



claremont
**PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

ANNUAL REPORT
2023

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Pastor

In January 2023 we kicked off “A Year with Matthew” as part of our efforts to live into our commitment to being a Matthew 25 Church. This movement within the Presbyterian Church, USA focuses on Matthew 25: 31-46, in which Jesus makes clear, that what we do matters to God and how we treat others is important to God. It encourages churches to live out Jesus’ mandate to care for “the least of these” by eradicating systemic poverty, dismantling structural racism, and building congregational vitality.

Throughout 2023, our congregation acted in many ways to embody our commitment. We journeyed through Lent with the question, “When Did We See You?” as a sermon series, bible study, and guide for contributing to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering.

In March we welcomed PCUSA General Assembly Co-Moderator Ruth Santana-Grace for a visit in which she connected our congregational efforts to work on Matthew 25 priorities around the country and throughout our denomination.

During the summer we opened our campus to the whole Claremont community with a series of concerts featuring local musicians and highlighting the work of our many local mission partners such as Uncommon Good, CLASP, and Inland Valley Hope Partners.

Late summer saw us hosting PCUSA Mission Co-worker Elmarie Parker who shared with us her continuing work with partner churches in Lebanon and Syria.

Fall found us recommitting to our partnership with Haven New Worshiping Community, an outreach to the LGBTQ community and their families. We also welcomed Tracy Shenell as our Stewardship Sunday preacher. She brought a message about building a multi-generational, multi-ethnic, gospel celebrating church as an expression of God’s beloved community.

In December our Contemplative Ministries Team invited members and friends of our church to a retreat at St Andrew’s Benedictine Abbey to explore spiritual practices to sustain a life of engaged faith.

Finally, our year ended with the news that our Associate Pastor for Outreach, Brian Gaeta-Symonds, has accepted a new call and will be leaving us early in 2024. The congregational vitality that he has helped us build will give us the momentum we need to continue forward, faithfully discerning how God is calling us to live the gospel in the days to come.

Pastor Karen Sapio

Associate Pastor for Outreach

“I came so that they could have life—indeed, so that they could live life to the fullest.”

John 10:10 (CEB)

What a year! 2023 offered so many opportunities and experiences; many good and some that challenged us to grow as people of faith.

My fifth year at CPC kept me grounded in ways that I never knew I needed so much. We expanded our Children, Youth, and Family Ministries Coordinator position into a job share which not only gave me space and confidence to continue my Doctor of Ministry studies at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, it also invited a new and creative way to consider how ministry is offered and shepherded for our many families and visitors. A great deal of time was also spent in conversation and meeting with the Children’s Center Commission, Evangelism and Nurture Commission, Adult Education Team, the Education & Leadership Commission, CPC & CPCC Leadership Team, and the Contemplative Ministries Team focusing on faithful and creative ministry and mission in this community.

Here are some of the ways mission and ministry were offered:

- Consistent activities for children, youth, and adults
- Monthly Family Outings
- All Church Campouts
- Vacation Bible School for children
- CPC Jr. High gatherings
- Big Bear Family Camp
- The Children’s Center continuing to flourish and supporting staff
- Chapel, Parent’s Group, and Coffee and Donuts with the Children’s Center children and their families
- Very exciting Lent, Advent and Christmas seasons
- A new partnership to offer ministry with the LGBTQIA+ community
- And, we even welcomed several friends into membership and performed a few baptisms

Our congregation also found ways to surround and support grieving families at the time of the loss of their loved ones. One family of which was my own as we said farewell to both of my parents. CPC has shown love and compassion at more times than grieving – there have celebrations of birthdays and anniversaries, and new employment and graduations, and much much more. We have even seen musical gifts rise and shine from our children and families. The Village Dinner Church has invited many community leaders out to share of their work of passion, and The Haven offered opportunities to worship together with the Queer community.

This year concluded with one additional sending - my own. Amidst my own personal challenges and then the great opportunities with the church, I discerned that God was calling me conclude my time with CPC and to serve a different community of faith. Once again this congregation proved to be a compassion community who, through sadness and some tears, wished to bless me on my journey ahead.

As you continue to grow in so many exciting and hopeful ways I invite to lean into a future that embraces new and creative ways to engage this community and make this community of faith even more accessible to all. Here’s to leaning in with your Whole Hearts in 2024!

In Christ and with Deep Gratitude,

+Pastor Brian

Congregational Care Coordinator

OVERVIEW: In 2023, your support allowed your CPC Congregational Care Coordinator to serve our CPC congregation in the following ways:

- (1) TO serve as staff support liaison to the CPC Deacons
- (2) to serve as support to our CPC pastors regarding our individual congregational member needs, as they arise
- (3) to coordinate and orchestrate the weekly Worship Flower Ministry, as well as the distribution of generously donated Easter Lilies and Christmas Poinsettias throughout our CPC member community, especially to the bereaved, ill, isolated, homebound, and lonely
- (4) to visit our homebound members, as well as those members residing in assisted living, skilled nursing, and memory care facilities. This may include coordinating visits with the deacons, as possible. These visits are often accompanied by deliveries of the generously provided arrangements offered through our Worship Flower Ministry.
- (5) to update a weekly and monthly prayer list for our CPC publications and newsletters.
- (6) to be of support to individual members and friends as they journey through their lives, and offer care and prayer, as desired

DEACON STAFF SUPPORT LIASON: Congregational Care works closely with the CPC Board of Deacons, and primarily with the Deacon Moderator, functioning as a liaison to the CPC staff, meeting once a month. Support and encouragement are offered to the deacons in the work that they do, on behalf of CPC. Part of this is supporting the Deacons and continuing the cultivation of involvement with Deacon outreach to Community organizations, such as IVHP and Uncommon Good, and partnering with Mountain View Elementary School providing school supply drives. The CPC Deacons are not a budget line item, so 100% of the work that the Deacons do is made possible by donations. This includes funding a Pastor's discretionary fund, that enables the Pastors to provide for confidential needs, as they arise We are blessed at CPC to have an amazing, incredible Board of Deacons, with huge, loving, compassionate, caring hearts.

COMMUNICATION CONNECTION and COMPASSIONATE CARE: CPC Congregational Care and Deacons reach out to the community of CPC in caring, connecting ways of love and care, seeking to offer the compassion of Christ, when and where we may.

WORSHIP FLOWER CARE MINISTRY: Thanks to the generosity of CPC members and friends, this past year in 2023, the deacons, volunteers, and Congregational Care Coordinator safely delivered over 100 Easter lilies and Christmas poinsettias to the homebound, the isolated, the ill, the bereaved, and the lonely. Additionally, Congregational Care coordinates the donations for the weekly worship flowers in the chancel, at the base of the cross, as well as occasionally in the narthex, and sometimes for memorial services. This is such a lovely ministry of care. We get to share in memories of grief and celebrations with our friends. Delivery of the worship flowers is shared together with the Deacons. It also gives us the opportunity to visit folks and to share joy and cheer, and to let them know that the pastors, the CPC deacons, the CPC community, and Congregational Care, are all remembering them, thinking of them and lifting them in prayer.

2023 found a year of care, looking forward in prayer, listening to how God might guide us to serve as Christ's hands in service.

In the grace, peace and love of Christ,

Appreciating you,

Delight Slotemaker de Bruine

Congregational Care Coordinator

Bookkeeper's Report of Finances

January 1, - December 31, 2023

Budgeted Activities		CPC - Church	CPCC - Children's Center		
Income:					
Pledges & Other Offerings		571,658.34			
Bequests/Gifts		1,000.00			
Trfs fm Reserves		50,000.00			
Other Income		45,314.44			1,180,535.69
Total Income		\$667,972.78			\$1,180,535.69
Expense:					
Mission & Per Capita		56,025.00			
Pastoral Services		253,511.33			
Worship & Music		4,799.32			
Education		8,206.73			
Evangelism & Nurture		2,057.31			
Stewardship		407.71			
Church & Society		0.00			
Administration		62,592.70			
Operations		122,039.79			
Personnel		221,904.32			
Children's Center					1,168,847.12
Total Expense:		\$731,544.21			\$1,168,847.12
Net Income:		(\$63,571.43)			\$11,688.57
Special Offerings		Jan 01, 23	Receipts	Expenditures	Dec 31, 23
3652	Alternative Christmas	4,411.28	14,771.50	15,529.61	3,653.17
3654	Christmas Joy Offering	1,165.00	645.00	1,365.00	445.00
3656	55th Anniversary	483.31	0.00	0.00	483.31
3660	One Great Hour	0.00	2,878.97	2,878.97	0.00
3662	Peace Offering	40.00	1,020.00	1,060.00	0.00
3664	Pentecost Offering	200.00	785.00	985.00	0.00
3666	Souper Bowl	-15.59	460.00	460.00	-15.59
3672	Disaster	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
3674	Fairplex Kids	-100.00	0.00	0.00	-100.00
Total Special Offerings		\$6,234.00	\$20,560.47	\$22,278.58	\$4,515.89
Scholarship Funds		Jan 01, 23	Receipts	Expenditures	Dec 31, 23
3752	Brownlee Intern Fund	441.19	165.24	441.75	164.68
3754	Clark Service Award	723.08	59.95	0.00	783.03
3756	Lacy Church Camps	159.68	0.00	0.00	159.68
3758	Lee Youth Church Camp	235.43	0.00	0.00	235.43
3760	Loper College Fund	1928.77	284.36	1,166.38	1,046.75
3762	Stoddard Music Intern	374.96	44.28	0.00	419.18
Total Scholarship Funds		\$3,863.11	\$553.83	\$1,608.13	\$2,808.75

Memorials/Special Funds		Jan 01, 23	Receipts	Expenditures	Dec 31, 23
3700	Memorials-Various	8369.15	7,871.00	1,124.85	15,115.30
Total Memorials		\$8,369.15	\$7,871.00	\$1,124.85	\$15,115.30
Designated Funds		Jan 01, 23	Receipts	Expenditures	Dec 31, 23
3128	CPCC Scholarship Fund	\$3,730.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	3,830.00
3130	Organ Maint	\$0.00		\$0.00	0.00
					\$3,830.00
Mission Interpretation		Jan 01, 23	Receipts	Expenditures	Dec 31, 23
3151	Emerging Ministries				
3151A	Iranian Refugees	1,729.26	4,472.50	2249	3,952.76
3151B	Jazz Vespers	3,340.73	2,087.00	3,731.25	1,696.48
3151C	Celtic Spirituality	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
3151D	Global Evangelism	223.47	42.00	0.00	265.47
3151E	Summer Intern	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3151G	Dinner Church	554.94	3,115.40	3,492.63	177.71
3151H	Ministry Coord	13,500.00	0.00	0.00	13,500.00
3451J	Concert Series	0.00	9,904.00	4,701.00	5,203.00
3151	Ministries - Other	42,476.67	0.00	8,850.00	33,626.67
3154	Community Meal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3152	Gulf/Living Waters	1,369.08	735.00	0.00	2,104.08
3156	Men's or Easter Breakfast	37.90	0.00	0.00	37.90
3158	Quasi Endowment Mission	4,588.89	776.42	0.00	5,365.31
3159	Faith M. Jones World Mission	-2,644.44	2,644.44	4,600.00	-4,600.00
3150	Mission Interpretation - Other	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Total Mission Interpretation		\$65,276.50	\$23,776.76	\$27,623.88	\$61,429.38
Pastoral		Jan 01, 23	Receipts	Expenditures	Dec 31, 23
3202	Book Sales	259.71	0.00	0.00	259.71
3204	Smale Distinguish Visitor	-11,619.63	11,819.63	4,807.86	-4,607.86
3208	Workshops	112.19	0.00	0.00	112.19
3210	Special Projects	-1,581.14	0.00	0.00	-1,581.14
3212	Congregational Care	299.78	0.00	104.60	195.18
Total Pastoral		-\$12,529.09	\$11,819.63	\$4,912.46	-\$5,621.92

Worship & Music		Jan 01, 23	Receipts	Expenditures	Dec 31, 23
3250	Worship & Music - Other	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	-2,500.00
3252	Children's Music	1,124.08	0.00	700.00	424.68
3254	Choir Fund	3,118.97	1,412.50	1,100.00	3,431.47
3255	Choir Music Replacement Fu	10,025.40	0.00	586.91	9,438.49
3256	Choir Social Fund	290.43	0.00	0.00	290.43
3258	Flowers	2,190.47	9,055.27	8,814.30	2,431.44
3260	Piano - Organ Restoration Fu	7,800.97	0.00	0.00	7,800.97
3262	Hymnals	-263.16	0.00	0.00	-263.16
3264	Technology Adv - Online Mini	-188.24	0.00	831.64	-1,019.88
3265	Sanctuary - Audio Sound Sys	2,542.60	0.00	0.00	2,542.60
3266	Stage Construction	1,167.20	0.00	0.00	1,167.20
Total Worship & Music		\$27,808.72	\$10,467.77	\$12,032.85	\$23,744.24
Education & Leadership		Jan 01, 23	Receipts	Expenditures	Dec 31, 23
3301	Christian Memorial Youth Fur	1,519.08	5,169.40	1,628.26	5,060.22
3302	Adult Education Fund	-166.87	0.00	0.00	-166.87
3303	Adult Educ/Book Payments	-54.22	0.00	0.00	-54.22
3306	Advent Workshop	-71.07	0.00	140.45	-211.52
3310	Childrens Ministry	1,468.08	100.00	0.00	1,568.08
3312	Park - Youth Ministry	179.07	0.00	0.00	179.07
3314	Pentecost - E&L to disburse	258.80	394.00	338.80	314.00
3316	PITS/Summer Camps	-25.00	775.00	775.00	-25.00
3318	Family Ministry	629.24	2,203.00	5,086.36	-2,254.12
3320	Children or Youth	858.20	0.00	0.00	858.20
3322	PYG & PYGlet Outings	469.01	0.00	0.00	469.01
3326	6th Grade Retreat/Quakes O	-133.00	0.00	0.00	-133.00
3328	Vacation Bible School	-68.43	335.00	0.00	266.57
3330	Work Project	250.00	0.00	0.00	250.00
Total Education & Leadership		\$5,112.89	\$8,976.40	\$7,968.87	\$6,120.42
Evangelism & Nurture		Jan 01, 23	Receipts	Expenditures	Dec 31, 23
3351	Neighborhood Hospitality	289.03	1,527.02	1,208.42	607.63
3352	Christmas Breakfast/Lenten L	217.98	151.00	53.16	315.82
3354	Family Camp	-2,179.38	0.00	93.34	-2,272.72
3356	Firm Believers	419.95	0.00	0.00	419.95
3360	Name Badges	-205.60	0.00	0.00	-205.60
3366	Pres. Performing Arts Commi	1,555.32	0.00	399.84	1,155.48
3350	Evang & Nurture - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Evangelism & Nurture		\$97.30	\$1,678.02	\$1,754.76	\$20.56

Stewardship		Jan 01, 23	Receipts	Expenditures	Dec 31, 23
3400	Stewardship	173.17	0.00	0.00	173.17
Total Stewardship		\$173.17	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$173.17

Church & Society		Jan 01, 23	Receipts	Expenditures	Dec 31, 23
3452	Church & Society Fund	-382.00	0.00	0.00	-382.00
3454	Peace	1,335.50	265.00	0.00	1,600.50
Total Church & Society		\$953.50	\$265.00	\$0.00	\$1,218.50

Operations		Jan 01, 23	Receipts	Expenditures	Dec 31, 23
3502	Memorial Garden Donations	-188.71	0.00	900.00	-1,088.71
3504	Property Loss Ins Claim	49.45	0.00	0.00	49.45
3506	Property Maintenance	25,589.86	776.42	29,588.58	-3,222.30
3508	Capital Campaign/Prop	-34,140.53		7,031.16	-41,171.69
3510	Temporary Funds	16.32	0.00	0.00	16.32
3512	Wedding Fund	-150.00	0.00	0.00	-150.00
Total Operations		-\$8,823.61	\$776.42	\$37,519.74	-\$45,566.93

Deacons		Jan 01, 23	Receipts	Expenditures	Dec 31, 23
3551	Red Wheelbarrow	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
3552	Adopt A Family	1,037.17	1,675.00	1,999.95	712.22
3554	Adopt A School	646.22	890.00	1,150.00	386.22
3555	Bag-It Sunday	405.55	65.53	0.00	471.08
3556	Deacons Offerings	1,444.77	9,017.58	8,495.68	1,966.67
3558	Deacons Receptions	1,659.58	300.00	1,074.97	884.61
3550	Deacons - Other	20.00	0.00	0.00	20.00
3562	Pastors Discretionary Fund	500.00	2,721.87	2,721.87	500.00
3560	Bergman Fund	911.66	0.00	0.00	911.66
Total Deacons		\$6,624.95	\$14,669.98	\$15,442.47	\$5,902.46

Presbyterian Women		Jan 01, 23	Receipts	Expenditures	Dec 31, 23
3602	Peruvian Blankets	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3604	Women's Retreat	568.57	0.00	0.00	568.57
3606	Presbyterian Women	908.74	675.00	1,300.00	283.74
Total Women		\$1,477.31	\$675.00	\$1,300.00	\$852.31
Total Designated Funds		\$89,901.64	\$73,204.98	\$108,555.03	\$52,102.19

Children's Center Designat		Jan 01, 23	Receipts	Expenditures	Dec 31, 23
3053	Fundraising	19,527.99	0.00	0.00	19,527.99
3055	Interest	732.38	0.00	0.00	732.38
Total Children's Center		\$20,260.37	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,260.37

Claremont Presbyterian Children's Center Commission

Claremont Presbyterian Children's Center had a year that finally felt like a return to normalcy after the past few years navigating COVID and all the changing regulations and safety measures that put many of our favorite gatherings and festivities on pause. We ended the year with a budget surplus and a staff full of gracious and very thankful teachers that received a paid vacation the week after Christmas for the first time ever. Our staff also received a 6% pay increase in 2023.

Pastor Brian Gaeta-Symonds continued to teach Godly Play in the Chapel; Open House was held in the morning in June and Back-to-School Night in September brought joy to the families as they continued to build relationships with the staff and explore within their children's classrooms; there was an all-school Halloween parade with families – one of the biggest attendances yet; the enrichment program continued with music teacher E.J. from RockStarts, which the children all love and yoga classes for the preschool returned in December; the all-family Thanksgiving feast was held in Fellowship Hall with great attendance and acclaim. Coffee and Donuts continued this year as a connection for parents at CPCC and as a bridge between CPCC parents and CPC, making Thursday mornings a favorite time of the week for many. This year ended with the much-loved Holiday Program returning to the sanctuary followed by a spaghetti dinner in Fellowship Hall, a visit from Santa and a raffle of themed baskets created by each classroom. It was a well-attended evening event and helped bring joy and love to families during the holiday season. The raffle and the Holiday Tree generated enough funds to cover expenses and give all the teachers a generous cash gift.

In September, the Center had an order of Community Playthings delivered that was purchased with funds from the Minor Renovation Grant that had been applied for in 2020. The children, families and teachers are loving the new play equipment. We also welcomed the return of our monthly Parent Support Group. It feels like an important way to support the children's center parents and as an opportunity for them to connect over snacks and thoughtful conversation. However, as parent attendance has been sporadic, the format for 2024 is being reimaged.

We had a bit of staff turnover through the summer months and hired two new Assistant Directors in August from our wonderful pool of teachers. Ms. Lacey and Ms. June have stepped up to assist Ms. Alex as Assistant Directors. As a team, they've honored and celebrated the staff with various treats and offered needed support.

The Center has six classes: Infants, Young Toddlers, Toddlers, Young Preschool, Preschool Threes, and Pre-Kindergarten, and a staff with 24 teachers. The financial picture has remained a concern for the CPCC commission this year and was exacerbated by rising inflation and minimum wage increases in 2022 and in 2023. The commission proposed and the session approved a 5% tuition increase in 2024, and a 4.82% wage increase for teachers in October. We've worked tirelessly with the Personnel Commission to help with employee retention and to stay above the wage increases and established a pay scale to apply to all current and future teachers.

In October, we had to say goodbye to a long-time church representative of the commission, Dee Kelley. Her passion, care and expertise have been greatly missed.

The Commission members of 2023 included: Heather Chapman (Chair), Barbara MacKenzie, Sharron Bentley, Dolores Kelley, Patricia Maine, Pastor Brian Gaeta-Symonds, Church Representatives; Adriana di Bartolo – Beckman (Jan.-April), Padma Kidambi, Emma Lord Lewis, Erica White (June-Current), Parent Representatives; Lourdes Butman (Jan-Aug), Marina Gonzales (Jan-April), Alex Chung, June Nguyen (Sept-current), Lacey Sutphin (Sept – current), Teacher Representatives; and Sacha Lord, CPCC Director.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Chapman, CPCC Chair

Board of Deacons

The Board of Deacons has had a busy and productive 2023 year.

Deacons: Phoebe Frankeberger, Dennis Frankeberger, Catherine Lin, Mark Nelson, Sally Lopez, Lisa Frazier, Paula Pitzer, Marcia Reich, Susan Starr, Sue Likens, Jean Perry, Vera Caselles, Nora Quinn and Barbara MacKenzie
Congregational Care Coordinator: Delight Slotemaker de Bruine

Church and Community Activities

Parish Sunday: In September, we invited our parish members to join us after church for an extended coffee hour. Nora Quinn created a crossword puzzle with clues about our current Deacons. Congregation members and visitors enjoyed this chance to visit with those in their parish.

Food Drives: The Deacons held four food drives, Red Wheelbarrow Sundays with supplies and monetary donations given to the Beta Center. Karee Galloway, Nora Quinn and Lisa Frazier have delivered the food and supplies after each drive.

Back-to-School Drive: We once again sponsored a Back-to-School drive with Mountain View School. The Deacons, chaired by Vera Caselles and Barb MacKenzie, visited the school in May and asked teacher's for supplies that they needed for their classrooms. We collected monetary donations and school supplies for students. Deacons delivered supplies to the school in late August. Gift certificates were given to each of the teachers.

Adopt-a-Family: We, again, participated in helping with holiday gifts for families through Uncommon Good coordinated by Susan Starr. Gift cards were purchased so seven families could go shopping for gifts.

Deacon's Assistants: The Deacons have a list of CPC members who are available to help but are unable to serve as Deacons. Assistants have helped with receptions, deliveries of flowers, and setting up holiday poinsettias and lilies for the church.

Deacon's Funds: The Deacons maintain a Pastor's discretionary fund in its budget to be used to support needs at the discretion of the pastor(s).

The Deacons continue to donate \$300.00 to Inland Valley Hope Partners and \$100.00 to Uncommon Good monthly. These amounts are subject to change due to the availability of funds.

Deacons learned of parish needs and concerns, illnesses, and death, via the Pastors, the Parish Care Coordinator, the Moderator, and from friends and family. Deacons were asked to contact parishioners and to pass along any helpful information to the pastors. We helped with memorials and receptions.

Deacons continue to help with coffee hour, which is hosted on the patio following worship as a time when members and visitors can get to know one another. The coffee hour continues to be hosted by the Evangelism and Nurture Committee whenever there is a 5th Sunday in a month.

Deacons began preparing the elements for Communion using bread plates and juice cups. Communion was served by intinction for part of the year and served to the congregation for the end of the year.

Parish Care

Deacons continued to keep regular communication with parish members, which may have included home and care facility visits, providing meals, writing cards, contacts during the holidays and sending out seasonal and holiday cards. All Deacons introduced themselves to their parishioners during the summer through email in person, phone calls or sending cards or notes. Floral arrangements have been set out on the patio after church some Sundays and parishioners can take a flower, give a flower or receive one from a Deacon. Other Sundays, the flowers have been delivered to retirement communities, memory centers, individuals or by following the wish of those who donated the flowers.

The tradition of Easter lilies and poinsettias continues and is organized by our Parish Care Coordinator, Delight Slotemaker de Bruine. The Deacons delivered or arranged to have the lilies and poinsettias to church members who are homebound, have suffered a loss during the year, are ill or to recognize their service to the church.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara MacKenzie, moderator

Education and Leadership Commission

Adult Education

Adult Education programs continued to operate with a hybrid (in-person and Zoom) model, making programs accessible to a broad audience. A Lenten Series on the Vine and Vineyard, led by Lisa Strom, explored wine history, vine cultivation, and winemaking to provide context for understanding, meditation, and contemplation of the many Biblical passages featuring these topics. In spring, a two-part series discussed Sacred Gardening as Spiritual Practice, offering insights on native plants from a California Botanic Garden graduate student and discussing Food as Sacred Act with a representative from ministry partner Uncommon Good. In the fall, a three-part climate change series considered the questions of “What is the Problem?”, “What is at Stake?”, and “What is Being Done?” and attracted visitors in addition to church members and regular attendees.

Quarterly Sunday morning offerings started in September with a discussion on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and chatbots that was so filled with excitement and curiosity that it called for a follow-up session the next month. In December Geri DeMasi shared and discussed Advent organ works, a part of church heritage that anticipates the excitement of what is to come.

Wednesday afternoon Bible study topics this year included “The Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner’s Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven,” “When Did We See You?” (Lenten series), “Signs and Wonders: A Beginner’s Guide to the Miracles of Jesus,” “Dancing in the Darkness: Spiritual Lessons for Thriving in Turbulent Times,” and “How Does a Weary World Rejoice?” (Advent series).

Sunday Spiritual Formation for Children and Youth

January lessons continued with the Spark curriculum, exploring the theme of the Lord’s Prayer through a variety of modalities including science, art, and games. In February, Nora Quinn presented “Nora Talks Trash” to the various age groups, leading them in discussions on the environment, recycling, and composting. In March we started lessons from “A Joyful Path,” which describes itself as a “truly progressive curriculum that is nature-centered, joy-full, compassionate, and intelligent.” Throughout the spring, we explored “Spiritual STEM,” finding the connections between Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math and God’s Word. These activities included planting a Toyon tree with Scott Randles and having lessons taught by Mark McKenzie. These activities were interspersed with more traditional lessons, music, and the return of Waffle Church.

Fall kicked off with a new pattern for Sunday mornings: short lessons that allow time to return to the sanctuary for Communion on the first Sunday of the month, “Spiritual STEM” on the second Sunday, music on the third Sunday, and Waffle Church or lessons on fourth and fifth Sundays. As we approached Christmas, many Sunday mornings were spent preparing for the Christmas Pageant.

When not taking part in multi-age activities or larger projects on Sunday mornings, the youth (seventh grade and above) have been meeting in the PYG room with Heather and Jared Chapman having conversations and, in the fall, workshopping the Dungeons and Dragons themed script for the Christmas Pageant.

Brenda Pintado and Marilu Jimenez continue to provide childcare in the nursery—an important way we show hospitality to families with young children, allowing adults to worship knowing their children are being cared for nearby.

Village Dinner Church

Our second year of Village Dinner Church continued to bring together church members, CPCC families, and the larger community for meals and conversation. Each evening starts with a worshipful breaking of bread, followed by dinner, and then a presentation while the children participate in music, crafts, and other activities. This year's speakers included Jessica Chen Feng PhD, LMFT (Fuller Seminary), Rev. Vikki Randall (interim facilitator and pastor for Haven Fellowship), Christy Anderson (Claremont Canopy), Dr. Alex McDonald (physician and CUSD school board member), Renee Kavanagh (CUSD Clinical Therapist Supervisor), and William (Bill) Huff (local entrepreneur). Steady attendance has continued, with some joyful instances of needing to set up additional tables and chairs!

Waffle Church

After being on hiatus since March 2020, Waffle Church resumed on February 26 with around 35 attendees. This Sunday morning experience gives children a chance to get their wiggles out while families worship together, followed by — of course! — waffles for everyone. Waffle Church Sundays were held in March, April, June, September, and October, with plans to continue in 2024.

Family Camping

While plans for a summertime camping adventure had to be deferred, two other experiences brought church friends together in nature. In February a small group of campers enjoyed the beautiful weather in Death Valley. Over Memorial Day Weekend, a handful of families returned to Big Bear Lake Christian Camp for three days and two nights of "Faith in Action."

Vacation Bible School

This year's Vacation Bible School drew on our staff and volunteers' talents in a new way; instead of purchasing a curriculum, we designed our own! "Under the Sea – Diving Deep into God's Love" came to life July 17 through 20, when over 20 children, a plethora of junior high school helpers, and adult volunteers heard stories, made crafts, played games, and sang songs.

Advent Workshop

This year's Advent Workshop put the tradition of creating Advent Wreaths at the center of the morning's activities. Other stations included graham crackers to decorate with frosting and candy, Legos to build, beads and pipe cleaners for crafting, and playdough to explore with bells and beads.

Christmas Pageant

In the fall, the youth found a way to bring the Christmas story to life with a new twist. Craig and Amanda Coclough worked together to finalize a script, and "The Christmas Quest: A Dungeons and Dragons Pageant" was born. Directed by Amanda Coclough, a quartet of players rolled their D20 (20sided die) to see what Mary, Joseph, and the angel "Gabrielle" would do next on the journey to Bethlehem. Over a dozen children had roles onstage, assisted by youth stagehands and parent volunteers.

Youth Activities

Our small but passionate youth group continued to enjoy a variety of activities throughout the year. Bowling, game nights, and pool parties kept them connected. They also gladly participated in worship whenever they were called upon, such as Youth Sunday in May and World Communion Sunday in October.

Family Outings

Family outings this year took us roller skating, to the Randall Planetarium at Mt. San Antonio College (twice!), and back to our campus for a spaghetti dinner and movie night with CPCC. The most noteworthy trip was to Underwood Family Farms; from the bus ride to the giant orange pumpkins and myriad farm animals, it was a memorable and fun adventure for everyone.

Personnel Changes

In May, the Commission voted to approve a revision to the Children & Youth Ministries Coordinator role, creating a job-share model. Amanda Coclough now lends her talents alongside Heather Chapman, concentrating on music and creative activities.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Jennifer (Jenna) Brooks

Chair, Education and Leadership Commission

Evangelism & Nurture Commission

Evangelism and Nurture had an active year.

Highlights of the year include:

- Hospitality hour hosting sharing with the Deacons. E&N team hosted the 5th Sundays throughout the year;
- Hosted a 4th of July Booth at Shelton Park. We had a lot of visitors to the booth;
- Lemonade Wednesday continued throughout the year. Drinks and snacks are provided and is held by the labyrinth and prayer garden. Attendance continues to be good and growing;
- Coffee and Donuts Thursdays continued throughout 2023. Barb MacKenzie continues to take on the task of organizing the event and securing volunteers and donations;
- We participated in the Local Legends series by providing refreshments;
- Kick-off Sunday was a lot of fun. A Kona Ice Truck was on hand again to provide yummy and refreshing shaved ice. There were games on the grass for children of all ages!;
- Pastor Brian continues to reach out to all visitors and we have had a growing number of visitors decide to become members of our congregation;
- Newcomers luncheons semi-annually in April and October with new members joining the church;
- Christmas Breakfast: The Riverside Community College Chamber singers joined us and sang carols. We manned stations to serve the food and drinks to eliminate the touching of serving utensils. Rough count ~75 members and visitors joined us for breakfast;

As COVID restrictions were lifted, we had more in-person activities as we all feel the need and see the benefit of our interactions and fellowship with each other. We are continuing to come up with ideas that will allow us to come together and invite others to safely join us.

With Gratitude,

Karry Denton & Rev. Brian Gaeta-Symonds
Chair and Staff Member
On Behalf of the E&N Commission

Mission Interpretation Commission

MEMBERS:

Pastor Karen Sapio, Scott Randles, Chair, Carol Sittig, Sue Likens, Bill Reed, Brad Starr, Mary Elyousef and Gail Duggan (resigned as of August 2023).

Alternative Christmas Market coordinators: Jo & Dave Colclough

OVERVIEW:

The Mission Interpretation Commission (MIC) typically meets on the third Thursday of each month. This past year, 2023, all meetings were held virtually.

From the 2018 Operations Manual, the authority of MIC is defined as follows:

“The Mission Commission is called on to lead the congregation towards participation in the mission of the whole Church in the world. Thus the Commission must help all members continually to discover what God is doing in the world and to plan for change, renewal, and reformation under the Word of God. In addition, the Commission allocates local mission monies according to the needs of neighboring organizations, and it maintains those ecumenical relationships necessary for the life and mission of the church in this locality.”

The MIC Budget is determined as 10 percent of CPC annual income. Typically, CPC will keep 20 percent of the determined MIC Budget for local mission and forward the remainder to San Gabriel Presbytery. For the past three years, because of COVID-19 pandemic, the MIC has determined by vote, to forward only a portion (Per Capita) of \$70 per member to SG Presbytery, and “set aside” part of the balance for needs that may arise from the unknown economic consequences of the pandemic. In 2023, the set aside amount was \$10,000.

Total Annual Budget for Mission - \$56,025.00

Per Capita - \$20,790 (297 x \$70)

Set Aside (Special Pandemic Fund) - \$10,000

Local - \$11,205.00 (20% of Annual Budget for Mission)

Additional Resources for MIC include the Living Waters Fund, Quasi-Endowment Fund, the Faith M. Jones Fund and four Special Offerings throughout the year.

MIC also helps to organize an Alternative Christmas Market with most of the work done by Jo and Dave Colclough. Twenty CPC/community organizations were represented and collectively received \$14,771.50.

In 2023 with Local Mission Funds, MIC committed to giving monthly support to Inland Valley Hope Partners and provided one time donations to the following organizations; Claremont After School Program, House of Ruth, Uncommon Good, and Crossroads.

Special Offerings were designated to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for relief of the Maui Fire (Peacemaking).

The “Set Aside” funds were forwarded to Presbytery in December, with the exception of \$3,500. Two donations were made to the Syria-Lebanon Partnership Network in response to earthquake relief and the dire economic situation in that region. The MIC also gave additional funds to relief for the Maui fire.

The Living Waters Fund was unused this year. The commission is looking forward to news in 2024 about a new project with our Presbytery partners.

MIC did not tap funds from Quasi-Endowment Mission Fund in 2023.

MIC employed Faith M. Jones Fund to provide support to an international student at the Claremont Graduate School who was struggling with circumstances related to the war in Ukraine. The fund was also used to support our Mission Partner, Elmarie Parker on her trip to the U.S. The remaining funds were used to support Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and our Mission Partners in the Middle East in their efforts toward relief in the Palestine/Israel conflict.

Special Offerings include Christmas Joy, One Great Hour of Sharing, Peacemaking and Pentecost.

The committee is engaged with learning more about the low income housing projects moving forward in our local area by other churches and organizations. In 2024, we will seek ways to support/become involved with this movement.

Respectfully Submitted by Scott Randles, Mission Interpretation Commission Chair

Personnel Committee

Prepared December 29, 2023

Current Members: Bill Brinegar, Zach Dean, Tracy Doebler – Chair, John Hill (first half of 2023), Carol West, Dorothy Whitman

A recap of 2023

I am truly grateful for the incredible committee member's faithful service to the committee and CPC John Hill left our fold but we were blessed by Zach Dean joining.

January

- Juneteenth was approved as an annual paid holiday for CPC and CPCC staff
- A new policy regarding Medicare premiums paid by CPC and CPCC was passed, clearly defining that 90% of the premiums would be paid only on wages arising directly from CPC or CPCC employment.
- The terms of call for the year were calculated
- The revised policy handbook was approved by Session

February

- The days when the Children's Center is closed between the Christmas and New Year's Holidays were approved to be paid holidays for CPCC staff.

March

- No meeting

April

- New employment laws were discussed and changes made to policy where necessary to be in compliance
- Discussions were started regarding honor employees for length of service

May

- Annual evaluation letters were sent out to supervisors with a due date in August
- The committee continued talk regarding CPCC's interest for service award recognition for staff. A letter was drafted and sent to the CPCC commission on our recommendations.
- An approval was given to hire a temporary employee to cover Lisa Strom's workload while off for an extended time during July

June

- Gillian Steinmetz-Blair was hired to cover Lisa Strom's workload for July
- Amanda Colclough was hired to job share the Children, Youth and Family Ministry Coordinator position with Heather Chapman

July

- No meeting

August

- Annual reviews were finished up. Bill Brinegar and Tracy Doebler completed Pastor Karen's review.
- The committee made plans to honor the CPC staff for staff appreciation during October
- Permission was granted to Neila to shred files and associated documents after the legal time requirement passed with Session approval.
- The committee met with CPCC and discussed budgets, wage increases, tuition increases and staff retention and planning for the future.

September

- Zach Dean joined the committee
- A discussion began regarding appropriate salary ranges for Neila and Patrick's positions
- As committee chair, I reviewed all annual reviews and signed them as ready to be filed
- Pastor Karen requested we think about models of leadership for the future of CPC. With this in mind Bill and I met with Wendy Tajima from SGV Presbytery for guidance.
- A wage increase was discussed and proposed to session for the 2024 budget year.
- A change was made to when new employees receive health coverage by eliminating a longer waiting period and covering the employee the 1st of the month following hiring.

October

- The committee approved a raise for Neila and Patrick's positions with a retroactive date of October 1, 2023.

November

- Pastor Brian joined our meeting to inform the committee he will be taking a new call to service
- A motion was made to ask Session for approval to gather an ad hoc committee to find interim leadership until a new call was made for a permanent Associate Pastor

December

- The committee performed Brian's exit interview
- It was deemed appropriate that all tangible goods bought with the Pastor's discretionary funds are personal items that can be taken upon termination and the committee will make this a formal part of the policy handbook.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tracy Doebler, Chair

Property and Finance Commission

Your Property and Finance Commissioners: Tom Bleakney, Dave Colclough, Mike Wigton, Kent Miller, Steven Sittig and Stuart Lillich, Chair.

Our commission was also privileged to have Delores Kelley, whom we lost in October, help guide our work for so many years. Her faithfulness to the work of our commission, knowledge of church finance, her creative ideas for furthering the ministry of CPC and her faith in God were so valuable and inspiring.

Many things were accomplished in 2023. Here are some highlights.

- There have been upgrades to our Internet Wi-Fi network and local area network to improve communications for staff and others visiting campus.
- Two automated external defibrillators (AED) were purchased and installed, one in the CPCC entry and one in the narthex of the sanctuary.
- Several roof repairs were made over kitchen, music building breezeway, narthex and bride room.
- New Fellowship hall chairs were purchased.
- New permanent trash receptacles provided on the campus in front of the sanctuary, Angel courtyard and by Leanne Bauman Kerchner memorial garden.
- The fire suppression system, for the kitchen stove was inspected and repaired.
- The water heater and recirculation pump in the fellowship hall was repaired.

COVID-19 precautions were reviewed monthly and recommendations made to Session for safe practices based on Los Angeles County health department guidelines on COVID-19

We provided gathering space for many groups on our campus this past year including CLASP afterschool program, Alcoholics Anonymous support group meetings, family gatherings in our fellowship hall, and courtyard, Rotary club annual bicycle giveaway event, Uncommon, good reading and writing classes and many more.

In the area of finance, we have had a challenging year. Many of our buildings have required extensive maintenance and repair this past year. We have received several special gifts this past year to further the ministry of Claremont Presbyterian Church.

Our budgets for the last few years have relied on using money from Reserves fund to make up the difference between pledge and offering income and the costs required to fund our ministry. We have also received unexpected significant special gifts to further the ministries of CPC. We continue to go forward with programs and repairs acting in faith that God will provide.

If you have anything you wish to let us know, please reach out to any of the commissioners.

Respectfully,

Stuart Lillich, Chair

Special Gifts and Endowment Committee

The Special Gifts and Endowment Committee had another active and productive year in 2023, and we are pleased to present our Annual Report. The current members of the Committee are Roger House, Kent Miller, Karen Sapio, Janet Siedschlag, Stan Springer, Mike Wigton, and Kent Warner, Chair.

The year 2023 marked the 16th year of existence for our Loaves and Fishes Society, the bequest program of CPC. The program has continued to flourish, and, at year end, the Society included thirty-seven (37) members. They are:

Sharron Bentley	Mary El Yousef	Sandy Tice (Rennard)
Eric Bernal	Saba El Yousef	Janet Siedschlag
Teresa Bernal	John Hill	Kathleen Sigtenhorst
Tina Blair	Brenda Hill	Pieter Sigtenhorst
Doris Chambers	Robbin Kelley	Betty Springer
David Colclough	Jeanne Kennedy	Stan Springer
Jo Colclough	Charles Kerchner	Carol Stubblebine
John Connelly	Taylor Klingerman	Craig Stubblebine
Geri DeMasi	JoAnneMcCandless	Roger Swartz
Karen DeMasi	Paula Pitzer	Kent Warner
Jane Douglass	Gregg Stout	Teddie Warner
Gail Duggan	Tom Rennard	Dorothy Whitham
		Anonymous

All those who include CPC in their estate plans become members of the Loaves and Fishes Society, and we are delighted that the Society continues to receive such an enthusiastic response. All other members and friends of CPC are encouraged to consider the inclusion of CPC in their own estate plans. When you have taken this important step, please inform the Church office, so that your name may be included in future membership lists of the Society.

We are committed to a low-key, steady, and ongoing bequest program, in the conviction that, over time, it will enable CPC to broaden its witness and outreach to a needy world.

The Committee also continued its work in planning and implementing its Special Gifts program. This effort encourages contributions made during lifetime for non-budgetary capital and programming purposes and is increasingly important as CPC plans for the future. There are always a number of special-gifts needs, and we welcome your inquiries, interest, and support.

We are happy to report the receipt in 2023 of the following bequests and Special Gifts:

Gifts:
From Delores (Dee) and Robbin Kelley - \$50,000

The other major activity of the Committee is its stewardship responsibility in overseeing CPC's endowment funds and investment performance. We are guided in this process by CPC Treasurer Janet Siedschlag, whose quarterly reports, with the ensuing discussions, are a highlight of our meetings.

Ours is a friendly and energetic Committee, and we feel privileged to meet regularly and to serve CPC in the manner described above. We plan to pursue a similar course of action in 2024 and, with God's grace, to build upon the momentum established in the past 16 years.

Respectfully submitted,
Kent Warner, Chair

Treasurer

The year 2023 continued recovery and a move to the new normal of post-pandemic church life. In terms of finances, while there are always challenges ahead, we can look forward with a sense of joy and gratitude. One note that I'd like to make is that pledges received exceeded the amount budgeted by \$15,000!

The summary of finances looks at financial information in terms of how much was received as a congregation and how much was spent, based on the information available at year ending December 31, 2023.

CPC ended the year with an operating deficit of \$63.5K, slightly worse than the budgeted deficit of \$59K.

How Much Did CPC Receive?	Amount \$	% of Total	How much Did CPC Spend?	Amount	% of total
Pledge Offering	\$ 500,403	65%	General Mission	\$ 44,820	5%
Regular Giving	\$ 70,357	9%	Local Mission	\$ 11,205	1%
Other Offering	\$ 898	0%	Mission Giving	\$ 56,025	6%
Other Budgeted Income	\$ 1,541	0%	Administration	\$ 62,593	7%
Facilities use/Weddings	\$ 35,982		Commissions	\$ 15,471	2%
Budgeted Income	\$ 609,181	79%	Operations	\$ 122,040	14%
Transfer from Reserves	\$ 50,000	6%	Pastoral	\$ 253,511	29%
*Bequests/Gifts Unrestricted	\$ 1,000	0%	Personnel	\$ 221,904	25%
Unbudgeted Income-Other	\$ 7,792	1%	Unbudgeted	\$ -	0%
Operating Funds 2021	\$ 667,973	87%	Budgeted Spending	\$ 731,544	84%
Operating budget Surplus				\$ (63,571)	-7%
Designated Funds	\$ 73,205	10%	Designated Funds	\$ 108,555	12%
Special Offerings	\$ 20,560	3%	Special Offerings	\$ 27,624	3%
Memorials	\$ 7,871	1%	Memorials	\$ 1,125	0%
Scholarships	\$ 554	0%	Scholarships	\$ 1,608	0%
Specialized Funds Income	\$ 102,190	13%	Specialized Funds Spent	\$ 138,912	16%
Total Budgeted and Special accts	\$ 770,163	100%	Total Budgeted and Special accts	\$ 870,456	100%
TOTAL RECEIVED	\$ 770,163	100%	TOTAL SPENT	\$ 870,456	100%
Net Income Including designated funds and Special Offerings (Not including New Covenant Funds)				\$ (100,293)	

Through Special Offerings and other Designated Funds, which are outside of the operating budget, the congregation has continued giving generously. The summary of those funds is shown as Specialized funds in the table above. Special Offerings saw spending of \$22.3K, Designated Funds spent \$108K. Below is a summary of how the Designated Funds were spent. The difference between income and spending on the funds listed below came from carryover balances from the previous year.

Designated Funds Breakout 2023	Income	Spending
CPCC Scholarship Fund	\$ 100	0
Organ Maintenance	\$ -	0
Mission Interpretation	\$ 23,777	\$ 27,624
Pastoral	\$ 11,820	\$ 4,912
Worship and Music	\$ 10,468	\$ 12,033
Education and Leadership	\$ 8,976	\$ 7,969
Evangelism and Nurture	\$ 1,678	\$ 1,755
Stewardship	\$ -	\$ -
Church and Society	\$ 265	\$ -
Operations	\$ 776	\$ 37,520
Deacons	\$ 14,670	\$ 15,442
Presbyterian Women	\$ 675	\$ 1,300
Total Designated Funds	\$ 73,205	\$ 108,555
Special Offerings	Income	Spending
Alternative Christmas	\$ 14,772	\$ 15,530
Christmas Joy Offering	\$ 645	\$ 1,365
One Great Hour	\$ 2,879	\$ 2,879
Peace Offering	\$ 1,020	\$ 1,060
Pentecost Offering	\$ 785	\$ 985
Souper Bowl	\$ 460	\$ 460
Total Special Offerings	\$ 20,560	\$ 22,279
Scholarship Funds	\$ 554	\$ 1,608
Memorials	\$ 7,871	\$ 1,125
	\$ 8,425	\$ 2,733

CPC also received a total of \$50K in a major gift through the generosity of our dear departed Delores Kelley and her daughter Robin. We are grateful for their continued generosity. Earnings over \$50K will be used for Christian education.

Major Gifts Received in 2023		
Source	Amount	How used
Dee and Robin Kelley	\$ 50,000	Rev Robert Kelley Christian Ed -New Covenant fund
	\$ 50,000	

The Children's Center (CPCC) has had a successful year, with an income of \$1.18 Million, ending the year with a \$11.6K operating income. Note that CPC provides bookkeeping and facilities support to this important mission of the Church. Combined, CPC and CPCC had a net income of \$1.95 Million and spending of \$2.04 Million.

How Much Did CPCC Receive?	Amount \$	% of Total	How much Did		
			CPC Spend?	Amount \$	% of Total
Budgeted Income	\$ 1,150,167	97%	Budgeted Spend	\$ 1,168,847	0%
Fundraising & interest	\$ 9,329	1%		\$ -	
Miscellaneous	\$ 21,039	2%		\$ -	
Total Operating Funds	\$ 1,180,535	100%	TOTAL SPENT	\$ 1,168,847	0%
Net Operating income				\$ 11,688	

How Much Did CPC and CPCC Receive?	Amount \$	% of Total	How much Did		
			CPC and CPCC	Amount \$	% of Total
CPC	\$ 770,163	39%	CPC	\$ 870,456	43%
CPCC	\$ 1,180,535	61%	CPCC	\$ 1,168,847	57%
TOTAL RECEIVED	\$ 1,950,698	100%	TOTAL SPENT	\$ 2,039,303	100%
Net Combined Income (Excludes New Covenant Funds)				\$ (88,604)	

Below is a summary of CPC investments in the New Covenant Funds (NCF), per quarterly report ending December 31, 2023. The net fund balance increased by \$29,155 from December 31, 2022. Funds were used to make repairs around campus, for international mission, and to replenish the church bank account for a cash shortfall during the summer. A new fund was established with the donation from Delores Kelley. Balances over \$50K from that fund will be used for Christian Education, in memory of her husband, the Reverend Robert Kelley.

New Covenant Funds					
Account	Balances (\$)	Prior Year	Change	Notes	
#1801 – Capital Maintenance	\$ 26,615	\$ 40,483	\$ (13,868)	For Buildings and Grounds	
#1802 – Church Endowment	\$ 179,333	\$ 158,296	\$ 21,037	Min Balance \$87322, over that available for u	
#1804 – Quasi Endowment	\$ 56,540	\$ 55,324	\$ 1,216	Dividends to Mission and Prop&Finance	
#1805 – Reserves	\$ 250,258	\$ 298,517	\$ (48,259)	May be used by vote of Session	
#1806 – Smale	\$ 158,348	\$ 150,280	\$ 8,068	For Speakers and Special Events	
#1807 – Faith M. Jones Endowment	\$ 101,553	\$ 93,855	\$ 7,698	5% of balance For International Mission	
#1808 – Rev. Kelley Memorial Fund for	\$ 53,263	\$ -	\$ 53,263	Above \$50K For Christian Education	
TOTAL	\$ 825,910	\$ 796,755	\$ 29,155		

2023 WITHDRAWALS from the New Covenant Fund		
Account	Amount \$	Notes
#1801 – Capital Maintenance	\$28,300	Transfer to Reserves to payback for Fellowship Hall
#1802 – Church Endowment	\$0	
#1804 – Quasi Endowment	\$0	Dividend income distributed between Mission and P&F
#1805 – Reserves	\$50,000	\$50K cash shortfall
#1806 – Smale	\$11,620	For John Pavlovitz event in 2022
#1807 – Faith M. Jones Endowment	\$2,644	Year end replenish for international mission
	\$92,564	Total withdrawals + Dividend distributions
2023 Deposits to the New Covenant Funds		
Account	Amount \$	Does not include dividends
1808 Rev. Kelley Memorial Fund	\$50,000	
1801 Reserves Transfer from Cap Main	\$28,300	
Deposits and transfers into funds	\$ 78,300	

We are thankful to God for those who have financially supported Claremont Presbyterian Church.

I also want to extend many thanks to our Bookkeeper, Neila Carey, without whom I would be lost.

It is a privilege for me to serve Claremont Presbyterian Church as its Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Siedschlag

Worship and Music Commission

Commission Members: Bill Brinegar (chair), Geri DeMasi, John Lin, Karen Sapio, Janet Siedschlag, John Watts

2023 Highlights

The Worship & Music Commission works in partnership with the pastors to provide for the worship of the people of God, including the preaching of the Word, the sharing of the Sacraments, corporate prayer, and the offering of praise to God in song. (Claremont Presbyterian Church, Worship and Music Commission Procedures)

In 2023 the Worship and Music Commission supported the staff as the Church returned more fully to “normal”, but continuing and refining many additions that were implemented as the Church coped with the challenge of adapting procedures to the pandemic.

Live streaming of Sunday and other services continued with online participation on Facebook remaining strong. Angel Ku continued as a part-time staff member who provided guidance and support to the rest of the all-volunteer “Stream Team”. The streaming operations that began with John Watts’ early inquiries and efforts have developed into a consistent, reliable, professional appearing effort that has become an integral part of worship.

Started during the pandemic to provide opportunities for involvement, Morning and Evening Prayer and Facebook and Geri’s week concerts have continued with good attendance.

Our choir has returned full-time to its regular participation in worship from the choir loft. At Easter, the choir presented John Rutter’s “Gloria” accompanied by the San Dimas Brass Ensemble. At Christmas the choir presented John Leavitt’s “A Midnight Clear”. Both presentations were well done and well received.

Jazz Vespers returned regularly with good attendance. The outdoor stage was utilized during the summer for several concerts in the “Local Legends” series. The San Dimas Jazz Workshop Big Band also made an appearance on the stage. Both the Covina Concert Band and the San Dimas Brass Ensemble presented Christmas Concerts in the sanctuary during December.

Clerk of Session

Theodora (Teddie) Warner, Clerk of Session

In Memoriam, I report the following Member deaths in 2023:

Ted Alexander, #3150, 1/18/2023
Kevin Kessler, #3422, 2/25/2023
Barbara Myers, #1229, 4/20/2023
Doris Chambers, #756, 4/28/2023
Wilma Wilt, #1711, 5/9/2023
Wadie Alkourie, #3340, 5/25/2023
Delores (Dee) Kelley, #331, 10/1/2023

In Memoriam, Friends of CPC who have died in 2023:

Raymond "Kay" Brown, 3/14/2023, Retired Clergy
Roger Shervington, 3/17/2023, Retired Clergy
Bonnie Symonds, 6/22/2023, Pastor Brian Gaeta-Symonds' mother
Margaret Artino, 7/26/2023, Former Member
Brad Hanson, 8/12/2023, regular attendee
Dennis Symonds, 10/29/2023, Pastor Brian Gaeta-Symonds' father
Ted Marchant, 11/9/2023, regular attendee

New Members:

Vance Little, #3461, 12/10/2023
Nana Little, #3462, 12/10/2023

Weddings: None

Baptisms:

Jessie Joan Sie, 4/9/2023
Eva Amarachi Agwu, 4/9/2023
Phoenix Chika Agwu, 4/9/2023

Current Membership on December 31, 2023: Active Members: 292, 109 men, 183 women

Affiliate Member: 1



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