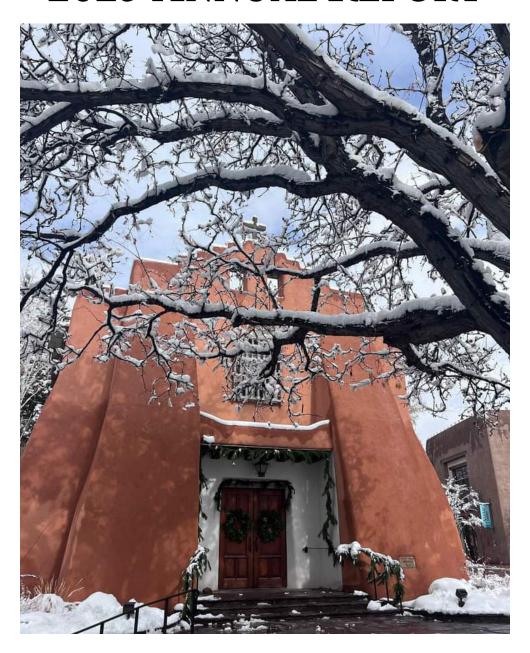
# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of SANTA FE

Our Vision: Growing the Beloved Community
Our Mission: Actively engage society, nurture lives,
cherish creation, and heal the world

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Sunday, February 5, 2023, in the Sanctuary	50

# **AGENDA**

# Annual Meeting of the Congregation and the Corporation Sunday, January 28, 2024, 9:45am, in the Sanctuary

# **Congregational Meeting**

# **Growing the Beloved Community**

Call to Order Rev. Dr. Harry Eberts, Moderator

Determining of a Quorum Judi Haines, Clerk of Session

Constituting Prayer Rev. Dr. Harry Eberts

**Business of the Congregation:** 

Report of Stewardship 2024 Campaign Roger Said, Chair of Stewardship Committee

Review of 2023 Financial Results

Dennis Sanderson,

Presentation of 2024 Budget (as approved by Session) Chair of Finance and Investment Committees

Election of Elders and Deacons Roger Said, Chair of Nominating Committee

(see nominees on next page)

Terms of Call for Pastor Harry Eberts

Bill Eklund, *President* 

Terms of Call for Associate Pastor Andrew Black

Celebration of 2023 Rev. Dr. Harry Eberts, Pastor

**Growing the Beloved Community** 

Service of Memorial Rev. Dr. Mary Kuhns, Parish Associate

Adjournment of the Congregational Meeting

# **Corporation Meeting**

Call to order Bill Eklund, President

President Bill Eklund

Vice President Dennis Sanderson
Treasurer Gale Wright
Corporate Secretary & Clerk of Session Judi Haines

Adjournment of the Corporation Meeting

Closing Prayer and Benediction Rev. Dr. Harry Eberts

# **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

#### Elders of Session and Board of Deacons

Members of the Nominating Committee: Roger Said (Session representative), Ellery Truesdell (Deacons representative), and Gary Murphy, Alice Tinkle, and Judi Haines (members at large)

#### Nominations for Elders to serve on Session in 2024

Class of 2024 (one-year term)

Elizabeth Hook

Class of 2026 (three-year term)

Juanita Thorne-ConnertyMelissa MitchellSharon EklundBarry BrunerJanice MayerKathy HarrisRick Andrew

#### Nominations for the Board of Deacons to serve in 2024

Class of 2024 (one-year term) Class of 2025 (two-year term)

Bruce Black Christina Hill

Class of 2026 (three-year term)

Mary Norris George Parr Harry Heflin
Gary Schneider Carol Schneider Ellery Truesdell

#### **ELDERS WHO SERVED IN 2023**

Daniel Crane Tom Tindall Dick Lindahl Juanita Thorne-Connerty
Melissa Mitchell Sharon Eklund Madeleine Wright Gary Murphy
Janis Gonzales Roger Said Elizabeth Hook Mary Gulledge

## DEACONS WHO SERVED IN 2023

Mary Norris,	Sharon Marrs	Bruce Goslin	Ellery Truesdell
Moderator	M'Lea Walsh	Tom Mott	Leslie Goslin
Christina Hill	Bruce Black	Heather Weir	Kelly Truesdell
Alvin Baca	George Parr	Harry Heflin	

# MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Number of Active Members at the beginning of 2023	
Additions during the year:	
Active Members	14
Losses During the Year:	
Deaths of Active Members	(8)
Transfers	(12)
Removed	(6)
Number of Active Members at the end of 20	<b>23</b> 299
Other Memberships at end of 2023	
Affiliates	3
Clergy	13
Baptisms in 2023	2
NECROLOGY REPORT	
Members	Friends & Former Members
Ethel Trimmer – January 14, 2023	Gail Pasch - February 1, 2023
Betty Kinnett – February 2, 2023	Lynn Bixler - August 3, 2023
Betty Grubesic – May 4, 2023	
Helen Foster – September 3, 2023	
Mary Finney – September 23, 2023	Clergy
Jene Alexander – September 25, 2023	John Ed Withers - May 23, 2023
Ron Ball – November 23, 2023	
Lindy Manley - December 21, 2023	

# **PASTOR**

2023 has been a bridge between the hardships and restrictions of the Covid years and the hope of resuming our normal ministry. We entered the year still bothered by Covid and its effect on the church and the world. We tried hard in years prior to discern God's Spirit during this life-altering pandemic, gathered information and ideas from sources far and wide, developed a new vision statement (Growing the Beloved Community) and a strategic plan for the next one to three years. We held discussions with the congregation as we sought to imagine what ministry and mission would look like from now on and tried to anticipate trends and changes.

In the process, ministry still happened. Groups and programs resumed, and worship attendance began to rebound, though still not at pre-pandemic levels. Visitors returned and we started welcoming more new members. We witnessed a steady increase of children and the children's ministry began to blossom.

Sounds of choirs and organ music again filled the hallways on the first floor and both congregation and community groups returned to our beautiful building. A ukulele group began to rehearse here with some church members joining the fun. Our five-star Child Development Center continued to thrive on the second floor (even attracting the attention of the top early child development people in the Biden Administration), and some of the rooms on the third floor were rearranged to make space for a new Infant Care Center as well as a children's and youth room.

First Sundays became an enjoyable and vital part of the church's life as both the 8:30 and 11 am services combined into one service at 10 am, followed by lunch in Pope Hall. These monthly services often featured various cultures, including Spanish, Native, and African American. We celebrated Juneteenth on the lawn at Federal Park complete with dancing and a potluck, and a Watchnight service on the morning of New Year's Eve.

Adult Education provided programs that reflected the life and interests of the congregation. "Earth Summer" filled the summer months with programs and speakers addressing environment issues and the great challenges facing the world. We have looked extensively at the person of Jesus and his life and teachings. I am grateful for all the presenters and those who have faithfully planned the offerings each week.

Mission and social justice was a prominent feature of our ministry. Aside from supporting organizations locally and across the world, we continued to do "pop-ups" to raise money and awareness for various concerns, collect offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA), and serve in places like the Interfaith Community Shelter. A group of young adults took a trip to the border in October to witness first-hand the difficulties and challenges there. We welcomed a Venezuelan family in late November who had no place to live after traveling 3500 miles seeking safety and a new home. They are currently living in a room on the church's third floor and members and friends have given support and guidance as they navigate the challenges before them.

My wife Jenny and I were two of 1600 people who attended the Wild Goose Festival in July on a farm in North Carolina where I was part of a "Guns to Garden" presentation. We heard some amazing, nationally known speakers and came back inspired about continuing to be part of the Church as we all seek to follow Christ in this very challenging world.

In October I completed my year as Moderator of the Presbytery of Santa Fe which was an honor I had not had before in my almost forty years of ordained ministry. I continue to serve on the Board of the National Ghost Ranch Foundation and as co-president of New Mexicans to Prevent Gun Violence. I am currently taking a year-long online certificate course on "Spiritual Care and Trauma" from San Francisco Theological Seminary.

I am grateful for my twelve years of being pastor of this congregation and thank the staff, officers, leaders, members, and friends with whom I have shared this path and this vital ministry.

Harry Eberts

# **ASSOCIATE PASTOR**

Pastor Andrew focuses much of his time on reaching out to members, families as well as residents of the Southside of Santa Fe, Pueblos and promoting efforts to address conservation and climate change. Many of the details of this work are included in the EarthKeepers 360 report, including our work on the church's energy audit.

In the spring, Andrew hosted the annual Caja del Rio Easter sunrise service with nearly 80 community members attending this transformative service. Also in the spring, Andrew visited with Apache leaders at Oak Flat in Arizona and was able to get support from PCUSA to help these Tribal leaders protect their sacred ancestorial lands. Andrew also helped host a community-wide Earth Day event focused on cleaning up the Caja del Rio. Over 150 people attended the clean-up, including many volunteers from FPC.

Each week, Andrew helps with the youth of FPC and can often be found providing a children's message and blessing at the 8:30 service. Andrew helped organize the adult education Earth Summer series on the environment this year, providing various presentations as well as setting up national speakers to address our congregation. This work culminated in our First Environmental and Sustainable Living Fair and FPC being awarded and recognized by the National Wildlife Federation as a Sacred Grounds Community, an honor given to faith communities who promote wildlife habitat and eco-conscious uses of their buildings and grounds. This summer, Andrew helped with youth to provide dignity mission kits to families on the border.

This fall, Andrew organized an eight-part spirituality and movie night. This series focused on a variety of theological themes ranging from hope in the midst of suffering, to nonviolence to social justice and compassion. In October 2023, Andrew Black led a group of youth and young adults to the U.S./ Mexico

border in El Paso to work with families and children in shelters along the border. Thanks to generous community donations, we took thousands of pounds of medical supplies, food, and clothing to those in need. We quickly found ourselves on the frontlines of one the biggest human rights crises facing our world today. The impacts of the heavily enhanced border wall with newly added razor wire is having significant impacts to wildlife and the ecology of the border. With a massive wall surrounded by buffers of new razor wire and heavily armored vehicles as part of Operation Lonestar, wildlife habitat and migrations of everything from jaguar to bears are being impacted. This undoubtedly will grow worse with Biden's expansion of the wall and waiving of environmental laws and protections. U.S. Border Patrol migrant encounters along the southwestern border during this past fiscal year eclipsed two million and El Paso's migration is up 50.4% compared to last year (2022). Millions of people, mostly from Venezuela, El Salvador and Guatemala, now find themselves on the US side in dire need of food, shelter, clothing, health care and safety. Hundreds of thousands are being bused by the state of Texas to cities across the country with democratic mayors. Most are left in these cities with only the clothes on their backs and no housing, food or basic resources. Thus, the challenges of border communities like El Paso are now being felt by the interior of the U.S. Thanks to all our partners at Abara, the Opportunity Welcome Center, UTEP, St. Francis Xavier Church, Sagrado Corazon and Kelly Center for Hunger Relief who are making a major difference in a very tough reality.

The culmination of our border trip resulted in inviting Nate Ledbetter from Abara and the Presbytery of Tres Rio from El Paso to preach and teach adult education. Additionally, this winter, FPC has exercised the ministry of Christ's hospitality by opening our doors to family from Venezuela, who was left freezing on the streets of Santa Fe with nothing but the clothes on their back. With the love of Christ, numerous staff and volunteers have stepped up to help house this family at the church and help them meet their legal, food, health and social service needs. This ministry truly embodies Teresa Avila's words that "Christ has no body but yours, no feet but yours, no hands but yours."

Andrew also helps maintain the church's Instagram and Facebook social media pages as well as participated in various meetings from MSJ, Deacons and Session. Andrew is hoping to create some more tangible mission opportunities this year as well as continue to make cost-saving and earth-saving reforms through the church's energy audit.

Andrew Black

# PARISH ASSOCIATE

"Back in the day," I would have been called the "visiting pastor." And that pretty much explains what I do. My job description provides for a few hours a week primarily visiting and calling on church members and friends who may be sick, or have suffered the loss of a loved one, or are having surgery or some kind of treatment, are in the hospital, in a rehab facility, or are now living in an assisted living/memory care/nursing home environment, or just desire a pastoral visit. I have always enjoyed being with, and listening to people, and have done this work in two other churches. As a seminary student, I received 6 hours of CPE (Clinical Pastoral Education), thinking that I would be going into

hospital chaplaincy. The parish pulled me in instead. I have also been a pastoral counselor and a couples and family therapist, so this type of work has always been a part of who I am.

I keep up with the Deacons through Mary Norris, and with Betty Kersting, working with 2nd Family folks as needed. And I attend Session meetings as I am able. Of course, Harry and I are in regular conversation as well. It is also a privilege to share Communion with those who aren't able to receive such at church. A deacon or two always go with me and shares in the experience.

It is indeed a gift to be a part of so many lives, to pray with people, to be with folks sometimes at their most vulnerable, and to be trusted in such a role.

Mary Kuhns

# **BOARD OF DEACONS**

Deacons serving in 2023: Mary Norris (Moderator), Heather Weir, George Parr, Ellery Truesdell, Bruce Black, Sharon Marrs, Kelly Truesdell, Tom Mott, M'Lea Walsh, Alvin Baca, Christina Hill, Bruce Goslin, Leslie Goslin, Harry Heflin

Deacon meetings were conducted each month this year except December. All meetings were "face to face". Our Deacon roster increased considerably in 2023 with the addition of nine new members. Thank you to Heather, George, Ellery, and Bruce for returning and Thank you to Sharon Marrs, Kelly Truesdell, Tom Mott, M'Lea Walsh, Alvin Baca, Christina Hill, Bruce and Leslie Goslin, and Harry Heflin for joining our group. This significant increase in those willing to serve was a was a clear indication of God's hand in what we do.

As our number grew, so did our ability to serve. FPC's 2023 Deacons hosted multiple events:

- 1. 2023 Easter Egg Hunt at Federal Park.
- 2. Dinner at Pete's Place each month of 2023.
- 3. Ice Cream on the Triangle for "end of the school year" and "start of the new school year" celebrations.
- 4. Ron Ball's Santa Party.
- 5. Memorial Receptions for Betty Kinnett and Helen Foster.

# Additionally, the Deacons:

- 1. Set up/served/provided clean-up for the 2023 Presbytery Meeting lunch.
- 2. Provided Halloween treats for children attending FPC's school.
- 3. Provided cookies for the Interfaith Alliance "Pride on the Plaza" event booth.
- 4. Assisted in set-up and serving at the first FPC Hispanic Heritage Celebration.
- 5. Provided transportation assistance to doctor's and therapy appointments,

- 6. Delivered food to members as needed.
- 7. Provided food for Ethel Trimmers Life Celebration.
- 8. Assisted in Communion services for members not able to attend services.
- 9. As a part of FPC's "Building the Beloved Community" pledge fair, the Deacon's made 48 lunches for Pete's Place along with writing cards to each person on FPC's "At Home" roster.
- 10. Finally, but certainly one of the most important actions, deacons supported FPC's members not able to attend services by sending cards and e-mails, doing "in person" visits, and delivering lilies, poinsettias, and "goody" bags.

2024 starts with another two new deacons - bringing our number to 15. Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow!!

2024 GOALS are look very much like 2023:

- 1. Continuing to work in making our in-person visitation program more robust.
- 2. Assisting Jen Black in FPC's "young family" program.
- 3. Ensuring that our church freezer includes soup for anyone needing a meal.
- 4. Provide driving assistance when needed.
- 5. Continue to host Memorial Services to celebrate the lives of those who have gone before us.
- 6. Pray that God will use each of us as we are able in support of FPC initiatives.

Mary Norris, Deacon Moderator

# **SESSION**

In 2023 Session convened 9 Stated meetings and 3 Called meeting to receive new members. We continued to meet in person with Zoom option. Our thanks to the Elders who served so faithfully in 2023: Dan Crane, Dick Lindahl, Elizabeth Hook, Gary Murphy, Janis Gonzales, Juanita Thorne-Connerty, Madeleine Wright, Mary Gulledge, Melissa Mitchell, Roger Said, Sharon Eklund, Tom Tindall.

We spent a day in March at Ghost Ranch on a Church Leaders Retreat. Throughout 2023 we continued the discussion of Growing the Beloved Community. There were several conversations related to worship logistics. Pews vs. Chairs; First Sunday's continuing the new tradition of a single service at 10 a.m. followed by lunch; we confirmed other Sunday Schedule to be: Morning Song at 8:30; Adult Ed at 9:45 and Traditional Service at 11 a.m. year-round.

In June Session approved CDC's proposal to provide Infant Care and to assign the Moore Conference Room and Youth Room to this project, to move the business office and dismantle the Volunteer Room in favor of the Youth and Family Ministry. Session approved the use of the Memorial Fund for the renovation of the new "youth space" and additional funds for actual construction from facilities budget or funds. As of this writing the Infant Care Space is complete; the Youth Space work will begin shortly.

We received a report from Associate Pastor, Andrew Black on the Energy Audit and asked that the Facilities Committee develop a schedule to implement those that are low hanging fruit and to obtain proposals for the more extensive projects. Many of the tasks were accomplished in 2023. We regretfully say goodbye to Roger Said and Dan Crane.

Judi Haines, Clerk of Session

# MUSIC DIRECTOR/ORGANIST

Chancel Choir has been very faithful to rehearsals sung at church services and performed two TGIF concerts: Nelson Mass and Cherubini Requiem. The group rehearses on Wednesdays from 4-5 and Thursdays from 5:30-7:30. A two-pronged approach has attracted four singers from the community who enjoy singing large works. These singers also joined us for the All Saints service to sing John Rutter's Requiem. Singers include Jenny Harland, Jenny Warden, Jill McCormick, Joy Ice, Cathy Deutschle, Nancy Maret, Nina Brown, Margaret Dean, Terrell Falk, Barbara Roush, Gwen Fuller, Elizabeth Roghair, Tim Willson, Jim Toevs, Chris Haynes, Michael Roybal, Travis Bregier, John Pasch, Ralph Fuller, Keytha Jones, Lisa Buckley, Anne Bradley, Chantal Quincy, and Maggie Odell.

Chancel Bell Choir performed two TGIF concerts and for a service in July, the Lessons and Carols service, and the early Christmas Eve Service. The 10 ringers are very dedicated and attend hourly rehearsals once a week as well as move all the equipment necessary for bell ringing. Ringers are Jeannie Bowman, Leslie Hancock, Sally Shockey, Campbell Martin, Montaño, Barb Hutchison, David Beatty, Darryl Bowman, Bill Humphreys, and Barry Roschelle.

TGIF has made a steady recovery from the pandemic and now averages 60-80 people attending per week. The offerings have included local performers and groups as well as others from across the nation. Over the summer we began to offer parking in the county lot for our patrons. On Friday nights parking can be a challenge and our attendees have appreciated that possibility.

TGIF also sponsors an Annual Organ Academy where organists from all over the country gather to study with Dr. Kimberly Marshall from Arizona State University, who starts the Academy with a TGIF organ recital. Students both participating and auditing hear lectures and perform music through the week that ends with a TGIF recital.

Opera Apprentices: The opera provided opera apprentices last summer, and the congregation was treated to their talent and energy at the 11:00 services. It is always a joy to get to know them and learn of their experiences as they further their music careers.

David Solem: David's preludes, postludes and accompanying the choir is very inspiring, and it is a thrill to experience his music at the 11:00 services and at choir rehearsal. He donated four TGIF concerts to the 2023 schedule that were very warmly received. He substitutes for me during my summer vacation. I am able to really enjoy being away, because I know he is filling in so expertly.

Travis Bregier: It also has been my pleasure to work with Travis Bregier and enjoy the clarity and warmth of his baritone voice. He is cantor at both the 8:30 and 11:00 services and gives the congregation wonderful leadership during the hymns. He is a gift to the choir and has sung both bass and tenor when needed. It is so wonderful to have his beautiful voice supporting the choir and the congregation. Travis sings solos at 8:30, as we gear up to have a vocal ensemble again. The congregation appreciates his music. Travis performed two TGIF recitals with David Beatty on the piano. Travis also directs the Bell Choir that gave two concerts last year and played in church for a service in July, the Lessons and Carols service, and the early Christmas Eve service. The group plays solidly with great gusto and is a treasure of First Presbyterian. Travis ushers for TGIF and substitutes when I am gone in August, as well as sends out the weekly email to TGIF attendees.

David Beatty: We say goodbye to David and thank him for his hard work with the weekly bulletins, TGIF programs, accompanying the choir when David Solem is out of town, and playing for the Celtic Service in August. He has also composed several bell and choral pieces that have been performed by the choirs that are favorites.

Gale Wright: Gale has given our social media and website publicity a complete makeover and sends out weekly reminders about the services and TGIF individually crafted for each concert.

Judy Montaño: Judy has faithfully filed music for the chancel choir for a number of years. Handling 40-50 items per year is a huge job, and she completes this task with grace and good humor.

Keytha Jones: Keytha has hosted Kimberly Marshall for TGIF's Summer Organ Academy and the Organ Maintenance person from C. B. Fisk in her lovely guest house. Her hospitality is a great savings for the church programs and really handy.

Joy Ice: Joy accompanies the Chancel Choir at Wednesday sectionals and substituted for David S. Her keyboard talent and grace is greatly appreciated.

Instrumentalists: We have been treated to trumpet music for Christmas and Easter by the wonderful duo of Jim Toevs and Jan McDonald. Also, Mardi Gras Sunday is enhanced by the fun music of Trio Meson: Dave Anderson, Richard Snider and Rob Bowman.

It has been an and pleasure to work with the wonderful musicians, staff and congregants at First Presbyterian!

Linda Raney

# **MISSION CIRCLE**

### CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Child Development Center Advisory Council members: Anne Liley (Director of CDC), Caitlin Brodsky, Patti Poitras, Elizabeth Hook (chair), Ashley Serrao and Gayle Lomax

The Child Development Center continues to be rated as a 5-star Nationally Accredited Early Childhood Education program. We served an average of 85 children daily and were at full enrollment with a very lengthy waiting list for the entire year. The CDC continues to serve children ages 11 months through 5 years and has two toddler classrooms and three PreK classrooms that are funded by the State of New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Department.

In August of 2022, the CDC was awarded a third PreK contract from the State of New Mexico which made it possible to offer PreK to all of our students ages 3-5, M-F at no cost to the family. The CDC continues to offer aftercare and year-round care to ensure that working families have the support and consistent care that they need. The CDC is currently receiving \$630,000.00/year from the state to run these high-quality NM PreK programs which was increased from \$350,000.00 the previous year.

This year Director Liley and the staff were primarily focused on the creation of an infant care classroom on the third floor of the church. That construction on the renovation needed to open that classroom has now been completed and we hope to have the first class of infants starting by February 1, 2024.

The CDC participated in a few exciting programs this year such as the newly formed Aprende Early Childhood Education Apprentice program that was created out of the Early Childhood Center of Excellence. We piloted this program in 2022 and welcomed 5 apprentices into the center for the Fall of 2023. These students work almost full-time in the center under the leadership of a master teacher from the CDC while completing their AA in Early Childhood Education. Each of our 5 classes had an apprentice and we were so thrilled to have such eager and helpful college students joining our team. We were also honored to be contacted by the Early Childhood Education and Care Department Secretary, Elizabeth Groginsky and were asked to provide a site tour to leadership from the Federal Administration of Children and Families (ACF) out of Washington DC that were visiting NM. We were the only center to be visited while this group were in the state. There were senior representatives from the following ACF offices; the Offices of Early Childhood Development (ECD), Childcare (OCC) and Head Start (OHS). We were even joined by the Secretary of Early Childhood Education under the Biden Administration, Katie Hamm and our NM ECECD Secretary Elizabeth Groginsky.

It was a successful year financially. The CDC ended 2023 with a gain of \$16,813.00, which will be added to the CDC Reserve Fund bringing it to \$345,561.00.

First Presbyterian Church continues to provide an excellent childcare program for this city. It does so

due to a staff of committed teachers and auxiliary personnel. They are looking forward to another wonderful year serving families in the Santa Fe Community and continuing to meet our mission of being a high-quality community-outreach child development center that is accessible to all families in our community.

Elizabeth Hook, Chair

# MISSION AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

As chair of MSJ I am again thankful for the work of my committee members who are active in helping to designate the funds we receive from our generous congregation for mission. Committee members have visited several of the agencies we fund in order to gain more information and to have more direct contact with these non-profits. In addition to Donna Fleetwood, Bill Eklund, Liz Hinds, Bruce Goslin, Bill Jackson, M'Lea Walsh, Jim Babcock, Melissa Mitchell, Jean Berghoff, Pam Najdowski, Gian Schauer and Arthur Neudek, we had the pleasure of having Elise and George Packard join our committee this year. I also want to thank the staff for all their support - David Beatty, Delicia Nakazono, Gale Wright, and Maria Romero.. Special thanks to Jean Berghoff, our treasurer, who keeps excellent records and corresponds with each agency we fund.

The MSJ committee started the year by addressing several urgent needs and requests. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance received \$2,000 for aid in their work in Turkey and Syria after the 7.8 earthquake. Borderlinks, an agency we have funded for many years, called to request funds as they were having financial difficulties so \$1,000 was sent to them. The Sagua la Grande church, our sister church in Cuba, was sent \$500 worth of food to help their congregation and the surrounding neighborhood. Bill Eklund has found a mail order company in Spain that actually delivers fresh and packaged foods to Sagua. The Food Depot, because of increased cost of groceries and decrease in food from the Emergency Food Assistance Program, was asking for help so \$3,000 was sent to them.

Another task of the committee is to help educate the congregation on various issues of social justice. During March the committee presented 4 Sunday Adult Education classes on poverty. The highlight of the classes was having Hank Hughes and Amanda Bregel present their views on the issue of poverty. In November, MSJ, also, had a table joining other committee groups of the church to educate congregational members about our work.

A new brochure describing the work of MSJ was created by Bruce and Gian. I thank them for their talent and the time spent on this attractive and informative brochure which I hope to be printed in 2024.

It was decided to prepare a questionnaire for the congregation in order to gauge their main concerns relating to social justice and mission issues and agencies that work in these areas. George and Elise worked on this project, and the questionnaire was given to the congregation in June. The responses to the questionnaire have guided us as we determine which non-profits should be funded. The top three concerns were Homelessness and Sheltered housing, Food insecurity, and Prevention of gun violence.

The Special Offerings that the national church proposes are the One Great Hour of Sharing, the Peace and Global Witness, the Pentecost, and the Christmas Joy offering. New Mexicans for the Prevention of Gun Violence received \$1,000 from the 25% which our church keeps from the Peace and Global Witness collection. The Pentecost offering funds went to Reading Quest, a program working in the SFPS helping 400 children each week improve their reading skills. One Great Hour of Sharing supports three divisions of the national church so we do not keep any of those donations for our local church. The Christmas Joy offering will be collected in December.

Westminster Presbyterian's Matthew 25 fund helps Santa Feans with a variety of financial problems such as payment of rent, utility bills, car repairs, and other essentials. The maximum amount funded is \$500, and the recipient can only make one request per year. Donna Fleetwood, from First Presbyterian, serves on their board. We hope that individuals at First Presbyterian will consider making contributions to Westminster's Matthew 25 fund.

People in Mission is a fund that was set up many years ago to help with expenses for congregants taking mission trips or for people working in mission locations to visit and share with our congregation. Rev. Andrew Black and several young people from First requested money to help fund their trip to the border. Their request was granted.

In August, MSJ served a meal, paid for through the generous donation of an anonymous donor, at the Interfaith Shelter. Thanks to those of you who donated food or your time serving.

Instead of hosting the Alternative Christmas this year we decided to fund the table fees for Christmas arts and crafts fairs for two women's groups - Mujeres de Adelante and the Afghan women.

Over 75 Christmas bags for children in Juarez and El Paso shelters were filled by congregation members and taken to Las Placitas Presbyterian for transport to the border.

Bill Eklund is planning a trip to Sagua La Grande church in March with several members of the congregation.

We hosted Karla Koll, a co-mission worker in Costa Rica, in cooperation with Westminster Dec. 13th with a soup supper.

The Anti-racism group, Creation Care, and the Cuba fund for Sagua la Grande are also part of Mission and Social Justice. We are pleased to have Bill educating us about their needs, and planning mission trips to Sagua la Grande. Those in the Anti-racism group have been very active this past year. See both of these individual reports following the MSJ report. We enjoyed the flowers on the rooftop planted by the Creation Care group, and thank the planters.

Judy Crawford, Chair

# 2023 MISSION AND SOCIAL JUSTICE GRANT RECIPIENTS

Homeless & Sheltered Housing:			
Chaplain Joe's Street Outreach	1,000.00		
Interfaith Community Shelter	4,000.00		
Reimbursement Crawford	152.96		
Reimbursement Schauer	49.85	<b>Education for Children and Adults:</b>	
Matthew 25 Fund	2,500.00	Menaul School	500.00
St. Elizabeth Shelters	2,000.00	Reading Quest	1,037.20
The Salvation Army	1,000.00	YouthWorks	1,000.00
Youth Shelters	2,000.00		
		International Mission:	
Hunger & Food Insecurity:		PDA/Turkey & Syria	
Bienvenidos Outreach Inc.	2,000.00	Earthquake Assistance	2,000.00
Kitchen Angels	1,000.00	Tomorrow's Women	2,000.00
The Food Depot	3,000.00	Village Health Partnership	2,000.00
Gun Violence:		<b>Native American Issues:</b>	
NM to Prevent Gun Violence	3,499.50	Native American Advised Fund	
		(SF Comm. Foundation)	2,000.00
Immigration & Border Issues:		Naomi House	2,000.00
Anuar Peraza	1,000.00		
BorderLinks	1,000.00	Drug & Alcohol Abuse	
Frontera de Cristo	2,000.00	<b>Education &amp; Prevention:</b>	
Las Placitas/Dignity Mission	2,000.00	The Life Link	1,000.00
Tres Rios Border Foundation	2,000.00		
		Advocacy:	
Climate & the Environment:		Lutheran Advocacy Ministry	1,000.00
Reunity Resources	1,000.00		
<b>Domestic Abuse &amp; Family Issues:</b>		TOTAL GRANTS approved	52,239.51
Esperanza Shelter	1,500.00	(as of Nov 30, 2023)	
Gerard's House	500.00		
		Funds were disbursed from:	
Health Care:		Mission and Social Justice Operating	
Medical Debt Relief (Presbytery of SF)	500.00	Jameson Benevolent Ministries Fund	
NM Religious Coalition for		Great Heritage Bold Future Mission	Fund
Reproductive Choice	2,000.00	General Mission Fund	
The Sky Center/NM Suicide			
Intervention Project	2,000.00		

#### OUR SAGUA LA GRANDE PARTNERSHIP

In 2023 we had to cancel our planned fall trip to visit our sister church in Sagua La Grande, Cuba.

JetBlue Airlines terminated their service to the nearby Santa Clara airport in mid-2023, leaving American Airlines as the only US airline serving that airport. As a result, demand for American Airlines flights to Sagua La Grande soared, making it impossible to obtain reasonable flights from Albuquerque to Santa Clara. (It is still relatively easy to fly to Havana, but the bus trip from Havana to Sagua La Grande is an all-day drive, and with the unpredictable fuel shortages and power outages in Cuba, this can easily add several days to the duration of the trip.)

But the SLG church continues on. With our support, their 2023 projects included:

- Repainting the interior of their sanctuary;
- Re-stuccoing the exterior surface of the church;
- Building a new relocated kitchen and an adjacent dining area that opens to the exterior sidewalk, but which is otherwise closed to the other interior spaces. This permits regular meals to be securely served to the poor in the neighborhood, by the one or two volunteers who typically prepare the meals, without opening up the other rooms of the church.

In addition to their Sunday services, regular activities include:

- Wednesday Mornings for Seniors, which includes social activities, Bible study, music, and a hot meal;
- Saturday Mornings for Kids, which draws almost all the kids within walking distance and which offers a variety of activities ranging from crafts to ballet lessons;
- The Sewing Circle, which is making good use of the two sewing machines we donated to them last year, along with a generous supply of various sewing and knitting paraphernalia;
- Outreach visits to the elderly and others who cannot travel to the church.

The church maintains regular communications with us via WhatsApp, sending photos and videos of their activities and praying for us each Sunday morning.

Our next trip is planned for February 29 through March 4 of 2024. Our applications for the necessary religious visas are presently being processed. Among other things, we intend to renew our 5-year partnership agreement with the SLG Church. Our call for donations of needed items will be issued in early 2024.

Thanks for your support of this wonderful mission.

Bill Eklund, for the M&SJ Committee

#### **EARTHKEEPERS 360**

In 2023, EarthKeepers 360 helped lay the foundation for First Presbyterian Church of Santa Fe to become a Climate Smart congregation and become a leading example of what it means to be good stewards of God's creation. Our efforts can be broken down into three main categories; reducing waste, lowering our carbon footprint, and providing educational resources.

Last Spring, First Presbyterian Church of Santa Fe has partnered with EarthKeepers 360 and Reunity Resources to compost food, coffee, cups and paper products. EPA estimates that each year, U.S. food loss and waste embodies 170 million metric tons of carbon dioxide—equal to the annual CO2 emissions of 42 coal-fired power plants. This estimate does not include the significant methane emissions from food waste rotting in landfills. EPA data show that food waste is the single most common material landfilled and incinerated in the U.S., comprising 24 and 22 percent of landfilled and combusted municipal solid waste, respectively. Better yet we will use the compost in our roof top gardens so we are not only reducing Carbon, but removing it from the atmosphere.

Did you know First Presbyterian now recycles old tennis shoes, children's clothing, and food pouches? Through Earth Keepers 360 we now have a bin in the basement by the elevator to recycle items that are traditionally difficult to recycle. When you throw these items into the garbage, they end up in a landfill. As they slowly decompose, chemicals leak into the soil and can eventually contaminate drinking water. This process has a significant impact on humans and wildlife.

Recycling these everyday items prevents this process, thereby protecting the environment! Recycled sneakers are broken down into parts and repurposed. Sneakers contain several different materials, including rubber, fabric, foam and leather. These materials can be salvaged and used to create and resurface playgrounds and courts used for playing sports. Additionally, they can be repurposed into new shoes, insulation and carpet padding just to name a few! This year with the help of our community, we recycled 100 pairs of shoes, 40 pounds of children clothing, and 25 pounds of food pouches.

With the help of New Mexico Interfaith Power and Light, we were able to perform a very thorough Energy Audit for the church. After three months of analyzing the church building and energy bills, we have created an extensive report full of constructive steps to reduce our energy consumption and lower our utility bills.

We began to tackle the easy and low or no cost tasks including; Training staff to manage and regulate the Heating & Cooling system and regulate the thermostats We installed UV/Heat Reducing tint on south and west facing windows on the first and third floor. We hope the CDC will follow suit and tint their south facing windows, helping regulate the temperature in the classrooms in the new year. With the help of Rob Lochner from Habitat of Humanity and Marie Gonzales, we began replacing fluorescent lights with energy efficient LED lights and installed light motion sensors in several bathrooms, closets and pantry.

We look forward to addressing additional Energy Audit suggestions in 2024, including utilizing energy efficiency programs offered by PNM and continuing the discussion on going solar. The cost savings alone for these measures can and will be significant and can be used support other missions and ministries of the church.

During Men's Breakfast, Rev. Andrew Black spoke on Advocating to Protect Sacred Landscapes and why it's important for people of faith to work together to protect public lands that are home to wildlife, historical artifacts and sacred Indigenous sites.

A powerhouse of people came to our church to protect the Caja del Rio. We hosted Senator Heinrich's staff, State Land Commissioner Stephanie Garcia Richard, State Rep. Linda Serrato, Mayor Webber, County Commissioners Hansen & Bustamante, City Councilwomen Romero-Wirth & Villarreal, Former City Councilor Dominguez, Business Owners, and Hispano Community Leaders. It was an awesome and transformative day!

We also hosted a Caja del Rio community listening session. Where community members learned what the Caja del Rio Coalition is doing to protect the Caja, and raised important issues for family and community, and how to be in relationship with one another.

This summer we had an awesome Adult Education Earth Summer Series with a vast array of topics and presenters including; Composting with Reunity Resources, Water & Santa Fe's Development with Alan Hook, Environmental Justice & American Politics with Professor Tony Arnold, Being a Climate Smart Congregation with Rev. Andrew Black and Rob Lochner, Sustainable Living at Home with Jen Milnes, Going Solar with Positive Energy, and Early Childhood Healthy Outdoors Program with the National Wildlife Federation.

We concluded our Earth Summer Series with a community-focused Earth Fair showcasing the works of our local master gardeners, solar companies, green affordable home builders, native plant experts and the environmental advocacy organizations. We also had a viewing of the Caja del Rio Filmfest films and had a book signing by the visionary author Larry Rasmussen, the country's premier eco-theologian.

Finally, First Presbyterian Church of Santa Fe has been recognized for its amazing natural landscaping and conservation efforts with EarthKeepers 360 that promotes healthy wildlife habitat and benefiting our community and future generations. The National Wildlife Federation's Sacred Grounds program recognizes congregations, houses of worship, and faith communities who both create wildlife habitat and actively link faith practices and caring for the environment. As a recognized site, our church acts as a model for responsible stewardship of God's creation. Thanks to Marie, Mike, Suzanne and Bob Davis, Owen Van Essen, Bill Ecklund and the Crawfords for all their great work with our facilities.

Jen Black

# **O**UTREACH

The Outreach Committee members – Betty Jones, Chair, Alice Tinkle, Julia Hudson, and new member Wally Bettes. Support provided by Betty Kersting, Beth Bruner, and Delicia Nakazono.

During 2023, Outreach interacted with prospective new members and organized a New Member Gathering in October, held at Judi Haines' home.

In 2023, Session received 14 new members.

Betty Jones, Outreach Chair

# WISDOM CIRCLE

# **ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Members in 2023: Gale Wright, Allen Gulledge, Dick Lindahl, CC Wright, and new member Kirsten Trusko. Adult Education presentations are each Sunday from 9:45-10:45 a.m., and occasionally at 8:30a.m. on the first Sunday of the month when we have a combined Church service at 10:00.

Our theme for several years has been ACTS II – we strive to become the new apostles in our thinking and our actions and deeds. In 2023, we were striving to grow the beloved community, and focused on the 'radical Christian alternative,' learning more about Jesus and what he would want us to do. Some of our presentations in 2023 were the following:

- A series in January on the Feminine Divine and reimagining the Divine.
- We presented a series on racial justice, and "bending the arc."
- Another series examined the issues relating to food insecurity, poverty, and homelessness. What is the PCUSA doing to address poverty?
- We examined the issue of marginalized persons, including persons with disabilities; the LGBTQ population; victims of domestic violence; and the many problems with the foster care system. Various speakers included David Solem, Ed Williams, and Nat Dean.
- We had a series in May on Christian Nationalism.
- Our Earth Summer program had various speakers discussing environmental justice, sustainable living, going solar, being a climate-smart church, water issues, composting, and an environmental fair. Andrew and Jen Black coordinated this Earth Summer program. Some of the speakers were Alan Hook, Jen Milnes, Rob Lochner, Prof. Tony Arnold, and others.
- In the Fall, we focused on Jesus and the Beloved Community, and heard about the YAV (Young Adult Volunteer) program from Drew Hill.
- In October, Dr. Semisha McEachern discussed the characteristics of white supremacy culture. Do we see these around or in our church?
- In early November, Nate Ledbetter from El Paso discussed the Presbyterian Church's work on the border. Also in November, Dr. Patrick Reyes shared his story of how the community around him saved him from gang life. Dr. Reyes authored a book entitled "The Purpose Gap" explaining this.
- Pastor Harry presented an overview of Spiritual Formation.
- Tarrie Burnett from Tomorrow's Women spoke about how they train young women from Palestine, Israel, and the United States to be strong, compassionate leaders who partner to resolve conflicts.
- Andrew Black and others made a presentation on their visit to the El Paso border area and what our Church's response could be.

This concluded the year 2023, and we always tried to educate and inform ourselves, and then ACT as new apostles in our Church, Santa Fe, and the world.

Dick Lindahl

# **FAMILY MINISTRY**

2023 was a year of action, service and community building. We kicked the year off with our annual parent/grandparent group meeting to discuss how they can be involved, have fun and build authentic community.

During the spring we had a few family focused Faith Builds with Habitat for Humanity. This was a great way to actively engage in social Justice, give back to our community and connect with other faith communities. This year we celebrated Easter with our Morning Song service and the baptism of Hugh Howard in federal park! It was an awesome day and amazing to see all our families and community members remembering their baptism and commitment to care for our children. Our amazing deacons spent the afternoon stuffing nearly 500 Easter eggs in anticipation of hiding them in the Federal Park for the return of our annual Easter Egg hunt. Led by Mary Norris, the deacons warmly welcomed dozens of families, tots and teenagers to enjoy a beautiful and brisk morning hunting eggs and enjoying treats.

Mother's Day was marked with rest and relaxation. In addition to roses and a blessing for all mothers and grandmothers, we treated our mothers and motherly members to a massage. These short shoulder massages offered by renowned masseuse was our way to celebrate and show our love and gratitude for the countless sacrifices, selfless acts of kindness, and unwavering support that the mothers in our congregation provide for their families and our community. In late May, we honored our graduating seniors and welcomed the summer with our annual spring ice cream social. Many thanks to our amazing deacons for hosting the social. All children, young and old had a great time celebrating and supporting our children and youth in all of their accomplishments! The New Mexican published an article highlighting our church during this time and focused on our families.

Each Friday a great group of volunteers from our church prepare meals and serve those in need at the Interfaith Shelter. This summer Reverend Black brought some youth to join this group and learn about the invaluable services the shelter provides and the various challenges facing Santa Fe's homeless population.

In collaboration with Las Placitas Presbyterian Church and the Dignity Mission Outreach, our youth collected hundreds of toys, stuffed animals and toiletries for migrant kids and families on the border. During our Juneteenth service in Federal Park, our youth helped assemble the children dignity kits. Each of the children dignity kits included; snacks stuffed animals, personal hygiene supplies, coloring books, crayons and toys. In total, we created 80 children dignity kits, 50 adult dignity kits, 100 pounds of rice, 100 pounds of beans and 200 granola bars. Our dignity kits and supplies were taken to El Paso by Jack and Cheryl Ferrell from Las Placitas Presbyterian Church on June 24th and distributed to the various shelters in El Paso and the 20 shelters in Juarez, Mexico. Many thanks to leadership of Judy Crawford of Mission and Social Justice, and we are grateful for the generous donations from our congregation that helped make a difference to God's children. Our church remains committed to continuing work with La Placitas Presbyterian as well as getting more of our youth more involved in this important mission.

Our Summer Sunday School lessons paralleled our Earth Summer Series where our youth explored the amazing planet and how to be good stewards of God's creation. Each Sunday during the summer, our children explored the creation stories of Genesis through various activities including; art, music, cooking, drama, science and technolgy.

We ushered in the fall with a warm night of stories, as our awesome youth group met and listened to the legendary story teller Joe Hayes at Reunity Resources. From Snakes who chew bubble gum to Little Corn Girl, Joe weaved tales of the American Southwest that gave joy, delight and wisdom to all ages. In August, we had a special back to school blessing for our children and youth during the Morning Song service. Afterwards, we scooped up some fun and fellowship while celebrating the start of a new school year with our Back to School Sunday Sundaes. This ice cream social was a big hit for students and non-students alike.

This year's Young Adult Sunday Service had Rachel as the liturgist along with a message from Drew, former Presbyterian Young Adult Volunteer.

In October, a group of young adults from First Presbyterian Church of Santa Fe traveled to the U.S./ Mexico border in El Paso to work with families and children along the border. They brought thousands of pounds of food, clothes, and medicine to donate. They found themselves on the frontlines of one the biggest human rights crises facing our world today. U.S. Border Patrol migrant encounters along the southwestern border during this past fiscal year eclipsed two million and El Paso's migration is up 50.4% compared to last year (2022). Millions of God's children find themselves in dire need of food, shelter, clothing, health care and safety. Wildlife ranging from black bear to jaguar are struggling with migration challenges posed by the border wall. Leaders like Dr. Eva Moya, Pastor John Nelson, John Martin, Father Peter, Congressman Gabe Vasquez, Artist Hal Marcus, Nate Ledbetter and all those from Abara, the Opportunity Welcome Center, St. Francis Xavier, Sagrado Corazon and Kelly Center are making a major difference in our world. We are grateful to all our partners and especially to our Mission and Social Justice Committee who made this trip possible!

As the young adults expressed love at the border, our children explored the mantra of Love God, Love Others. Our children spent a day practicing the wisdom of God's commandment: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Our children worked alongside our Deacons to show love and compassion to those in need as they created brown bag lunches for the homeless. As the leaves began to fall, we joined together show gratitude for one of New Mexico's most beautiful landscapes and participated in our family hike and fall clean-up on the Caja del Rio.

Ron Ball truly loved our children. This year, Mary Norris and the deacons helped create a joyful holiday celebration and remembrance of Ron Ball. Children young and made gingerbread houses, enjoyed holiday treats and warm drinks with friends next to the Kiva, and fill the halls with Christmas carols. Of course, Ron's party wouldn't be complete without a Santa Claus or two!

In the middle of a snowstorm, an asylum-seeking Venezuelan family found themselves homeless on the

streets in Santa Fe. Luckily another immigrant family found them and brought them to the Lutheran Church of the Servant where they received money for a few nights at a hotel and medical care for their baby. The family reached out to us at First Presbyterian Church to care for Daniel, Ana and Hannah. We are doing our best to meet this family's needs (medical, legal, housing, transportation, employment). They are currently being housed in our church youth room and we have been able to help them with medical, dental and legal care over the past month.

In December we hosted a fundraiser to benefit Rayanne Toledo (Brophy's Daughter) and other native students who will participate in the Close Up program focused on getting Native Youth involved in civic engagement and democracy. The night began with a performance from the Grammy Winner and Taos Pueblo Flutist Robert Mirabal. We also warmly welcomed the Emmy Award winning Jemez Black Eagle dancers and world renowned magician Sasha Crespi. We concluded the night with a Jemez Pueblo traditional feast. Sharon Kirby delivered several carloads of gifts to youth and young families this year through the Angel Tree project. The voices of grateful moms, their children and other teens are united in saying "Thank you and Merry Christmas". The Angel Tree generosity remains amazing, touching hearts and changing lives. What a perfect way to celebrate the birth of Christ.

Helping light the way of Christ was the Morellos and Black families who helped make 200 farolitos to line the grounds of the church on Christmas Eve.

Jen Black, Director of Family Ministry

# WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE

Members: Malissa Haslam (Communion), Chris Haynes (At Large), Karin Lerew (Liturgical Arts), Allen Gulledge (Ushers), Tom Kingston (Chair and Liturgists). Staff: Linda Raney (Director of Music), Harry Eberts (Pastor).

After Alice Tinkle retired as head usher, Allen Gulledge graciously accepted the assignment. At the fall celebration of the various groups serving the church, we welcomed new liturgists to the rosters but continue to seek more volunteers for the various groups that make up the Worship and Music Committee: Communion (headed by Malissa Haslam and Judi Haines); Liturgical Arts (with leader Karin Lerew); Ushers (coordinated by Allen Gulledge); Liturgists (recruited by Tom Kingston). Chris Haynes is the At Large member of the committee and offers excellent counsel based upon his long-time involvement as a member and chorister. Of course, Linda Raney oversees all the music activities of the church from the highly successful TGIF series to the weekly Sunday and Wednesday services. She is ably assisted by David Beatty (associate musician), Travis Bregier (assistant choir director and director of the Bell Choir), and assistant organist David Solem.

Under Pastor Harry's leadership, the church has begun the monthly practice of a joint Communion service on the first Sunday. The 10:00 am joint service has been highly successful in bringing together the worshippers from both the early less formal Sunday service and the more traditional 11:00 service.

The combined service provides opportunities to include practices of both services and also invites children to participate actively before they join the youth gathering under directorship of Jen Black. The combined service also engages retired and associate clergy regularly to serve as co-celebrants for Communion. The 10:00 format also served well the unusual needs for the Sunday morning service on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

The Worship & Music Committee participated in the church-wide discussion of the possibility of removing the pews from the sanctuary and replacing them with chairs. Reasons to do so--pro and con--stimulated substantial engagement from members of the full congregation. Ultimately, the vast majority favored keeping the historic sanctuary as is with pews.

As always, the worship committee and the congregation are deeply indebted to Pastor Harry, Linda Raney, David Solem, Travis Berger, David Beatty, Delicia Nakazono, and Maria Gonzales for their work ensuring meaningful and creative worship. Thanks go to the members of the FPCSF choir for their continuing dedication to leading the 11:00 services in song. And special appreciation to the FPCSF Bell Choir for the wonderful contributions they've made this year.

We give thanks to all the volunteers who support the services of worship and music at FPCSF with their time and treasure.

Thomas S. Kingston, Chair

# LITURGICAL ARTS

Liturgical Art "is a meaningful way to intertwine the language of the people and the language of faith. Liturgical art is art used in worship. It is art as liturgy".

Liturgical Arts is often misunderstood. People generally think this ministry is for artists only. NOT TRUE! There are many roles to play but the most important role is participation in the expression of our faith. Our goal is to adorn the church in a way that enhances worship for others.

During 2023 we re-worked the gold and while Easter banners so that they would fit; we created special banners, streamers and many crepe paper flowers for FPC's own version of Fiesta Sunday to celebrate Hispanic culture; and we collected and displayed appropriate artifacts to acknowledge Indigenous People's month. In December we borrowed creché from the congregation and created a display in the lobby cases.

Many of us on Liturgical Arts come from different faith backgrounds so learning about liturgical colors and symbols as well as liturgical seasons has been and continues to be a great experience. It is a refreshing approach to the seasons of faith. We know what Advent means - but what about Ordinary time?

We are a fun group of people who genuinely care about each other and our how faith is expressed. Members: Malissa Haslam, Barbara Hutchison, Mary Norris, Judi Haines.

Karin Lerew, Chair

# **CIRCLE OF FRIENDS**

Circle of Friends (COF) is an open, inviting gathering of women, new or old to the church and community, who seek spiritual growth and a deeper connection with other women. COF was founded in 2012, originally as a means to introduce new women, or women feeling disconnected, to other women in the church. In the following years a book study was added to the gatherings. Pre-pandemic we were meeting in each other's homes every second Saturday of the month 10am-noon-ish, and now have been meeting via Zoom 10-11:15 every second Saturday. We begin with prayer, a "check-in" with each person present, a moment of silence to gather all expressed, then move to a discussion around our book, which can journey far and wide. We end with an uplifting prayer or poem. Our most recent books: Almost Everything: Notes on Hope (Anne Lamott), Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life (Richard Rohr), I Told the Mountain to Move: Learning to pray so things change (Patricia Raybon) and in January we begin All About Love: New Visions (bell hooks). Gatherings are meaningful, lively, contemplative, informative, and confidential. For more information, or to be put on our mailing list, Jenny Harland, on behalf of the COF women, would be happy to hear from you at harlandjn@gmail.com

Jenny Harland

# A FIRESIDE CHAT WITH THE MYSTICS

After finishing a series of online mystics studies, the last of which was Julian of Norwich, Jan Charter and Jeannie Bowman ended the formal Fireside Chat with the Mystics. Online mystics studied included: January, Thomas Merton; February, Cloud of Unknowing; March, Brother Lawrence; March, Howard Thurman. Upon concluding the class, Jan and Jeannie continued to offer an e-mail study of a "Monthly Mystic" through the end of the year. Seventeen persons indicated interest in receiving the e-mails. What a joy to know that so many of our congregation and extended friends wish to continue their interest in studying those who have influenced our faith and practices over these past eight years.

Jeannie Bowman

# JOURNALING AS A SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

This class began in Pope Hall and the Sanctuary in the summer of 2017 with only six participants. Now eleven strong, the group continues to meet in homes of its members on the first Friday of each month at noon. We completed Mark Matousek's book Writing to Awaken, using the very in-depth writing

prompts to examine our inner spiritual lives, in March, and in April, began a new study: Julia Cameron's Finding Water: The Art of Perseverence. Using the format of Morning Pages, Artist Dates, and walking as a part of our daily spiritual practice, we come together monthly to discuss those practices, as well as to write together, share our words and experiences, and to share in our spiritual growth. For those interested in being a part of this journaling experience, please contact Jeannie Bowman, Jeannie.bowman17@gmail.com for information about where the next meeting will take place. No experience in journaling is necessary – we are always learning as we progress in this journey called life.

Jeannie Bowman

# **RELIGION AND SCIENCE**

The Religion and Science group, regularly advertised in the church news notes and worship bulletins, meets on the first and third Mondays of each month, often including Monday holidays, and with this January, 2024, one time exception to meet on the second and fourth Mondays. We started meeting by zoom with the COVID pandemic and have continued to do so, welcoming anyone who's expressed some interest in the group. We are self-identified as scientists and religionists; some of us are even Presbyterians. We continue the practice started 20 or so years ago, of reading articles or books chosen by the group, and then discussing a variety of topics as participants comment with information, opinions, questions, and sometimes confessions! We think of ourselves as always welcoming; join in! Contact Bill Eklund of this congregation to be added to the e-mailing list!

Bill Humphreys

# JUBILEE CIRCLE

# SPANISH BIBLE STUDY

The Spanish Bible Study class is for all levels of Spanish learners. We use the Presbyterian Women's annual study book, translated into Spanish. This is an excellent resource that provides thought-provoking ideas and questions. This years study was "Celebremos el Sabbat!" (Celebrating Sabbath).

We continue to meet as a hybrid class on Zoom and in person at the church on first and third Saturdays at 9:00 am. Church member, Margarita Lopez, leads us in lively discussions and the reading of the study book. We always welcome new members. This group is for men and women from beginners to fluent Spanish speakers. If you have questions, call Judy Crawford at 505-660-2629, or Alice Tinkle at 505-986-1741.

Alice Tinkle

# **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

Early in 2023, a group of staff members and volunteers gathered for three meetings to go over the church's communications efforts and make suggestions for improvements. One outcome from this meeting was to redesign our electronic newsletter to make it more inviting and easier to navigate. The new design was launched at the beginning of December. In addition to this, several people worked on ways to use blog posts to keep key pages current. Other activities included publishing weekly and special ads in the Santa Fe New Mexican, continuing social media posts, and publishing videos of our worship services, adult education classes, and other special presentations.

Gale Wright

# **HISTORY COMMITTEE AND ARCHIVES**

The purpose of First Presbyterian History Committee is to organize and archive the official records of this church as well as anything of historical significance; and to educate the congregation about the church's history.

The members of this committee are: Betty Kersting, Leslie Miller, Esther Milnes, and Carolyn Minton. One of our duties is to present topics of historical significance in one of the lobby display cases. This year we displayed information about some of the named rooms in our church. William Hayes Moore, who was a pastor of this church from 1897-1904, had the 3rd floor Conference Room named after him. There were pictures of the red brick church and the manse. In addition to his wife, Ada, he had

daughters Etta, Ruth and Mary. Raymond Kersting was the grandson of W. Hayes Moore. The Rendon Room was highlighted because of Rev. Gambino Rendon. Rev. Rendon, pastor of the Spanish Presbyterian church in Santa Fe, stepped in to be moderator of the Session and preside at meetings in the early years of our church. Another display was of all of the crosses in our church and the location of each. Underneath these displays we have had pottery sherds in baskets. These sherds were excavated during various additions to the church. They give us knowledge that Native Americans were at this location before us.

We are digitizing documents in the Archives Room. This will be an ongoing project for years. The paper has been degrading over the years, and we need to retain their information. The hard copies are taking up a lot of room. We are using archival folders and notebooks to keep some of the hard copies for a longer period of time. We invite anyone in the congregation to call any of our members if you would like to see our work space and contents.

We are also in charge of arts and artifacts of the church. We have photos of furniture, communion tables, chancel chairs, etc digitized, and a note about its placement in our church as well as the provenance. If you are interested in our work and would like to join us, please let one of us know.

Carolyn Minton, Chair

# PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry has shared over 645 shawls since starting in 2008. Many hands have crocheted and knitted preparing the shawls for members and friends of our congregation who have gone through events in their lives causing times of deep pain and other times of joy.

We are thankful for all those who create the shawls whether they be home in Santa Fe or on their travels worldwide. The women continue to create the shawls to share. There are 13 who knit/crochet. Those in town meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesday mornings at 10:00.

Our gatherings on Tuesdays have become a support group of women who share the knitting/crocheting and their own life experiences with one another. We as individuals go through difficulties and we are aware there is a group of women who pray with deep concern and love for us as well as members of the congregation.

This past year the yarn for the shawls was purchased by members themselves, and gifts from others. The church budget makes available \$200 if we need it.

Betty Kersting, Coordinator

# PREPARED BY MEN BREAKFAST

We started up the PMB program, post COVID, where we could again serve breakfast with the following programs listed below. Our general mission is to provide fellowship, communication, to build community and provide a venue for the men of the church to develop their culinary skills and serve others hungry for knowing about what is going on in the church and community. The program is intended also for women to attend as is emphasized by the name Prepared by Men's Breakfast. We meet every second Saturday of the Month at 8:00 AM in Pope Hall September to May. We are looking for program suggestions and additional volunteers. These are the 2023 programs:

"What Does It Mean to be a Just City presented by Mayor Alan Weber.
 March 11 "The Mission of Reading Quest presented by Rayna Dineen of RQ
 April 8 "Vamanos Walking and Hiking Program presented by Tim Rogers
 May 13 "Advocating to Protect Sacred Landscapes presented by Rev. Andrew Black
 September 9 "Wonders of the Webb Telescope: opening our eyes to new worlds, new science and new age of the Universe" presented by Ed Barker
 October 14 "The Art of Traditional Chinese Medicine" presented by Katy Whitcomb

November 11 "Building Together for a Better Future" presented by Rob Lochner, Habitat for Humanity

December 9 "Susan's Christmas Shop" presented by Susan Weber

Wally Bettes joined the team for recruiting speakers; he led the April and December programs. The kitchen crew was headed by John Whitcomb as it has been for over 40 years; he does the breakfast procurement surprises, hails the crew, and keeps the books. Much thanks also to the other crew: John Vanderhagen, Ed Barker, Gayle Lomax, Alan Hook and others.

Jim Elliott, Co-Chair of PMB program committee

#### SECOND FAMILY MINISTRY

Since 2017 the Second Family has ministered to the needs of six single and /or couple members (Care Partners) of our congregation. At the time the ministry was formed some of the members in the congregation had concern for those within the congregation who were living alone and finding life's demands challenging but had no relatives in Santa Fe to assist.

In these 7 years many changes have come for the Care Partners as well as the more than 40 members of the congregation who became involved in this ministry.

During this time our Care Partners have gone through totally independent living to now having care in their homes. This has changed what the ministry does. Rather than helping with the many activities like grocery shopping and errands the ministry this year is one of visiting, being a friend, talking with the care givers and family members who do not live in Santa Fe.

We are so grateful to those members of the Family Ministry who over the last 7 year have retained the commitment and love extended to the Care Partners.

During this year in our congregation the need for new Care Partners has not arisen. If a need arises the hope is we as a congregation can respond.

Betty Kersting, Coordinator

# FOOD, FUN, AND FELLOWSHIP

Our small group grew substantially over the past year, as have our activities.

Members: Sharon Marrs, Leisl Gonzales, Diane Buchanan, Kathy Harris, Jeannie Bowman, Janis Gonzales and Melissa Mitchell, Marie Gonzales and Delicia Nakazono. Karin Lerew and Judi Haines Co-chairs.

In 2023 we took charge of the First Sunday lunches – and have had a great deal of fun planning, preparing, and serving these meals. Even the cleaning up – though we hire Karin and Hector to manage the kitchen. We planned and participated in the catering a lunch for a meeting of the Presbytery of Santa Fe in February; we developed a special menu and prepared the lunch for Indigenous People's Day. We continue to "theme" the First Sunday Lunches and greatly appreciate the congregation's participation in these potluck's. All Saints Sunday's theme was Remembrance.

Karin Lerew & Judi Haines – Co-Chairs

# STEWARDSHIP CIRCLE

#### PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Members: Joy Ice; Gary Schneider; Anne Liley; Tom Tindall; Rev. Harry Eberts (Ex Officio) 2023 was a year of transition for the Personnel Committee with two new members, Joy and Gary, joining the committee.

We met infrequently primarily to discuss, consider and resolve the few staff issues which arose during the year. All annual staff reviews were completed for 2023.

The one issue that required considerable effort on the part of some committee members and permanent Church staff was the revision of our Church's Human Resources Manual. In the past, the manual had under gone a bi-annual review with minor editing. This year we discovered it required a much more thorough review and revision to ensure that it is compliant with New Mexico State law and to provide clearer guidance to church employees concerning the law and Church policies. In addition to the work by the committee and Church staff, we hired the services of an outside expert in human resources to help with the revision. The manual is in its final review stages. We hope to brief employees and publish the manual early in 2024.

Tom Tindall

## **OFFICE COMMITTEE**

The office was kept quite busy in 2023, as one of our primary responsibilities is managing the church calendar. Booking events, meetings and numerous other activities that take place within these walls.

Some highlights: Movie Nights, Vax Clinics, Ukulele Group rehearsals. We have rented space to musical groups – Santa Fe Women's Ensemble, ProMusica and Zia Singers. The Governer's Mansion Foundation Board held a meeting here, as did NARFE (National Association of Retired Federal Employees). C.G. Jung Institute conducts training seminars the second weekend of each month – September through May. Chamber Music Festival uses Pope C for their rehearsals during July and August. We do not charge a fee for ad hoc board meetings, or for member sponsored use. We do charge fees for concerts and seminars conducted by third parties. And weddings. In 2023, revenue was just shy of \$12,000.

The office is responsible for publishing: Bulletins, special program, eNews, Faith Directory ads and other promotional activities; and for many other administrative tasks such as paying bills, opening the mail and answering the phone.

We owe thanks not only to David and Delicia, but to Marie, Anne, and Mike who support the office in

facilities use. And our faithful Front Desk Volunteers. Judy Montaño, Jim Babcock, Anne Maglisceau, Beth Bruner, Wally Bettes, Kathy Harris, Sharon Marrs.

Judi Haines, Chair

# **FACILITIES**

The Facilities Committee oversaw the routine maintenance of our major pieces of equipment, including our boiler, chiller, cooling tower, the 35 fan coil units located throughout the building, along with other pieces of equipment such as our tankless water heaters, garage door, and elevator.

The fan coil unit (FCU) serving the third-floor lobby failed and was found to have a broken motor mount and a damaged motor. It was repaired and the motor was replaced.

Installation of a new water fountain in the hall outside the kitchen was completed. It includes a dedicated water dispenser to fill water bottles, partly to reduce consumption of paper cups.

An evaluation and proposal from Positive Energy Solar of Santa Fe was entertained and a site visit proved very useful. Further consideration was postponed until 2024 due to necessary roofing repairs and an engineering evaluation of our 85-year old sanctuary roof. One concern is the estimated 30-50 tons of sand that were installed in the roof of the sanctuary during installation of our organ in 2006 as an acoustic damper, and which are borne by transverse beams that are of original 1939 construction. All the exterior ends of the transvers beams are known to have been capped at their exterior, exposed ends due to deterioration caused by weather and dry rot. It is only the sanctuary roof that has this potential weight-bearing problem.

Discussions with Power & Light energy auditors were completed. Power & Light completed an energy audit of the church, focusing on completing the transition to LED lighting, and proper adjustment of our HVAC temperature ranges. Motion sensing light switches were installed on a number of older light switches as an energy saving measure.

We struggled with an intermittent failure of our chiller, which the most expensive piece of equipment in the church. The problem was a failed transducer, which had been causing the chiller to occasionally shut down without notice. The transducer and other aging parts were replaced.

We also struggled with a nagging intermittent leak in the major HVAC hot water supply pipe, leading from the garage up into the 3 floors of the building, from where hot water is distributed to spaces throughout the building. A section of pipewas removed and replaced, and eventually the pipe was rewrapped with insulation to prevent corrosion caused by condensation of warm interior air.

Bill Bruner led a small group review of active shooter safety measures in the building. Openable windows in the west stairwell, which lead into the CDC, were sealed. New policies on the locking of the

wooden doors at the south end of the sanctuary, 10 minutes after services begin, were adopted.

A used water boiler pump that was in storage was refurbished and placed adjacent to the two existing water pumps that circulate hot water from the boiler throughout the building, as a spare pump in case of failure. The two pumps normally alternate in service to back each other up. Both are activated only when the call for heat is very high in particularly cold weather.

Two stair railings were designed and are awaiting fabrication and installation by Delgado Iron Works. They will be installed just inside the pulpit and the liturgist lectern, on the 3 steps leading up to the chancel in the sanctuary. These are being installed due to at least one fall and several near misses in the past year. While 3 steps may not seem to be particularly dangerous, they are the only way get to the chancel, and our church attendees and choir include a substantial elderly component. A safety tip - be extra careful when walking diagonally down stairs, especially where there is no railing.

We hosted work days in our landscaping in both the spring and fall. The extensive landscape plantings installed 2022 are maturing and become less water-need.

Two construction projects were initiated on the third floor:

- 1. The former Business Office and adjacent Break Room were emptied of all furnishings and cabinets, then rewired and painted, and the wall between them will eventually be removed to create a single large Youth room. Work has been completed except for the removal of the wall between the two rooms, which has been held up by our housing of our Venezuelan family in the former Business Office for an indefinite duration.
- 2. The former third floor conference room and the adjacent former Youth room have been remodeled to house the new Infant Care Center. The wall between the two former rooms has been removed, and new carpeting and flooring and plumbing has been installed. Final inspection and completion is due soon.

As we enter 2024, we are more than half-way through the combined NFSP and GHBF campaigns (National Fund for Sacred Places and Great Heritage Bold Future), which were conducted over the 2017-2019 period. Those campaigns followed our retention of local A/E firm AOS to prepare a Condition Assessment and Facility Management Plan that identified all of major facility Repair, Refurbishment and Replacement (RR&R) projects, along with their predicted costs, which should be expected to be necessary during the 30-year period dating from the 2018 report. The report has become the foundation for our planning and execution of the major facility RR&R tasks that can be expected to be necessary during that period. It includes estimated costs, taking into account expected inflation rates and average lifetimes of the various facility components (e.g., roofing, stucco, exterior woodwork, HVAC components, flooring, and many other components of our facility). This will be a major refurbishment of over \$500,000, but will hopefully take us through the completion of our 10-year RR&R plan.

Bill Eklund and Bill Bergner, Co-Chairs

# STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

2023 welcomed two new Stewardship Team members, Kira Randolph Howard and Jack Lippincott, while Bill Eklund, Roger Said and Harry Eberts continued to serve. We said goodbye to the long-term and much valued leadership Chairs of Diane Buchanan and Rick Andrew, supported by Margaret and Barry Lyerly and Keith Kirby. Thank you for all your service!

October was a very successful Stewardship month culminating with Pledge Sunday, October 29th. A sincere "thank you" to this generous congregation for meeting our 2024 goal of \$450,000! This exceeded the previous year's pledge commitment.

Your valued financial and volunteer contributions will launch the many important missions of First Presbyterian Church in 2024.

Growing the Beloved Community, Roger Said, Chair

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee members for 2023 included these continuing members: Gale Wright (treasurer), Bill Eklund, Judi Haines, Dick Lindahl, Margaret Lyerly, and Dennis Sanderson (chair). As in the recent past, our committee met regularly by Zoom during 2023 and often during the budgeting cycle, starting in August and ending in January. We provided financial results and analysis to Session with emphasis on the quarterly cycle.

On behalf of the church, I would like to thank Maria Romero, the offering counters, the financial reviewers, the Finance Committee, and the Investment Committee for their dedication.

Dennis Sanderson, Chair

#### **OFFERING COUNTERS**

Many thanks to the dedicated team who count and deposit the plate offering every Sunday. This year the Church was served by: Mary Ann Amos, Wally Bettes, Sharon Eklund, Mary Gulledge, Jack Lippincott, Leslie Miller, Gary Murphy, George Parr, Debra Sanderson, Tom Tindall and Alice Tinkle.

Margaret Lyerly and Betty Jones, Co-Chairs

#### **INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

The investment portfolio held at Fidelity began 2023 with \$2,301K and ended the year with a balance of

\$2,538K. This was a gain of \$237K or 10%, a very good one given our allocation shown below:

2022	Asset Class	2023
30%	US Equity	36%
4%	Foreign Equity	6%
28%	Fixed Income	31%
37%	Short Term	26%
1%	Other (Gold)	1%

Excluding short term/money funds plus maturing CD's or bonds, equities represent 57% of the actual investments. The committee expects its equity percentage to vary over time between 50% and 65%. A continuing goal from 2022 was to reduce our short term holdings which we did by 11 percentage points. This was accomplished by investing in two more Treasury Notes, \$100K each, and by adding 75K to our existing, mostly stock, position in First Eagle Global Fund. Proceeds from a \$50K CD maturity was added to our core equity holding, Fidelity Total Index Fund. Three of these steps were taken during the second half of the year. Counting dividend yield the S&P Index produced a total return of 26%. Not surprisingly our core equity holding mentioned above produced our best return, up 26% itself.

The bond market proxy, 5 year Treasury Note, finished 2022 with a 3.99% yield and 2023 yielding 3.78%. This condition enabled our bond funds to post nice total returns between 5.1% and 7.2%.

Unlike the forecasts of most economists and market analysts, the U.S. continued in a robust economy, free of recession during 2023, a condition which now these experts expect to continue albeit with a lower growth rate than that in 2023. As Treasury Secretary, Janet Yellen, stated on January 10, "the typical middle class American family has more wealth, higher earnings and more purchasing power than before the pandemic." I add from my research that the labor market is very strong with a historically low unemployment rate which has been below 4% for almost 2 years. Unfortunately, this same group is holding an increased level of debt and faces high borrowing rates.

We ended 2023 with a money market fund balance of \$532K so we will be looking for buying opportunities despite the possibility of needing to spend significant money over the next three years on the exterior of our building including roofs. We have maturities occurring at least annually even well past the three years and all of our holdings are highly liquid. In the meantime with are earning approximately 5% on our money market fund while we await buying opportunities.

Your investment committee will continue to monitor economic and market conditions in order to maintain a moderate risk portfolio with appreciation over the long term as the goal. This result would come from reinvesting a combination of interest and dividends presumably with values rising over time. Like 2022 during 2023 our committee was comprised of Gale Wright, Bill Eklund and Bill Bergner. We expect this group to continue throughout 2024.

Dennis Sanderson, Chair

#### FINANCIAL REPORTS

#### FINANCIAL COMMENTARY FOR 2023 ACTUALS

The 2023 fiscal year turned out better than budgeted as the total enterprise posted a deficit of \$62K instead of the budgeted \$86K loss due to revenue gains in both units exceeding their expense increases. FPC was budgeted for a loss of \$86K but instead lost \$79K. CDC earned a gain or profit of \$17K vs. the budgeted break-even. At year end FPC released reserves to cover its loss while CDC's gain was transferred to its reserve.

FPC had revenue of \$875K and expense of \$954K with both being less than their results in 2022. In 2022 revenue and expense were inflated equally due to inflows and outflows of money for Ukraine relief, Afghan families and our sister church in Cuba. Pledge revenue received in 2023 of \$467K was \$37K more than budgeted due in part to \$23K received in 2023 against pledges made for 2022. Releases of Funds throughout the year were \$55K more than budgeted due to Earthkeepers which has all its expenses paid for by a grant. Total FPC revenue exceeded budget by \$94K. FPC expense was \$954K, \$87K more than budgeted largely due to Earthkeepers, Facilities, Staff and Congregational Care.

CDC posted revenue of \$1,072K, \$80K more than budgeted, primarily due to the PreK Grant, which began with the school year in August. The annualized amount is now \$630K, up from \$350K. CDC expense of \$1,055K exceeded budget by \$63K, strongly influenced by the expansion of the PreK Grant.

Our balance sheet is strong with adequate liquidity as has been the case for many years. At year end the total checking/savings balance was \$256K, a decline of \$179K from December 31, 2022, due to an intentional drawdown for investment purposes and FPC's operational loss. Investments at year end were valued at \$2,535K, a gain of \$234K from December 31, 2022. This was a 10.2% increase for the year, a most welcome follow-up to our decline in investment results of \$129K in 2022.

The total Fund balance on December 31, 2023, was \$2,719K, an increase of \$88K from a year ago. Donations to Funds equaled \$243K plus investment income of \$234K, for a total of \$477K. Releases of restrictions (Funds) through the year totaled \$274K for the operating budget plus \$52K for capital expenditures, while the net release from general reserves at year end was \$62K—thus decreasing Funds by \$389K. The net of the increases of \$476K and the usage of \$389K is a gain of \$88K.

## First Presbyterian Church of Santa Fe Statement of Financial Position As of December 31, 2023

ASSETS	<u>D</u> :	ec 31, 2023		Dec 31, 2022		\$ Change
Current Assets						
Checking/Savings	\$	255,294	\$	434,343	\$	(179,049)
Accounts Receivable		53,943		41,782		12,161
Prepaid Expense		3,000		686		2,314
Total Current Assets		312,237		476,811		(164,574)
Fixed Assets						
Furniture and Fixtures, Equipment		195,208		195,208		-
Organ		1,075,930		1,075,930		-
Building and Land Improvements		8,117,994		8,091,227		26,767
Reserve for Depreciation		(3,623,227)		(3,355,514)		(267,713)
Total Fixed Assets		5,765,905		6,006,851		(240,946)
Investments		2,535,183		2,301,450		233,733
TOTAL ASSETS		8,613,325	\$	8,785,112	\$	(171,787)
LIABILITIES & EQUITY						
Current Liabilities						
Other Current Liabilities						
Donations Payable	\$	37,420	\$	39,063	\$	(1,643)
Other Payables	,	9,827	·	6,753	,	3,074
Revenue Received in Advance		71,900		92,666		(20,766)
Total Other Current Liabilities		119,147		138,482		(19,335)
Total Current Liabilities		-,				( -,,
Equity						
Fund Balances*						
General Reserve Fund (Unrestr)		945,612		900,264		45,348
Facilities / Physical Plant		504,322		506,172		(1,850)
Mission and Social Justice		89,792		101,177		(11,385)
Child Development Center		517,301		480,602		36,699
Music, Art and Worship		446,294		452,939		(6,645)
Christian Ed Funds		21,955		23,775		(1,820)
Congregational Care		11,319		19,336		(8,017)
EarthKeepers 360		78,718		38,294		40,424
Other Funds		103,760		108,019		(4,261)
Fund Balances*		2,719,073		2,630,578		88,493
Fixed Assets Investment		5,765,905		6,006,851		(240,946)
Unrestricted, Undesignated		9,201		9,201		
Total Equity		8,494,179		8,646,630		(152,453)
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$	8,613,326	\$	8,785,112	\$	(171,788)
*Fund balances consist of the following:						
Session designated funds		1,437,469		1,354,671		82,798
Donor restricted funds		1,281,604		1,275,907		5,697

#### First Presbyterian Church of Santa Fe Statement of Activity January through December 2023

	Unrestricted								
	Church		Preschool						
		(FPC)		(CDC)	То	tal Unrestr	R	estricted	TOTAL
Revenue									
FPC Current Revenue									
Pledges	\$	467,362	\$	-	\$	467,362	\$	-	\$ 467,362
Other Contributions		134,076		-		134,076		-	134,076
Restricted Donations		-		-		-		242,228	242,228
PC(USA) Special Offerings		6,489		-		6,489		-	6,489
Space Usage		17,750		-		17,750		-	17,750
Other FPC Revenue		2,788		-		2,788		-	2,788
Investment Income		371		-		371		233,733	 234,104
Total FPC Current Revenue		628,836		-		628,836		475,961	1,104,797
FPC Releases from Restriction		246,332		-		246,332		(246,332)	-
CDC Revenue									
CDC Tuition									
CDC Tuition - Family Paid		-		397,003		397,003		-	397,003
CDC State Subsidy		-		103,544		103,544		-	103,544
PreK Grant		-		442,709		442,709		-	442,709
CDC Scholarships Releases		-		17,536		17,536		(17,536)	 
Total CDC Tuition		_		960,792		960,792		(17,536)	 943,256
Contributions-General CDC		-		500		500		1,650	2,150
CDC Fund Releases		_		11,970		11,970		(11,970)	-
CDC Other Income		-		98,798		98,798		-	98,798
Total CDC Revenue				1,072,060		1,072,060		(27,856)	1,044,204
Total Revenue		875,168		1,072,060		1,947,228		201,773	2,149,001
Expenses									
Pastoral Expenses		230,289		-		230,289		-	230,289
Staff Expenses		322,713		935,713		1,258,426		-	1,258,426
Admin / Office / Tech Exp		50,806		99,572		150,378		-	150,378
Building & Grounds Expenses		102,763		64,420		167,183		-	167,183
Worship, Music & Art Expenses		32,005		-		32,005		-	32,005
PC(USA)		28,144		-		28,144		-	28,144
Activities / Committees / Other		142,552		-		142,552		-	142,552
Support for CDC		44,458		(44,458)				_	 -
Total Expenses		953,730		1,055,247		2,008,977			 2,008,977
Net Inc Before Release (Return) of Reserves		(78,562)		16,813		(61,749)		201,773	140,024
Release / (Return) of Reserves		78,562		(16,813)		61,749		(61,749)	-
Net After Release / (Return) of Reserves		-		-		_		140,024	140,024
,									
Releases for Capitalized Expenditures*								(51,529)	(51,529)
Net Income	\$		\$	-	\$		\$	88,495	\$ 88,495

<sup>\*</sup>Expenditures included \$27K for renovation of the third floor rooftop deck and \$25K for the infant care room.

### First Presbyterian Church of Santa Fe Fund Activity

**January 1 - December 31, 2023** 

	Balance as of 31-Dec-22	Receipts	Investment Gain/ ( Loss)	Disburse- ments	Returns / (Returns) of Reserves	Balance as of 31-Dec-23	\$ Change
Fund Categories			,				
General Reserves	900,264	1,000	122,910	-	(78,562)	945,612	45,348
Facilities	506,172	5,872	39,107	(46,829)	-	504,322	(1,850)
Mission Funds	101,177	23,624	-	(35,009)	-	89,792	(11,385)
CDC (Preschool)	480,602	31,175	42,979	(54,268)	16,813	517,301	36,699
Music, Art, Worship	452,939	57,742	28,737	(93,124)	-	446,294	(6,645)
Christian Ed	23,775	_	-	(1,820)	-	21,955	(1,820)
Congregational Care	19,336	4,100	-	(12,117)	-	11,319	(8,017)
EarthKeepers <sup>2</sup>	38,294	117,914	-	(77,490)	-	78,718	40,424
Other Funds	108,019	2,450		(6,709)		103,760	(4,259)
Total Fund Balances	2,630,578	243,877	233,733	(327,366)	(61,749)	2,719,073	88,495

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The loss for FPC and the gain for CDC in 2023 were transferred to their general reserve funds.

Donor Restricted (DR) and Session Designated (SD) Funds in Each Category (fund descriptions are on website). Financial details are available from the Treasurer upon request.

Facilitie	es / P	hysica	lΡ	ant
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32100 · Building Reserve Fund (DR) 32200 · Building Maintenance Fund (DR)

32500 · Columbarium Fund (DR)

#### Mission and Social Justice

33100 · General Mission Fund (DR)

33150 · GHBF Mission Fund (DR)

33200 · Creation Care Fund (DR)

33300 · Roof Top Garden Fund (DR)

33400 · People in Mission Fund (DR)

33500 · Cuba Fund (DR)

33600 · Benevolence Fund (DR)

33630 · Tsosie Fundraiser (DR)

33650 · Jameson Benevolent Ministry (SD)

33700 · Emergency Offerings Fund (DR)

#### Child Development Center

34100 · CDC Support & Spec Proj (DR)

34150 · CDC General Fund (SD)

34250 · CDC Scholarship Fund (DR)

34400 · Buttrey CDC Fund (DR)

#### Music, Art and Worship

35100 · Genl Music Fund (DR)

35160 · L Babcock Music Fund

35200 · Organ Maint Fund (DR) 35300 · Chancel Choir Fund (DR)

35400 · Chancel Bells Fund (DR)

Music, Art and Worship continued

35500 · Piano Practice Donations (DR)

35600 · Recital / Concert Fund (DR)

35700 · Music Director Cont Ed (SD)

35800 · L Raney Fund (DR)

35900 · Back Pew Gallery Fund (DR)

#### Christian Ed Funds

36200 · Children's Program (DR)

36300 · Youth Program (DR)

36500 · Adult Education Fund (DR)

#### Congregational Care

37100 · Congreg Emergency Assist (DR)

37200 · Second Family (DR)

37400 · Deacons Fund (DR)

37500 · Prayer Shawl Fund (DR)

#### EarthKeepers (DR)

#### Other Funds

38100 · Ministry Support (DR)

38150 · Pastor Sabbatical Fund (DR)

38200 · Pastor Housing (SD)

38250 · Pastor Continuing Ed Fund (DR)

38300 · FPC Memorial Gift Fund (SD)

38600 · Technology Fund (DR)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>EarthKeepers is a special fund for a movement that may later become its own nonprofit. If that happens, the fund balance will be transferred to the new nonprofit. This effort is led by Andrew Black, assisted by Jen Black. Major funding in 2023 was grants.

#### FINANCIAL COMMENTARY FOR 2024 BUDGET

The 2024 budget projects a total enterprise loss of \$129K vs. an actual deficit of \$62K in 2023. This budgeted loss for FPC is \$145K while CDC has a budgeted gain of \$16K. This level of presumed loss for FPC is troubling despite a sizable FPC Reserve Fund measuring \$945K on December 31, 2023. The Session and Finance Committee plans to brainstorm this situation, while preliminary thoughts have leaned toward revenue increases because Staff costs in particular are hard to cut without cutting programs and operations which the congregation backs.

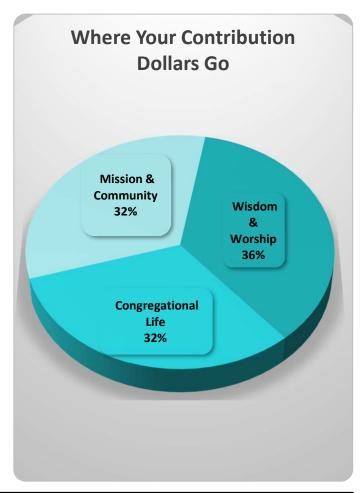
Revenue budgeted for 2024 is \$2,191K up \$244K from last year actual with FPC holding steady at \$875K and CDC increasing the full \$244K to total \$1,316K. We are pleased that budgeted pledge revenue reached its \$450K goal although that is \$17K less than total pledge revenue received in 2023 (because \$23K from 2022 pledge revenue was received in 2023). We note that FPC Releases from Purpose Restrictions is expected to be \$21K higher than in 2023 actuals. This is largely due to withdrawals from Harry's sabbatical and Diana Butler Bass' workshop Funds. The budgeted increase in CDC Total Tuition of \$347K is due to a full year of the CDC PreK Grant expanding from \$350K to \$630K (2023 was a partial year increase), coupled with additional revenue provided by the new infant room.

Total enterprise expense has a budgeted increase of \$311K over 2023 actual, with Staff expense expanding \$263K while all other expense is increasing only \$48K. Harry's sabbatical, Diana Butler Bass' workshop, and Facilities account for all of the increase. Staffing costs arise primarily from 4 new positions: 2 infant room teachers, an HR/Admin Administrator serving both CC and FPC, and a part-time assistant to the CDC Director. Other Staff cost increases will come from salary and hourly pay raises and a 7% rise in health insurance costs.

## First Presbyterian Church of Santa Fe 2024 Budget

#### January-December 2024

REVENUE	
FPC	
Pledges	450,000
Other Contributions	137,400
Special PC(USA) Offerings	7,000
Space Rentals	12,100
Miscellaneous	2,000
Addl Releases from Funds	267,000
Total FPC	875,500
CDC	
CDC TuitionFamily Paid	576,600
CDC TuitionState Paid PreK	630,000
CDC TuitionState Paid Low Incor	84,000
Scholarship Releases	18,000
Other CDC Revenue & Releases	7,000
Total CDC	1,315,600
TOTAL INCOME	2,191,100
EXPENSE by Purpose	
Wisdom & Worship	367,390
Congregational Life	322,310
Mission & Community	330,700
CDC Mission	1,300,000
TOTAL EXPENSE	2,320,400
NET before release from Genl Reserve	(129,300)
Release of FPC general reserves (1)	144,900
Return of CDC gain to CDC reserves	(15,600)
NET	



EXPENSE BREAKDOWN	Wisdom	Congregational	Mission &	CDC	
by Account & Purpose	& Worship	Life	Community(2)	Mission(3)	Total
Pastoral Expenses	83,740	83,730	83,730	-	251,200
Staff Expenses	188,450	123,210	50,740	1,158,600	1,521,000
Admin, Office, & Tech / PreK Meals	12,120	38,080	7,500	97,100	154,800
Building & Grounds (3)	42,030	42,040	9,330	91,100	184,500
Worship & Music	17,200	8,100	8,100	-	33,400
PC(USA) Mission, Per Cap, Spc Offer	5,850	5,850	17,500	-	29,200
Activities/Committees	18,000	21,300	107,000	-	146,300
Support for CDC (3)			46,750	(46,750)	
TOTAL EXPENSE (4)	367.390	322.310	330.650	1.300.050	2.320.400

- (1) At the end of 2022, our total reserve funds totaled \$1,203K: \$900K for FPC and \$303K for CDC. At the end of 2023, we pulled \$79K from the FPC general reserve fund and contributed \$17K to the CDC general reserve. With investment gains, the reserves at the end of 2023 totaled \$1,291K: \$946K for FPC and \$345K for CDC. The 2024 budget pulls \$145K for FPC and returns \$16K for CDC.
- (2) Expenses in the Mission column relate to serving the community, which includes cash donations of \$44K for Mission and Social Justice, \$10K to the Presbytery missions, costs of TGIF, and costs of outside groups using our facilities. In addition, the support for CDC line shows the amount of FPC's coverage of CDC facilities expense not covered by the state grant.
- (3) CDC direct expenses include CDC personnel, portions of shared personnel, supplies, and a portion of shared facilities expense. These costs are funded by tuition fees, state aid and grants, scholarship funds, and special donations to CDC. In mid 2023 the state PreK grant increased from \$350K to \$630K annually, meaning that it could cover more of the costs shared with FPC. CDC support is funded by the general revenue, e.g., pledges and other contributions, and are included in Mission and Outreach column.
- (4) Capital expenditures for building renovations are not included in the above. See the Annual Comparisons page.

## First Presbyterian Church of Santa Fe Annual Comparisons

#### 2022-2024

	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
REVENUE			<del></del> -	
FPC				
Pledges	432,486	430,000	467,362	450,000
Other Contributions	154,642	133,000	134,076	137,400
Special PC(USA) Offerings	64,081	13,000	6,489	7,000
Space Rentals	12,125	11,800	17,750	12,100
Miscellaneous	5,270	1,600	3,159	2,000
Release from Purpose Restriction	220,417	191,700	246,332	267,000
Total FPC	889,021	781,100	875,168	875,500
CDC				
CDC TuitionFamily Paid	431,495	460,400	397,003	576,600
CDC TuitionState Paid PreK	316,395	350,000	442,709	630,000
CDC TuitionState Paid Low Income	70,584	72,000	103,544	84,000
Scholarship Releases	14,844	21,600	17,536	18,000
Other CDC Revenue	125,313	84,200	99,298	4,000
Releases (Returns) of CDC Funds	4,781	3,500	11,970	3,000
Total CDC	963,412	991,700	1,072,060	1,315,600
TOTAL REVENUE	1,852,433	1,772,800	1,947,228	2,191,100
EXPENSE by Purpose				
Wisdom & Worship	317,116	316,490	327,312	367,390
Congregational Life	295,806	287,670	304,981	322,310
Mission & Community	390,896	262,540	321,438	330,700
CDC Mission (1)	812,518	991,700	1,055,247	1,300,000
TOTAL EXPENSE	1,816,336	1,858,400	2,008,977	2,320,400
	-	-	-	-
NET before release or return of general reserves	36,098	(85,600)	(61,749)	(129,300)
Release (return) of FPC general reserves (2)	114,797	85,600	78,562	144,900
Release (return) of CDC general reserves (2)	(150,895)	<u> </u>	(16,813)	(15,600)
NET after release of general reserves	<u> </u>	<u> </u>		-
EXPENSE by Account				
Pastoral Expenses	216,015	209,600	230,289	251,200
Staff Expenses	1,036,829	1,196,000	1,258,426	1,521,000
Admin, Office, & Tech / PreK Meals	141,529	144,300	150,378	154,800
Building & Grounds	152,296	149,600	167,183	184,500
Worship, Music & Art	30,463	33,100	32,005	33,400
PC(USA) Mission, Per Capita, Spec Offerings	85,141	35,200	28,144	29,200
Activities/Committees	154,063	90,600	142,552	146,300
TOTAL EXPENSE	1,816,336	1,858,400	2,008,977	2,320,400
Capital Expenses covered by fund releases (not in above) (3)		-	51,529	150,000

<sup>(1)</sup> CDC expenses are reduced by the amount of FPC support for facilities costs not covered by the state PreK grant.

<sup>(2)</sup> At the end of 2022, our total reserve funds totaled \$1,203K: \$900K for FPC and \$303K for CDC. At the end of 2023, we pulled \$79K from the FPC general reserve fund and contributed \$17K to the CDC general reserve. With investment gains, the reserves at the end of 2023 totaled \$1,291K: \$946K for FPC and \$345K for CDC. The 2024 budget pulls \$145K for FPC and returns \$16K for CDC.

<sup>(3)</sup> Capital expenses are expenditures over \$10K with a life of over 3 years. None were done in 2022. In 2023 we renovated the rooftop garden area. We are also reconstructing space for the addition of an infant care room. For 2024 we anticipate replacement of the sanctuary roof.

#### FINANCIAL REVIEWS CONDUCTED IN 2023

#### Financial Review of 2022

The financial review of 2022 was conducted in the Fall of 2023, again chaired by Alvin Baca but assisted this time by Thom Mott and Jack Lippincott. This committee was aided by Maria Romero, the church's contract bookkeeper. The focus of this review was on the patterns and practices in monetary receipts and disbursements, with respect to their veracity and timeliness in order to meet the obligations for mission and service to the FPCSF members and staff.

As was stated in the committee's report, both the bank documents and general ledger attest to the accuracy of the Statement of Financial Position Report as of 12/31/2022. The review committee went on to compliment our system and its appropriate checks and balances operated by Gale Wright, Treasurer, Maria Romero, and Judi Haines.

#### Agreed Upon Procedures Review of CDC PreK Grant FY2022

In compliance with the state grant for our PreK classes, we had an Agreed Upon Procedures Review by the CPA Firm, Hinkle and Landers. They tested compliance with the financial and programmatic contractual requirements for the grant fiscal year 2022, which ended June 30, 2022. They were assisted by Maria Romero, Anne Liley, and Gale Wright.

Hinkle and Landers submitted their report November 6, 2023. They found no exceptions on grant expenditures or program compliance. They did recommend a more formalized bank reconciliation process, which is being implemented.

#### 2023 AND 2024 MISSION & COMMUNITY EXPENSES

The congregation of FPC contributes to mission activities both directly and indirectly in many different ways. Below is a summary of distributions to mission by our congregation actual for 2023 and budgeted distributions in 2024.

#### **Direct Distributions to Mission**

Direct financial distributions to missions come from pledges and general contributions and also from donor-restricted donations to specific missions. In 2023 we continued to support the efforts of nonprofits that work to feed, shelter, and otherwise support individuals and families in need. In addition, we donated funds for relief from the Maui fires, humanitarian relief for migrants at the U.S./Mexico border, and anti-racism activities. Following is the summary of all these financial distributions:

<u>Donations</u>	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
MSJ Committee distributions	\$44K	\$44K
Other mission activities (incl congregant donations)	20K	2K
Other PC(USA) special offerings	6K	7K
PC(USA) mission donation to Presbytery	11K	11K
CDC scholarship support to low-income families	<u>18K</u>	<u>18K</u>
Total Direct Distributions to Mission	\$99K	\$82K

#### **Support for CDC Mission**

FPC considers its preschool, the Child Development Center (CDC), to be its most important mission. Our facility is a five-star preschool that serves middle- and low-income children for a rate lower than other high-quality preschools. FPC's commitment to its education mission dates back to its beginning in 1867, and the congregation is extremely proud of its current efforts through its preschool. Although most of the costs of the preschool are covered by tuition and grants, the congregation makes the space available to the preschool as a part of its commitment to this mission. Also, volunteers assist the preschool with some administrative and other support as appropriate.

FPC has supported the preschool from its inception with free space and will continue to do so in the future. Over the years, however, as CDC established a stable revenue stream, it has gradually taken on more of its direct costs and in 2023 covered the remainder of these costs. With funding from the Cares Act in 2020 and 2021 and a NM Childcare Stabilization grant providing \$240K, CDC has been able to cover its needs during the pandemic and establish a reserve fund of \$346K. Further, its ongoing state supported PreK classes pay a portion of the CDC overhead expenses formerly funded by FPC.

Following is the support to CDC provided for 2023 and expected in 2024:

<u>CDC Support Categories</u>

Preschool portion of building expenses

Facilities management, labor, repairs, supplies (CDC 44K 47K pays its own custodial service and supplies)

#### Other Community and Mission Support

Our pastoral staff is very active in mission activities. Pastor Harry Eberts spends approximately one-third of his time in work in the community. He is co-founder and co-president of New Mexicans to Prevent Gun Violence, a board member of the National Ghost Ranch Foundation, Moderator of the Presbytery of Santa Fe in 2023, a member of the Gun Violence Prevention Working Group of Presbyterian Peace Fellowship, a member of Interfaith Leadership Alliance (ILA), and a leader and participant in other community activities. Each of these roles has led to various tangents and forays into the community. Pastor Harry speaks at community events and rallies, gives presentations on gun violence to organizations, speaks on environmental issues with other faith leaders, attends and participates in Roundhouse committee hearings during the sessions, and the list goes on. He takes seriously the precept that Presbyterians are called to be in the midst of a society and its issues, and our church supports him in this effort. He is currently taking a year-long online course through San Francisco Theological Seminary called "Trauma and Spiritual Care."

Pastor Andrew focuses much of his time on reaching out to residents of the Southside of Santa Fe and promoting efforts to address climate change. This includes leading a diverse community-wide coalition of Tribal leaders, Hispanic traditional land users, business leaders and youth to protect the Caja del Rio. Pastor Andrew has led various hikes for Southside and Tribal youth to the Caja as well as organized Caja trash clean up days that had strong participation from FPC members. In October 2023, Andrew Black led a group of youth and young adults to the US/Mexico border in El Paso to work with families and children in shelters along the border. Thanks to generous community donations, we took thousands of pounds of medical supplies, food, and clothing to those in need. We quickly found ourselves on the frontlines of one the biggest human rights crises facing our world today. The impacts of the heavily enhanced border wall with newly added razor wire is having significant impacts to wildlife and the ecology of the border. With a massive wall surrounded by buffers of new razor wire and heavily armored vehicles as part of Operation Lonestar, wildlife habitat and migrations of everything from jaguar to bears are being impacted. This undoubtedly will grow worse with Biden's expansion of the wall and waiving of environmental laws and protections. US Border Patrol migrant encounters along the southwestern border during this past fiscal year eclipsed two million and El Paso's migration is up 50.4% compared to last year (2022). Millions of people, mostly from Venezuela, El Salvador and Guatemala, now find themselves on the US side in dire need of food, shelter, clothing, health care and safety. Hundreds of thousands are being bused by the state of Texas to cities across the country with democratic mayors. Most are left in these cities with only the clothes on their backs and no housing, food or basic resources. Thus, the challenges of border communities like El Paso are now being felt by the interior of the U.S. Thanks to all our partners at Abara, the Opportunity Welcome Center, UTEP, St. Francis Xavier Church, Sagrado Corazon and Kelly Center for Hunger Relief who are making a major

difference in a very tough reality.

In addition, during normal times, we make our church available to numerous nonprofits and to out-of-town groups in Santa Fe for mission work. We have fully resumed our TGIF concert schedule, which is open to the entire community.

The costs for these contributions include:

Other Indirect Support Categories	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
Pastoral expense	\$77K	\$84K
Admin, music, other staff expense	45K	51K
Office, admin, tech expense	7K	8K
Building expense	10K	9K
Other (mostly contractors for TGIF and EarthKeepers)	57K	<u>61K</u>
Total Indirect Contributions to Other Missions & Community	\$196K	\$213K

#### **Unquantified Contributions to Mission**

In addition to direct and indirect financial support, members of the congregation support mission activities by giving food and other donations and by volunteering to do such things as feed the homeless and collect goods for relief for those in need.

#### TERMS OF CALL

Effective January 1, 2024

#### The Rev. Dr. Harry William Eberts III - Pastor

Effective Salary	\$97,850	
Medical, Pension, Death & Disability	\$38,161	of which \$8,317 is Pension
SECA Allowance	\$7,845	
Vouchered Expenses		
Continuing Education	\$2,000	
Professional Expense	2,600	
Pastor Car & Travel Expense	2,200	
Pastor Discretional Expense	2,000	
Total Pastor Compensation & Expense	\$152,296	
2024 Budgeted Expense	\$171,296	includes \$19K study leave

Vacation and Leave: 4 weeks of vacation and 2 weeks of study leave

#### The Rev. Andrew Douglas Black - Associate Pastor (Part-time)

Effective Salary	\$31,368	
Medical, Pension, Death & Disability	15,637	of which \$2,628 is Pension
SECA Allowance	2,400	
Vouchered Expenses		
Continuing Education	\$1,250	
Professional Expense	500	
Associate Pastor Discretional Expense	1,000	
Total Pastor Compensation & Expense		
	\$52,155	
2024 Budgeted Expense	\$49,545	

Vacation and Leave: 4 weeks of vacation and 2 weeks of study leave

# First Presbyterian Church of Santa Fe Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation Sunday, February 5, 2023, in the Sanctuary

Moderator, Rev. Dr. Harry Eberts called the Annual Meeting of the Congregation to order at 11:18 a.m. Clerk of Session, Judi Haines declared a quorum present. Pastor Harry delivered the Constituting prayer.

Dennis Sanderson, Chair of Finance and Investments provided a brief overview of 2022 final results and the 2023 budget.

The Moderator introduced Roger Said, Chair of the 2022/23 Nominating Committed who presented the slate for election of officers to serve in 2023. Members of the nominating committee were Roger Said, representing the Session, Ellery Truesdell, representing the Deacons and Gary Murphy, Alice Tinkle and Judi Haines, members at large.

#### Nominated to serve on Session in 2023:

Elizabeth Hook for a term of one year (Class of 2023)

Roger Said for a term of one year (Class of 2023)

Dick Lindahl for a term of two years (Class of 2024)

Gary Murphy for a term of two years (Class of 2024)

Madeleine Wright for a term of two years (Class of 2024)

Mary Gulledge for a term of three years (Class of 2025)

Roger called for nominations from the floor, hearing none he made a motion that the Congregation pass the slate by Unanimous Consent. **Motion Passed** 

#### Nominated to serve on the Board of Deacons in 2023:

Christina Hill for a term of one year (Class of 2023)

Alvin Baca for a term of three years (Class of 2025)

Bruce Goslin for a term of three years (Class of 2025)

Leslie Goslin for a term of three years (Class of 2025)

Sharon Marrs for a term of three years (Class of 2025)

Tom Mott for a term of three years (Class of 2025)

Kelly Truesdell for a term of three years (Class of 2025)

M'Lea Walsh for a term of three years (Class of 2025)

Heather Weir for a term of three years (Class of 2025)

Roger called for nominations from the floor, hearing none he made a motion that the Congregation pass the slate by Unanimous Consent. **Motion Passed** 

Associate Pastor Andrew Black and Pastor Harry Eberts led the congregation in a Celebration of 2022 and Growing the Beloved Community.

Parish Associate, Rev. Dr. Mary Kuhns read the service of memorial, read a Poem called "We Remember" by Arnold Crompton, adapted from the Yizkor Service. And led us in a prayer of remembrance of those we have lost.

The Congregational Meeting was adjourned at 11:44 by Rev. Dr. Harry Eberts, with prayer.

Bill Eklund, President called the Annual Meeting of the Corporation to order at 11:45 a.m.

Judi Haines, Clerk of Session presented the Corporate Officers who have agreed to serve in 2023 and were duly elected by the Session on January 18, 2023.

President, Bill Eklund Vice President, Dennis Sanderson Corporate Treasurer, Gale Wright Corporate Secretary/Clerk of Session, Judi Haines

Bill Eklund presented the updated Bylaws and the history of bylaws for our church since our incorporation in 1867. Updated Bylaws had been posted for the Congregation to review for approximately two weeks. Bill spent considerable time and effort researching the current New Mexico Non-Profit Corporation Act as well as the Book of Order. As a result we have a clear and concise set of Bylaws that comply not only with the State of New Mexico but the Book of Order and reflect how our church does business, today.

Session approved the Bylaws on January 18, 2023

Bill asked for questions, hearing none asked for a Motion to approve. M/S/P

The Corporation meeting was adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

The Rev. Dr. Harry Eberts closed the meetings with a prayer and a blessing.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dr. Harry Eberts, Moderator Judith Haines, Clerk of Session

Approved by Session: March 15, 2023



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