

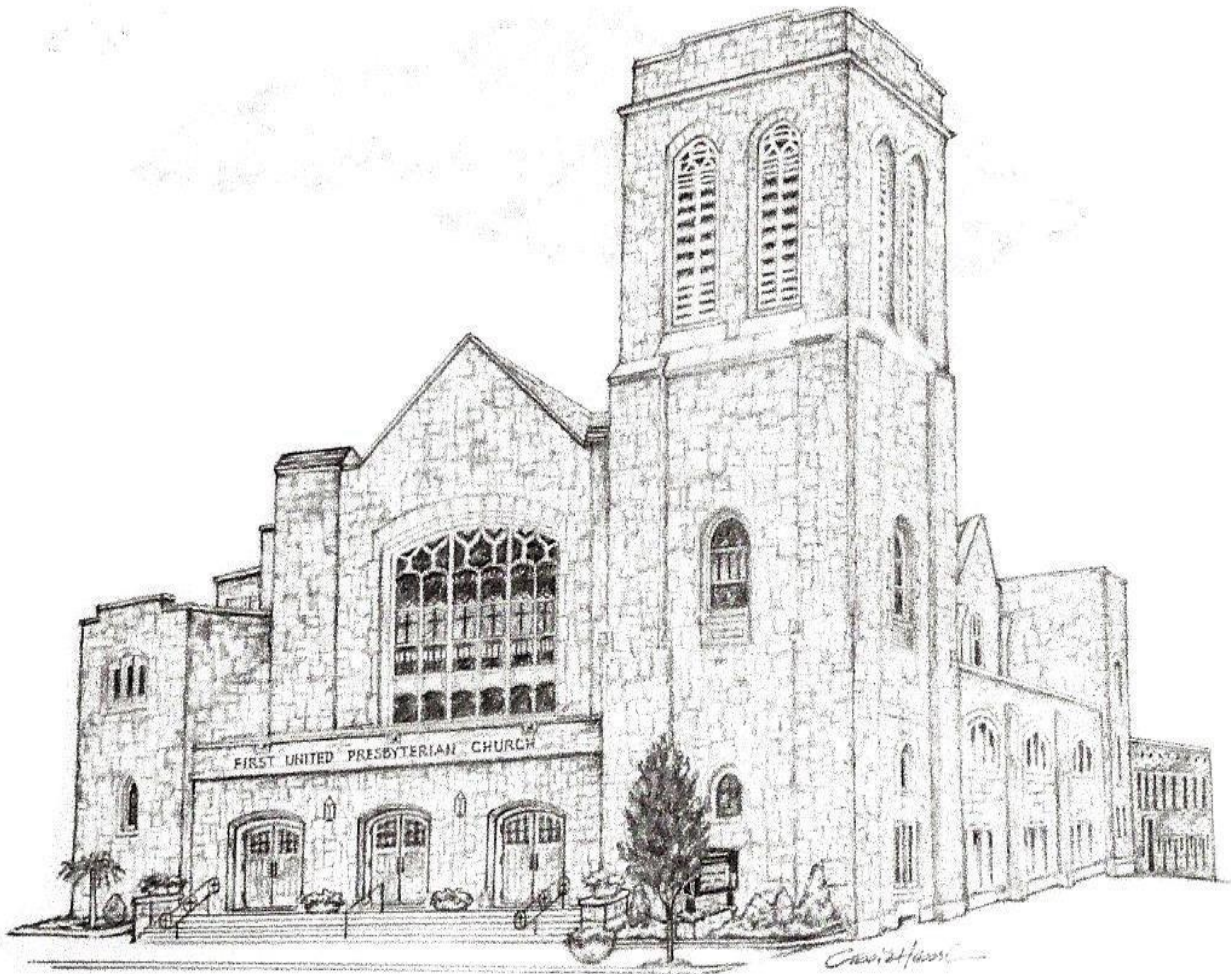
2023 ANNUAL REPORT

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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THE ANNUAL CORPORATE AND CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 29, 2023

The annual corporate and congregational meeting was held on January 29, 2023, after the church worship service. Written notice was given two (2) weeks prior to the meeting. A quorum was declared.

Pastor Steve Merrin opened the meeting stating the purpose to report on the budget, approve his terms of call, and provide the annual report to the congregation.

The annual report included minutes from the congregational meeting of 2022, membership statistical report, list of staff, elders and deacons, summaries from all standing committees, deacons, PWA, nominating committee and the scholarship report. A motion was made by Anne Brienza and seconded by Ranae Lentz to approve the annual report. The motion passed.

Bridget Hawkins, Chairperson of the Stewardship and Finance Committee addressed the congregation. Provided in the annual report was the 2022 and 2023 operating budget. Bridget reported that we received 49 pledges and thanked the congregation for their continued support of the church. A motion was made by Gary McKenzie and seconded by Jack Costin to approve the budget. The 2023 operating budget was approved by the congregation.

Pastor Steve Merrin left the meeting so that his terms of call could be discussed by the congregation. Chairperson Hawkins went over the Pastor's terms of call and explained that an increase to his salary was recommended by the Stewardship & Finance Committee and had been approved by the session. Bridget also stated that Pastor Merrin had not received an increase since his initial terms of call were approved. No questions were asked by the congregation. A motion was made by Mary Jane Lane to approve the Pastor's Terms of Call and seconded by Becky Weber. The motion passed.

Pastor Steve Merrin returned to the meeting and explained that no further business was needed and asked for a motion to adjourn. Kyle Lentz moved to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Pat Ortli. Meeting adjourned and Pastor Merrin closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget D Hawkins
Clerk of Session Pro Tem

First United Presbyterian Church
Annual Fall Congregational Meeting Minutes
October 29th, 2023

The First United Presbyterian Church held it's Fall Congregational meeting. Notice had been for 2 weeks prior.

Call to Order: Rev. Kathleen Burslem called the meeting to order and declared a quorum. She opened the meeting with prayer.

Purpose of the meeting: Rev. Burslem stated the purpose of today's meeting is to request a change to the churches by laws and to elect our elders and deacons for the class of 2026 and to elect the members of the congregation to the nominating committee for 2024.

Proposed By-Law change: Elder Mark Butler, chairperson of the Nominating Committee presented the proposed by law change. Currently our by laws allow for an elder or deacon to be elected for a three-year term. No elder or deacon shall serve on their respective board for consecutive terms, either full or partial, aggregating more than 54 months; but shall again become eligible to be elected to a new term after one year shall have elapsed.

The request is to change our by-laws will match the Presbyterian Book of Order. An Elder or Deacon will be elected to serve terms of no more than 3 years and may be eligible for re-election but may not serve more than 6 consecutive years. A ruling elder or deacon who has serve 6 years shall be ineligible for the same board for at least one year.

There was a motion and a seconded to make the change. Good questions were asked and responded to. When there were no other questions or discussion, Pastor Burslem called the motion to vote and the motion passed.

Elders, Deacons, & Nominating Committee: Elder Mark Butler presented the recommended list of Deacons for the class of 2026: Betty Lloyd, Ben Stahler, Elaine Thompson, & Judy Wical. The list for Elders for the class of 2026: Karen Brady, Carla Murdock & Bill Wical. The members of the congregation for the 2024 nominating committee: Sue Dearwester, Bridget Hawkins, Edson Jenkins, and Nancy Stokes.

Rev. Burslem asked if there were any other nominations and reminded to nominate someone you must have secured their permission. There were no nominations and a motion was made and seconded to accept the slate of deacons, elders and nominating committee as presented. All were in favor, motion passed.

That ended the business of the meeting. Rev. Burslem closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Hesson Brady
Clerk of Session

First United Presbyterian Church Congregational Meeting
Sunday August 20, 2023

Rev Robert (Bob) Wade moderated this congregational meeting. A motion, second and vote was called to elect Elder Bridget Hawkins as the recording secretary Pro Tem due to the absence of Clerk of Session, Karen Brady. Motion approved.

Moderator Wade opened the meeting in prayer and shared the purpose of the meeting: To vote on the session's recommendation to concur with Rev. Merrin's request that the Presbytery of the Miami Valley dissolve the pastoral relationship between himself and First United Presbyterian Church, Bellefontaine, effective August 31, 2023, and to agree to the negotiated Dissolution Agreement.

This is the only business that can be considered at this meeting.

Beth Powers presented the motion to the congregation:

The session moves that the congregation of First United Presbyterian Church approve the following actions in one vote:

Concur in the request of Rev. Steve Merrin to request that the Presbytery of the Miami Valley dissolve the pastoral relationship between himself and the First United Presbyterian Church, Bellefontaine, effective August 31, 2023. Agree to the negotiated Dissolution Agreement presented by the session.

At a meeting held on August 8, Rev. Steve Merrin and the session agreed to a mutual separation. Both the congregation and the presbytery have roles in ending the pastoral relationship as Pastor Steve and the session have mutually agreed upon, and today is when the congregation votes to approve or disapprove this mutual request.

Rev. Merrin and the session have successfully negotiated an equitable resolution, including a financial settlement, that the session also presents to the congregation for approval today. The five-month period of continued salary and benefits, which includes unused 2023 vacation and continuing education leave, in the Dissolution Agreement is reasonable and consistent with dissolution packages approved at other churches. The two parts of the session's motion are voted on together as one package because they represent a unified approach to an appropriate dissolution for Rev. Merrin and the congregation.

Clarification of process by the Moderator:

While the congregation is free to debate the session's motion today, the dissolution agreement may not be amended by the congregation because it is a carefully negotiated set of provisions between the session and the Pastor. Each congregation member's vote will either be Yes or No on both elements of what the session has presented. Only active members of this congregation may vote and no absentee or proxy votes are permitted.

Let me be clear, this is NOT a vote For or Against Rev. Merrin. This is a vote on whether or not to concur with the mutual agreement to end the pastoral relationship and to provide him with ongoing financial support through January 31, 2024

A majority vote of Yes will approve the motion. If a majority of the congregation were to vote No on the session's motion, the Book of Order requires that the Presbytery of the Miami Valley hear from

the congregation as to the reasons why the presbytery should not dissolve the pastoral relationship as the pastor has requested. Then the presbytery decides whether the pastor's request to dissolve should be accepted.

Questions?: Mark Butler responded to questions concerning when we could begin the process for a new minister. The process for a self-study concerning the wants of the congregation and for a new minister can begin at the September 21 Session meeting.

Financial terms are as follows:

Provide compensation including salary, housing allowance and Medical Supplement through January 31, 2024 at the rate currently set in the most recently approved terms of call. Specifically, salary of \$3158/month, and housing allowance of \$2067/month shall be paid every two weeks on the regular pay schedule. These payments shall cease if Rev. Merrin secures another full-time position. Provide full Board of Pensions' pension contributions, family medical insurance coverage, and disability insurance coverage all based upon Rev. Merrin's total effective salary through January 31, 2024, making such payments as necessary to the Board of Pensions on Rev. Merrin's behalf. These payments shall cease if Rev. Merrin secures another full-time position. Reimburse Rev. Merrin for all properly approved automobile, professional and continuing education expenses accrued through August 31, 2023.

Reverend Merrin made a brief statement and then he and Andrea Merrin exited the sanctuary for the vote.

Discussion on the Motion: One question was asked and clarified by a member of session.

Distribution of Ballots: Bob Day and Cindy Jenkins served as tellers and distributed ballots to 1st UPC members and collected them after voting, under the supervision of COM members.

While votes were being tallied, Moderator Wade shared the length of severance packages within the Presbytery from 2007-2022, with our package being comparable to other severance packages agreed upon during that time period. The recorded vote was 39 yes votes and 5 no votes. This vote dissolves the relationship between Pastor Merrin and the 1st UPC congregation. This vote was recorded onto tally sheets, signed by Cindy Jenkins, Bob Day and COM members Scott Risner and Brenda Peters. The ballots and tally sheets were returned to Moderator Wade, who announced the results and provided tally sheets to Rev Merrin and Session Member Anne Brienza, with COM retaining the 3rd copy.

The Resolution will be finalized by the Commission On Ministry in the coming week. The Session will host a coffee hour for the Merrin Family Sunday, August 27, 2023.

Motion to adjourn was made by Pat Ortli, 2nd by Edson Jenkins, and passed by voice vote. Moderator Wade closed the meeting in prayer.

Respectfully submitted by

Bridget Hawkins
Clerk Pro Tem

BY-LAWS OF THE CONGREGATION AND CORPORATION
OF THE
FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Bellefontaine, Ohio

SINGLE BOARD – UNICAMERAL SYSTEM

1. The First United Presbyterian Church of Bellefontaine, Ohio, being a particular congregation of The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) recognizes that the Constitution of said Church, is in all its provisions, obligatory upon it and its members.
2. There shall be an annual meeting of the Congregation & the Corporation in the Church Edifice during the month of January for the transaction of any business properly coming before such meeting. Said meeting date will be set by the Session no later than its preceding December meeting.
3. There shall be an ~~special~~ additional annual meeting of the Congregation in the Church Edifice the ~~third week~~ month of October for the purpose of (a) receiving the report of the Representative Nominating Committee; (b) electing the new class of Elders and Deacons and the congregation-at-large representatives to the Nominating Committee; and (c) receiving a report from the Stewardship and Finance Committee concerning the annual Stewardship Campaign.
4. Public notice of the time, place and purpose of all meetings of the Congregation shall be given at least one week prior to the appointed time, so that the call of a Congregational meeting shall be made twice before the Congregation.
5. The Pastor shall preside at all meetings of the Congregation. If the Church is without a Pastor, or if the Pastor and the Ruling Elders agree that the subjects to be discussed require it, or if the Pastor is ill or is otherwise unable to be present, a Minister of the Miami Presbytery shall be invited by the Session to preside. This invitation shall be cleared through the Committee on Ministry of the Miami Presbytery.
6. The Clerk of Session shall be Secretary of the meetings of the Congregation. If unable to attend, the Session shall designate a Secretary in the Clerk's stead.
7. The members of the Church shall be active members in good standing as defined by the usages and rules of The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), regardless of age.
8. As required by the laws of the State of Ohio, only members of full age 18 years shall be eligible to vote on questions dealing with property and matters that are strictly the business of the Corporation. Otherwise, all active members of the church are eligible to vote at all stated and special meetings of the Church. Voting by proxy is not allowed.
9. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order as adopted by the General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) so far as they apply, and when they do not apply, according to usual legislative rules of order.
10. All meetings shall be opened and closed with prayer.
11. A quorum shall consist of the Moderator, Secretary and 10 percent of the eligible voters.
12. The Session shall be comprised of the Ruling Elders of the church. There shall be no less than nine (9) and no more than twelve (12) Elders as recommended by the Nominating Committee and approved by Session. The Elders shall be divided into three ~~equal~~ classes, with 3 to 4 Elders in each class, one class of

whom shall be elected each year at the October meeting for a three-year term. An Elder shall be elected to serve terms of no more than 3 years and may be eligible for re-election but may not serve more than 6 consecutive years. A Ruling Elder who has served 6 years shall be ineligible to the same board for at least one year.

13. There shall be no less than nine (9) and no more than twelve (12) Deacons as recommended by the Nominating Committee and approved by Session. The Deacons shall be divided into three equal classes, with 3-4 Deacons in each class, one class of whom shall be elected each year at the October meeting for a three-year term. A Deacon shall be elected to serve terms of no more than 3 years and may be eligible for re-election but may not serve more than 6 consecutive years. A Ruling Deacon who has served 6 years shall be ineligible to the same board for at least one year.
14. Vacancies on the Session or the Board of Deacons may be filled at a special meeting of the Congregation or at the annual meeting, as the Session may determine.
15. The Ruling Elders of the church shall serve as the Trustees of the Corporation. ~~There shall be 12 trustees divided into three equal classes, one class of whom shall be elected each year at the October meeting for a three-year term. Only a person elected for a term on the Session shall be eligible for election for a term as trustee, and when such qualified person is elected as trustee, he or she shall serve only for the duration of the term for which elected as member of the Session.~~
16. The Session acting as Trustees for the Corporation shall report annually to the Congregation:
 - A. The receipts and payments for the previous fiscal year
 - B. The estimate of expenses and income for the year ahead.
 - C. New business necessary to be undertaken for the welfare of the Congregation.
 - D. An exhibit of the real property, trust funds and other resources of the Congregation.
17. The Chairperson of the Stewardship and Finance Committee shall serve as President of the Corporation and the Board of Trustees of the Church Corporation and the Clerk of Session shall serve as Secretary to the Corporation and the Board of Trustees of the Church Corporation.
18. A quorum for Session meetings shall be as provided in the Form of Government; a quorum for the transaction of business as Trustees shall be a majority of the Trustees then in office.
19. There shall be a Representative Nominating Committee chosen in accordance with the Book of Order. The Committee shall bring to the October special meeting nominations of one eligible person only for each office to be filled. Additional nominations of qualified persons may be made from the floor by an eligible voter provided that the permission of the person being nominated has been secured in advance.
20. These By-Laws may be amended subject to the charter of the Corporation, the laws of the State of Ohio, and the Constitution of The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) at any annual meeting, or at any special meeting, by a two-thirds (2/3rds) vote of the voters present provided that a full reading of the proposed changes or a printed distribution of the same shall have been made in connection with the call of the meeting.
21. These By-Laws or the Charter of this Corporation may not be amended contrary to or so as not to include the provisions of the Constitution of The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Revisions approved by session 12/21/2023

12/23

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICAL REPORT

Communicant Members January 1, 2023 - 147

Additions: Certificates, Profession, Restored, Other

Losses: Deaths, Certificates, Other Participants, Other - 6

OFFICIAL NUMBERS

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Men	144	145	135	134	135	124	124	121	118	51	48
Women	199	196	165	166	167	147	145	145	145	101	99
Total	343	341	300	300	302	271	269	266	263	153	147
Family Units	192	191	190	164	163	163	139	139	139	40	39

STAFF

Pastor:

Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministry:

Treasurer: Sue Dearwester

Secretary: Holly VanBuskirk

Custodian: Bonnie Conley

Organist: Thomas W. Boone, A.G.O.

Chancel Choir Director:

Handbell Choir Director: Cindy Jenkins

THE SESSION

Class of 2023

Michael Brady

Mark Butler

Allen Hadley – resigned

Replacement: Brad Flora

Bridget Hawkins

Class of 2024

Scott Costin – resigned

Replacement: Karen Brady

Beth Powers

Margaret Dickinson- resigned

Replacement: Sara Stahler

Brandon Standley

Class of 2025

Anne Brienza

Kyle Lentz – Resigned

Replacement: Sara Stahler

Vicky Shields

Nancy Wisse

THE BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2023

Sue Crawfis

Betty Lloyd

Brenda Oda

Holly VanBuskirk

Class of 2024

Forrest Amidon

Mary Jane Lane – Resigned

Replacement: Betty Lloyd

Suzie Neer – Resigned

Replacement: Pat Ortli

Phyllis Lyons

Class of 2025

Pam Ark

Nancy Farrington

Michelle Suman

Andy Wunderle

2023 Deacons Annual Report

Class of 2023: Sue Crawfis, Betty Lloyd – Moderator, Brenda Oda – Treasurer, Holly VanBuskirk

Class of 2024: Woody Amidon – Vice Mod., Mary Jane Lane – RES, Phyllis Lyons - Secretary, Suzie Neer – RES.

Class of 2025: Pam Ark, Nancy Farrington, Michelle Suman, Andy Wunderle

The year 2023 was a busy one for the Deacons. With Sue Crawfis and Pam Ark as dinner chairs, we were able to provide meals for not only funerals, but also other celebrations. We began the year with the privilege of serving the family of Barb Lee with a January 5th funeral dinner at Eichholtz Funeral Home. January 28th we were honored to serve the Paul Deardurff family after his funeral. A dinner was prepared for the Celebration of Life service for Wanda Stahler on August 15th. The family of Linda Hanson was served a luncheon November 10th following Linda's funeral.

On February 12th, the Deacons hosted a coffee hour honoring Joyce Core's 90th birthday, followed on July 16th by a coffee hour in honor of the 90th birthday of Marge Hines.

We continue to remember our home bound members and those in nursing homes with cards, visits, and prayer. Each month we have two Deacons On-Call who greet and assist those using the elevator and are ready to serve on any calls for assistance. The Deacons continue to clean up after every communion service.

This year the congregation enjoyed a baby photo contest organized by Holly VanBuskirk, the proceeds were used to purchase game balls for the Kids Night Out Program. She also oversees the weekly "WE Care" program. Every month Pam Ark crafted beautiful cards for sympathy, birthdays, congratulations, etc. which were sent to congregants. "Kids Talk", a summer Sunday morning program was led by Brenda Oda and supported by the Deacons.

The Deacons continue to serve meals once a month at Our Daily Bread. We also bake dessert cupcakes for those meals. Beginning in September, we supported the Mission Committee at "Dinner at the Pres" by helping to serve meals.

Several individuals were given funds for hardships, and we supported several organizations as listed in the following Treasurer's Report.

A big THANK YOU to each Deacon for their time and dedication in serving the needs of our congregation and community.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Lloyd, Moderator

2023 BOARD OF DEACONS TREASURERS REPORT

Treasurer: Brenda Oda

The beginning balance as of January 1, 2023 was \$2,900.59.

The Deacons received funds throughout the year from 1st. UPC mission funding, 2 cents for compassion, and other private donations totaling \$3,651.99.

The Deacons made payouts throughout the year totaling \$2,995.98. These payouts included the following: Kirkmont Center for camperships earned through the Building Blocks Program. We also supported, by donations, the following organizations: the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program, The Logan County Family Court Treatment Program, Kirkmont Center, and funded a school classroom day at Kirkmont. We assisted several congregants with hardship issues as well. In addition, we reimbursed expenses incurred for postage, funeral dinner items, and Christmas florals for our homebound members.

Our ending balance as of December 31, 2023 is \$3,556.60.

The Board of Deacons would like to THANK YOU, the congregation, for your continuing support of our missions.

Property Committee
Annual Report
2023

I have discovered a lot of work goes into maintaining our church. We all need to give a big thank you to Karl Kennedy and Art Lloyd for the volunteer work hours they put into this church. And a thank you to Scott Costin & Bill Wical for all support they gave to this committee/church.

Activities for the year:

There is quite a bit of routine maintenance & monitoring.

Floor cleaner repaired

Water leak sensor installed on the water softener

Light timers changed as season changed

Landscaping in front of the church was improved – thank you Scott

Karl & Art monitor the HVAC systems, one needs repaired. This should be done in the Spring.

There is damage to the west facing exterior wall of the sanctuary that will eventually need to be repaired.

The elevator passed the annual safety test in October

Heaters above the gym were inspected & filters replaced by Reliant

The boilers had a 3-year inspection and are in great condition. Annual maintenance also completed. We did have some issues getting the heating under control that Reliant was eventually able to fix.

The flooring in the back entrance way was replaced.

Snow removal has been secured with Ray's Landscaping

Interesting note, our bell chimes date back to 1930's. Karl came in and put on a roll of Christmas carols during the downtown event. Unfortunately, they cannot be played without someone watching them because a lot could go wrong.

The lights on the front of the church shorted out. Watkins Electric came out & we should have these repaired for the new year.

A big thank you to Bonnie Conley for cleaning the church. She stated the 2 new vacuum cleaners have made life much easier. She's also checking the fire extinguishers & keeping an eye on things.

Committee members are asking if any "younger" men... or women would like to help with the work of the church, that would be greatly appreciated!

Respectfully Submitted by,

Karen Brady

Year in review for 2023

MISSION AND OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM

Members: Cindy Jenkins, Bonnie Conely, Vicky Shields

Bridget Hawkins. Mark Buter and Holly VanBuskirk

We had a year full of events and opportunities to help the community locally and worldwide.

The Mission: to encourage and enable the 1st UPC family of faith to reach out and serve Gods people everywhere in the love of Christ Jesus. This year was loaded with things we have carried out for 2023.

Needs for the elderly with socks and Toiletries. Blessing bags with essential items for people in need.

One Great hour of sharing the goal was to collect at least \$2023.00. We reached \$1550.00. This benefits our local and worldwide community. We also had offerings for Pentecost, \$376.60, \$160.00 stayed here. and others.

Bellefontaine City school, we supplied elementary, Intermediate and Middle schools with their wish lists. Pants, wipes, medical needs, Hygiene needs. We also helped with a few shoe vouchers.

The Cruise in, this was a very successful event for both giving and helping the community we also had several wonderful out right donations from the community. Good food and great conversations. We have such gratitude to those who helped served, cooked, carried, and baked. This event would not have happened without you.

Dinner at the Prez started again in June and went through November. It was welcomed warmly by our guests every month! We had an average of 40 people monthly. With an abundant number of wonderful helpers for every month!! 13 wonderful giving people! With Cooking, cleaning, serving and just sitting and chatting with our guests. Coats and hats and gloves given out in the fall and winter months were most appreciated.

This year we started the 5th Sunday coins for church needs and changes we collected so far over \$200.00 for any improvements in the church.

The Christmas Sharing tree and Holiday food Boxes give away was just perfect thanks to all this church family.

30 families had a brighter Christmas because of the work of our church. A huge amount of food was donated to each Box. A look at the items, ham, canned goods dry goods Hamburger Milk eggs Bread and fresh fruit Plus sides enough food for a family for a week. We also had 20 children's gifts and toiletries for elderly couples and singles. This is all thanks to the generous people of the church family.

Personally, I want to thank you all for your loving and caring and giving heart, we truly are a family!

And for this wonderful committee: There just are not enough words to tell you all just how grateful I am for your continuing work and support; I honestly believe there is nothing we can't do when we put our minds to it! You are all truly Gods hands and feet.

We will continue to meet on the 2 Tuesday of the month at 6PM. Let the work continue with Christs Help to guide us!

As we are and always will be: In Christ service,

Vicky Shields

Chair of the Mission and Outreach Ministry Team

2023 Annual Report

The mission of the Christian Education Ministry Team is to provide opportunities for learning about the Word of God to the congregation as a whole.

Team Members: Brad Flora (Elder), Kyle Lentz (Elder, chair), Betty Lloyd (Deacon), Andrea Merrin, Rev. Steve Merrin, Brenda Oda (Deacon), Joliece Reed, Joann Smith

During the 2023 year, the committee met 4 times. Rev. Steve and Andrea Merrin left the team in August and chairperson Lentz resigned form session in October. This report is written based on the minutes available, current team member input, and review of newsletters and bulletins from 2023.

A part-time Christian Education staff position remains unfilled.

Faith Formation

A Sunday School- The average weekly Sunday School attendance for 2023 was 28 with an average weekly offering of \$41. Sunday School kicked off on Sept. 10 with a breakfast, goody bags and a blessing of the backpacks. There are currently four Sunday School classes. Two adult classes being taught by Karen Brady, Bridget Hawkins, and Michael Brady. The two youth classes are taught by Bob Core, Sara Stahler, Brenda Oda, Betty Lloyd, and Sue Crawfis. The 2022 teachers were recognized during the May 7th service. Those teachers were Anne Brienza, Lauren Burkhardt, Bob Core, Sue Crawfis, Andrea Merrin, Rev. Steve Merrin, Joliece Reed, Vicky Shields, and Sara Stahler. A Weekly book study held every Tuesday is well attended. 23 Building Blocks were lovingly made by Art Lloyd and handed out to our youth on May 7th. Children's Church was held from January through April. Vacation Bible School was held on July 16-20 as a shared approach with the four downtown churches (Lutheran, Methodist, 1st Christian Church and 1st UPC. It was an evening Marketplace style program with the theme of Babylon. A summer program called Kid's Talk was offered to our youth during the Sunday School time hosted by the Deacons. It was led by Brenda Oda and Betty Lloyd with many guests sharing talents each week to Woody & Katie Amidon, Cindy Jenkins, Pam Ark, Sue Crawfis, and others.

Fellowship Opportunities

The HS youth made plans to attend Montreat in June, however, the trip was cancelled. Kid's Night Out for ages 4 through grades 5 met monthly from January- May. The Tweens (Grades 3-5) met weekly from February- March and culminated the session with designing and making a banner for the sanctuary. During Advent 15 youth, from ages 3- 12 gifted the congregation with "Twas the Night Before Christmas." An intergenerational Day at Kirkmont was held on August 27, with swimming, games, food & fun.

Mission Opportunities

There were none to report.

Congregational Recognition

Our Sunday School teachers were recognized on Building Block Sunday. 2nd Grade Bibles were awarded to Charlotte Burkhardt, Nora McClelland, and Finley Reed. In May we honored 4 graduating seniors: Sophie Adelsberger, Jordan Butler, Mekenzie Flora, and Nova Merrin. Each received a Bible and were celebrated at the May coffee hour.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sara Stahler (Elder)

*With special thanks to Brenda Oda and Holy VanBuskirk for their assistance in this report.

Worship and Congregational Life Annual Report for 2023

Our Mission: To enrich the spiritual Life of God's People through enhancing worship and adult fellowship.

Team Members included: Elder Sara Stahler, Chair, Elder Nancy Wisse, Tom Boone A.G.O., Ruth Bowden, Sue Crawfis, Michelle Suman, Bill Wical, Rev. Steve Merrin (through May) with aid to worship reports from Cindy Jenkins, Bells, Holly VanBuskirk, Coffee Hours

Throughout the year the committee prepared for our weekly worship. Here's a breakdown "by the numbers"
11 communions were prepared and served by your Elders.

21 Welcome Team members greeted the congregation and guests with smiles and bulletins.

52 weeks of various Acolytes from the youth to the mature lit candles

4 Excellent A/V team members provided sound and online services.

11 Bell choir members played joyful, beautiful music under the direction of Cindy Jenkins

6 new banners were added to our sanctuary (5 for Advent and 1 for Ordinary Time created by our youth)

24 visiting friends and clergy filled our pulpit.

12 Coffee Hours were enjoyed.

1 organist, Tom Boone, led us in music.

50 years of Tom Boone playing for our church

1 Baptism led by Rev. Woody Amidon

Our Seasonal Worship Opportunities included:

Lent/Easter Season

*We combined several Lenten services with 3 Downtown churches (The Methodist Church, The First Christian Church and us)

*Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22 was held in the evening of 1st UPC

*Maundy Thursday, April 6 was provided at the Methodist church with a Seder Meal (120 attended)

*Good Friday, April 7 was provided at the Frist Christian Church with Special Music and a Shadow Representation of the Stations of the Cross

Outside of the combined services our church held services for our congregation on
Palm Sunday, April 2 with a Palm Parade

Easter Sunday, April 9 – A Sunrise service at Kirkmont (12 attended)

-An Easter Breakfast provided by the Men of the church (50 attended)

-An Easter Service (116 attended)

*Graduation/Scholarship Sunday, May 21- Celebrated our 4 High School graduates and scholarship recipients

*Pentecost Hymn Sing, May 28

*June 4- Tom Boone 50th Anniversary Celebration

Advent Season

*Church decorating week of Nov. 26- Nov. 30 (Undecorating Jan. 7 after church)

*Hanging of The Greens- Dec. 3

*Children's Pageant and Family Dinner- Dec. 10 (Deacons and PWA provided meat,, rolls, and Drinks)

*Cantata- *Tapestry of Light: A Celtic Christmas Celebration* – Dec. 17-A combined choir of 40 members from the 1st UPC and the Methodist church provided a Cantata for each congregation

*Christmas Eve, Dec. 24- AM service was provided online from our Synod, Our 7 PM candlelight service entitled "Bethlehem Speaks" : A Christmas Season of Six Stories was shared by Jordan Butler, Ben Sailor, Holly VanBuskirk, Kaitey Chervenak, Ben Stahler, and Courtney Chervenak

*The Advent Candles were lit by Gary & Lois McKenzie, The Andy Kennedy Family, The Jesse Jervis Family, The McClelland Family and Kaitey Chervenak

*A Hymn Sing is planned for Dec. 31

Respectfully Submitted,
Elder Sara Stahler, Chair

Church Growth and Member Care

Beth Powers Chair

Team Members: Beth Powers, Anne Brienza, Brandon Standley, Phyllis Lyons, Holly Vanbuskirk

CHURCH GROWTH

JANUARY – The committee hosted a family Winter Penny Carnival. There were a dozen games to be played with prizes awarded. The cake walk was very popular as well as Bingo. The mission committee did a great job of planning and serving a delicious lunch option. Monies raised went to the Mission Committee to give to Solara House a place for survivors of domestic abuse.

AUGUST – We offered restrooms and a cooling station for those attending the Cruise -In

OCTOBER – We participated in the First Friday Event – Pumpkin Walk. We hosted games and gave out goodie bags on the front steps of the church for the duration of the event.

NOVEMBER- It was the first few dates of Basketball at the Prez, a revitalization of a program that was very active in the 1980's. There was limited participation, but the committee will pick it up again in the new year.

DECEMBER – The committee hosted an open house for participants of the First Friday activities before the Christmas parade. The sanctuary was open for people to come and see the beautiful church house, listen to Tom play the organ and have some refreshments.

MEMBER CARE

MARCH- We hosted a family game night. We served pizza and people brought snacks. About 30 people played board games and had fellowship time together.

JUNE- The committee organized a progressive dinner meant for all ages to participate in however, it was only active older adults who enjoyed the fellowship and good food. We had three locations to travel to and from to sample food and the hospitality of each host.

AUGUST- Anne organized an outing to see Church Basement Ladies at the Holland with our very own Cindy Jenkins in one of the lead roles. We had about 25 people in the group who then enjoyed some refreshments at church afterwards.

OCTOBER- We hosted an intergenerational Family Bingo night, the Stahler grand kids, the Amidons and Phyllis Lyons had a good time picking out prizes from the white elephant gifts people brought.

We will continue to help organize coffee hours and other multi-generational fellowship events, work with the Worship Committee to support meaningful worship on Sundays and support the Mission committee in church Growth.

Respectfully Submitted,
Beth Powers, Committee Chair

Stewardship and Finance Ministry Team

Bridget Hawkins, Chair

For 2023, team members include Bridget Hawkins – Chair, Mike Brady – Elder, Sue Dearwester – Church Treasurer, Jim Hilliker, Gary McKenzie, Warren Taylor. This team is staffed by Church Financial Secretary Holly VanBuskirk.

The Annual In-House Audit was performed on February 18, 2023, reviewing the records for the year 2022. Everything was found to be in good order and well organized. No items of concern were found.

The team continued to meet monthly throughout the year. There was always a review of financial reports from the various committees that are funded by the Church and found expenses are within the budget. The team compared actual income and expenditures with the budget. Those numbers were then reported to Session at each of their meetings.

Our Stewardship Campaign for 2024 began October 15, 2023. We want to continue to be an active church and our total pledging for 2024 is as follows:

41 pledges received totaling \$123,800.00.
10 pledges remained the same totaling \$22,800.00.
18 pledges increased totaling \$77,640.00.
11 pledges decreased totaling \$21,280.00.
2 pledges are new totaling \$22,080.00.
12 pledges were not renewed totaling \$65,997.00.

Family Pledges: 12

Individual Pledges: 29

In comparison to 2023, total pledges for 2024 were down \$54,000. The prior year pledges are listed as follows:

2023- 49 pledges totaling \$178,125.44
2022- 53 pledges totaling \$179,043.20
2021- 62 pledges totaling \$187,321.20
2020- 67 pledges totaling \$192,751.00
2019- 62 pledges totaling \$186,631.00
2018- 76 pledges totaling \$212,840.00
2017- 78 pledges totaling \$221,773.00

The budget for 2024 has been set and approved by Session, based on income from our Pledgers, projected numbers from Non-Pledgers, the Loose Offering, Sunday School Offering, funds from the Endowments, and income from outside sources renting the Fellowship Hall. This year we are hopeful and confident that support from our church will be strong.

The Stewardship and Finance Ministry Team thanks all those who continue to support our church with their time, talents, and treasures!

THANK YOU!!

2024 GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET

Income:	2023	Year	2024
CONGREGATION	Budget	Total	Budget
Balance Carried Forward	0.00		
Original Pledged Amount	179,450.00		123,800.00
4% discount 2024	7,178.00		4,952.00
Pledges after discount	172,272.00	170,739.67	118,848.00
Non-pledges	32,000.00	28,139.00	29,000.00
Loose Offering	2,800.00	2,912.83	2,800.00
Sunday School Offering	2,200.00	2,204.45	2,300.00
Building Use	2,000.00	1,560.00	1,500.00
Per Capita	2,400.00	1,025.00	800.00
Initial Offering	400.00	0.00	400.00
Misc. Offering	1,500.00	1,503.30	1,200.00
		0.00	
		0.00	
		0.00	
SUBTOTAL	215,572.00	208,084.25	156,848.00

Endowments

Hilliker	3,850.00		6,555.00
Booth Fund	5,300.00	13,000.00	6,600.00
Heibeck Endowment	3,400.00	5,100.00	4,200.00
May & EE Patterson Endowment (Capital Expenses)	2,835.00		4,300.00
H. Patterson Endowment	1,200.00	0.00	1,400.00
Otte Endowment	325.00	0.00	400.00
Ramsey Endowment	65.00	0.00	80.00
Dunaway Endowment	1,535.00	0.00	1,900.00
General Memorial Endowment	0.00	0.00	0.00
Leeper & Freeman		0.00	190.00
SUBTOTAL	18,510.00	18,100.00	25,625.00
Total Receipts	234,082.00	226,184.25	182,473.00

Expenditures:

PERSONNEL	2023	Year	2024
	Budget	Total	Budget
Pastor's Salary	37,896.00	37,896.00	51,472.88
Housing Allowance	24,800.00	24,800.00	2,066.68
Social Security	4,796.00	4,796.00	4,096.09
Major Medical (29%)	18,878.00	18,972.00	15,584.46
Retirement/Disability (10%)	6,510.00	6,441.00	5,376.11
Dental	0.00	0.00	0.00
Supplemental Medical	2,400.00	2,400.00	0.00
Continuing Education	1,250.00	979.00	1,531.25
Study/Professional Reimbursement	1,720.00	495.00	1,312.50
Pastor Total	98,250.00	96,779.00	81,439.97
Director of C.E. & Youth Salary	4,200.00	0.00	0.00
Educational Reimbursement	600.00	0.00	0.00
Secretary's Salary	22,717.00	22,717.00	22,717.00
Custodian's Salary	20,885.00	14,769.00	5,850.00
Organist's Salary	7,785.00	7,785.00	7,785.00
Choir Director's Salary	6,393.00	0.00	0.00
Handbell Director's Salary	4,626.00	4,626.00	4,626.00
Nursery Attendent (\$31.50 per Sunday)	1,638.00	834.57	1,638.00
Social Security (All Employees)	5,233.00	3,883.93	4,006.00
Worker's Compensation	400.00	409.00	400.00
Other Staff Totals	74,477.00	55,024.50	47,022.00
Total Salaries and Benefits	172,727.00	151,803.50	128,461.97

2024 GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET

ADMINISTRATION	2023 Budget	Year Total	2024 Budget
Office Expense and Supplies	2,900.00	4,219.67	3,300.00
Postage	1,100.00	673.00	1,100.00
Service Agreements	1,700.00	1,544.29	1,850.00
Travel reimbursement	2,200.00	0.00	2,200.00
Telephone	1,560.00	1,560.00	1,560.00
Vanco Fees	400.00	303.30	400.00
Software and Streaming Fees	1,200.00	1,509.81	1,500.00
Total Administration	11,060.00	9,810.07	11,910.00

PROPERTY			
City Utilities	1,000.00	885.12	1,100.00
AES Electric	6,000.00	4,038.70	4,500.00
CenterPoint Energy Gas	16,000.00	13,028.58	13,300.00
Supplies and General Maintenance	8,000.00	8,501.82	8,000.00
Insurance	11,100.00	11,139.00	12,200.00
Capital Improvement Fund		0.00	5,000.00
		0.00	
		0.00	
Total Property	42,100.00	37,593.22	44,100.00

SESSION COMMITTEES	Budget	Total	
Christian Education	3,500.00	920.93	3,500.00
Church Growth/Member Care	650.00	208.94	650.00
Stewardship & Finance	250.00	0.00	250.00
Worship	3,900.00	7,412.84	3,900.00
Books and Publications	150.00	0.00	150.00
		0.00	
		0.00	
Total Session Committees	8,450.00	8,542.71	8,450.00

MISSION BEYOND OURSELVES			
Per Capita (2024: 153 @ \$13.05)	3,341.00	3,341.00	1,997.00
G.A./Synod/Presbytery (\$34 per member)	8,670.00	5,335.00	5,202.00
Kirkmont Center	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Community Sharing Fund	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
Board of Deacons	500.00	500.00	500.00
		0.00	
		0.00	
		0.00	
Total Mission	16,011.00	10,676.00	11,199.00

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	250,348.00	218,425.50	204,120.97
Balance:	(\$16,266.00)	\$7,758.75	(\$21,647.97)

Expected Cash Balance 01-01-2024			\$19,068.38
Less: 2024 Expected Net Expenditures			-21,647.97
Expected Cash Balance 12-31-2024			<u><u>(\$2,579.59)</u></u>

Endowment Fund Report

The Endowment Fund Committee is responsible to receive donors' gifts to the church, insure that the wishes of the donors are honored, and to invest those funds with a priority of principal preservation and competitive interest return. To implement this conservative investment philosophy, the Committee, over the past twenty-six years has consistently invested the majority of the Fund in medium and long-term United States Government Bonds and high grade municipal bonds. This has provided a steady interest return and insured principal preservation. Beginning in 2013, the Committee expanded its conservative bond investment philosophy to include high-grade, AAA rated, general obligation municipal/county/state bonds. The same quality high-grade corporate bonds are also approved for investment.

During 2023, the Endowment Fund earned an average of 3.16% interest. This is comprised of 3.81% for funds under the investment management of the Committee, and 3.06% for gifts of specific assets.

Programs supported by the Fund's interest continue to include the church's Sharing Fund, our Christian Education Program, and the Scholarship Program of our church. \$13,000.00 was granted to college scholarship recipients in 2023.

Gifts can be donated to our church through the Endowment Fund in three ways: 1.) restricted principal and restricted interest, 2.) restricted principal and non-restricted interest, 3.) non-restricted principal and non-restricted interest. All members of the congregation are encouraged to use the Endowment Funds to make contributions that will provide long-term benefit to the program life of the church.

Your Endowment Committee:

Michael Brady
Tara Bair
Gary McKenzie

Mark Butler
Anne Brienza

2023 Endowment

	Fund Balance	Accrued Interest	Interest for Year		Gifts for Year	Transfer to Principal		Principal Disbursed		Disbursed General Operating	Balance Available 12/31/2023	Session Designated	Use of Principal	Limited Availability	New Balance
			12/31/2023	2023		2023	2023	2023	2023						
Church Budget or Support Funds															
NAME															
Booth, Doris Dillon	165,349.63	16,844.91	5734.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,000.00	9,579.31	Y	N	N		
Helbeck, Ruth	106,482.49	16,487.37	3670.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,100.00	15,058.03	334.56	Y	N	N		
Smith, Berry	1,000.00	300.09	34.47							139.66	Y	Y	N		
Pusey, Faye & Oscar	500.00	122.42	17.24							283.30	Y	Y	N		
Lamb, Walter	1,000.00	248.83	34.47							513.83	Y	Y	N		
Marine, A.E. & Martha	7,868.00	242.60	271.23							137.79	Y	Y	N		
Robert C. Patterson	639.84	115.73	22.06							11,982.40	Y	N	N		
Dunaway	47,997.15	10,327.84	1654.56							38,028.88	Y	N	N		
Subtotal (Interest Sharing Accounts)	331,837.11	44,689.79	11,439.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	18,100.00	1,624.85	719.62	Y	N	N		
Leeper Ralph W.	10,450.81	1,525.29	99.56							17,462.75	Y	N	N		
Freeman, Phillip Q.	2,220.94	631.51	88.11							57836.10	Y	N	N		
Hilliker	154,000.00	12,150.00	5312.75												
Total Church Budget	498,508.86	58,996.59	16039.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	181,000.00							
Benevolence and Mission															
Harriet Patterson	37,000.00	3,448.52	1275.46							4,723.98	Y	N	N		
Otte, Grace	10,000.00	1,024.85	344.72							1,369.57	Y	N	N		
Ramsley, Laura	2,000.00	199.44	58.94							268.38	Y	N	N		
Fulton Mission Fund	3,275.00	608.98	112.90							721.88	Y	Y	Y		
Total	52,275.00	5,281.79	1,802.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,083.81					
Capital Improvements/Support of Church															
Patterson	108,027.00		3723.91	20,000.00	20,000.00					3,723.91	Y	Y	N		
Youth/Youth Fellowship															
Dick, Anna	2,000.00	907.56	58.94							976.50	Y	N	N		
Dave Haw	16,671.69	3,099.04	574.71							3,673.75	Y	Y	N		
E. Crawfis	5,000.00	1,118.20	172.36							1,290.56	Y	N	N		
Presbyterian Youth	2,903.97	1,110.03	100.11							1,210.14	Y	Y	N		
Total	26,575.66	6,234.83	916.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,150.95					

2023 Endowment

	Fund Balance	Accrued Interest 12/31/2023	Interest for Year 2023	Gifts for Year 2023	Transfer to Principal 2023	Principal Disbursed 2023	Disbursed General Operating	Balance Available 12/31/2023	Session Designated	Use of Principal	Limited Availability	New Balance
Sunday School												
Carl Lowery	6,065.00	1,717.12	209.07					1,926.19		N	N	
Royer, William F. & Sally	648.05	0.00						0.00				
Royer, William F. & Sally	3,243.00	862.50	142.60					1,005.10				
Total	9,956.05	2,579.62	351.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,931.29				
Music												
Booth		142.45						142.45				
Booth Bell	7,000.00	2,958.21	241.30					3,199.51	Y	N	N	
John C. Hover	5,000.00	1,107.17	172.36					1,279.53	Y	N	N	
German	774.00	42.44	26.68					69.12	Y	N	N	
Hazel P. McCormick	308.59	68.51	10.64					79.15	Y	Y	N	
Coulter, Laura	500.00	110.42	17.24					127.66		N	N	
Emmerson, Mary E.	500.00	122.42	17.24					139.66		N	N	
Butler	315.80	75.74	10.89					86.63		N	N	
Total	14,398.39	4,627.36	496.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,123.70				
Scholarship												
Knief	322,630.60	679.06	11121.72				10,000.00	1,800.78		N	N	
Lawrence	26,515.00	165.21	914.02				1,000.00	80.23		N	N	
Lawrence Prepay Deposit	6,000.00					1,000.00	1,000.00	5,155.12		Y	N	
Subtotal (Interest Sharing Accounts)	355,145.60	845.27	12,190.87	6,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	12,000.00	7,036.14				
Merrillees, Nancy J.	20,755.21	152.43	823.23				1,000.00	(24.34)		N	N	
Total Scholarship	375,900.81	997.70	13014.10	6000.00	0.00	1000.00	13000.00	7011.80				
Mission Trips												
Matthew Brady	3,279.44	400.12	113.05					513.17		N	N	
Adult/Youth Mission Trips												

2023 Endowment

	Fund Balance	Accrued Interest	Interest for Year	Gifts for Year	Transfer to Principal	Principal Disbursed	Disbursed General	Disbursed Operating	Balance Available	Session Designated	Use of Principal	Limited Availability	New Balance
Other													
Edwards, Edith	1,000.00	248.83	34.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	283.30		?	?	
General Memorial	31,128.11	0.00	1073.05	1,260.00	1,260.00				1,073.05		Y	N	
Hand, Mary G.	5,040.00	1,544.91	173.74						1,718.65		N	N	
Office Furniture	1,800.00	724.90	62.05						786.85		Y	N	
Kitchen Equipment	53,000.07	4,198.16	1827.02						1,827.02		N	N	
Presbyterian Women	91,968.18	6,715.70	3,170.33	1,260.00	1,260.00	0.00	0.00	4,198.16	5,688.87				
Total													
Flowers													
Butler, Moselle	2,261.35	1,128.43	77.95						1,206.38		N	N	
Sanctuary Flowers	3,005.00	502.91	103.59						606.50		N	N	
Sanctuary Mothers/Fathers Day	1,000.00	1,174.65	34.47						1,209.12		N	N	
Communion Table nearest 10/31	6,266.35	2,805.99	215.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,022.00				
Total													
Unknown													
Huffer, Samuel	500.00	122.42	17.24						139.66		N	N	
Total	500.00	122.42	17.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	139.66				
Undistributed Interest													
Grand Total	1,187,655.74	88,796.28	40,760.29	27,260.00	21,260.00	1,000.00	35,298.16	100,258.41	33.16				
Total (Interest Sharing Accounts)	996,337.73	73,474.55	34,345.75						79437.27				
Total Non-Interest Sharing Accounts	191,318.01	15,321.73	6,466.25						20787.98				
Total	1,187,655.74	88,796.28	40,812.00						100,225.25				
Available Balance	100,225.25												
Total Funds	1,287,880.99												

Investments											
Shared Interest											
	Maturity Date	Rate	Face Value or Balance	Interest 1st Qtr.	Interest 2nd Qtr.	Interest 3rd Qtr.	Interest 4th Qtr.	Annual Income	Withdraw	Market Value	Original Cost
U.S. Treasury Notes (AAA Rated)	3/31/2024	2.25%	500,000.00	-	5,625.00	-	5,625.00	11,250.00		496,270.00	498,630.45
Central Ohio Solid Waste Authority-purchase 8/15/13	12/1/2024	4.125%	460,000.00	9,487.50	9,487.50	9,487.50	18,975.00			457,060.60	460,350.79
Citizens Federal Savings Account			4,084.57	10.55	3.18	0.87	0.71	15.31	25,298.16		
Edward Jones Money Market Account			131,054.97	282.38	1,047.99	1,153.21	1,621.86	4,105.44	10,000.00		
Total			1,095,139.54	292.93	16,163.67	1,154.08	16,735.07	34,345.75	35,298.16		
Account Specific Non-Shared Income											
U.S. Government Bonds Hilliker	8/15/2023	2.50%	154,000.00	1,925.00	1,925.00	1,925.00	379.00	4,229.00		152,742.96	153,621.00
U.S. Government Bonds Hilliker	10/15/2025	4.25%	154,000.00				1,083.75	1,083.75			151,275.89
Presbytery Foundation Merrilees			20,755.21	199.94	207.67	207.84	207.78	823.23			19,045.80
Presbytery Foundation Freeman			2,220.94	21.40	22.23	22.24	22.24	88.11			2,037.99
Ameriprise Financial Leeper			11,719.13	6.08	29.56	37.94	25.98	99.56			5,297.77
Huntington Bank Stock Royer, William F. and Sally			2,925.60								
Cash Royer, William F. and Sally			648.05								
Dividends Royer, William F. and Sally			862.50	35.65	35.65	35.65	35.65	142.60			
Total			193,131.43	2188.07	295.11	2,228.67	1,754.40	6,466.25	0.00		
Grand Total			1,288,270.97	2,481.00	16,458.78	3,382.75	18,489.47	40,812.00	35,298.16		



Presbyterian Women's Association,
2023 Annual Report

Our 2023 Leadership Team

Karen Brady (Treasurer), Anne Brienza (Moderator), Holly Core (Secretary), Eva Rinehart (Vice Moderator) Committee members Cindy Jenkins, Amy McIntyre, Michelle Suman

We look forward to working with our 2024 Leadership Team: Karen Brady (Treasurer), Anne Brienza (Past Moderator), Holly Core (Secretary), Eva Rinehart (Moderator), Bridget Hawkins, (Vice Moderator) Committee members Cindy Jenkins, Amy McIntyre, Nancy Farrington, Julie Pulfer

2023 Mission/Fundraiser Opportunities

Chocolate Peanut Butter Easter Egg Sale. Coordinators: Holly Core, Eva Rhinehart. We sold 169 Peanut Butter Easter Eggs, raising \$940 for mission projects and had a lot of fun in the process!

Election Day Luncheon. Leadership: Sara Stahler (kitchen), Sue Crawfis (Kitchen), Ruth Bowden (Dining Room), Eva Rinehart (Delivery), Anne Brienza (Online Registration, Marketing), Nancy Stokes (Salads), Holly Core (Bazaar), Dana Heydinger (pies), Holly Core, Woody & Katie Amidon (noodles). We offered dine in, delivery and carry out meal service at \$12/meal. We love the camaraderie and team work that develops through this wonderful community event!

Made *chocolate covered Oreos and pretzels* for the Election Day Luncheon Bazaar

Purchases/Donations

See our financial statement to see the wonderful organizations we supported this year. In addition to our fundraisers, PWA annual receives over \$1,800 from 1st UPC's Endowment funds from those who included Women's Association/Mission in their estates, memorial gifts and individual donations. Many of these endowments were established in the 1920's!

Service Opportunities

Valentine Day Treats: We Care posters and gift cards were sent to college students and military personnel

Daily Bread Bakers: Monthly and working in groups of 4, 20 women baked 1,296 cookies (4 women x 3 doz cookies monthly) to provide dessert for *Our Daily Bread* for the end of each month.

PWA hosted a *Coffee Hour*

Fellowship Opportunities

Book Club: Under the leadership of Karen Brady, book club meets monthly discussing a variety of fiction and nonfiction books.

Women's Tea, using a Bee and Honey theme, May 22, 2023. Leadership: Eva Rhinehart, Amy McIntyre. ~30 women and family attended and enjoyed learning about bees from Rob Shields.

October 8 Women's Retreat @ Kirkmont Center Approximately 20 women enjoyed a wonderful lunch, craft, yoga and the labyrinth with wonderful fellowship and weather!

A big thank you to all the wonderful women of 1st UPC for their participation and volunteerism to the mission of Presbyterian Women!

In Christ's service,

Anne Brienza
Moderator

PWA Financial Report
2023

\$6,010.53 Checking account beginning balance

Expenditures

\$554.27 Fellowship events: The Women's Tea & The Day Retreat @ Kirkmont

\$504.44 Flowers & gifts: new baby roses, Tom Boone's party & Thank you gift to Bonnie Conley

\$6,036.40 Mission projects: Kirkmont, Our Daily Bread towards the new building, Logan Co Women's Veterans, Family Treatment Court, Presbytery's Thank Offering, Presbytery Disaster Relief, Presbytery Giving Catalog which included a couple family of chickens, sewing machines, rain catchment systems, family nutrition starter packets & money towards a garden well, & Our Christmas food baskets

\$1,692.67 Support of Church: paper plates, cups etc., Bunn Coffee maker, Kitchen aid pasta roller/cutter, 2 Dyson vacuum cleaners, the flooring for the back foyer & rug at the back door.

Income

\$57.30 Least coin offering (to be used towards mission)

\$940.92 Easter Eggs Sales

\$3,020.00 Election Day luncheon fundraiser

\$2.95 Interest through November

\$4,198.16 From the Endowment Account

\$5,442.08 Checking Account Balance 12/26/2023

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee has put forth the following names for the 2024 Elders, Deacons, and the 2024 Nominating Committee, which were approved at the Congregational Meeting November xx, 2023.

Elder Class of 2026

Karen Brady
Carla Murdock
Bill Wical

Deacons Class of 2026

Betty Lloyd
Elaine Thompson
Ben Stahler

2024 Nominating Committee

Karen Brady
Sue Dearwester
Bridget Hawkins
Edson Jenkins
Nancy Stokes

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Congratulations to our 2023 Higher Education Scholarship Recipients! Our thanks and remembrance to the generosity of those who came before us and established these endowments for the continuing education of Logan County Presbyterians.

Richard and Evaline Knief Memorial Scholarship:

Multiple scholarships to students pursuing higher education and have membership in any Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) in Logan County.

Recipients:

Belle Center First Presbyterian Church

Chloe Anderson, Lauren Anderson, AJ Butler, Faith Butler, Clay Jacobs

Bellefontaine First United Presbyterian Church

Jordan Butler, Caroline Eader, Olivia Eader, Vivian Eader, Laura Flora, Chloe Lloyd, Nova Merrin

Huntsville Presbyterian Church

Matthew Risner, Jacob Zarnosky

Wayne and Pearl Lawrence Memorial Scholarship:

Awarded to one male and one female student who are a member of First United Presbyterian Church, have a minimum GPA of 2.5 and are either graduating this year or have received the Scholarship in past years.

Recipients:

Mekenzie Flora, Ben Sailors

Nancy J. Merrilees Memorial Scholarship:

Awarded to a First United Presbyterian Church member who is pursuing the teaching profession.

Recipient:

Elijah Merrin

A total of \$13,000 has been awarded today through the interest of these endowments.

Our thanks to the Scholarship Committee:

Anne Brienza – Chair, Michael Brady, Kyle Lentz, Brenda Oda, Beth Powers

Vision Statement
First United Presbyterian Church

Responding to the amazing grace of God made real in our lives by the power of the Holy Spirit. We are a community of faith called to witness for the Good News of God's love for all people.

Our congregation will be a vital, vibrant center of Christian faith and practice where Jesus Christ is personally known, where people's needs are truly met, from which people are sent; scattered in effective ministry and mission in the home, the marketplace, the community, and the world.

We will build our church on the firm foundation of Jesus Christ who is Lord and head of the Church, and upon the rich heritage of our congregation. We will embrace the wonderful diversity of our God-given gifts yet value the common life of faith we share together as followers of Christ.

As disciples of the Living Lord, we are called to witness to the glory of God, care for one another in the community of faith, minister to the needs and challenges of our individual members, nourish growth toward faithful discipleship, give ourselves in ministry as servants of the gospel, work to establish local and international missions, respond in faithfulness to the changing issues of the world, inviting all people to share in the joy of Christian faithfulness.

From the heart of a city set high on a hill, we believe we are called to live the teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ:

"Your light must shine in the sight of all people, so that seeing your good deeds, they may give praise to your Father in Heaven."

~Matthew 5:16

