



2022 Annual Report
The First Presbyterian Church of Northport, NY
Founded 1785

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The First Presbyterian Church of Northport

Annual Congregational Meeting

March 26, 2023

11:00 AM

Docket

1. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum – Rev. Rachel Vione, Moderator
2. Opening Prayer
3. Approval of the Docket
4. Review of the 2022 Finances – Dennis Crowley, Finance Ministry Chair
 - a. Overview of 2023 Budget
5. Report of the All Church Nominating Committee – Deacon, Jeannie O'Brien
 - Election of Ruling Elders
 - Election of Deacons
 - All Church Nominating Committee
6. Review of the 2022 Annual Reports
7. Report from Weekday Nursery School – Michelle Micucci, Director
8. Voting on Pastor's Terms of Call – Elder, Kim Gilbert, Personnel Chair
9. Pastors Remarks
10. Delegate Reading and Approval of Minutes to the Session
11. Prayer and adjournment

March 26, 2023

My Dear Friends at the First Presbyterian Church of Northport,

2022 saw us return once again to in person worship and meetings. What a gift it has been to return to worship in our beloved sanctuary and to look each other in the eye as we worship and praise God together.

So, are we back to normal? To the normal, pre-pandemic times? I don't think so because I don't think there is such a thing as "normal" when we engage in ministry. There is only God's call for each of us to meet the challenge of each moment, and each moment looks different. As a colleague in ministry says, "We do not worship a God of the past but of the present and of the future – a God who invites us to be co-creators of life abundant for all people and who asks us to invite others to come alongside and "to come and see."

God calls us not to dwell on the past, or how we have always done things before, but to be open to the new things that God is doing in our midst. With God, all things are possible!

I have been honored to participate in several events in our community throughout 2022. On Easter Sunday, I participated in the Easter Dawn service sponsored by the Ecumenical Lay Council. In June, I was honored to "Bless the Fleet" in Northport Harbor and serve as a judge for the first ever "Best Clam Chowder in Northport" and the best "Craft Beer" in Northport. (Salted and Sand City, respectively). In September, I participated once again at the "Overdose Awareness" event sponsored by the Drug and Alcohol Task Force, of which I am a member. All these events were well-attended by the community and an important outreach for FPC.

This community of faith...this *family* that we call FPC Northport is a gift from God. As we continue to journey beyond the darkest days of the pandemic it is wonderful to be together in community with one another and serve the God we love.

With much JOY in serving as your Pastor,
Rachel

Clerk's Report

I would like to start by thanking the following Elders who have faithfully served this past year:

Class of 2022

Dennis Crowley
Marilyn Fox
Fred Mosher
Florence Ogg
Kim Gilbert

Class of 2023

Patricia Bell
Cathy Coleman
Cindy Mies
David Ofsharick
Anita Stambouly

Class of 2024

Diana Montusi
Melissa Beyer
Susanne Haffner
Vicki Field
William Heuer

As always, our Elders continue to be faithful and active participants in the life of our Church, serving on the various ministries such as Finance, Membership, Mission, Weekday Nursery School Board, Ecumenical Lay Council, Peacemaking, Worship, Personnel, Sunday School, Youth Group, Presbyterian Women, Property and Maintenance, Sunday ushering teams and hosting fellowship hour, to mention a few!

Session has continued to meet on a monthly basis either in person or via Zoom (except for our usual break in the summer months). Our meetings open with prayer and devotions by Elders each month which this year included readings from My Daily Devotions "Walking with God"; concept of giving up things for Lent; a reading from John 2 v. 5 & 6; a devotion written by Pastor Rochelle Menander based on Psalm 25:4; a prayer and devotion on learning how to pray which was inspired by Hymn #345 "In an Age of Twisted Values"; reading of Psalm 15; and a reading from These Days concerning Doxologies.

We had as our guests at the May meeting the members of our Confirmation Class of 2022. Nine were confirmed during the month of June. In November we were joined for a portion of our meeting by Kerry Riddle, our Committee on Ministry Liaison from the Presbytery of Long Island.

The corporate officers for 2022 were Marcia Mercer, President; Dennis Crowley, Secretary; Bob Spiller, Treasurer; and Marcia remained on as Clerk for an additional one-year term.

We were back to in-person worship on Sunday, February 6th. Our on-line streaming service has continued throughout the year, which has been quite successful and continues to be a welcomed ministry for those of our members who are unable to be physically present during our worship services.

We were deeply saddened to lose several dear and faithful members of our church family this past year: Joan DeNigris, Jean Wilson, Ruth Mies, Sandra Miller and Arthur Shaw.

As we continue on with our ministry here at First Presbyterian Church of Northport in this new year, I pray that you all remain safe and healthy, and look forward to worshiping with you in word, song, prayer and deed.

Marcia Mercer, Clerk

Finance Ministry

The Finance Ministry was challenged by several significant concerns in 2022. The fiscal year started out with an approved budget carrying a 68,035 deficit, a list of urgent and costly repairs to the Manse and the YDA, along with increased repair costs partly due to inflation. As the year progressed, the list of repairs grew as inspections were made of the Church building, which are ongoing as of 2023.

Fortunately, the 2022 year-end deficit was significantly lowered to 2,615, partly due to increased donations from the Engemann Theatre and the Nursery School, and not using the funds marked for the hiring of a Youth person on staff.

The Church's liquid assets were 952,662 as of 12/31/2022.

Our goals for 2023 are to review all expenses carefully, along with no significant changes to the current investment strategy, which is to reinvest Endowment dividends, keep sufficient funds on hand, while investing conservatively. For example, we've invested 40,000 over the past year in 4 Certificates of Deposit of 10,000 each at staggered terms, from 3 to 15 month terms. Thus, we're earning a higher rate on part of the cash on hand while making sure funds are coming due on a timely schedule. We have no plans to add any additional funds to the Endowment this year.

As repairs are expected to be significant this year, we have additional funds available beyond the line items in the budget. The Church has a restricted account of approximately 15,000 along with the New Covenant Fund (the "Rainy Day Fund") with over 100,000 available to cover unexpected costs.

Finance has also created a more formalized procedure to manage Sunday plate collections along with updated check authorization and signature requirements.

On November 20th Kevin McKerr presented an update of Church finances, which was well-received. Our goal is to keep the membership fully-informed, along with cooperating with other committees to discuss and hopefully solve any funding issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis J. Crowley
Finance Chair

Board of Deacons

Pastor Rachel Vione

Class of 2022	Class of 2023	Class of 2024
Shelley Pierce	Sue Ebert Secretary	Jack Fink
Marlena Dentrone	Carolyn Louis Co-Moderator	Marjorie Sundquist
Tim Gladding	Jeannie O'Brien Co-Moderator/Treasurer	Tiffany Thomas
Robin O'Neill-Gonzalez	Jeannie Reed	Pegge Strella
Jim Beyer		Krista Mellinger- DeRoma

~We gratefully recognize the contributions of Deacons Shelley Pierce, Marlena Dentrone, Tim Gladding, Robin O'Neill-Gonzalez, and Jim Beyer, who concluded their term of service in 2022.

~The Board of Deacons is a ministry of caring and service to church members, to the community, and to the world at large. Funds for our ministry primarily come from donations to the Deacons' Fund made from church members and loose plate offerings.

~We began 2022, once again under Covid-19 restrictions. In person worship resumed on February 6th with Communion. Coffee Hour resumed on March 6, serving packaged snacks with coffee and water bottles. The Deacons, Session, and Membership will rotate each Sunday.

~On March 26th, was Charlene Cosman's Memorial Service and the Deacons served at the reception of 150+ guests.

~In March, \$1500 was donated to The PDA for Ukraine and \$500 was donated to the Pierce family.

~In April, a policy was adopted for Deacons to not be responsible to serve at large functions at the church, professional caterers and servers must be provided by the families hosting.

~On May 16th, the Blood Drive took place taking in 22 pints of blood.

~On May 22nd, the installation/ordination of officers took place

~In May, another \$1500 was donated to the PDA for Ukraine and \$273 was donated to the pioneers for making Easter Baskets.

~In June, \$500 was donated to The Helping Hands Ministry of Huntington.

~During the summer months, Deacons, Session and Membership continued to alternate hosting coffee hour.

~On September 11th, regular Communion was held with 6 Deacons serving.

~ In September, \$1000 was donated to PDA.

~On September 19th, our second Blood Drive was held receiving 28 units of blood.

~On October 4th, Jeannie O'Brien and Carolyn Louis took over as the Moderators for the Deacons.

~November 6th was All Saints Day with Communion served by the Deacons. Preference was expressed to keep communion servers in teams of all deacons and all session members for ease of communication within teams.

~In November, Care packages containing gift cards were sent to all the college students.

~Thanksgiving cards were sent to all members of the congregation from the Deacons.

~Deacons purchased 14 much needed twin blankets to donate to the Dawn Hall residents.

~In December, Poinsettias were delivered to the "Pioneers of our church" (42 of them).

~In December, a donation of \$500 was sent to Long Island Council of Churches.

~The Deacons have a year-end balance of \$3,000 in our account.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Ebert (secretary)

Jeannie O'Brien (co-moderator/treasurer)

Carolyn Louis (co-moderator)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of NORTHPORT
TREASURER'S REPORT. DEACON FUND 2022

OPENING BALANCE:	January 1, 2022	\$5,650.75
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INCOME:

Donations	\$3,782.00
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TOTAL INCOME	\$9,432.75
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DISBURSEMENTS:

Coffee Supplies	229.41
Communion Supplies/Memorial/Bibles	331.01
Donations:	5,000.00
PDA, LI Council Churches, Help Hands	
Easter Baskets/Poinsettias	260.28
Gifts: Students Christmas/Blankets	479.04
Thanksgiving/Christmas Cards	173.78

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$6,473.23
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CLOSING BALANCE	December 31, 2022	\$2,959.23
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Respectfully submitted,

Jeannie O'Brien, Deacon Treasurer



**Annual Financial Report
Fiscal Year 2022
Budgeted Accounts**

Summary

Income	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
Pledged Giving	\$339,612	\$340,511
Other Income	\$51,600	\$91,359
Gifts and Bequests	\$15,000	\$25,000
Total Unrestricted Income	\$406,212	\$456,870

Operating Expense Disbursements	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
Payroll and Insurance	\$309,804	\$279,391
Property and Maintenance Expense	\$116,550	\$119,771
Benevolence	\$32,843	\$33,217
Administrative Expenses	\$13,250	\$16,984
Ministries	\$11,500	\$10,089
Total Operating Expense	\$483,947	\$459,452

Restricted Accounts

Account	Balance 12/31/2021	2022 Income	2022 Disbursements	Balance 12/31/2022
P/M Capital Fund	\$14,967	\$100	\$0	\$15,067
Endowment Fund Seed Income	\$309	\$50,304	\$50,000	\$612
Memorial Fund	\$12,561	\$2,663	\$4,089	\$11,135
Music & Ministry	\$4,391	\$950	\$1,413	\$3,928
Memorial Garden	\$9,286	\$3,750	\$1,228	\$11,808
Rambo Endowment	\$54,597	\$2,400	\$7,001	\$49,997
Joy Offering	\$1,742	\$1,975	\$2,017	\$1,700
Congregational Dinners	\$503	\$0	\$503	(\$0)
Peacemaking	\$1,419	\$1,515	\$1,618	\$1,317
Pentecost	\$669	\$1,885	\$1,731	\$823
Sanctuary Guild	\$2,675	\$1,720	\$1,813	\$2,581
One Great Hour	\$0	\$2,367	\$2,267	\$100
Other Restricted	\$9,616	\$16,432	\$22,049	\$3,999

Account Balances

Account	Value 12/31/2021	Value 12/31/2022
TD Bank Checking	\$170,580	\$42,180
TD Ameritrade	\$111,438	\$71,100
Presbyterian Foundation Endowment [#]	\$703,892	\$697,861
New Covenant Funds	\$153,492	\$172,678
Total Unrestricted	\$332,442	\$182,891
Total Restricted	\$806,959	\$800,929

*Please note that the year-end balance does not include deposits or outstanding disbursements in transit. If you would like further information, please contact Bob Spiller, Church Treasurer.

[#] Funds in the Presbyterian Foundation Endowment are considered "Restricted" as they require 2/3 majority votes from the Finance Ministry and the Session for withdrawals.

Respectfully Submitted, Kevin McKerr, Financial Manager

Comparative Budget 2022/2023

	2022 Budget	2023 Budget
Income		
Pledged Giving	339,612	293,771
Bequests/gifts	15,000	12,500
Unpledged	10,000	10,000
General Use of Building	10,000	10,000
Weekday/Food Pantry Expenses Share	21,600	26,500
Shared Denominational Support	4,000	4,000
Loose Plate Giving	4,000	3,500
Investment Income	2,000	33,200
Total Income	406,212	393,471

Expense

Total Payroll & Insurance		
Salaries & Benefits - Pastor	170,997	177,882
Salaries & Benefits - Admin/Music Staff	130,400	127,775
Employer FICA/Medicare	6,357	6,089
Payroll Processing Expenses	1,250	1,300
Worker's Comp & Disab. Ins.	1,800	1,500
Total Payroll & Insurance	310,804	314,546

Property & Maintenance**Church Building****Utilities**

Electric	14,000	16,000
Gas	6,500	7,500
Telecommunications	5,100	5,200
Water	1,400	1,400

Total Utilities	27,000	30,100
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Liability/Property Insurance	35,200	37,388
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Church snow removal	14,000	4,000
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Repairs (Discretionary)	6,000	10,000
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Miscellaneous Expenses	3,500	3,500
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Elevator Inspection/Repair	3,250	3,500
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Supplies / Consumables	3,000	3,000
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Church refuse collection	2,500	3,000
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Landscaping	2,400	2,500
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Required Inspections	2,000	1,000
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Fire Alarm System	700	1,000
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Total Church Building	99,550	98,988
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Woodhull Manse Expenses**Utilities**

Fuel Oil	5,000	6,000
Cable/Phone	3,200	3,500
Electric	2,200	2,500
Water	350	350

Total Utilities	10,750	12,350
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Repairs/Supplies	5,000	5,000
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Lawn Maintenance/Pest Control	1,250	2,000
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Total Woodhull Manse	17,000	19,350
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Total Property & Maintenance	116,550	118,338
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Mission / Benevolence***Mission Committee**

Mission-Local & Global	10,000	17,500
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Iglesia Presbiteriana Hispana	6,000	0
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Total Mission Committee	16,000	17,500
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Presbytery

Basic Mission Support	5,000	0
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Per Capita Expense	11,843	12,036
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Total Presbytery	16,843	12,036
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Total Mission Committee-Benevolence	32,843	29,536
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Ministries**Worship****Substitutes**

Substitute Preacher	2,500	2,500
Substitute Organist	1,100	1,100
Substitute Choir Director	700	700

Total Substitutes Music	4,300	4,300
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Organ/Piano Repair & Tuning	2,500	2,500
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New Music-Chancel choir	200	200
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Copyright Insurance	300	300
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Total Music	3,000	3,000
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Sanctuary Supplies	350	350
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Robe Cleaning	100	100
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New Music-Youth choirs	0	0
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Total Worship	7,750	7,750
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Christian Education

Sunday School Supplies/Resource	1,200	1,200
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Youth Ministries	1,200	1,200
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Baptism/Confirmation	100	100
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Adult Education	300	300
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Celebrations	0	0
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Family Ministries Events	0	0
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Total Christian Education	2,800	2,800
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Stewardship	300	300
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Church Officers	500	500
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Membership	250	250
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Peacemaking	100	100
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Pioneers	100	100
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Total Ministries	11,800	11,800
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Admin Expenses**Office Copiers**

Copier Lease	2,150	2,600
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Copier Usage	1,700	2,400
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Total Office Copiers	3,850	5,000
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IT Expenses

Hardware	1,200	1,200
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Software	600	600
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Subscriptions	600	600
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Total Office hardware/software	2,400	2,400
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Subscriptions & Prof. Svc. Fees	3,300	3,500
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Supplies-Office	1,200	1,200
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Postage & Handling	1,200	750
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Total Admin Expenses	11,950	12,850
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Banking

Credit Card Trans fee	1,200	1,200
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Returned checks and fees	100	100
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Total Banking	1,300	1,300
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Total Expenses	485,247	488,370
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Difference**-79,035****-94,899**

Membership Ministry

Annual Membership Ministry Report for 2022

The Membership Ministry Committee oversees the nurturing of church members and the welcoming and encouragement of new members.

The following is a list of some of the productive things that have transpired during 2022:

- Membership participates in coffee hours on a regular basis.
- Membership sends birthday cards every month to all of the youth in our church under the age of 18
- We oversee the soliciting of hosts for firepit gatherings and hikes to encourage socializing.
- The cranes went up, and the cranes came down! But what a beautiful, thoughtful addition to the back entrance hallway. There were many handwritten prayers put inside a multitude of cranes.
- The back entrance hallway was re-decorated with a new color of paint and with the hanging of two enlarged photos of our church from the late 1800s and early 1900s.
- Confirmation class photos were framed and hung in the Hartt Room, showcasing many past confirmation classes.
- A new group was formed called POLO, which stands for parents of little ones. The idea is to invite young parents with their children to get together to encourage them to get to know each other.
- Membership sent postcards to all church members and friends at Christmas time.
- Membership oversaw the breakfast in Fellowship Hall that followed the pop-up pageant.
- In February 2023 we are going to have our first Souper Sunday – homemade soup and breads in the Hartt Room after service on Sunday. If this is well received, it will perhaps be a monthly event.

We look forward to 2023 being a fulfilling year for FPCN!

Respectfully submitted,
Diana Montusi and Susanne Haffner



Local/Global Mission Ministries

The 2022 discretionary funds received by Local/Global Mission Ministries were disbursed as follows:

Donations were made to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) to aid victims of Hurricanes Fiona in Puerto Rico, Ian in Florida, severe flooding in Pakistan, and in the Midwest. Additional funds were donated to PDA to support emergency relief efforts for refugees fleeing the war in Ukraine, and, in addition, were given to Doctors Without Borders to provide medical care for soldiers and civilians injured in the fighting in Ukraine. A donation was also made to the Presbyterian Agency “Living Waters for the World” to distribute clean drinking water to residents of Jackson, Mississippi.

Providing food for hungry people was once again a mission priority in 2022. Donations were made to our ELC Food Pantry, and to the Presbyterian Hunger Program to help alleviate extreme hunger and famine in Somalia, South Sudan and elsewhere in Africa. In response to mission listings in the Presbyterian World Mission Giving Catalog, donations were made to purchase ten refugee food baskets, and to purchase four water filters to provide global families with safe drinking water.

Mission Ministries sponsored four HIHI dinners for homeless residents spending the night at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church and at a motel on Jericho Turnpike. Members of our congregation graciously offered to prepare the meals or purchase frozen dinners, cookies and fruit for them.

The following donations were also made: to the deacons love offering of Iglesia Evangélica Presbiteriana Nueva Vida, to the YDA program to assist this Youth Development Agency's general budget, to Covenant House to support programs to help children in trouble, and to the Nueva Paz Presbyterian church in Havana, Cuba. And, the Presbytery of Long Island received a donation in support of New Church Development ministries. In late August, Mission Ministries encouraged members of our congregation to donate school supplies and back packs to help children in our community to prepare to go back to school. YDA and the ELC Food Pantry were recipients of these donations and distributed them to those families who needed them.

As in the past, Mission Ministries invited the congregation to donate to the three PCUSA special offerings. Here is the total amount of money received in 2022: The One Great Hour of Sharing - \$2,367.10; Pentecost offering \$1,885; and the Christmas Joy Offering \$1,925 – gifts totaling \$6,177.10. Since 40% of money raised by the Pentecost Offering stays in Northport, Mission Ministries was able to contribute \$600 to the Nueva Vida college scholarship fund.

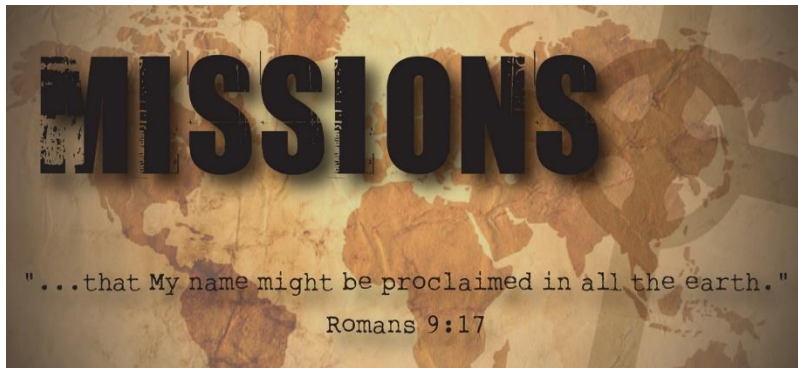
In the fall, with the guidance and support of Pastor Rachel, Mission Ministries invited Pastor Alejandro Madrigal and members of our sister church Iglesia Evangélica Presbiteriana Nueva Vida to attend and/or to participate in World Communion Sunday with us on October 2nd. Pastor Madrigal and Pastor Rachel shared in offering the communion elements bilingually and Pastor Madrigal preached with translation provided by Elder Sandy Santana. It was wonderful to be together in worship that special morning and to remember our oneness in Christ.

We are grateful to God for all the people in our congregation who make these local/global ministries possible - be it through their generous donations to our church on a regular basis and/or through their “hands on” support.

“Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in all ways.” II Thess 3:16

Local/ Global Mission Ministries

Marilyn Fox (chair), Jane Hudson, Florence Ogg, and Pegge Strella



Peacemaking Ministry

This year Peacemaking has become more active following the end of COVID with several educational displays in the Hartt Room after worship about our environment, hunger, and gun violence. We have received the generous donation of a rolling book cart from Bob Van Deusen to allow us to bring books and supplies from our library down to the Hartt Room for the congregation to see and learn from. We have also sponsored 2 hikes at Veterans' Park.

After a detailed application process, we became an Earth Care Congregation this year. We are the only Earth Care Congregation on Long Island. This membership serves to connect us with other congregations active in earth care and interested in becoming more involved in being stewards of God's earth.

We have donated funds to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance fund, St Bernard Project, Bread for the World, Habitat for Humanity, Everytown for Gun Safety, Violence Poverty Center, Nueva Vida Scholarship Fund, Environmental Defense Fund, and Heifer International. In the fall we donated backpacks and school supplies to the food pantry.

We meet usually after church on the third Sunday of the month. Exact dates are available in church calendar. Come and join our group and help us work to improve our world, transforming cultures of violence into communities of peace.

Cathy Coleman, Chair
Peacemaking Ministry

Members: Greg Brown, Elizabeth Coleman, Pat Reeves and Audrey Van Deusen



Presbyterian Women Ministry (PW)

The Presbyterian Women's (PW) ministry of FPCN had a lovely year in 2022. It was a quiet one compared to pre-pandemic years and the fundraising event sales, but actually, upon reflection, it was a year filled with great joy around book discussions, socializing, and the giving of donations to help others. We look forward to further getting past Covid years.

Our book discussions occur every six weeks or so, and the talks are usually held in a rotation of some of the women's homes. Each book is carefully chosen; announcements are always in the bulletin regarding the upcoming next date. Please join us!

The annual Christmas luncheon was a great success. We were in the Hartt Room which was beautifully decorated in December. The food was delicious and the ladies love to be together. If you have been unable to come to one of the luncheons, please do so in 2023. It is a great opportunity to socialize and be with one another.

We once again adopted children for Christmas gifts from the YDA list. What a joy to be able to bring happiness to others.

We contributed money to the Thank Offering, and the Birthday Offering, which are PW USA sponsored offerings, supplementing donations from the ladies. We also made donations to UNICEF, Save the Children/Ukraine, and funded the cornucopia food for display at Thanksgiving. The food then goes to the food pantry.

Stay tuned for future happenings. We hope you have a wonderful and healthy 2023 year ahead!

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Montusi, Peggy Denniston, Leah Fink, Andrea Gladding

Presbyterian Women Income Statement - 2022

Balance

General Fund as of January 1, 2022	2,488.75
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Receipts

PW Birthday Offering Collection	300.00
PW Spring Tea/lunch	315.00
PW Thank Offering Collection	397.00
PW Christmas Lunch	486.00

Total Receipts	1,498.00
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Disbursements

Mission

PW USA Birthday Offering	300.00
PW USA Thank Offering	450.00
Save The Children - Ukraine Relief	800.00
UNICEF	200.00
YDA Christmas families	261.51

2,011.51

Home Church

Horizons Magazine	24.95
Baptisms/Cheer	24.77
Northport Village Beach permit	25.00
Thanksgiving Table	48.00
PW Christmas Lunch	293.26

415.98

Total Disbursements	2,427.49
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Balance

General Fund as of December 31, 2022	1,559.26
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First National Bank of Long Island

New Covenant Balanced Growth Fund

Balance as of Dec 31, 2022	\$2,893.20
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Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Denniston, PW Treasurer

Sanctuary Guild

The Sanctuary Guild provides the flowers to beautify the sanctuary at worship on Sunday mornings. Dedications from individuals in the congregation for loved ones, births, in celebration of someone or in memory of someone are always welcomed. We also take orders at the appropriate time for Easter flower dedications and Christmas poinsettias and wreath dedications which decorate the sanctuary. If you would like to join us, please contact Sharon Noonan or Sue Ebert. Our phone numbers are in the church directory. Thank you for your continued support.

Sharon Noonan, Chair



Stewardship Ministry

Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7. We have moved into the 2023 church year facing our normal operating costs and have mostly moved past the pandemic. Current pledge information shows that we have received pledges for \$268,000 for 2023. This compares to \$326,072 pledged by this time last year. Our goal is to reach \$400,000 in pledges to plan for 2023. We are 67% of the way to our goal. You can still make your pledge. The Finance Ministry faces great difficulty in preparing an annual budget when adequate pledges are not made and they have to deal with estimated income sources.

The per capita assessment this year is \$38.95 per member. We encourage everyone to add these expenses to their pledge giving to help defray the costs.

The Stewardship Ministry has been meeting to develop the pledge campaign and encourage Stewardship in the church. We recognize that continuing information regarding how the church is both receiving its revenues and how it is spending its money is not only meaningful but necessary.

Even though the church is open for worship, we continue to live stream the service for those that cannot attend in person. We need funds to keep the church building functional, keep the live-streaming equipment running, and to pay salaries. In addition, the missions of our congregation are ongoing, such as keeping the food pantry open and contributing towards disaster assistance. We urge each member of the congregation to accept his or her personal responsibility in providing the income necessary to permit our church to continue its work in our community as well as the world. Our ministry and mission calls for us to do this both joyfully and spiritually. We must all accept this responsibility seriously. All that we have is from God. This is a way for us to say "Thank You". We need to commit to the fact that giving

to our church must be a part of our spiritual growth in response to the gift of Grace we receive from our God. Giving of our time, talent, gifts and service is a way to serve our Lord.

You can now make your donations by text (text “fpcnpt” to 73256 click the link and complete the gift) or online (<https://www.fpcnorthport.org/give>).

We urge all our fellow church members to increase their generosity in supporting our church's work by giving of your financial resources, time and talent. Consider participating in a group you haven't worked with before. Not only will you be assisting others, but you will feel in your heart the reward of giving time as well as giving money.

The Stewardship Ministry is not only involved in the yearly “estimate of giving” campaign, we also encourage giving of time, talent and money throughout the year. In addition, we try to have Minutes for Mission.

The Stewardship Ministry wishes to thank Karen Twitchell, Administrative Assistant and Kevin McKerr, Financial Assistant for their assistance in carrying out our work.

Members of the Stewardship Ministry in 2022 are Jane Hudson, Christine Spiller, Bob Spiller, Anita D’Amico Stambouli, Jeff Barasch, Jack Coleman and Rev. Rachel Vione (*ex officio*).

Jack Coleman, Chair

Sunday School

In 2022, our Sunday School program resumed with 100% in-person classes for children ages 4 to 10 years old. Special thank you to our Sunday School Teachers Diana Montusi, Jeannine Reed, Cynthia Mies, and Marlena Dentrone. Since this was the first time most children had attended Sunday School in person, we started the year with the Holy Moly curriculum Year 1 Unit 1 Lessons 1-7. From September 2022 to December 2022, we held nine classes, including overlapping lessons, to help those students that missed the previous week's class. Overall attendance is still very light, so we only utilized one classroom for all age groups. While this is not the ideal setup, the older children have been very helpful in assisting Sunday School teachers; special thank you to Madelynn Ofsharick and Madeline Beyer.

In December, we brought back the in-person Christmas Pageant; these have been a part of our church's history for generations. Over the years, it has been challenging for families to commit to rehearsals due to other families' obligations. After the pandemic, this was even more difficult to coordinate due to unexpected illnesses. It was decided to introduce the "Pop Up" or "Rehearsal Free" Christmas Pageant, and the invitation was shared with the congregation. Between the collaboration of Paster Rachel Vione and Melissa Beyer, hymns were selected to tell the story of Jesus' birth. After each reading and hymn, children and adults were welcomed to the altar in costume (or not). Special thank you to James Beyer for filling in as our Shepherd with Joseph, Mary, and our Angels. Overall, very positive feedback from the congregation, and we will continue with a similar format in 2023.

In addition to our Sunday School teachers, we are also grateful for our Nursey caretaker Mary Simon. Her welcoming smile and caring personality quickly puts any child or parent at ease. Mary takes pride in the Nursery and recommends improvements for the room to help welcome young families. Her weekly dedication is genuinely appreciated because it allows our parents to participate in worship without distraction. As we move into 2023, we continue to search for Sunday School teachers with the same caring dedication to relieve our members from missing worship and help create a sustainable and growing Sunday School Program.

Melissa Beyer (elder) (Sunday School Coordinator)



Weekday Nursery School is thriving with a total of 111 students enrolled for the 2022/2023 school year. Our two 2's classes are filled with a total of 24 students, our 3's has a combined total of 40 students, our 4's has a total of 39 and Kindersteps has 8 students. Next year, Kindersteps is already full with a max of 10 kids!

We have a different enrichment special each day for our 3s, 4s and Kindersteps, including Spanish, Art, Music and Movement, STEAM and Yoga. Our 2's have a Music and Movement special once a week.

To start off the school year, several special events and traditions were in full swing at Weekday to help enrich the educational experience as well. Such events included the Back-to-School Fair for children and parents to meet their teachers and see their classrooms, Pumpkin Picking in our Weekday pumpkin patch on the playground, Halloween Parade & Show by Jester Jim, and Mad Science presented Air, Air Everywhere. We had a special visit from Mrs. Claus herself in December. Such a magical experience was had by all! In February, Great Whites Pediatric Dentistry came to talk to all the students about dental health awareness.

As the school year continues, we will be taking a school wide walking field trip to the Engeman Theater to see Frozen in March! All family members are invited as we have the whole theater to ourselves this year! We will have another presentation by Mad Science with a STEAM show. We will also be holding our third Spring Fling for all students and parents to attend to dance the night away with a DJ, and an Art Show to display all the amazing artwork by Weekdays finest students! We will be celebrating Earth Day in April with a visit from Steppin' Out Ponies and Petting Zoo Farm in the Church parking lot. It is quite a sight to see our students and staff interacting with the bunnies, chickens, goats and even Muriel the alpaca. A Special Person's Tea will be held in May and students get to invite one special person to attend this tea party tradition!

Weekday also held a couple of Fundraisers to help support the school. We held our first Holiday Boutique in 2022, with parent volunteers and raised just over \$500. Seeing the kids' faces light up as they "shopped" for their families was priceless! We also continued with the Kidz Kreations fundraiser in October for parents to purchase their children's art work, as it turned into a cutting board, memo pad, bag and more, to give as gifts for the holidays. In addition, we are having our biggest fundraiser, the Read-a-Thon, coming up in March, to help support student reading! Students will secure sponsors from friends and family to help raise money. The money raised will go towards enhancing our playground.

After school enrichment clubs are also being held throughout the year with 8 weeks of fun during each 45 minute class. We have fall, winter and spring sessions for all clubs. The after school enrichment clubs include Soccer Shots and Tae Kwon Do, which are run by an outside party, as well as Science Club, Hip Hop and Art Club taught by our very own amazing teachers. Clubs are a huge hit to add to the enrichment of the day.

Our Moving Up and Graduation ceremonies will be in June in the Gym.

This tradition is such a special day for all graduates to celebrate themselves and all their accomplishments at Weekday with their families.

We will also be holding our summer camp for 6 weeks during the summer. The teachers are working on planning the weekly themes and making every day special for our campers.

We are very grateful for the guidance of the Weekday Nursery School Board, as well as the continued support and encouragement from Pastor Rachel and the church members and we look forward to more wonderful years to come!

Michelle Micucci, Director

Worship Ministry

We began 2022 by continuing to worship in person as well as online.

Masking remained in place when we returned to in person worship on February 13. Here are some of the highlights of 2022 with dual worshipping in person and online:

- In January, as we began the new year and continued to get acquainted with each other the Ushers started wearing name tags.
- In February, masks are still in place. The collection plate was passed.
- The front door now has signs at the end of the service telling attendees to exit from the parking lot doors. Security remains an ongoing concern.
- In March, the masks were no longer required.
- There continues to be a strong attendance in person and online.
- Confirmation classes began.
- Ash Wednesday was well attended in person.
- In April, Easter was just one service but no coffee hour afterwards.
- Vicki Field requested there be a new leader for the Ushers.
- May brought the end of Dana Warren as our choir director. Also Ariana Warren resigned as director of our youth choir. They remained in their positions till the end of June. A search to replace Dana began.
- May 15 was Rambo Sunday with three scholarships awarded.
- Communion continued with prepackaged elements
- On June 2nd, we had a fire pit send off for Lisa and Steve Nikrant
- At the end of June, we had a special send off for Dana and Adriana thanking them for their 5 years of service and their family's beautiful singing during Covid.
- Communion with glass cups and wafers were introduced.
- Pat Bell and Nancy Winkler took over as leaders of the Ushers.
- The bulletin was redesigned to include a cover picture that is relevant to that Sunday's scripture.
- In September, attendance is steady in person and live streaming. Coffee hour is back!
- Fran Roberts agrees to lead the choir as an interim position (We should never let her go!!!) She brings in new fabulous singers. The choir is amazing!
- Nueva Vida speaks on October 2 for World Communion Sunday
- November brought the dishwasher inserts which helps with cleaning.
- We had a very creative pop-up pageant for Advent. Lessons and Carols gave - us a beautiful presentation of scripture with stunning musical performances.

- In December, Christmas Eve was well attended. The next day, Sunday, was Christmas Day. The small but enthusiastic attendees received a lovely Christmas Day service complete with singing of many Christmas beloved carols.
- We will continue to have the streaming of our Sunday services into the new year.

Vicki Field, Chair

Music Department

2022 was an exciting year for the Music Department of FPCN with several transitions and many highpoints as we continued to make our way through this next phase of worship and ministry, post-pandemic.

Here are the highlights:

- January/February - Return of the Chancel Choir to weekly singing.
- March - Participation with the alumni choir of Princeton University at the memorial service for Charlene Cosman (former Chancel Choir member and long-term Westminster Choir director). Former musicians Tim and Deb Jenks participated in the service. Tim Gladding and Bernadette Bradley provided flute accompaniment.
- April - Palm Sunday & Easter Sunday music provided by our Westminster and Chancel Choirs with brass accompaniment. Cynthia Corso presented a solo befitting the special day.
- May - Send-off tribute and special coffee hour in honor of Dana and Arianna Warren with appreciation for their service to the church
- June- Confirmation candidates provided music, scripture and prose tributes for Youth Sunday
- July / August - Summer music solos by FPC member musicians
- September - Frances C. Roberts, FPC member, conductor of the Long Island Philharmonic & Masterworks choruses volunteers to serve as Interim Director of the Chancel Choir
- October/November - Return of former choir members, engagement of 2 section leaders
- December - Tuning of the Moller-Elsener organ and the two grand pianos, Lessons and Carols Service (first in 4 years), Christmas Eve service with 7 pre-service selections, brass quartet (including 3 members of FPCN), and solos.

As leader of the music department, I am grateful for the support of FPCN administration and members as we make this journey together to restore and enhance our Ministry of Music to the glory of God.

Respectfully submitted,
 Brenda A. Clark, Ph.D.
 Colleague - American Guild of Organists
 Director of Music & Organist

Youth Ministry

While 2022 has brought relief from many of the Covid pandemic restraints, it is still with us and has continued to require some creative opportunities for connection this past year. We have reached out through card mailings and email in order to maintain contact with all our Mid-High and Senior High youth. In addition, we participated in the following in-person experiences:

February '22- Rise Against Hunger - A community event hosted by St. Philip Neri where we helped package meals that were boxed and sent to Ghana, Africa.

March '22- Soles 4 Souls - Our youth sorted and bagged all our shoe donations that are repaired/refreshed and sent to various areas of the USA and wider world.

April '22- Confirmation class made **Easter Baskets** to be donated to the **Ecumenical Lay council Food Pantry** housed on the lower level of our church. They took a tour of the pantry and learned about the ways in which families in need in our community are supported by this organization.

December '22 - Adopt A Family - Our youth shopped for the children of two families. A truly joyful experience watching them pick out clothes and toys, making sure that both wants and needs were met and the current fashion trends were adhered to (LOL!)

We are currently looking to hire a Youth Coordinator who will assist with Sunday School and continue to develop our Youth Ministry at FPC Northport.

Kim Gilbert, Chair



Ministry Leadership

Clerk of Session – Marcia Mercer

Assistant Clerk – Open

All Church Nominating Committee – Joan Armet

Board of Deacons Co-Moderators – Sue Ebert & Shelley Pierce

Corporation Officers

President – Marcia Mercer

Secretary – Dennis Crowley

Treasurer – Robert Spiller



Meaning of Membership in the Presbyterian Church (USA)*

Membership in the Church of Jesus Christ is a joy and a privilege. It is also a commitment to participate in Christ's mission. A faithful member bears witness to God's love and grace and promises to be involved responsibly in the ministry of Christ's Church. Such involvement includes:

- proclaiming the good news in word and deed,
- taking part in the common life and worship of a congregation,
- lifting one another up in prayer, mutual concern, and active support,
- studying Scripture and the issues of Christian faith and life,
- supporting the ministry of the church through the giving of money, time, and talents,
- demonstrating a new quality of life within and through the church,
- responding to God's activity in the world through service to others,
- living responsibly in the personal, family, vocational, political, cultural, and social relationships of life, working in the world for peace, justice, freedom, and human fulfillment, participating in the governing responsibilities of the church, and
- reviewing and evaluating regularly the integrity of one's membership, and considering ways in which one's participation in the worship and service of the church may be increased and made more meaningful.

*From *The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Part II. Book of Order*, 2013-2015.

2022 MINISTRY TEAMS

Finance

Dennis Crowley (chair) (elder)
Kevin McKerr (staff)
Bob Spiller (treasurer)
Rev. Rachel Vione (staff)

Memorial Garden

Jim Denniston
Peggy Denniston
Jane Hudson
Krista Mellinger-DeRoma
Sharon Noonan
Gerry Walford

Memorial Fund

Jane Hudson

Personnel

Kim Gilbert (chair) (elder)
Diane Lobaugh
Marcia Mercer

Property & Maintenance

Harold Armet
Pat Bell
Janeen Crowley
David Ofsharick
James Zima

Stewardship

Jeff Barasch
Jack Coleman (chair)
Anita D'Amico Stambouly
Jane Hudson
Bob Spiller
Christine Spiller (elder)
Rev. Rachel Vione (staff)

Children's Ministry

Melissa Beyer (elder) (SS coordinator)
Marlena Dentrone
Christine Nastos Mitchel
David Ofsharick (elder)
Jeannie Reed
Jennifer Smith

Youth Ministries

Kim Gilbert (chair) (elder)
Rev. Rachel Vione (staff)

Membership

Marilyn Barker
Peggy Denniston
Susanne Haffner (co-chair)
Barbara Healy
Carolyn Louis
Diana Montusi (co-chair)
Shelley Pierce
Libby Yoskowitz
Rev. Rachel Vione (staff)

Pioneers

Sharon Noonan (chair)

Presbyterian Women

Peggy Denniston
Leah Fink
Andrea Gladding
Diana Montusi (moderator)

Local & Global Missions

Marilyn Fox (chair)
Jane Hudson
Florence Ogg

Peacemaking

Greg Brown
Cathy Coleman (chair)
Anne Mateer
Pat Reeves
Audrey Van Deusen

Weekday Nursery School

Tina Berger
Meredith Byers
Amanda Carnesi
Jim Decker
Casey Lynch
Cindy Mies (elder)
Lauri Polio
Ali Troy
Kathleen Wansor
Michelle Micucci (director)
Rev. Rachel Vione (staff)

Sanctuary Guild

Sharon Noonan (chair)

Worship

Vicki Field (chair) (elder)

Barbara Healy

Sharon Noonan

Brenda Clark (staff)

Rev. Rachel Vione (staff)

All Church Nominating Committee

Janeen Crowley

Tim Gladding (deacon)

Anne Mateer

Sharon Noonan

Florence Ogg (elder)

Tiffany Thomas (deacon)

Ecumenical Lay Council

Vicki Field

Kim Gilbert

Shelley Pierce

Rev. Rachel Vione (staff)



Our Mission Statement

First Presbyterian Church of Northport is a welcoming community that invites all people to learn about and respond to the Word of God as found in the Old and New Testaments.

Our mission is to be shaped by, proclaim, and live out the good news of Jesus Christ. We are committed to supporting the spiritual development of our congregation by feeding the spiritually and physically hungry, caring for the sick and lonely, nurturing children, and reaching out to those in need in our local and global communities.