

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

February 18, 2024 Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation



OUR MISSION

To proclaim & live the Good News of Jesus Christ by welcoming friend and stranger alike into our diverse and inclusive family of faith regardless of race, class, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or worldly condition of any kind as we celebrate our gifts, work for justice, peace, and a sustainable environment, reach out in mission, and witness to God's transforming love.

Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation

February 18, 2024

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Meeting of the Corporation

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Old Business

New Business

Recess Meeting of the Corporation

∞ **Reconvene Meeting of the Congregation** ∞

Call to Order – The Reverend Kimberley D. Wadlington, Moderator

Old Business

New Business

- Motion to authorize Session to review and take action on February 18, 2024 Congregational Meeting Minutes

Meeting Adjournment

Closing Prayer & Benediction — The Reverend Kimberley D. Wadlington

**MARKET SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION AND CORPORATION
JANUARY 29, 2023 – APPROVED**

CALL TO ORDER

The Session of Market Square Presbyterian Church held its annual meeting of the congregation and corporation on Sunday, January 29, 2023, following 11:00 a.m. worship. Copies of the 2022 annual reports were made available on the church's website and in hard copy form. (See Attached)

The moderator, the Reverend Kimberley D. Wadlington, called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m.

READING OF THE CALL AND ATTESTING TO A QUORUM

Jonelle Prether Darr, Clerk of Session, gave the call of the meeting: The purpose of the meeting was to hear and act upon a report from the officers of the corporation, to receive 2022 annual reports, review the 2023 church budget and receive a report from the personnel committee regarding transition. Proper notice was given, and a quorum was present. ***Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to declare the call of the meeting in order.***

SCRIPTURE AND PRAYER

The moderator opened the meeting with a reading from Psalm 121. She opened the meeting with prayer, thanking God for the opportunity for the congregation to meet and consider the congregation's ministries.

APPROVAL OF THE DOCKET

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the adoption of the docket as presented.

ANNUAL REPORTS

Pastor Wadlington offered her gratitude for those involved in the life of the church. She asked congregants to consider the 2022 Annual Report carefully as it included reports from the church's three official boards, staff, committees, task forces, ministries as well as financial information. She said that while it included a lot of facts and statistics, it also reflected the lives that had been changed and transformed by the church's ministries during the past year. She especially thanked the members of the church's three boards, staff as well as Tom and Lori Sweet for their leadership.

RECESS OF THE MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

The meeting of the congregation was recessed at 12:15 p.m. The moderator invited Tom Darr, President of the Board of Trustees to conduct the meeting of the corporation.

MEETING OF THE CORPORATION & CALL TO ORDER

After noting that a quorum was present, Tom Darr called to order the meeting of the English Presbyterian Congregation of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Tom said that the corporation's bylaws call for at least one meeting per year. Subject to necessity later in the year, today constituted that meeting for 2023.

Tom said that some Presbyterian churches combine the work of trustees with that of the Session, but the option exists for a Board of Trustees to be created to separately effect the church's or corporation's business and financial affairs. Market Square has chosen that option. So, the Board of Trustees carries out those duties, but it is organizationally subordinate to Session.

Tom indicated that Carlin Wenger, immediate past president the Trustees, had provided a written report of the board's activities for 2022. It was included in the 2022 Annual Report on pages 21- 22. Tom noted that during the time he had been a trustee, it was clear to him that Carlin devoted many hours and great thought to his leadership over the past four years. Tom said that we should all be thankful for Carlin's work.

Tom indicated that two of the more significant Trustee responsibilities were stewardship of Market Square's endowment funds and creation of an annual budget for Session's approval.

Regarding the church's invested endowment funds, the Trustees' Investment Committee meets periodically with representatives of Bryn Mawr Trust, through which the endowment funds are invested. Trustee John Dame chairs the Investment Committee, but he is unable to be present today so Tom asked Carlin Wenger, a committee member, to make John's presentation. A paragraph on page 22 correlates with Carlin's report.

Tom further said that Market Square's day-to-day financial activities are administered with great attention and care by Michelle Sheaffer, the church's Fiscal Affairs Administrator. She also works with the trustees to craft the annual budget. In addition, Trustee Robert Daub is the church's Treasurer. Tom noted that we are fortunate to have the benefit of his experience as a certified public accountant. Tom indicated that Robert's financial report is on pages 23 and 24 of the Annual Report.

REPORT OF THE INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

On behalf of John Dame, Carlin Wenger reported that the trustees met quarterly with Bryn Mawr Trust to monitor the church's conservatively invested portfolio (60% equities/stocks and 40% treasury notes/bonds). He said that at the end of 2022, the church's investment portfolio was valued at \$7.9 million, this compares to the prior

year's \$9,927,473. He noted that these are unrealized losses since the church has not sold equities to realize that loss.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Robert Daub, Church Treasurer, reviewed the results of the 2022 budget, comparing the 2022 year-to-date actual figures with the year-to-date budgeted figures. He first noted that pledges received totaled \$469,595 as compared to \$465,000 that was budgeted. This was about \$4,600 more than expected.

For total revenues, he said that the church received about \$9,000 more than expected. Expenses were also under-expended by about \$82,000. This produced an operating loss of \$438,181, before a \$453,374 transfer was made from investments. This yielded a positive bottom line of \$15,193.

Financial Statement for Period Ending 12/31/2022	Year-to-Date Actual	Year-to-Date Budget
Revenue	\$536,307	\$527,405
Expenses	974,488	1,056,756
Operating Income/Loss	(438,181)	(529,351)
Transfer from Investments	453,374	453,374
Operating Income (Loss) & Transfers	15,193	(75,977)
Total Other Transfers	0	75,977
Change in Net Assets	15,193	0

Robert went on to review the 2023 budget. He said that both revenues and expenditures were budgeted at about \$15,000 more than the prior year budget. He noted that the budgeted revenues and expenditures included use of accumulated surpluses from prior years totaling \$105,031.

Budget Comparison, 2022 and 2023	2022	2023
Revenue	\$1,056,756	\$1,072,056
Expenses	1,056,756	1,072,056
Projected surplus (deficit)	0	0

Following his 2023 budget review, it was discovered that the budget document in the 2022 Annual Report did not list a column for 2023. Pastor Wadlington said that the 2022 Annual Report would be corrected to include the correct information and that the updated budget information would be distributed to congregation members by the following Sunday.

OLD BUSINESS

Before asking for old business, Tom acknowledged the work of each trustee and commented that there is a great deal of expertise among its members. He also thanked

Ministry Support Administrator Nancy Sheets for the work she does with such skill and cheer.

There was no old business of the corporation.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business of the corporation. ***Motion unanimously carried to recess the meeting of the corporation at 12:25 p.m. and reconvene the congregation.***

RECONVENE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING & CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the congregation was reconvened with the Rev. Kimberly D. Wadlington presiding.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Personnel Committee chair David Lehman summarized the written report of the committee's written report of its activities. In the pastoral staff, the church has accepted and acknowledged Tom Sweet's retirement, elevated Kim Wadlington to Interim Head of Staff, and welcomed Reverend Allison Smith as an Associate. He reported that the search for a full-time Sexton is going well and several promising second-round interviews were recently completed. He acknowledged the faithful and highly competent work of our entire church staff.

With respect to planning for the future, Dave reported that the three church boards would be meeting at the end of March to begin an intensive mission study. Building on the work that has been accomplished thus far as part of the Ministry Assessment Project, a mission study must be completed before the Presbytery gives its permission to form a Pastor Nominating Committee. Pastor Wadlington added that the mission study is very important as it will help identify the skills and gifts that the church will seek in a new Pastor/Head of Staff. She said that the congregation will be given opportunity for comment and feedback as the mission study unfolds. She also said that it will likely take at least a year before a Pastor Nominating Committee is formed.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion unanimously carried by voice vote to authorize Session to review and take action on the January 29, 2023 Congregational Meeting minutes.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion unanimously carried by voice vote to adjourn the meeting with prayer at 12:35 p.m.

CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

The Reverend Kimberley D. Wadlington offered the closing prayer.

Attested by:

Jonelle Prether Darr, Clerk of Session

The Rev. Kimberley D. Wadlington,
Moderator

**MARKET SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
APRIL 23, 2023 – APPROVED**

CALL TO ORDER

The Session of Market Square Presbyterian Church held a meeting of the congregation on Sunday, April 23, 2022, following its 11:00 a.m. worship. Copies of the meeting agenda were sent via email to members. Copies were also available at the meeting.

The moderator, the Reverend Kimberley D. Wadlington, called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m.

READING OF THE CALL AND ATTESTING TO A QUORUM

Jonelle Prether Darr, Clerk of Session, gave the call of the meeting: The purpose of the meeting was to elect at-large members to the 2023 Nominating Committee. Proper notice was given, and a quorum was present.

OPENING PRAYER

The moderator opened the meeting with prayer.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the adoption of the agenda as presented.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

2023 Nominating Committee Chair and Ruling Elder Nancy Snyder explained that the Nominating Committee is responsible for identifying candidates for church officer positions on any of the three boards: Session, Deacons and Trustees. She said that the Session appoints the Nominating Committee chair (herself) and another Session member (Ruling Elder Beth Hager). The Deacons and Trustees appoint one representative each (Deacon Sally Harris and Trustee Michelle Simmons). The congregation is responsible for electing five at-large committee members.

Ruling Elder Snyder nominated five people: Dave Arnold; Janet Bargh; Wendy Shearer; Phyllis Smith; and Donna Wenger. The moderator asked for nominations from the floor. There were none. ***A motion unanimously carried by voice vote that the nominating slate be closed and that the clerk cast a unanimous ballot for the nominees.*** Pastor Wadlington declared that Dave Arnold, Janet Bargh, Wendy Shearer, Phyllis Smith, and Donna Wenger were duly elected to their positions.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion unanimously carried by voice vote to authorize Session to review and take action on the April 23, 2023, Congregational meeting minutes.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion unanimously carried by voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

The Reverend Kimberley D. Wadlington offered the closing prayer.

Attested by:

Jonelle Prether Darr, Clerk of Session

The Rev. Kimberley D. Wadlington,
Moderator

**MARKET SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 24, 2023 – APPROVED**

CALL TO ORDER

The Session of Market Square Presbyterian Church held a meeting of the congregation on Sunday, September 24, 2023, following its 11:00 a.m. worship. Copies of the meeting agenda were available at the meeting. The moderator, the Reverend Kimberley D. Wadlington, called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

READING OF THE CALL AND ATTESTING TO A QUORUM

Jonelle Prether Darr, Clerk of Session, read the call to the meeting: The purpose of the meeting was to act upon a Nominating Committee vacancy. Proper notice was given, and a quorum was present.

OPENING SCRIPTURE & PRAYER

The moderator opened the meeting with a scripture reading and prayer.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the agenda as presented.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

2023 Nominating Committee Chair and Ruling Elder Nancy Snyder nominated Nancy Sheets to fill an at-large Nominating Committee vacancy. The moderator asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor. Hearing none, a motion to close the nominee slate was properly moved and seconded. The motion was unanimously approved via voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion unanimously carried by voice vote to authorize Session to review and take action on the September 24, 2023 Congregational meeting minutes.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion unanimously carried by voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

The Reverend Kimberley D. Wadlington offered the closing prayer and benediction.

Attested by:

Jonelle Prether Darr, Clerk of Session

The Rev. Kimberley D. Wadlington,
Moderator

**MARKET SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
DECEMBER 3, 2023 - APPROVED**

CALL TO ORDER

The Session of Market Square Presbyterian Church held a meeting of the congregation on Sunday, December 3, 2023, following its 11:00 a.m. worship. The moderator, the Reverend Kimberley D. Wadlington, called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER

The moderator opened the meeting with prayer.

READING OF THE CALL AND ATTESTING TO A QUORUM

Jonelle Prether Darr, Clerk of Session, read the call to the meeting: The purpose of the meeting was to elect church officers for 2024 and at-large members of the 2024 Nominating Committee. Proper notice was given, and a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote to approve the agenda as presented.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Ruling Elder Nancy Snyder, Chair of the 2023 Nominating Committee, thanked the members of the committee for their dedication and hard work to prepare of nominees for church office. Committee members included: Janet Bargh, Beth Hager, Sally Harris, Nancy Sheets, Wendy Shearer, Michelle Simmons, Phyllis Smith, and Donna Wenger.

On behalf of the committee, Nancy Snyder nominated the following individuals to serve as Ruling Elders:

Class of 2024

Morgan Dame, Youth, 2nd Term

Class of 2026

Cindy Bendroth, 2nd term

Kristin Cassell, 1st term

Dale Laninga, 2nd term

David Lehman, 2nd Term

David Volkman, 1st Term

Vacancy

The moderator asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor. Hearing none, a motion to close the nominee slate was properly moved and seconded. ***The motion was unanimously approved via voice vote.***

On behalf of the committee, Nancy Snyder nominated the following individuals to serve as Deacons:

Class of 2024

Gail Laninga, 1st term

Class of 2025

Wendy Shearer, 1st term

Class of 2026

Kate Allgood, 1st term
Karen Blashford, 1st term
Carlette Queeley, 1st term
Ashley Robinson, 2nd term
Judi Shepler, 1st term
Jill Smeltzer, 1st term
Caleb Stelle, 1st term

The moderator asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor. Hearing none, a motion to close the nominee slate was properly moved and seconded. ***The motion was unanimously approved via voice vote.***

On behalf of the committee, Nancy Snyder nominated the following individuals to serve as Trustees:

Class of 2025

Vacancy

Class of 2026

James Crum, 2nd term
Tom Darr, 2nd term
Mike Hamilton, 1st term
Chris McClure, 2nd term
James Smeltzer, 1st term

The moderator asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor. Hearing none, a motion to close the nominee slate was properly moved and seconded. ***The motion was unanimously approved via voice vote.***

On behalf of the committee, Nancy Snyder nominated the following individuals to serve as at-large members of the 2024 Nominating Committee;:

Chris Baldrige (1st year)
Janet Bargh (2nd year)
Nancy Sheets (2nd year)
Lana Walmer (1st year)
Donna Wenger (2nd year)

The moderator asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor. Hearing none, a motion to close the nominee slate was properly moved and seconded. ***The motion was unanimously approved via voice vote.***

Pastor Wadlington thanked Chair Nancy Snyder and the members of the Nominating Committee for their leadership and holy work to identify church officer candidates. She also thanked those who were newly elected and all other leaders in the church for saying yes to a leadership position. She said it was a true joy for her to work with each of the boards and committees of the church.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion unanimously carried by voice vote to authorize Session to review and take action on the December 3, 2023 Congregational Meeting minutes.

CLOSING PRAYER

The Reverend Kimberley D. Wadlington offered the closing prayer.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion unanimously carried by voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

Attested by:

Jonelle Prether Darr, Clerk of Session

The Rev. Kimberley D. Wadlington,
Moderator

SESSION

Market Square Presbyterian Church’s Session is responsible for the church’s mission, governance, and ministries. Interim Pastor Kim Wadlington moderates the Session. Ruling Elders may serve up to two consecutive, three-year terms. In 2023, its members were:

Terms Expiring in 2023	Terms Expiring in 2024	Terms Expiring in 2025
Cindy Bendroth (1 st term)	Sandy Bell (1 st term)	George Blashford (1 st term)
Morgan Dame (Youth – 1 st term)	Kevin Burrell (1 st term)	Beth Cate-Freeman (1 st term)
Jack Galan (2 nd term)	Keith Camilli (1 st term)	Jonelle Darr (2 nd term)
Wil Henninger (2 nd term)	Andrew Hunter (1 st term)	Theresa Elliott (1 st term)
Dale Laninga (1 st term)	Jane Murray (1 st term)	Beth Hager (1 st term)
Dave Lehman (1 st term)	Jong Hwan Yi (2 nd term)	Nancy Snyder (2 nd term)
Steve McMullen (2 nd term)		

In 2023, the Session held monthly meetings to act upon recommendations from its committees, the Board of Trustees, and the Board of Deacons. Two special meetings were also held to orient and receive sixteen new members. A third special meeting was held with the chair of the Presbytery of Carlisle’s Commission on Ministry following the retirement of the Reverend Thomas A. Sweet.

It also called four congregational meetings. The first was to hear and act upon a report from the officers of the corporation, to receive 2022 annual reports, review the 2023 church budget, and receive a personnel committee report regarding pastoral transition. The second was held to elect at-large members to the 2023 Nominating Committee. The third was held to act upon a Nominating Committee vacancy. And the fourth was held to elect 2024 church officers and at-large Nominating Committee members.

In addition to the programs and ministries reported on in these pages by Session committees, significant actions taken by Session in 2023 were:

Mission Study and Pastor Transition

1. Held a half-day retreat with the Board of Trustees and Board of Deacons to begin a mission study. Required by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the mission study will help Session to discern Market Square’s ministry needs before it appoints a Pastor Nominating Committee to begin looking for the church’s next installed pastor.

2. Appointed a seven-member Transition Team to draft a mission review report for Session's consideration by Spring 2024 that answers the following questions:
 - Who are we?
 - Who is God calling us to be?
 - Where is God calling us to go?

Membership

3. Began a comprehensive review of the church's membership rolls to re-engage with members who are not currently participating in the life of the church. Like many other churches in the country, the Session estimates that less than half of the church's members are active participants since the Covid-19 pandemic.

Worship and the Arts

4. Re-organized the Worship, Music, and the Arts Committee to establish separate committees for 1) Worship and 2) Arts on the Square.
 - The Worship Committee's mission is to work with the Pastors and Minister of Music to think creatively about worship, especially during special seasons, and to help plan and implement the offering of creative gifts in worship including music, art drama, movement, media, banners, vestments, vessels, furnishings, and architecture, so that, in their simplicity of form and function, they give glory to God.
 - The Arts on the Square Committee's mission is to present high-quality musical and visual arts programs for the benefit of the congregation and the public, enriching the community through events that share the gifts of the congregation of Market Square Church and local, regional, and international artists, as we reveal the beauty and majesty of God through music and the arts.
5. Approved ending the radio broadcast of the Sunday morning worship service on WHYL (Carlisle) on March 31, 2024. The church plans to broaden its commitment to community outreach through other means. This decision was reached for several reasons:
 - The advent of livestreaming worship services on the Internet offered much broader outreach, plus it provided the ability to livestream more than just the 11:00 a.m. Sunday service in their entirety.
 - The radio station's limited broadcast range did not reach the greater Harrisburg area regularly, thereby reducing the number of listeners.
 - The broadcast's \$16,000 annual cost had become a financial burden, restricting the church's ability to meet other needs.

Personnel

6. Approved creation of an Organ Scholar program. The scholar's primary duties are to accompany the Sanctuary Choir (thereby allowing the Minister of Music to conduct and lead the choir more effectively) and to serve as substitute organist when the Minister of Music is away.
7. Created and successfully recruited for two facility-related positions: Facility Manager; and Church Custodian.
8. Created and successfully recruited for a new part-time position: Pastoral Assistant for Congregational Care. The position's primary duties are to work with the Pastors to call upon the sick and infirm, and to celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper with those who are unable to attend worship.
9. Approved three Covenants of Agreement with: 1) Interim Pastor and Head of Staff the Rev. Kimberley D. Wadlington; 2) Supply Associate Pastor the Rev. Allison Smith; and 3) Pastoral Assistant for Congregational Care the Rev. Anne M. Ross.

Education

10. Combined three separate education committees (Children's, Youth, and Adult) into a single Education Committee with Pastor Allison Smith as its staff liaison.

Financial

11. Accepted two significant bequests: 1) James E. Jones Trust bequest of \$329,398; 2) Eun Joo Kim Musser Estate bequest of \$50,000.
12. Adopted a 2024 balanced budget:

Adopted 2024 Budget Summary	2023 Adopted	2024 Adopted	Variance
Revenue	\$629,331	\$646,592	\$17,261
Expenses	1,072,056	1,099,088	26,592
Operating Income/Loss	-442,725	-452,416	-9,691
Transfer from Investments	442,725	452,417	9,691
Change in Net Assets	0	0	-1
Loss without Carryover	-105,031	-132,677	-27,647

Respectfully submitted,

Jonelle Prether Darr
Clerk of Session

CLERK OF SESSION
2023 Statistical Report

Weddings on Church Property	0
Baptisms:	2
1. Wesley Louis Boyer (b. October 5, 2021) on July 16, 2023	
2. Theodore Conrad Smith (b. June 18, 2021) on August 13, 2023	
Ordinations on January 15, 2023	4
As Ruling Elders:	
1. Morgan Dame, Class of 2023 (Youth Elder)	
2. George Blashford, Class of 2025	
As Deacons:	
1. Stephen Gaus, Class of 2025	
2. Suzanne Klinedinst, Class of 2025	
Deaths of Members:	9
1. Gladys Mumper October 15, 1921- February 9, 2023	
2. Dr. James Jones January 29, 1930 - February 26, 2023	
3. Marcia Sites March 21, 1939 - February 26, 2023	
4. Genevieve "Gene" Peters April 23, 1924 - May 21, 2023	
5. Susan Harding July 17, 1954 - September 14, 2023	
6. Jackie Nowak October 2, 1957 - October 21, 2023.	
7. Albert Hajjar April 20, 1941 - October 29, 2023	
8. Mary Fortran March 25, 1938 - October 30, 2023	
9. Tina Maguire October 18, 1964 - November 5, 2023	
 Members on the Active Rolls as of December 31, 2022	 467
Member Gains in 2023:	
Profession of Faith	9
Transfer In	10
Confirmation	0
TOTAL	19
Member Losses in 2023:	
Deceased	9
Removed by Session	31
Transfer Out	1
TOTAL	41
 Members on the Active Rolls as of December 31, 2023	 445

BOARD OF DEACONS

The duty of deacons (as stated in the Book of Order) is to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress both within and beyond the community of faith.

The Deacons at Market Square Presbyterian Church continue to 'minister to those who are in need'. Some individuals need a more 'consistent and frequent level of care' and they are then assigned a deacon. As situations arise among others who need a deacon, one is assigned to them to provide assistance, visitation, and any other support, as needed. Through doing this, those who need the more 'intensive' ministering of the deacons are provided that level of care.

The Board of Deacons at Market Square Presbyterian Church also continues to provide support to those who come to our church doors seeking assistance with a variety of needs, thus fulfilling our call 'to minister to those who are in need and in distress'. As we provide care and nurture to the congregation and community, collectively we find our core values to be compassion, caring, service, and commitment. As a Board, we feel through these core values we are not only connecting and living out our Mission Statement, but also ministering to those as outlined in the Book of Order.

During 2023, the following members of the Board of Deacons at Market Square Presbyterian Church were: Marianne Flickinger, co-moderator, Chris Baldrige, co-moderator, Sally Harris, PJ Taylor, Debra Yates, Ray Davis, Marty Shifflett, Stephen Gaus, Carl Petersheim, Suzanne Klinedinst, Betsy Dorbian, Susan Hoover, Ashley Robinson, Jennifer Turner-Long, Sally Dieter, Sue Bowers, and Dorothy Grimm. Revs. Allison Smith and Anne Ross, staff at Market Square Presbyterian Church, provided assistance and oversight of the work of the Deacons. Our meetings were scheduled for the first Tuesday evening of the following months: February, April, June, September, and December, meeting in person at the church. Attendance at our meetings was stellar, always at least 90%, and many times 100%. Our meetings consisted of our discussion of the following: financial statements and financial status of the Board, old business, new business, reports of our committees which include Hospitality, Flower Delivery and Ushering, Visitation, Food Pantry, and Community Breakfast Program. Each meeting we also have a time that we share our ministries/visitations to those people we have been caring for as Deacons as well as having deep and sometimes confidential conversations with the pastors regarding those who may need our care and other supports.

Much of the work of the Deacons involves our committee work as outlined below.

Hospitality Committee

The Hospitality Committee assists with refreshments for special occasions that occur throughout the life of the church to include funerals/memorial services that are held at our church and any other special occasion that light refreshments may be requested. In 2023, we 'brought back' coffee hour, but on a smaller scale, only occurring on the second Sunday of each month before worship. Reinstating this ministry of the Deacons has been very well received by all. We provided refreshments for the following Memorial Services

that were held at Market Square; Peg Stoops, Genevieve B. Peters, and Nancy Kohler. We also facilitated a 90th birthday celebration for Dottie Hotchkiss one Sunday before worship.

Flower Delivery and Ushering

The Deacons continued to bring the flowers from the Sanctuary after Sunday worship and make small bouquets with them. We invite people to stop by, pick up a bouquet and take it to someone who needs some cheer, a visit, or just some beautiful flowers to enjoy. This is yet another way the Deacons connect each week to interacting with those who attend worship. The Deacons also assist with the ushering and taking of the offering during Sunday morning worship. Greeting those who come to worship is yet another way the Deacons continue to connect and extend compassion and care to all.

Visitation Committee

Our Visitation Committee's main goal is to ensure members of our congregation who are going through a difficult time receive any special attention they may need. We also visited the sick, homebound, and anyone who may need a visit and some fellowship. Additionally, poinsettias and Easter flowers were delivered to our homebound members.

Food Pantry

The Food Pantry is staffed by Deacons and other church members and is open on Saturday mornings to the public. The Deacons who assist with this ministry not only find great joy in assisting those in need with securing food items, but also it is yet another avenue the Deacons are able to provide the connections and care and compassion to those who are 'in need, friendless, homeless, and in distress'.

Community Breakfast Program

The Community Breakfast Program continues to be a vibrant and integral part of our Sunday mornings. Each Sunday the breakfast is staffed with either an outside volunteer group who provides the breakfast or our church volunteers. Our deacon fund provides the money to purchase the food for this breakfast program. The Deacons also sponsor the gifts of hats, gloves, socks, and snacks that were given to those who attended the community breakfast the Sunday before Christmas. Thank you to the members and friends of the congregation who also participated generously in providing hats, gloves, socks, and/or monetary donations this past holiday season.

Through the generous monthly donations to the Deacon's Fund from the congregation and other entities, we have been able to assist individuals at the YMCA, with whom we have recently developed a strong partnership. Through this partnership with the YMCA, we are able to provide payments for several weekly rent payments for some who are struggling and need some support while securing a job and/or permanent housing. This partnership has helped many gain the independence they would possibly not have been able to attain without our assistance.

The Deacons also continue to have partnerships with the following agencies in the Harrisburg area: YWCA, Hamilton Health Center, B'nai Brith, Gaudenzia, and the Tri-

County Community Action Commission. We continue to coordinate through the caseworkers at these agencies to assist clients with photo ID's, birth certificates, bus passes, and Breadcoins.

In lieu of our backpack and school supply donation to the students at Foose School in the Harrisburg School District, the Deacons collected donations of undergarments that were warmly received and appreciated by the students and administration.

Additionally, with our strong financial support to the Board of Deacons, we are able to provide Christmas bonuses of \$150 to several people on the MSPC staff, either on part-time or volunteer status. These job titles include: the Audiovisual Technician, Sound/Livestream Technician, Sunday Sexton/Events Staff Member, Parking/Events Staff Member, Facilities Manager, Custodians, and Nursery Caregiver.

Heartfelt appreciation and thanks are extended to all the Deacons who serve on our board. It is through their individual gifts they bring to the Board of Deacons that provide the success and cohesiveness of our board. Their hours of service and dedication are greatly appreciated and reach beyond the walls of the church.

A special thank you to our congregation for your continued support of the work we do and support of our Deacon's Fund. As we have finished 2023 and are already full steam ahead in 2024, we strongly feel the Spirit will continue to lead us as we continue to always be a beacon of hope to our members and our community.

Respectfully and peace to all,
Marianne Flickinger, Co-Moderator

**Market Square Presbyterian Church
Deacons Fund
2023**

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Revenue			
Deacons Envelopes	\$ 21,097.27	\$ 24,000.00	\$ (2,902.73)
Endowment from Church Support	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00
Interest	11.14	10.00	1.14
	<u>25,108.41</u>	<u>28,010.00</u>	<u>(2,901.59)</u>
Total Revenue			
Congregational Expenses			
Coffee Hour	0.00	200.00	(200.00)
Social and Supplies	175.99	500.00	(324.01)
Service Bonuses	850.00	600.00	250.00
	<u>1,025.99</u>	<u>1,300.00</u>	<u>(274.01)</u>
Total Congregational Expenses			
Local Outreach Expenses			
Sunday Breakfast for Homeless ¹	19,065.81	13,000.00	6,065.81
MSPC Community Ministry ²	11,478.14	18,000.00	(6,521.86)
Member Care		5,000.00	(5,000.00)
Photo Id and Showers ³	3,551.71	2,000.00	1,551.71
Annual Ministries ⁴	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00
Showers		2,000.00	(2,000.00)
	<u>35,595.66</u>	<u>41,500.00</u>	<u>(5,904.34)</u>
Total Local Outreach Expense			
Total Expenses	<u>36,621.65</u>	<u>42,800.00</u>	<u>(6,178.35)</u>
Change in Net Assets	<u>\$ (11,513.24)</u>	<u>\$ (14,790.00)</u>	<u>\$ 3,276.76</u>

¹ Provided breakfast to 8,600 people annually on Saturday and Sunday mornings with an average weekly attendance of 50 on Saturdays and 150 on Sundays.

² Assisted over 30 persons with rent or temporary lodging, distributed over 600 bus tickets and provide outside portable restrooms for the neighbors of Market Square.

³ Assisted over 80 Market Square Outside Neighbors with photo ids and birth certificates.

⁴ Donated to Christian Churches United, Harrisburg Homeless Corporation, Isaiah 61, and St. Francis Soup Kitchen.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The bylaws of the Corporation provide that the Board of Trustees shall manage the business, property, and financial affairs of the Church, subject to general supervision of the Session.

Currently, the Board of Trustees is divided into four working committees: House, Investment, Security and Safety, and Budget. Each is chaired by a trustee and is sometimes augmented by subject specialist experts who are not trustees and are ineligible to vote. During 2023, the following actions were undertaken by the Trustees.

House Committee

- Began the year by attempting to prioritize needed or desired capital projects.
- Coterminous with that prioritizing exercise, we learned that exterior brickwork and stone trim require repair; a consultant was hired to advise the extent of the need and to help shape documents to seek competitive bids for repair. The consultant's initial report suggests that necessary work may require expenditure of \$1 – 1.5 million, which may be able to be phased. Bids should be sought in the first quarter of 2024.
- At the close of 2023 we confronted a major water discharge on the lower level in the children's wing and began a temporary dry-out process led by the Facilities Manager. Subsequently, a professional restoration and repair company was engaged to assess the damage and begin more in-depth dry-out leading to reconstruction of interior moisture.
- Exterior door sets at Blackberry St. and River St. were removed, restored and fitted with working hardware. Both doors were deteriorating; the aesthetics and safety were compromised.
- Lower-level restrooms were renovated.
- Installed the chapel organ.
- The Chapel was renovated and redecorated for the use of the church's members, notably our Korean-speaking members for their Sunday morning worship services.
- The feasibility of enhancing accessibility in the atrium restrooms is being considered.
- Repainting in various areas of the church occurred.
- Began repair of the lower-level south wall and floor, both damaged by water damage.
- Noted that cupboards and closets throughout the church are maintained in a haphazard manner rendering difficulty in a building with relatively little storage space.
- Worked collaboratively with ISC to remove stored items on the lower level.

- Welcomed a new Director of Facilities and a new custodian, two key positions for which desperate need had been shown.
- Worked throughout the year with numerous vendors, including plumbing, HVAC, elevator, etc.
- Had new grates fabricated to cover window wells on the north side.
- Contracted with Leeland's Slate Roofing to replace missing and broken slate and clean fallen slate out of gutters. Additional slate will be replaced in early 2024.

Budget Committee

- Crafted the 2023 and 2024 budgets in tandem with Finance Manager Michelle Sheaffer. Along with the Treasurer, monitored revenue and disbursements throughout the year.

Investment Committee

- With leadership from the Chair, at least quarterly meetings were held with members of the committee and Bryn Mawr Trust, the firm which invests and monitors MSP's endowment funds. The market was rocky during this period but the investments were able to provide sufficient income to supplement congregational collections in the operation of MSP. As of December 31, 2023, the market value of the endowment was \$8,664,699, an increase of 8.36% from the prior year.
- A congregation-wide town meeting was held in which the Chair and Bryn Mawr described Market Square's investment philosophy. Additionally, the meeting served as a means of reintroducing the "Beacon Society," a group of Market Square members who – under the leadership of retired Senior Pastor Tom Sweet -- indicated that they intended to or were considering providing bequests to the church at the time of their death to enhance the existing endowment.

Safety and Security

- Newly reconstituted, the committee dug right into the need to improve electronic security systems in the church building, both to provide better security using electronic devices (motion sensors, door alarms, etc.) and to make the existing security system easier to use by church staff.
- A written protocol for staff primarily was developed by the senior pastor to detail what actions are to be taken in the event of even a perceived security breach.
- Lighting in certain areas was improved.
- An officer of the Harrisburg Police Department provided a walk-through assessment of existing security and led a well-attended, four hour long active shooter response exercise to demonstrate best practices in the event an active shooter should assault the church, especially while worshipping or other large-group gatherings.

- AED (defibrillator device), CPR and first aid training was sponsored by the committee and provided by UPMC-Harrisburg
- Two additional AED units were installed with one available on each floor.
- Narcan treatment for potential drug overdoses by guests were procured.

The Board of Trustees appreciates the collaborative spirit of staff and other board and committee members in helping to fulfill these and other tasks.

In a church facility as old and as well-used as ours is, there is always a list of improvements needed or wanted. The exterior repair and the repair of the water damage currently are major examples but here are some others: MSP's kitchen is long due for overhaul, the parlor has become less inviting, lighting in some areas could still be improved, stairwells might be repainted, and our stained-glass windows could be better vented for their long-term maintenance. The Trustees continue to prioritize each within available resources.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Darr, President

2023 Trustees:

Ben Allatt, John Dame, James Crum, Tom Darr, Robert Daub, John Dickinson, Gwen Lehman, Chris McClure, Kate McMullen, Phyllis Mooney, Jim Mumper, Alice Anne Schwab, Michelle Simmons, Carlin Wenger

Market Square Presbyterian Church					
Statement of Activities					
Church Support					
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2023					
	Current Month	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget	% of Annual
Revenues:					
Pledges	\$ 51,246.02	\$ 478,945.95	\$ 465,000.00	\$ 465,000.00	103.00
Per Capita Receipts	200.00	6,472.40	4,000.00	4,000.00	161.81
Plate Offering	805.21	5,826.15	5,000.00	5,000.00	116.52
Estate Income	3,162.41	41,926.09	44,000.00	44,000.00	95.29
Misc. Rent/Income	625.00	7,969.00	7,300.00	7,300.00	109.16
Gain/(Loss)-Sale Donated Stk	0.00	11.47	(1,000.00)	(1,000.00)	(1.15)
Interest Income-Church Support	11.54	124.49	0.00	0.00	0.00
Unrealized Gain(Loss) Fidelity	10,942.40	27,086.13	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Revenues	66,992.58	568,361.68	524,300.00	524,300.00	108.40
Expenses:					
Personnel	54,400.77	596,853.27	667,486.00	667,486.00	89.42
Christian Education	25.00	2,528.02	10,450.00	10,450.00	24.19
Membership	867.80	7,029.81	8,040.00	8,040.00	87.44
LGBT & Allies	0.00	1,142.24	4,000.00	4,000.00	28.56
Mission & Stewardship	7,375.00	54,804.87	55,500.00	55,500.00	98.75
Session	508.00	1,615.38	3,700.00	3,700.00	43.66
Deacons Comp. Ministry	(1,262.50)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Korean Ministry	630.23	1,602.40	2,000.00	2,000.00	80.12
Worship, Music & the Arts	2,535.18	34,022.44	40,930.00	40,930.00	83.12
Administrative	3,531.31	41,635.03	54,992.00	54,992.00	75.71
Maintenance	10,508.66	107,849.51	121,225.00	121,225.00	88.97
Parking Expense	3,062.00	34,756.95	35,640.00	35,640.00	97.52
Per Capita Expense	3,619.25	14,477.00	14,693.00	14,693.00	98.53
Insurance	8,426.00	35,507.75	32,500.00	32,500.00	109.25
PILOT	0.00	5,500.00	5,500.00	5,500.00	100.00
Endowment Dist. to Deacons	0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	100.00
Peacemaking	1,300.00	11,400.00	11,400.00	11,400.00	100.00
Total Expenses	95,526.70	954,724.67	1,072,056.00	1,072,056.00	89.06
Operating Income/(Loss)	(28,534.12)	(386,362.99)	(547,756.00)	(547,756.00)	70.54
Transfer from Investments	36,894.16	442,729.92	442,725.00	442,725.00	100.00
Operating Income(Loss) & Transfers	8,360.04	56,366.93	(105,031.00)	(105,031.00)	(53.67)
Other Transfers:					
Prior Year Budget Carryover	0.00	0.00	105,031.00	105,031.00	0.00
Total Other Transfers	0.00	0.00	105,031.00	105,031.00	0.00
Change in Net Assets	\$ 8,360.04	\$ 56,366.93	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	0.00

MARKET SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH THE BUDGET PROCESS

The development of the 2024 budget took place during the fall of 2023. Market Square has amazing members who wholeheartedly support their church. The response to the stewardship campaign was respectable. We received one hundred and three pledges for the 2024 year, compared to one hundred pledges for 2023, one hundred and six for 2022, one hundred and four for 2021, and one hundred and twenty-eight for 2020. Twenty-one members increased their 2024 pledge, while thirteen decreased their pledge. We have nineteen brand new pledges for the 2024 year. Some members were unable to pledge due to the uncertainty of the economy. We cautiously estimated pledge revenue at \$452,000, with the hope we significantly exceed this number. In December 2023, the Trustees and Session approved the 2024 budget.

BUDGETED REVENUES					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Pledges	\$ 508,000	\$ 480,000	\$ 465,000	\$ 465,000	\$ 452,000
Per Capita	3,510	3,530	3,500	4,000	6,500
Plate Offering	7,800	1,200	2,400	5,000	5,000
Church School Offering	300			0	0
Estate Income	65,000	51,000	50,500	44,000	42,415
Miscellaneous Income	8,000	5,000	5,000	7,300	8,000
Gain/(Loss)-Sale Donated Stock			(1,000)	(1,000)	
Interest Income-church support	2,005	2,005	2,005	0	
Transfers from Investments *	384,260	469,219	453,374	442,725	452,417
Surplus/carryover from prior year(s)	44,380	55,146	75,976	105,031	132,677
Total	\$ 1,023,255	\$ 1,067,100	\$ 1,056,756	\$ 1,072,056	\$ 1,099,008
BUDGETED EXPENSES					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Personnel	\$ 621,333	\$ 684,466	\$ 665,585	\$ 667,486	\$ 685,857
Christian Education	11,150	11,150	11,150	10,450	9,450
Membership	10,800	7,700	8,040	8,040	7,575
Mission and Stewardship	55,500	55,500	55,500	55,500	55,500
LGBT & Allies	4,450	4,050	4,050	4,000	4,000
Session	1,175	2,375	2,375	3,700	4,968
Korean Ministry		1,750	1,750	2,000	5,600
Worship, Music & Arts	35,860	37,620	38,930	40,930	28,035
Peacemaking Committee	11,400	11,400	11,400	11,400	11,400
Administration	54,145	51,150	52,400	54,992	56,300
Maintenance	113,750	110,300	111,525	121,225	129,400
Parking	39,960	36,060	38,160	35,640	38,412
Per Capita	14,117	14,062	13,891	14,693	15,411
Insurance	30,000	30,000	32,500	32,500	37,600
Parking Tax	4,500				
PILOT	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500
Endowment Dist. to Deacons	4,344	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Total	\$ 1,017,984	\$ 1,067,083	\$ 1,056,756	\$ 1,072,056	\$ 1,099,008
Projected surplus (deficit)	\$ 5,271	\$ 16	\$ -	\$ (0)	\$ -
Surplus (deficit) without carryover	\$ (39,109)	\$ (55,130)	\$ (75,976)	\$ (105,031)	\$ (132,677)

* 5% of rolling 3 year average of endowment 2019-2020, 6% for 2021, 5.5% for 2022-2023, and 5.75% for 2024.

INTERIM PASTOR/HEAD OF STAFF

Dear Beloveds,

I'm using my annual report this year to simply encourage you to learn about the wonderful ministry of this congregation by continuing to read the pages of this report! I do so because I've found that even the most active members don't have a sense of the whole picture, but by reading more here, you can get a sense of the comprehensive nature of our shared ministry. No one person can do it all, but these pages contain possibilities for your prayer, a different way of serving, or your renewed commitment. This congregation has been richly blessed with committed members who together seek to further God's purposes in the world and in the communities that surround the church.

If you've read from the beginning to this point, you've already learned about the work of our boards in 2023. All our boards were highly active not only with the normal work that belongs to each of them but also in attending the work that happens during a transitional period for the church. Our ruling elders, deacons, and trustees carry significant responsibility for the congregation leading spiritually, in governance, in caring for members, and in caring for the physical plant and financial resources. New leaders emerged in 2023 assuring the tradition of strong leadership serving with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love according to the vows they take. I'm grateful to each member of our boards for their committed service and faithfulness. It has been a privilege to work together.

Read on and you'll learn more about the daily ministry of the congregation as it's carried out by our committees and taskforces. Our transition work involved asking each of our ministries to provide a brief overview of their work and more importantly to engage in some reflection on the ways they connect to our mission and to others outside of and within the church, as well as share future goals and any concerns they carry about their work. Those reports were enlightening for the team who read them and assembled the reflections. Many times, a member remarked something like, "I can't believe all the different ways this church is in service!" I hope you will have that same sense if you peruse these pages thoroughly, but you should also understand that you're invited to join any of the ministries in their work. The chairperson of each is listed in the report and you can also let either of the pastors know if you'd like to get connected to a particular part of our ministry. This is what it is to be the church! To serve and innovate and grow as we're in relationship with God through Christ and one another.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge the staff whose work is reflected here in the ways they lead worship, provide pastoral care, and support our boards, committees, and

taskforces. Each member of staff, as well as several who give their time freely, deserves our sincere thanks for the ways they help us provide hospitality to church members and community members, and answer God's call to service.

Those staff members are: Nancy Sheets (Ministry Support Administrator), Michelle Sheaffer (Financial Administrator), Victor Morales (Facilities Manager), Jose Maldonado (Custodian), Newman Stare (Sound Engineer), Andrew Hunter (Livestream Engineer and Instagram Administrator), Kari Hultman (Website and Graphic Design), John Robinson (Bulletin Design and Facebook Administrator), Art Miles (Community Breakfast Hospitality Coordinator), Steve Jackson (Sunday Greeter and Parking Attendant), Ollie Silver (Community Breakfast Support), and Ethan Draper (Organ Scholar). These staff work together with our pastoral staff: Rev. Allison Smith, Rev. Anne Ross, Rev. Ki Nam Lee, and Tyler Canonico (Minister of Music). If you aren't sure what each of them does, check out our website.

Read on, read on, for greater understanding of who we are as a worshipping community, the joy we have in serving together, and the many ways we live into our Mission Statement and core values of Faith, Community, Compassion, Service, and Justice. It's a privilege to lead and serve with this congregation!

Peace,

Pastor Kim

SUPPLY ASSOCIATE PASTOR

It's hard to believe that I have now had the pleasure of serving on your pastoral staff for over a year. The year that has gone by was full of changes, innovations, and good faithful work and it has been a joy to walk alongside you. Over the past year, my ministry focus has been working with the Deacons, the Peacemaking Committee, and the Education Committee with particular focus on Adult and Children's Educational Opportunities. In Spring of 2023 I planned and helped to lead the Ash Wednesday service which offered an opportunity of the practice of Lectio Divina. This provided the basis for the Lenten Series for Adult Forum based on the artwork from *A Sanctified Art* and the lectionary passages for each week. Over the summer, the Education Committee began offering monthly lunch and learn opportunities after worship. Each month I led a discussion on a theological topic over lunch. These gatherings grew from just a few people when we started in June to a group of between 10-15 participants. Adult Forum programming has continued and involved a variety of speakers and topics. We had a series offered by the Ecology Action Committee, a series on Immigration, and an advent series offered by David Harper on Charles' Dickens A Christmas Carol. Additionally we had guest speakers such as Matilda Parker and Dr. Lee Barrett, and Rev. Gloria McPherson.

The weekly children's Sunday school curriculum was *Seasons of the Spirit* from January–November. In addition to these weekly opportunities, the education committee decided to offer monthly children's prayer breakfasts beginning in October. These prayer breakfasts started small and have now picked up in momentum with a wonderful turnout for our Advent lesson in December 2023. At the end of the liturgical year the *Seasons of the Spirit* curriculum was discontinued and with input from committee members and Sunday School teachers we transitioned to using *Feasting on the Word*, a PCUSA curriculum which is similar in format to *Seasons* and lectionary based.

In fall of 2023, I worked with the Peacemaking Committee to host an international peacemaker. We welcomed Matilda Parker of Liberia in October. Matilda spoke at Adult Forum, preached in worship, and spoke at a dinner hosted by Pine Street Presbyterian. The efforts of hosting involved the dedication of time and energy for many members of the Peacemaking committee. All in all, we found it to be a valuable experience, but hope to involve more people in the church and in the Presbytery in any future Peacemaker visits.

Along with the Deacons, I helped offer pastoral care to the congregation in the early months of 2023. When Rev. Anne Ross was hired she also became a resource for the Deacons and was able offer excellent pastoral care to members of the congregation in the hospital or unable to come to church. She has noted how important and vital receiving home communion is to our home bound members and as a result has offered

to lead the Deacons in Home Communion Training which will allow the church to serve communion to homebound members on a more regular basis.

In addition to preaching once or twice a month, I have also had the joy of planning and leading a few special services throughout 2023. Ash Wednesday, which I have already mentioned, was one such service. I also helped to plan the Pet Blessing Service, which was unfortunately cancelled due to bad weather, and the 4 PM Christmas Eve service for families. The Christmas Eve service was a *Las Posadas* service which took the congregation through the church, following the journey of the Holy Family as they searched for lodging in Bethlehem. The service ended in the Sanctuary with a traditional candlelight service. This seemed to be well received and was a joy to lead along with pastor Kim.

It has been a joy to walk with you this year and I look forward to continuing to serve with you in the year ahead, with all the changes it brings.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Allison

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE FOR KOREAN MINISTRY

It is with great privilege and honor that I serve as the Pastoral Associate for Korean Ministry at Market Square Presbyterian Church. It brings me immense joy to worship and fellowship not only with Korean members but also with children of God from diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds.

Our church is one of the few that integrates a Korean congregation as an integral component of the entire church body. I firmly believe and emphasize that the distinctiveness of this arrangement is our divine calling. Before the pandemic, I had the opportunity to present at a COM meeting of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, focusing on Korean churches. During this presentation, I showcased Market Square as a prime example of a ministry that transcends ethnic and cultural boundaries.

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to lead and participate in worship and preaching during the Korean services almost every Sunday. I receive invaluable assistance from Reverend Nam Gil Roh and Mrs. Roh in preaching, music ministry, and counseling, respectively. Additionally, it is a joy to participate in leading the English service once every month. Korean members too value highly for their monthly participation in English service and communion.

Efforts are made weekly to ensure that the Korean services and ministries align with those of the whole church, fostering a sense of unity within our congregation. To this end, I translate the English bulletin every week and integrate it into the Korean bulletin. Korean members participate in the ministry of the whole church, cooking for our Sunday breakfast six times this year. Furthermore, our connection with the Dillsburg Korean congregation has led to them cooking once per month for the MSPC Sunday community breakfast.

Fellowship is an essential aspect of the Korean community within our church. The monthly Korean luncheon, taking place every second Sunday in the Fellowship Hall, represents our commitment to fostering a sense of unity. I strongly emphasize the role of the Korean luncheon as a venue for inclusive fellowship that welcomes the entire church community. This initiative is made possible through the unwavering dedication of Korean ladies, whose efforts are crucial to the luncheons' success.

Our Korean Bible study, meeting every third and fourth Sunday after service, provides a space for members to engage with the Word of God in their mother tongue. Visitations to homes, businesses, and the sick are a crucial aspect of our ministry, reinforcing our commitment to pastoral care. I maintain regular contact with Korean members to stay informed about their lives and needs.

Our outreach extends beyond our congregation to actively engage with the broader Korean community in Central Pennsylvania. Members of Market Square's Korean ministry maintain connections with other Koreans in the region through various Korean Associations. Moreover, several of our members play active roles in the leadership of

both the Korean Association and the Korean Grocery Association in Central Pennsylvania

As we approach the 50th anniversary of the Korean ministry in April this year, we are excited to celebrate and reflect on our rich history through a series of events, including a special service, an Art Exhibit, and a welcome party. This milestone anniversary, which we will celebrate as a congregation-wide series of events, presents a unique opportunity not only to honor our shared history of unity but also to envision the future of our ministry and reaffirm our commitment to Christ's calling.

Our future goals include expanding our reach to more unchurched Koreans and other Asian communities, initiating additional Bible study during the week, and organizing virtual meetings.

Pastor Ki Nam

PASTORAL ASSISTANT FOR CONGREGATIONAL CARE

It was in the last two weeks of May that I began in the role as Pastoral Assistant for Congregational Care and by the end of the year there was no doubt that members and friends of the church were grateful for the personal contact from the church.

During the seven months of 2023 since this ministry began, I made 101 visits to Market Square members and friends. Of those 101 visits, 69 were in-person and 32 were phone visits. In addition, I contacted members by emails (22), text messages (7), voicemail messages (12), and mailed 17 handwritten notes.

In- person home visits were to those who were homebound, either temporarily or permanently, and unable to attend worship (visits were always with their permission, never making unannounced visits). A few requested that I bring Communion. I have visited 11 hospitals, rehab facilities, long-term care facilities, and retirement communities. I have visited members at MSPC and once at a local coffee shop.

Another aspect of the congregational care role is to continue the momentum of forming small groups. Earlier in the spring, an inquiry had been made to the congregation to see if there was interest in additional covenant groups. I continued the process of organizing new groups and by the end of 2023, 16 people responded positively. Two new groups (8 members each) will begin meeting in January of 2024.

I have benefited from the heritage of the Rev. Judd McConnell's ministry which came before mine; many have expressed their gratefulness that he reached out to them. Reaching out in a variety of ways gratifies me as well. Visitations and small group ministries, without explicitly saying it, send the message that the church is more than a weekly worship service – it is about caring and concern for its members, especially needed in a large, urban congregation. I love being a part of this ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Anne M. Ross

MINISTER OF MUSIC

Dear friends,

The year 2023 seemed to fly by quickly, but was filled with lots of wonderful music happenings! I am very thankful to the many volunteers who give countless hours of their time and dedication to support this ministry.

The **Sanctuary Choir** meets every Thursday for about two and a half hours and sings weekly for Sunday morning worship. The choir has forty-four people on the roster who dedicate their time and talents to offer high-quality music for worship services, special occasions, and concerts. The **Market Square Ringers** rehearse every Wednesday for ninety minutes and rings in worship about once a month. We now have twelve members in the bell choir, and we enjoy having four octaves of bells. This year, the Market Square Ringers were able to return to Bethany Village to share Christmas music with the residents. Over the summer, my friend and colleague, Shawn Gingrich, director of the Hershey Handbells, stopped in and went through all our bells – fixing, tweaking, and polishing. He saved us well over a thousand dollars since we didn't have to send the bells out to a company, and so I am grateful for his willingness to help us out.

In the summer, Session approved the hiring of **Ethan Draper** as our Organ Scholar. Ethan has been a wonderful addition to the staff and Music Ministry. His primary roles are accompanying the choir, participating in worship, and assisting in some of the administrative duties for Arts on the Square.

Arts on the Square hosted nine concerts this year (January 2023 through December 2023), including the four in the miniseries, *Sundays at Four*. In February, we had our *Evening with Beethoven* concert that featured Shelly Moorman-Stahlman on our refurbished piano, the Sanctuary Choir, and a decently sized orchestra. We held our miniseries, *Sundays at Four*, to really showcase our organ, and Rhonda Sider Edgington, Peter Yardley-Jones, Isabelle Demers, and I performed on one of the Sundays in March. The Sanctuary Choir combined with the Harrisburg Choral Society in May to present a Choral Masterworks concert. We were to combine with the choir of First and Franklin St. Presbyterian Church, but after they backed out for the second year in a row, this opportunity arose, and we were able to take advantage. The concert was well-received, and we enjoyed getting to finally be able to sing the Beethoven *Mass in C* (this was the big work we were going to perform with the area downtown churches, the same weekend that the world was shutting down from Covid).

The 2023-2024 season opened with the return of the Organ Spooktacular. This year's Spooktacular took a turn from spooky and went to an elegant Masquerade Ball. Mixed feelings from the audience, as expected, because some missed the spooky and others

welcomed the ball! In November, we welcomed organist David Hurd, a talented musician from New York City. 2023 concluded with our well-anticipated Carols by Candlelight concert, this year featuring the music of John Rutter.

Beth Hager has been doing a fabulous job as our Art Gallery Curator. I am grateful for her leadership and dedication to this ministry. In January, we featured paintings by Carol Mayer and photographs by Jim Whetstone, which was a stunning exhibit! Irene Appleyard shared her gorgeous paintings with us from March to May. In October, Gloria McPherson shared her beautiful fabric art with us; her colors radiated throughout the gallery. Exhibit openings include a reception, and many thanks go to Ashley and Joe Robinson for their work in providing great receptions!

Mid-year, Arts on the Square became a standing committee of Session. In 2024, a chair will be named for our team, and I will remain as Artistic Director. We are excited to see our outreach grow.

In the Fall, we established the *Friends of Arts on the Square*. This patron program has truly helped our ministry to be able to share such wonderful arts with our church and our community.

Market Square Presbyterian Church is an exciting and happening place where we do great ministry. It is an absolute joy getting to serve alongside many wonderful people.

Peace and blessings,

Tyler A. Canonico

Market Square Ringers – Kris Barney, Emmalee Fisher, Marinda Herring, Barb Jewett, Michele McDevitt, Debbie Olson, Louise Poorman, Stephanie Poorman, Jeff Row, Ollie Silver, Phyllis Smith, Sandy Strauss

Sanctuary Choir – Ken Bateman, Jamie Caffier, Kaitlyn Carr, Linda Carroll, Tyler Chancey, Olivia Coffey, Greg Gable, Bob Garrett, David Harper, Andy Herring, Marinda Herring, Elizabeth Hill, Richard Klinedinst, David Lehman, Gwen Lehman, Oliver Lowe, Michele McDevitt, Sean Meara, Dan Micsion, Sandy Morris, Maira Myers, Gabriel Padro, Robb Papapietro, Sammy Patrick, Linda Pheasant, Louise Poorman, Ron Poorman, Bryant Rohrer, Victoria Rose, Jeff Row, Lucy Schlenker, Wil Sheesley, Ben Sheppard, Jon Sheppard, Ollie Silver, Chuck Smith, Phyllis Smith, Julie Stelle, Beth Stoner, Bethany Tome, Lana Walmer, Lynn Waterfield, Erin Weaver, Robb Whitmoyer, Debbi Zweitzig

Arts on the Square – Marianne Flickinger, Jack Galan, Beth Hager, Alice Hamilton, Andy Herring, Kari Hultman, Ellen Hunt, Gwen Lehman, Louise Poorman, Ron Poorman, John Robinson, Jeff Row, Ollie Silver, Phyllis Smith, John Taylor, Jennifer Turner Long, Lana Walmer, Robb Whitmoyer, Joanne Winger, Debbi Zweitzig

ANTIRACISM & RACIAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE

The task force understands its mission to be one of working inside and outside MSPC to ensure welcome, represent and create that just world the Creator desires for us all. MSPC's focus should be on racial justice education within the congregation and connecting outside our MSPC walls through concrete actions.

The task force's core values are *integrity, making a difference, accountability, justice, love, courage, diversity, collaboration, learning and respect*. Our task force has learned that the work is hard and makes us uncomfortable in places; we identify those places. We strive to partner differently and humbly with new communities and new leaders in those communities while owning our insecurity. We seek new "on-ramps" into the work of anti-racism at MSPC because we value the diversity of the congregation and want them to come with us versus leaving them far behind.

There is joy in interrogating the MSPC mission to see how much it is demonstrably lived in the ways of humility and true partnership with people of color. Opportunities for real partnership and growth abound. The task force wants the ideas of anti-racism to permeate all aspects of the functioning of MSPC to such a degree that the task force is no longer necessary.

Current Members: **Kevin Burrell, Beth Cate-Freeman (Co-chairs)**, Dale Laninga, Cindy Bendroth, Jim Terry, Elizabeth Terry, Rev. Jen McKenna, Marianne Flickinger, Michelle Simmons

- **January 2023**
 - Task force commits support to Young Professionals of Color, Greater Harrisburg, for Juneteenth 2023 efforts
 - The task force partnered to provide planning and leadership on a Pre-Juneteenth 2023 Educational bus trip sub-committee for sites significant to Central PA African American history in York, Lancaster, Harrisburg, and Steelton PA
 - The task force leadership partnered with the Peacemaking Committee to conduct a Racial Wealth Gap Simulation during a future Adult Forum
- **February 2023**
 - *Difficult Conversations About Race* session held for reaction to the December 2022 *Marketplace* article *Jesus, Mary, Joseph ... and Health Disparities* in conjunction with a NYT Opinion piece criticizing diversity training.
- **April 2023**
 - The task force seeks a proposal for use of MSPC as a space for yoga classes benefiting MSPC neighbors with minimal access to holistic health support. April Ashe, *Unbottled Expressions* presented.
 - At *Difficult Conversations about Race* session, Ms. Ana White of Young Professionals of Color, Greater Harrisburg discusses the role of *allyship* and upcoming Juneteenth Harrisburg activities.

- **May 2023**
 - Task force members lead/participate in a walking tour of the historic 8th Ward of Harrisburg as well as restoration activities occurring at Lincoln Cemetery.
 - A task force representative to reach out to Rev. Ki Nam Lee regarding task force collaboration in planning the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Korean-speaking members of the MSPC congregation.
- **July 2023**
 - Task force leadership participate in the 4-day virtual Speak Out Summer Institute seeking to answer the following: (1) What is the historical context for the Far Right's authoritarian agenda for education and how is their playbook shaped by anti-Blackness and racism? (2) Which organizing strategies and frameworks will deliver the best chances for our success? (3) How do we infuse the power of storytelling into our messaging to maximize impact, generate excitement, and galvanize diverse support for our vision and values? (4) What is needed to build state, regional, and national coalitions strong enough to block the anti-democratic forces seeking to reshape education to serve their larger agenda?
 - Task force leadership explores deeper connection with Capital Presbyterian Church with Rev. Dr. Gene Gordon and Rev. Kim Wadlington looking ahead to collaboration.
- **August 2023**
 - The task force divides the opportunities planned for engagement of the MSPC congregation into four types: (1) Experiential, (2) Accountability, (3) Physical Action and (4) Intellectual.
 - Task force leadership joined Clergy Anti-Racism Support Group
 - Task force leadership invited to participate in USPC Synod governance as a Race and Ethnic/At large Commissioner.
 - Task force created a sub-committee to plan a small group study/devotional activity for Lent 2024.
 - The task force seeks a proposal for use of MSPC as a space for yoga classes benefiting MSPC neighbors with minimal access to holistic health support.
 - Task force leadership explores additional ways for MSPC to increase youth participation in the restoration work conducted at Lincoln Cemetery.
- **September 2023**
 - Task force participants began identification of elements comprising a racial justice/Anti-racism audit of MSPC.
 - Task force created a sub-committee to plan a November 5th van trip to the William C. Goodridge Freedom Center and Underground Railroad Museum, York PA and Christiana historical society in Lancaster PA. (*Rescheduled for April 2024*).
- **October 2023**
 - Presentation by local environmental activist/Pre-Juneteenth Activity Committee Chair Leslie Avila at Bi-monthly *Difficult Conversations about Race* co-planned with Peacemaking/EAC

- Task force supports an ½ - day educational opportunity in February 2024 for a presentation and workshop by Dr. Kimeka Campbell on the centrality of Harrisburg's 19th C. African American community in national justice efforts and the role of Black and White churches.
 - MSPC Session voted to support 11/13/23.
 - Presbytery of Carlisle award granted (*Award received January 2023*).
- **December 2023**
 - Task force joins with LGBT and Allies Committee to sponsor the Netflix screening of the film *Rustin* on January 5, 2024
 - Task force sponsors a presentation by Bryan Wade of Keystone Oral Histories January 21, 2024
 - Community Yoga formal proposal is under review by Task force leadership.
 - Capital Presbyterian Church representatives have expressed interest in exploring our joint church history.
 - Partnership with Pine St. Presbyterian continues to be explored.
 - Members of the task force will assist in identifying a Lenten devotional and participate in the leading of a weekly discussion for Lent 2024.

Ideas for 2024

- Movie and community discussion series to support Harrisburg volunteer opportunities in partnership with local nonprofit organizations such as *Black Wall St.*
- Considering for advancement of the formal proposal for community yoga instruction submitted by *Unbottled Expressions*.
- Identifying metrics whereby MSPC can measure its ongoing commitment to its anti-racist ideals.
- Providing additional opportunities for the congregation to demonstrate and grow in its commitment to MSPC's anti-racist aspirations through education, community service, and spiritual experience.
- Partnering with churches within the Presbytery and non-presbyterian churches focusing on building and supporting the next generation of youth leaders combatting racism.

Kevin Burrell

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

The Committee continued to have Saturday workdays on January 28th, March 11th and November 11th. Committee members worked on accessing Sunday School attendance books, inventorying our audio-visual collections, organizing years of *The Marketplace* newsletters and cleaning up donated items. We spent some time reviewing the contents still in the basement vault. Nancy Sheets was able to get a locksmith, and we were able to open the exhibit cases and drawers in the parlor to see what they contained. We donated \$250 to the Presbyterian Historical Society for their work in preserving our records as well as that of the Presbyterian Church (USA). The Committee also donated money to an Arts on the Square exhibit to be installed in 2024 to celebrate the Korean congregation's fiftieth anniversary.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Bendroth, Chair

Jonelle Darr

Tom Darr

Beth Hager

John Robinson

Nancy Sheets

John Taylor

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Education Committee had an eventful 2023. One of the significant events was to merge Adult (including the Library), Youth and Children's Education into a single committee. With reduction of participation on the committee, with volunteers and with education participants, this merger was in many ways a necessity, but allowed for new ideas and thinking across the breadth of the church education offerings.

With the merger of Adult, Youth, (including the Library) and Children's Education, we have the following committee membership: Cindy Bendroth, Keith Camilli co-chairs; Trudy Mumper, Jack Galan, George Blashford, Donna Harper, Jill Smeltzer, members; Rev. Allison Smith, Staff Member; Jonelle Darr volunteers as church librarian.

The committee meets 1X per month.

2023 and the prior couple years have unfortunately been low spending amounts due to the lack of participation. During 2023 we have spent around \$2000, this has been supported \$700 from the library fund and \$1300 from the general fund. Of the non-library spending about \$500 has been on youth activities, about \$500 on children's education curriculum and support, and the balance on adult education. We hope to expand spending going forward.

Major activities for 2023 was a full slate of adult forum lectures across a variety of topics, from prayer techniques, scripture lessons to environmental, political and diversity awareness. There was also the successful launch of the lunch and learn bible study series which started slow but now has a steady attendance. Youth activities have been very light, due to low attendance, but a regular review of the upcoming week's scripture has become a practice with the youth. The Children's Education Committee launched a monthly prayer breakfast and the children donated money to Heifer International with funds raised in 2022/23 and are donating to a wheelchair charity for 2023/24. The curriculum for the children was changed after the discontinuation of the *Season's* curriculum. The committee and some teachers evaluated options and selected a curriculum similar to the prior one. A Las Posadas Christmas Eve service was held, trying something different for our congregation. The Library continues to add new material meeting requests and perceived needs of the congregation. We have also had a couple other activities such as a game night and movie nights.

Our goals in 2024 are to continue to build participation and look at additional opportunities for educational forums in different time slots or different ways that may help with participation rates. The 1st quarter of adult forums and lunch and learns are planned, the youth will help to raise funds on Souper Bowl Sunday and we will continue to evaluate space needs/appropriate locations for education, especially in light of the recent flooding of the children's education and nursery suite. We continue to be in need of teaching and nursery volunteers (more the prior) and welcome ideas for new educational opportunities. We do want to look at ways to partner with other churches in our presbytery who also are struggling with participation rates. We will seek God's

guidance on our best path forward as we continue to build on our vision of: Developing, Fostering and Growing knowledge of God and God's teachings in a non-worship environment (through classroom and non-classroom education opportunities, discussion groups, library/resource assistance and activities).

Keith Camilli

HOMELESSNESS INITIATIVES TASK FORCE

In 2023 MSPC continued a long history of assisting persons who are homeless or about to be homeless. The Task Force began the year by reviewing what we currently are doing, the resources involved, and how things are coordinated. With the help of our financial administrator, we were able put together a report that summarized the many different services that we either provide directly or we provide funds to an agency to provide the services such as bus tickets, photo ID's, birth certificates, rent assistance, showers, temporary housing, porta potties, Christmas gifts, the Community Breakfast, and a food pantry. All of this and more has been and continues to be done by the pastors, the staff, volunteer members, friends, and agencies we have partnered with like Christian Churches United, and the International Service Center.

The sources of funding currently come from Committee designated funds, the Deacon's fund, a designated endowment, specific funds approved by Session, the Homeless Initiative fund, offerings, contributions from members and others interested in this ministry, and from the pastor's discretionary fund.

The Homelessness Task Force was formed in 2021 in response to a Court Order regarding people loitering or sleeping around the church. Its scope also included exploring the possibility of doing something strategic or systemic that would help alleviate homelessness in Central Pa. In lieu of there being a standing committee related to homelessness, or a single line item in the budget, or a staff person dedicated to these tasks, the Task Force has also become the place to discuss other issues involving people who are homeless.

One such issue was that of safety and security. It began with concerns having to do with the Community Breakfast and grew into safety and security throughout the building. A member of the Task Force worked with the Trustees and several training sessions were developed and presented to all who were interested.

The Task Force also arranged for the hiring of a person to work on Sunday mornings during the Community Breakfast. He is trained and experienced in working with people who are homeless, experiencing drug addiction or mental health situations. He also provides information on services as requested and staffs the Charging Center. The Charging Center, which was started this year, allows persons to charge their phones during the time after the Community Breakfast and until 10:45 a.m. The Charging Center also provides a place to be during times when there is excessive heat or cold outside.

The Task Force continued exploring the possibility of doing something strategic or systemic that would help alleviate homelessness. We met with other agencies and organizations including Downtown Daily Bread and Harristown Enterprises, with whom we meet periodically. There again appears to be interest to trying to use the vacant Firehouse on 2nd St. where showers, storage space and information on services would be available.

Assisting people who are homeless involves working collaboratively with Boards, Committees, and church members. Our challenge is to be both welcoming as well as establishing boundaries. The Task Force looks forward to continuing this collaboration in 2024.

The members of the Task Force include Pastor Wadlington, Tom Darr, Stephen Gaus, Dale Laninga, Dave Lehman, Jim Terry, and Carlin Wenger. We're pleased to have recently added two new members to the Task Force, Ray Davis, and Ben Perez. We meet monthly on the 1st Thursday of the month.

The above is intended to give you an overview of the work of the Homelessness Task Force in 2023.

Dale Laninga

Chairperson

LGBT & ALLIES COMMITTEE

The LGBT and Allies Committee was led by staff members Nancy Sheets and Pastor Kim. The committee helped Market Square Church welcome Keystone Conference participants to worship as they participated in the annual Celebration of Gender Diversity at the Harrisburg Hilton. We also continued the tradition of having a booth at July's Pride Festival of Central PA sharing our love, support, and welcome for members of Harrisburg's LGBTQ community. A sticker was printed that went like hotcakes and which we hope continues to remind people that there are worshipping communities that stand with them.

Trum Simmons and Kim Wadlington were interviewed by the York Fox affiliate WPMT 43 for a piece on church and LGBTQ support. We were glad to know that the reporter knew that Market Square Church is a place that is open and affirming.

The committee also donated in support of the LGBT Center's new location in Harrisburg.

Goals for 2024 include participation in these same local events and looking for additional ways to advocate for LGBTQ rights and inclusion. The chair in 2024 is Ruling Elder Kristin Cassell and committee members include: Ashley and Joe Robinson, Kevin Burrell, and Kari Hultman.

Submitted on behalf of the 2023 Committee,

Kim Wadlington

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The 2023 Membership Committee was comprised of Elders, Deacons, and Trustees, presently serving on those boards or who have in the past, plus a pastoral staff member.

Jane Murray, chair

Rev. Kim Wadlington, staff

Bob Garrett

Cherstin Hamel

Kate McMullen

Alice Anne Schwab

John Taylor

Phyllis Mooney (Trustee rep.)

PJ Taylor (Deacon rep.)

Beth Cate-Freeman (Session rep.)

Sally Kim Dieter (Korean congregation rep.)

The Committee is responsible for social media, general congregational care in the form of publications produced in house (*The Marketplace*) and subscribed to (The Upper Room) for members to take home, plus advertising, and social events such as receptions and meals following worship services. We also host new member classes conducted by the pastoral staff and have decided to find mentors for new members to introduce them to members of the congregation and encourage them to become active in the life of the church. Our mission is perceived to be the tending of the MSPC family to make our congregation a welcoming, supportive, and attentive family of Jesus Christ. The Core Values we seem most in tune with are Community, Connection, Relation Building and Commitment to Community. Communication and Kindness would certainly be values we share.

The committee has met three times, Winter, Spring and Fall of this year to review the congregational calendar and determine what events would take place and who would act as host with a subcommittee. The previous year's calendar was used as a planning tool, but the current committee took into consideration the success of each previous event, ongoing adjustments to staff changes, and requests to continue or delete gatherings from previous event planners/hosts. For instance, our beloved Bistro was retired after a more than 30-year run. We may consider a replacement for this "landing place" which gathered in new members and old hands to the congregational community and mixed age groups at our annual soup and bread meal which generated \$5K - \$7K to support the HELP Ministries of Christian Churches United at the beginning of Advent.

Most of the committee met each time for potluck suppers and meetings at Jane Murray's house. Through the generosity of committee members, and the elimination of Bistro, no reimbursements for food or beverages were requested by the event hosts this year. The picnic reservation with Lemoyne Borough for a Negley Park pavilion was the only small expense we needed to absorb for a rained-out event which took place instead at the church. The Bistro proceeds were almost entirely derived from table sponsorships, although tickets were sold and free will offerings were collected.

An on-going concern for the Membership Committee is the need to help the members of the congregation be increasingly in touch with one another, our leadership and mission as a Beacon of Hope in downtown Harrisburg. Face-to-face opportunities to visit with each other and discuss matters of delight and concern are as essential to the church community as worship and Christian education. We hope to identify social opportunities for nearly every month. Sanctuary and classroom seating are not as conducive to gaining familiarity with one another as sitting at a round table sharing a meal and conversation.

We hope the addition of a mentor for every new member will provide an initial year of connection and introduction to what the diverse community of MSPC has to offer. Sponsoring a Saturday morning coffee time, food bank and phone recharge area for our neighbors outside our church walls, as well as being the location of a long-standing Sunday morning breakfast staffed by a rotating roster of groups and churches provide frequent opportunities for serving the church while serving others. Our downtown location provides unique opportunities to serve Jesus Christ by caring for one another and our city neighbors, attracting members who recognize that much of our mission work begins right outside our church doors.

Also, we are reaching out to the Pine Street and Capital Presbyterian congregations in the city to increase the outreach of all our church ministries and enjoy some socializing at events like the annual ball game and perhaps our picnic.

The Membership Committee needs at least the number (11) of participants presently at hand and could use more if we increase our activity calendar to approximately once a month. A lead host with two or three others has been our usual pattern for each event, but more events which may be expensive, or complex will tax the present configuration of the committee. The present budget numbers for events do not reflect the actual sums we have spent, but if the present committee chooses to contribute personally, the happiness level seems fine.

Jane Murray, Chair

MISSION AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The Mission and Stewardship Committee meets to make certain expenditures that are given annually to support particular missions of the church, the presbytery, and the denomination. The committee also devises a stewardship theme and campaign each year and contacts members to promote that theme and solicit pledges. It also oversees special collections for denomination programs. Its members were John Taylor, Nancy Sheets, Nancy Besch, Dottie Hotchkiss, Steve McMullen.

The spending approved by the committee is listed in the following. The funds are from line items included in the yearly budget. The amounts have not changed during the last two budget cycles.

General Mission	\$ 27,000
Local Ministries.	\$ 7,000
Christian Churches United	\$ 3,000
ISC.	\$ 7,500
Presbytery ISC.	\$ 2,500
World Mission.	\$ 3,500
Theological Education	\$ 2,000
Habitat for Humanity	\$ 1,500
Stewardship expenses	\$ 1,500
Thompson National and Foreign Mission Fund	\$ 6,399

The Special Collections for Denomination Programs 2023 are the following:

One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ 4,933
Pentecost Offering	\$ 2,967
Christmas Joy Offering	\$ 2,403

Two concerns of the committee for 2024 are the continued commitment of funds for its expenditures and the recruitment of members to participate in its work.

Steve McMullen

Chair

Gifts from all Boards, Committees, and Task Forces—2023

<u>Local Giving</u>		<u>Homelessness and Poverty Ministry</u>	
American Red Cross	\$ 500	Associated Products/Outside Restrooms	\$ 2,600
Adopt A Classroom-Downey Elementary	500	Bread Coin	870
Christ Luth. Church-Health Ministry	3,687	Bus Tickets	1,069
Christian Churches United	3,250	Christmas Gifts for Breakfast Guests	950
Community Checkup Ctr.	2,000	Free Weekend Community Breakfast	19,066
Foose Elementary-Undergarment Drive	833	General Assist for Mkt Sq. Members	11,973
Freedom Seder	250	Harrisburg Homeless Corporation	500
Habitat for Humanity	1,500	Medical Payment Assistance	1,750
Harrisburg Area Food Pantry (HAFP)	3,481	MSPC Homelessness Initiatives-Christmas Eve	2,043.00
Heeding God's Call	200	Personal Care/Groceries/Utility Bills/Phone	904
Isaiah 61 Ministries	250	Photo ID and Birth Certificates	3,600
ISC Annual Direct Support	7,500	Refugee Resettlement	3200
ISC- Food Pantry & Other Member Donations	733	Rent Assistance	10,380
ISC- Peace & Global Witness	840	Street Homelessness Empowerment	21,433
Mary Lou Dallam- Book Donations	2,024	Temporary Lodging	865
PA Council of Churches	250	Total Homelessness and Poverty Ministry	\$ 81,202
Peace Award Hbg. Teen	200		
Penn Future	450		
Rebuilding Alliance	500		
Salvation Army	500		
Souper Bowl of Caring	415		
St. Francis Soup Kitchen	500		
Total Local Giving	\$ 30,363		
		<u>World-Wide Giving</u>	
Validated Mission Giving - Presbytery/General Assembly		Abraham Atem Foundation	\$ 300
Christmas Joy (PC USA)	\$ 3,017	American Friends of the Parent Circle	340
Designated Giving to Presbytery of Carlisle	27,000	Bright Stars of Bethlehem	340
ISC Presbytery Support	2,500	Calvary Methodist Church-(Nursing Ed- Haitian Student)	500
Mission Co-worker Dori Hjalmarson, Honduras	1,500	Calvert Impact Capital for Micro Loans	1,000
Mission Co-worker Doug Dicks, Palestine	2,500	Direct Support Meqbil Family	4,000
One Great Hour of Sharing	4,933	Heifer International (Children)	740
PDA - Earthquake Relief	1,030	Friends of Jitokeze	1,300
PDA - Hawaii Relief	850	Matilda W Parker Foundation	675
PGW(PC USA Portion)	2,522	Noor Women's Empowerment Grp-Aida Camp	840
Pentecost (PC USA Portion)	1,780	PC-USA Office of Public Witness	250
Theological Education Fd	2,000	Poor People's Campaign	1,500
Total Validated Giving	\$ 49,632	Seraj Library Project	340
		Sindyanna in Upper Galilee	340
		Total World-Wide Giving	\$ 12,165
GRAND TOTAL - ALL GIVING		\$ 173,362	

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The 2023 Nominating Committee* presented the following slate of candidates for Session, Deacons, Trustees, and at-large members of the Nominating Committee for congregational action on December 3, 2023.

NOMINEES FOR SESSION

Class of 2026

Cindy Bendroth, 2nd term
Kristin Cassell, 1st term
Morgan Dame, Youth, 2nd term
Dale Laninga, 2nd term
David Lehman, 2nd term
David Volkman, 1st term
Vacancy

NOMINEES FOR BOARD OF DEACONS

<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2025 (2-year term)</u>	<u>Class of 2024 (1-year term)</u>
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Kate Allgood, 1st term	Wendy Shearer (1st term)	Gail Laninga (1st term)
Karen Blashford, 1st term		
Carlette Queeley, 1st term		
Ashley Robinson, 2nd term		
Judi Shepler, 1st term		
Jill Smeltzer, 1st term		
Caleb Stelle, 1st term		

NOMINEES FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2025 (2-year term)</u>
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James Crum, 2nd term	Vacancy
Tom Darr, 2nd term	
Mike Hamilton, 1st term	
Chris McClure, 2nd term	
James Smeltzer, 1st term	

NOMINEES FOR AT-LARGE MEMBERS OF THE 2024 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Chris Baldrige, Janet Bargh, Nancy Sheets, Lana Walmer, Donna Wenger

*Members of the 2023 Nominating Committee:

Nancy Snyder (Session, chair), Beth Hager (Session), Michelle Simmons (Trustee), Sally Harris (Deacon), At large members: Janet Bargh, Wendy Shearer, Nancy Sheets, Phyllis Smith, Donna Wenger

MARKET SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2024 OFFICERS

January 2, 2024 Update

SESSION

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Sandy Bell (1 st term)	George Blashford (1 st term)	Cindy Bendroth (2 nd term)
Kevin Burrell (1 st term)	Beth Freeman (1 st term)	Kristin Cassell (1 st term)
Keith Camilli (1 st term)	Jonelle Darr (2 nd term)	Dale Laninga (2 nd term)
Morgan Dame (Youth – 2 yr.)	Theresa Elliott (1 st term)	Dave Lehman (2 nd term)
Andrew Hunter (1 st term)	Beth Hager (1 st term)	David Volkman (1 st term)
Jane Murray (1 st term)	Nancy Snyder (2 nd term)	VACANCY
Jong Hwan Yi (2 nd term)		

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Ray Davis (1 st term)	Sue Bowers (2 nd term)	Kate Allgood (1 st term)
Sally Dieter (1 st term)	Marianne Flickinger (2 nd term)	Karen Blashford (1 st term)
Betsy Dorbian (1 st term)	Stephen Gaus (1 st term)	Carlette Queeley (1 st term)
Gail Laninga (1 st term)	Sally Harris (2 nd term)	Ashley Robinson (2 nd term)
Carl Petersheim (1 st term)	Suzanne Klinedinst (1 st term)	Judi Shepler (1 st term)
PJ Taylor (2 nd term)	Wendy Shearer (1 st term)	Jill Smeltzer (1 st term)
Debra Yates (2 nd term)	Marty Shifflett (1 st term)	Caleb Stelle (1 st term)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
John Dame (2 nd term)	John Dickinson (2 nd term)	James Crum (2 nd term)
Robert Daub (2 nd term)	Gwen Lehman (2 nd term)	Tom Darr (2 nd term)
Kate McMullen (2 nd term)	Phyllis Mooney (2 nd term)	Mike Hamilton (1 st term)
Alice Anne Schwab (1 st term)	Michelle Simmons (1 st Term)	Chris McClure (2 nd term)
Carlin Wenger (2 nd term)	VACANCY	James Smeltzer (1 st term)

PEACEMAKING COMMITTEE

We sent the donations from our annual budget to the designated organizations.

Mary Lou Dallam Fund provided \$2,024.00 money for the distribution of books to children in public schools (Foose, Paxtang, Downey).

We supported three Afghan families through the Refugee Committee we formed with Pine Street Presbyterian congregation and used funds from the Peace and Global Witness Offering for Refugee Resettlement.

We set up a Palestine education fund and received and sent out money for the education of a Palestinian medical student.

Through the Grace Fund we were able to support a number of organizations and families in urgent need.

With the Anti-racism Task Force our poverty committee presented a two-week adult forum program on racial disparity in the Wealth Gap Simulation.

The poverty committee gave updates on the Poor Peoples Campaign throughout the year and actions we could take.

We provided information and action items on issues related to Israel/Palestine. We follow correspondence with the Meqbil family on the West Bank through one of our members.

We supported MSPC hosting the March on Harrisburg.

We heard reports each month of the needs of the Afghan refugee families and one Syrian family.

The Ecology Action Committee gave us updates on their activities including two Earth Day celebrations plus a Season of Creation.

We supported the Juneteenth activities the Anti-racism Task Force organized.

We heard from guests to our meeting from Philadelphia with the New Sanctuary Movement requesting our support for a PA House bill to allow individuals without a social security number to apply for a license.

We voted to support a girl in South Sudan for a year of high school education.

We voted to sponsor an International Peacemaker from Liberia for a week; Ruling Elder Matilda Parker gave presentations at Pine Street Presbyterian Church, the adult forum at MSPC and preached. We had several meetings to plan her visit from Liberia.

We contributed to the Freedom Seder and several of our members attended the event.

We mourned the death of Dr. Jim Jones one of our active members.

Two members accepted the Peacemaker in Our Midst Award on behalf of MSPC from the World Affairs Council in Harrisburg.

In the coming year we are considering sponsoring another Presbyterian Peacemaker from another part of the world.

Our members include: Margee Kooistra, Debbie Olson, Roger Olson, Jim Terry, Elizabeth Terry, Morgan Dame, Jack Galan, Judi Shepler, Kathy Williams-Martin, John Jewett, Ray Kunkel, Janet Kunkel, Jennifer McKenna, Allison Smith (staff).

Respectively submitted,

Jennifer McKenna

ECOLOGY ACTION COMMITTEE

(sub-committee of the Peacemaking Committee)

In January, EAC met to summarize what EAC and Market Square Church (MSPC) did in 2022 as a PC(USA) Earth Care Congregation. That summary was submitted and accepted so that MSPC continues to be an Earth Care Congregation.

Members of the EAC are Janet Bargh, Martha Black, Dorothy Grimm, Margee Kooistra, Kevin Long, Debbie Olson, Barbara Pennell, Chuck Smith, John Taylor and Elizabeth Terry.

The Ecology Advocacy Team, a subcommittee of EAC, is led by Kevin Long. Regularly, those who are interested (37 MSPC members last count) receive emails from Kevin of important environmental issues for which we can easily notify our elected officials of our concerns. It would be difficult to enumerate the number of times over the course of this year that those emails have been sent and people at MSPC and others have contacted their representatives. Many of us share those links to personal friends, asking for their support and notification of their representatives. Many of these issues are federal issues. Many are state issues.

EAC cares for two gardens along the Harrisburg Greenbelt – the Taste Garden in the Five Senses Garden (Elizabeth Terry leads there) and the Pollinator Garden (started by the Youth of MSPC several years ago; Debbie Olson leads there). As much as possible, native plants are being introduced into both gardens and invasive non-native plants are most often removed. Native pollinators depend on native plants, so this is intended to support biodiversity.

EAC supported the efforts of the March on Harrisburg on Saturday evening, April 1, 2023. This was to bring awareness to the workings of the PA state legislature and the gifts / special interests that have potentially influenced our state legislators – fossil fuel industry is a major culprit.

EAC led the Adult Forum on Earth Day in April, showing a video by Katharine Hayhoe in Geneva Hall, followed by a Q&A.

EAC sponsored three Adult Forums in September when Rev. Kim Wadlington and Rev. Allison Smith and Tyler Canonico celebrated the International Season of Creation. Two were held before the 11:00 service. One of them included a luncheon and the documentary film “The Letter” after the church service.

EAC submitted one or more articles for each *Marketplace* this year. We wrote several articles over the course of several months -- the subject was The World's Littlest Book on Climate. This was done to inform about CO2 and its impact on the climate crisis, and what we as individuals can do to decrease our impact.

EAC supported the efforts of the PA Climate Convergence the first weekend in October.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Olson, chair EAC

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Members and Meetings

Currently serving members are: Dave Lehman, chair, Tom Darr (Trustees rep), Theresa Elliott (Session rep), Sandy Bell (Session rep), and Marianne Peters (Deacon rep). Kim Wadlington attends many, though not all of our meetings. Our meetings are not regularly scheduled but are called by the chair as circumstances require. We meet sometimes in person and others by Zoom. In 2023, the number of meetings has been unusually high, due largely to hiring and turnover of the custodial and maintenance staff.

Staff Hiring Activities This Year

Early in the year we hired one person to serve as Sexton and another to serve as part-time Evening Custodian, but found those persons weren't a good fit for our needs. Recruitment efforts in mid-year, along with a revision in job expectations led to hiring of our new Facility Manager Victor Morales and our part-time Custodian, Jose Maldonado. They have taken hold of their respective assignments well and we are pleased to have them on board.

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Allison Smith joined our pastoral staff in 2023 and has quickly very capably taken on significant responsibilities in the areas of preaching, support of educational activities affecting children, youth and adults, and other committee support, all within the confines of a part-time commitment. Session has renewed the terms of our "Covenant of Agreement" relating to her pastoral work with us, and we are grateful for her presence and leadership. We renewed our COA with Rev. Wadlington for a term of six months, in light of the change in her family's circumstances. Her departure at mid-year is expected to align with the time for launching the pastoral search process. Kim has shown her particular gifts and skill in administration of the complexities of church staff, operations and activities! She has worked with grace and equanimity while addressing the challenges and surprises of an urban church. She has maintained a high standard of clarity and candor in leading us through the challenges of self-assessment. Her departure however, will lead to our needing a Pastoral Supply person to help cover our church functioning until the new pastor is installed.

Other Support Staff

In our non-pastoral staff we have a superb team of highly capable and devoted employees. They work well together, but each routinely carries out a variety of demanding and complicated duties that, in combination, keep the church humming along. If you have spent any time around the church you

have at least a glimpse of the myriad of things that are attended to by Tyler, Nancy, Michelle, and now Victor. Keep in mind that we have the support also of Jose (four days per week), and the Sunday support of Ollie Silver (breakfast support person), Lizzie Camilli (nursery), Andrew Hunter (livestream production), Steve Jackson (parking attendant), and Art Miles (breakfast support person). Many volunteers also contribute mightily to the successful function of the church, and you know who you are.

Mission

Our primary work is in the hiring of non-ordained staff persons. For those positions we are responsible for recruiting of suitable candidates and negotiation of terms of employment – all subject to approval by Session. With respect to employment of professional non-clergy staff, we are often involved in finalizing terms of employment, even though recruitment of candidates may be handled by others.

The committee is responsible for developing and keeping current the job descriptions for all staff positions. That role requires a sound understanding of the competencies, experience, and temperament needed to serve the congregation and the evolving nature of the duties of each position over time.

The committee is also tasked with annually meeting with each staff member to review with that person their work and to hear directly of any issues or concerns about their work and the work environment at MSPC. Note that the Head of Staff has supervisory authority and responsibility for subordinate staff and evaluation of work performance. The committee makes compensation recommendations for each employee in connection with preparation of the annual budget.

Looking ahead, the work of the Personnel Committee seems likely remain at some significant, though periodic level of activity. Hopefully, the current stability in our long term and highly experienced staff will continue. In the near future as we move from interim to long-term pastoral leadership and complete the work of the mission assessment project, the staffing needs of the church may be adjusted and/or redefined.

Acknowledgment

On a personal note, I want to express my gratitude for the support and sound guidance of the committee members who have been steadfast and unstinting in their efforts and in their deep love for this church.

David Lehman, Chair

ROOM FOR THE INNER WAY (RFIW)

On February 11, 2014 the Session approved the establishment of a Room for the Inner Way. The goal was to create a safe, welcoming, peaceful, and relaxing space where members and guests can spend time in prayer, contemplation, reflection or meditation in silence and in God's presence. The RFIW offers regular programming on prayer and contemplative practices and provides a space for silence and prayer prior to worship. If they are willing, participants also share their personal experiences during the Sunday morning prayer session. When the church is open, a person may come to the Room for personal reflection and prayer. Some self-guided materials are in the Room for use.

Sunday mornings, from 10:30 - 10:50 following Adult Forum, programming is provided with a facilitator. During 2023, groups varying in size from 3–10 people attended programmed offerings.

Facilitation of programming was shared between Rev. Anne Ross and Elizabeth Terry with guest facilitators, Kevin Burrell, Rev. Jennifer McKenna, and Rev. Lois Richwine leading as well.

Special programs in 2023 were offered in the RFIW as follows:

1. January Topic: Praying our Star Words
2. February Topic: Places in the Heart
3. March Topic: Simply Prayer
4. April Topic: Transformation
5. May Topic: Noticing the Everyday Holy
6. September Topic: Connecting to the Healing Heart of Creation
7. October Topic: Waiting Upon the Lord
8. November Topic: Having Life Abundantly
9. December Topic: Astonishment

In February 2023 Rev. Anne Ross coordinated the **Mid-Winter Prayer and Care Connection**. Market Square has a large congregation, and this project offered an interactive activity that created connection among church members. Anne paired church members who then sent prayer and care packages to each other via snail mail. Seventeen people participated.

A **Private Prayer Request Box** was placed in the RFIW to offer anyone who might need prayers for themselves or another the opportunity to write a prayer request, either anonymously or signed, put it in a sealed envelope and place it in the box. Rev. Anne and Elizabeth will read the requests privately and offer the prayer.

Additionally, Anne organized a series of **Devotional Cards** and placed them in a container for use in the RFIW when a guided session is not offered.

Report submitted by Elizabeth Terry and Reverend Anne Ross.

SHAWL MINISTRY

Members of the Shawl Ministry are Cindy Bendroth, Karen Gelnett, Donna Harper, Dottie Hotchkiss, Ann Marie Judson, Debbie Olson, Barbara Pennell, Louise Poorman, Wendy Shearer, Nancy Sheets, Phyllis Smith, and Sandy Strauss.

The Shawl Ministry most often meets on the first Saturday each month at 10:00am in the Youth Room on the 4th floor. We open and close the meetings with corporate prayer, then we spend about an hour talking about the people who will receive our items, sharing personal stories, etc. We say a corporate prayer before we pass completed shawls and blankets around our circle in silence near the end of our time together. Each member silently prays intercessory prayers when a shawl or blanket is passed to her.

The Shawl Ministry members knitted or crocheted and blessed 35 shawls and blankets this year. They were gifted to MSPC members and others. We will welcome others who might enjoy this ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Olson, Shawl Ministry leader

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

In 2023 the session decided to put the Worship, Music, and the Arts Committee on a hiatus while a new mission was considered. The Session voted on a communion and worship schedule as is its responsibility and appointed one member of Session to work with former committee members to determine a schedule for seasonal liturgical artistic displays of banners and paraments plus flowers and other decorations at Easter and Christmas.

The following was approved by the Session at its November 2023 meeting and the 2024 Chairperson of the Worship Committee will be Cindy Bendroth.

Worship Committee (formerly known as Worship, Music, and the Arts)

Mission: The mission of the Worship Committee is to work with the Pastors and Minister of Music to think creatively about worship, especially during special seasons, and to help plan and implement the offering of creative gifts in worship including music, art drama, movement, media, banners, vestments, vessels, furnishings, and architecture, so that, in their simplicity of form and function, they give glory to God. (see BOO W-1.0204: *Matter*)

In its work, the committee members shall consider the use of alternative forms of worship and alternative times of worship. They shall also consider offering Sunday worship and special worship services in different styles (with the appropriate approval of the Session regarding day and time). For example, Blue Christmas, Taizé, contemplative services with silence, etc.

The committee shall provide education and opportunities to learn about the components of worship per the Presbyterian tradition.

Connection to Churchwide Mission: The work of this committee should enable the congregation to enact its mission to “proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ” and should equip the congregation for living the “Good News” in their own lives. Diverse styles of worship additionally help the congregation in its mission to broaden our welcome as fully as possible.

Core Values: The Worship Committee values weekly sacred time set aside to worship God and to offer worship that is both refuge in God’s love and impetus for the sending of God’s people into the world in love.

Meetings: The committee meets at least quarterly with the Pastors and Minister of Music.

One meeting per year should be centered on liturgical banners, paraments, and any standard liturgical arts used in worship such as the Hanging of the Greens for Advent and Christmas.

Additional meetings, held at the discretion of the Pastors and Minister of Music, shall be to discuss special seasons and the offering of any creative gifts deemed appropriate to the scriptural and

theological themes of the seasons as indicated by the Pastors. Worship education and varying types of worship shall also be considered together.

Members: People who are needed to serve on this committee will have creative and visionary gifts, a willingness to reflect prayerfully and theologically on scripture, and a willingness to help with the implementation of creative vision.

The chair of the committee will be a member of the session and will work in coordination with the Pastors and Minister of Music.

Additional Responsibilities: The committee will also be responsible for scheduling the worship liturgist weekly and the communion element preparers and servers according to the schedule set by the session.

Miscellaneous Funds previously under the control of Worship, Music, and the Arts shall be overseen thusly:

The Worship Committee shall have direct control over the following funds: Rachel Robinson Bair Fund, Christmas Music Memorial Fund, Choral Scholars Fund, Bell Choir Fund, Baker Easter Music Fund.

Control over these funds shall revert to the session (funds primarily utilized by AOTS): Arlene Hershey Music Fund, Arts on the Square, Drane Memorial Music Fund, Special Music Fund.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Wadlington