



# FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## ANNUAL REPORT 2024

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

January 28, 2024

The annual corporate and congregational meeting was held on January 28, 2024, after the church worship service. Written notice was given two (2) weeks before the meeting. A quorum was declared.

Reverend Kathleen Burslem opened the meeting with prayer. She stated the purpose of the meeting was to present the annual report & the budget, review and modify the bylaws, and approve the nomination of the elder chosen to complete a one-year term.

The annual report included minutes from the Annual Corporate and Congregational meeting of January 2023, the Annual Fall Congregational meeting, and the called congregational meeting held in August 2023. In addition, the report included the Bylaws of the Congregation and Corporation of the First United Presbyterian Church, the Membership Statistical Report, a list of staff, elders, and deacons, summaries from all standing committees, deacons, PWA, nominating committee, and the scholarship report. An unrequired vote was taken to approve the annual report.

Carla Murdock, Chairperson of the Stewardship and Finance Committee, addressed the congregation. Provided in the annual report was the 2023 and 2024 operating budget. Carla thanked Gary McKenzie for his work on the budget and reported that pledges were down but has faith that our budget needs will be met with members returning to First UPC. There were no questions about the budget. An unrequired vote was taken to approved the budget.

Bridget Hawkins, Clerk Pro Tem, reviewed the bylaws. There were no questions about the changes. Anne Brienza moved to approve the change in the bylaws and was seconded by Ben Stahler. Motion passed.

Chairperson of the Nominating Committee Mark Butler brought the motion from the nominating committee for Holly Core to fill the vacancy of ruling elder for the available one-year term for the class of 2024. The motion passed.

Reverend Kathleen Burslem stated there was no further business and requested a motion to adjourn. Sara Stahler moved to adjourn, and Anne Brienza seconded it. Motion passed.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget D. Hawkins  
Clerk of Session Pro Tem

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
THE ANNUAL CORPORATE AND CONGREGATIONAL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The Fall Annual Corporate and Congregational meeting took place on November 17<sup>th</sup> 2024 for the purpose of voting for Elders, Deacons, and Nominating Committee. Notice was given to the congregation 2 weeks prior.

Pastor Greg Menssen opened the meeting with prayer.

Elder Brandon Standley, on behalf of the 2024 nominating committee, presented the recommended slate of Elders for the class of 2027: Sue Dearwester, Ruth Bowden, & Sara Stahler. And for a one-year term for the class of 2025, Ben Stahler.

Also presented was the slate of Deacons for the class of 2027: Sue Crawfis, Cindy Jenkins, Holly Van Buskirk & Jim Wical.

The congregational members for the 2025 nominating committee were presented: Mark Butler, Bridget Hawkins, Beth Powers and Nancy Stokes.

There were no other nominations from the floor. A motion was made and seconded to approve the slate of Elders, Deacons, and Nominating Committee as presented. The motion was seconded. A vote was taken with no objections, motion passed.

There was no further business. The 2024 Nominating Committee of Elders Brandon Standley & Sara Stahler, Deacon Woody Amidon, Congregational members Sue Dearwester, Bridget Hawkins, Edson Jenkins, & Nancy Stokes were thanked for their work.

Pastor Greg Menssen closed the meeting with prayer.

Submitted by,

Karen Hesson Brady  
Clerk of Session

# 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 and the Corporation in the church edifice during the month of January for the approval of the annual budget and 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 additional annual meeting of the congregation in the church edifice during the 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 clerks 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 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 classes, with three (3) to four (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 three (3) years and may be eligible for reelection but may not serve more than six (6) consecutive years. A Ruling Elder who has served six (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 classes, 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 three (3) years and may be eligible for reelection but may not serve more than six (6) consecutive years. A Ruling Deacon who has served six (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 Elders of the church shall serve as the Trustees of the Corporation.
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 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.)

## MEMBERSHIP STATISTICAL REPORT

Communicant Members January 1, 2024 – 147

Additions: Certificates, Profession, Restored, Other – 2

Losses: Deaths, Certificates, Other Participants, Other – 12

### OFFICIAL NUMBERS

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Men	145	135	134	135	124	124	121	118	51	48	42
Women	196	165	166	167	147	145	145	145	101	99	92
Total	347	300	300	302	271	269	266	263	153	147	134
Family Units	191	190	164	163	163	139	139	139	40	39	36

### STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Greg Menssen

Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministry:

Treasurer: Sue Dearwester

Financial Secretary: Holly VanBuskirk

Custodian: Bonnie Conley

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

Chancel Choir Director:

Hand Bell Choir Director: Cindy Jenkins

### THE SESSION

#### Class of 2025

Anne Brienza

Ben Stahler

Vicky Shields

Nancy Wisse

#### Class of 2026

Karen Brady

Carla Murdock

Bill Wical

#### Class of 2027

Sue Dearwester

Sara Stahler

Ruth Bowden

### THE BOARD OF DEACONS

#### Class of 2025

Pam Ark

Nancy Farrington

Michelle Suman

Andy Wunderle

#### Class of 2026

Betty Lloyd

Elaine Thompson

Judy Wical

Ben Stahler

#### Class of 2027

Sue Crawfis

Cindy Jenkins

Holly VanBuskirk

Jim Wical

## **2024 Deacons Annual Report**

Class of 2024: Woody Amidon (Vice Moderator), Phyllis Lyons (Secretary) Pat Ortli,  
of 2025: Pam Ark, Nancy Farrington, Michelle Suman, Andy Wunderle

Class

Class of 2026: Betty Lloyd (Moderator), Ben Stahler, Elaine Thompson, Judy Wical (Treasurer)

Class of 2027: Sue Crawfis, Cindy Jenkins, Jim Wical, Holly VanBuskirk

*The ministry of the Board of Deacons is first & foremost to the members of this congregation but is also called to reach out to all God's people. We are to SERVE, with care & compassion where the need is found. The Lord said: "I have set you as an example, you are to do as I have done for you."*

With Pam Ark & Nancy Farrington as dinner chairs we were able to provide meals/food for funerals and other celebrations within the church. Funeral/celebration of life dinners were prepared and served to the families of long-time church members Bob Lentz & Steve Cox. The Deacons assisted the Methodist Church with a funeral meal for the Judy Hadley family. We felt the loss of church member Janet Brunke, in lieu of serving a family dinner, we donated to Universal Home Hospice. A donation to Stop Soldier Suicide was made in honor of Frank & Judy Bozman's grandson Alex Kaczar. We celebrate the life of longtime church member Lois Ashworth, her passing was December 17<sup>th</sup> at the age of 100. A donation to Universal Home Hospice will be made in her honor. The deacons hosted the November coffee hour in celebration of Woody Amidon's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

We continue to remember our home bound members, those with health issues, and those in nursing homes with cards, visits, delivered meals, and prayer. This year the Deacons gathered at their December meeting and enjoyed creating 16 evergreen floral arrangements which they then delivered to congregants. We are delighted that many of the deacons were able to make home visits and serve communion with Pastor Greg. Each month we have 2 "Deacons on Call" who greet and assist those using the elevator and are ready to serve on any calls for assistance. We have provided transportation to appointments, church, etc. as well as providing gas cards for those needing to travel. The Deacons now assist in serving & continue to clean up after each communion service. Pam Ark was diligent in crafting beautiful cards for sympathy, birthdays, congratulations, valentines, etc. which were sent to congregants.

The Deacons support the mission committee monetarily and by serving meals, providing the desserts and helping with clean up at Dinner at the Prez each month. During the months of January and February we serve and provide desserts for Our Daily Bread. The Deacons have started a new program this year wherein they gather to cook, seal, and freeze meals to be delivered to those congregants who need a quick meal while they recuperate from sickness or other unforeseen situations.

This year, because of your generous support, the deacons were able to make donations to the battered women's shelter (Soteria House) and Kirkmont Center as reported in the attached treasurers report

A big **"Thank You"** to all who supported the Deacons by your contributions to "2cents for compassion". Your generous support allows the Deacons to serve those in need within our church and community

Respectfully submitted,  
Betty Lloyd, Moderator

**TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT  
BOARD OF DEACONS**

BALANCE JANUARY 1, 2024 **3556.60**

Interest	1.89
General Fund	500.00
2 cents/compassion	<u>3169.64</u>
TOTAL INCOME	3671.53

BALANCE **7228.13**

Check printing & postage	94.01
Memorial Gifts	350.00
Trans. Assistance	930.00
Congregational Activities	487.47
Dinner @ Prez Support	900.00
Kitchen Equipment	146.98
Kirkmont Donation	1,000.00
Soteria House Donation.	<u>1,000.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES.	4908.46

YEAR END BALANCE **2319.67**

2024 Property Ministry Team  
Annual Report

From replacing the kitchen faucet to repairing damage from a flood of water coming down our east stairwell, there is always something to be done.

We had a couple big projects. Because of a clogged drain on the SE roof, we had a lot of water damage in the ceiling & down our SE stairwell. Fortunately, our insurance covered the needed repairs. We also replaced the very old boiler water tanks with a new water tank system.

Other notable activities for the year included:

Patching the roof over the fellowship hall & putting a leaf grate over the roof drain. (this roof will need replaced within the next year or so)

The boiler room outside door key lock was removed and replaced with a switch lock providing a safer exit.

The wall in the preschool room was repaired

Lights were replaced on the outside front wall of the church.

The A/C units in the sanctuary were repaired

The church phone system was updated.

We continued to improve the landscaping outside the front of the church.

Signage was added to the sanctuary bathroom as was a light switch (removing the timer). A baby changing pad was added in the bathroom.

The pastor's bathroom was improved

Annual inspection of the boilers and elevator found they in good condition. The fire extinguishers were also inspected with a few being filled. A "kitchen" extinguisher was recommended for the kitchen. PWA purchased one for us.

Chair lifts and platform lifts/elevators were explored for the back entrance. These are on hold for now as we explore feasibility & prioritize our financial needs. Anyone who has accessibility difficulties and wishes to meet with the pastor could do so in the "senior high" room. (to the right as you come in the back door)

We were able to improve the lighting throughout the church by replacing light bulbs with led bulbs.

All year the audio and video equipment has been reviewed and updated. Work is still being done

The pipe at the front entrance has had a mystery leak. We had Lee's made some repairs & we thought we had the problem fixed... until just recently, we saw some moisture.

We continued this year to get quotes to have the west outside wall repaired. Several were not interested in doing the work due to the difficult access to the building. We have found a contractor and hope that work can begin in the spring. (We will have a capital campaign to support this)

A big thank you to Bonnie Conley who takes such great care of our church. You are appreciated!

And a thank you to our Ministry Team; Elder Bill Wical, Deacon Betty Lloyd, Art Lloyd, & new member Jeff Polack. And along with them Bob Core, who has assisted as part of a work crew. Bonnie & Greg attend & provide input as staff members.

If you are interested in the beauty and care of our church building, we would love to see others be involved with our ministry team.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Brady,  
Chairperson

## Year in review for 2024

### MISSION AND OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM

Members: Cindy Jenkins, Bonnie Conely, Vicky Shields, Holly VanBuskirk, Bridget Hawkins, Mark Butler, Michelle Suman and Pastor Greg,

"Mission is to encourage and enable the 1<sup>st</sup> UPC family to reach out and serve Gods people everywhere in the love of Christ Jesus."

This Year was packed with service projects!

We started back with Dinner at the Prez in March going straight through November it was always the last Tuesday of each month. Every Month we had good to great responses for the guests anywhere from 20 dinners to 68 dinners each month. Always plenty of great Volunteers everywhere from 10 to 16 people helped with the meals! Thanks to the mission committee for making the great menus and the deacons for the wonderful desserts and all the help provided.

We had 2 big Cookie baking events for the Kairos Prison Mission the 1<sup>st</sup> was in March and 60 dozen were Baked and then again in September we baked another 200 dozen for the mission. Prayers and posters were sent along with the cookies for the Men, A Big thank you to Pastor Greg for giving us this mission.

One Great hour for 2024 is worldwide and community offerings this year we reached 2030.33, We had a goal of 2024 and reach it gratefully. Also, the Pentecost Offering this year came to \$ 575.00 with 40% staying with us \$243.00. Easter mystery bags got us \$148.00 for projects also.

We did our yearly Blessing bags 10 in total for Our daily bread to give out to the homeless that stop in. They still have all Items that will help them with everyday needs.

Dropped off some needs for the BCS for nurses needs Middle and Elementary,

The Cruise in was a big success this year, once again because of the helping hands and wonderful community members we had a great time and turn out! We brought in more than 1200.00. We have a few ideas to make it easier and better for next year! This is a whole church mission as Everyone helps in one way or another.

This year we continued with the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday loose coin offering for small church repairs and small needs the total raised is \$ 330.21 to date.

The Christmas sharing tree was completely 100% by the Church family! This added to the Christmas Baskets give out on the 14<sup>th</sup> of December. The event was flawless!!! One of our best years to date was smooth and done orderly and just perfect! Thanks go to the best mission committee team ever!!

We are a good mix of people in the group, for organization, Humor and great ideas! The group makes it work! Plus, the continuing support of the most loving Church family! Thanks to all for the year 2024.

As always in Christ service,

Vicky Shields

Chair of the Mission and outreach Ministry Team

# Christian Education Ministry Team

## 2024 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: Sara Stahler (Elder), Judy Wical (Deacon), Rev. Greg Menssen, Brenda Oda, Joliece Reed, Amy McIntyre,

During the 2024 year, the committee met 10 times.

### **Faith Formation**

A Sunday School- The average weekly Sunday School attendance for 2024 was 27 with an average weekly offering of \$35. There were 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 2023 teachers were recognized during the May 12<sup>th</sup> service. A Weekly book study held every Tuesday is well attended. The Building Block Program was reevaluated in January and implemented the new 3 year rotation. 16 Building Blocks were lovingly made and handed out to our youth on May 12<sup>th</sup>. In June, 16 students and 7 adults were rewarded for their Sunday School attendance with a Movie Night at the local movie theater. Vacation Bible School was held on July 14-19<sup>th</sup> as a shared approach with the three downtown churches (Lutheran, 1<sup>st</sup> Christian Church and 1<sup>st</sup> UPC). It was an evening program with the theme of Surf Shack. The final evening was held in the park with a picnic prepared by the Deacons, and swimming at the Hoffman Pool. A summer program called Kid's Talk was offered to our youth during the 13 Sunday School times. An average of 7 students attended weekly. The highest attended Kids Talk was the Kung Fu Day. Many guests shared talents each Sunday.

### **Fellowship Opportunities**

Kid's Night Out for ages 4 through grades 5 met quarterly with average attendance of 9 youth. Each night brought the youth together with a theme, a meal, and three activities. The youth participated in a Christmas Pageant under the direction of Holly VanBuskirk and Brenda Oda.

### **Mission Opportunities**

The VBS made a donation towards a clean water program in Burkino Faso, Africa. The donation was matched by the Deacons.

### **Congregational Recognition**

Our Sunday School teachers were recognized on Building Block Sunday. In May we honored a graduating senior: Ellie Lloyd. Ella & Emma Costin were not able to attend the church service. Each received a Bible and Ellie was celebrated at the May coffee hour.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Stahler (Elder)

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

## 2024 Annual Report

### Worship Ministry Team

#### **Worship Committee Mission: *To enrich the spiritual life of God's people***

*The function of the Worship Ministry Team, working in close cooperation with the Head of Staff/Pastor, shall be the planning, providing, promoting and implementing diverse worship opportunities for First United Presbyterian Church.*

We welcomed Greg Menssen as our Transitional Pastor on February 14, 2024 and hosted his ordination service on March 3, a day filled with joy and celebration!

We are a church of volunteers – we do not function without everyone utilizing their God-given skills and talents to Worship and Glorify God! Many thanks to all who volunteer!

#### **Our Weekly Volunteers**

It takes many volunteers to provide our weekly worship service! These opportunities to serve include:

Nursery Assistants      Welcome Team members      Children's Message Leaders  
Worship Leaders      Acolytes      Video and Sound System Techs  
Handbell Choir ringers (1 director, 11 ringers and 3 substitutes)

#### **Our Monthly Volunteers**

Coffee Hour hosts      Communion servers      Busy Bag organizer

#### **Special Events, Services and more!**

- Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter services & meals (Good Fri & Men's Breakfast meals) + facebook devotionals
- The ordination of Rev Greg Menssen on March 3, 2024
- Provided opportunities for flower memorials at Easter and Christmas
- Two people (Angela and Lincoln Core) were baptized in 2024.

#### **Advent:**

Decorate and undecorate the church      Updated the Chrismons (Holly Core, Eva Rinehart)  
Advent wreath & Christmas Eve readers      Hosted a Christmas Potluck, cooked by Sue Crawfis & Friends  
Facebook Devotions

#### **Music**

- Our talented staff of Handbell Choir Director Cindy Jenkins and Accompanist Thomas Boone AGO
- Provided special music: Greg Menssen, Holly VanBuskirk, Lentz & Jervis families, Bob Day Quartet, Kairos Group, Courtney Chervenak and others.
- Advent Choir under the direction of Thomas Boone A.G.O.

#### **Worship**

- Provided pulpit supply leaders in January & February, and as needed.
- Sara Stahler created a new Communion Banner and, with the congregation, created a new Communion Tablecloth
- Pastor Greg did a summer sermon series on the Six Great Ends of the Church
- Worked with other downtown churches with a Blue Christmas and quarterly evening music program

#### **Behind the Scenes...**

- We inventoried our pew Bibles, hymnals, and large print offerings, better advertised our hearing-impaired devices
- Revised our Worship Ministry Team Mission Statement and Function.
- Purchased new orchids for placement around the church
- Beginning in February of this year, we worked to improve our audio and video services through the purchase and installation of new equipment, as well as hiring a sound technician to get the best sound possible from our existing equipment. This project will continue into next year with the purchase of a new digital sound board.

**Committee Members:** Woody Amidon, Ruth Bowden; Anne Brienza (Elder, chair); Sue Crawfis; Sara Stahler (past chair); Bill Wical Nancy Wisse (elder) Staff: Tom Boone (accompanist) , Cindy Jenkins (bell choir director), Greg Menssen (pastor)

Respectfully submitted by: Anne Brienza, Chair.

Committee Members : Beth Powers Chair, Anne Brienza, Elaine Thompson, Pat Ortli, Phyllis Lyons, Carla Murdock and Brandon Standley

These were items discussed throughout the year that the committee will still be working on.

- Online Church Directory
- Snug Safe App for members to check on loved ones
- Brandon suggested that there was a need/interest for a parenting class to be offered
- Social media ideas, new member coffee hour

The committee hosted and organized many activities for people to enjoy fellowship and reach out to our community

**Feb-** Winter Carnival invitations were sent to all the churches downtown. Over 10 different activities were offered Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> from 12-2:00.

**March** – Hosted a *Game night* for all ages

**April-** Implemented the new program- *Who's in the Pew?* On 4 consecutive Sundays for the month, people interviewed each other during the Pass the Peace of Christ time in the service. This was well received, members of the congregation enjoyed getting to know each other on a different level, they were given questions as conversation starters. The information gathered was published in the View from the Pew.

**May** We organized the activity called *Guess Who is Coming to Dinner?* People indicated what days and times they could meet at Bob Evans. They were to show up not knowing who else might be there. This activity went on into the summer months June, July and August. There was a host to greet people and set up a space at the restaurant for 6 people. There was positive feedback from those in attendance.

**June** – *Progressive Dinner.* We had three host sites, Ruth Bowden, Nancy Wisse and Art and Betty Lloyd. About 23 people traveled to the different place enjoying food and fellowship and the added bonus of a tour of the Lloyd's grounds and gardens.

**September** Brandon Hosted a *Men's Breakfast*

**October** Anne organized games in front of the church for the *Downtown Pumpkin Walk.*

Brad Flora conducted an AED training after coffee hour, it was well attended, he stated that he would do more of these trainings in the future.

**December** The committee hosted an *Open House* before the Bellefontaine Christmas parade.

Volunteers provided refreshments, told the story of the Poinsettia, Chrismon's, and provided music. Around 30 people were welcomed to our beautiful church house during the holiday season.

Thank you everyone who attended these activities/events, volunteered to help, gave the committee ideas on how we can grow as a church, in our faith and reach out beyond our doors.

Respectfully Submitted, Beth Powers. Chair

Stewardship and Finance Ministry Team  
Carla Murdock, Chair

For 2024, team members include Carla Murdock – Chair, Holly Core – Elder, Ben Stahler – Deacon, Sue Dearwester – Church Treasurer, Gary McKenzie – Endowments, Bridget Hawkins, Mike Brady, Warren Taylor, Pastor Greg Menssen and Financial Secretary Holly VanBuskirk.

The Annual In-House Audit was conducted February 17, 2024, reviewing the records for the year 2023. Everything was found to be in god 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 were within the budget. The team compared actual income and expenditures with the budget, as well. Those numbers were then reported to Session at each of their meetings.

Our Stewardship Campaign 2025, "God's Resources, Our Responsibility", began Sunday November 17, 2024. We want to continue to be an active church and our total pledging for 2024 is as follows:

45 pledges received totaling \$159,346.00  
19 pledges remained the same totaling \$54,400.00  
15 pledges increased totaling \$62,520.00  
3 pledges decreased totaling \$9,936.00  
8 pledges are new totaling \$36,490.00  
2 pledges were not renewed totaling \$4,160.00

Family Pledges – 18  
Individual Pledges – 27

In comparison to 2024, total pledges are up \$35,346.00. The prior years pledges are listed as follows:

2024- 41 pledges totaling \$123,800.00  
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 2025 has been set and approved by Session, based on income from our Pledgers, projected number 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 treasure.

THANK YOU!

<b>2025 GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET</b>			
<b>Income:</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>2025</b>
CONGREGATION	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Balance Carried Forward	0.00		
Original Pledged Amount	123,800.00		162,466.00
4% discount 2025	4,952.00		6,498.64
Pledges after discount	<b>118,848.00</b>	131,264.87	<b>155,967.36</b>
Non-pledges	66,000.00	73,662.18	43,000.00
Loose Offering	2,800.00	4,723.09	4,000.00
Sunday School Offering	2,300.00	1,969.99	1,800.00
Building Use	1,500.00	1,049.00	1,200.00
Per Capita	800.00	1,366.56	900.00
Initial Offering	400.00	10.00	400.00
Misc. Offering	1,200.00	430.97	900.00
		0.00	
		0.00	
		0.00	
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>193,848.00</b>	<b>214,476.66</b>	<b>208,167.36</b>
<b>Endowments</b>			
Hilliker	6,555.00	0.00	8,200.00
Booth Fund	6,600.00	0.00	7,700.00
Heibeck Endowment	4,200.00	0.00	4,900.00
May & EE Patterson Endowment (Capital Expenses)	4,300.00	0.00	5,400.00
H. Patterson Endowment	1,400.00	0.00	1,700.00
Otte Endowment	400.00	1,248.58	450.00
Ramsey Endowment	80.00	0.00	90.00
Dunaway Endowment	1,900.00	0.00	2,200.00
General Memorial Endowment	0.00	0.00	0.00
Leeper & Freeman	190.00	0.00	740.00
Other		1,303.00	1,300.00
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>25,625.00</b>	<b>2,551.58</b>	<b>32,680.00</b>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>219,473.00</b>	<b>217,028.24</b>	<b>240,847.36</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>2025</b>
PERSONNEL	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Pastor's Salary	34,358.00	26,405.63	30,754.00
Housing Allowance	19,181.56	27,133.96	28,648.00
Social Security	4,096.09	4,095.68	4,544.00
Major Medical (33%)	15,584.46	14,864.37	19,603.00
Retirement/Disability (10%)	5,376.11	5,250.49	5,940.00
Dental	0.00	0.00	0.00
Supplemental Medical	0.00	0.00	0.00
Continuing Education	1,531.25	0.00	1,750.00
Study/Professional Reimbursement	1,312.50	0.00	1,500.00
<b>Pastor Total</b>	<b>81,439.97</b>	<b>77,750.13</b>	<b>92,739.00</b>
Director of C.E. & Youth Salary	0.00	0.00	0.00
Educational Reimbursement	0.00	0.00	0.00
Secretary's Salary	22,717.00	22,716.96	23,625.68
Custodian's Salary	5,850.00	5,850.00	16,224.00
Organist's Salary	7,785.00	7,785.00	8,096.40
Choir Director Salary	0.00	0.00	0.00
Handbell Director Salary	4,626.00	4,626.00	4,811.00
Nursery Attendant (\$31.50 per Sunday)	1,638.00	0.00	1,703.52
Social Security Tax (All Employees)	4,006.00	3,135.19	4,166.00
Worker's Compensation	400.00	466.68	400.00
<b>Other Staff Totals</b>	<b>47,022.00</b>	<b>44,579.83</b>	<b>59,026.60</b>
<b>Total Salaries and Benefits</b>	<b>128,461.97</b>	<b>122,329.96</b>	<b>151,765.60</b>

<b>2025 GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET</b>			
	<b>2024</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>2025</b>
	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>			
Office Expense and Supplies	3,300.00	1,916.80	3,300.00
Postage	1,100.00	430.53	1,100.00
Service Agreements	1,850.00	1,871.41	1,596.00
Travel reimbursement	2,200.00	209.32	1,500.00
Telephone	1,560.00	1,678.00	1,771.00
Vanco Fees	400.00	288.23	400.00
Software and Streaming Fees	1,500.00	1,245.27	1,500.00
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>11,910.00</b>	<b>7,639.56</b>	<b>11,167.00</b>
<b>PROPERTY</b>			
City Utilities	1,100.00	899.52	1,100.00
AES Electric	4,500.00	5,054.62	7,500.00
CenterPoint Energy Gas	13,300.00	8,684.14	12,000.00
Supplies and General Maintenance	8,000.00	9,228.72	8,000.00
Insurance (new rate: \$3675.00 quarterly)	12,200.00	12,130.50	14,700.00
Capital Improvement Fund	5,000.00	13,023.46	0.00
Patterson Endowment (Repay)		0.00	15,000.00
		0.00	
<b>Total Property</b>	<b>44,100.00</b>	<b>49,020.96</b>	<b>58,300.00</b>
<b>SESSION COMMITTEES</b>			
Christian Education	3,500.00	3,102.51	3,500.00
Church Growth/Member Care	650.00	71.58	650.00
Stewardship & Finance	250.00	0.00	250.00
Worship	3,900.00	3,849.57	3,900.00
Books and Publications	150.00	0.00	150.00
		0.00	
		0.00	
<b>Total Session Committees</b>	<b>8,450.00</b>	<b>7,023.66</b>	<b>8,450.00</b>
<b>MISSION BEYOND OURSELVES</b>			
Per Capita (2025: 147 @ \$13.84) Gen.Assm,Synod	1,997.00	1,997.50	2,034.48
Presbytery (\$34 per member)	5,202.00	2,500.00	4,998.00
Kirkmont Center	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Community Sharing Fund	2,000.00	790.00	2,000.00
Board of Deacons	500.00	500.00	500.00
		0.00	
		0.00	
		0.00	
<b>Total Mission</b>	<b>11,199.00</b>	<b>7,287.50</b>	<b>11,032.48</b>
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>204,120.97</b>	<b>193,301.64</b>	<b>240,715.08</b>
Balance:	<b>\$15,352.03</b>	<b>\$23,726.60</b>	<b>\$132.28</b>
Expected Cash Balance 01-01-2025			\$45,575.67
Less: 2025 Expected Net Expenditures			132.28
Expected Cash Balance 12-31-2025			\$45,707.95

## 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-seven years has consistently invested the majority of the Fund in medium and long-term United States Government Bonds and high grade municipal and corporate 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 2024, the Endowment Fund earned an average of 3.58% interest. This is comprised of 4.04% for funds under the investment management of the Committee, and 3.10% 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. \$16,800.00 was granted to college scholarship recipients in 2024. Scholarship funding increased \$3,800.00 over 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

		Fund Balance	Accrued Interest 12/31/2023	Interest for Year 2024	Gifts for Year 2024	Transfer to Principal 2024	Principal Disbursed 2024	Disbursed General Operating	Balance Available 12/31/2024	Session Designated	Use of Principal	Limited Availability	New Balance
<b>Church Budget or Support Funds</b>													
	NAME												
	Booth, Doris Dillon	166,349.63	9,574.11	6706.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16,280.73	Y	N	N	
	Heibeck, Ruth	106,482.49	15,054.70	4292.99	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19,347.69	Y	N	N	
	Smith, Berry	1,000.00	334.53	40.32					374.85		N	N	
	Pusey, Faye & Oscar	500.00	139.64	20.16					159.80	Y	Y	N	
	Lamb, Walter	1,000.00	283.27	40.32					323.59		Y	N	
	Marine, A.E. & Martha	7,868.00	513.58	317.21					830.79	Y	Y	N	
	Robert C. Patterson	639.84	137.77	25.80					163.57	Y	Y	N	
	Dunaway	47,997.15	11,980.89	1935.07					13,915.96	Y	N	N	
	Huffer, Samuel	500.00	139.64	20.16					159.80		N	N	
	Subtotal (Interest Sharing Accounts)	332,337.11	38,158.13	13,398.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	51,556.78				
	Leeper Ralph W.	14,034.02	1,624.85	104.76					1,729.61	Y	N	N	
	Freeman, Phillip Q.	2,220.94	719.62	92.03					811.65	Y	N	N	
	Hilliker	154,000.00	17,462.75	6555.65					24,018.40		N	N	
	Total Church Budget	502,592.07	57,965.35	20151.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	78116.44				
<b>Benevolence and Mission</b>													
	Harnet Patterson 1-8-91	37,000.00	4,722.83	1491.71					6,214.54	Y	N	N	
	Orte, Grace	10,000.00	1,369.26	403.16				1,248.58	523.84	Y	N	N	
	Ramsey, Laura 5-20-79	2,000.00	268.31	80.63					348.94		N	N	
	Fulton Mission Fund	3,275.00	721.78	132.04					853.82		Y	Y	
	Total	52,275.00	7,082.18	2,107.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,248.58	7,941.14				
<b>Capital Improvements/Support of Church</b>													
	Patterson	118,027.00	3,723.94	4758.43	10,000.00	10,000.00			8,482.37	Y	Y	N	
<b>Youth/Youth Fellowship</b>													
	Dick, Anna	2,000.00	976.43	80.63					1,057.06	Y	N	N	
	Dave Haw	16,671.69	3,673.22	672.14					4,345.36		Y	N	
	E. Crawfis	5,000.00	1,290.40	201.58					1,491.98		N	N	
	Presbyterian Youth	2,903.97	1,210.05	117.08				540.00	787.13		Y	N	
	Total	26,575.66	7,150.10	1,071.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	540.00	7,681.54				

		Fund Balance	Accrued Interest 12/31/2023	Interest for Year 2024	Gifts for Year 2024	Transfer to Principal 2024	Principal Disbursed 2024	Disbursed General Operating	Balance Available 12/31/2024	Session Designated	Use of Principal	Limited Availability	New Balance
<b>Sunday School</b>													
Carl Lowery	Sunday School Supplies/Equip.	6,065.00	1,926.00	244.52					2,170.52		N	N	
Royer, William F. & Sally	Sunday School Use	648.05	0.00	0.00					0.00				
Royer, William F. & Sally	Sunday School Use	3,783.50	1,005.10	142.60					1,147.70				
Total		10,496.55	2,931.10	387.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3318.22				
<b>Music</b>													
Booth	Robes		142.45						142.45				
Booth Bell	Handbell Maintenance	7,000.00	3,199.30	282.22					3,481.52	Y	N	N	
John C. Hover	Organ Maintenance 12-27-1967	5,000.00	1,279.37	201.58				550.00	930.95	Y	N	N	
German	Choir/Handbell Music near 8/29	774.00	69.10	31.20				90.00	10.30		N	N	
Hazel P. McCormick	Upkeep/Repair of Pianos	308.59	79.15	12.44				80.00	11.59	Y	Y	N	
Coulter, Laura	Music 1-31-63	500.00	127.64	20.16				43.00	104.80		N	N	
Emmerson, Mary E.	Choir 6-7-1917	500.00	139.64	20.16					159.80		N	N	
Butler	Music	315.80	86.62	12.73					99.35		N	N	
Total		14,398.39	5,123.27	580.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	763.00	4,940.76				
<b>Scholarship</b>													
Knief		322,630.60	1,790.69	13007.31				14,000.00	798.00		N	N	
Lawrence		26,515.00	79.40	1068.99				1,000.00	148.39		N	N	
Lawrence Prepay Deposit		4,000.00	129.27	161.27			1,000.00	1,000.00	290.54		Y	N	
Subtotal (Interest Sharing Accounts)		353,145.60	1,999.36	14,237.57	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	16,000.00	1,236.93				
Merrilees, Nancy J.	1985	20,755.21	(24.34)	859.75				800.00	35.41		N	N	
Total Scholarship		373,900.81	1,975.02	15097.32	0.00	0.00	1000.00	16800.00	1272.34				
<b>Mission Trips</b>													
Matthew Brady	Adult/Youth Mission Trips	3,279.44	513.06	132.22					645.28		N	N	
<b>Other</b>													
Edwards, Edith	General Memorial	1,000.00	283.27	40.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	323.59		?	?	
General Memorial		32,118.11	1,107.19	1294.89					2,402.08		Y	N	
Hand, Mary G.	Office Furniture 6-21-82	5,040.00	1,718.49	203.19					1,921.68		N	N	
Wren, Florence	Kitchen Equipment	1,800.00	786.79	72.57					859.36		Y	N	
Presbyterian Women		53,000.07	1,825.37	2136.77				1,825.00	2,137.14		N	N	
Total		92,958.18	5,721.11	3,747.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,825.00	7,643.85				

[illegible]

## Investments

## The First UPC Presbyterian Woman's Association Annual Report for 2024

Presbyterian Women's Purpose: To Nurture faith through prayer, and Bible study. To support the mission of the church worldwide, work for justice and peace, and build an inclusive, caring community of women.

2024 was a very busy year for the PWA. So much was accomplished due to the hard work and dedication of this past year's coordinating team.

**Moderator:** Eva Rinehart, **Vice Moderator:** Bridget Hawkins **Treasurer:** Karen Brady, **Secretary:** Holly Core, and **Past Moderator:** Anne Brienza, **Board Members:** Amy McIntyre, Cindy Jenkins, and Nancy Farrington.

**January** The PWA held an annual meeting with the congregation women. They were invited for a soup and salad luncheon after worship on the 21<sup>st</sup>. There were 19 women in attendance. A great turnout. Valentines were signed by all to be sent out in Feb. The new board was presented to the women and a list of ideas and events were discussed for the upcoming year.

Notes of interest in January, the PWA replaced the hard wood flooring in the back entryway to the church and a new runner was also purchased. We also paid the difference that the mission committee needed to fulfil their Christmas food baskets in 2023. In support of our church there was a need to repair the outside lights and timer out front. We voted and agreed to pay for that improvement after getting an estimate. We also paid for baptism gifts this month. The group voted that we could do this any time it was needed.

**February** The PWA sent out a small gift card and valentine to college students and military of the loved ones in our church. We purchased solar glasses to sell to the congregation. The Solar Eclipse was a historic moment in Logan County. We ordered 150 glasses and sold every pair. We also began making our peanut butter chocolate Easter eggs. This was also the second year we sold small caramel eggs.

**March** On the 17<sup>th</sup> of March the PWA hosted a soup sampler event after worship for the whole congregation. The chocolate egg making days continued and were finished by Palm Sunday for pick up. We made a total of 429 eggs. It was our most successful year of egg sales to date. It couldn't have been accomplished without such a great coordinating team.

**April** We hosted a Solar Eclipse Coffee hour along with themed decorations and treats.

**June** The Women's Tea was held on June 9<sup>th</sup>. The theme was "The Beauty of a Woman." There were 44 women in attendance, and it was a big success. The ladies were served a luncheon of puff pastries filled with egg salad and an open-faced chicken salad sandwich, a garden salad, a cheese kabob, and a bowl of fresh fruit. Followed by a "flight" of desserts: chocolate mousse, mini cheesecakes with raspberry topping, mini lemon cupcakes, flower shaped sugar cookies, and cinnamon pinwheels. The beverages that were served were citrus water, cucumber water and hot tea. Karen Brady gave a program about the "Beauty of a Women Through the Ages." Names were drawn for door prizes, and everyone went home with a little gift. Our annual bookmark, and a magnet with a picture of the theme for this year painted by Pat Rinehart-Irwin. It was also on all the postcards we sent out. There was a Photos taken in front of a scene painted by Pam Ark. It was a lot of work and couldn't have been done without our PWA team. We put pictures up on our Bulletin Board in the Sanctuary after the event.

**August** We had a Garden Party. Hosted by Ruth Bowden on the 29th. We served a charcuterie board of meats and cheeses, fruit kabobs, pasta salad, and blueberry crumble for dessert. Amy McIntyre led a card making craft, and we enjoyed a glass of Pym's if so desired. Guests were gifted a vegetable themed reusable market bag, and Ruth was given a thank you gift for hosting. On our month's agenda, our nominating committee volunteered for next year's board.

**September** We hosted a new event this year. "Pie Baking with Dana." Dana Heydinger graciously agreed to teach anyone who wanted to learn how to bake a good pie. Which always starts with a great crust. There were

22 people in attendance, and she baked several pies demonstrating her tricks of the trade. Everyone had the opportunity to make a crust and bake it or take it home along with a pamphlet of pie recipes. We served pizzas and pie. We went over the mission giving catalog for the PWA-USA and our bylaws.

**October** On October 12<sup>th</sup> we held our Fall retreat. “The Beauty of a Woman.” Our speaker had to cancel due to the hurricane in Florida. We will invite her again for 2025’s retreat. Even though there were some last-minute changes the retreat went on. 15 women attended and it was held at Kirkmont’s Goodrich Lodge. Karen Brady led chair yoga, Cindy Jenkins had a Bible trivia game, and I led a macrame key chain craft. Our New Board members were presented to the group and voted in. Soup and salad and desserts were served. On October 1st, Noodle making began led by Holly Core. We produced over 62 pounds of noodles for the Election Day Luncheon. We had more than 22 pounds to sell. We also bought a new roaster.

**November** Our Election Day Luncheon and Craft Bazaar was held on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to each of the ELD leads it was another huge success. Pies-Dana Heydinger, Salads-Nancy Stokes, Carry Out- Eva Rinhart, Craft Bazaar and Bake Sale-Holly Core, and Katie Amidon, Kitchen-Sara Stahler and Sue Crawfis, Cashiers- Bridget Hawkins, and Mike Brady, Online Presence and order forms- Anne Brienza, Distribution of order forms downtown – Ben Stahler, Holly Core, and Eva Rinehart. We are so grateful to the many helpers that made this happen. It couldn’t have been accomplished without the support of this congregation.

**December** Our PWA Board accomplished a lot this year. Thanks to a yearly endowment gift and our fundraisers, it made our mission support goals possible. We used the money in support of our church. Such as buying ham for Christmas dinner, and we continue to supply paper products for the church throughout the year. We purchased two Buffalo Bikes in Africa and through the PWA giving catalog we purchased a rainwater barrel, a water filter and a sewing machine. We donated to our local Tornado Disaster Relief Fund for Indian Lake and supported Kirkmont, LoCoArt, Peak of Hope (a homeless shelter for women and children,) and the new Logan County Animal Shelter being built. We believe all of God’s creatures to be precious. Though our mission support we were able to donate money to the Presbytery Disaster relief fund, and the Black Mountain Presbytery in Montreat who were affected by Hurricane Helene. This Board has taken on the responsibility of mission to heart. They’ve worked hard this year to support our church, our community, our country, and our world. With these goals in mind, I would say 2024 was a very successful year. We will carry on the mission of hope and love into the New Year. May God Bless us and provide the means to continue our Lord’s work and fulfil our purpose through him. I was honored to be Moderator of the PWA this year.

I present the 2025 PWA coordinating team

**Moderator:** Bridget Hawkins, **Vice Moderator:** Brenda Oda **Treasurer:** Karen Brady, **Secretary:** Holly Core, and **Past Moderator** Eva Rinehart, **Board Members:** Amy McIntyre, Vicky Shields, and Judy Bozman.

Let us pray for them that they can continue in the God’s service through this association.

In His Service,

Evangeline Rinehart

Moderator of the 2024 PWA

2024	Expenses
<b><i>Flowers &amp; Gifts</i></b>	
New Baby Roses	\$25.00
Valentines college students	\$50.00
baptism gifts	\$54.08
<b><i>Fellowship events</i></b>	
Women's Tea	\$262.88
Retreat	\$132.23
postage	\$115.20
soup sampler & coffee hr	\$84.95
Garden Party	\$32.90
Pie making supplies & pizza	\$180.03
<b><i>Mission projects</i></b>	
Kirkmont	\$2,000.00
Presbytery Disaster Relief- USA	\$500.00
Presbytery giving catalog	\$175.00
2 bikes World wide relief	\$330.00
Black Mnt tornado relief	\$250.00
Local - U.W. - IL tornado relief	\$250.00
Behind the Badge Animal Shelter	\$500.00
Peak of Hope Homeless Shelter	\$500.00
LoCo Art Stress Less for kids	\$500.00
<b><i>Presbytery Women</i></b>	
Mission pledge (99 women)	\$100.00
synod dues & PW budget	\$10.00
Thank Offering	\$250.00
Least Coin	\$76.08
<b><i>Support of Church</i></b>	
paper products & gloves	\$182.76
Christmas dinner	\$86.47
Repairing lights front of church	\$524.86
Class K fire extinguisher	\$308.00
Roaster for kitchen	\$80.00

Checking Account Beginning Balance

2024	
<i>Election Day luncheon</i>	<i>3783.64</i>
<i>Easter Egg Sales</i>	<i>900.77</i>
<i>Solar Eclipse glasses sale</i>	<i>140.80</i>
<i>Endowment Interest from 2023</i>	<i>1825.00</i>
<i>Least coin</i>	<i>76.08</i>
<i>interest (Dec - Nov)</i>	<i>2.51</i>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>6728.80</b>

Checking Account Ending Balance  
\$4570.41

<b><i>Miscellaneous</i></b>	
New Checks	\$40.03
<b>Total Giving</b>	<b>\$7,600.47</b>

### **Nominating Ministry Team**

2024

Elders – Brandon Standley, Sara Stahler

Deacon – Woody Amidon

Congregation Members – Sue Dearwester, Bridget Hawkins, Edson Jenkins, Nancy Stokes

2025

Congregation Members – Mark Butler, Bridget Hawkins, Beth Powers, Nancy Stokes

# Higher Education Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to our 2024 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. **Knief Recipients (students & church they attend listed under their name):**



*Chloe Anderson  
Belle Center*



*Jordan Butler  
Bellefontaine*



*Clay Jacobs  
Belle Center*



*Caroline Eader  
Bellefontaine*



*Olivia Eader  
Bellefontaine*



*Vivian Eader  
Bellefontaine*



*Mekenzie Flora  
Bellefontaine*



*Chloe Lloyd  
Bellefontaine*



*Ellie Lloyd  
Bellefontaine*



*Regan Ross  
Huntsville*



*Jacob Zarnosky  
Huntsville*

**Wayne & Pearl Lawrence Memorial Scholarship:** male and one female 1<sup>st</sup> UPC student who are members of 1st minimum GPA of 2.5 and are either graduating this year or received the scholarship in past years.



Awarded to one  
UPC, have a  
who have

*Ellie Lloyd*

*Ben Sailors*

**Nancy J. Merrilees Memorial Scholarship:** Awarded to a 1st UPC member who is pursuing the teaching profession. *Recipient: Jennifer Jervis*

**A total of \$16,900 has been awarded through the interest of these endowments.**

**Our thanks to the scholarship committee: Michael Brady, Brenda Oda, Beth Powers, Sara Stahler, chair: Anne Brienza**

**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*



