2024

Annual Report



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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Staff

Rev. Tim Boggess, Pastor 4

Steven Phillips, Director of Music 5

Eric Robinson,
Director of Christian Education 6-7

Clare Carter, Preschool Director 8

Cheryl Track, Faith Community Nurse 9

Session Committees

Business Affairs Committee 10-11

Education and Formation Committee ... 12-13

Congregational Nominating Committee ... 14

Membership and Fellowship Committee 15

Mission and Justice Committee 16

Personnel Committee 17

Worship and Music Committee 18

Outreach Committee 19

Deacons

Board of Deacons 20

Presbyterian Women 21

Membership Statistics 22

Financial Summaries

Presbyterian Women 23

Endowment Allocations from the Foundation of First Presbyterian Church and Other Investments 24

Summary of Restricted Accounts 25

Summary of Income and Expenses 26

Balance Sheet (FPC) 27

The Foundation

The Foundation for First Presbyterian Church of Sarasota 28

Front Cover painting by Linda Smith

Love is First

Dear First Family,

Spread upon these pages you will see all the ways we are showing the world that love is First. I hope that you will take the time to read these reports. If you do, you will see a church that is growing in attendance and activity, in membership and mission, and in faith and faithfulness. God has been very good to us, indeed!

With affection,

Rev. Timothy T. Boggess



Music Ministry

Steven Phillips, Director of Music

The Music Ministry has had a fruitful year in 2024. I am privileged to work with many talented and dedicated people, including our musicians, tech team, Worship and Music Committee, FPC members, and staff.

I particularly want to thank our music team, who give their time and talents each week. I'm grateful for the New Song band for their faithful leadership, and for the members of the chancel choir, who offer their praises each week with spiritual intent and love for their music. The music teams have drawn new members this year, and we are excited to see modest but steady growth.

Thanks to the support of the congregation, the Worship and Music Committee, and Pastor Tim Boggess, we are able to welcome a steady stream of guest musicians to our services. We have benefitted from the quality and variety of outside singers and instrumentalists who enrich our worship through their talents and their personal engagement with the congregation. These guests were especially valued at our Easter and Christmas Eve services, which joined our talented music teams with top string players and percussionists from the larger community.

A highlight of 2024 was the annual Celtic Christmas concerts on Friday, December 13 and Saturday, December 14. We renewed our invitation, first extended in 2023, to combine forces with the Via Nova Chorale, making a total choir of nearly 60 singers. Our Celtic instrumentalists were the multi-talented Lubben Brothers of Tennessee. This year we created a Celtic Christmas Planning Team, who bravely made the decisions to charge admission, and to add a second performance time to the schedule. With a more-than-capacity audience in 2023, the need had been demonstrated for two performances, but we didn't know how the changes would be received. Thankfully, both performances were sold out, and nearly 800 people were touched and encouraged at Christmas by the message of love.

In 2024, FPC continued its outreach in our city as an incubator for the arts. Through the dedicated logistical work of operations manager, Rachel Martin, and tech manager, Jimi Camastro, more than a dozen performing arts groups regularly use our campus as a venue. Seeing an opportunity for relational ministry, we have launched the FPC Arts Advocates Program, which relies on interested church members to act as hosts to the thousands of people who enter our doors for events.

I am grateful to be part of this loving, supportive spiritual community!

Steven Phillips

Education and Formation

Eric Robinson, Director of Christian Education

I first want to say thank you to the great people and families of First Presbyterian for welcoming me and Letarshia, and encouraging me in my new role. There is an energy and excitement about intergenerational family ministry, adult education, worship, and mission at First Presbyterian. God is doing great things, and I am blessed to be part of it.

The center of family and educational ministry happens on Sunday mornings. If you attend our New Song service, you will see an energy and excitement about worship; a place where children, youth and their families are fully welcome, fully included, and fully loved. You will see children with a special children's worship bulletin working on age-appropriate sermon-related activities. You will see children moving about, dancing to the music, and expressing themselves. You will observe a children's message where the text of Scripture comes to life! On many Sundays, you will see a child or youth leading the congregation in the Prayer of Confession and Prayer of Dedication, or reading a story during the children's message. If you come from one Sunday to the next, you may notice a new family joining in worship, a testament to our growing congregation.

If you were to migrate upstairs at 10:10, you would observe four children and youth Sunday School classes–with a new class for pre-k to kindergarten that started this year! You would see children and youth engaged in learning, fellowship, and hands-on activities as they dive deeper into the same sermon text from Sunday. Down the hall would find adults deeply engaged in a theological or biblical study.

At First Presbyterian, the heart of educational ministry is intergenerational. In my short time here, children, youth and adults have fellowshipped, worshiped, and engaged in mission together. Our annual pumpkin carving brought children and their families together for a time of fun and fellowship. Our Advent workshop also brought our families together for activities, games, and a mission project making cards for members of our congregation. Our children and youth also shared their gifts and talents with our families in our intergenerational Family Christmas Pageant. We also saw our entire church family come together for the Rise Against Hunger, where we packed over 24,000 meals, and will join together again for fellowship and fun at Cedarkirk in January 2025.

Another highlight of 2024 has been the relaunching of our FPC youth fellowship! Our youth have been meeting together two Sundays per month for food, fellowship, faith, fun, and mission! The youth have engaged in Bible study, games, and enjoyed some wonderful meals provided by members of our congregation. Thanks to the generosity of the Mission and Justice Committee and the Bob Bittner Memorial Fund, the youth assembled 40 flood buckets for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. They also helped assemble stockings for Brentwood Elementary School. In addition to our mission and fellowship at the church, youth have enjoyed outings going bowling and miniature golfing. Finally, we have begun the process of planning a trip back to Montreat, in early summer of 2025!

A key part of our First Presbyterian family is our preschool. This vital ministry of the church engages in the critical work of early childhood education. Our church has strengthened its connection with the preschool, with a number of preschool families attending First Presbyterian regularly, and others engaging in our intergenerational family events. Our preschool families regularly receive our family newsletter. As the DCE, I have had the pleasure of opening some of our preschool events with prayer. I look forward to continuing to strengthen this vital ministry of the church in 2025.

Our adult education ministry at First Presbyterian continued to grow. In our regular adult classes on Sunday mornings, we have been challenged through studies of creation, theology in short stories, centering prayer, and important themes of Advent. We have also offered weekday Zoom classes where participants engaged in studies of creation, as well as a discussion group around my book, *Rethinking Vocation*. This coming year, we hope to add a parent small group and a

weekday mom's group to our offerings!

One of the biggest challenges our community faced was the 2024 hurricane season. I want to highlight not only our church's resiliency but our relentless outreach and support for the wider community. I have been blessed with the opportunity to help strengthen our connection with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. After Hurricane Debby, PDA connected us with 100 flood buckets to distribute to the community. Through PDA's assistance to Peace River Presbytery, our church secured several thousand dollars for Family Promise and their work of housing people displaced from the hurricanes. Additionally, our church family connected with Florida PDA through an intergenerational workshop with adults, youth, and children on disaster response and preparedness. Finally, First Presbyterian began the conversation with PDA about becoming a host site for long-term recovery teams. The church works best when we are connected!

Finally, I have had a wonderful experience working alongside our Mission and Justice team to support the outreach of First Presbyterian and our many community mission partners. From housing to supporting farmworkers, to supporting the teachers and families of Brentwood Elementary School, First Presbyterian's reach into our Sarasota community is vast. It is a blessing to see God at work!

I am excited for many great things in the year to come!

Eric Robinson

First Presbyterian Preschool

Clare Carter, Director

First Presbyterian Preschool is blessed to be part of a church mission that has supported the children and families of our greater community and congregation for generations. It is impossible to calculate how it has improved the lives of so many and has brought new young families to our congregation.

In September 1947, Pastor J. Lowery Bowman and the session of First Presbyterian Church proposed the development of a weekday kindergarten. The school opened, providing preschool education in a Christian setting for forty-eight students under the direction of Mrs. Nell Horton and three dedicated teachers. At that time, Sarasota County did not offer kindergarten, and the school became an immediate success. Today, we are beyond grateful to our church for supporting and believing in this critical children's ministry as a service to our congregation and the families of our community.

The need for early childhood education has evolved, and our preschool has adapted accordingly. With the opening of public kindergartens in the early 1970s, the preschool evaluated the community's needs and added classes for younger children, extending the hours to make high-quality care available to working parents. With the opening of more daycare centers, afternoon enrollment dropped, and we returned to concentrating on morning classes for children two and a half years old through the prekindergarten year. In 2005, Florida implemented a free voluntary prekindergarten for four and five year-olds, and the preschool again needed to assess the program. In 2010, we began to offer parenting classes, and in 2014, we opened a new preschool class for two year-olds.

Parent Educators Emily Weitekamp and Evan Morgan facilitate our parenting classes called Small Beginnings. The classes focus on parenting topics such as understanding typical child development, play at each stage of development, the parent-child relationship, and self-care. They are structured to facilitate parents connecting and developing a strong web of support.

Our preschool community is a place for parents to find support and make connections. In addition to offering our students the highest quality early childhood education and parenting support for young families, we provide screenings for speech, language, and occupational therapy. We are blessed to have a relationship with an occupational therapist and a speech and language pathologist who offer free screenings to all our students.

This year we have received over $19,000 in donations through the Community Foundation's Giving Challenge. This remarkable achievement was made possible by the diligent efforts of our administrative staff and church member, Stephanie Copa, who ensured that both our preschool and church met the eligibility criteria for participation in the challenge. Notably, during the Giving Challenge, every donation between $25 and $100 to participating nonprofit agencies was matched dollar-for-dollar by The Patterson Foundation, effectively doubling the impact of each contribution.

We have allocated these funds to provide developmental scholarships for families, assisting with expenses related to speech and occupational therapy for children. Additionally, we are offering weekly yoga classes aimed at promoting self-care among parents, church members, and the broader community. The therapies have been transformative for the children, leading to significant developmental progress, while also alleviating financial burdens for their families. The introduction of yoga classes has fostered a sense of well-being and community among participants.

We are grateful to First Presbyterian Church for being our home and feel blessed for the church's commitment to our community's children and families. It's clear that Jesus reminder to "let the little children come" has been the guiding principle during the past seventy-five years.

Health and Wholeness Ministry

Cheryl Track, Faith Community Nurse

As Faith Community Nurse, I continued to organize the weekly Care Team meetings via Zoom with Pastor Tim Boggess, Doug DeCelle, Michael Fingerle, and Pat Higgins. We then reach out by phone or a visit to those with health care needs. We also worked with the deacons and Stephen Ministers to provide congregational care. In addition, throughout the year, I served as the health professional the resource to deacons, Stephen Ministry, and First Presbyterian Preschool. I attended monthly faith community nurse and deacon meetings, and I wrote monthly articles for *News at First* and posted correlating information in our church bathrooms.

Community Outreach

April: The SunCoast Blood Centers Drive screened 14 people and collected 13 units of blood.

July: The SunCoast Blood Centers Drive screened 20 people and collected 20 units.

August: I gave the yearly Epi Pen and Universal Precautions training to 14 preschool teachers.

September: The SunCoast Blood Center Drive screened 12 people and collected 9 units.

November: I attended the SunCoast Blood Center Volunteer Luncheon.

November: 15 All Ears Hearing screenings were given.

December: The SunCoast Blood Centers Drive screened 9 people and collected 11 units.

In addition, 15 pairs of glasses and 3 hearing aids were donated to the Lions Club. I published an article in the International FCN Journal: "*Where do Gorillas get Their Protein?*" and First Presbyterian facilities continued to be used by the Depression, Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA) support group for weekly meetings and the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) continued to offer the 12 week Family-to-Family Classes in person and online.

Care to the Congregation

130 phone calls were made to parishioners and 66 phone calls were received from parishioners.

51 referrals were made to resources in the community.

2 care conferences attended via phone.

17 series of *Journeying through Grief* were provided.

6 home, 40 facility, 16 hospital, and 1 hospice visit were made.

2 funerals were attended.

Transportation was provided for 4 parishioners.

Prayer shawls were given to 17 people.

2 AED's and 2 first aid boxes were checked monthly.

Business Affairs Committee

Mary Willis and Steve Largo Co-Moderators

The Business Affairs Committee recommends to the session the allocation of our financial resources to accomplish the mission of FPC and strives to provide an inviting, functioning and safe church campus for the congregation and guests.

Property Ministry Team

Team members led by operations manager, Rachel Martin, assisted by sexton Darwin Goldsmith, included Steve Fantauzzo, Rich Farr, Victor Garraus, and Wendy Miller. Continued thanks go to Victor Garraus and Scott McLeod who volunteered so much of their time working tirelessly to maintain our campus. Special thanks to Wendy for maintaining various plantings around the campus throughout the year.

Early 2024 brought the completion of our installation of hurricane impact windows by Mullet Aluminum improving the safety, security, and appearance of our church buildings. The value and timeliness of this project became all too apparent during this past storm season. Our discovery of and reliance on our new A/C vendor, AAP Air, has improved the climate throughout the campus while eliminating many of the headaches facing our property team over the years. Having tackled two of our long-standing issues, the business affairs team determined that it was necessary to catalog the wants and needs relating to the maintenance and improvement of our church campus and share this information with the leadership team. Created by BA team member, Rich Farr, we are now managing the various campus property challenges with our CURB (Campus Upgrade & Repairs Blueprint) report which identifies the need, potential costs, and priority for the proposed repair, replacement, or purchase. This single document allows us to communicate the ongoing maintenance, preventative maintenance, and capital improvements on the horizon to determine scheduling and funding. It should be noted that having replaced the Fellowship Hall roof in September 2024, we were scheduled to begin repairs on the flat roofs that ultimately were damaged by Milton. At this point, all the roofs have been inspected and a plan is in place for the replacements and repairs.

Continued maintenance and improvement of our campus allows us to be open and welcoming to the community. Our outreach to the food insecure continued through our weekly support of the All Faiths Food Bank distribution program. One week our volunteers served 138 families providing food stuffs for 306 individuals despite unseasonably cold weather. While disappointed to have lost hosting the Family Promise office as a revenue generating partner on campus, we have 15 different arts organizations that use our facilities for rehearsals or performances, and a new Arts Advocate program where church members serve as FPC representatives during performances. The search for ways to use our campus in service is ongoing in the hands of Rachel Martin.

Finance Ministry Team

Team members included Andy Copa, Reva Mitchell, Ric Saba, Larry Schaper, and Mary Willis. Starting the year with a forecast deficit, our finance team focused on rising interest rates as an opportunity. Assisted by finance manager, Lisa Garcia, Reva and Andy diversified the investing of current assets increasing our interest income to $60,900 versus the projected $46,250 from the 2024 budget. The finance group continues to review the various restricted funds for opportunities to employ these gifts as designated while addressing current and future needs. The support of the leadership committees in this process showed great promise for achieving both goals. When forecasting revenue streams for the 2024 budget to offset ever increasing costs, we addressed the common area maintenance for the Preschool, calculating a representative 10% of forecast property costs for shared use space. Acknowledging that the CAM assessment has been a difficult transition, the amount for 2024 was reduced from the calculated $33,000 to $18,000 for 2024 which has been included in the preschool costs for this

year. At the April 2024 session meeting, a motion was brought by the Education and Formation Committee at the request of the Preschool Board, requesting that the interest income generated on the preschool retained earnings be credited to the preschool as an offset to the CAM calculation in future years. The motion was approved and the calculation of the CAM for 2025 has been prepared in this manner resulting in an assessment for 2025 of $23,929 for the year.

While the property group was assessing damage from storms, Lisa Garcia was taking on the challenge of transitioning from an outdated server to operating as a cloud-based organization. Not a simple task but one that also included software changes to ACS on demand, the Realm Connect App and a new service provider, Red1. Work continues but the entire staff especially Lisa, Rachel and Tim - is to be commended for taking on numerous changes during such a busy time and being prepared to instruct us all in how to use these new tools.

Calendar year 2024 summarized financial information is presented in the financial section of this report. It should be noted that from a financial perspective we had a very good year finishing with pledges more than forecast and FPC corporation operating at a profit of more than $120,000 and ahead of budget.

Reva Mitchell, treasurer, and Lisa Garcia, finance manager, provided the accounting associated with the receipt of pledges, other revenue, expenses, and payment of invoices. The annual audit was prepared by Kenneth F. Kandefer, certified public accountant.

The budget for 2025 was approved by session at the December meeting.

Stewardship Ministry Team

Inspired by the success of last year's Stewardship Team, Steve Largo took on the challenge of raising funds through our annual giving campaign. With Pastor Tim and Denver Stutler as well as Lisa Garcia and session members, Steve targeted an increase pledge drive of $968,000 representing a 10% increase over 2024. As a church that is "Rooted and Grounded in Love" your response reflected your love and commitment to FPC. As of February 24, 2025, we are near 99% of our goal having received 171 pledges for a commitment of $952,191. Pledges are still expected, and Stewardship will continue to share the results as this kind of response from the congregation is gratifying and humbling.

Please know that having been gifted with a huge response to this call, your session and staff will continue to examine every expenditure and revenue opportunity and will make the challenging decisions necessary to continue to be honored by your faith and trust.

Education and Formation Committee

Carrie Mills and Emily Weitekamp - Co-Moderators

The Education and Formation Committee provides Christian growth opportunities to people of all ages, through relationship-building with Christ and others to learn and share about their faith journey, wherever they are.

Children and Youth Education and Formation:

We began the year continuing the *Living the Word* curriculum, which follows the Narrative Lectionary that Pastor Tim is using to guide his sermon schedule. Sunday school classes were broken into three groups: PreK to 2nd, 3rd to 5th, and middle/high school youth.

In April, we celebrated Preschool Sunday by honoring our teachers' years of service and sharing the results of the The Giving Challenge, whose money raised went to establishing a Developmental Scholarship Fund (speech and occupational therapy), self-care yoga group for all caregivers and parents, and additional parent support.

In June, we returned to a traditional Vacation Bible School model and hosted 42 children with ten youth helpers and approximately 30 adults volunteering. Our church came together and we filled the fellowship hall and the upstairs classrooms with God's love all week long. In August, we hired our Director of Christian Education, Eric Robinson. He has been working hard to coordinate old and new programming alongside our committee.

With Eric Robinson's new energy and vision, the fall kicked off with regular youth group meetings twice per month, including a bowling outing, mini-golf, and a Christmas party. The youth also participated in service projects, including assembling flood buckets for PDA and stuffing the stockings for Brentwood Elementary School. Eric invited children and youth to participate in the New Song worship service by reciting the Prayer of Confession and the Prayer of Dedication. They also engaged with the scripture text for the day with a weekly children's worship bulletin.

Sunday school classes began in August, kicked off by the annual Backpack Blessings and a Rally Day themed "Beautiful Feet." The committee chose to stay with *Living the Word*, which ties to the narrative lectionary from which Pastor Tim preaches. We also added an extra Sunday school class by splitting the PreK to 2nd class into two.

We ended the year with a beautiful Christmas Eve family service coordinated by Leah Cotter and Emily Weitekamp, with the help of DCE Eric Robinson, the youth, and parent volunteers.

Adult Education and Formation:

The Academy for Christian Discipleship continued with many opportunities for our adult learners. To start the year, Elaine Barnett led a class via Zoom beginning in January on six themes of the Bible. Doug DeCelle taught a class on Sunday mornings titled *Recovering Creation*. In February, Susan Dewyngaert and R.C. Smith began a class on the *Presence of Jesus in Luke to Acts*. In April, Beth Knopik hosted a discussion on topics relating to her memoir *Beyond the Rainbow*. Elaine Barnett led another class via Zoom titled *The Bible, The Church, and Social Issues*. We continued the new tradition of offering a summer read for the congregation with *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park.

To kick off a new school year, Doug DeCelle's class entitled *Everyone Matters* began in person on September 1. Eric Robinson began a class in September via Zoom to discuss his book *Rethinking Vocation*. Elaine Barnett also strengthened our Bible knowledge with her Zoom class on themes of *Creation in the Bible*. Pat Higgins challenged us to consider our inner spiritual life in her October class on *Centering Prayer*. John Parks also led a class in the fall based on the Bible

and several short stories. In December, Eric organized a series of adult Advent Sunday school classes taught by Susan DeWyngaert, Eric Robinson, Dave Householder, and Floyd Churn. To encourage individual study and reflection, Advent devotionals were offered for all ages.

Intergenerational

We successfully coordinated three annual holiday celebrations with the Palm Sunday Easter egg hunt, pumpkin carving festival, and the Advent workshop. Our Advent workshop included a mission component, where children and youth made Christmas cards for members of the congregation.

We hosted Rise Against Hunger in September with approximately 75 volunteers, where we packed 20,000 meals!

We are grateful for those who have given their time and talents to guide our mission throughout the year. In addition to the adult class educators, we appreciate the work of our children and youth class teachers: Barbara Anderson, Clare Carter, Lydia Chapdelain, Rebecca Clissold, Stephanie Copa, Leah Cotter, Susan Dewyngaert, Rich Dulaney, Christine Harrington, Heather Manley, Mariah Martin, Scott McLeod, Katie Sabin, Sandi Soper, Tim Walsh, Shelley Watson, Emily Weitekamp, and Kimberly Whitford.

Members of the committee were Elaine Barnett, Rebecca Clissold, Leah Cotter, Christine Harrington, Mariah Martin, Rose Monahan, Sandi Soper, with co-moderators: Carrie Mills and Emily Weitekamp; and staff liaisons Rachel Martin (Jan to June) and Eric Robinson (June to December).

Congregational Nominating Committee

Karen Olson, Moderator

To maintain our representative form of government, the Congregational Nominating Committee thoughtfully proposes a slate of Christ-centered candidates for consideration by the congregation to fill leadership positions at First Presbyterian Church, Sarasota.

The Nominating Committee considers and proposes a slate of nominees to fulfill the offices of elder (whose charge is one of leadership, discernment, and spiritual development of the church), and deacon (whose role is that of compassion, witness, service, and sharing the love of Jesus Christ). The Nominating Committee members are charged with seeking individuals who are ready to answer the call to serve.

The committee met with the pastor to review the guidance, position descriptions and the process of call/email/meeting with potential nominees. The committee initially met weekly via Zoom beginning in April to identify and nominate elders, deacons, and at -large members of the Nominating Committee to lead First Presbyterian Church. Information on the positions descriptions was shared with potential nominees.

The Congregational Meeting was held on October 6, 2024. The Nominating Committee presented five members as potential elders in the class of 2027, four members to fill the deacon class for 2027, and six at-large members to serve on the Nominating Committee for 2025. The congregation approved all nominees.

The 2024 Nominating Committee members were: Karen Olson, moderator, and at-large members Ed Clissold, Karen Eastmoore, Pat Higgins, Phil Kuebbeler, Annette Landes, Adam Martin, Mariah Martin, Jinny Miller, and Wendy Miller. Steve Fantauzzo was the deacon representative. I am thankful to each of them for their work and dedication on this committee and for their contributions to the life and leadership of our church.

Membership and Fellowship Committee

Leah Cotter and Sue Nurczyk, co-moderators

The mission of the Membership and Fellowship Committee is to be intentional about attracting and welcoming new members while engaging the congregation and community in activities that promote Christian fellowship within the life and ministry of First Presbyterian Church.

In 2024, the committee and its helpers continued to provide refreshments every Sunday at the 10:00 a.m. fellowship hour. We also searched for ways to provide a welcoming atmosphere for members and guests.

As in 2023, we sent birthday greetings to members of the congregation either by email or mailing cards. For mailed cards, we use the church's return address, which apprises church staff of returned or outdated addresses.

In addition, Membership and Fellowship oversaw four combined (targeted to both 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. service attendees potluck brunches/lunches: January 7 Chili Cookoff, March 24, Palm Sunday, July 7, Hot Dog Cookout, and October 6, World Communion Sunday. We setup, decorated, prepared food and beverages, received food from the congregation, and cleaned up.

On May 4 we organized the FPC outing at the Bradenton Marauders' Faith and Family night.

On May 12 we handed out flowers for Mother's Day.

Throughout the year we hosted three Inquirers' Classes while providing snacks from 10:00 a.m. coffee hour. Twenty two people joined the church and indicated their areas of interest in church service.

Many thanks go to our helpers Becky Fingerle, Victor Garraus, Sue Hargis-Spigel, Darwin Goldsmith, Scott McLeod, Wendy Miller, Sara Myers, and everyone else who made these special activities possible!

Committee embers included Marcia Schaper, Joanne Simons, Sandi Soper, Jenn Stutler, Rachel Martin, (staff), and co-chairs Sue Nurczyk and Leah Cotter.

Mission and Justice Annual Report

David Householder and Marvin Miller, co-moderators

The Mission and Justice Committee offers tangible opportunities for our congregation to work with local and global mission partners to feed the hungry, help the poor, and advocate for those who have no voice, furthering peace and justice through awareness and action in the name of Jesus Christ.

How We Serve

FPC Mission programs: Invest in Children, All Faiths Food Bank distribution, and Cuba Partnership

Local Mission Partners: SURE, Caritas Food Pantry, Resurrection House, Family Promise, Beth-el Farmworker Ministry, Mision Peniel farmworker ministry, Immokalee Fair Housing, FLAPDAN (Florida Disaster Assistance Network) Thornwell Home for Children

Global Partners: Plant with Purpose, CEPAD Nicaragua, PCUSA Missionaries (Ian Vellenga and Jhan Dotel-Vellenga, Nicaragua), and Holt Presbyterian Church, MI/Othon Mexico Water Project

We are happy to report that First Presbyterian Church was fully engaged in many types of mission activities. Financial support for these activities came from the church budget, as well as special offerings and individual gifts. In addition to contributions, many hours of volunteer work were donated by members to our partners. Other committees and groups in FPC also worked to complete mission projects during the year.

2024 brought three major storms to Sarasota, and First Presbyterian worked to help with recovery. Offerings were collected to assist locally and elsewhere. With our new DCE, Eric Robinson, in the lead, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance provided grants to assist dislocated families through our partner Family Promise, cleanup supplies. Eric also applied for an additional $5,000 grant from PDA for our roof damage. With budget and designated funds, our youth group made 40 new "flood buckets" full of cleaning supplies to replace some of the ones the church gave away.

We received troubling news from Nicaragua; our partner, CEPAD, along with all other non-profits lost their ability to work and bank accounts were frozen under the current government. We are monitoring the situation but will be unable to assist them for now. FPC also had to step back from SURE due to management and financial issues. Everyone hopes these issues can be resolved and the program will get on track so we may work with them again.

Next year we must seek new opportunities to pursue justice and help those in need. We welcome anyone who wants to join in this work.

Committee Members: Michael Brown, Rachel Martin (staff), Jinny Miller, Ron Miller, Dorothy Murphy, Bill Rickloff, Susan Sanderson, Joanne Simons, Jay Swick, and Dave Householder, Marvin Miller co-chairs and Eric Robinson, (staff).

Personnel Committee

Beth Byron-Reasoner and David Landers, Co-Moderators

The mission of the personnel committee is to support, guide, and encourage all church staff, address staff concerns, and recognize the contributions and dedication of their service to God and the congregation.

2024 marked a year of collaboration and growth for the FPC staff. Under the leadership of Tim Boggess, the group worked tirelessly to strengthen their teamwork, and the congregation and community were the beneficiaries of their good works.

February marked one year of Steven Phillips focusing his energies solely on music. He continued to masterfully lead as the Director of Music Ministries, sharing his talents and skills, not only with the chancel choir and the New Song band, but also with the congregation and community.

Rachel Martin and Lisa Garcia continued to be the backbone of the church administration. We are grateful for their faithful and dedicated service and for all the ways they support the ministries of the church.

Jimi Camastro, tech manager, worked with a team of volunteers to meet the audio-visual needs for both our in-person and online services. He also shares his musical talents, when needed, as a guitarist in the New Song band.

Darwin Goldsmith worked with staff and committee members to make our facilities welcoming to all who came to the campus. His talents and can-do attitude have made our church campus looks fantastic.

Cheryl Track, Faith Community Nurse, provided direction for the Health and Wholeness Ministry Program and our Congregational Care Team (Doug DeCelle, Pat Higgins, Michael Fingerle and Tim Boggess). They offered support and care to congregational members in their time of need.

In August, First Presbyterian welcomed Eric Robinson as our Director of Christian Education. In addition to his responsibilities in the areas of children, youth and adult education, he is also active with the Mission and Justice Committee.

Special thanks to long-time committee members Jean Raskin and Kay Steinman. Their valuable experience is most appreciated. We welcomed new committee members Ed Clissold and Leigh Stone Jones. We thank them for serving the church in this capacity.

Worship and Music Committee

Lisa Saba and Jeff Bartell Co-Moderators

The Worship and Music Committee works with staff in planning and supporting worship that enables the congregation to glorify God through worship.

In 2024, the Worship and Music Committee worked diligently to offer creative and spirit-filled worship experiences. Our worship services continued to present inspirational music and songs of faith as we immersed ourselves in God's Word and celebrated at the table.

This year, each of our committee members took on specific roles in order to enhance the mission of the Worship and Music Committee. While Lisa Saba and Jeff Bartell served as co-moderators, Susan McDonald continued to serve as our secretary and James Jordan continued his work coordinating our ushers and greeters, as well as serving in communion set-up and break down each month and mightily assisting with the decorating for Advent and the Celtic Christmas concert. Jinny Miller joined our committee and served as coordinator of the liturgists for the traditional service. She worked energetically to incorporate new faces to our core of liturgists, especially focusing on recruiting more youth and children to lead worship in this important area. Denise Landers also joined our committee and served as the coordinator of the "Hanging of the Greens" for Advent as well as serving alongside James Jordan in the set up and break down of communion. Denise's organizational know-how provided for a smooth and efficient set up of the beautiful Advent decorations we enjoyed this year. Ed Holbrook served as the liaison with our chancel choir and as an invaluable support in coordinating replacements when needed for communion services.

Our congregation continued to be blessed with the gifts and talents of the chancel choir, New Song band, handbell choir, and talented guest musicians.

This year, we added a sub-committee, Liturgical Arts, which was headed by Jeff Bartell. Rounding out this committee were Jaclyn Campbell, George Chorba, Kay Dunn, Jinny Miller, Carol Papa, and Kim Schmeits. Their innovative and energetic ideas enriched our worship experiences for World Communion Sunday and All Saints Sunday. We look forward to special events for Epiphany, Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Pentecost and more during 2025.

We gathered during the Lenten season for Ash Wednesday and Holy Week services on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and a joyful Easter morning celebrating our risen Lord. The Advent season began December 1 and included not only our traditional Christmas Eve family service at 4:00 p.m. and a communion and candlelight service at 7:00 p.m., but also two sold-out performances of Celtic Christmas on December 13 and 14. In total, over 800 attendees enjoyed this joyful concert featuring the Lubben Brothers, our own chancel choir, the Via Nova Chorale, Piper Kevin Weigand and Celtic dancer, Suzanne Caesar. A special thanks to the First Presbyterian members who served on the Celtic Christmas advisory committee – Colleen Forristall, Ed Holbrook, Rachel Martin, Kim Schmiets and Sandi Soper - for the organizational expertise. Their boundless energy, alongside the enormous talents of our Director of Music, Steven Phillips, assured that Celtic Christmas was a resounding success. Also, thank you to the many church volunteers who assisted at the two concerts. We couldn't have done it without you!

Our church campus continued to serve as a popular venue for outside arts organizations. In order to enhance and facilitate the use of our campus for these concerts and performances, Steven Phillips, along with Rachel Martin, organized the Arts Advocates group made up of First Presbyterian volunteers who function as docents, providing guidance for the use of our facilities as well as offering outreach to those attending and participating in the various events.

Lastly, a special "thank you" goes to the entire Worship and Music Committee, the Liturgical Arts Committee, the Arts Advocates, church staff, chancel choir, New Song band, tech team, liturgists, ushers/greeters, and guest musicians who faithfully served during the past year.

Outreach Committee

Denver Stutler and Shelley Watson Co-Moderators

The Outreach Committee is a new committee established by the session to organize outreach within the Sarasota community. The mission of our committee is to find ways to let the greater community of Sarasota know about what First Presbyterian Church has to offer and to offer ways for them to seek community and experience the love of God in our church.

Our Work in 2024

Our primary focus was to develop a new website for the church that is better equipped to share everything our church has to offer with the public. We researched other church websites and sourced a web developer. We have worked through design details and initial concepts.

Goals for 2025

We are hopeful that we can complete the website for a release early in the year. We are beginning to work on content and copy for the website and sourcing a photographer.

We additionally are exploring ways to encourage non-members in our Sarasota community to join our church for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday services. We are looking into radio ads, real estate agents, direct mailings, etc.

We are exploring increasing membership of young families and are looking at possibly offering a movie night, bingo night, and games on the lawn to bring families with children who might not know about our church.

We would like to increase social media presence for the church but are still exploring what that looks like and need the website to be complete prior to rolling out a new strategy.

We are actively seeking more members for this committee

Committee members: Denver Stutler and Shelley Watson, co-moderators, Jen Stutler and Tim Boggess, members

Board of Deacons
Marcia Schaper and Pam Mathes, Co-Moderator

Inspired by the Holy Spirit, the deacons are a connected community of servants, called to minister to those in need, to the sick, and to any who need special care, both within and beyond the community of faith.

Board of Deacon Members

Class of 2024:	Class of 2025:	Class of 2026:
Bob Bittner (deceased)	Susan Beach Carter	Cindy Millar
Steve Fantauzzo	Jill Cardinal	Thomas Olshewsky
Beth Knopik	Pamela Mathes	Florence Paul
Susan McDonald	Marcia Schaper	Katherine Sabin
Tom Singleton		

Staff Liaison: Cheryl Track, Faith Community Nurse

The deacons met by Zoom on the third Thursday of the month at 5:00 pm. Marcia Schaper, Pam Mathes, co-moderators, led the meetings. The deacons received the meeting agendas and the minutes via emails prior to each meeting. Susan McDonald served as secretary for meetings and facilitated the card ministry. Beth Knopik maintained the continuously updated LAMBS* spreadsheet. Steve Fantauzzo represented the deacons on the church Nominating Committee. Cheryl Track, Faith Community Nurse, participated in the Zoom meetings and regularly provided the deacons with updated information and suggestions regarding the LAMBS.

The deacons' responsibilities included visitations and maintaining ongoing contact with their LAMBS *(limited access members who are unable to attend church regularly). The year began with 38 LAMBS receiving various levels of support. The deacons and Cheryl Track shared LAMB updates at the monthly meetings and revisions were made as appropriate. Offering communion, telephoning, sending notes and cards, delivering flowers including the Christmas poinsettias and Easter lilies and hydrangeas, providing transportation, delivering supplies, and assisting with memorial services and receptions were regular, ongoing actions lovingly made by the deacons. Eight memorial services with receptions following were held at First Presbyterian Church in 2024.

Tom Singleton attended to the Care Notes, displaying them in the church vestibule and other locations throughout the church campus. The flower ministry was coordinated by Thom Olshewsky, and assisted by Tom Singleton and other deacons. "We Care" cards were beautifully and creatively produced by Connie Brussee, Mariah Martin, and Sue Pantling. With messages added by members of the congregation, the cards were delivered to those who were hospitalized and to families of newborns.

Cheryl Track reminded the deacons to survey all LAMBS for hurricane preparedness, especially those not living in continuing care communities. The Care Team was instrumental in coordinating with the deacons when in-depth care needs were recognized.

On Sunday, December 10, in the courtyard between the sanctuary and the fellowship hall, the deacons met for a Jingle and Mingle. A festive table was set with treats. This was an opportunity to thank the Class of 2024 deacons for their caring deacon work. The Class of 2027 (Jason Chen, Kay Dunn, Andrea Householder, and Carol Huffman) was introduced and welcomed to the team. A folder with a directory of the deacons, contact information, bereavement responsibilities, a guide for communion, and a listing of deacon duties was given to each Class of 2027 deacon.

Presbyterian Women (PW)

Elaine Barnett, Jinny Miller, Flossie Paul, Betsy Taylor
Leadership Team

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to:

Nurture our faith through prayer and Bible Study,

support the mission of the church worldwide,

work for justice and peace and

build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (USA) and witness to the promise of God's Kingdom.

This year PW reorganized but continued to be led by the PW purpose, with the emphasis on working for justice and peace.

In our restructuring, we joined the Education and Formation Committee with Elaine Barnett as our member on the committee. Elaine also guided our monthly Bible Study using the PW/ *Horizons Bible Study Guide*, "Let Justice Roll Down." Lessons were led via Zoom and led by members on a rotation basis. In addition we added an in-person Bible study led by R.C. Smith and Susan DeWyngaert from February 8-March 24. We hope to continue this well attended class to our studies in 2025.

Also in our restructuring Jinny Miller joined the Mission and Justice Committee. Jinny organized our two moments for discipleship: Diana Hovorka's delightful presentation in April produced a $1491.25 in contributions to the Birthday Offering. Janet Churn's engaging presentation in November produced $2,361 in donations for the Thank Offering. Jinny encouraged the committee to host a seed-packing event with Hope Seeds. It was held in February at the church where 27 volunteers packed 250 family packs for Haiti and 1800 packets of coriander/cilantro.

Active Membership 12-31-23	528
Active Membership Gains	(22)
New Active Members:	
Profession & Reaffirmation	(13)
Transfer of Membership	(6)
Profession & Baptism	(1)
Restoration of members	(2)
Active Membership Losses	(112)
Deaths	(15)
Transfer of Membership	(5)
Member Request Removal	(2)
Removed from Active Roll	(90)
Active Membership 12-31-24	438
Member Funerals	9
Non-Member Funerals	1
Member Weddings	1
Non-Member Weddings	1
Births	0
Average Total Weekly Worship Attendance	254

Baptisms (7)

Andrew Harrington
Charlotte Harrington
James Harrington
Emma Musolino
Henry Musolino
Kristin Musolino
Sofia Musolino

New Active Members (20)

Heather Boggess
James Byrne
Brent Campbell
Jaclyn Campbell
Mark Carleson
Wende Carleson
Valerie Cox
Richard (Rich) Farr
Richard (Dick) Helstein
Michelle Halbman
Carol Huffman
Randy Huffman
Diane Johnson
Alden Jones
Ashleigh (Leigh) Jones
Heather Manley
Daniel Musolino
Kristin Musolino
Jim Tuner
Karen Tuner

Affiliate Members (34)

In Memoriam - Members (15)

Charles (Andy) Anderson
Elizabeth (Bettie) Blake
Jeannine Counts
Phyllis DuBois
Jane Friday
Philip Kleinschmidt
Frances Lawrence
Barbara (Barby) McKown
Lee (Tom) Melly
Stephen Mitchell
Barbara Shepherd
James Smith
Richard Teckenbrock
Katherine (Kitty) Werner
Twila White

In Memoriam
- Affiliates and Friends

Richard Bixler
Doug Boyer
Tawes DeWyngaert
Sara Janoure
Robert (Bob) Kimbrough
Robert Widman

Presbyterian Women
Annual Financial Report, December 31, 2024
Flossie Paul, Treasurer

General Fund Balance		$4,483.09
General Fund Receipts		
Donations, Pledges		
Birthday Offering	1,491.25	
Thank Offering	2,361.00	
Gift Card Donation	15.00	
Total Funds Available		8,350.34
General Fund Disbursements		
World Mission		
Hope Seeds	200.00	
Birthday Offering 2024	1,491.25	
Thank Offering 2024	2,361.00	
Total General Fund Mission Giving		(4,052.25)
Miscellaneous and Operating Expenses		
Gifts to office staff	500.00	
Total General Funds Disbursed		(4,552.25)
General Fund Balance		$3798.09

Balance January 1, 2024 - Endowment Allocation and Other Investments		$ 118,678.25
Receipts		332,358.70
Disbursements		
College Scholarships	3,753.00	
Choral College Scholarships	1,825.00	
All Faiths Food Bank - Campaign Against Summer Hunger	3,000.00	
CEPAD Nicarauga - School Food Program	2,100.00	
Misión Peniel - Formula & Baby Food	3,000.00	
Benevolence Gifts	715.00	
Youth Summer Trips	2,269.31	
Servpro - Hurricane Milton clean up	29,120.18	
Mullet Aluminum campus windows (completed in 2024)	101,458.21	
Sarasota Roofing - Fellowship Hall (remainder paid from budget)	26,635.00	
Pastor's Office	21,522.32	
General Fund	45,711.23	
Total DISBURSEMENTS		241,109.25
Total Endowment Allocation and Other Investments December 31, 2024		**$ 209,927.70**

The endowment allocation and other investments short term (ST)/long term (LT) is in the following financial institution: Fidelity Investments

Endowment Allocation Balances 12/31/24		
Mission & Ministry	$ 3,002.73	
Helen Anderson - Hungry Children	3,678.73	
Permanent Property & Building	-	
Capital Campaign Property & Building	-	
Coulter/HoeperII Music Scholarhsip	4,161.39	
Snyder Music Scholarship	17,127.58	
Cowden/Hoeper I College Scholarship	-	
Janette Barr - Scholarship	4,840.50	
Presbyterian Women	8,703.35	
Cathryn Herron Scholarship	16,242.53	
General	-	
		57,756.81
Other Investment Balances 12/31/24		
Emergency Property Repairs	145,610.11	
Property - Imagine the Future CC	-	
Pastoral Benevolence Fund	3,938.67	
New Library - Room 204	1,474.56	
J. Barr Trust	1,147.55	
Total OTHER INVESTMENTS ST/LT		152,170.89
Total Endowment Allocation and Other Investments ST/LT		**$ 209,927.70**

Summary of Restricted Accounts
January - December 2024

TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED		
DESIGNATED FUNDS:MISC.		
Celtic Christmas/Concert Series	Linnie Dalbeck - Classroom Repairs	
Choir Social Fund	Linnie Dalbeck - Stephen Ministry	
Community Foundation Giving Challenge	Memorial Garden Desig.Fd.	
Cowden-Smith Library - Purchases	Outreach Committee	
Dalbeck - Chldrn/Yth/Fam Initiative	Salsbury Designated - Office Equip	
Faith Focus/Pastoral Development	Stephen Ministry	
FFW/PDS John Cairns Memorial	Student Vocal Stipend	
Friends of Music Ministry	Youth Trips	
Health Ministry		
Total DESIGNATED FUNDS:MISC.		**151,901.18**
DESIGNATED BENEVOLENCES		
Brentwood Blessing Trees		
Good Samaritan		
Transportation		
Total DESIGNATED BENEVOLENCES		**28,094.45**
DESIGNATED MISSIONS		
Cuba - Communications	Interfaith Partners	
Cuba Partnership	Invest in Children	
FPC All Faiths	Thoughtful Giving	
Total DESIGNATED MISSIONS		**59,394.32**
MEMORIALS		
Janet Clark Memorial	David Muir Memorial	
Bill Fulton Memorial	Kenneth Putt Memorial	
Herron,Cathryn Mem.Schol.*	June Raskin Memorial	
Memorial Fund General	Bob Rea Memorial	
Andrew Millar Memorial	Natalie Smith Memorial	
Total MEMORIALS		**8,255.33**
PRE-SCHOOL		
Vicki Fry Scholarship Fund		
Preschool Retained Earnings		
Total PRE-SCHOOL		**262,556.77**

Summary of Revenues & Expenses P&L January - December 2024	MTD Actual (2024)	MTD Budget (2024)	YTD Actual (2023)	YTD Actual (2024)	YTD Budget (2024)	Annual Budget (2025)
REVENUES						
GENERAL FUND						
GENERAL OFFERINGS	$ 109,792.00	$ 90,462.60	$ 794,301.41	$ 932,431.88	$ 867,109.00	$ 964,360.00
NON-PLEDGE OFFERINGS	12,210.79	18,195.44	99,741.02	77,347.32	62,000.00	68,200.00
FACILITY USE	5,600.00	5,888.99	62,745.00	67,641.00	59,400.00	55,335.00
ALL OTHER RECEIPTS	7,968.07	3,895.76	99,932.26	106,612.50	88,750.00	94,700.00
Total GENERAL FUND	**135,570.86**	**118,442.79**	**1,056,719.69**	**1,184,032.70**	**1,077,259.00**	**1,182,595.00**
DESIGNATED RECEIPTS						
CHILDREN'S & FAMILY MINISTRY	-	8.37	4,680.00	1,495.00	4,900.00	2,100.00
SCHOLARSHIPS:S.H. & COLL.	-	-	3,336.00	3,753.00	5,004.00	-
OFFICE ADMINISTRATION	5.00	-	-	12.00	-	-
RENTAL INCOME & EXPENSE REIMBU	-	-	2,517.18	3,276.89	-	3,081.00
INCOME FROM DESIGNATED/RESTRIC	-	-	33,483.42	6,838.80	7,000.00	10,588.40
Total DESIGNATED RECEIPTS	**5.00**	**8.37**	**44,016.60**	**15,375.69**	**16,904.00**	**15,769.40**
Total REVENUES	**135,575.86**	**118,451.16**	**1,100,736.29**	**1,199,408.39**	**1,094,163.00**	**1,198,364.40**
EXPENSES						
MISSION & JUSTICE	13,786.37	8,996.12	27,580.13	33,671.78	33,700.00	36,100.00
PER CAPITA & UNIFIED	5,692.01	5,692.01	20,211.60	22,768.10	22,768.10	24,299.00
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY	813.00	216.46	5,646.85	4,918.39	6,314.36	6,100.00
YOUTH EDUCATION & FELLOWSHIP	272.19	66.63	512.57	675.77	1,400.00	6,200.00
COLLEGE PROGRAM/SCHOLARSHIPS	-	-	3,336.00	3,753.00	5,004.00	500.00
FAMILY/INTERGENERATIONAL	389.79	385.43	782.83	7,393.98	9,500.00	9,200.00
WORSHIP SERVICES	779.15	1,442.33	2,703.44	4,372.06	3,300.00	5,100.00
MUSIC SERVICES	8,386.69	6,411.93	37,787.64	38,592.77	37,600.00	42,750.00
FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY	1,606.29	1,018.14	3,136.20	3,940.05	4,000.00	5,000.00
OFFICE ADMINISTRATION	2,813.17	4,172.30	47,096.92	49,726.79	54,470.03	66,135.03
Total PROPERTY & GROUNDS	24,927.49	30,765.31	263,040.67	266,864.76	271,336.99	327,883.00
FINANCE	4,600.74	4,730.20	88,073.18	61,822.95	60,700.00	62,295.00
DEACONS	4.83	11.88	2,301.99	220.48	3,500.00	1,800.00
ADULT EDUCATION	191.85	124.93	708.93	738.64	1,000.00	2,000.00
NOMINATING COMMITTEE	-	-	344.13	232.98	400.00	300.00
STEWARDSHIP	73.23	61.11	1,236.99	1,070.70	1,200.00	800.00
MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TEAM	141.55	218.24	320.75	493.51	2,000.00	2,000.00
OUTREACH	-	-	-	-	-	5,000.00
PERSONNEL						
HEAD OF STAFF	17,182.55	17,599.47	208,850.42	217,273.15	217,470.27	229,576.81
DIRECTOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	6,790.01	6,646.39	-	36,290.59	84,725.36	91,441.26
MUSIC	9,573.57	10,548.72	121,155.43	121,756.44	125,378.15	132,186.40
ADMINISTRATION	12,564.47	11,928.61	152,367.69	154,966.90	152,903.04	163,074.24
PROPERTY	2,943.37	2,712.78	29,349.73	35,605.25	35,266.14	37,029.45
FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE	782.21	1,103.19	10,063.05	8,124.38	15,343.13	15,290.85
PERSONNEL GENERAL EXPENSES	1,747.96	2,335.67	17,161.39	4,974.95	14,074.40	8,887.90
Total EXPENSES	**116,062.49**	**117,187.85**	**1,043,768.53**	**1,080,248.37**	**1,163,353.97**	**1,280,948.94**
Net Total	**19,513.37**	**1,263.31**	**56,967.76**	**119,160.02**	**(69,190.97)**	**(82,584.54)**
Total OTHER REVENUES	2,171.00	-	14,818.70	14,982.25	-	-
Total OTHER EXPENDITURES	4,685.24	-	14,874.94	12,971.85	-	-
Net Operating Total	**$ 16,999.13**	**$ 1,263.31**	**$ 56,911.52**	**$ 121,170.42**	**$ (69,190.97)**	**$ (82,584.54)**
PRE-SCHOOL						
REVENUES	$ 45,784.73	$ 46,104.98	$ 598,263.63	$ 498,247.37	$ 499,775.00	$ 565,850.00
EXPENSES	(8,141.49)	52,287.22	598,263.63	498,247.37	578,720.75	571,543.13
Net Operating Total	**$ 53,926.22**	**$ (6,182.24)**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ (78,945.75)**	**$ (5,693.13)**

Balance Sheet
December 2024

ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
CHECKING		
101115 - BayFirst - Operating	$ 86,136.54	
101116 - BayFirst - Good Samaritan	23,445.07	109,581.61
PETTY CASH		
105135 - Petty Cash (Office)	75.00	
Total CURRENT ASSETS		109,656.61
INVESTMENTS		
107115 - Fidelity Investments	231,194.71	
107136 - US Treasury Bill -11/30/2025	444,469.50	
107138 - First Citizens Bank - CD 06/26/2026	101,319.37	
107140 - Peoples Bank - CD 07/23/26	102,993.03	
107141 - US Treasury Bill - 06/30/2025	49,043.50	
107142 - US Treasury Bill - 03/31/2026	97,585.00	
107143 - US Treasury Bill - 08/31/2025	219,134.25	1,245,739.36
PREPAID ASSETS		
130116 - Prepaid Insurance	22,259.12	
130117 - Prepaid - FSA Health Equity	8,304.00	
130168 - Cedarkirk Retreat	1,080.00	31,643.12
INTEREST RECEIVABLE		
120100 - Interest Receivable		1,903.70
FIXED ASSETS		
CHURCH		
151055 - Land/Buildings	3,664,945.59	
151056 - New Library - 2012	17,818.00	
151057 - Imagine the Future-Sanctuary	2,330,355.85	
151058 - Imagine the Future-Fellowship Hall	238,326.19	
151059 - Imagine the Future-Bldg&Grnd Imprv	654,462.13	
151060 - Furn/Fixtures	1,809,989.43	
151065 - Parking Lot	2,696,561.54	
151066 - Bell Tower	841,204.16	
154090 - Computer/Software/Office Equip	61,253.69	12,314,916.58
PAYNE LOT PROPERTIES		
152069 - Payne Lot Prop.& 2036 Oak	374,544.64	
152075 - Furn/Fixtures	14,000.00	388,544.64
Total FIXED ASSETS		12,703,461.22
Total ASSETS		14,092,404.01
LIABILITIES		
201205 - Accounts Payable	10,758.86	
201218 - Flexible Spending Account - Contrib	388.65	
202201 - Prepaid Pledges	145,717.13	
202600 - Prepaid Preschool Tuition	51,546.50	
202807 - Deferred Facility Use	600.00	209,011.14
FUND BALANCE		
20Z02Z - Retained Earnings - FPC	338,631.48	
Excess Cash Received	121,170.42	
Total FUND BALANCE and Excess Cash Received		459,801.90
Restricted Funds		
Total TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	720,129.75	
Total PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED	12,703,461.22	13,423,590.97
Total LIABILITIES, FUND BALANCE, & Restricted Funds		$ 14,092,404.01

THE FOUNDATION FOR FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SARASOTA, INC.

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

First Presbyterian Church first established endowment funds in 1992 to allow members and friends of the church an opportunity to provide long-term support of the church and its mission. In 2013, the Session authorized the formation of the Foundation for First Presbyterian Church of Sarasota, Inc. as a separate 501(c)(3) corporation and transferred the existing endowment funds to the Foundation.

The Foundation is managed by a board of seven directors who are members of First Presbyterian Church of Sarasota. Four directors are appointed by the Session, and the remaining three are elected by the appointing directors.

The directors serving in 2024 were: Betsy Marshall (President), Michelle Young (Secretary), Rich Paul (Treasurer), Richard Clapp (Director), Ric Saba (Director), and Michael Brown (Director). The Session appointed Steven Largo (Director) to fill the vacancy to bring the total to the required number of seven members of the church.

In 2024, the Foundation primarily focused on keeping the membership informed about opportunities to give to the Foundation by brochures, mailings, and articles in church publications. In the coming years, the Foundation plans to steadily and more actively increase its profile in the giving of the church.

During 2024, the record-keeping and accounting functions of the Foundation were performed by Treasurer Rich Paul together with a private accounting firm, Miles and Thirion, for continuity of service. The Foundation is very grateful to and relies on the assistance of the church's office staff as well.

The Foundation continues to make an annual distribution of 5% to meet the threshold for distributions from private foundations. Although the Foundation began operations as a public charity, the Foundation was advised by its accountant that its tax exempt classification was recently changed to a private foundation. The goal is to resume public charity status.

The Board of Directors of the Foundation is pleased to report that during the first quarter of 2024, following the close of the 2023 calendar year, distributions from its funds were made to the Session to further the ministries of the church as follows:

From the Scholarship Endowment Fund: $7721.63

From the Property Endowment Fund: $12,373.25

From the Ministry and Benevolence Endowment Fund: $12,030.79

From the General Endowment Fund: $39,460.36

From the Temporary Fund sweep account: $195.65

The following is a summary of the financial transactions of the Foundation in 2024:

Opening balance on January 1, 2024: 1,378,469.19

Dividend and interest income: $72,804.13

Donations received: $2,500.00

Distributions made: ($71,781.68)

Accounting fees: ($2921.00)

Miscellaneous expense: ($52)

Change in value: $58,870.27

Ending balance December 31, 2024: $1,438,888.91

As of December 31, 2024, the assets of the Foundation are held in a single account at Charles Schwab and are invested in a selected group of funds approved by the directors. The account activity is monitored by the Treasurer and overseen by the directors.













2024















First Presbyterian Church of Sarasota
Mission, Vision and Core Values

Our Mission

We believe we are called to faithfully serve
the Lord Jesus Christ, giving glory to God.

Our Vision

We desire to be a leading, faithful, witnessing, diverse
and growing community of God's people.

Our Core Values

Leading

We have an ongoing tradition of leadership in the community.
We are committed to meeting the ever-changing
spiritual and physical needs of our community.

Faithful

Our life together centers on vibrant worship and praise
as we glorify God.
We are a dynamic community of faith –
reformed and always reforming.
We strive to be faithful managers of the gifts
that God has provided for us.

Witnessing

Through compassionate service and working for justice,
we share the hope we have in Jesus Christ
seeking to become spiritual partners with our neighbors.

Diverse

As a community of Jesus Christ, we unconditionally welcome
all people, in the manner of our Lord and Savior.

Growing

We seek spiritual growth for children and adults
through prayer, the teaching and study of Scripture,
and the sharing of our faith's journey.