



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ANNUAL REPORT
2024

Presented at the Annual Meeting on January 26, 2025.

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Reports

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The 2024 annual report is available on our website at www.fpcholland.org.

Thank you to all of you who contributed content and photos to the Annual Report!

If you have any questions or would like more detailed information about any of the following reports, please contact Rev. Paul Van Kempen.

A Note from Rev. Cathy C. Hoop

This past Advent we shared a Devotional by Kate Bowler, author of *Everything Happens for a Reason: And Other Lies I've Loved*. The twelfth day of the devotional was titled, "The Answer to the Question," and it included these lines from Gregory Boyle (*Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion*).

"Certainly compassion was the wallpaper of Jesus' soul, the contour of his heart, it was who he was. I heard someone say once, 'Just assume the answer to every question is compassion.' "

In these pages you will read about the work of the various councils of the church. You will find summaries of the events and activities that have taken place. You can get an update on the preschool or Scouts. You can hear about the many outreach partners with whom we have participated in our efforts to make this world a kinder place for all people.

More opportunities await us in 2025. More opportunities to be the hands and feet of Christ. Throughout our fellowship and worship, our education and our outreach, I hope we might hold on to these words from Gregory Boyle: "...assume the answer to every question is compassion." May compassion guide us in our decisions, in our personal interactions, in our vision as a church community. May the answer to all the questions we encounter be "compassion."

Take us, Gathering God.
Renew and remake us.
What we have been is past;
What we shall be, through you,
Still awaits us.
Lead us on.
Take us with you. Amen.

Blessings and peace,
Cathy

A Note from Rev. Paul Van Kempen

One of the comments I periodically hear after worship is that you appreciate my children's messages (this is very kind). But then sometimes you whisper to me, "I often remember your children's sermons better than your real sermons!" I don't know quite how to feel about that. (I spend hours researching and writing a sermon and children's messages usually come to me while I am showering, mowing the lawn, driving to work, etc.)

But since you tell me that you remember my children's messages, I've decided to write you a children's message for the annual report. Enjoy!

Hi kids! I'm so glad that you're here today. I have my bag with me! Any guesses what is inside?

(Pause for guesses.)

Should I shake it?

(Shake the bag.)

Doesn't sound like much does it!

Let me give you a hint. The thing that is in the bag has been my favorite part of working at this church for the past year. Any ideas what it might be?

(Field guesses from the kids. They'll probably have some good ideas—they always do. If they don't offer the ideas below, suggest some of them.)

Maybe it is my guitar because I love doing music here—would my guitar fit in this bag?

Is it the youth group? I hope not—they would be pretty cramped in there!

Is it the baptismal font? I love baptisms, but the font wouldn't fit either.

Could it be a book from a book group? I loved leading book groups this year, but that isn't it.

Something from Peace Camp? That is my favorite week of the year, but that isn't it either.

We did so much together this year! It is hard to pick just one favorite thing, isn't it?

Shall I show you what it is?

(Open the bag and reveal a church directory.)

It is a church directory full of pictures of my favorite people! (Include a plug here for individuals who don't have pictures to get their picture taken to add to the directory!)

Continued on page 6

A Note from Rev. Paul Van Kempen

Continued from page 5

Now, this paper directory isn't my favorite part of this church, it is the people in this directory. I love making music with them, studying the bible together, reading books together, learning about peace together, and serving together.

My favorite part of this church is you, and you and you and all the people here. All of you are what make this place so special! Thanks for doing ministry with me! You make my job easy!

Let's fold our hands, close our eyes, and pray together.

Dear God, thank you for this church and all the amazing things we did this past year. But thank you even MORE for the people who make up this church. Thank you for their energy, creativity, vision, and compassion. Help us to continue to serve you in 2025!

In Jesus' name we pray,

Amen!

Youth@First

What would we do without our wonderful youth? Their leadership with Peace Camp in August was tremendous! In October the youth participated in the Trunk or Treat, helping with set up and clean up and running games for the kids. In December, they also contributed their humor and talents to "A Shepherd's Story," a Christmas musical that brought together the gifts of the children and youth. Many of our youth have contributed to the life of the church by volunteering in the nursery and by sharing their musical gifts with us during worship services.

We are grateful for our youth elder, Ben Rund-Scott, who began serving in the fall. The fresh perspective he brings to our Session meetings is deeply valued by everyone around the table.

FPC joined youth at First United Methodist Church, Hope Church, and Grace Episcopal Church for some fun competition and fellowship together over several months during the Spring. Favorite events include the annual Michigan's Adventure summer trip and youth Christmas party.

Sunday mornings during the education hour, the youth have continued to explore questions of faith and build relationships with one another. During spring of 2024, they worked through an Earth Care series, and during the fall, they started learning about the complicated stories of many of the Old Testament figures in the Bible. Pastor Cathy got to spend an awesome month (April) with them while Pastor Paul facilitated a class with the adults.

We are so grateful for our youth, and thankful for the ways they inspire us through their leadership and service.



Top right to left: Youth group Christmas party, and youth from FPC, First United Methodist Church, Grace Episcopal Church, and Hope Church. Bottom left to right: Two photos from Peace Camp, and Christmas musical, *A Shepherd's Story*.

Preschool

FPC is blessed to be home to First Presbyterian Preschool. Every day, students gather in our building for excellent early childhood education. The teachers love the kids, and the kids love coming here. The preschool also hosts community events where parents can gather and share life together. This year we hosted the Wheel-a-Thon, the Jingle Bell Jamboree, VIP Night, Mothers' Day Tea, several play dates, preschool summer camps, and more!

Highlights:

- 35 incredible students
- 4 amazing staff members (Haley, Jenny, Kendra, and Marina)
- 1 unbelievable community



Learning is fun and takes good listening ears.



Spiritual Growth and Development Council

2024 was a year of love and curiosity for All, growing together as a church family.

Intergenerational Gatherings:

- Easter Egg Hunt
- Fall Education Hour Kick-off with Potluck
- Trunk or Treat with Soup and Bread Potluck
- Advent Crafting of Ornaments with Potluck

Children and Youth Spiritual Growth:

- Worship Center: Pre-K – 2nd and 3rd – 5th grades. Attendance 8 – 15 each Sunday.
- There are 7 celebrants who assist on a rotating basis. *We invite you to join the W.C. team!*
- Super Summer Sundays: Pre-K – 5th grade. Attendance 6 - 10 each Sunday.
- Mentoring Program: An ongoing program of matching FPC kids with adult mentors. Blessed to add three 4th graders with Mentors in 2024.
- Youth @ First – (see separate Youth @ First report).
- Nursery and Celebration Time: Attendance 5 to 15 each Sunday. FPC Nursery Supervisor is assisted by 26 rotating volunteers.

Peace Camp:

- *Wild Wonder* - Exploring God's Wondrous World; in partnership with ACTS Ministries
48 Campers, 13 Youth Helpers, and 15 Adult Leaders.

Continued on page 6



Top: Easter egg hunt,

Bottom: Peace Camp

Spiritual Growth and Development Council

Adult Spiritual Growth:

- Our Sunday morning adult education class has been an inspiring opportunity for lively discussion, learning, and community building.
- During much of the year, we used *Wired Word*, which engages scripture in dialogue with current events, inspiring us to consider how we live out our faith in the real world.
- Paul led a class in April as part of his DM in program, engaging the congregation in conversation around the intersection of faith, our care for the earth, and the state of the church.
- Our exploration of Christian Nationalism in the fall was extremely well attended, and we followed that up with a study of *Materiality as Resistance* by Walter Bruggemann. We also read *Near the Exit* by Lori Erickson and *Stay Awhile: Advent Lessons in Divine Hospitality*. Attendance 15-40 per class each Sunday.

Women's Retreat: Theme – *God's Face* with guest speaker Reverend Dr. Elizabeth Caldwell.

- 29 participants



Women's Retreat, "God's Face" lead by Cathy's sister, Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Caldwell

Transportation

Our bus continues to be a blessing for members of the church even beyond Sunday mornings: A group went to see a White Caps game, another to the Gilmore Car Museum; we picked up ACTS youth and our own youth for Peace Camp. There was the annual youth excursion to Michigan Adventure, Christmas Caroling to shut-ins, and all lit up in the Parade of Lights.

Thank you to long-time drivers Matt Peterson & Jim Veltman who have retired, and welcome to Tim Staal as a new recruit. We are in the process of adding additional assistants. Thank you to our dedicated teams: Jon & Nancy Kreple, Cassie Kregger & Corene D'Addona, Bill & Janet Haines, Chris Urbaniak & Barb Schreur.

Our ridership has also expanded to the point that we now have 2 pick-up runs on Sundays. The first run includes Appledorn on Hastings and on Apple Avenue. The second run takes us to Freedom Village and Warm Friend. It's exciting to have that much demand for this meaningful service.



FPC bus in the Parade of Lights!

Presbyterian Women



In our denomination, Presbyterian Women has its own magazine - *Horizons*, a good annual Bible study, and leadership at the local, presbytery, synod, and denomination levels. Here at FPC Holland, the group supports the international prayer fellowship Least Coin by setting aside a country's smallest coin for each prayer in our days collected at our study meetings. When our pennies connect with others, the Least Coin offerings fund large projects. Individually our members give to the PW Mission Fund. Our 20-25 members share in the presbytery-level PW support. With the theme of supporting women and children, our local mission focus is to our Presbyterian Preschool and Resilience – helping families dealing with domestic abuse. We helped with car wash sales for the preschool with more than \$1,000 raised and collected as yet uncounted new/unwrapped underwear for women and children served by Resilience. We are on Facebook as FPC Holland PW.

Meeting monthly for Bible study from September to May, and at least two social events, there is time for personal sharing, for considering “big picture” issues, for learning, and for prayer. And fun! At our Christmas Soup Luncheon, we decorated 31 bags for Kids' Food Basket over our conversations after a heavy study meeting on water justice. We always part with the Mizpah Benediction, joining hands and looking around at each other.

Presbyterian Women requires little in monetary investment, but the returns are off the charts in friendship, support, laughter, and caring. Our PW functions outside the church budget, and we enjoy the space to meet and the input from Pastor Cathy and Pastor Paul. In the church, we are among our elders, deacons, choir, meal event providers, and Peace Camp, nursery and office helpers. Occasionally we recognize the leadership of the group with an award and this year we surprised Mary Bennett with the Honorary Life Membership. She greets everyone before worship most Sundays, so stop for her friendly hand of welcome.



December 11 Holiday Soup Luncheon , as lunch bags for Kids Food Basket are decorated .

Mission and Outreach Council

The purpose of the Mission and Outreach Council is to act as Christ's heart and hands in our community, and to educate and inform our members of ways they can connect. We do this by seeking partnerships and relationships with other agencies, where we can make a difference in the lives of our neighbors, and that offers opportunities for our church members to be involved in their work.

During 2024, our congregation has provided over \$27,000 and hundreds of volunteer hours with these local agencies:

- ACTS
- Children's Advocacy Center
- Community Action House
- Escape
- Good Samaritan
- Habitat for Humanity
- Holland Free Clinic
- Kids Food Baskets
- 70 times 7
- Out on the Lakeshore
- Resilience

A part of our mission is to help inform our congregation about the local agencies we support as a church and about opportunities for each member to become involved. Our Outreach Kiosk has information about all the local agencies we work with and an outreach member available to chat with. Representatives from the agencies also come to church on Sunday mornings and share information about the work they do in our community. We hope that you can stop by the Outreach Kiosk and see for yourself how we make a difference. We always have room on our council for more people who may be interested in helping guide how our church serves in our community. We hope you can join us at the Outreach Kiosk and ask us how you can be involved.

Members of the congregation have responded in many ways to the call to be Christ's hands and feet in this community. We participated in several special events such as Peace Camp, CROP Hunger Walk, and the sponsorship of a booth at the Holland Project Pride Day. Generous church members have collected coats, cleaning supplies, and blankets for our neighbors in need and provided Christmas gifts for children at the Children's Advocacy Center. We encourage our Presbyterians to help distribute food through Community Action House, donate diapers, and find other ways to connect with the community. We have had several workdays building houses with Habitat for Humanity and preparing meals through the Refresh ministry of Community



Action house. We also provided \$14,000 in support for denominational mission work through the Presbyterian Church. We anticipate growing our outreach in the future both financially and through volunteer efforts. Please continue to support the work of the Outreach Council through your financial gifts as well as through your personal involvement.

Habitat for Humanity work days.

Worship and Arts Council

We are so blessed to be able to worship together in person or online at First Presbyterian Church. Our council's mission is to create space for the meaningful worship of God that involves all the senses, challenges the mind, uplifts the soul, and captures the heart. Below are ways we feel that we have supported that mission.

Maundy Thursday's feet/hand washing service was one of the highlights of the year. It was very moving to serve others in such a humble way that made participants feel closer to Jesus.

Other special services included our More Light Sunday in June, when we heard from Chuck Norris and Liz Hoffswell, each reflecting on the church's commitment to be an open and affirming church.

In the fall, we gathered on the playground for A Blessing of the Animals, giving thanks to God, who has entrusted creation to our care.

In December we offered a service of Longest Night for anyone for whom the holidays can be a difficult time. This year's Christmas pageant on the Sunday morning before Christmas, and our two Christmas Eve services (one designed especially for children) brought much joy and hope to our congregation.

We celebrated Chuck Norris' last Sunday as our music director with 43 singers on July 28. As one of those choir members, it was amazing to sing with so many people and witness how many lives Chuck touched during his 26 years of music at FPC.

By the numbers:

- 64 church members volunteered to be a liturgist, communion server, or usher
- 18 children singing in the children's choir under Paul Van Kempen's direction
- 69 average views of our service on YouTube

The Worship and the Arts Council will continue to support our mission and can always use extra help. We appreciate all our wonderful volunteers for sharing their time.



Above: Easter Sunday sanctuary
Top Right: Blessing of the animals
Bottom Right: Outdoor Discovery Center outdoor worship in August

Deacons

In 2024, Deacons began to bring home communion to our homebound members monthly allowing us to better connect with and serve those who can no longer regularly make it to church. 3-4 teams go to share communion with 6-10 members on the first week of the month. These visits have led to wonderful conversations and connections.

Highlights:

- 3 senior luncheons took place throughout the year
- Birthday cards were sent to 146 members under 18 or over 85
- Care packages were mailed to college students for exam week in May and December
- 12 children stayed after church to make Christmas decorations to give to homebound members
- 24 homebound members received Christmas bags with treats
- Members met monthly to make prayer shawls and prayer socks
- 78 members were involved in care teams providing meals, cards, transportation, handy worker services, and visits.

In 2025, the Deacons look forward to continuing to facilitate opportunities for our congregation to show God's love to each other in tangible ways.



Left to right: Christmas caroling at SKLD with member JoAnn Karn
Making Christmas crafts with the children for our homebound members
Bottom: Summer Senior picnic at Denton Park

Finance / Stewardship Council

The Finance council was created this year to provide a bridge between the work of Treasurer and Session. Our goal is to facilitate the use of the church resources to further the mission of the church. We want to ensure these resources are being used effectively and that we report back to Session and the congregation properly. This year, for example, finance counsel has directed funds from a large bequest to the church to repave the parking lot, replace the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems at the church, upgrade our lighting system throughout the building, upgrade the sound system and improve accessibility to the Memorial Garden.

The council supported the efforts of Tim Stall and the Stewardship Team by providing an aspirational budget received from each council. And at the end of the year we assisted Bob Knittel as he prepared the budget for 2025. The council wants you to know that church resources provided exclusively by the congregation are being used responsibly to further the church's mission.

Each month the council reviews two important FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. THE FIRST IS THE INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT which shows income received in the previous month and the expenses paid. This date is compared to the approved budget. Secondly, we review the church's balance sheet. The document discloses the assets and liabilities of the church. Through the grace of the holy spirit and prudent spending by those before us, FPC enjoys a healthy balance sheet with assets invested to safely return additional money which can be used to support the church budget. Not surprisingly, like your own family budget expenses continue to increase, and more specifically, the expenses of our church partners continue to increase. Also, not surprising, when each council submitted their aspirational budget for next year, those increases were reflected in their response. FPC needs to keep pace with the increasing financial demands of the church and our extended church partners.

So, why is it important to complete and return a pledge card during stewardship season? The church can only spend the resources received from membership and generated by church investments. Our pledged and anticipated income is allocated in the budget to support the church's expenses, the work of each council, and the needs of our church partners. Without pledges, it becomes guesswork and wishful thinking that directs the budget process. We anticipate that for many, pledging is difficult, but it is necessary if the church is to maximize the efforts of our pastoral team, session, and our hard-working deacons. Your pledge is your commitment to what you believe your finances will allow you to contribute to the church's mission. Please review your own finances and help this committee prepare a meaningful budget that will sustain all the great programs of this church.

On a final note, the theme of the 2024 stewardship campaign was GUIDED BY THE GENTLE WINDS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT to be a welcoming place for all. The theme was based upon the sessions review of a book by Joan S. Gray entitled, Sailboat Church. Session is being challenged by our pastor to rethink our mission and practices using the metaphoric symbols of a rowboat and a sailboat, trusting the holy spirit to guide us through the rigors of leadership. We have learned that we must be open to aspirational visioning, set aspirational goals and trust that the human and financial resources will be up to the task. Let us be a sailboat church! Thank you to all who have prayerfully participated in our Stewardship efforts.

Building and Business Council

Building Council saw a number of great projects completed in 2024. We completely replaced the parking lot with new asphalt, striping, and removal of the island. We also began a multi-phase upgrade to the sound system and audio-visual experience in the Sanctuary and Michigan Room, starting with new microphones in the Sanctuary. Other big improvements we were able to complete were updates to the Heating and Air Conditioning, including adding A/C units to the narthex space which previously did not have them.



Before, during and after photos of the parking lot project!



Connections Council

There were regular opportunities for members of FPC to participate in fun activities outside of Sunday morning. We try to offer different kinds of events that appeal to different people so, hopefully, everyone will find something they would enjoy participating in.

Some of the events were:

- February – Dinner & Play at HCT
- March – Dinners for 7 (5 hosts for 30 people)
- April - Dinner & Play at HCT
- April – Easter Breakfast
- July – Paddle Weekend (30 people)
- August - Shrimp Boil (55 people)
- September - Gilmore Car Museum
- September – Fall Kick Off Potluck Picnic (roughly 75 people)

In 2025, we will also focus on visitors and new members so they will feel invited and included. If you would like to help develop new gathering ideas in the coming year, contact Cassie Kregger and Chris Urbaniak.



Top: Easter breakfast
Middle: Paddle Weekend, Shrimp Boil
Bottom left to right: Fall Kick Off potluck, Gilmore Car Museum



Personnel

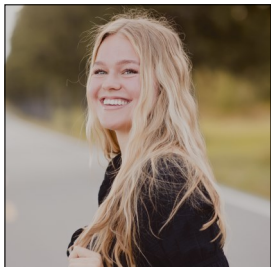
This past year has been one of transition and continued blessings for our FPC family. In July, we said farewell to Chuck Norris upon his retirement as our Director of Music after 26 years. On Chuck's final Sunday with us, we celebrated by welcoming back former choir members to sing under his direction one last time and thanked him with a wonderful reception after the service. On an interim basis, our Associate Pastor, Paul Van Kempen, has taken over direction of the church's music program and has done an exceptional job of showcasing the many musical talents of our church members.

In August, we said goodbye to Hannah Campau as our Office Administrator and welcomed Lori Lepard into the role. Lori has become an integral part of the FPC office staff and serves as our first point of contact for the many members and visitors that come in.

In November, we said farewell to Kate Overbeek as Nursery Supervisor and were fortunate to hire Kiki Leman into this position. Kiki has the important role of coordinating volunteers in our nursery, and ensuring a safe, nurturing environment for infants and toddlers during worship services.

The FPC staff is a hard-working, dedicated team whose collective efforts continue to provide great support for our pastors and congregation. We look forward to another successful year in 2025.

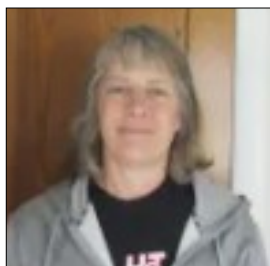
Personnel Council members include Bill Haines, Paula Perkins, Helen Teutsch, Dave Zessin, and Bruce Rosensteel - Elder



Top: Rev. Cathy C. Hoop, Rev. Paul Van Kempen, Thom Samuelson, Lori Klinesteker

Middle: Kiki Leman, Lori Lepard, Marlene Field

Bottom: Rose Gifford, Jane Oosterhouse, Sue Stock



Boy Scouts #147



Where was God most apparent?

- It was most visible in how our boys are turning into young men. They are respectful and fun with lots of laughter. If you listen closely, there is mentorship between them as well as compassion and caring.

What was the highlight of the year?

- Summer Camp – we had 8 scouts attend and 5 adults. We were also joined by 3 additional scouts, known as provisional scouts, that did not have a troop present. We traveled again to Cole Canoe Base in Alger, MI where we shared a campsite with another troop. It was another great week of camp making memories and new friends.

What did you learn?

- That our Scouts and families are flexible, and the program still allows us to find creative ways to make things work.

What is your hope for the future?

- Our hope is to channel our creative energies to overcoming some significant challenges ahead: a) our 3 older boys will all age out in 2025 leaving a gap in youth leadership that will be difficult to fill; b) the troop continues to be small moving into 2025, and although we have 4 cub scouts looking to cross over into the troop, we are losing 3 boys this year due to aging out.

Number of people involved

- 20 adults rechartered in 2024 down from 22 in 2023

People served

- 13 Scouts rechartered in 2024 down from 21 in 2023

Number of events held

- Normal Monday night meetings during the school year and a few during summer to prep for camp. Other than summer camp, we went weekend camping on 3 occasions and a few other day events.

Total amounts raised

- Raised \$750 from a parking event during Tulip Time and another \$150 for parking cars during the Park to Park event in September. This is up from \$300 last year

Total number of people impacted

- Not tracked, but between direct contact and service we estimate over 300.

Growth or decrease since previous year

- There were 3 new scouts in 2024



Left to right: February 2024 Klondike Derby , preparing to leave for July summer camp, and flag placement at Pilgrams Home Cemetery in Holland for Memorial Day 2024.

Clerk of Session

Church Membership in 2024

- New Church Members 20
- Total Church Members 378

We celebrate our members who joined in 2023:

- Elaine Bisel, Audrey Bloemendaal, Alan Cocanour, Alana Cocanour, Cathy Colton, Rob Colton, Donna Engels, Fran Ford, Kristin Goddard, Jeff Holmes, Marcia Huizenga, Lee Janssen, Shirley Janssen, Bob McAfee, Melissa McAfee, Fred McConkey, Patti McConkey, Cary Russell, Sara Smith, Lee Strebel

We celebrate the birth of:

- Ivy Elizabeth Cocanour on May 28, 2024, to Alan and Alana Cocanour.
- Owen Edward Holmes on 10-14-2023 to Colleen and Jeff Holmes.

We celebrate the baptism of:

- Jeff Holmes on April 21, 2024.
- Owen Edward Holmes on April 21, 2024, son of Jeff and Colleen Holmes.
- Ivy Elizabeth Cocanour on September 29, 2024, daughter of Alan and Alana Cocanour

We celebrate the lives of those who passed in 2023:

Allen Brady, Marilyn Chamberlain, Rob deForest, Roy Elwell, Berniece Harper, Eric Heller, Martin G. Keller, Carol Knutson-Molitor, Ann Meengs, Ruth Roberts, Glenda Simpkins, Neil Taylor, Glenn Van Haitsma.

RULING ELDERS

Class of 2025: Ben Rund-Scott

Class of 2026: Carleen Bauer, Bill Evenson, Cassie Kregger, Bruce Rosensteel

Class of 2027: Jen Laux-Ludwig, Tom Salley, Dave Zessin

Class of 2028: Jon Kreple, Lauren Stouffer, Chris Urbaniak

DEACONS

Class of 2026: Tom Glover, Terri Schamper

Class of 2027: Lloyd Helder, Michelle Richardson, Leah Wallar

Class of 2028: Cathy Colton, Gail Hering, Fred McConkey

Thank you for our retiring class of January 31, 2025:

Ruling Elders: Gail Hering, Beth Magennis, Jon McFadyen, Danielle Peterson

Deacons: Nancy Staal, Lauren Stouffer, Paul Van Kolken

Treasurer

Faithful Facts / Treasurer's 2024 Year-End Report

Ministry, outreach, fellowship...all of this is possible because of your faithfulness. Our congregation was blessed in these many and varied ways, and in turn we were able to serve our community, sharing God's love with our neighbors.

- FPC separated Finance from Building and Grounds and appointed an elder of Finance in 2024. This was done to relieve the workload of one Elder, which in turn allowed for each Elder to focus on the area of their responsibility.
- Thru a generous bequest in 2023, FPC was able to reconstruct the parking lot and replace 6 of our aged heating and cooling systems.
- And, again, one thing that didn't change was your faithfulness.

Through prayer and faithfulness, we finished the year very close to budget. Thank you for your commitment to First Presbyterian Church of Holland.

It is my responsibility now to help explain how all the numbers worked, which has to do with checking on the efficiency of our tools.

Following this letter, you can find the following detailed reports:

- The full and final 2024 Income and Expense Statement
- Our Balance Sheet as of 12/31/2024
- Adopted 2025 Budget

	2024 Budget	2024 Actual
Income	\$516,009	\$ 506,682

Note the reported income was \$616,682 which includes a \$110,000 draw against the Raymond James Trust bequest in 2023 for the parking lot and replacement of 6 furnaces.

	2024 Budget	2024 Actual
Expenses	\$545,812	\$541,300

Note the expenses reported are 667,316 which included the parking lot at \$78,400; furnaces at \$26,101; and technology at \$21,506. (All covered by the Raymond James Trust bequest.)

We end the year with a loss of \$50,636 vs the budgeted loss of \$29,803.

Note the technology invoice was paid in December of \$21,506 and the draw from the Raymond James Trust bequest occurred in January 2025 which would put us at the budgeted loss.

Other Income \$75,952
Other Expenses \$55,545

Blessings,
Bob Knittel

First Presbyterian Church

2024 Year End Financial Report

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income

Pledged Receipts	414,350.96
Plate	4,627.62
Non-Pledge Giving	45,803.82
Advanced Pledge Receipts	9,000.00
Mission Fund Earnings	16,432.24
Transfer from Raymond James Trust	110,000.00
Interest Income	970.8
Meeting Room Rental Income	5,075.00
Per Capita Income	4,487.73
M&M Cafe	2,207.50
Preschool Rent	3,726.28

Total Income	616,681.95
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Expense

Pastor Expense	113,766.98
Associate Pastor Expense	100,632.01
Staff Salaries	116,473.43
Building & Business Expense	248,056.08
Outreach Expense	3,100.66
Worship & Arts Expenses	6,721.10
Connections	4,887.84
Session & Deacon Expenses	394.54
Transportation	2,440.04
OUTREACH EXPENSE	38,970.16
Per Capita Payment	14,898.60
Capital Campaign-Mortgage Inter	12,967.66

Total Expense	663,309.10
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Net Ordinary Income	-46,627.15
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Total Other Income	74,944.38
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Total Other Expense	55,545.01
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Net Income	<u><u>-27,227.78</u></u>
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First Presbyterian Church

2024 Year End Report Balance Sheet

	Dec 31, 24
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
HNB Checking - Operating Funds	180,007.40
Other Current Assets	
Raymond James Investment Acct	1,921.13
West MI Advisors - RJ Trust	398,000.10
Total Other Current Assets	399,921.23
Total Current Assets	579,928.63
Other Assets	
CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT	28,926.89
New Covenant MissionFund	559,559.33
New Covenant BuildingFund	255,983.64
Total Other Assets	815,542.97
TOTAL ASSETS	1,395,471.60
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Head of Staff Cont Ed	980.95
Payroll Liabilities	10,960.12
Total Other Current Liabilities	11,941.07
Total Current Liabilities	11,941.07
Long Term Liabilities	
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN-MORTGAGE NOTE	302,852.62
Total Long Term Liabilities	302,852.62
Total Liabilities	314,793.69
Equity	
SPECIAL MISSION OFFERINGS	3,560.00
DESIGNATED FUNDS	45,939.76
DESIGNATED FUNDS-Capital Camp	-250,551.52
Unrestricted Net Assets	154,717.20
Net Income	-27,227.78
Total Equity	1,109,604.80
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	1,424,398.49

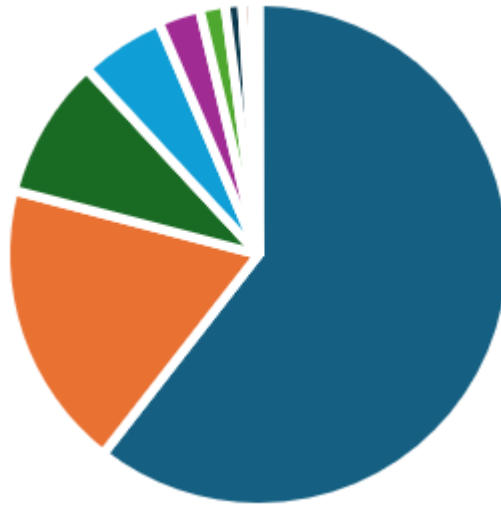
First Presbyterian Church

2025 Budget

	2025 Budget
Income	
Pledged Receipts	465,540.00
Plate	4,000.00
Non-Pledge Giving	33,000.00
Mission Fund Earnings & 1	50,000.00
Interest Income	84
Meeting Room Rental Inco	2,100.00
Per Capita Income	5,000.00
Preschool Rent	3,000.00
Total Income	562,724.00
 Staff Expense	
Pastor Expense	117,254.62
Associate Pastor Expense	100,380.05
Staff Salaries	117,386
Total Staff Expense	335,021
 Other Expenses	
Building & Business Exper	130,569.00
Spiritual Growth & Formati	6,000.00
Worship & Arts Expenses	9,000.00
Connections	3,540.00
Session & Deacon Expens	300
Transportation	1,952.00
Outreach Expense	50,000.00
Per Capita Payment	15,000.00
Capital Campaign-Mortgag	11,754.00
Total Other Expenses	228,115.00
 Total Expense	 563,135.90
 Net Income	 68.1

Treasurer

2025 Budget



Personnel	\$335,021
Building & Business	\$102,569
Outreach	\$50,000
Mortgage Interest and Principle Payment	\$30,000
Per Capita	\$15,000
Worship & Arts	\$9,000
Spiritual Growth	\$6,000
Connections	\$3,540
Transportation	\$1,952
Session & Deacons	\$300

FPC Value Statements

At First Presbyterian Church, we value...

- We value creative worship in the Presbyterian tradition.
- We strive to recognize God's image in all people and to be respectful of our differences.
- We welcome all to Christ's Table.
- We affirm that church membership and leadership are not constrained by human labels but by God's gifts and grace.
- We believe lifelong spiritual growth happens by navigating life's tough questions as individuals and as a community of faith.
- We value strengthening community through serving, playing, studying and eating together.
- We value sharing God's abundant grace and love in Jesus Christ today



first presbyterian church



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