
2023 PCW



ANNUAL REPORT

2023 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WYOMING

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ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WYOMING ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION AND CORPORATION March 3rd 2024 following worship at 10 AM

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. – Matt. 5:16

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER WITH PRAYER

Reverend Gray Marshall, co-pastor and Moderator of the Annual Meeting

MOTION TO

Elect Geoff, Clerk/Secretary for this meeting.

Declare a quorum

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION TO

- Approve the Agenda for this meeting
- Declare the Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation to be conducted simultaneously
- Accept the minutes of the March 5th 2023, Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation
- Approve all the reports included in the PCW Annual Report for 2023

CELEBRATIONS OF 2023 AND LOOKING FORWARD TO 2024

- A report from our Co-Pastors – Reverend Doctor Anne Marshall and Reverend Gray Marshall
- Report from Earth Care Congregation Team
- Report from Finance & Stewardship Committee – Jill Martin
- Report of the Nominating Committee – Craig Theile

ELECTION OF ELDERS

The following are nominated to serve as elders for one, three-year term beginning June 1st 2024 as members of the Class of 2027:

FIRST TERM:

Christi Graeter Chris Stough Chas Olsavsky

The following is nominated to serve as an elder for one year term beginning June 1st 2024 as a member of the Class of 2025:

John Stickney

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA (Continued)

ELECTIONS OF DEACONS

The following are nominated to serve as deacons for one, three-year term beginning June 1st 2024 as members of the Class of 2027:

FIRST TERM:

Sue Lewis Wendy Murphy Karen Bretz Janese Stickney

The following are nominated to serve as deacons for one year term beginning June 1st 2024 as a Youth Deacon:

Ellie Lawson

ELECTION OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The following are nominated to serve on the Nominating Committee beginning June 1st 2024 for a one-year term:

Amber Cartwright Beth Emanuelson Sue Lewis John Stickney

Craig Theile – *servng as chair*

RECOGNITION OF RETIRING ELDERS AND DEACONS

Motion to thank all elders and deacons who have completed their terms:

ELDERS Joe Hornsby, Mo Miller, Rob Keelor

DEACONS Sue Moriarty, Marilyn Hunter

Motion to thank those serving on the Nominating Committee for the 2023-2024 year ending June 1st 2024:

Amber Cartwright Beth Emanuelson Sue Lewis John Stickney

Craig Theile – *served as chair*

MEETING OF THE CORPORATION

Motion to elect officers of the Corporation of The Presbyterian Church of Wyoming

These officers will serve for June 1st 2023 until May 31st 2024

President - Skip Koesterman

Treasurer - Jill Martin

Secretary - Geoff Modderman

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WYOMING FOUNDATION

Report of the PCW Foundation – Rich Uhle, President

Motion to thank Beth Emanuelson for her years of service to the PCW foundation

RETURN TO THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

REPORT OF PERSONNEL

Terms of Call for our Co-Pastors – John Hurd

MOTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING WITH PRAYER

Reverend Anne Marshall

2023 CO-PASTOR'S REPORT

Anne and Gray Marshall

As we look back on a very busy and productive year 2023, Anne and I are filled with gratitude to God for this faithful and dedicated congregation. We, as your pastors, want to say thank you for your willingness to participate, your wise leadership and counsel, and your trust in us to lead this church alongside our incredible Session. It is a blessing to be your pastors. Anne and I could not do what we do without the support of our amazing staff whose commitment and devotion to the ministry of this church is truly inspiring. They are a gift to us and the community.

Last year marked our first full year of hosting our Ukrainian refugees in the church building. Mariia challenged the congregation to remember those who are still in Ukraine, fighting for their country. So partnering with *USA with Ukraine*, we raised funds to purchase and deliver much-needed power banks for Ukrainian firefighters. In February, we hosted the Cincinnati/Kharkiv Sister City Partnership's Candlelight Vigil, remembering the one-year anniversary of the war. Then in June, Mariia organized a Ukrainian Movie Night here at PCW, helping to raise funds for *USA with Ukraine's* ongoing projects. This is not to mention the countless people who came alongside the Kovolavs and Mariia throughout the year to provide support and care. Thank you for your help and compassion for them and the Ukrainian people.

This was also a year full of great worship. We had several engaging sermon series this year, *Back to the Start: Series on Genesis & Exodus* through Lent, *Walking in the Storm: Practices of a Resilient Faith* in the summer, *Blessings & Woes* in the early fall, *Legacy* for stewardship season, and our *God With Us* series during Advent. Our ecumenical witness was strong in Wyoming as we joined together with the other Christian churches in town on several projects: the Poor Bishop Hooper Concert in March, the joint Good Friday Service in April, and our Carols on the Green event in December. These were great opportunities to come together as friends in Christ to share the Good News in our wider community.

It is important that we lift up two former PCW pastors who died last year: Rev. Lisa Bernheisel and Rev. Dr. Ted Sperduto. Lisa was such a beacon of light for so many in Wyoming and her death hit all of us. In her honor, we set-up the labyrinth in the Great Room and invited the community to come for a time to remember Lisa. Dr. Ted was an influential and well-loved pastor in the life of this church for the nine years he served. We are grateful for his legacy of his leadership here at PCW. We also lost five congregation members, Lou Gaudin, Floyd Lattire, Norman Thomas, Carl Thomson, and Bill Cooley, each who contributed to the life and ministry of PCW in their own unique way.

This year also saw some staff transitions and new hires for our church staff. Office manager Sandy Nagel left right before Christmas which led to hiring Laura Brown in the same role in February. Laura has gifted us with her organizational super powers and creative thinking over this last year, streamlining our office processes and guidelines. In August, when PCW hosted the Presbytery of Cincinnati quarterly meeting, Laura was integral organizing volunteers and hospitality for all our guests. In March, we said goodbye to our Director of Faith Formation Sarah Barefield, who accepted another job. This led to a wide search for a new director which we found here locally in Cincinnati, Lisa Kaufer. Lisa, who started in August, brought with her years of experience and wisdom in the Christian Education and faith formation in the Presbyterian tradition and has been an incredible partner in ministry for children and adults alike. Finally, Zach Moore, our long-standing AV tech, left in the fall to focus in his family's funeral home business. Ella Wahlquist was hired to fill his position, coming from the same AV program at University of Cincinnati. Zach graduated from.

As we look forward to 2024, we are excited for what God has in store for this church, trusting in the foundation of faith will be with wherever we go as Hebrews reminds us, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." (Hebrews 13:8) Thanks be to God.

Grace and peace,

Pastors Anne and Gray

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WYOMING

Celebrating 153 years of ministry in our community

MINUTES OF THE 2023 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION & CORPORATION

March 5, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. in the Great Room & Via Zoom

Call the meeting to order with a Prayer

Reverend Gray Marshall, co-pastor and Moderator of the Annual Meeting

Organizational Motions:

1. Elect Geof Modderman, Clerk/Secretary for this meeting
2. Declare a quorum - the Clerk declared a quorum noting 72 attendees present (67 in the Great Room and 5 via Zoom)
3. Approve the Agenda for this meeting
4. Declare the Meeting of Congregation and Corporation to be conducted simultaneously.
5. Accept the minutes of the February 27, 2023, meeting of the Congregation and Corporation
6. Approve all the reports included in the PCW Annual Report for 2022

Celebrations of 2022 and Looking Forward to 2023:

1. **Pastor's Report** – Pastor Anne highlighted the changes that the congregation has experienced since the beginning of 2022. With the lessening of the concerns surrounding the COVID pandemic, the Church was able to conduct its first in-person fellowship opportunity on Ash Wednesday 2022. Instead of conducting two worship services, the Church has switched to a single 10 a.m. to bring all attendees together in one setting. The Church has welcomed 17 new members and conducted two confirmation services for five confirmands. There has been a reappearance of other opportunities to come together including: a worship service employing prayer stations; a High School Youth Group alumni meeting; Worship in the Woods; Christmas Family movie night; and the senior high youth group visited Puerto Rico on a mission trip. Longtime youth pastor Adam Hayden left for a new job opportunity in summer 2022. For the future, Pastor Anne and Gray are hoping to take an intergenerational approach to ministry with a goal of building faith with the youth of the Church so that their faith will remain later in life.
2. **Mission Report** – Linda Voss highlighted several of the numerous occasions where Church members have been able to share the gospel through activities in and beyond our local community. Beginning in February 2022, PCW donated 787 pounds of food and toiletries to Valley Interfaith Community Resource Center in the “Souper Bowl” food drive organized by the Presbytery. The high school youth group went to Puerto Rico and helped construct a community garden. In August 2022, PCW was recognized as a founding partner of the Metanoia Center located in Lockland. In September 2022, the Church began a 2-year sponsorship of six Ukrainian refugees who now reside in the church. To prepare for their arrival church members worked to remodel lightly used portions of the third floor into apartments. Some other activities over a successful 2022 included: a coat drive for Ukraine; “Be the Church” Sunday; and the formation of the Earth Care Congregation Committee.
3. **Finance Committee Report** - Leslie Mowry gave a brief synopsis of the more detailed report issued by the committee. Leslie mentioned that she had only good news to report regarding the Church's finances. The Church had a balanced budget for 2022 despite a few major one-time unplanned expenses. Looking forward the best guess of the 2023 budget projected a small surplus. Leslie described recent complications that she had to address due to fraudulent checks issued using the Church's banking information. The checks were complete fabrications made out of state, but affected the Church bank account. Leslie also described the transition to an outside firm to do the Church accounting. Anne Marshall mentioned a recent switch to use Breeze and QuickBooks software.

MINUTES OF THE 2023 ANNUAL MEETING *(Continued)*

There was a motion to give special thanks to Leslie Mowry and Anne Fischer for their hard work and time spent in dealing with finance complications.

The motion passed.

4. **Nominating Committee** – Craig Theile reported to the congregation election of the following Elders and Deacons, bringing motions for approval for each.
 - a. **Election of Elders** – the committee nominated Elders for a three-year term beginning June 1, 2023 as members of the Class of 2026.
 - i. First Term: Chris Hasler
 - ii. First Term: Ken Popham
 - iii. First Term: Jill Martin
 - iv. Note: There were no motions from the floor and the Moderator accepted a motion to elect Chris, Ken, and Jill. The motion passed unanimously.
 - b. **Election of Deacons** - the committee nominated Deacons for a three-year term beginning June 1, 2023 as members of the Class of 2026.
 - i. First Term – Peggy Grant
 - ii. First Term – Joyce Hutchens
 - iii. First Term – Mary Jo Peairs
 - iv. Note: There were no motions from the floor and the Moderator accepted a motion to elect Peggy, Mary Jo, and Joyce. The motion passed unanimously.
 - c. **Election of Youth Deacons** - the committee nominated a Youth Deacon for a one-year term beginning June 1, 2023.
 - i. Ellie Lawson
 - ii. Note: There were no motions from the floor and the Moderator accepted a motion to elect Ellie. The motion passed unanimously.
 - d. **Election of the Nominating Committee** - the committee nominated members to serve on the Nominating Committee for a one-year term beginning June 1, 2023
 - i. Amber Cartwright, Beth Emanuelson, Sue Lewis, and John Stickney.
 - ii. Craig Theile serving as Chair.
 - iii. Note: There were no motions from the floor and the Moderator accepted a motion to elect Craig, Amber, Beth, Sue, and John. The motion passed unanimously.
 - e. **Recognition of Retiring Elders & Deacons** – on behalf of the Nominating Committee, Craig moved to thank the following Elders and Deacons who have completed their terms.
 - i. Elders: Jim Falkenstine, Leslie Mowry, Katie Towne
 - ii. Deacons: Ray Allen, Jessie Modderman, Dee Dee Uhle
 - iii. Youth Deacon: Sam Williams
 - iv. Note: The motion passed unanimously with applause.
 - f. **Recognition of Nominating Committee for 2022-2023 ending June 1, 2023.**
 - i. Mike Miller, Amber Cartwright, Beth Emanuelson, Steve Komrska, Sue Lewis, Craig Theile as Chair.
 - ii. Note: The motion passed unanimously with applause.

Meeting of the Corporation – The Moderator moved that we elect the following officers of the Corporation of the Presbyterian Church of Wyoming to serve from June 1, 2023 until May 31, 2024.

- g. **President** – Skip Koesterman
- h. **Treasurer** – Jill Martin
- i. **Secretary** – Geof Modderman
- j. Note: the motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES OF THE 2023 ANNUAL MEETING (Continued)

Presbyterian Church of Wyoming Foundation – Beth Emanuelson, President, reported on the actions of the Foundation’s investments as detailed in the Foundation Report. She moved to thank outgoing member and past president Mike Miller for his many years of service. She also moved to add Craig Theile to serve a 5-year term on the Foundation Board. ***Both motions passed unanimously***.

Personnel Report – Jim Falkenstine reported on the Terms of Call for our Co-Pastors, Anne and Gray Marshall. Jim was very pleased with the work done by Anne and Gray. He mentioned that due to some staff change over, they are working more hours than stated in their contract. Because of the extra work they are performing, Jim moved to approve a 7% COLA increase. ***The motion passed unanimously.*** Anne and Gray expresses their thanks for the Church reaffirming their Call to Serve. They expressed optimism for the year to come.

Terms of Call:

	Co-Pastor Gray	Co-Pastor Anne
Salary	\$43,128	\$43,128
Housing	\$22,791	\$22,791
TOTAL EFFECTIVE SALARY	\$65,919	\$65,919
Pension	(family medical) \$27,207	\$6,593
SECA	\$5,044	\$5,044
Auto	IRS Rate	IRS Rate
Education	\$2,000	\$2,000
Professional Expense	\$400	\$400
Vacation	4 weeks	4 weeks
Study Leave	2 weeks	2 weeks

Motion to Close the Meeting with Prayer – Pastor Anne Marshall closed our meeting with a prayer of thanksgiving.

ANNUAL MEETING REPORT FOR 2023 & 2024 BUDGET

Finance Committee: Jill Martin (Chair), Skip Koesterman, Steve Komrska, Leslie Mowry, Mike Miller

Role: The Finance Committee oversees the finances of PCW on behalf of the Session, including the preparation of the annual budget, working with Stewardship Committee, Endowment and all other financial matters of the church.

2023 Operating Results: Results for 2023 show a deficit of \$6,876, which is 1% of budget. We did need to use our Property Reserve for many building improvements in 2023. Estimates of Giving gifts received in 2023 were \$538,658, up from 2022 (\$520,336). 2023 EOG receipts were over budget as PCW members and friends continue to be very generous. We did receive a very generous bequest from Floyd Lattire's estate in the amount of \$100,000. \$11,500 was included in unpledged giving in the operating Budget which resulted in 2023 Total receipts of \$671,314, compared to \$646,585 budget. The remainder of the gift from Lattire's estate is being used for Engineering and other HVAC expenses. This money was placed in a separate checking account in Jan. 2024 and at this time will not be part of the operating budget. In 2023, giving from members and friends was once again very generous and the generous gift came at a time when it was needed, Praise God!

2023 Foundation Support: The PCW Foundation transferred \$43,974 in income to the church Operating Budget, up from \$42,424 in 2022. The Foundation is a key part of PCW's income each year, and gifts to the Foundation's various buckets help produce income for PCW Operating Budget short and long term.

2023 Property Reserve: The PR money is housed in two accounts, one in the Foundation which is invested so that in good years, it will earn income and increase in value; the other is a checking account so there is easy access when needed and security from market fluctuations. Unfortunately, in 2023 due to the large capital expenditures, we needed to transfer \$123,495 from the checking account to balance the budget. Therefore, we do not have any monies in the Property Reserve checking account. At this time, the monies in the Foundation have remained untouched.

2023 Operating Expenses: Total Operating Expenses for 2023 were \$788,1897, up from \$682,227 in 2022. The increase was due to maintenance spending was up substantially, as mentioned above and detailed in Skip Koesterman's Buildings report. Salaries and benefits were underspent as a result of the Faith Formation Position not being filled for part of the year. As we move into 2024, we are looking at ways to save additional money on expenses. Manse Expenses are paid from a separate account. However, the church did add \$5,000 from Property Reserve to pay for part of the Porch Repair. We still have approximately \$2,000 of this left in the Manse account and are hopeful the Manse income, along with this will cover 2024 Expenses.

2024 Operating Budget: For 2024, the Session has approved a spending budget of \$662,529 against forecast receipts of \$659,516, in essence, a balanced budget with a very small deficit of \$3,053, less than 1%. Estimate of Giving (EOG) cards received as part of the stewardship campaign totaled \$534,055, up a bit from 2023 EOG total of \$532812. Details are covered in the Stewardship report. We are grateful for the projection of continued generous financial support for PCW, her programs and missions. Thanks to God for opening our hearts and wallets once more!

2024 Personnel Expenses: Personnel Expenses are higher this year as we are fully staffed.

2024 Ministry Costs: The Ministry area is about flat vs. last year.

2024 Benevolences and Mission: The Mission budget was decreased slightly to help balance the budget. The church members continue to give generously to various missions as tracked by the Mission Committee, as part of their overall leadership in Mission. We also continue to support the Preschool and Ukrainians with increased costs to the church for Insurance, Equipment use, Utilities and Cleaning.

ANNUAL MEETING REPORT FOR 2023 & 2024 BUDGET *(Continued)*

2024 Property Reserve: In the past, we have added to the Property Reserve account. Due to current circumstances, we do not have this included in our budget. We are aware that we need to address this going forward.

Thanks to the Leslie Mowry who led the Finance Team until I began in June. Due to the complexity of the Finance tasks an outside accounting firm was hired in April. On boarding took longer than we had hoped but this is being worked out. Laura has done an amazing job providing the information that is needed to pay the bills and coordinate things between systems. Thank you to the Finance team for faithfully being patient and diligent through these changes.

May God Continue to lead and guide us in 2024.

Respectfully submitted, Jill Martin, PCW Treasurer

2023-24 OPERATING BUDGET

	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
Congregational Support					
Estimate of Giving (formerly Pledges)	584,467	520,336	532,812	538,658	534,055
Plate Offering	2,648	7,371	4,000	4,657	4,000
Prior Year Pledges	8,407	0	4,899	5,154	6,000
Unpledged Contributions	52,718	97,056	55,000	72,867	65,000
Subtotal	648,240	624,763	596,711	621,336	609,055
Other Receipts					
Designated Benevolences	17,776	NA	NA	NA	
Facilities Use and Other	0	1,440	1,400	920	1,000
Foundation Income	40,488	42,424	43,974	43,974	43,961
Lads and Lassies	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	5,000
Miscellaneous Income	2,584	543	500	394	500
Staff Gifts	12,660	8,681	NA	NA	NA
Special gifts	33,720	2,621	NA	690	
Subtotal	111,228	59,709	49,874	49,978	50,461
Total Receipts	759,468	684,472	646,585	671,314	659,516

2023-24 OPERATING BUDGET (Continued)

	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
Operating Expenditures:					
Salaries and Benefits					
Administration	120,320				
Staff Appreciation	11,860				
Ministers	152,537				
PNC Expenses	0				
Music	70,600				
Youth Director/Faith Formation	54,561				
Subtotal	409,878	343,836	385,122	341,730	399,914
Staff Gifts		8,681	0		
Ministry Areas					
Christian Formation					
Adults	88	179	500	488	500
Young Congregation	3,189	3,754	8,155	5,162	4,000
Subtotal	3,277	3,933	8,655	5,650	4,500
Fellowship/Hospitality	1,903	1,597	2,000	1,908	2,000
Worshipping Ministry					
Music	624	1,235	2,000	937	2,000
Visions Service	0	NA	NA		
Worship	928	2,005	2,000	3,553	2,000
Subtotal	1,552	3,240	4,000	4,490	4,000
Deacons	200	200	400	248	300
Business Administration					
Annual Stewardship	161	0	100	332	100
Lads & Lassies Mission	(8,000)	(18,000)	(15,000)	(15,000)	(15,000)
Insurance	21,084	22,912	23,804	24,871	25,000
Maintenance and Cleaning	116,899	161,214	65,000	268,633	75,000
Office Operation	25,451	23,029	24,000	18,336	21,000
Presbytery Per Capita	13,992	13,662	13,872	13,872	13,755
Professional Fees			20,000	14,000	17,000
Utilities	39,008	46,160	50,000	64,008	60,000
Subtotal	208,595	248,977	181,776	389,052	196,855
Other Operating Related Costs					
Maple Knoll Transport	0	0	0		
Organ Repair/Maintenance	1,347	0	0	0	
	1,347	0	0	0	
Total Operating Expenses	626,752	610,464	581,953	743,078	607,569

OPERATING FUND BALANCE SHEET

	Dec 23	Dec 22
ASSETS		
CASH		
Petty Cash	0	138
5/3 Bank Operating	296,856	201,231
Subtotal Cash	296,856	201,369
CURRENT ASSETS		
Accounts Receivable Manse Fund*	0	9,736
Subtotal Current Assets	0	9,736
TOTAL ASSETS	296,856	211,105
 LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Due to Memorial	0	0
5/3 Credit Card	1,599	8,955
Due to Fidelity	10,800	0
Ohio BWC	0	0
Due to Foundation		2,000
Due to Capital Campaign	86,000	
Accounts Payable	59,090	
Subtotal Current Liabilities	157,489	10,955
PREPAID EOG	61,334	54,900
PROGRAM FUNDS		
Suspense	26,500	26,500
Youth Mission	11,668	14,748
Pastoral Care	627	627
Choir Soloists	0	0
Special Music	994	994
Women's Retreat	1,863	1,764
Valley Concerts	629	3,129
Prayers & Squares	342	383
Weddings & Funerals	410	410
Flowers	-99	0
Slutz Education Fund	100	100
Subtotal Program Funds	43,034	48,655

OPERATING FUND BALANCE SHEET (Continued)

	Dec 23	Dec 22
BENEVOLENCES		
General Mission	15,245	15,245
Thanksgiving Baskets	17,008	16,573
Subtotal Benevolences	32,253	31,820
 CAPITAL RESERVE		
Organ Repair	0	2,000
Manse Fund*	0	0
Subtotal Capital Reserve	0	2,000
 TOTAL LIABILITIES	 294,110	 148,330
 FUND BALANCE	 2,746	 62,795
 TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	 296,856	 211,125

* Manse Fund is housed in separate account. 12/31/2023 balance \$5,581.

CELEBRATIONS AND MEMORIAL FUND (*MIXED FUND*)

The Finance Committee is responsible for managing the Celebrations & Memorial Fund for the Session. The fund consists of contributions to the church made in memory of someone who has died, or in honor of an individual or occasion. The fund is administered in ways to carry out the expressed desires of the donors, when specified. When the monies are undesignated, the committee allocates them to important needs as requested by the Ministries, the staff, or others within the church and as approved by Session. These disbursements are usually for non-budgeted operating expenses. Currently the Betty Martin Slutz fund for education and a portion of the Property Reserve Fund are also housed in this account but managed separately.

	Cele. & Mem. Fund	Slutz Fund	Partial Prop Res Fund
1/1/2023 Beginning Balance	\$34,373	\$5,218	\$94,495
Contributions in 2023	\$13,228	0	\$35,000
Prior Year Contributions		0	0
Expenditures in 2023	\$11,592**	0	\$128,495*
12/31/2023 Ending Balance	\$36,009	\$5,218	0

2023 Contributions in memory of:

Lisa Bernheisel
 Bill Cooley
 Patsy Gaines
 Lou Gaudin
 Peg Halberstadt
 John and Jan Kramig
 Lee Livingston
 Jane Margraf
 Bob Reid
 Ted Sperduto
 Norm Thomas
 Ruth Wilson

2023 Contributions in honor of:

Sue Moriarty
 All Church Volunteers

*Property Reserve: \$5,000 was moved to Manse Account to pay for Porch Repair. The remainder was moved to Operating Account for the Building Repairs. Please see Finance Report for more information.

**Memorial Fund was used for red hymnals and new computer for Young Congregation leader in 2022 Paid for in 2023. In 2023 Funds were used to buy a printer and a new Projector for the Great Room.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2024

Elder Jill Martin, Pastor Gray Marshall & Session

Background and Overview of the Campaign

Our stewardship campaign theme this year was “Legacy: Preparing for a Future Not Our Own”, based on a series created by Rev. Carol Holbrook Prickett. The campaign intentionally focused on what legacy we are leaving at PCW. The campaign was led by the Session and Pastor Gray Marshall. The first campaign letters were sent out the week of October 22nd which included a letter and bookmark. The campaign kicked off on Sunday October 29th and concluded on November 19th with cake and punch fellowship. Each Sunday, a congregation member shared a legacy testimony. Those who shared were Rob Keelor, Jane Quinn, Steve Grant, and Bill Morley. Emails were sent each week with reflections on the previous Sunday sermon and the testimony along with an invitation to prayer. A second campaign letter was mailed November 8th serving as a final invitation to participate in the campaign. Following November 19th, Jill Martin, Chiller Miller, Pastor Gray and other members of the Session made follow-up contacts with our congregation members to secure the final Estimates of Giving cards. At the beginning of 2024, thank you cards were mailed to everyone who participated in the campaign. Special shout-out to Laura Brown, Peggy Theile, Jane Quinn, Cheryl Albrecht, and Carol Drees for their help in getting the materials out on time.

Results

The results are shown in the table below. The Stewardship Committee is grateful to God and our generous members and friends who contributed to this campaign.

2024 Estimates of Giving Analysis

\$ Range	#	Amount	Avg.
1 - 900	8	\$3,350	\$419
901 - 1700	12	\$13,740	\$1,145
1701 - 2500	8	\$16,681	\$2,085
2501 - 4500	14	\$ 48,060	\$3,433
4501 - 6500	16	\$86,750	\$5,422
6501 - 8000	7	\$ 51,900	\$7,414
8001 - 9500	4	\$34,675	\$8,669
9501 - 15000	14	\$166,200	\$11,871
15001 - 20000	3	\$57,200	\$19,067
20001 - 75000	2	\$ 56,000	\$28,000
2024	88	\$534,556	\$6,075
2023	94	\$532,812	\$5,668
Same	43		
Increase	31	\$17,461	
Decrease	9	\$6,075	
New	5	\$13,400	
	88		

CLERK OF SESSION REPORT

Geof Modderman

The Clerk of Session is elected yearly by the Session. Their primary responsibility is to support the Moderator of the Session (pastors) in matters pertaining to the Session, to prepare the Session agenda and to record the minutes of all Session meetings and place them in the permanent record book of the Presbyterian Church of Wyoming. These minutes are reviewed periodically by the Presbytery. All baptisms, weddings, deaths, and member changes are recorded in the monthly Clerk's Report for Session review and recorded in the permanent Church Register. The Clerk is the link to the Presbytery for all routine correspondence and must report very detailed demographic, salary, and other business matters to the Presbytery and PCUSA periodically/annually. Regular Session meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. The meetings are always opened with prayer and devotions leading to the work associated with the programs, business, and governance of the church. Occasionally, special Session meetings are held as the need arises. The Session consists of 12 elders who serve three-year terms, elders are eligible to serve two terms and are elected by the Congregation. The current Clerk is an Elder, serving as an elected member of Session. The Clerk of Session also serves as the secretary for the PCW Corporation and for all Congregational meetings.

The reports of the Session committees and various Mission programs appear elsewhere in the Annual Report.

Geof Modderman, Clerk of Session

CLERK'S YEAR END SUMMARY

Baptisms

9-17 Genevieve Harten

Wedding

None

New Members

Letter of Transfer

9-11 Bill Bretz and Karen Bretz

11-15 Wendy Murphy

Reaffirmation of Faith

11-5 Stephen Paul DeHoff and Cynthia Lee DeHoff

11-5 Tim Wells and Tammy Wells

11-5 Wendy Murphy

Deaths

1-23 Lou Gaudin

3-29 Floyd Lattire

5-25 Norman Thomas

10-11 Ted Sperduto (former minister of the congregation)

11-12 Carl Thompson

11-25 Bill Cooley

Total Active Membership Beginning of 2023: 393

End of 2023: 396

BUILDING AND FACILITIES REPORT

Skip Koesterman

2023 was another challenging year, as we proactively worked to prolong the life of our building equipment and dealt with a number of unexpected projects. Our forecast from 2022 was spot on and we believe this will carryover to 2024 as well. We are fortunate to be tenants of a beautiful and historic building! With that, comes the need for continuous care/updating for our older section and now we are starting to see the same from our newer section which is now 21 years old.

Our church is blessed to have Ernie Olszewski as its caretaker! Ernie works tirelessly to prioritize, bid out, and follow each and every project to completion to ensure that the job is done correctly the first time. 2023 was Ernie's second year in the church and his overall knowledge of the facility and pride in it is extremely evident.

The Gas & Electric cost for 2023 was \$44,195 versus \$46,160 for 2022.

The Property Reserve Fund Balance is now \$117,953 versus a balance of \$193,118 in 2022.

Major Facility Projects for 2023:

Bell Tower	\$36,820
Pressure Clean, Tuck Point and Waterproofing	\$14,122
Chimney Work	\$12,940
Electrical Work	\$10,157
Fire Systems Upgrades and Maintenance	\$9,250
Kitchen Exhaust Fan Installation	\$7,226
HVAC Maintenance	\$7,016
Manse and Sanctuary Ceiling Work	\$6,325
HVAC Maintenance	\$5,397
Pipe Insulation Repair	\$5,297
Back-flow Testing	\$5,178

As the 2022 Annual Report indicated the major focus for 2023 was to determine a solution for our HVAC systems that were past their designed life. This huge project was completed and our 2024 focus will be on fund raising and the implementation of the chosen plan. In addition, the church will need to continue to address and budget for other areas of the church that will present expected and unexpected financial needs.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

John Stickney

2023 was a year in which PCW was able to begin appreciating the ministry gifts of all the new staff that have been hired over the past few years along with adding a couple key members to our team. We are excited to have welcomed Lisa Kaufer as our new Director of Faith Formation and Laura Brown as our new Office Manager. Both are proving to be wonderful additions and are serving very important needs of our congregation.

Lisa is a Faith Formation professional with nearly 20 years of experience in this field of ministry. She has advanced training in Godly Play, has been through Stephen's Ministry Training, and has been involved in grant opportunities that involved design thinking and innovation in youth ministry. Her prior experience includes serving in roles as Youth Director, Director of Christian Education, and Director of Faith Formation across multiple Presbyterian Churches in the area. Lisa holds a degree in Communication and Spanish from the University of Arizona along with multiple certifications in faith formation and ministry. Lisa is uniquely qualified for her role with us and we are extremely grateful to have her.

Laura joined PCW in February of 2023 and has hit the ground running. She has proven to be a quick study and has been an amazing addition to our team. Laura has taken on responsibility for creating the bulletin and e-news, coordinating building usage and room set-ups, organizing office functions and coordinating with our external bookkeeper Scott Ellsworth at Ellsworth and Associates CPA.

Co-Pastors Anne and Gray Marshall have now completed their third full year with us and are a blessing with their willingness to sing in the choir, get involved in the community and encourage new ideas and programs. Both continue to work tirelessly, putting in longer hours than contracted for. Joe Taff shines as our Director of Music, seamless weaving Traditional and Contemporary styles to accommodate our varied worship experiences while working to engage our congregation in musical ministry. Chris Wallhausser continues to do a masterful job as our Organist, bringing a wealth of experience as a musician and previous musical director himself. Ernie Olszewski has been a real gift as Property Manager as he is also helping create long-term facilities plans. Finally, Ella Wahlquist provides critical audio/visual support every Sunday service, replacing long-time A/V aid Zach Moore who left us in September of 2023.

I would like to thank the members of the Personnel Committee: Pastor Anne, Beth Emanuelson, John Quinn, and Chair John Hurd for their collective wisdom and hard work. Special thanks go to Pastor Anne and John Hurd, who together put in many long hours supporting our church and staff. I am so grateful for Pastor Anne's and Gray's leadership as our co-pastors and especially thankful for the prayerful support of PCW that makes all of this possible.

YOUNG CONGREGATIONS MINISTRY TEAM

Chris Hasler, Joe Hornsby, Lisa Kaufer, Anne Marshall, Bill Morley

“...Jesus called for them and said, ‘Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.’” - Luke 18:16 (NRSV)

As the Body of Christ, PCW faith formation ministry strives to engage our living Baptismal vows by:

- nurturing a “safe faith space”, physically and emotionally, where people feel invited to “wonder” and “wander” together with love and prayer;
- developing community and equipping individuals and families to share their faith, by word and deed, at home and in daily living; and,
- instilling the values of life-long learning and discipleship, thereby encouraging each child of God to know and follow Christ and be faithful members of his church.

Leadership Transitions

We began the year working to strengthen our Sunday School program and Middle School Youth Group offerings. However, in 2023 we saw a transition in our faith formation staffing. Sarah Barefield resigned in early 2023 to take a position at Crossroads Church. Beth Emanuelson stepped up to coordinate volunteers for the remainder of the Spring so that we could continue to provide Sunday School for our children on Sunday mornings. Katie Towne, elder for the Young Congregations Team, anchored the Middle School Youth Group and recruited a rotation of volunteers to come alongside her through the spring. Katie moved to Switzerland over the summer with her family, so after the school year ended, Middle School Youth Group activities were put on pause until fall.

The Personnel Team partnered with Pastor Anne, Joe Hornsby, elder for the Young Congregations Team, Bill Morley, and Jessie Modderman to search for a new Director of Faith Formation. In late Spring, the team identified Lisa Kaufer as our next Director of Faith Formation. She came to PCW with a wealth of knowledge and experience of Faith Formation rooted in the Presbyterian tradition. In order for her to leave her former church well, she began planning with Pastor Anne over the summer, but did not begin her official work with PCW until August. Over the summer when attendance is more sporadic anyway, children were invited to worship alongside their parents while we prepared to welcome Lisa into our midst.

Outreach

We value building relationships with and supporting the important work of the Lads and Lassies Community Preschool. As such, our church staff have been intentional about participating in the Halloween Parade and Christmas Program as well as assembling seasonal gift bags for the students. Lisa Kaufer also leads a Wednesday Godly Play Enrichment Class for a group of preschool students. Wendy Murphy assists with the enrichment class. We have received a lot of positive feedback about this unique offering.

Intergenerational Ministry

We value all of God’s children as important members of the Body of Christ. Children are always welcome in worship, and we especially welcome children in worship when we celebrate All Together Church. On one such Sunday in August, Lisa Kaufer shared the Godly Play story of The Good Shepherd and World Communion as an introduction to the day’s sermon by Pastor Anne. In November, we shared gift Bibles with children in grades 3-6. In December, we provided a variety of activities for all ages during the Advent Workshop and we invited everyone in the congregation to participate in the No Stress No Fuss Christmas Pageant.

Sunday Morning Nursery Care

This fall, we began providing staffed Nursery care in the lower level Muscle Room. We created an area for infant care including a Pack ‘N Play, Rocking Chair, and enrichment materials for this young age group. The existing toys, bikes, and climbing structures are well used by toddlers and preschoolers. The Nursery has been utilized by families on a weekly basis and we recognize the importance in supporting them by providing this safe and nurturing environment, staffed by

YOUNG CONGREGATIONS MINISTRY TEAM *(Continued)*

qualified and reliable adults. We hired Viktoria Mariniuk and we have continued the search for 1-2 additional candidates to fill our paid staff positions on the Childcare Team. We also offered a Quiet Room for parents with young children who may not yet be ready to stay in the Nursery and may need a break from worship. This space is located near the Sanctuary and includes a TV which shows the live stream from worship.

Middle School Youth Group

Our Middle School Youth Group included 14 members meeting weekly, September through May, with the exception of long weekends and holiday breaks. A typical meeting included snacks and gathering conversation, games, Bible Study, and discussion. As a group, we participated in Be the Church Sunday by visiting residents at Maple Knoll village to play games and decorate cards for the Thanksgiving Boxes. We also invited Youth Group families to participate in an outing for Fall Fun at Niederman Farm. We have depended on parents to provide volunteer support as we continue to work towards building a leadership team for this ministry.

High School Youth Group

The Senior High Youth Group had another good year as we continued our weekly meetings and service projects with about 20 active members. Our focus remained providing a safe environment where kids can explore their faith and life questions.

We continue to be an ecumenical group supporting the community as now only five of the 20 active kids are PCW members. We graduated a strong group of seniors last spring, and have a smaller group of seniors, but a strong junior class this fall. We also saw some change in the adult leadership. For the 22-23 school year we had previous group members helping out. Starting with the mission trip in June, two new leaders became actively involved and have continued this fall. Tim Wells, and Ruth Morley have been wonderful additions to the leadership team and do a wonderful job with the kids.

Our mission trip this year was to Detroit to help out with an urban garden. We worked with a group called Camp Restore - Detroit and this garden was a dream of a local couple, Roxanne and Donnie. Camp Restore had been looking for a partner to help them continue to build the beds and other needed infrastructure and was thrilled that we could come with both labor and resources. We were able to install 15 newest raised beds, a new porch for their house and a new tool shed, as well as putting on a water catchment system on their greenhouse. For the trip, we had three returning college students for a great leadership team of 6 who joined the 13 high school youth on the trip.

These kids are engaged and entertaining and represent the church very well with each of our activities. I encourage everyone to drop in on one of our meetings to meet the kids and see what we are about. If you enjoy this age, please contact Bill Morley about helping out on a regular basis.

HOSPITALITY

Maureen Miller

The goal of hospitality is to create a warm and inviting space for the congregation and visitors to share the love of Jesus Christ. Our church environment encourages fellowship and welcomes new members.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2023

We were pretty much back to our pre-Covid “normal” with our fellowship and hospitality events.

Coffee and Treats — A very faithful group of volunteers continue to take care of brewing coffee and providing food for our Sunday morning worship services. We can always use help, and I’m happy to provide training on how to use the coffee maker!

On March 5, we held our Annual Meeting with refreshments provided for the in-person attendees.

We bade goodbye to Sarah Barefield on March 19 after her short time at PCW. A going away reception was held after service.

Originally scheduled for February, we held a “Sprinkle” for Joe Taff on March 26 to welcome his baby girl, Ori, after she decided to make an early appearance. There was cake, cookies, and punch served!

Our outside church picnic on June 25 had to be moved inside due to rain, but we made the most of it! Steve Komrska, Craig Theile, and Chiller Miller stepped up to man the grills undercover of the porch and we shuttled the food inside to be enjoyed by all.

The annual Ice Cream Social was held on August 20, and we used this occasion to introduce and welcome Lisa Kaufer! Many thanks to Bob and Christi Graeter for the donation of ice cream, it was a big hit as always!

Worship in the Woods took place on September 10, and it was a beautiful day to worship outdoors at Winton Woods. The church provided fried chicken, and everyone brought sides and desserts to share. The weather cooperated this time!

Our Legacy celebration was held on November 19, with the congregation turning in their Estimates of Giving, with cake and punch to celebrate afterward.

Christmas Eve was celebrated with hot chocolate served in plastic snowmen cups and cookies for the kids to take home to leave out for Santa. It was a very fun and festive way to enjoy the holiday.

Looking forward to many more opportunities for fellowship in the coming year. Heartfelt thanks again to those of you who consistently volunteer, and do so with a smile and such a willingness to help....you are appreciated! We are always open to new ideas on ways to enjoy fellowship, just let Gray, Anne, or Mo know if you have an idea!

WORSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Anne Fischer

We enjoyed the sermons of Anne and Gray throughout the year. These were delivered in seven thematic series, Back to the Start (Genesis), Pharaoh and Jesus, Spiritual Practices for a Resilient Faith, Blessings and Woes, Legacy - Preparing for a Future Not our Own and God With Us. We appreciate the care and thought that was put into these Christ and scripture centered messages.

Lent was observed with several special services and events. We enjoyed a Golgotha experience produced by the musical group, Poor Bishop Hooper. It was a beautiful and engaging experience that included bible verses, music and reflections. On Maundy Thursday we gathered together for a soup supper followed by a special service and communion. Our church hosted an ecumenical Good Friday service with a community choir led by our Director of Music, Joe Taff. Our Easter service was enhanced by the inclusion of a brass quartet.

Advent brought our tradition of Advent candle lightings and scriptures read by church members each Sunday. We enjoyed coming together with others from community churches at our inaugural Community Carol Sing at the new pavilion on Wyoming Avenue. Anne and Gray spearheaded this event with the help of several neighbor churches and Joe Taff leading the singing. On Christmas Eve we enjoyed a pageant at our 10:00 am service and a traditional lessons and carols service with a wind quartet at our 9:00 pm service.

Other special services in 2023 included Pentecost, Confirmation Sunday, Youth Sunday, Worship in the Woods, World Communion Sunday, Be the Church Sunday and All Saints Day.

Our musical offerings have been beautiful and diverse throughout the year. Special music included the Golgotha experience, a brass quartet, instruments played by talented congregation members and professional musicians.

Our decorating committee did a marvelous job of adorning our church throughout the year and liturgical seasons. Thank you to our decorating committee, Leslie Pease, Peggy Theile and Linda Voss.

Thank you to our music staff, Joe Taff, Chris Wallhausser, our section leaders and Sunday morning technical support staff.

Thank you to our Music and Worship Committee, Peggy Grant, Ed Hander, Joyce Mueller, Mary Lou Mueller, Leslie Pease, Dee Dee Uhle and Linda Voss.

MISSION

Pastor Gray Marshall, Cheryl Albrecht, Shelley Komrska, Mo Miller, Bill Morley, Linda Voss, Tim Wells and Jerry Williams

Wow! The Mission Team is so grateful for the generosity YOU, The PCW Congregation, have bestowed on us! You are such a blessing! This year our "Total PCW Mission Giving" amounted to \$98,777! Yay God! Because of YOU, we have been able to support our Ukrainian friends throughout 2023 here at PCW. Our giving extends all the way to those in Ukraine through warm clothing/power pack drives, art exhibits, and partner fundraisers with USA with Ukraine. What a blessing!

As you read the report below you will see that our monetary donations follow the path of our dedicated, member participatory service work. **Thank you for your thoughtfulness, kindness, and generosity throughout the year! You are the BEST!**

Brief History and Charge - The first Mission Team meeting was held on November 19th, 2008. At this first meeting, the Mission Team created our Mission Statement, which reads, "Our mission is to create and inspire opportunities of discipleship and service to others." This statement continues to this day as the guiding principle for our team. The Mission Team evaluates opportunities with organizations where we are inspired to utilize our time, talents, and treasure. For these organizations, our goal is to change people's lives through our overall commitment for all our resources.

PCW Mission activities and outreach for 2023 include:

Mission of the Month - This was created to bring awareness to the different projects we do on a yearly basis including an online presence and awareness. We thought it was an excellent way to include our PCW Congregation in all that we do. We appreciate your involvement whether it is by prayer, becoming an active participant or giving monetarily! We love when you become a part of Mission!

Valley Interfaith Community Resource Center (VICRC) - Valley Interfaith's mission is to partner with our community to provide necessary resources and build self-sustainability. By doing so, we strive to reduce the risk of hunger, crisis, and harm/victimization many of our most vulnerable community members face.

Located in Lockland, PCW was a founding partner. We assist financially and participate in many activities throughout the year. Some of these activities include Back to School Supplies, Laundry Pod Packs, Food and Clothing Drives, Thanksgiving Boxes, and the Sharing Tree.

In September, VICRC hosted an informational and fundraising dinner, "Seeds of Hope." PCW was given a beautiful award to recognize us as a founding partner and celebrate all the work our PCW members have done throughout the years! It was a joyous occasion!

In the fall, PCW had a Hygiene Drive for the Mauritanian population in Lockland. This included TP, tissues, paper towels, shampoo, bar soap, dish soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and feminine hygiene products. Our youth also put together a nice amount of laundry pods.

Lighthouse Boys/Girls - We have a fourteen-year relationship with our Lighthouse residential programs. These programs support kids who are waiting for foster homes or escaping sexual abuse. Every month there is some activity with the boys and/or girls such as Rugby, caving, overnight camping, a day at the lake house, tubing on the snow, Top Golf and decorating their facility for Christmas. Tutoring is also given as needed. Bill Morley has been our lead on this effort.

Shelterhouse Facility for Men and Women - We provide a homemade hearty soup, salad, and cookies each month to the two shelters. Dedicated volunteers' shop, cook, deliver, and serve the soup each month. Denise Koesterman has been our able lead here.

Hoxworth Blood Drive- PCW is happy to bring back our annual Sunday blood drive on April 14, 2024. Mark your calendar! Signups will be in March. Details to follow. Till then, you may continue to give at the Wyoming Civic Center. Our group code for PCW is A475.

MISSION (Continued)

The Metanoia Center-The mission of the Metanoia Center is to help transform people and place through wholistic solutions that focus on betterment and development by offering a variety of literacy and community outreach opportunities. PCW was a founding partner and has been supporting the Center through volunteers and monetary donations since December 2020.

On February 21, 2023, there was a dedication for the completion of Phase 1. The first floor of the Metanoia Center was completely renovated and passed inspection with Hamilton County. Now classes and tutoring are provided for the Community of Lockland.

In May, Jim Null was diagnosed with ALS. He is receiving treatment and on The Caring Bridge site if you wish to follow his journey.

Phase 2 is getting close to completion. Two apartments on the second floor are now completed. This will provide rental housing and provide an income source to assist with funding for the Metanoia Ministry.

Phase 3 and Phase 4 will focus on the reconstruction of 115 N Wayne Avenue. This will include meeting and office space, additional classrooms, restrooms, and showers.

Phase 4 includes a fee-based laundromat for approximately 10 washers and dryers.

Habitat for Humanity gives us the opportunity to help complete numerous building tasks on the inside and out of each of the build sites. Jerry Williams is our leader for Habitat. PCW was able to help Habitat with 2 builds in Lockland. Not only did PCW provide assistance for building, but we also helped with lunch for the workers.

Youth Auction/Luncheon Fundraiser - On Sunday, April 16, the Youth participated in a Pancake Brunch to raise money for their mission trip to Detroit, Michigan. There was a silent Auction online as well as a Live Auction during the lunch. \$12,600.00 was raised by our Youth with almost all of it coming from PCW members! Yay God!

High School Youth Mission Work - High school youth are also involved in missions to learn about a life of service. Throughout 2023 they served meals each month at the Men's Shelter House and served clients on Wednesday evenings at VICRC. Our youth put together laundry pod packages for Valley. These local service efforts are part of their learning to serve in preparation for a week-long mission trip that they take each June.

One Great Hour of Sharing - PCW's Congregation donated \$1211.63. For over 70 years, OGHS has provided Presbyterians a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Uniting for Ukraine - Our Ukrainian friends have been with us for almost a year and a half now and have made great progress. The adults have all obtained driver's licenses and have cars thanks to generous donors. Mariia is working for Drees Homes, and Sergey Kovalov started a new job in January. He has an engineering position with Solar Biotech. Ira Kovalova has been awarded a grant to study English in an immersive course at NKU. Ira also received her phlebotomy certification. The children have acclimated to Wyoming schools and various activities like ballet and soccer. Baby Mira will be in part-time daycare while Ira studies this semester. It has been wonderful to see them gain more independence as their reliance on federal programs and needs from PCW become less urgent and frequent. The Ukrainian mission team and PCW continue to support them as needed. We are so grateful for PCW members, and those from the Wyoming community, who continue to offer help and services. They have received medical and dental services free of charge, numerous rides, driving lessons, trips to the grocery store and even diapers, in addition to accompaniment and compassionate friendship. We will await the US government's decision on possibly extending the 2-year period for the Uniting for Ukraine program and/or their humanitarian parole' status.

MISSION (Continued)

The Cincinnati Kharkiv Sister City Partnership will again sponsor a Candlelight Vigil at PCW on Thursday, February 22: the 2nd Anniversary of Ukraine's Fight for Freedom.

Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio, a non-profit organization that provides a variety of services to our community including "Refugee Resettlement Services", has continued to support our Ukrainian friends when government benefit issues arise.

Earth Care Congregation (ECC) - The PCW Earth Care Team (ECT) is excited to announce that Session approved the Earth Care Pledge at their December meeting and the Clerk of Session signed the pledge in early January 2024. The signed pledge and complete ECC audit form were submitted and accepted by the PC(USA). Official notification that PCW is a certified Earth Care Congregation is expected in early 2024. The ECC process requires that we assess and implement sustainability practices in four categories (e.g. Education, Facilities, Outreach and Ministry) with a potential benefit of reducing energy. If you feel God's spirit moving you to join your ECC group please contact anyone from the mission committee. Tim Wells oversees this new Mission.

PCW is blessed to have a passionate and motivated ECT with seven full-time members and several ad hoc members. We are fully engaged in 2024 planning with the anticipation that PCW will be a certified Earth Care Congregation early in the new year. Following are a few 2023 highlights:

- Successful Completion of the ECC audit – Yay God!
- Congregation survey and raising overall awareness.
- Movie night and working with the Youth Group.
- Engagement with the leadership team to support earth care.
- Recycling/composting efforts.
- E-news earth caring tips informing congregants about actions they can take to heal the natural world.

Tikkun Farm - Tikkun is a Hebrew word meaning "restoration". Tikkun Farm is a 3- acre urban farm in Mt. Healthy. This nonprofit's mission is healing people, repairing the community, and restoring creation. This mission is carried out in a number of ways – providing meals and cooking skills for the community, being a home for rescued farm animals, creating compost to turn back into the land, just to name a few. PCW provided funds after the Christmas Eve 2022 farmhouse headquarters suffered a total devastating fire loss. Thank God no one was hurt. PCW, via Last Mile Food Rescue, delivers bread to Tikkun Farm weekly.

Be the Church - On Sunday, October 22, 2023, after a send off service in the Great Room, PCW members participated in multiple service events both at our church and in our surrounding communities. This year Laurie Gorby headed up a team to work on the Presbytery Garden. Members of the Herb Society, a local group that holds their meetings in PCW, joined in. The garden looks lovely! Lisa Kaufer led an engaging intergenerational activity at Maple Knoll. Claire Darley worked with Steve Komrska and others to improve various areas on the church grounds including removing bushes on the west side of the church, cleaning up areas around the church and applying mulch after the clean-up. New plantings will be put in place at a later date. Mary Jo Peairs and Cheryl Albrecht led a pancake breakfast and Bingo session (with prizes) at the Women's Shelterhouse. Members contributed fresh fruit salads to accompany the pancakes and bacon. The women were very thankful and appreciative of the visit! PCW members returned to the Great Room for fellowship and a delicious pancake brunch provided by Mo Miller, Marilyn Hunter, the Men's Bible Study and other Session Members. Pictures of the different service events were shown to all on our overhead screen during our brunch.

Last Mile Food Rescue (LMFR) - Last Mile helps fight hunger and food waste in the Greater Cincinnati area all while helping the environment. LMFR rescues good food that would have gone to the landfill. LMFR heroes deliver to those who need it the most. In 2023 LMFR successfully rescued over 3.1 MILLION pounds of food, 736 volunteers made >16,000 rescues, provided 2.6 million meals, and prevented 1.7 million pounds of CO2 from entering the air. Thank you to the LMFR heroes who make the commitment to touch countless lives and aid in protecting all life forms.

MISSION (Continued)

Mercy Medical Cambodia - is a non-profit Christian medical center proclaiming the love of Christ to the people of Cambodia through excellent healthcare and training. Marjie and Tim Benadum have been the missionaries we have supported throughout the years. The Mission for MMC is Proclaim, Provide, Prepare and Partner. MMC proclaims Christ in Word and Deed. MMC provides excellent healthcare for the poor. MMC prepares national healthcare workers and mentors staff. MMC partners with like-minded workers and the Cambodian Church. Please continue to pray for Marjie and Tim as they continue their mission in Cambodia.

Serge - The Myhre's landed in Uganda on October 14, 1993. PCW, has had a 31-year partnership with them as well. Their website defines their role as two-fold. "First, they serve as East Africa Area Directors for Serge, supervising teams in Uganda, Kenya, South Sudan, and Burundi. Second, they both serve as doctors to provide compassionate and excellent health care and training in the name of Jesus, reaching the vulnerable throughout East Africa." Please continue to pray for Jennifer and Scott as they do God's work in Africa.

The Thanksgiving Day Box Program was a tremendous success again in 2023! There were 300 Thanksgiving Boxes purchased, assembled, and delivered to families, all within a couple miles of Wyoming. This is truly a Wyoming event, where six churches and other community groups come together to make a difference. A very able and experienced crew again lead the event with PCW providing most of the leadership. We again held this event at VICRC with 195 families picking up their boxes and 105 having their boxes delivered. Thanks to the generosity of PCW and Lads & Lassies, we donated 114/300 boxes this year! Yay God! Bill Morley led the program this year.

The Sharing Tree - Thanks to the generosity of our congregation at PCW, we provided 125 Christmas toys and Target gift cards to area children. This year we were given the choice of toys for all ages and \$25.00 gift cards from Target. Sue Lewis and Mo Miller are the leads on this wonderful and heart-warming outreach effort and PCW tradition. Yay God!

The Decorating Committee is very thankful to our High School Youth, Serhii, Mariia and Ernie for helping with the Christmas Decorations this year! PCW was very festive for the Advent and Christmas Season. We appreciate all that was done!

A Walk to Remember – This mission was brought to our attention – by Nikki and Joe Hornsby. The walk commemorates National Pregnancy and Infant loss awareness. The Walk takes place in October at Oak Hill Cemetery. The walk creates a time for reflection, thought and prayer. Towards the end of the walk there was a dove release at the lake. The doves are trained to flock and return to their home in Erlanger, KY. The doves are used for other memorials. Statistically, there has been greater loss over the last few years and attendance was larger than normal. PCW is a sponsor along with the Hornsby Family.

The Fringe - The Fringe Coffee House is located in beautiful, historic Hamilton, Ohio. The Fringe Coffee House exists to empower inmates, ex-felons, and those on the fringes of society to live healthy, whole lives. This is done through an 8-week prison music therapy program dedicated towards getting to root causes of incarceration and destructive behavior, building kinship, and mentoring those incarcerated and upon their release providing gainful employment, and a holistic re-entry support plan all under one roof.

New Missions in 2023:

A Rocha USA is a global family of conservation organizations working together to live out God's calling to care for creation and equip others to do likewise. A brief history: In 1983 a small seed was planted in the dry, sandy soil of southern Portugal: an innovative mission to protect and restore an ecologically significant area of wetland in God's name. A Rocha, meaning 'the rock' in Portuguese, celebrated its 40th anniversary of roots in the soil: first in Portugal, now in landscapes on six continents and twenty countries including the US. A Rocha USA's programs and conservation projects focus on applied scientific research, environmental and theological education, and environmental action. The key areas of work in the USA are marine conservation, climate action, and habitat preservation. Tim Wells is our leader with this mission.

MISSION (Continued)

Helping Hands for the Nation, Inc-The mission is to reach out to the Body of Christ and support the stabilization of our brothers and sisters locally and internationally. To empower, educate and advocate for the needs of the lost, sick and the poor of all nations, creed and color. This is a special ministry which raises funds and gathers school and medical supplies and ministers to communities in Kenya, Africa. Pastors Dee and Jeff Davis are co-pastors of the H.O.P.E Word Church and are actively involved with this mission.

St. Vincent de Paul's Poverty Simulation - On Sunday, May 7 from 5pm to 8pm PCW held a Poverty Simulation in the Great Room. Participants spent time learning what it's like to be poor in urban America. After a simple meal together, the same one served at the Shelterhouse each month, the group participated in an exercise run by St. Vincent de Paul as a powerful demonstration of how different life looks when you are trying to survive on limited resources.

PCW Mission activities and outreach for 2024:

Candlelight Vigil with The Cincinnati Kharkiv Sister Partnership-Thursday, February 22 at 7:30 pm.

Hoxworth Blood Drive-Sunday, April 14

Be the Church-TBD

While we annually review the programs that we support and make adjustments, we anticipate continuing our support of the programs and initiatives mentioned for 2023.

I would like to thank all the members of the Mission Team, those mentioned above that are leading various initiatives and all the many volunteers that have worked with us this past year. Your time, energy and talent are very much appreciated! If you have any questions about opportunities to serve, please contact Linda Voss at 521-3654 or jimlindajdvoss@fuse.net or any Mission Team member. I invite all of PCW to consider serving with us in 2024! I also want to celebrate all the other mission activities that our members contribute to outside of PCW as well - - all in Christ's name! THANK YOU!

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Voss, Chair

MISSION (Continued)

2023 BENEVOLENCE DISTRIBUTION

Mission Team Designations	Budget Amount 2023			Other Congregational Designations	Amount 2023
	Budgeted Amount	Expenses during the year	Year end Checks		
				(Additional donations from members that pass through the church books)	
Mercy Medical Center	8500		\$8,500	Thanksgiving Baskets donations	5701
Serge	8500		\$8,500	Valley donations (paper and soap)	688
Sister City - for Kharkiv	1000		\$1,000	VIFCRC - Sharing Tree (estimate)	3000
Catholic Charities	500		\$500	Ukrainian Support (donations and Presbytery)	2207
Support for Pastor Davis - Hope Church	1000	1000	\$0	Ukrainian housing Support (Utilities etc)	5000
VIFCRC - General Fund	4500		\$4,500	VIFCRC- General fund (session)	262
Last mile food rescue	1000		\$1,000	L&L Custodial Support	15,000
Shelterhouse/Drop In Center	2750	2750	\$0	One Great Hour of Sharing	1412
Lighthouse	2700	700	\$2,000	Senior High Mission Trip -Detroit	12623
Metanoia Center	3500		\$3,500	Matt 25 : Turkey Earthquake	101
St. Vincent de Paul	1000		\$1,000	Camp Restore - Detroit - Extra raised beds	1200
Be the Church	118.75	118.75	\$0	Ukraine USA (Fundraiser)	4060
Habitat for Humanity	3747	247.05	\$3,500	Serge	1775
Special Olympics	500		\$500		
The Fringe	500		\$500		
Hoxworth Blood Center	500		\$500		
Earth care congregation and Rocha USA	1194	194	\$1,000		
Matthew 25 Ministries	1000		\$1,000		
Camp Restore Detroit - General fund	1000		\$1,000		
One Hopeful Fund (Presbytery mission fund)	1500		\$1,500		
Total	\$45,010	\$5,010		Total	\$53,029

Total Giving by Location	Dollars	Percentage
International	\$25,335.00	25.7%
Cincinnati area	\$54,555.75	55.3%
U.S.	\$18,835.89	19.1%

Total PCW Mission Giving \$98,727

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

Rob Keelor, Ed Hander, Anne Marshall

INTRODUCTION: During this last year, PCW has been blessed with several discipleship opportunities including, but not limited to: Men's & Women's Annual Retreats, Men's & Women's Studies, Sunday Morning Adult Discipleship Class, and a variety of other Study Groups meeting during the week. We strongly encourage all PCW members to connect with at least one of these groups to foster a stronger walk with God and each other.

Weekly Study/Fellowship Opportunities:

1. Sundays @ 11:15A – Adult Discipleship (PCW Parlor) – Contact Rob Keelor/Ed Hander
2. Wednesdays @ 7:30A – Owen Study Group (Zoom Study) – Contact Bill Morley
3. Thursdays @ 7:00A – Men's Bible Study (Library/Founder's Room) – Contact Ken Popham/Skip Koesterman
4. Thursdays @ 9:00A – Women's Study (Zoom During School Year) – Contact Anne Marshall
5. Fridays @ 6:15A – Men's Bible Study (Lawsons) – Contact Kevin Lawson

Monthly Study/Fellowship Opportunities:

1. 3rd Wednesday of the Month @ 7:00P – Journey Women's Group (PCW Parlor) – Contact Christi Graeter Anne Marshall

We are aided in this discipleship journey by following the **Scriptural Goals/Guidelines** below.

SCRIPTURAL: "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples" (John 8:31). A Christian disciple follows Jesus, abiding in His word, becoming more and more like Him through a life of faith and obedience. In this last year, PCW Adult Discipleship Class has enjoyed the following study topics:

1. Fall 2022: *"Mere Christianity,"* by C.S. Lewis
2. Winter & Spring 2023: *"Life Lessons from Psalms,"* by Max Lucado
3. Summer 2023: *"Romans – In the Grip of Grace,"* by Max Lucado
4. Fall 2023: *"Simon Peter – Flawed but Faithful Disciple,"* by Adam Hamilton
5. Winter/Lent 2024: *"John – Gospel of Light & Life,"* by Adam Hamilton

RELATIONAL: "Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God." (1 John 4:7). In all that we do in our adult discipleship programs, we should be asking how this class, lecture, bible study, or event is helping to build our relationship with God and build relationships among our people; relationships that are so strong that the class becomes more of a small group, building each other up in Christ, and inviting others to join the fellowship.

INVITATIONAL: "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Matthew 4:19). People need to feel that they are invited to participate in adult discipleship. We need to communicate in personal and helpful ways, both what we are doing and why we are doing it. People also need to feel that they are invited to share their ideas and needs. We should try to create an open-door policy when it comes to adult discipleship, letting our congregation know that we are always interested in knowing what they want to study: Come to us and talk about what you are looking for, and we can partner together to create something that meets those needs. When people have an active part in creating the adult discipleship "curriculum," they are much more likely to become evangelists for studying together, inviting others in the congregation and in their lives to participate.

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP (Continued)

Rob Keelor, Ed Hander, Anne Marshall

ACCESSIBLE: “The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.” (John 1:14). As Christ brought the Word to us, we should be intentional to bring his Word to others, and to provide a place to share in his Word together. The “place” may be at PCW, in your home with your family, at a picnic table with your neighbors, or with your coworkers over lunch. The “place” is wherever you share your story. In all our classes/bible studies/small groups, no matter the topic, we should strive to create space for people at all different points in their faith and educational journey. The teacher/facilitator should always be humble, quick to share their own deficiencies, or to make sure that the class understands that we are partners together in the educational process.

GRATEFUL: “In everything give thanks, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Whether we begin or end a class with prayer, let us seek to lift-up a prayer of thanksgiving: thanks for the time that each of us has given to be present with the others, thanks for the openness and sharing offered in that space, thanks for the Word of God to be studied and discovered in a new way because of that particular combination of people gathered together.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the PCW Adult Discipleship participants for sharing your hearts, growing in Christ together, making our fellowship sweet and our time together such a joy. Thank you for your deep love of God, this church, and each other. Your prayers, devotion, and friendship have left an everlasting mark. Ed Hander – Thank you for your continued organization, insights, participation, and encouragement. Steve Grant – Thank you for your feedback and encouragement. Finally, I would like to thank Pastors Anne & Gray Marshall for your leadership and for sharing your wisdom, encouragement, and hearts for the Adult Discipleship Ministry at PCW.

SUMMARY: “And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.” (Philippians 1:6). Let us draw near to God together, in a space full of grace, where learning and growing in the image of Christ is inevitable.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Joe Taff

Compared to the prior two years, 2023 was in many ways a period of welcome stability for worship music at PCW. We continued the format of a single combined worship service at 10am, alternating between the Sanctuary and Great Room and incorporating both traditional and contemporary styles of music.

Joe Taff and Chris Wallhausser continued in their roles as director of music and organist, respectively. Alea Vernon continued as soprano section leader with the choir, and took on additional responsibilities singing threshold songs and leading hymns on mic; this has provided valuable leadership and led many attendees to feel more comfortable participating in hymn singing. In the fall, Søren Pedersen joined us as bass section leader with the choir. Jett Stevens was our percussionist for much of the year. The volunteer choir sang weekly anthems through May, and resumed as usual in September. Throughout the year, we continued to incorporate special musical contributions from skilled church members (particularly Steve DeHoff, Peggy Grant, John and Kristen Hurd, John Stickney, and Dee Dee Uhle) and professionals (particularly Josh Bermudez).

We began Lent with a Taizé-style worship service for Ash Wednesday, using the same format as the previous year. On Good Friday, PCW hosted an ecumenical service in partnership with Friendship United Methodist Church, Wyoming Baptist Church, and First Liberty Baptist Church. Music for this service featured a string quartet, led by Marion Peraza, and a large combined choir directed by Joe Taff. On Easter, PCW celebrated the Resurrection with a rock combo, festive brass quartet (organized by Steve DeHoff), timpani, and an expanded choir.

In September, we once again worshipped at Winton Woods. The service featured fun, upbeat camp-style songs accompanied by piano and guitar.

In December, PCW once again partnered with WBC and FUMC to host “Carols on the Green,” a community Christmas carol sing on Wyoming’s newly-open town green. Jim Burke of FUMC led a bell choir prelude, and Joe Taff led the carol singing on mic. Hot chocolate and donuts made it a festive occasion for community outreach and fellowship, despite freezing temperatures.

Christmas Eve 2023 fell on a Sunday, causing a change to our usual worship schedule: instead of an afternoon service and an evening service, we held a morning service and an evening service. The morning service (10am) celebrated the fourth Sunday of Advent as well as Christmas Eve, and featured familiar carols as part of a slightly revised “No Stress, No Fuss Christmas Pageant.” The evening service (9pm) followed our traditional lessons and carols-style format, with music led by our (expanded) choir and a wind quartet. It was a joyous conclusion to a successful year of worship music at PCW!

BOARD OF DEACONS

Jane Quinn

Members: Jane Quinn - Chair, Amber Cartwright, Nikki Hornsby, Marilyn Hunter, Sue Moriarty and Janie Murphy. We say goodbye and thanks to Raye Allen, Jessie Modderman, Jerry Williams and Sam Williams for your service. You will be missed. We welcome Joyce Hutchens, Peggy Grant, Mary Jo Peairs and Ellie Lawson (Youth Deacon) to the board.

Deacon Ministry: "The office of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service after the example of Jesus Christ." – *Presbyterian Book of Order (G-6.0401)*

Deacon Responsibilities: "It is the duty of deacons, first, of all, to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress both within and beyond the community of faith. They shall assume such other duties as may be delegated to them from time to time by the session, such as leading the people in worship, through prayers of intercession, reading the Scriptures, presenting the gifts of the people, and assisting with the Lord's Supper." – *Presbyterian Book of Order (G-6.0402)*

Deacon Activities: All Deacons are engaged in several of following areas of ministry:

- **Meetings:** We meet on the third Monday of each month at 7PM to consider past, present, and future congregational/community needs, seeking to meet those needs and share the love of Christ through our devotions, prayers, gifts and services.
- **Visitation (PCW Partners)** We visit members in their homes to bring flowers, church bulletins, and to enjoy fellowship together.
- **Card outreach:** We demonstrate care and compassion for those in our congregation and beyond through card ministry.
- **Worship transportation:** We ensure members in our retirement communities (i.e. Maple Knoll) can continue to worship by arranging for rides to/from PCW.
- **Ushering/Greeting:** We serve as lead ushers/greeters at all three services, recruiting additional ushers/greeters for service, and making every effort to welcome visitors and members alike.
- **Funerals:** We support funerals by providing ushering/greeting and helping with a family requested reception (e.g., coffee/tea/cookies) or support.
- **Take them a Meal:** Arranging for meals during times during life circumstances (after/during an illness, arrival of new baby) when making meal can be difficult.
- **Crisis Care:** We care for those in difficult situations due to sickness, immobility, death of a family member, and other needs by providing transportation to appointments, a thoughtful card, or to just listen to and pray with those who need a caring friend.
- **Visitor Follow-up:** We follow-up with visitors via a phone call, a card, or other forms of communication.
- **New Members:** We encourage new members to be engaged in the life, service, and activities of the church.
- **Youth:** Each year, a representative(s) of our younger church members serves as Youth Deacon(s), linking the ministry of the high school youth together with the deacon ministry.

The Deacons are a group committed to the activities above. In addition we are reading and discussing the book *Holy Moments* by Matthew Kelly. It truly represents the Deacon's Mission.

As 2024 progresses, we will continue to look for ways to serve and unite our members and are so very grateful when you let us know of needs in your family or throughout the community where we can help. In Christ, we are all Deacons when we love our neighbors! Luke 10:27

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WYOMING FOUNDATION, LLC.

The Foundation had a quiet but profitable year. Investments outperformed the relevant market benchmarks. Performance net of fees was up 19.6% for the last 12 months at year end. The balance of all funds is \$1.118 million. Of course, the balance fluctuates daily with the market. The PCWF Board made a few adjustments, with the advice and counsel of Key Bank, our advisors. We were fortunate in the timing of the adjustments as we chose to target some additional growth areas which were different from our investments of a year ago. A summary of fund activity and breakdown is attached.

The Board is active in planning, along with the session, for the HVAC fundraising campaign. The Foundation will be considering a lead gift to help kick start the campaign. Donations to the Foundation have only been made by a few individuals and families but the total balance in the Foundation has continued to grow, along with the market.

The organ repair and rebuild has been completed. The Foundation is hoping to host a celebration to commemorate our fine organ and the tradition of classical music and great musicians at PCW. The total cost was \$108,000 and we were able to pay all expenses with donated foundation funds.

We ask church members and all friends to consider the HVAC campaign, Foundation and your annual pledge in your giving planning. Our goal is for all Pastors, deacons, session and Board members to commit to a Foundation gift of any size, over and above our annual pledge. The HVAC campaign is a separate fundraising effort and you will be hearing more about plans for the project and its funding.

The Foundation is also supported by the 1870 Society. It is a register of all PCW members who have included the church in their will, trust, estate plan or other giving commitment. This includes insurance policies, gift annuities, stock transfer, real estate or any other individual giving plan. A bequest in a will or trust is a long term act of faith that we all should consider. You can also make a direct gift any time during your lifetime.

The PCWF contributes annually to the regular Church budget to help fund daily operating expenses. Four percent is a benchmark used by many non-profit organizations and the foundation tries to keep the annual donation at four percent. The regular annual PCWF contribution of \$43,974 for 2024 has been approved and accepted by session.

A special thanks to Mike Miller and Beth Emanuelson who have served the Foundation Board since its inception. They both have completed their terms and moved on.

Thank you for your interest and participation in PCW and please know that you are a valuable part of our church family. Please contact any Board member or Pastor Anne or Gray for more information or if you would like a personal call.

PCW Foundation Board

Pastor Ann and Pastor Gray Marshall

Craig Theile
Beth Emanuelson
Don Hoffman
Mary Mc Lawson
Steve Komrska
Rich Uhle

THE PREBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WYOMING FOUNDATION, LLC
FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Value of Funds as of December 31, 2023

		Foundation Funds invested at Key Bank
Foundation Activity		
January 1, 2023 Beginning Balance	\$	979,051
Additions to Funds:		
PCW Transfers & Gifts	\$	7,025
Deductions from Funds:		
Final Organ Upgrades & Maintenance (Apr - Nov)	\$	(5,525)
PCW Operating Budget Distribution (Aug)	\$	(43,974)
Total Return on Investments (19.6%)	\$	182,204
December 31, 2023 Ending Balance	\$	1,118,781
<hr/>		
Designated Fund Balances as of December 31, 2023:		
Unrestricted	\$	520,207
Capital/Facilities	\$	117,953
Organ	\$	32,247
Transportation	\$	31,336
Music & Worship	\$	35,253
Restricted (Original Endowment)	\$	377,000
Mission	\$	-
Christian Education	\$	-
Checking Account	\$	4,785
December 31, 2023 Ending Balance	\$	1,118,781

PRAYERS AND SQUARES, OUR PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY

Sue Moriarty

What is a Prayer Quilt? Very simply, a prayer quilt is a quilt that is made with love and tied with prayers. Each knot tied into the quilt represents a prayer that is offered specifically for someone in need of those prayers. Under the leadership of Amy Snow and Rita Zuidema, our prayer quilt ministry began in the fall of 2009. Our first quilt was made for a beloved PCW member, Julie Galloway. Since then our group has lovingly made and given out over 300 quilts!

We are primarily a prayer ministry. Our motto is "It's not about the quilt, it's all about the prayers." Our goal is to encourage and involve as many people as possible to participate in the prayer effort, not merely to make and give away quilts.

Led by our "quilters-extraordinaire", Jane Quinn and Barb Mustard, this year we have been able to sew, tie and pray, and deliver fifteen new quilts. Five of those quilts were given to our Ukrainian friends to welcome them to America and wish them well, while six were presented to members and friends with health concerns. In celebration, we gave two baptismal quilts to members' children and two were presented to members' new grandchildren! What a joy!

Our larger committee meets occasionally to add ties to the quilts. We would welcome any and all to join us in this very rewarding ministry! Sewing skills are NOT a priority! Please contact Jane Quinn or Sue Moriarty for more information.

Sue Moriarty, for the Prayer Quilt Ministry

LADS & LASSIES COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL

Stacy Akers

2023 was a return to “normal” after the years heavily impacted by the COVID pandemic and the post-COVID healing. Our staff has once again done an amazing job of providing a happy loving place for children every day!

-We have 59 students enrolled for the 2023-2024 school year.

-100% of our staff returned to teach this year! We also added a new staff member, Mary Gaffey.

-In January of 2023 we began accepting applications for the 2023-2024 school year.

-With the exception of 2 families, who needed full time care, all current families reenrolled for the 2023-2024 school year!

-Current families, siblings and church members were given priority registration.

-We had one opening in our afternoon session in 2023 and a waiting list for our morning session.

-The staff retention rate and student re-enrollment rate are the real indicators of “success” for the preschool.

-In December, we received a glowing report from our unannounced inspection from Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services. ODJFS holds our preschool license and inspects our program annually. This inspection includes compliance with all licensing rules in the areas of facility maintenance, classroom set-up, student and employee records, safety practices, disaster preparedness, communications and all areas of program operations.

-We applied for another round of grants through the Pandemic Relief Act. We met the requirements and were awarded grant funds. There are guidelines for how the money must be spent with an emphasis on staff retention. Gordon Dennis, our treasurer, has helped us manage these funds.

-We continue our partnership with Valley Interfaith Community Resource Center by collecting cereal for their pantry. Some LLCP families helped pack and deliver Thanksgiving boxes as well.

-We held a “Save the Day 1K Fun Run” to raise money for the preschool and The Free Store Foodbank.

-The preschool partnered with PCW to collect warm clothing for Ukraine and toys for the Giving Tree.

-The preschool’s Polly Marty Scholarship Fund continues to be a blessing to families in need. The Fund is maintained through the generosity of PCW church members, preschool fundraising, and the family members of The Marty Family. This scholarship fund provides tuition assistance to families in need and ensures all children in our community have access to quality preschool. We have 2 families receiving assistance this year.

-We raised our tuition by approx 4% this year in order to meet the demands of inflation.

-LLCP is financially independent and maintains a “rainy day” fund.

-In partnership with the LLCP Advisory Committee we celebrate a great 2023 and look forward to an amazing 2024!

The 2023 Advisory Committee members include: Joe Hornsby-Chair, Stacy Akers- Director; Gordon Dennis-Treasurer; Mary Jo Pears, Sue Moriarty and Barb Marty-members representing PCW; Cathy Walton-Teacher Rep; Maureen Harmon- Parent Rep.

**The Presbyterian Church of Wyoming
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