedication each Sunday in supporting our streaming process.

Respectfully submitted,
Clare Moore (Moderator)

OTHER REPORTS

Deacons

Class of 2022: Anna Denoyer, Sherri Norris, Karen Whitson

Class of 2023: Stephanie Cunningham (Moderator), Jenny DeJarnette, Emily Sharpe, Doug Wray

Class of 2024: Victor Friend, Jeff Karr, Sarah Sanders, Sandy Thomas

It is the duty of Deacons, first of all, to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress both within and beyond the community of faith. In addition, Deacons create a welcoming environment through serving as head ushers for church services and organizing fellowship events for our congregation and guests. The Deacons meet monthly, with the exception of July. During 2022, Deacons continued to meet over Zoom. In place of an October meeting, the Deacons met for an usher training.

Each Deacon is assigned a list of about 16-17 church families to connect with. Deacons reach out to and pray for these families over the course of the year. During 2022, the list of families that each Deacon was assigned has fluctuated due to Deacon vacancies. The Nominating Committee assisted with working to fill these vacancies.

In addition to caring for families within our congregation, Deacons and other church members organized meals for members of our congregation who were ill or recovering from surgery. Emily Sharpe also organized stockings for members of our congregation who are homebound, and Deacons delivered these stockings during December.

As mentioned above, Deacons organize fellowship events for the congregation and guests. One of the traditional fellowship events, Deacons & Donuts, was unable to be held in February due to the COVID pandemic. The Deacons are planning on this event returning in 2023. Deacons assisted with organizing the following events in 2022:

- Easter Brunch – Deacons coordinated with members of the church to provide brunch on Easter Sunday.
- Service in the Park & Church Picnic – Deacons reserved the shelter house at Donner Park for a service in the park in June and coordinated with church members for a church picnic after the service.
- Consecration Sunday Brunch – Deacons coordinated with the Stewardship & Finance Committee and other church members to provide a brunch on Consecration Sunday.

The Deacons are looking forward to serving the needs of our congregation in 2023 with the addition of Izzie Nowlin, who is filling a vacant role for the Class of 2023, and the addition of our Class of 2025 Deacons: Anna Denoyer, Julie

Orben, Vernet Safford, and Scott Weathers. We are thankful for the faithful service of Deacons whose terms have ended: Sherri Norris, Emily Sharpe, and Karen Whitson.

Submitted Respectfully,

Stephanie Cunningham, 2022 Moderator

OTHER REPORTS
Presbyterian Foundation of Columbus, Indiana
2022 Annual Report

*Mission: To Serve the Religious, Educational and Charitable Needs
of First Presbyterian Church, Columbus, IN*

2022 Annual Unrestricted Grant Funds Available

\$164,699.52

2022 Grants Awarded from Unrestricted Funds:

Mission support (1/3 of available funds)	\$42,224.76
Hispanic Scholarship (Year 4 of 4)	10,000.00
Children’s Library (Year 4 of 5)	1,000.00
New Boiler for Church	21,577.00
Preschool Bathroom Renovation (2 grants total)	40,000.00
Hillside Clinic and Abby’s House	8,860.00

2022 Total Grant Disbursements from Unrestricted Funds

\$123,661.76

Remaining Balance at 12/31/22

\$41,037.76

2022 Grants Awarded from Restricted Funds – none this year

Foundation Balances at 11/30/22

Vanguard Investment Account	\$3,329,853.00
Columbarium – New Covenant Investments	29,421.84
Columbarium – First Financial Checking	10,533.71
Organ Maintenance – New Covenant Investments	136,941.07
Harrison Youth Fund – New Covenant Investments	13,782.09
Foundation – First Financial Checking	25,1931.76
Private Donor Fund	181,650.00

Other

Reeves Fund <i>(Endowed benefit trust held at the Heritage Fund)</i> <i>(as of 12/31/22)</i>	\$902,561.37
--	--------------

Highlights during 2022

- Clean audit for 2022 conducted by Agresta, Storms & O’Leary.
- The Vanguard portfolio of unrestricted mutual fund investments did not perform as well in 2022 compared to its peers as it had in the last several years. At of the end of 2022, it was performing in the 3rd quartile for the last 3 years, and in roughly in the middle of its peer group for last 5-year period.

OTHER REPORTS
Presbyterian Foundation of Columbus, Indiana
2022b Annual Report continued

- Our Legacy Circle was finally able to meet on September 22 for its annual appreciation event for the first time since 2019 due to the COVID crisis. The group received updates on grant funding activity and investment performance, and contributed enthusiastically in a small group discussion about how we should celebrate our 200th anniversary as a church.

2022 Foundation Board of Directors and Officers

David Boatwright	Investment Committee, Chair
Tim Denoyer	Investment Committee
Kelly Geckler	Vice President / Mission Support
Colleen Herrick	Treasurer
Bill Jones	Secretary
Joy King	Legacy Circle / Planned Giving
Clare Moore	President
Janet Putney	Webmaster/Public Relations

We give heartfelt thanks to Kelly who is retiring from the board after serving faithfully and competently for a total of 8 years.

Memorial & Honorarium Gifts

During 2022, the Foundation received a total of \$525.00 remembering our loved ones and honoring the wonderful contributions others have made:

Memorials:
Lowell Renshaw
Kent Ziegler

Honoring:
None

Grants

Those interested in applying for a grant are encouraged to contact any Foundation Board member or the Rev. Felipe Martinez for guidance. Please remember that grant requests are to be submitted to the Session for review prior to being considered by the Foundation.

To learn more about submitting a grant, please visit our website at <http://www.fpccolumbus.org/foundation/> .

2022 FPC Foundation meeting dates:

February 14, April 11, June 13, August 8, October 10, December 12 (annual meeting).

Respectfully submitted, Clare Moore (Board President)



512 Seventh Street, Columbus, Indiana 47201
Telephone (812) 372-3783; FAX (812) 372-9533
www.fpccolumbus.org