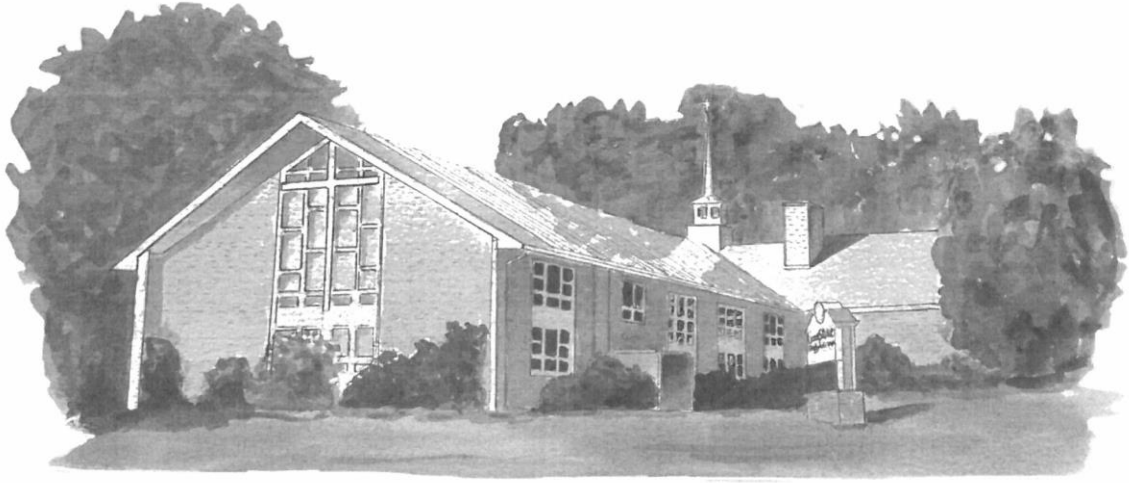


# Annual Report

## January 2024



## Limestone Presbyterian Church

Website: [www.Limestone Presbyterian.org](http://www.LimestonePresbyterian.org)

E-mail: [LimestonePC@comcast.net](mailto:LimestonePC@comcast.net)

Telephone: 302-994-5646

Wilmington, Delaware 19808-2198

Organized December 2, 1956

“...to further the love of God and neighbor...”

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## PASTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT 2023

*"Faith is not just a personal pursuit, nor something to hold onto; it's a journey that beckons us to reach out and connect, bridging the gap between hearts and communities."*

This quote envisions believers actively contributing to the betterment of both individual lives and the broader community. It calls for a faith that is lived out in actions, fostering connection and unity among diverse hearts and communities. It reminds us that faith is a community project, not just a personal pursuit, and is lived out through the local church.

In many ways this encapsulates the essence of our collective journey at Limestone Church. 2023 emerged as a year that opened the door for us to embrace a vision of faith that transcends our individual beliefs and benefits and invites us to actively engage with our community to foster connections that bridge the gaps between our hearts and our community.

Our commitment to the power of faith is evident in the incredible work of our congregation, weathering the challenges of the pandemic, and although we are different than before, we nonetheless are stronger than ever. Our commitment to impactful worship, our connective sense of fellowship, and our deep care through prayer and acts of kindness embody a faith that is dynamic, inclusive, and lived out in actions.

We've combined worship service for Communion Sundays; increased our fellowship presence through a shared model of hosting coffee time; and entered into the mysteries of the bible with several new bible studies. We've also recommitted to cherished activities like the church picnic and the impactful Church Has Left the Building initiative. Our congregation is engaging in a more connective sense of church and faith, our staff and leadership is strong and creative, and we are more prepared to live into our calling of Loving God and our neighbor.

Looking ahead, we recognize that faith is intricately woven into the fabric of our community. The call to bridge the gap between our hearts and our community invites us to work with more intent on outreach and community engagement. This will be at the center of our focus this coming year: center around a community-oriented faith, actively contributing to the well-being of both us and our broader community.

In the coming year, let us embark on this journey of faith together, embracing the truth that our faith is a community project, not just a personal pursuit. As we live out our beliefs together, may we continue to foster connection, unity, and positive change in the lives of those we encounter.

God Bless!

## CLERK OF SESSION REPORT – 2023

**Active Members January 1, 2023** **287**

### Gains

*David Daniel Cardillo*  
*James Berrie* **2**

### Losses

*Joan Hocker*  
*Stephen Barthlow*  
*William J. Ciabattoni*  
*Kathryn A. Ciabattoni* **4**

**Member Deaths** **6**  
*(See necrology report)*

**Active Members December 31, 2023** **279**

An active member, according to our *Book of Order*, is a person who has made a profession of faith in Christ, has been baptized, has been received into membership of the church, has voluntarily submitted to the government of this church, and participates in the church's work and worship.

### **Baptism**

- Matthew James Palma, son of David C. (M#3980) and Kristen C. (M#3981) Palma, born August 3, 2022 in Newark DE and baptized April 23, 2023 with Rev. Timothy Bostick officiating.

### **Interments in Memorial Garden**

- John J. Cotter, Jr. interred June 16, 2023
- Ruth Jane Hopkins (M#0198) interred September 16, 2023

## Our brothers and sisters called to the Church Triumphant

<i>Barbara Mulford (FM#2375)</i>	<i>January 26, 2023</i>
<i>Judith Jester (FM#1906)</i>	<i>February 22, 2023</i>
<i>Richard James Harrison (FM#2997)</i>	<i>May 8, 2023</i>
<i>Rev. Robert M. Snable (Former interim pastor)</i>	<i>May 15, 2023</i>
<i>Janet Janocha (FM#0867)</i>	<i>July 4, 2023</i>
<i>Louise B. Leuby (FM#1470)</i>	<i>July 8, 2023</i>
<i>Eric Brucker (FM#2522)</i>	<i>July 28, 2023</i>
<i>Ruth Jane Hopkins (M#0198)</i>	<i>August 5, 2023</i>
<i>Donald Lee (M#3910)</i>	<i>August 16, 2023</i>
<i>Allan B. Hughes (M#2019)</i>	<i>August 18, 2023</i>
<i>Anthony Clayton (FM#0961)</i>	<i>August 20, 2023</i>
<i>Katharine B., Locke (M#1008)</i>	<i>August 26, 2023</i>
<i>Laurie Wylam (FM#3629)</i>	<i>October 15, 2023</i>
<i>Ann King (FM#2874)</i>	<i>November 2, 2023</i>
<i>David Christopher Allen (M#3745)</i>	<i>November 10, 2023</i>
<i>Allen L Hagedorn (M#1862)</i>	<i>November 18, 2023</i>
<i>Barbara Carpenter (FM#0505)</i>	<i>November 27, 2023</i>
<i>Esther Smith (FM#1430)</i>	<i>November 28, 2023</i>
<i>Frederick Boyce Palmer (FM#3627)</i>	<i>December 5, 2023</i>

*M - Member*

*FM - Former Member*

Respectfully submitted,  
Carolyn Allen  
Clerk of Session

**LIMESTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION AND CORPORATION  
JANUARY 22 2023  
HYBRID (IN-PERSON AND REMOTELY)**

Meeting convened with prayer by Moderator Timothy Bostick at 11:31 a.m.

A quorum (10% of active membership) was verified based on in-person and on-line attendance. Call was approved as presented.

Elder Shirley Shaw, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, presented candidates for leadership and congregational members of the Nominating and Investment Committees:

**Elder, Class of 2023:** Gary Bell

**Elders, Class of 2025:** Susan Goodman, Tom Moran, Edith Smith, Mike Urban

**Deacon, Class of 2023:** Patti Root

**Deacon, Class of 2024:** Carolyn Cotter

**Deacons, Class of 2025:** Lynn Barthlow, Ted Elder, Susie Esterly, Kim Rudisill

**Congregational Members/Nominating Committee, Class of 2023:** Jan Armstrong, Barbara Borleske, Carolyn Cotter, Gail DeAngelo, Mary Kimball

**Congregational Members/Investment Committee,** Class of 2025: Larry Campbell, Mike DeAngelo

**Motion to close nominations from the floor and elect candidates as presented by Nominating Committee was approved.**

Elder Katharine Olinchak, on behalf of Human Resources Committee, presented 2023 Terms of Call for Rev. Timothy Bostick.

**Motion to approve 2023 Terms of Call for Rev. Timothy Bostick as presented by Human Resources Committee was approved.**

Several Session committee chairs and congregants shared highlights of their 2022 reports.

Clerk Carolyn Allen presented the 2022 Clerk of Session Report and names of those who died in the faith were shared followed by prayer.

Pastor Bostick reminded attendees that God continues to bless Limestone. He offered thanks to church volunteers and staff who demonstrate their commitment to our ministry with their dedicated service. As we look ahead, may we discern what is important to carry forward from our past to best meet the challenges of the future.

Several congregants spoke offering thanks for our church and all whose efforts enable us to serve our God.

There being no further business for the good of the church, meeting adjourned with prayer at 12:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Allen  
Clerk of Session

### **Corporation Meeting of Limestone Presbyterian Church**

Elder Neeshard Ahamad, President of the Board of Trustees, opened the meeting with prayer at 12:29 p.m.

**Motion that the Corporation of Limestone Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, Delaware meeting in-person and remotely on January 22, 2023 adopt all acts of the Congregational Meeting of Limestone Presbyterian Church on Sunday, January 22, 2023 was approved.**

Meeting adjourned with prayer at 12:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Allen  
Secretary

# BOARD of DEACONS

## 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

### Class of 2023

Nancy Crick  
Sarah Healey  
Charlotte LoPilato  
Patti Root

### Class of 2024

Carolyn Cotter  
Holly Fasciano  
Annette Friday  
Ilze Jooste

### Class of 2025

Lynn Barthlow  
Ted Elder  
Susie Esterly  
Kim Rudisill

Deacons as officers of the Limestone Presbyterian Church, are expected to provide Christian service and leadership to the congregation in many areas of church life. 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. The Board of Deacons is responsible to Session.

In order to meet our responsibilities to the congregation and community the Board of Deacons is organized into seven teams; Care and Compassion, Greeters and Flowers, Food Instability, Family Promise, Emmanuel Dining Room, Technology and Finance.

Our Care and Compassion Team is our largest team and serves the largest number of congregational members, both active and homebound. This team is made up of 4 deacons and 20 volunteers. Services provided include delivering meals, food shopping and or running errands (picking up medications, etc). Regular visitations and phone calls are provided to members who are homebound. Rides are provided for individuals to get to their workplace. Greeting cards (Get well, Thinking of You, Sympathy, Birthday and seasonal greeting) are sent to congregants.

This past year approximately 80 contacts per month were made to individual congregational members amounting to over 900 contact for the year. The Care and Compassion Committee welcomes additional volunteers. There are volunteer signup sheets in the church office.

### Finances

In order to meet all of our responsibilities we are dependent on the separate and generous financial giving by the congregation. The deacons thank the congregation for their continued support in sharing the work that we do by supporting the Emmanuel Dining Room, donating to the food collections, purchasing Easter tulips and poinsettias at Christmas, and much more. We would like to thank the Church Office staff and Session for their support.

Respectfully submitted, Ted Elder, Moderator



## Deacons' Treasurer's Annual Report 2023

Beginning Balance January 1, 2023	\$1,749.93
2023 Income	\$18,093.74
<b>Total 2023 Income</b>	<b>\$19,843.67</b>
<b>2023 Expenditures</b>	<b>\$14,119.86</b>
<b>Ending Balance December 31, 2023</b>	<b>\$5,723.81</b>
<b>2023 Income</b>	
AGF	\$285.00
Care & Compassion	\$50.00
Envelopes	\$13,375.00
Food Closet	\$25.00
Emmanuel Dining Room	\$2,000.00
Prayer Shawl Ministry	\$100.00
Zingo's	\$258.74
General Fund	\$2,000.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$18,093.74</b>
<b>2023 Expenses</b>	
Care & Compassion	\$871.06
Emmanuel Dining Room	\$882.54
Family Promise Expenses	\$30.00
Funeral Coordinator	\$100.00
Funeral Expenses	\$126.29
Misc.	\$79.26
MP/Family Promise	\$6,000.00
MP/Friendship House	\$6,000.00
Parish Nurse	\$30.71
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$14,119.86</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$19,843.67</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$14,119.86</b>
	<b>\$5,723.81</b>
<b>Checking Account balance as of 12/31/23</b>	<b>\$5,723.81</b>
Nancy J. Crick, Deacon Treasurer	

## **Christian Education Committee**

### **2023 Annual Report**

**Comm. Members:** Tom Moran (Chair), Karen Cratz, Mary Kimball, Pastor Tim Bostick, Sharon Richardson and Holly Fasciano.

**Nursery:** Due to CE not receiving feedback from parents of nursery aged children wishing to have a staffed nursery, we have continued to leave it unstaffed but available for use by parents if they need a place to take their child during worship. Due to safety/security concerns regarding access to the current nursery being so close to the church entrance, the plan is still to clean out the room across from the kitchen and turn that into the new nursery room entrance. A return to a staffed nursery will be considered if demand dictates.

**Church School:** CE has not returned to offering traditional Sunday/church school due to the small number of regularly attending elementary and middle school age children and the lack of desire from parents or children to offer class on a weekly basis. Rather, CE is testing a different approach whereby we again offered an Advent season church school for ages 5-8 taught by Laura Rohrbaugh and Sharon Richardson. CE will evaluate continuing to offer these limited term, themed church school classes in an effort to gauge if this is something parents and children would prefer.

**Youth Group:** Middle & high school youth activities for 2023 were: hosting an egg hunt for the first time in many years, tie-dying at the annual picnic, assisting with decorating the sanctuary for Advent, an outdoor movie night and assisting with the annual MLK Jr. Day of Service project. Various youth and children were involved with conducting the family Christmas Eve service. CE is once again entertaining the idea of Youth Work Camp for summer of 2024 if there is enough interest.

Rather than going the route of hiring a youth group leader, CE is exploring combining forces for certain events with nearby Red Clay Pres. Church and/or St. Phillips Lutheran as a way to provide more opportunities for Limestone youth engagement. Initial discussions with those leaders has begun and is ongoing.

**Confirmation Class:** There wasn't enough interest for a confirmation class in 2023 but plans are underway for a 2024 class beginning in mid-Jan. and ending in mid-May. Six youth ages 13-17 have expressed interest. CE is now working on picking the time and day of week to hold class and recruiting instructors.

**Adult Bible Study:** Wes Wardell offered a study on the book of Galatians; the Limestone women continued their weekly study and Pastor Tim led a 12-week study on the Book of Revelation.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Moran, Chair, Christian Education Comm.

## Facilities Committee 2023 Annual Report

Following are some of the things we completed at LPC during 2023:

Upgrade controls Boiler	2023 Jan	Repair baseboard kitchen	2023 June
Add Dehumidifier Shop	2023 Jan	Step landing @ choir rm exit	2023 June
SST Back Splash installed	2023 March	Paint attic steps and added	
Improve lighting Upper		rubber pads	2023 Sept
Room	2023 March	Added handrail to attic steps	2023 Oct
Renew table tops Library	2023 March	Painted base of attic steps	2023 Nov
Kitchenette coffee plug		Set out snow guide poles	2023 Oct
replaced	2023 April	Delivered food to VA as	
Add new LED lighting		needed	2023 Sept
Assoc Past	2023 April	Rebuilt closet in office	2023 Oct
Paint lighting panels	2023 May	New mats in/out church	2023 Nov
Janitor closet new over head		reversed refrig doors in	
light	2023 May	Kitchenette	2023 Oct
Remove old tile glue from		Engineering study grades &	
conc	2023 May	lines	2023 Dec
Add additional hand rail		New hand wash in rest	
attic steps	2023 May	rooms Cintas	2023 Nov
Clean attic & stage Spring		Sofa to Habitat for	
2023	2023 May	Humanity	2023 Oct
Clean & repurpose toy		Church cleaned	2023 Nov
closet	2023 May	Parking Lot paint striped	2023 June
New cove moulding cabinet		Weeds and dead tree limbs	2023 summer
kitchen	2023 June	Prayer, devotional &	2023 each
New overhead lighting stage	2023 June	discussion, Drank coffee.	meeting
Attic clean up	2023 June		

**Note:** If you have any questions or would like to receive a copy of our master punch list, please email [facilities@limestonepresbyterian.org](mailto:facilities@limestonepresbyterian.org)

**Respectfully Submitted By:** Neeshard Ahamad, Ron Crick, Buddy Brown, Dennis Galbreath, Doug Tipton, Glenn Smith, Phil Hickman, Roger Cooper, Shirley Shaw, Susie Esterly, and Gary Bell

All PRAISE be to GOD for his blessing on our Church and for giving us these faithful servants listed above in His service. If you would like to join our team or volunteer on one of our workgroups, please contact any of the members listed above.

**Limestone Presbyterian Church  
Historical Preservation and Archival Committee  
2023 Annual Report**

The Archive Committee has few members at this time and meets only as needed. Data entry is mostly done from home. New members would be welcome (contact Mary at 302-731-7961).

Accomplishments this year include:

- work with the Clerk of Session and Office staff in updating and confirming the Statistical Report and membership rolls;
- the Obituary Book and the Active Membership file is up to date;
- and more of the Family databases have been completed and printed.

**Our goals for 2024:**

- will continue to keep records of deaths, marriages, births, baptisms, etc. as they occur.;
- will continue work on the Historical Family Data Base until all members have been entered;
- and will continue to help the Clerk, Session, Pastors and Office with statistical information on the membership.

We do appreciate input from the congregation as to changes in their family histories (deaths, marriage, births, etc.) If you are “cleaning out” and find church-related memorabilia, let us know—we may be interested in it. (Leave in the church office addressed to the Archive Committee) Pictures are welcome also (please identify people and event, if possible).

Mary Kimball, Secretary  
The Historical Preservation and Archival Committee

January 1, 2024

## **Human Resources Annual Report for 2023**

Members: Pastor Tim Bostick, Annette Friday, Ralph LoPilato, Katharine Olinchak, Mike Urban

The Human Resources Committee had an active year in 2023 dealing with several staff changes, developing training modules for committee chairs to support them in their roles with their staff, mentoring new employee and supporting Pastor Tim Bostick as he continues to bring positive changes to Limestone Church.

- Elder Mike Urban joined HR as Co-Chair along with Ralph LoPilato.
- HR played a key role in hiring Grace Lusby as Choir Director. Grace started in January. Julia Rim Living Water Director who started in April, the resignation of Bria Parker who left in February, the hiring of office staff member Kathy Magner who started in June and the resignation of Julia Rim who stepped down from her position in August.
- HR presented key training guidelines at the Elder and Deacon leadership meeting in February. The training included HR's role at Limestone in supporting committee leaders and staff, Darkness to Light online training as part of the Child Protection Policy and Contribution Review training process for the 12 paid staff members.
- HR played a key role in a Listening Team with the Choir and Choir Director and congregational member Annette Friday is on the new collaborative leadership team with Living Water.
- HR led the Contribution Review process for 12 paid staff members from September 1st to October 31st.
- HR has begun a transition process between Mike Urban and Ralph LoPilato as Co-Chairs and Katharine Olinchak who has stayed on the committee as a congregational member and keeper of the process and files. Katharine is working with Mike to get him up to speed on where files are located and those needed to run the HR process. Even though changes in leadership will not occur until February 2025 we feel that it's important to have a strong transition process for this key committee at LPC.

This report was submitted by Elders Ralph LoPilato and Mike Urban, Co-Chairs of Human Resources.

# Limestone Presbyterian Women (LPW)

## Annual Report 2023

Our Women's Association is not officially active at this time (meaning we have no formal organization.)

However we are active participants in our church's life. During this past year:

- a Women's Bible Study, under the leadership of Mary Kimball, began to meet again in September. We used the Horizon's study "Encounters with Jesus". This group supports the Least Coin, Thank and Birthday Offerings, the PW of the New Castle Presbytery and the PW PCUSA;
- as leaders, the women continue to serve as Elders and Deacons, chair committees, and are active in the choirs;.
- we coordinated and hosted four funeral receptions;
- we hosted a bake table at the Chili and Soup Cook-off, to raise monies for Mission;
- we provided refreshments twice for the Fellowship hour between services;
- Susie Esterly organized bi-monthly "craft" days;
- a "Ladies Coloring" group, under the leadership of Yvonne Tipton, met twice monthly and provided seasonal bookmarks to the congregation;
- several women were still involved in the preparation of our monthly meal for the Emmanuel Dining Room. Deb Birmingham coordinated our Family Promise commitment. The families stayed at the Jesus House again and we provided meals there;
- held fundraisers—We did offer a pecan sale (pre-order only) and raised \$100 for mission;
- Ruth Smith helped coordinate hosting "Quilts for Comfort" twice;
- Valerie Rabian and Marcia Biddle coordinated our "Shawl Ministry" which met on the third Wednesday of each month. We knitted and crocheted prayer shawls and lap robes for those who are going through a difficult time. This work also continues from our homes;

All women (young and old) are considered part of Limestone's Presbyterian Women. All women (friends included) are welcome to join us in Bible Study, Crafts, Caring and Sharing, Coloring, etc. etc. We would love to see more women participate and I think you will find that you will be warmly welcomed. We are always encouraged when "new" faces join us.

### Our Mission Giving for 2023:

Presbyterian Women of New Castle Presbytery	\$ 60.00
Birthday Offering	293.00
Thank Offering	252.00
Least Coin	79.00
Stoves for Guatamala	400.00
Quilts for Comfort	<u>200.00</u>
	<b>\$1284.00</b>

Mary Kimball

# Long-Range Planning Committee

## 2023 Annual Report

**Committee Members:** Lisa Bates (Co-Chair), Mike Casale (Co-Chair), Kathy Magner, Mary Kimball, Larry Campbell, Lynn Barthlow.

**Committee Purpose & Goal:** Address broad-based, strategic, and long-range operational aspects to sustain Limestone's Mission and Strategic Priorities.

### Activities during 2023:

1. Updated the *Resource Planner* document as information became available;
2. Reviewed the results from the Leadership Retreat;
3. Created a document to help other committees to generate their own SMART goals. This has been distributed to Session;
4. Interacted with some of the Session Committees and attended their monthly meetings; and
5. Developed transition documents for LRP leadership for next year, as the co-chairs are moving off Session:
  - 2022 leadership retreat documents;
  - resource planner document; and
  - goals summary guidance document.

### Future activities:

1. Continue to work with other Session committees to develop long-range goals;
2. Begin planning for a future “refresh project”.
3. Understand community needs and identify potential partnerships; and
4. Continue to update the *Resource Planner* document.

## **Memorial Garden Committee**

### **Limestone Presbyterian Church Annual Report for 2023**

#### ***About the Memorial Garden***

The Memorial Garden is for everyone. Some choose to spend time there for a moment of rest, reflection, remembrance, prayer, or shared conversations. Other members decide to have their ashes interred in this dedicated garden.

Planning for one's end of life choices helps reduce future responsibility on family members. The Limestone Presbyterian Church's website offers a link to Memorial Garden information, including guidelines, forms for request for interment, and associated costs. Brochures and forms are available in the church office as well. Initial applications for interment may be submitted at any time.

Please contact any member on this committee with any questions you may have.

#### ***Interments***

There were two interments in the Garden this year:

John Cotter, Jr.

Ruth Jane Hopkins

#### ***Care of the landscape***

This year there has been considerable work done to the plantings in the garden by the landscaper toward restoring the original shapes and sizes of the shrubs and trees. Our professional contractor, Down to Earth, continues to provide monthly care of the area and plant flowers for Easter and summer. This plan continues as the best alternative for maintaining fresh, healthy new plants each year. The contractor is familiar with church seasonal events and continues to schedule visits at the beginning of Advent and Easter seasons to assure an attractive appearance. The Down to Earth landscaping contractor's monthly activities are available on request.

#### ***Appreciation***

Nick Stabler has again been helpful in watering the flowers in the garden each Sunday morning through the summer of 2023 and his assistance is much appreciated.

***Memorial Garden Committee members:*** Gary Bell, Katharine Olinchak.

12/26/2023





## PRESBYTERIAN MEN

*Band of Brothers - No Man Left Behind*

Limestone Presbyterian Church – 3201 Limestone Road – Wilmington, DE 19808  
Phone 302.9945646 FAX 302.225.3286 Limestonepc@comcast.net

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) · 100 Witherspoon Street Louisville, KY 40202-1396

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### *Limestone Presbyterian Men's Ministry - 2023 Annual Report Rev 1*

**Limestone Men's Ministry** continues to grow, develop and mature as a prime mover in supporting and encouraging men's spirituality. Our mission continues to be in part "...to support and encourage all men to come to know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior." **A quick summary of the highlights of the year 2023 follow:**

**Throughout the year, the men of Limestone met monthly for hot breakfast, fellowship and a topic which was led by one of our Men's Ministry Steering Committee members.** All men are welcome to participate with us. The topics are always **Christ Centered and Bible based.**

Our **Steering Committee members** meets four times a year to discuss the business and leadership of the Limestone Presbyterian Church Men's Ministry (LPCMM).

**The Facility Management Sub Committee Triple T's, whose members are part of LPC MM, have been working throughout the church building and grounds all year to assure members and visitors have a safe and well-maintained facility in which to meet and worship.**

**Our world-famous Annual Chili Soup Cook-Off** was held on the first Saturday in February. It was a smashing success. We also invite outside groups who support the church and or the community to participate with us to attend. For example the Millcreek Fire company has been attending ever since our first Chili Soup Cook Off in the year 2000.

**Throughout the year** we wrote and issued a weekly prayer, scripture, and devotional for the LPC Men. We also support the Deacon led Emanuel Dining Room by serving a meal to those in need twice a year. We held a book collection for the Elsmere VA Library. We collected 427 books. We delivered food to the Elsmere VA hospital Food pantry on a regular basis which was collected by the Deacons.

We present a bible to each male High School graduate annually. This year we presented bibles to **Quintin Jooste, Matthew Kline, Joseph DeAngelo, and Ben Richmond.**

**Much of the credit** for our success goes to the strong leadership of our **Men's Ministry Steering Committee.** The members are: **Neeshard Ahamad, Gary Bell, Larry Campbell, Ron Crick, Dennis Galbreath, Ralph LoPilato, Bob Marshall, Tom Mammen, Doug Tipton, Wes Wardell and Pastor Tim.**

*1 Corinthians 15:58 – "Therefore, my brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."*

Respectively submitted by:

Ron Crick, Limestone Presbyterian Men's Ministry Leader

## **Mission-Outreach Committee**

### **2023 Annual Report**

Membership: Norma Bostick (co-chair), Edith Smith (co-chair), Larry Campbell, Carolyn Cotter, Diane Freed, Charlotte LoPilato, Scott Lester, Ann Miller.

A proposal to separate the Fellowship Committee from the Mission and Outreach Committee was drawn up and presented to the Session. In the March Session Meeting guidelines were presented to form the Fellowship Research Team (FRT). A trial basis of three months was agreed on. In June the Session voted to approve the FRT. Elder R. LoPilato is the Team Captain. A member of the team will report to Session.

Through the support of the Mission-Outreach Committee, Limestone members contributed to and participated in the following during 2023:

200 Health Kits assembled and delivered to the Brethren Service Center.

CHLB Lite - 20 people went to two sites to do Environmental Clean-up.

Diane did a Minute for Mission to recruit volunteers to go to the Humane Animal Partners and take donations of blankets and towels.

Easter Egg Hunt for children of Limestone family and friends with help from FRT.

Supported the UrbanPromise Auction and participated in UrbanPromise Power UP.

Supported the Ulster Project by hosting several of the youth activities and events, concluding with the Farewell "Thanksgiving Dinner."

Organized and supported two LPC canoe teams in UrbanPromise's "Paddles for Promise", which raised \$1,733.00.

Supported the Church Picnic by helping the FRT plan and organize and requesting donations of playground supplies such as hula hoops, playground and beach balls.

Supported inviting Betsy Moe to preach and Eric Moe providing music June 11th. A reception and question time was held after the worship service with help from FRT.

Collecting for PCUSE's Special Offerings: Pentecost Offering and the Christmas Joy Offering.

Collected 60 winter coats and three bags of "undies" for Friendship House.

The Alternative Gift Market brightened the Christmas season for 12 mission organizations by raising \$ 3,140.00, an increase of \$760.00 from 2022!

The "Island of Misfit Toys" theme provided overflowing boxes of a wonderful collection of Christmas gifts for youth at Reeds' Refuge.

Financial Support:

Mission Endowment Funds were disbursed to the following:

UrbanPromise	\$2,500.00
Faithful Friends	\$1,000.00
Hope Center	\$1,000.00
Sean's House	\$1,500.00
DE Humane Society	\$1,000.00
Table of Plenty	\$ 500.00
Scott Lester - Guatemala Trip	<u>\$ 500.00</u>
	\$8,000.00

Respectfully submitted,  
Limestone Mission-Outreach Committee

# NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

**2023**

Nominating, a Congregational Committee, identifies members to serve as Elders and Deacons and as congregational members of the Investment and Nominating Committees.

Announcement: This year we are short one(1) Elder for the 2026 class.

If you would like to volunteer for this position, please do so by contacting any of the Nominating Committee members listed below.

**2023 Nominating Committee:** (E/Elder, D/Deacon, C-Congregational)

Neeshard Ahamad (E), Shirley Shaw (E), Ted Elder (D), Carolyn Cotter (D), Barbara Borleske (C), Kim Rudisill (C), Jan Armstrong (C), Gail DeAngelo (C), Mary Kimball (C).

## **ELDERS (CLASS OF 2026)**

Judith Collins, Larry Campbell, Robert Marshall, (open position)

## **DEACONS (CLASS OF 2026)**

Gail DeAngelo, Jim Berrie, Dan Richmond, David Cardillo

## **CONGREGATIONAL MEMBERS/NOMINATING COMMITTEE (CLASS OF 2024)**

Patti Root, Barbara Borleske, Carolyn Cotter, Gail DeAngelo, Mary Kimball

## **CONGREGATIONAL MEMBERS/INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

No members are needed for investment committee currently.

Respectfully submitted,  
Neeshard Ahamad & Shirley Shaw, Co-Chairs

## **Phone Prayer Chain**

Twenty-five prayer requests were received in 2023. We are still in operation!

We would be happy to increase the numbers of prayer warriors.

Contact Wes if you would like to be a part of our Phone Prayer Chain.

Wes Wardell 302-998-7020

## **Adult Bible Study with Wes Wardell**

The Book of Romans was completed before the summer break. Average attendance was three (3).

The Book of Galatians began in October, three (3) sessions were completed in 2023. The average attendance was five (5). All are welcome. We will have three sessions in January 2024, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup>.

Submitted by Wes Wardell

## **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

### **Annual Report 2023**

This year we distributed about 43 shawls for a total of about 1293 since the mission started.

Please remember that for convenience, there are several packed and ready to go shawls in the back-church-office. If you need a shawl for a local recipient, you can pick one up to deliver yourself, but please complete the white sheet that is in the bag and leave it in my mailbox (the wooden mailboxes-bottom left) so we can keep track of who has received a shawl. You can also email a prayer shawl request to the church (brenda.limestonepc@comcast.net) or me (valerierabian@comcast.net). If you would like to have the shawl mailed, please include the recipient's name and address.

It is a blessing to be able to meet in person and enjoy the fellowship with the other knitters and crocheters. Knitters and/or crocheters, if you are able and willing, prayerfully consider knitting for a wonderful cause. Be creative since the shawls are very well received. Because we need more shawls to keep up with the demand, if you are unable to attend or know of someone who knits or crochets, consider working from home and we will provide the material and pattern.

We meet the fourth Wednesday of each month from 1:00 - 2:30 pm in Limestone Church's Library or knit from your home as much as you'd like. Everyone is welcome to join us, beginners and experts! Contact Valerie if you would like to help make more shawls for this mission, at home or in our Library.

Respectfully submitted,  
Valerie Rabian  
valerierabian@comcast.net

## **Technology Committee**

### **2023 Annual Report (for January 2024 Annual Meeting)**

**Committee Members:** Mike Casale (Chair), Tim Jooste (Vice-Chair), Ilze Jooste (D)

**Committee Purpose & Goal:** Address all technical/electronic/software issues related to the operation of the church, and try to anticipate long term needs in the future.

#### **Activities during 2023:**

1. Improved the Sanctuary lighting by changing to higher lumens bulbs;
2. Worked with the choir to replace pews with quality chairs;
3. Worked with the choir to implement “close microphones” to improve sound quality;
4. Worked with LWE to move to single side of Sanctuary;
5. Improved microphones for the bell choirs.

#### **Possible Future Activities:**

1. Improve Sanctuary lighting in front of the church;
2. Replace the “media system” in the Library;
3. Implement tech/media in the Youth Room;
4. Consider designing a small video studio for generating LPC videos.

**Worship Committee**  
**Limestone Presbyterian Church**  
**2023 Annual Report**

The following members of Limestone Presbyterian Church served the Worship Committee in all or part of 2023: Lydia Bak, Roberta Bell, Rev. Tim Bostick, Mike Casale, Carolyn Cotter, Susie Esterly, Annette Friday (Co-Chairperson), Susan Goodman (Co-Chairperson), Tim Jooste, Grace Lusby, Julia Rim, Linda Wardell.

The Worship Committee is dedicated to the assurance of meaningful worship for our congregation and visitors and assures the appropriate use of the church sanctuary. In collaboration with our pastor, our music directors and the Christian Education committee, the Worship committee serves to plan and schedule regular and special worship services. The Worship Committee has taken on the role of ensuring the appropriate scheduling, preparation and serving of communion. A “Chancel Crew” under the leadership of Deacon Annette Friday has taken on these responsibilities.

Both services are live streamed under the leadership of Tim Jooste and the Tech team. Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday services were also available via live stream. Easter Sunday was celebrated with one service including music presented by our ensembles. Limestone hosted a worship service for Ulster Project in July.

Limestone is fortunate to have 4 ensembles: Limestone Praise Chimes and Genesis Bells, The Chancel Choir, and Living Water Ensemble. We are grateful to have Lydia Bak back at the organ and our new Chancel Choir director, Grace Lusby has been a wonderful addition to our staff. Julia Rim stepped down as LWE director but still plays keyboard occasionally.

The Worship committee purchased new “Glory to God” hymnals for the sanctuary. This hymnal has almost all the hymns from the old hymnal plus a whole lot more. The congregation will have the opportunity to purchase one or more hymnals in honor of someone. A book plate will be placed in the hymnal to recognize this person. More information will be forth coming.

The pews were removed from the choir loft to allow for easier placement of microphones. The plan is to purchase chairs for the choir loft. Tim Jooste has been in contact with several companies where we can purchase these chairs. The front of the sanctuary has been rearranged so that the grand piano is not moved and to better accommodate the bells and Living Water.

The Worship Committee with help from Holly Fasciano decorated the church for Christmas. The beginning of Advent was marked by Kirkin’ of the scriptures. The Sundays of Advent were observed with lighting of the Advent Wreath by members of the congregation. There was a blue Christmas service, and there were two services on Christmas Eve.

Beginning in Advent there will be one service at 10am on the first Sunday of each month when Communion is served. The two services schedule will apply on other Sundays.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elder Susan Goodman, co-chairperson Worship Committee

## TERMS OF CALL 2024

### REV. TIMOTHY BOSTICK

#### COMPENSATION

Annual Cash Salary	\$ 41,082
Housing Allowance	\$ 44,836
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 85,918</b>

#### BENEFITS

Board of Pension (mandated by PCUSA) (Medical/Death and Disability/ Pension)	\$ 33,508
Medical Wrap-around (New Castle Presbytery requirement)	\$1,718
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 35,226</b>

#### REIMBURSEMENTS

Continuing Education	\$ 1,000
Travel / Automobile/Business/ Professional Expenses	\$ 3,000
Social Security Allowance	\$ 6,573
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 10,573</b>

**TOTAL COST TO BUDGET** **\$131,717**

Vacation ----- 4 weeks \*  
Study Leave ----- 2 weeks



ANNUAL TREASURER's REPORT

12-31-2023

We finished the year with a total income of \$448,511, which represents 99% of our 2023 budget. Our expenses for 2023 were \$437,207, representing 94% of our expense budget.

Our active fund balances as of 12-31-2023:

Operating	\$34,852
Money Market	\$185,575
Memorial	\$27,991
	-----
Total	\$248,418

For comparison:	Income	Expense
2018	\$440,624	\$403,183
2019	\$439,753	\$487,561
2020	\$467,210	\$378,947
2021	\$478,692	\$365,892
2022	\$379,329	\$346,380

Respectfully submitted  
Pat McCombie  
LPC Church Treasurer

The next two pages are the summary for LPC for 2023

The following page is the 2024 budget income, and the subsequent two pages are the 2024 budget expense.

	2022 BUDGET	2022 ACTUAL	2022 Actual vs 2022 Budget	2023 BUDGET	2023 Budget vs 2022 Actual	2023	
						DEC YTD	% 2023 Budget
<b>INCOME</b>							
Pledges	\$347,277	\$353,022	102%	\$346,670	98%	\$321,631	92.8%
Plate	\$14,000	\$11,829	84%	\$10,000	85%	\$19,168	191.7%
Cash	\$34,852	\$35,060	101%	\$64,879	185%	\$64,879	100.0%
Per Capita	\$3,000	\$2,468	82%	\$2,000	81%	\$2,181	109.1%
Programs	\$25,350	\$17,299	68%	\$19,500	113%	\$38,114	195.5%
Other	\$2,400	\$6,541	273%	\$11,669	178%	\$2,538	21.7%
<b>Total Income</b>	\$426,879	\$426,219	100%	\$454,718	107%	\$448,511	

	2022 BUDGET	2022 ACTUAL	2022 Actual vs 2022 Budget	2023 BUDGET	2023 Budget vs 2022 Actual	2023	
						DEC YTD	% 2023 Budget
<b>EXPENSE</b>							
<b>Salaries and Benefits</b>							
Pastor + Supplies	\$80,088	\$72,107	90%	\$86,254	120%	\$86,703	101%
Office	\$60,057	\$73,218	122%	\$77,368	106%	\$69,024	89%
Financial	\$13,823	\$12,496	90%	\$18,041	144%	\$18,054	100%
Music	\$26,690	\$23,733	89%	\$45,237	191%	\$38,415	85%
Youth	\$13,994		0%	\$13,000	0%	\$0	0%
Sextons	\$23,744	\$20,777	88%	\$24,116	116%	\$21,795	90%
Guest Pastors	\$1,570	\$800	51%	\$1,600	200%	\$1,400	88%
Employer Payments	\$29,300	\$33,582	115%	\$31,300	93%	\$48,000	153%
<b>Total Salaries and Benefits</b>	\$249,266	\$236,713	95%	\$296,916	125%	\$283,391	95%
<b>Facilities</b>							
Utilities	\$39,000	\$31,584	81%	\$39,000	123%	\$37,469	96%
Support	\$27,035	\$22,677	84%	\$27,035	119%	\$36,265	134%
<b>Missions</b>							
Mission	\$19,986	\$1,842	9%	\$18,384	998%	\$12,049	66%
Outreach	\$2,600	\$3,003	116%	\$2,250	75%	\$0	0%
Per Capita	\$9,625	\$9,357	97%	\$9,625	103%	\$8,670	90%
Admin	\$20,700	\$39,037	189%	\$48,450	124%	\$40,052	83%
Programs	\$15,106	\$14,290	95%	\$16,865	118%	\$13,764	82%
<b>Total Operations and Programs</b>	\$134,052	\$121,790	91%	\$161,609	133%	\$148,269	92%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE (S&amp;B + O&amp;P)</b>	\$383,318	\$358,503	94%	\$458,525	128%	\$431,660	94%

NON-BUDGET ITEMS
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Begin Balance	External Income	External Expense	DEC TOTAL
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INCOME

Investment Committee Funds

Building For The Future

Fund	Begin Balance	External Income	External Expense	DEC TOTAL
	\$132,642	\$7,603	\$0	\$140,245
Mission Endowment	\$238,193	\$20,671	\$0	\$258,864
Rainy Day	\$204,318	\$31,106	\$0	\$235,424
Bleakney	\$17,613	\$4,673	\$0	\$22,286
Brock	\$4,730	\$580	\$0	\$5,310
Memorial Garden	\$5,542	\$2,068	\$0	\$7,610
Music	\$5,067	\$621	\$0	\$5,688
Music Instrumental	\$6,979	\$856	\$0	\$7,835
TOTAL	\$615,084		<b>14.2%</b>	\$683,262
Treasurer Funds			<b>21.4%</b>	S&P
Operating	\$78,879	\$42,327	\$102,087	\$19,119
Memorial	\$33,456	\$1,130	\$11,059	\$23,527
Money Market	\$175,645	\$20,201	\$30,000	\$165,846
TOTAL	\$287,980			\$209,905
External Committee Funds				
Deacon		\$12,048		\$12,048
Special Offerings		\$1,799		\$1,799

<p>Summary Created by Pat McCombie, Treasurer based on 01/10/2023 Budget</p>
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	2023	AS OF	2024
DESCRIPTION	BUDGET	12/31/2023	BUDGET
<b>A CONTRIBUTIONS</b>			
Pledges	\$332,170	\$307,631	\$308,351
Prepaid Pledges	\$14,000	\$14,000	\$14,000
Plate	\$10,000	\$19,168	\$18,000
Cash carried over from prior year	\$64,879	\$64,879	\$64,852
<b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS:</b>	<b>\$421,049</b>	<b>\$405,678</b>	<b>\$405,203</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATION / FINANCE - PER</b>			
<b>B CAPITA</b>			
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION:</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>\$2,181</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>
<b>C CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</b>			
Adult Continuing Education	\$0	\$0	
Church School	\$0	\$0	
Vacation Bible School	\$0	\$0	
Youth Fellowship	\$0	\$0	
Church School Mission	\$100	\$0	
<b>TOTAL CHRISTIAN ED:</b>	<b>\$100</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>E FACILITIES</b>			
SREC Income	\$3,000	\$1,200	\$1,200
<b>TOTAL FACILITIES:</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$1,200</b>	<b>\$1,200</b>
<b>F FELLOWSHIP</b>			
<b>TOTAL FELLOWSHIP:</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>G MEMORIAL GARDEN</b>			
Expected Income	\$500	\$50	\$50
<b>TOTAL MEMORIAL GARDEN:</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$50</b>	<b>\$50</b>
<b>H INVESTMENT</b>			
Income for mission	\$10,534	\$10,534	\$10,500
Income for facilities	\$6,035	\$6,035	\$5,900
Income for mission grant	\$500	\$500	\$0
Income from Rainy Day	\$0	\$0	\$0
Income from Memorial Fund	\$7,500	\$11,057	\$8,000
<b>TOTAL ENDOWMENT</b>	<b>\$24,569</b>	<b>\$28,126</b>	<b>\$24,400</b>
<b>I WORSHIP</b>			
Flowers	\$1,800	\$2,338	\$1,500
Gift for Handbells	\$0	\$3,500	\$0
Gift for Choir Chairs		\$5,000	\$0
Other Income	\$1,200	\$438	\$600
	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$11,276</b>	<b>\$2,100</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME BUDGET:</b>	<b>\$454,718</b>	<b>\$448,511</b>	<b>\$434,953</b>

	DESCRIPTION	2023 Budget	AS OF 12/31/2023	2024 Budget
<b>ADMINISTRATION / FINANCE</b>		<b>\$20,425</b>	\$16,811	\$15,070
	Per Capita	\$9,625	\$8,670	\$8,670
	Copier Lease	\$3,600	\$4,097	\$2,200
	Copier: Operations	\$1,200	\$842	\$900
	Postage	\$2,000	\$1,806	\$1,800
	Supplies and Miscellaneous	\$4,000	\$1,396	\$1,500
<b>ADMINISTRATION / TECHNOLOGY</b>		<b>\$21,000</b>	\$20,798	\$25,150
	Technology Equipment update & Maintenance	\$5,000	\$1,408	\$8,000
	Sound and Video Systems	\$3,000	\$2,515	\$250
	Livestreaming including streaming licenses	\$7,500	\$3,422	\$3,500
	Training, Software, and Support	\$2,500	\$5,661	\$6,000
	Telecommunicaton, maintenance, and support	\$3,000	\$2,606	\$2,400
	Subscriptipn Svcs (internet / website / etc)	\$0	\$5,186	\$5,000
	PROJECT _ Replace PCs			\$10,000
	PROJECT _ Additional ZOOM room setup			\$5,000
	PROJECT_Update Audio in Narthex / Nursury			\$5,000
	PROJECT_Create a video studio			\$4,500
<b>CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</b>		<b>\$5,500</b>	\$771	\$4,300
	Church School	\$1,000	\$216	\$500
	Vacation Bible School	\$300	\$0	\$300
	Confirmation Class	\$300	\$0	\$600
	Youth Fellowship	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
	Food	\$500	\$0	\$500
	Youth Camp Work Trip		\$0	\$0
	Adult Continuing Education	\$200	\$392	\$200
	Adult Library	\$100	\$163	\$100
	Children's Library	\$100	\$0	\$100
	Church School Missions	\$2,000	\$0	\$1,000
<b>FACILITIES / UTIL</b>		<b>\$39,000</b>	\$37,469	\$43,510
	B - Electric	\$6,000	\$3,973	\$3,708
	B - Gas	\$9,500	\$13,716	\$15,000
	B - Sewer	\$700	\$240	\$220
	B - Trash Collection	\$3,500	\$3,997	\$3,757
	B - Water	\$800	\$710	\$671
	Insurance Premium	\$9,000	\$8,578	\$13,594
	B - Security / Fire Sec. System			
	Services	\$2,500	\$1,885	\$1,970
	G - Mowing	\$4,500	\$4,370	\$4,090
	Snow Removal	\$2,500	\$0	\$500

<b>FACILITIES / SUP</b>		<b>\$27,035</b>	\$28,183	\$21,441
	B - Supplies	\$2,500	\$942	\$942
	B - Misc. Building Maintenance	\$12,000	\$19,785	\$9,000
	G - Supplies	\$500	\$52	\$52
	G - Maintenance	\$6,000	\$7,404	\$5,547
	Endowment BFTFF projects	\$6,035	\$0	\$5,900
<b>FELLOWSHIP - family activities and kitchen supplies</b>		<b>\$3,000</b>	\$4,026	\$4,192
	Family Activity / Kitchen			
	Supplies	\$1,000	\$4,026	\$2,025
	Annual Picnic	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,167
<b>HUMAN RESOURCES</b>		<b>\$1,250</b>	\$303	\$200
	Professional Development	\$1,000	\$761	
	Legal	\$250		
<b>MEMORIAL GARDEN - Maintenance &amp; Sasonal Display</b>		<b>\$2,290</b>	\$2,360	\$2,915
<b>MISSION</b>		<b>\$19,986</b>	\$1,842	\$14,150
	Racial Justice Engagement			\$750
	Urban Promise Summer Camp	\$500		\$400
	Church has Left the Building			\$1,000
	New Mission Initiatives			\$1,500
	2024 Endowment	\$10,000		\$10,500
	West End Neighborhood House			\$0
	Urban Promise			\$0
	Reed's Refuge	\$1,500		\$0
<b>OUTREACH</b>		<b>\$2,250</b>	\$0	\$2,250
	Outreach Events	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000
	Outreach Materials	\$250	\$0	\$250
	Pastoral Benevolence Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>WORSHIP &amp; MUSIC</b>		<b>\$10,325</b>	\$8,000	\$9,600
	Kirking of Scripture	\$325	\$250	\$0
	Devotionals and special bulletins	\$400	\$1,833	\$400
	Handbell music and maintenance	\$500	\$2,837	\$1,500
	Chancel Choir	\$1,250	\$0	\$250
	Living Water Ensemble	\$1,700	\$195	\$200
	Piano Tuning / Maintenance	\$2,200	\$380	\$1,000
	Choir Robes/Handbell maintenance escrow	\$450	\$0	\$550
	Flowers / Decorations/Banners	\$3,200	\$2,473	\$3,200
	Guest Musician			\$2,000
	Communion Supplies	\$300	\$32	\$500
	PROJECT_Chair Chairs Memorial Project			\$8,000
<b>SALARIES</b>		<b>\$296,916</b>	\$280,229	\$310,604
	Pastor	\$83,254	\$83,255	\$85,918
	Pastor Supplies	\$3,000	\$3,448	\$3,000

Office	\$77,368	\$69,024	\$79,844
Financial	\$18,041	\$18,054	\$18,618
Music	\$45,237	\$38,415	\$46,685
Youth	\$13,000	\$0	\$3,000
Sextons	\$24,116	\$21,795	\$24,888
Guest Pastors	\$1,600	\$1,125	\$1,651
Employer Payments			
Pension and Medical	\$30,000	\$38,708	\$40,000
Workmens Comp	\$1,300	\$6,405	\$7,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE BUDGET</b>			<b>\$453,382</b>