



First Presbyterian
Church Livermore
centered • celebrating • serving

2022

Annual Report

I AM

*The Way,
The Truth
and The Life*

John 14:6

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We celebrate baptism:

Tracy Nguyen Bartel
Hartley Scott Grandfield
Ryder Larry Meadows
Abigail Rose Reynolds

We celebrate new members:

Joey Baer	Lynda (Lambe) Kinnard
Julie Baer	Robyn Anne (Shreckengaut) Lakamsani
Vinny Carbonaro	Margot (Peggy) Morrow McGurk
David Craig	Matteo Richard Musso
Gadis (Buck) Dillon	Abigail Rose Reynolds
Susan C. Dillon	Cathy Schultz
Deborah Lee (Hiner) Halford	Marco Theodore Wilde

We remember with affection:

Diane May (Gilbertson) Clark
Jerry Cleveland
Dick Giroux
Audrie Elise (Swanson) Hage
Barbara Elaine (Kurth) Hempill
Hugh Alton Keener
Audrey Irene (Olsen) (Cedarlund) Lovell
Robert Stephen Lowder
Milo Dean Nordyke
Robert C. Philcox
Jean Carol (Bibbins) Pierce
Leonard Smith



The Wilde Side of Things

Greetings!

One of the humbling realities of life is how long it takes to get **into** shape and how quickly one can fall **out** of shape :-)! Many of us have learned [like I am now!] the importance of having a plan and a program for maintaining our health and keeping the strength and vitality that we enjoy. It is no different for our church.

For a few years now that plan has been guided by our church's vision to be:

Centered in Christ ~ Celebrating Community ~ Serving Others

This vision provides reassurance even as it challenges us to be a church modeled and rooted in the theologically demanding, inclusive and transformative love of Jesus. It is from that place that we can delight in how God values each person and strive to be good stewards of a ministry that seeks to serve one another.

As you read through this Annual Report you will likely find joy in the spectrum of ministry, give thanks for the strength of our programs and take hope in the vitality of our faith and our spiritual lives that we share with one another. Thank God for our church and for this health/hope we experience.

Just as we look back and celebrate the year that has been, we also lean forward into the year that is before us. The opportunities for us to have an impact on one another and in our community are significant...as are the challenges we are navigating. Ministry in the years ahead will need to creatively and with great agility be open to the leading of God's Spirit. Ours is a ministry that **both** celebrates what has been/is **and** embraces who God is calling us to become.

Our congregation heads into 2023 strong, with our giving solid and our experience of God great! I am grateful for all of you who support, enable and advance the work of our church. God's providence for our church through your generosity and faithfulness is what allows our ministry to happen and to make a difference.

I thank God for the extraordinary blessing and privilege of being one of your pastors.

Grace & Peace,



Stephen Wilde
Senior Pastor



From Pastor Denia

Dear FPCL Family,

What a great year of ministry and service this has been, as we began to remember our ministry areas again in person while also maintaining connections online! I am so thankful to worship and serve God with you as a part of this church. It has been my pleasure to work with our staff, the Discipleship Team, our Board of Deacons, and Presbyterian Women this past year.

Those offering their gifts as Deacons have enabled us, as a church, to respond in a timely way to many requests for care, both foreseen and unexpected, and to walk with others faithfully on their challenging journeys through life.

It has been exciting to work with the Discipleship Team as we planned and offered classes and activities to bring people together for fellowship and learning about what it means to be people of God in the different seasons of the church year.

Exploring the Word of God with Presbyterian Women Horizons Bible Study (open to anyone) and from the pulpit is always dear to my heart. This year, I am excited to celebrate our church finding new ways to do ministry in a changing world, while honoring the past on which we build.

As we look back and plan forward, I am hopeful for the legacy we will leave for those who will come after us. With much gratitude for God's love and for our love for each other, it is my privilege to continue to serve you as one of your pastors.



Respectfully Submitted,
Denia Segrest,
 Associate Pastor-Tentmaker

From Pastor Christina

I started as the Parish Associate for Pastoral Care in June of 2022.

This position has included working primarily with the Pastoral Visitor team. This team was already in place but in the past few months we built up this team from three members to twelve team members. These folks were commissioned for this work in November and we are now reaching and visiting with fifteen folks from our congregation.

I have also developed a pastoral care overview to help the pastoral staff in making sure our congregation is well cared for.

The Grief support group was started in August and we typically have 8-12 folks who attend and support one another as we talk through our grief process. This group meets monthly on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.



Respectfully Submitted,
Christina Voissem, Parish Associate

*2022 Session Elders***Clerk of Session**

Christine Weber

Discipleship

Kim Pillon & Mairi Wohlgemuth

Hospitality

Christine Holsen, Vic Karpenko, Padmini Sökkappa

Intergenerational - Ellen Tarwater-Clower**Ministry Resources**

Rick Edson, Don Frey, Lynne Lyberger

Mission & Service

Phil Dean, Shari Johnston, Clayton Salch

Nominating

Cathy Griggs

Personnel

Linda Taylor

Student & Family Ministry

Austin Antony, Sarah Baer, Kate Mullen

Worship

Carey Grassinger, Alice Klingmann

Session is responsible for the mission and government of the church, and is comprised of installed Elders and the Pastors. Members of the Program Staff and the Clerk of Session attend session meetings regularly. Elders are elected by the congregation and develop teams of volunteers who work together within their ministry area. Meetings are the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm.

Moderator of Session - Pastor Steve Wilde

*2022 Board of Deacons***Calling/Visiting**

Sue Carling, Janet Craig

Chariots of Care - Open**Extended Communion & Flowers**

Pat Griggs

Giving Tree

Susan Bond

Martha Ministry

Cecily Karpenko

Medical Equipment Loan/Exchange

Alan Throop

Memorials & Receptions

Rose Marie Bartel, Kathy De-Rego, Susan Frey

Moderator

Barb Henshaw

Pastoral Care

Joy Fischer, Carrie McAbee, Jane Nebo

Prayer Chain

Linder Alexander

Secretary

Julie Keener

Student Ministry

Abigail Reynolds

Treasurer

Jinok Dean

Vice Moderator

Kim Salch

Board of Deacons Report

The Deacons at FPCL are a great group of “working” Deacons. Supported by Pastor Denia, we have actively been working to define and refine our role within the congregation.

As we look back over the year 2022, we can and should celebrate many of our activities and contributions to the larger church.

We instituted Prayer Partners for the first time and will continue this in coming years.

Giving Tree was successful again this year collecting over \$2,660.00 and donating to Tri Valley Haven

Memorial receptions are another visible activity that involves not only our Deacons who so ably plan them, but also involves members of the congregation in preparing and serving the food - not to mention cleaning up afterward.

Martha Ministries: The Meal Train - is another positive activity that is rewarding to both the people preparing and delivering the meals and to the people receiving the meals.

Medical Equipment: A limited amount of equipment is available to members of the congregation for use as needed. This ministry is limited by the amount of storage space, but is hopefully growing by having a list of equipment that might be available for loan by other congregation members.

Calling/Visiting: In general, we have been working to check-in regularly about contacts with congregation members. There are some Deacons that are specifically “assigned” to be visiting Deacons, but we are expanding this concept hoping to empower all Deacons to feel comfortable in this role. Cards are sent to congregants and others who may be experiencing life challenges.

Extended Communion: An assigned Deacon assists one of the pastors in providing communion to those who are unable to attend worship services in person or who request it.

Emergency Response: The Deacons have contributed to a Pastoral Discretionary Fund that is available to all pastors for use in assisting those in need.

The Prayer Chain is another integral part of our ministry. It enables us to communicate with the general congregation and involve them in actively caring for others in thought and prayer.

All of this is hopefully designed and directed to enable us to fulfill one of the unique vows we take as Deacons when we answer the question: “Will you be a faithful deacon, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing people’s help to the friendless and those in need; and in your ministry, will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?”

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Henshaw - Moderator, Deacons

Deacons 2022 Fund Summary Reports

BEGINNING BALANCE 1/22/22		\$11,573.41
Memorial Donations	\$775.00	
Regular Donations	\$1,741.50	
TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$2,516.50
Crisis Assistance	\$750.00	
FPCL Congregational Care	\$603.08	
Memorial Receptions	\$280.13	
Giving Tree	\$40.00	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENT		\$(1,673.21)
ENDING BALANCE 12/31/22		\$12,416.70

- Deacons provided \$750.00 for the purchase of Safeway and McDonalds gift cards to give to Livermore families and individuals in need of emergency/crisis assistance.
- Deacons provided \$520.00 (out of a total of \$603.08 for congregational care expenses) to assist a congregation member with emergency moving expenses.
- Deacons decided that it will provide \$4,000.00 to Pastor Discretionary Funds to use for congregational care in 2023.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jinok Dean, Deacon Treasurer

Buildings & Grounds

Elder: Don Frey

Staff Liaison: Jane Ackley

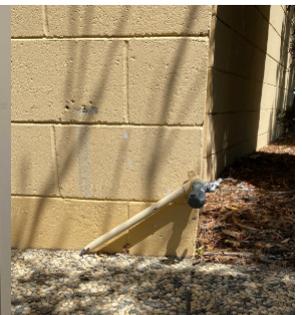
Throughout the year in 2022 the routine needs for maintaining the facilities were performed.

Some of the projects completed in 2022:

- All periodic inspections and maintenance as required by CA codes
- All perimeter street trees around the church block crowned/pruned (that we are responsible for)
- Battery checks and replacement for alarms and emergency exit signs
- Drains/downspouts hydro-jetted/cleared of debris at the office entrance
- Fellowship Hall & Sanctuary Women's bathroom roof fixes early January
- New fire alarm panel installed
- Extend Hallway to enclose IT room for added security
- Install two additional cameras (overseeing the dumpster area & inside IT room)
- Replace Kitchen grease tank (flooring still to be finished)
- Moved damaged water pipe around the corner on the wall to prevent tripping hazards
- Replace the expired AED units

Respectfully Submitted,

Don Frey, Ministry Resources Elder, B&G



Connections Ministry

Coordinator of Connections: Kim Salch
 Staff Liaison: Pastor Steve Wilde
 Elders: Christine Holsen, Vic Karpenko,
 Padmini Sokkappa

Connection Ministry supports programming of the Deacons, Hospitality Committee, Discipleship Team, Life Groups, Congregational Care, Mission and Outreach Team, Student and Families/Intergenerational Team and The Welcome Committee (New member).

In 2022, we celebrated the history/ legacy and future of FPCL with our 150th Anniversary Celebration. On February 6, 2022, over 200 people joined us in worship and in the Fellowship Hall/Courtyard to celebrate over 150 years of ministry in the tri-valley.

We slowly began to add some pre-Covid favorite events back into the calendar: Ash Wednesday Soup Supper, Taco lunch, movie nights and Women’s Retreat.

Life Groups began to meet in person again and we added a couple of new Life groups- The Cooking Club (prepares meals for the Goodness Village and special FPCL events) and a group formed from the Women’s retreat: Breakfast and Bibles.

We welcomed 14 new members to FPCL through a two-class session with Pastor Steve and through confirmation classes with Brie MacLaren.



Inter-generational
Women's Retreat

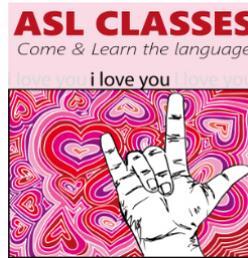
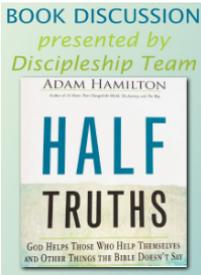
NEXT STEP
*Classes for those interested
 in becoming members*

Respectfully Submitted,
 Kim Salch, *Coordinator of Connections Ministry*

Discipleship Team

Elders: Kim Pillon, Mairi Wohlgemuth

Staff Liaison: Pastor Steve Wilde, Pastor Denia Segrest, Kim Salch



Discipleship Ministries is focused on short-term teaching, learning, outreach, and education with a distinct “start and finish”. It serves as an on-ramp to other ministries and areas of involvement members or visitors might commit to in the future. We serve to open our doors to the community and membership for specific activities that might include overlap with other ministries. The beauty of Discipleship is its variety and spontaneity in activities and ideas to get the church and community involved.

Over the past year, the Discipleship team was able to offer a variety of activities such as:

- Teach a 5-week Fall Bible Study on the Adam Hamilton book “Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other Things the Bible Doesn't Say”.
- Sponsor a 4-week ASL 101 class taught by congregants Joey and Julie Baer.
- Lead an Advent wreath workshop providing materials to make 2 different types of wreaths, lessons on why we celebrate Advent, and devotions to bring home.
- Offer a monthly walk in Sycamore Grove park every third Saturday of the month.
- Co-produce an Intergenerational showing of Encanto with the Children and Families and Hospitality teams.

We look forward to continuing this momentum into 2023 with additional studies, speakers, movie nights and other activities that can bring our community together.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Pillon & Mairi Wohlgemuth, Discipleship Team Elders

Funds Team

Chair: David Craig

Elders: Rick Edson, Lynne Lyberger

Staff: Jane Ackley, Danielle Hayes, Pastor Steve Wilde

Funds Team: Gordon Longerbeam, Sherry McCarthy, Raymie Tindle, Molly Yarnevich, Karen Wilson-Fontaine

The Christian Heritage Fund represents the church endowment. We are growing this to a level where investment income will provide dollars to go toward furthering our future ministry. Principal dollars will remain in perpetuity, solely generating the spendable dollars for needs in ministry. Christian Heritage Funds are not expended to support the annual operating budget.

The Christian Heritage Fund Year end balance in 2022 is \$94,929

Donations received in 2022 \$12,330 with a year end balance of \$31,324

2022 Donations made in honor of:

- Sylvia Briggs
- Diane Clark
- Gerrie Froberg
- Dick Giroux
- Audry Goroch
- Audrie Hage
- Barbara Hempill
- Gordon Jones
- Hugh Keener
- Audrey Lovell
- Steve Lowder
- Milo Nordyke
- Bob Philcox
- Jean Pierce
- David Sisson
- Lorene Stack

This year we funded

- Plaques for Crosses - associated with Building Fund Pay Down \$1,024
- Two AED Devices - The previous AED devices had reached expiration date \$4,335

Activity this year

Planned, setup and held an Estate Planning Seminar. Elizabeth Trutner was our presenter. The seminar was well attended (approximately 39 people).

Respectfully Submitted,

David Craig, Chair

Hospitality Team

Elders: Christine Holsen, Vic Karpenko,
Padmini Sockappa,

Staff Liaison: Kim Salch

Hospitality Committee is:

New Members

Congregational Life

Coffee Hour Fellowship

Special affiliation with Connections Ministry
(Welcome) and Presbykates.



This year we returned to serving after both worship services and have been both outside in the courtyard and in Fellowship Hall. (Thank you servers!).

- In February, we helped prepare and serve lunch to celebrate the 150 year anniversary of FPCL. Just over 300 people from Livermore & surrounding communities as well as our congregation were in attendance.
- On Ash Wednesday, we provided a Soup Supper with a “to go” option.
- In June, we were thrilled to launch our summer programming with a lunch served by the “Taco Cart”.
- We also had a “mini” church picnic in August with food from the taco cart.
- Throughout the summer and fall we supported the Discipleship Team and Intergenerational Team by providing and serving food at their movie nights.



Respectfully Submitted,

*Christine Holsen, Vic Karpenko, Padmini
Sokkappa - Hospitality Elders*

Intergenerational Ministry - Children & Families

The beginning of 2022 started with the excitement of a wedding for our director of Intergenerational Ministry who is now officially Brie MacLaren.

Our children and student programs were offered at the 10 am blended service, in which both programs continued to use the multimedia lessons from growcurriculum.org.

Many of our traditional programs that were stopped during Covid came back, like the Annual Easter Egg Hunt.

Former events that were mainly for children and young families, were planned with a broader church family in mind like the spring Intergenerational Movie and Dinner Night featuring “Encanto.”

We again were blessed with a wonderful enthusiastic group of children that joined us for Vacation Bible Camp in June.



In the summer, we again had our Sunday Morning Program for children led by our summer intern Isabelle Hayes. This gave our few but dedicated Sunday morning volunteers and Jen Wilde a break from teaching Sunday mornings and the ability to be in worship services some of the time.

In the Fall, Intergenerational Ministry held a highly successful one day Women’s Retreat featuring Rev. Marci Glass as the speaker. With over 65 participants of all ages, a need for more events that appeal across generations was highlighted.

Advent season came with the celebration of Calen John MacLaren, Brie’s son, being born.

Take home advent activity totes for children and families, and Christmas pageant sign-ups also rang in the season! Once again thankful to the children, students, and families, who participated in our annual Christmas pageant.

Although this year had a major challenge encouraging families to return to in-person worship and events, there is much we learned from the roses and thorns! We are looking forward to all that 2023 has in store for our church families!



Respectfully Submitted,

Jen Wilde, Support Coordinator for Children & Family Ministry

Intergenerational Ministry - Students

As students return to a faster pace of life post-covid, Student Ministry continued to face new challenges with the *where, how and when* to connect with students. Allowing students to feel a sense of belonging and comfort in “hanging out “(*emphasizing relational ministry*) was a goal this past year.

To that end, summer started with a local more accessible mission trip to Watsonville, and students were invited to summer movie nights, small group lunches and walks to Panama Bay after services.

With worship’s need for Brie to be musically present in the blended service, Natalie Geiger was hired to serve as the fall intern to assist with leading the student program Sunday mornings. Natalie did a fantastic job and we saw more stability in students regularly attending the Sunday morning program. Many of the annual events also returned in fall such as the photo scavenger hunts, corn maze and cookie tailgate, and pancake breakfast.

In November, the church hired Tanner Roberts as our new Director of Student Ministry. During his brief time here, Tanner is already connecting with students, bringing energy and innovative ideas to our church ministry every day.

As we concluded the end of the year, students were able to participate in all the familiar annual events such as the Christmas pageant, Christmas care packages assembly for college students and the always hilarious white elephant gift exchange party.

As we move into 2023, we are looking forward to connecting with students and increasing their involvement in the larger church. Students continue to have a genuine presence in the ministry of our church. We have often seen them reading Scripture on Sunday mornings, helping with childcare and the children’s program, serving on the media team, and involved in worship.

Students even offered a “How to Tech Tutorial” in Fellowship Hall after a service. The church is one of the few places students have the chance to interact with people in different generations, other than their parents. We hope as we enter this new year, we can build those intergenerational relationships within our church family.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jen Wilde, Support Coordinator for Children & Family Ministry



New Director of Student Ministry Tanner Roberts

Mission and Service Team

Elders: Phil Dean, Shari Johnston, and Clayton Salch

Staff Liaison Pastor Steve Wilde

Team: Ron and Elsa Bernhardt, Ann Meiers, Joy Gath, Larry Fried, Trevor Patterson

Mission and Service Committee (combined in 2021 with Service Elders: Phil Dean and Clayton Salch) to create a closer collaboration between hands-on and financial activities. The Elders in collaboration with Rev. Dr. Steve Wilde and identified four focus areas:

- Empowering Youth and Families
- Promoting Inclusion;
- Nurturing Well-Being
- Engaging in Direct Assistance

Due to the enormous generosity of the congregation in supporting the operation of the church, the staff, and the wider community, we were able to provide financial support to agencies/organizations providing services related to our four identified areas. We also supported the homeless through direct assistance in meal and grocery cards, in partnership with the Livermore Homeless Refuge.

Our financial support of Jewish Family and Community Services (JFCS) provides essential first steps in helping Afghan refugee families recover from the trauma of violence and displacement. We have a very active Refugee Services Committee that worked closely with several families in partnership with JFCS. The group sets up apartments before the families arrive, drives family members to crucial medical and government services appointments, and aids the families in acquiring English skills and acculturating to life in the US. We partnered with the congregation and the Deacons to provide extra gift cards to the refugee families this Christmas.

FPCL also supports abused and/or troubled women, youth, and those at risk of trafficking through Tri-Valley Haven and Seek and Save. The Backpack Project supported Livermore area students, while Kids Bike Lane donated a record number of bicycles to children and youth at Christmas and throughout the year. FPCL members played a vital role in volunteering with these organizations. We wrote letters of appreciation to every Livermore School District principal, while donating \$2700 in discretionary funds for the principal's use.

Finally, FPCL embraced inclusion through our participation in and support of the Livermore Gay Pride event as well as Night to Shine. We also provided support for Ukraine through disaster assistance relief funds.

We pledged half of our Christmas Eve Offering to Tri-Valley Seek and Save and One Nation Dream Makers, both supporting homelessness in our community.

Mission and Service is very proud of the continued generosity of the FPCL members. We are truly humbled by the generous donations of money, material gifts, and time from the congregation that make FPCL’s mission activities possible.

Respectfully Submitted,
Shari Johnston, Mission & Service Elder

Operating Fund Missing Giving		Presbytery Special Offerings	
Aid for Hungry	\$5,105	One Great Hour of Sharing	\$1,987.77
Arukah House	\$2,500	Pentecost	\$150.00
Gun Buy Back	\$5,310	Peacemaking Offering	\$1,150
Jewish Family Community	\$2,013.05	Christmas Joy Offering	\$500.00
Kids Against Hunger	\$721.00		
Kids Bike Lane	\$5,000	Fundraiser	
Livermore Homeless Refuge	\$1,141.33	Backpack Project	\$4,627
Livermore Pride Sponsorship	\$1,000		
Livermore Schools	\$2,700		
Night to Shine	\$4,000	Designated Gifts	
Open Heart Kitchen	\$4,000	PC USA	\$13,219
PC USA Ukraine	\$5,000	Christmas Eve	\$8,082.07
Seek & Save	\$3,500	Unhoused in Livermore	\$27,277.36
Seminary Student Support	\$5,196		
Student Mission Trip	\$10,000		
Tri Valley Haven	\$4,000	TOTAL MISSION SPENDING	\$118,700.00
Reimbursements	\$520.42		

Ministry Resources

Chair: Rob Couberly

Elders: Rick Edson, Don Frey & Lynne Lyberger

Team: Don Bartel, Rollin Harding

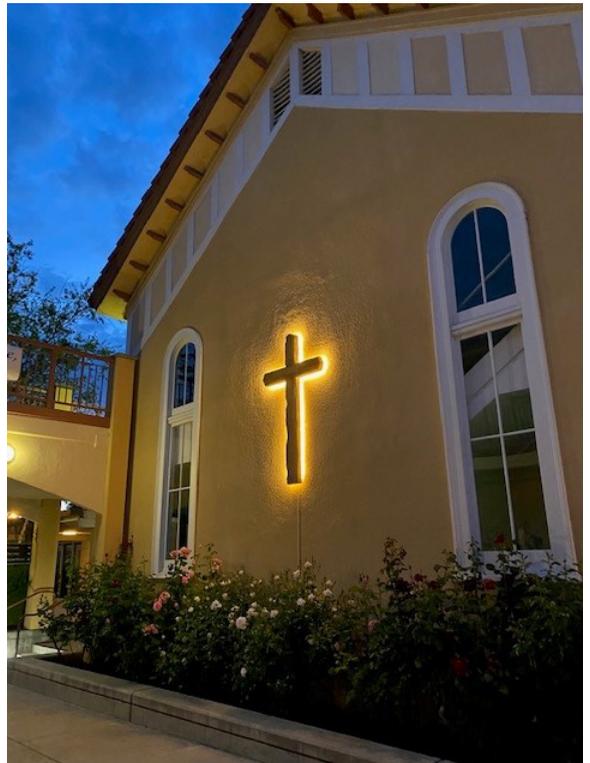
Staff: Jane Ackley, Danielle Hayes, Pastor Steve Wilde

The Ministry Resources Team (MRT) is focused on ensuring that First Presbyterian Church Livermore (FPCL) has the funding and facilities needed to further the church's mission in the service of Jesus Christ.

The team strives to ensure funding for programs and special projects through coordination of the annual stewardship drive and through participation of some members in the Funds Committee. The team reviews and discuss FPCL's detailed financial statements and investments with the church's accounting specialist to ensure Session is presented with an accurate financial picture and that, when necessary, financial issues are brought to Session for discussion.

During the annual budgeting process, the team and the church's accounting specialist, analyze how much to budget for revenue in the upcoming year. The team will also make a recommendation on how much Session should hold in reserve for capital projects (e.g. a new roof) and for use as needed as specified by Session.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rob Couberly, Chair



Nominating

Elder: Cathy Griggs, Deacon: Kim Salch
 Staff Liaison: Pastor Steve Wilde,
 Nominating Team: Kathy DeRego, Rick Edson,
 Brie MacLaren, Alan Throop

The Nominating Team met in 2022 to select nominees for Elders, Deacons and members of the Nominating Team and the Funds Team.

We would like to thank outgoing elders, deacons and team members who completed their terms of service. We appreciate you sharing your gifts with our congregation.

We appreciated the careful consideration of all those we asked to serve and were pleased to present names at the October congregational meeting of those who felt the call to serve and said, "Yes!" Additional names will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

The Nominating Team presented the following slate of officers and team members for election:

- Four current Elders were elected to serve a second three year term and 5 were elected to replace outgoing Elders.
- Three Deacons was elected to serve a second three year term and 3 were elected to replace outgoing Deacons.
- Two new members was elected to serve on the Commemorative and Endowment Funds Committee.
- Two new members were elected to serve on the Nominating Team.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Griggs, Nominating Elder & Chair

Office

Staff: Jane Ackley, Danielle Hayes, Deb Halford, Jen Wilde,
 Church Counters: Linda Alexander, Shirley Couberly

I continue to be thankful for the office staff who are doing a great job with the day to day running of 'all things church'.

Along with the day to day tasks, the office infrastructure is kept up to date - computers, network, electronic filing system etc..

Office space was rearranged to accommodate additional staff.

Installation of a new Cyberpower 1500VA UPS battery backup with additional battery pack allowing for 66 minutes run-time of our network infrastructure during a power failure. These items were donated for the IT room (at a cost of approx \$1,500). Additionally, this device allows the equipment to power down safely, in the case of a major power outage.

Additional cameras were installed (IT room & dumpster area). The latter is helpful so we can monitor activities to help us resolve any areas of concern, wrongly mixed organics, recycling or garbage and items being left by someone other than from the church.



Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Ackley, Director of Church Operations

Presbyterian Women

Phyllis Brewer: Moderator; Sally Swanson: Secretary; Rev. Nancy Holve: Treasurer; Pennie Clouser: Historian; Karen Vied & Rev. Nancy Holve: Mission/World Service; Joy Fischer & Karen Vied: Together in Service/Prayer Shawl Ministry

Every woman in the church is part of Presbyterian Women and is encouraged to participate in some or all of PW’s activities. This past year the circles have come together in person or in hybrid meetings, and we remain actively committed to the purpose of PW in Bible study, supporting mission projects, and building an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the PCUSA.

Together in Service

“Alone we work, Together, we work miracles!”

We met monthly on the second Saturday to produce:

8 prayer shawls to warm the hearts in need

72 baby hats to Axis Community Health

48 hats to Livermore Homeless Refuge & Elmhurst

6 fleece blankets

5 knitted/crotched blankets to Elmhurst



Mission Activities for 2022

Jan/Feb	Birthday Offerings	\$ 235.00
March/April	Living Waters	\$ 153.75
May/June	Refugee & Asylum Seekers	\$ 225.00
July/Aug	*School Backpack project	---
Sept.	LVUSD Nurses Fund	\$452
Oct.	Women in Military School	\$237
Nov.	*Blanket Sunday	---
Dec.	*Deacons Fund Giving Tree	---
TOTAL PW/MISSION GIVING		\$3,312.83

*Amount indicates church wide giving (excluded in total)

Gatherings

April 30 “Celebration of Mothers, Grandmothers and Mentors” The women met together in the fellowship hall to share stories and memories of the strong women who shaped our faith and our lives.

September 11 Pastor Denia Segrest kicked off our year’s Horizons Bible study by leading us through the introduction and Lesson 1. This year’s Bible Study is “Celebrate the Sabbath: Accepting God’s Gift of Rest and Delight. Guests brought their own lunches and visited old friends and made new ones.

Game Day In August, PW began a game afternoon on the 4th Thursday of the month inviting anyone in the church (including men!) to the fellowship hall to play board games, cards, puzzles etc. This event will be continued into 2023.

Respectfully Submitted, Phyllis Brewer, Moderator

Smart Start

Owner: Dan Karlsen.

Executive & Site Director: Rebecca Hardesty

The 2nd half of 2022 we were slowly able to begin lifting some of our Covid restrictions.

We are at full capacity with a large waitlist.

We now offer a kindergarten program to families looking for a smaller school setting and an enriched full day kindergarten. Our school currently offers classes for ages 18 months through Kindergarten.

We have been able to maintain a strong staff after losing a handful of teachers during the Covid shutdown. We have a wonderful group of teachers that have been with us for some time.

New cabinets and shelving were added to the C1 and C2 classrooms.

In D1 we add new blackout shades to match the other classrooms.

The carpets get cleaned professionally 5-6 times a year.

Various repairs and upgrades were made throughout the preschool area and playground in 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca Hardesty,

Director of Smart Start Preschool

Veggie Table

This was the 13th year of the Veggie Table. We continue to grow a variety of veggies at the Finn Farm on Mines Rd. with the help of many wonderful volunteers. Others bring from their own gardens as well. Hopefully we can bring flowers and produce to church on Sundays again for anyone to take and leave a donation in the jar. 100% of donations goes to the principal on the mortgage for the renovation of the church in 2005.

The Table and Farm is also a place to gather for fellowship about gardening, food and making new friends. We also donate food to local low-income senior housing. In 2022, we collected \$5,830 for the mortgage which brings our 13 year total to over \$102,000. Small amounts can really add up. What a generous community and bountiful gardens!

A HUGE THANK YOU to ALL the volunteers who come to help at the farm planting and harvesting. The farm would not be possible without this generous help. If anyone is interested in volunteering, we could always use your help. We work on Wednesday and Saturday mornings. Call the office for directions if interested, or sign up with Wanda at wandafinn@hotmail.com

Respectfully Submitted,

Wanda Finn, Veggie Table

Worship Team

Elders: Carey Grassinger, Alice Klingmann

Members: Dane Alexander (Head Usher), Austin Antony (Elder),

Staff: Cathy Griggs, Janet Holmes, Pastor Steve Wilde

Worship at First Presbyterian Church of Livermore (FPCL) continued to emerge from the pandemic in 2022. We continued our Sunday morning One Church One Service worship model which included elements of both the modern and traditional styles. Mask requirements were eliminated in March. An 8:15 service was added during lent and has continued since. By fall, communion was offered using communion plates and communion cups (rather than the individually wrapped communion “kits”), with congregants coming forward to receive the elements. By winter, collection plates were again passed in the pews. Live-streaming of the 10:00 am service continued and was utilized by many.

FPCL was blessed with a number of creative and thought-provoking sermon series. The first was called Yesterday-Today-the Future which looked back on the ministry and history of our church. The sermons brimmed with gratitude as they celebrated generations past but also called on us to look forward to our next 150 years.

The Yesterday-Today-the Future Sermon Series led us to one of the more meaningful worship services we had in 2022: the 150th anniversary celebration. This celebration had been delayed due to the pandemic but on February 6th (still the 150th year by a week!), a joyous crowd of congregants, pastors, staff, elders, deacons, neighbors, and City of Livermore representatives gathered in the sanctuary to celebrate the legacy of ministry of our church. Prayers of gratitude were offered for the generations of faithful people who served God and their community throughout the years. A reception was held afterward in the courtyard and Fellowship Hall.

Our preaching staff continued their timely and relevant messages with the sermon series called Common Ground: Loving Others In Spite of and Because of Our Differences. These sermons encouraged us to consider ways to value one another as opposed to the cultural trend of being divisive & dismissive of those who differ from us. At the end of April, the “Copy & Paste” Sermon Series explored Jesus’ command to follow the example he gave and to imitate that example.



Congregants were encouraged to dig deeper into who Jesus was and what is it about him that we need to “copy and paste” into our lives. The summer found us contemplating Words to Live By in a sermon series that looked at words such as Beloved, Freedom, Gratitude, Solace, and Brave. Mid-August, the staff embarked on one of our most discussed and popular Sermon Series, The Social Dilemma. These sermons challenged and encouraged us to contemplate the constantly changing landscape of social media and technology as followers of Jesus. It was paired with the Netflix documentary by the same name. A multi-generational showing of The Social Dilemma documentary was held prior to the first sermon in the Fellowship Hall. It provided a provocative and important look at how social media is designed and how it can affect our lives. In late October, the Sermon Series Made New! was paired with the Stewardship campaign and gave us the opportunity to consider God’s call for FPCL and our ministry as we head into 2023. The sermons encouraged us to embrace transformation in our own lives, in our community and within our church’s ministry. The Sermon Series for Advent was titled Ready or Not! Christmas Eve services included a 5:00pm family friendly service and a 9:00pm traditional service. Both were well attended, beautiful, and meaningful. Since Christmas was on a Sunday this year, the Worship Team decided to not offer an in-person worship service in the Sanctuary that day. This allowed our staff to spend time at home with family on Christmas morning. Christmas bags were prepared and distributed the week prior to Christmas. The service was streamed on our website Sunday morning at 10am. Additionally, the chapel was opened on Christmas morning for those who wanted to gather with others, pray, and celebrate Christmas in person.

Throughout the year, the Worship Team continued to strive to make the Sanctuary and Chapel welcoming and inspiring places to gather and worship. New banners were purchased, the communion table was thoughtfully decorated to reflect the Sermon Series and special services, and the church was “greened” for Christmas. Many thanks to all who helped with these efforts. In December, the Sanctuary screens were placed in a better position on the wall, making them easier for all to see and providing a less cluttered appearance at the front of the church.

One responsibility Worship Team took very seriously in 2022 was listening to input and feedback from our congregation regarding our One Church One Service worship model. After using this model for over a year, it became clear to members of the team that while some congregants liked the service, many others didn’t. After discussion, prayer, Town Hall meetings, and a survey, the Worship Team decided that, moving forward, we need to have two distinct types of services: contemporary and traditional. We are still working with staff (and still listening to feedback and input) to determine what our Sunday morning worship schedule and services will look like. We are fortunate to have such devoted, creative, and talented staff and volunteers who make our services so special. We are confident that with them and our faithful members and attendees, we can prayerfully find a meaningful and attractive Sunday morning worship model for all.

Respectfully Submitted,

Austin Antony, Carey Grassinger, Alice Klingmann Worship Elders

