

FREE THE MIND. GROW THE SOUL. CHANGE THE WORLD.

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022



FOUNTAIN STREET CHURCH

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# ANNUAL REPORT 2022 DIRECTORY

BOARD CHAIR	<b>Amy Preston</b>
VICE CHAIR	<b>Kristen Loch</b>
TREASURER	<b>Win Irwin</b>
SECRETARY	<b>Katie Mitchell</b>
MEMBER AT LARGE	<b>Shellie Jeffries</b>
BOARD MEMBER	<b>Tim Creamer</b>
BOARD MEMBER	<b>Steve de Polo</b>
BOARD MEMBER	<b>Matthew Huizing</b>
BOARD MEMBER	<b>Geoffrey Kempter</b>
BOARD MEMBER	<b>Kristin Mayer</b>
BOARD MEMBER	<b>Brad Miller</b>
BOARD MEMBER	<b>Jon Spalding</b>
BOARD MEMBER	<b>James Taylor</b>
BOARD MEMBER	<b>John Willette</b>
BOARD MEMBER	<b>George Zuiderveen</b>

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022 DIRECTORY

ACTING SENIOR MINISTER **Rev. Christopher Roe**

GENERAL MANAGER OF OPERATIONS **Melissa Hoezee**

CHAPLAIN **Margi Peterson**

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS **Lydia Stubbs**

INTERIM DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS **Katie Bush**

HEAD A/V TECHNICIAN **Kayle Clements**

A/V TECHNICIAN **John Prussner**

A/V TECHNICIAN **Clifford Thomas**

OFFICE MANAGER **Laurie Ridders**

HEAD CUSTODIAN **Jamie McDaniels**

CUSTODIAN **Darius Moore**

CUSTODIAN **Shannon Stiles**

# **FROM THE GOVERNING BOARD CHAIR**

## **AMY PRESTON**

The collective wisdom of a group of Fountain Streeters is far superior to that of a single person.

In my time on committees and the Governing Board at Fountain Street Church, I am always encouraged when I see matters or challenges facing Fountain Street openly discussed amongst Fountain Streeters as they work their way to a great solution.

Starting this year without a called Senior Minister, while still managing Covid protocols with masks, boards/committees that had not met in person sometimes in over two years, and a congregation-wide ache to re-engage and be community in person once again, we knew it was going to be imperative to activate the collective wisdom of Fountain Streeters to address big picture challenges like budget matters, the Bell Tower, and assisting the clergy and staff until we have an installed senior minister. Plus, being prepared to address the unexpected that would inevitably arise.

In January, the Governing Board was able to meet in person again for the first time since early 2020, while continuing to provide attendance via Zoom for those that preferred to attend that way. We regularly tweak the Zoom experience as we strive to find ways to improve the on-line experience for those attending in that manner.

Looking forward to the future of Fountain Street Church, the Governing Board held a workshop in February addressing the Lifecycle of an Organization. Finding it exceptionally helpful in focusing on ways to view and address challenges to ensure the future of FSC, and to tap on even more of the collective wisdom of a group of Fountain Streeters, the workshop was offered to the congregation this November and attended by over 90 Fountain Streeters.

As a Governing Board, our first unexpected challenge was a congregant behavior matter in February 2022 that impacted ministries at Fountain Street Church. As a congregation with independent minded individuals, confident to share their opinions, balancing the freedom to share one's blunt thoughts without allowing hostile attacks or manipulative behaviors, is complicated and nuanced. During the year, addressing congregant behavior that is destructive to the longevity of Fountain Street Church has been a priority. In addition to addressing situations that arise on a case-by-case basis, it has been approached in a transparent matter tapping on the collective wisdom of the Officers' Committee and greater Governing Board. Further, the Governing Board recognized that FSC's Inclusion Statement identifies behavior expectations at Fountain Street Church, allowing time while a Congregant Covenant is discussed and drafted for Member consideration which would further specify treatment expectations towards each other, clergy, and staff. Lastly, professional advice has been and continues to be received for dealing with such situations.

## **FROM THE GOVERNING BOARD CHAIR**

### **AMY PRESTON**

The Nominating Group for the Senior Minister Search Committee recruited a slate of fourteen (14) members as candidates for the Senior Minister Search Committee. In May 2022, nine (9) members of Fountain Street were elected to serve as the Senior Minister Search Committee with the charge, per FSC Bylaw 6.4, to identify qualified candidates; employ the use of an outside professional firm as appropriate in search process; recommend one candidate for senior minister; and notify the Governing Board to call a special membership meeting to accept or reject the recommendation. Subsequently, there have been two resignations from the Senior Minister Search Committee. Per the FSC Bylaw 6.1(d), The Nominating Group has presented one candidate for the Senior Minister Search Committee's consideration, which the Senior Minister Search Committee approved. There remains one vacancy for the Senior Minister Search Committee. The Senior Minister Search Committee is separate from the Governing Board, but they have been working hard and updating the congregation on their progress and developments.

The Governing Board made the Communications Committee, first established in 2020 as an ad hoc committee, a permanent committee of the Governing Board with the charge to find better ways for the Governing Board to communicate with the congregation on a continuing basis.

In July, the Governing Board held its Summer Workshop, to further discuss big picture matters impacting Fountain Street Church and its upcoming 2022/2023 church season. Before the Covid-19 interruption, during his time as Chair of the Governing Board, Win Irwin prioritized finding ways to re-energize our church committees and groups. With the reopening of the building and committees meeting regularly and consistently again, we revived the process started in 2019 to support committees' work, receive reports of their service to Fountain Street Church, and discuss ways to make committees more welcoming and easier for new members to join.

The Bell Tower Committee regularly updated the FSC Governing Board about inspections and needed work. In March, the Governing Board approved two contracts - \$49,286 for Quinn Evans/Silman and \$52,450 for OAK to conduct the necessary first inspection and structural analysis. In September, the Governing Board approved a proposal from OAK in the amount of \$169,019 for additional inspection and non-destructive testing, along with an additional Quinn Evans proposal of \$19,740 to complete non-invasive testing.

The Governing Board received monthly reports from the Finance Committee detailing the financial health of Fountain Street Church and approved a 2023 budget for presentation to the Members at the Annual Meeting. The Finance Committee has done a wonderful job, along with Melissa Hoezee and Rev Christopher, in managing our finances.

## **FROM THE GOVERNING BOARD CHAIR**

### **AMY PRESTON**

Our Stewardship Committee has been active and creative in developing ways to raise funds for Fountain Street Church in addition to our annual 2023 Fall Stewardship Campaign. This year they have been generous with their time and gifts to also coordinate auctions, movies, and a Halloween Hop. We thank all those who pledged last year and those who have committed early to their 2023 pledge.

Following the guidance from the hard, detailed working Oversight Committee, the Governing Board passed Policy updates regarding references to Executive Director and Executive Team along with modifying asset protection limits.

In August and September, the Governing Board encountered its second set of unexpected events affecting the ministries at Fountain Street Church. Reverend Greta Jo resigned and Rev Christopher informed the Senior Minister Search Committee that he was not of the opinion Fountain Street Church was prepared to install a new senior minister at this time in a healthy manner. Over many short notice, long meetings with the Officers' Committee and Governing Board, the collective wisdom of the group was able to arrive at solutions to assist our clergy in ways to begin the 2022/2023 church season in a positive direction with growing energy weekly. The Governing Board also retained Rev Jody Betten to assist the Governing Board as Consulting Interim Minister on an as-needed basis, for up to 20 hours per month.

Over the course of the year, Amber Kilpatrick, Jerrod Nickels, and Chip Wall resigned from their positions on the Governing Board. During their times on the Governing Board, each of them participated in significant ways and they were immediately missed. The Nominating Committee sought replacements for their vacancies in accordance with FSC Bylaw 2.4. John Willette, Tim Creamer, and Jon Spalding were nominated and elected to fill out the remaining terms of the resigning members. Their contributions have been prompt and we are fortunate these Members of FSC were willing to offer their time and attention to Fountain Street Church.

I ask all Members of Fountain Street Church to reflect on the areas and activities of Fountain Street Church that interest you and consider volunteering to become involved in boards, groups, and activities at Fountain Street Church. Fountain Street Church is more than just Sunday. New members on committees and in groups brings fresh ideas and ways for Fountain Street Church to grow. Plus, you get to experience one of the best parts of Fountain Street Church ... Its People.

## **FROM THE GOVERNING BOARD CHAIR AMY PRESTON**

On behalf of the Fountain Street Church Governing Board of Trustees, thank you for allowing us to serve Fountain Street Church this year.

Amy Preston, Chair

Kristen Loch, Vice Chair

Win Irwin, Treasurer

Katie Mitchell, Secretary

Shellie Jeffries, Member at Large

Tim Creamer, Steve de Polo, Matt Huizing, Geoffrey Kempter, Kristin Mayer, Brad Miller, Jon Spalding, James Taylor, John Willette, George Zuiderveen



# OUR VISION

We strive to be a vibrant church community that challenges individuals to craft their own spiritual journeys and to engage in creative and responsive action in the world.

# OUR MISSION

We support the creative tension between intellect and spirit, science and faith, individual and community, tradition and change, challenging us to honor our legacy by embracing the future.

# OUR CORE VALUES

- We value the spirit of inquiry which respects the religious, humanist, and spiritual teachings from many wisdom traditions.
- We value the direct experience of the mystery that moves us to engage in the never-ending search for universal truths that free the mind.
- We value the active practice of love and justice in human relationships which validate the worth and dignity of each human being, inspiring us to deepen our commitment to deeds over creed, calling us to grow the soul.
- We value community founded on the purposeful inclusion of all, in the service of others within the church and beyond, connecting and empowering us to change the world.



# **MINUTES**

**FROM THE  
2022 ANNUAL  
MEETING**

# FINANCIAL REPORT 2022

## FOUNTAIN STREET CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING NOVEMBER 20, 2022

A big thank you to the Finance Committee members: Kirsten Lundeen, Tim Creamer, Don Miller, James Taylor, and George Zuiderveen.

The Finance Committee serves in an oversight capacity for the finances of the church, makes reports and recommendations to the Governing Board, and works with the Acting Senior Minister and Operations Manager to present a draft fiscal year budget at the Fall Annual Membership.

**Our completed church operating results for 2021**, our last full fiscal year resulted in:

- \$116,775 in net positive operating results.
- Because of the pandemic, our expenses were much lower than budgeted.
- In addition, we received \$75,000 in PPP Loan forgiveness.
- We entered 2022 with an Unrestricted Cash Reserve of \$172,703.

Financial Position as of September 30, 2022

For this fiscal year, we budgeted a deficit of \$53,650, with the understanding that any deficit will be absorbed by our healthy Unrestricted Cash Reserve.

Income

- We are \$29,547 **under** budget.
- Pledges are the main reason we are behind budget.

Expenses

- Overall, our expenses are \$53,650 **under** budget
- Heat and electric have been over budget, mainly due to the extra expense of renting the 3rd and 4th floors.

Year to Date

- While we are \$24,103 better than budget, we still have a **loss** for 9 months of \$15,904.
- We are hopeful that extra fund-raising events, as well as a pickup in pledge income will narrow our deficit by the end of 2022.
- The Unrestricted Cash Reserve at the end of September was **\$152,403**.

# FINANCIAL REPORT 2022

## FOUNTAIN STREET CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING NOVEMBER 20, 2022

### **Draft Budget for 2023**

#### Income

- We have a budget of \$726,500.
- It is based on the 2022 pledge budget.
- Other income budgets are based on past results, however, there are significant opportunities to increase rental income and supplementary 'stewardship' income.

#### Expense

- We have budgeted at our current staffing level, with the exception of an additional half time Assistant Minister. Exactly, what our staffing will look like for 2023 is unclear at this time, however, we felt we needed to add to the budget to address unmet needs of the church.
- This budget includes both the 9:30 and 11am services.
- This budget does not include the rental of our 3rd and 4th floors.

#### Net Income

- We are budgeting a net deficit of (32,603).
- If we have a deficit, we will use our unrestricted cash reserve to balance the budget.

#### Other Notes:

- While we are still proposing a deficit budget, we feel there is significant opportunity to increase income and save expenses.
- This budget is only a draft, and a final budget will be adopted in January – clearly there may be income or expense adjustments to be made.

Respectfully Submitted:

**Win Irwin**

Treasurer & Chair of Finance Committee

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

## BELL TOWER COMMITTEE

For several years, the church's Governing Board and its Properties Committee struggled with the deterioration of our 160 feet tall masonry Bell Tower. While the need to do something was recognized for years, the church and the Properties Committee could not land on the appropriate action. While much study and analysis was done, the condition of the Bell Tower became worse. Water damage caused by deteriorating joints and loose masonry were primary concerns. After connecting with contractor OAK (Owen-Ames-Kimball) and Restoration Inc. in early 2021, we finally obtained drone film and photos which dramatically illustrated a serious state of disrepair.

On October 18, 2021, the Governing Board approved a \$21,911 proposal by OAK to install safety netting and patches on the bell tower to prevent the further falling of debris. At the same meeting, the Governing Board Chair announced the appointment of a Bell Tower Committee with expertise in building restoration, engineering, and historic preservation to secure outside expertise to advise the Governing Board in moving forward on this major undertaking. Out of a sense of caution, the church decided to temporarily forgo the use of the tower's eight bronze bells until the source and remediation of our problems could be determined.

In November of 2021, a Bell Tower Committee consisting of Win Irwin, Matt Reigler, Amy Preston, Tim Chester, Melissa Hoesee, Bill Brunner, and the Reverend Christopher Roe began its work. The committee sent out a 'Request for Qualifications' to four architectural firms experienced in historic preservation and restoration. In addition to examining qualifications and experience, the committee was also interested in who they would engage as a consulting structural engineer.

The committee received two solid proposals and on January 24, 2022, the Governing Board endorsed the committee's recommendation of the nationally prominent Quinn Evans Architects of Ann Arbor to prepare a proposal to conduct a structural analysis of our bell tower and to proceed with project specifications for the necessary repairs.

On February 14, 2022, architect Ann Dilcher of Quinn Evans, and their structural engineer Jenna Bressler of Silman were joined by Jeremy Taylor of OAK and Blair Bates of Building Restoration Inc. to undertake a preliminary inspection of the bell tower. Both firms were asked to submit quotations for structural analysis work and the necessary crane, personnel, scaffolding, etc. to provide access for the engineers and architects. In addition, the committee asked Quinn Evans and Silman to do a structural analysis of the bell tower to determine that it is sufficient to withstand the ringing of the bells.

# BELL TOWER COMMITTEE

At the March 21, 2022, Governing Board meeting, the Bell Tower Committee recommended the approval of two contracts - \$49,286 for Quinn Evans/Silman and \$52,450 for OAK to conduct the necessary inspection and structural analysis. After this analysis, it was anticipated that the church would receive a quote for the necessary structural repairs to the Bell Tower and to ensure safe ringing of our bells. These two contracts were approved. It was noted that the church has reserves and pledges totaling approximately \$800,000 set aside for Bell Tower Repairs.

This inspection was completed in early May 2022 and over the summer we received a set of specifications for the Bell Tower Work, along with a couple of additional recommendations. Quinn Evans advised that additional 'non-destructive testing' was needed of the original iron anchors installed to anchor large cut stones to the tower brickwork. If these anchors proved to be missing or heavily deteriorated, there would then be additional work that would need to be added to the project. In addition, Quinn Evans/Silman recommended immediate installation of more safety netting and tarping of the Bell Tower to prevent further water damage. The Bell Tower Committee reviewed these two recommendations and asked for quotes from Quinn Evans and OAK to accomplish these tasks.

On September 19, 2022, the Governing Board reviewed a proposal from OAK of \$169,019 to provide Bell Tower access to conduct the necessary 'non-destructive testing' as well as strategic brick removal. This proposal includes the use of two cranes and necessary personnel to complete the inspection. In addition, OAK will remove the existing wooden access ladders and platforms (as detailed by Quinn Evans Specifications) and install a new safety steel access ladder and platform system. Quinn Evans will also sample the existing flat roofing in the two bell chambers to determine if asbestos is present. After this is complete, OAK will install netting and a tarp over the Bell Tower to protect it from further water damage.

Accompanying the OAK proposal was an additional Quinn Evans proposal of \$19,740 to complete the 'non-invasive testing' using Surface Penetrating Radar to scan for the anchors with Ultrasonic Pulse Echo and/or Fiber-Optic Videoscope as needed.

The Governing Board approved both proposals with the goal of completing the project before winter sets in. Work is currently scheduled to begin the week of December 12, 2022. The Bell Tower Committee is eager to determine the full cost of the Bell Tower Repair work, but that cannot be finalized until the current work is complete.

The committee has informally discussed options for both internal and external funding options and feels that there are a number of good strategies that might be pursued in 2023 when the church will mark the tower's one hundredth anniversary.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Win Irwin**

Chair of Bell Tower Committee

# **FINANCIAL REPORTS 2022**

FOUNTAIN STREET CHURCH Incomes and Expenses Summary

Dec-21

	MTD Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Over/(Under) YTD Budget	Annual Budget	Balance Sheet		
<b>INCOME</b>								
Pledges	\$54,382.06	\$597,807.11	\$618,700.00	(\$20,892.89)	\$618,700.00	Assets		\$5,772,654.73
Contribution of Record	\$25,907.81	\$47,562.41	\$28,750.00	\$18,812.41	\$28,750.00	Liabilities		\$131,678.02
Cash Plate	\$1,184.06	\$11,184.68	\$13,750.00	(\$2,565.32)	\$13,750.00	Fund Principal		\$5,640,976.71
Rental Income	\$13,103.90	\$36,548.85	\$12,500.00	\$24,048.85	\$12,500.00	Total Liabilities/Funds		\$5,772,654.73
Other	\$741.47	\$84,133.53	\$2,050.02	\$82,083.51	\$2,050.02			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$95,319.30</b>	<b>\$777,236.58</b>	<b>\$675,750.02</b>	<b>\$101,486.56</b>	<b>\$675,750.02</b>			
						<b>Name of Fund</b>	<b>Fund Income</b>	<b>Fund Expense</b>
<b>Expenses</b>								
Worship and Music	\$11,292.57	\$87,470.92	\$169,575.00	(\$82,104.08)	\$169,575.00	Pastor's B	\$200.00	\$719.00
Education & Parish	\$20,391.55	\$175,660.76	\$176,029.00	(\$368.24)	\$176,029.00	Choice Fund	\$16,548.92	\$2,532.99
Administration	\$27,628.21	\$220,666.67	\$207,907.25	\$12,759.42	\$207,907.25	Elder Care	\$0.00	\$370.24
Properties	\$18,235.27	\$170,299.07	\$168,190.00	\$2,109.07	\$168,190.00	GRCC	\$250.00	
Other Expenses	\$0.00	\$6,364.03	\$0.02	\$6,364.01	\$0.02	Scholarship		\$0.00
						Cap Repair	\$116,171.16	\$740.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$77,547.60</b>	<b>\$660,461.45</b>	<b>\$721,701.27</b>	<b>(\$61,239.82)</b>	<b>\$721,701.27</b>	Fountain Club	\$100.00	\$0.00
						Choir Fund	\$1,140.00	\$200.00
<b>NET TOTAL</b>	<b>\$17,771.70</b>	<b>\$116,775.13</b>	<b>(\$45,951.25)</b>	<b>\$162,726.38</b>	<b>(\$45,951.25)</b>	Social Ministry	\$4,248.83	\$1,197.91
						Memorial Plaq	\$200.00	\$0.00
						Refugee's	\$2,512.03	\$501.95
<b>Social Action Income</b>	<b>\$4,248.83</b>	<b>\$15,147.84</b>				<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$141,370.94</b>	<b>\$6,262.09</b>
<b>Social Action Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,197.91</b>	<b>\$9,697.91</b>						

Advent Plates are the extra income and expenses



FOUNTAIN STREET CHURCH Incomes and Expenses Summary  
Sep-22

	MTD Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Over/(Under) YTD Budget	Annual Budget	Balance Sheet		
<b>INCOME</b>								
Pledges	\$47,892.81	\$409,634.85	\$445,275.00	(\$35,640.15)	\$593,700.00	<b>Assets</b>	<b>\$4,879,350.10</b>	
Contribution of Record	\$1,701.57	\$30,129.64	\$22,500.00	\$7,629.64	\$30,000.00	<b>Liabilities</b>	<b>\$99,858.69</b>	
Cash Plate	\$1,632.40	\$13,492.87	\$15,000.00	(\$1,507.13)	\$20,000.00	<b>Fund Principal</b>	<b>\$4,779,491.41</b>	
Rental Income	(\$1,777.80)	\$33,731.61	\$37,500.00	(\$3,768.39)	\$50,000.00	<b>Total Liabilities/Funds</b>	<b>\$4,879,350.10</b>	
Other	\$204.26	\$5,838.68	\$2,100.00	\$3,738.68	\$2,800.00			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$49,653.24</b>	<b>\$492,827.65</b>	<b>\$522,375.00</b>	<b>(\$29,547.35)</b>	<b>\$696,500.00</b>			
<b>Expenses</b>						<b>Name of Fund</b>	<b>Fund Income</b>	<b>Fund Expense</b>
Admin/Leadership Expense	\$7,228.23	\$52,278.99	\$56,250.00	(\$3,971.01)	\$75,000.00	Pastor's A	\$250.00	\$0.00
Admin/Program Staffing	\$15,977.70	\$140,082.14	\$175,554.01	(\$35,471.87)	\$234,072.01	Art Fund	\$420.00	\$397.07
Education Expenses	\$65.10	\$3,844.37	\$16,971.75	(\$13,127.38)	\$22,629.00	Pastor's B	\$287.08	\$207.08
Properties/Utilities	\$8,351.46	\$124,330.83	\$105,919.50	\$18,411.33	\$141,226.00	Choice Fund	\$4,070.96	\$4,402.60
Properties/Staffing	\$4,777.09	\$44,197.98	\$53,786.25	(\$9,588.27)	\$71,715.00	Elder Care	\$0.00	\$250.00
Worship Expenses	\$3,260.97	\$17,510.29	\$21,881.25	(\$4,370.96)	\$29,175.00	Rankin SA	\$41.34	\$1.34
Worship Staffing	\$11,854.42	\$126,486.96	\$132,018.75	(\$5,531.79)	\$176,025.00	Cap Repair Fund	\$0.00	\$3,821.57
Other Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Choir Fund	\$410.60	\$176.55
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$51,514.97</b>	<b>\$508,731.56</b>	<b>\$562,381.51</b>	<b>(\$53,649.95)</b>	<b>\$749,842.01</b>	Social Ministry	\$1,630.00	\$1,850.00
						DLGS Fund	\$0.00	\$132.50
<b>NET TOTAL</b>	<b>(\$1,861.73)</b>	<b>(\$15,903.91)</b>	<b>(\$40,006.51)</b>	<b>\$24,102.60</b>	<b>(\$53,342.01)</b>	Memorial Plaque Fund	\$1,200.00	\$0.00
						Refugee Fund	\$1,955.00	\$455.67
<b>Social Action Income</b>	<b>\$1,630.00</b>	<b>\$13,712.41</b>				<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$10,264.98</b>	<b>\$11,694.38</b>
<b>Social Action Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,850.00</b>	<b>\$6,050.00</b>						

**Fountain Street Church Foundation**  
**Profit and Loss**  
January - December 2021

	MTD	YTD
<b>Income</b>		
zFoundation Income		
02-43000 Gifts(MH/RA)	\$1,000.00	\$130,117.64
02-43100 Interest & Dividends(MH/RA)	\$77,561.47	\$189,919.78
<b>Total zFoundation Income</b>	<b>\$78,561.47</b>	<b>\$320,037.42</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$78,561.47</b>	<b>\$320,037.42</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>\$78,561.47</b>	<b>\$320,037.42</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
zFoundation Expenses		
01-52145 Casualty Insurance(MH)	\$2,197.56	\$0.00
01-52170 EPS(MH)	\$921.00	\$0.00
02-70000 Transfers to Operating Fund(MH)	\$0.00	\$196,169.33
02-70030 Beneficiary Distributions	\$0.00	\$140,000.00
02-70040 Adjust to Market Value(MH)	(\$60,881.37)	(\$443,448.64)
02-70050 Other Expenses(RA)	\$0.00	\$1,489.68
<b>Total zFoundation Expenses</b>	<b>(\$57,762.81)</b>	<b>(\$105,789.63)</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>(\$57,762.81)</b>	<b>(\$105,789.63)</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>\$136,324.28</b>	<b>\$425,827.05</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$136,324.28</b>	<b>\$425,827.05</b>

Balance of Investment as of 12/31/21 \$4,706,447.90

**Fountain Street Church**  
**Profit and Loss**  
January - September, 2022

	MTD	YTD
<b>Income</b>		
<b>zFoundation Income</b>		
02-43000 Gifts (MH/TN)	\$0.00	\$140,435.29
02-43100 Interest & Dividends (MH/TN)	\$4,678.83	\$31,833.85
<b>Total zFoundation Income</b>	<b>\$4,678.83</b>	<b>\$172,269.14</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
<b>zFoundation Expenses</b>		
01-52145 Casualty Insurance(MH)	\$0.00	(\$10,795.98)
01-52170 EPS(MH)	\$355.35	(\$3,698.32)
02-70000 Transfers to Operating Fund(MH)	\$0.00	\$216,128.14
02-70040 Adjust to Market Value(MH)	\$262,693.15	\$1,012,092.61
02-70050 Other Expenses (TN)	\$245.00	\$1,197.50
<b>Total zFoundation Expenses</b>	<b>\$263,293.50</b>	<b>\$1,214,923.95</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(\$258,614.67)</b>	<b>(\$1,042,654.81)</b>

**FOUNDATION  
REPORTS  
2022**

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

## FOUNDATION BOARD

### **From the Foundation Board of Fountain Street Church Submitted by TJ Norris and Nancy Ayres**

The Foundation Board of Fountain Street Church oversees the invested funds which are used to improve the church building and provides resources for seven designated funds within the church. They oversee investment policy and practices and promote planned giving through the Liberal Legacy Society. No funds from the Foundation support basic operations or staffing.

The Foundation Board of Fountain Street Church established three goals for 2022. The Foundations long-term overall goal is to increase the endowment fund balance to \$10M. The following is a summary of our achievements /results this calendar year:

**Goal 1: Increase the number of Liberal Legacy Society (LLS) members.**

- 1) 100% of Foundation Board Members are either Annual or Lifetime members and many are also Estate members.
- 2) Added 2 new Annual members and 1 new Lifetime member.

**Goal 2: Implement Communication Plan to Increase Visibility of Foundation**

- 1) Quarterly e-newsletters are sent via link to all congregants
- 2) Regular contributions to Friday Flash

**Goal 3: Coordinate Foundation efforts with appropriate FSC staff and Lay Leadership**

- 1) The Foundation Co-Chairs meet quarterly with the Governing Board Chair and Vice Chair
- 2) A Foundation Board member serves as a liaison on the Property Committee
- 3) A Governing Board member serves as a liaison on the Foundation Board
- 4) Acting Senior Minister and Operations Manager are regular participants in the Foundation Board meetings

In addition to working on our goals, we had two events to tell you about.

# FOUNDATION BOARD

## **Fountain Street Church Foundation Annual Event**

The Foundation Board was pleased to host an in person Annual Event in early October, after being unable to do so for two years due to Covid. The purpose of the Annual Event is to thank donors, share information about the work of the Foundation and ultimately attract new donors. Sixty-five congregants and Board members met in the early evening of October 4, 2022, to socialize, sip wine, eat tasty appetizers, and share information about the work of the Foundation. Midwest Capital Advisors, the wealth management company that oversees the Foundations endowment account, gave a brief presentation and question and answer session for those in attendance. All agreed that it was wonderful to be socializing again in the church's social hall. Moving forward, the Foundation plans to sponsor an educational event every spring and the Annual event every fall.

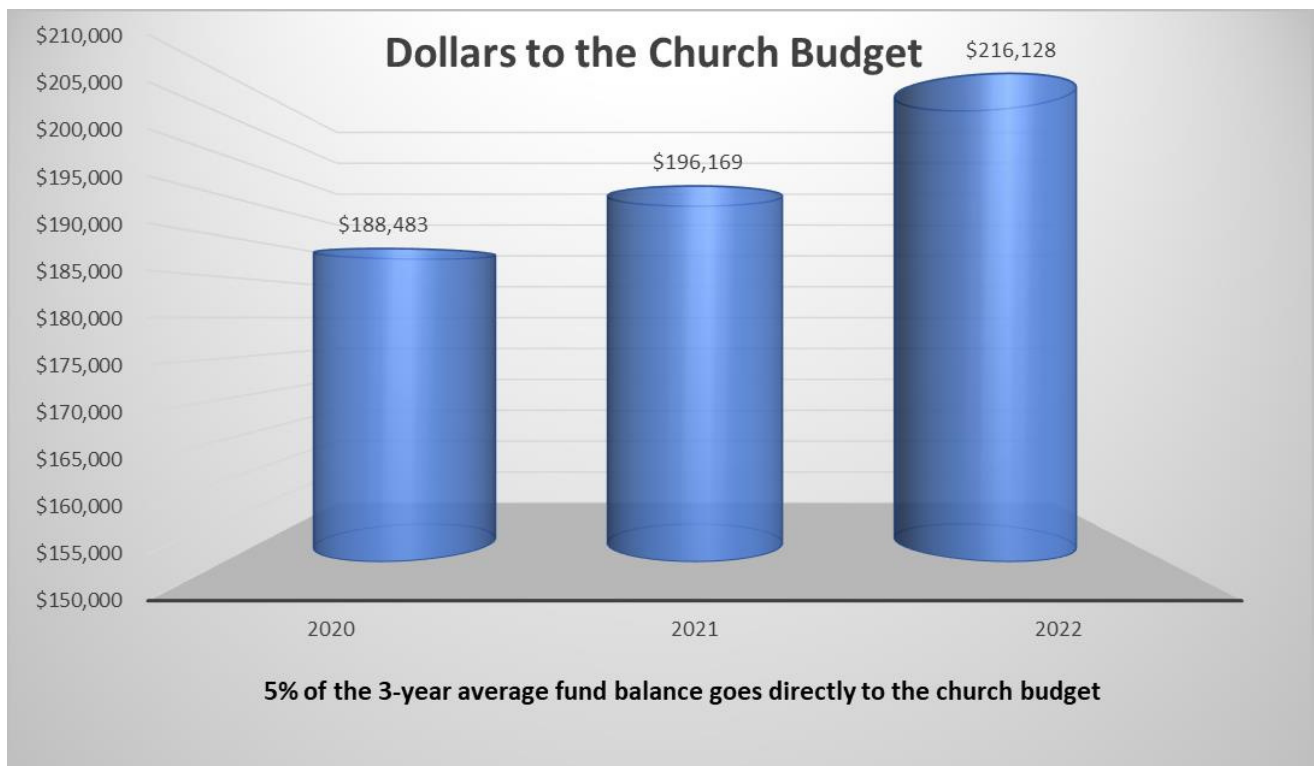
## **Fountain Street Church Foundation Planning Session**

On Saturday September 24, 2022, the Foundation Board Members met for a half day planning session. Steve DePollo, a member of the Governing Board, served as the facilitator. Steve has a background in fund development and led the Board through several thought-provoking discussions to help flesh out future plans for the work of the Board. One idea that was immediately implemented at the next Board meeting was to have group call nights following the monthly Board meeting. Foundation Board members have a goal to contact each family that is a member of FSC annually to discuss the work of the Foundation and how congregants can help sustain and grow the Foundation. Board members will continue to implement ideas from the planning session as the year progresses.

# FOUNDATION BOARD

## **5% Annual Transfer for Programs, Activities and Building Improvements**

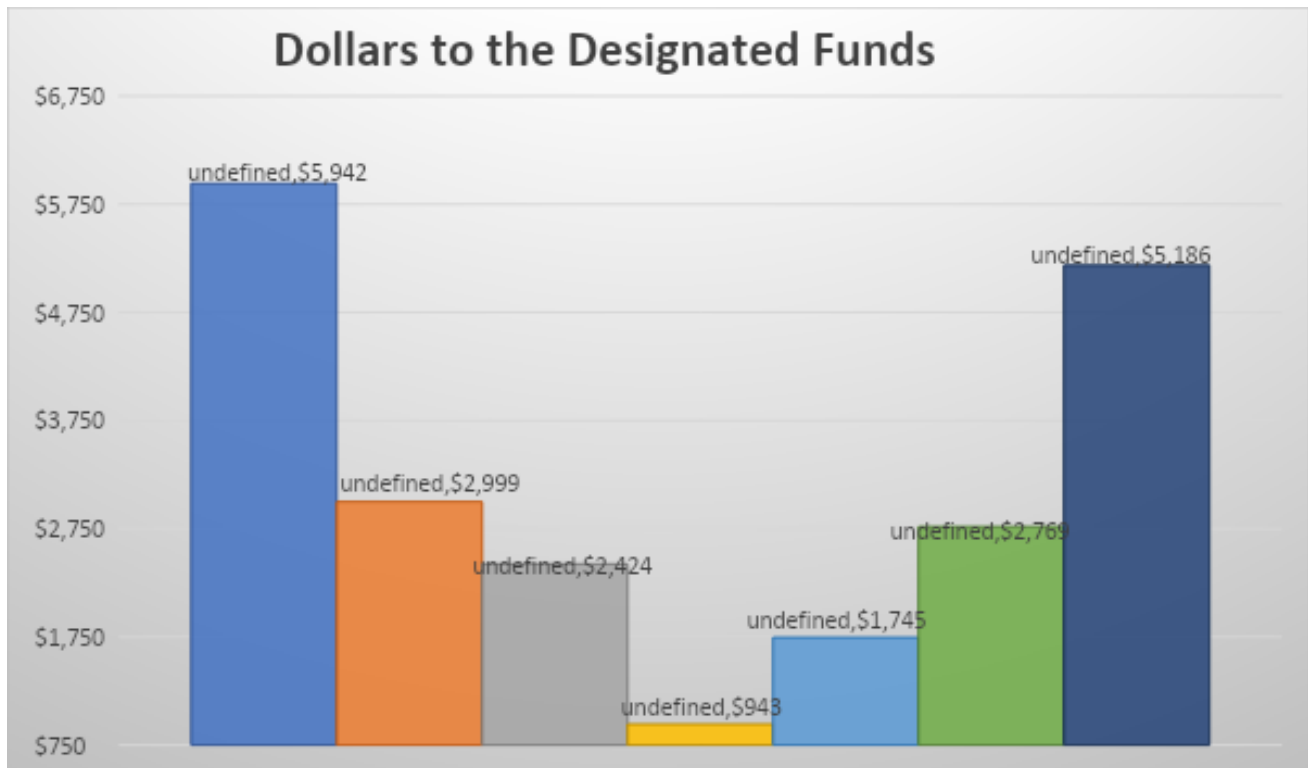
The Foundation transfers 5% of its average three-year balance to the church budget. This money is critical to the church's financial stability and frees up monies that can now be devoted to the operations and programming of the church. If the Foundation can grow the Endowment balance to \$10M, that would equate to \$500,000 per year that could be used for programming, social action, maintenance and other needs of the church.



# FOUNDATION BOARD

## Designated Funds

There are currently seven specially designated funds that have been established over the years by donors interested in providing funds for specific purposes. The remainder of the annual allotment has been designated for building improvements and repairs. For 2022, the allotment was designated as follows.

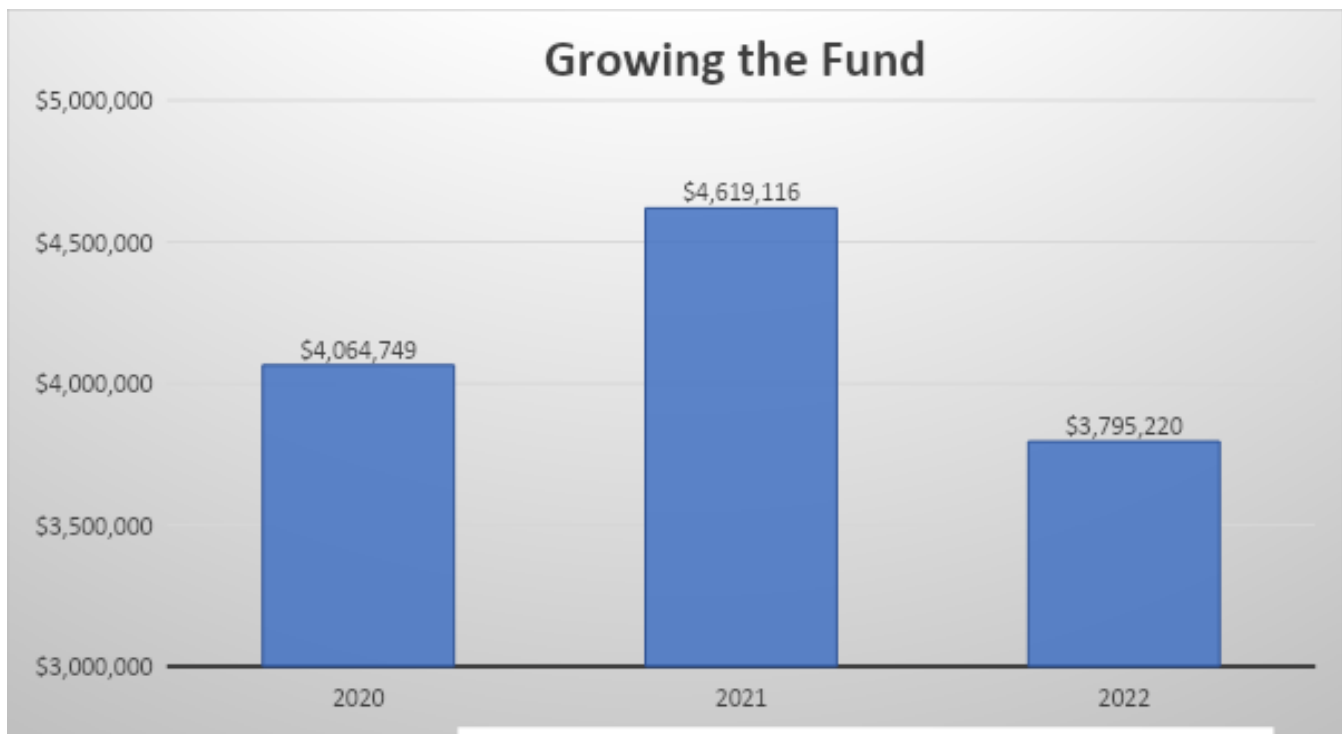




# FOUNDATION BOARD

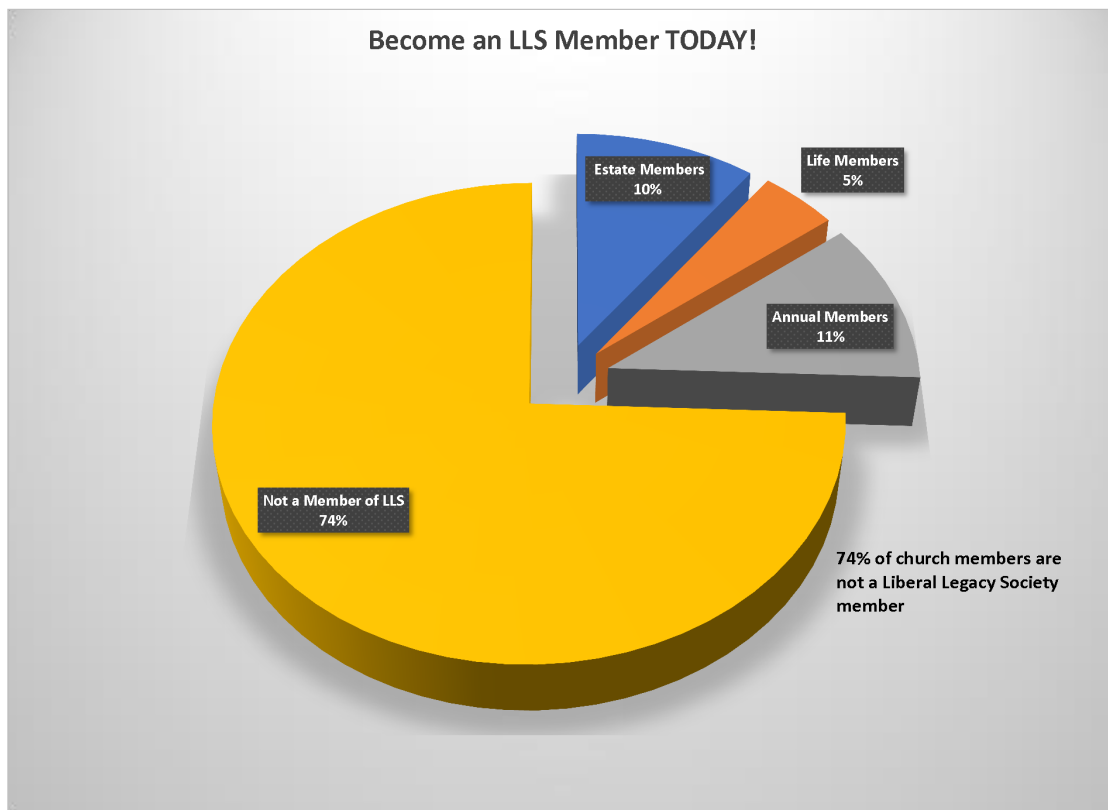
## Long Term Focus and Growth

Growing the Endowment Fund is crucial to the Foundation's ability to help meet the needs of the church in the long term. Due to worldwide poor market returns in 2022, the Endowment fund has shown negative returns for the first time in several years. Below are the fund balances for the previous three years.

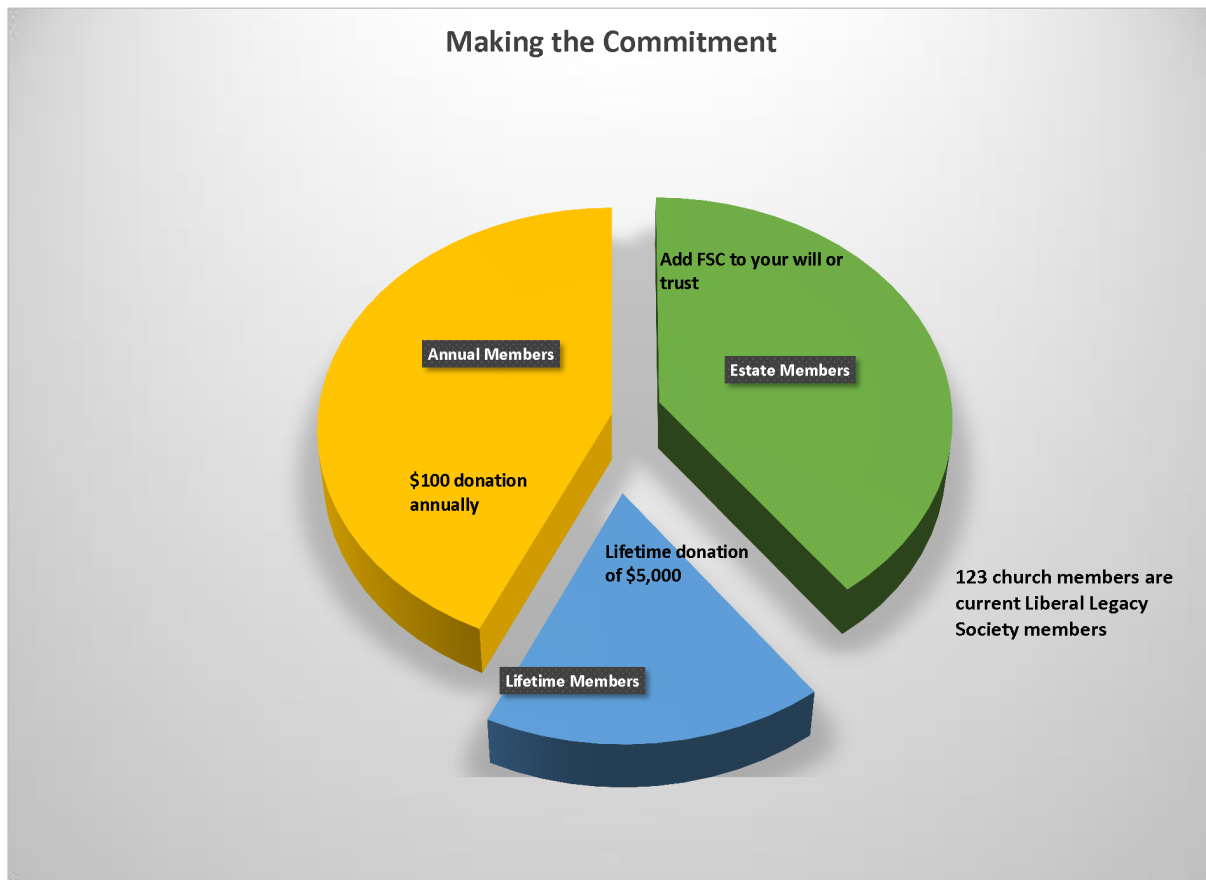


# FOUNDATION BOARD

**Liberal Legacy Society:** A way to contribute and commit to the sustained future of FSC. Annual membership for a minimum donation of \$100 per year or Lifetime membership for a \$5,000 donation. Estate Members designate FSC Foundation in their estate plan, or as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy.



# FOUNDATION BOARD



## **Fountain Street Church Foundation Board Members**

- TJ Norris (co-chair)**
- Nancy Ayres (co-chair)**
- Bill Brunner (secretary)**
- Bob Chapla**
- Todd Fettig**
- Charlie Gallmeyer**
- Lisa Garvey**
- Chris VanAntwerp**

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

## FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTIONS

### **LIBERAL LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS:**

2 New Annual Members

Total of 28 gifts

### **4 MEMORIAL TILES sold**

### **21 TOTAL GIFTS IN MEMORY OF:**

Gloria Gregory

Lorraine Wood

Fred Endsley

Nessa McCasey

Wendy Hines

### **GIFTS FROM THE ESTATE OF:**

Lorraine Wood

Mary Lou Smith

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

## LIBERAL LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS

### **LLS Estate Members**

Ethel Ackerson  
Carolynne & Randy Allaben  
Penny Pender Barstow  
Tom & Vickie Bergers  
Patricia Boer  
Evie Bowers  
William and Karen Brunner  
Robert & Susan Chapla  
Timothy Chester & Henry Matthews  
John & Ruth Cook  
Steve & Chris Crandall  
Bruce Gilmore  
Anita Gileo  
Philip & Jane Goodspeed  
Joan Crandall Hamann  
Dirk & Vickie Hoffius  
Don Johnson  
Bunny Johnson  
Doug Kniff & Trudy Nicely  
Kenneth & Tammy (TJ) Norris  
Diane V. Lange  
Thomas H Logan  
Don & Nancy Lubbers  
Kirsten Lundeen  
Harry & Kathleen Margo  
Brad Miller & Nessa McCCasey  
Jerrod Nickels & Robert Byrens  
Mike & Jackie Paglierani  
Harold & Phyllis Penny  
Mary Peterson  
Kim Plant  
Mary Ellen Ratuszny  
James Reed  
Peni Reed  
Gary & Maggie Rowe  
Jeff Schad & Marilyn Lankfer

Thomas & Pamela Schwaderer  
Deborah Snow  
Jon H. Spalding  
Ruth & Bill Stubbs  
Steele & Mary Taylor  
Renee Therruit  
Carol Townsend  
Carl G (Chip) Wall, Jr.  
Constance J & Jim Winter-Troutwine  
Sue Wold  
Lorraine Demorest Wood  
Adrian & Linda Wynbeek  
George & Gretchen Zuiderveen

### **LLS Life Members**

Paul & Marty Arnold  
Carl & Claudia Bajema  
Tom & Vickie Bergers  
Sharon Cromartie  
Karen Dunnam  
Charles Gallmeyer  
Richard & JoAnn Harris  
John & Gwen Hibbard  
Doug Kniff & Trudy Nicely  
Willard Larkin  
Thomas H. & Anne G. Logan  
Harry & Kathleen Margo  
John Miller  
Gladys Meyers  
Jan & Pete Proli  
Judy Rogers  
Fran Shaw  
Deb Snow  
Bob & Ginnie Taylor  
Steele & Mary Taylor  
Werner & Marianne Veit

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

## LIBERAL LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS

### **LLS Annual Members**

Carolynne & Randy Allaben  
Larry & Sue Allaben  
Jim Anderson & Lisa Walsh  
Nancy & Jim Ayres  
Claudia Bajema  
Tom & Vickie Bergers  
Sallie Boer  
Judy & James Botts  
Evie Bowers  
William & Karen Brunner  
Chris & Ann Caldwell  
Bob & Sue Chapla  
John & Ruth Cook  
Tim Creamer  
Steve DePolo  
Thomas Dooley  
Kyla Eadie  
Todd & Erin Fettig  
Will Gallmeyer  
Lisa Garvey  
Julia Hacket  
Chris Hess  
John & Gwen Hibbard  
James Higgins & Kathleen Delp  
Higgins  
John Hunting  
Earle Irwin  
Todd and Patti Johnson  
Wendy Kapolka  
Carol Kooistra  
Willard Larkin  
Carol Ligda-Wong & Ed Wong-Ligda  
Don & Nancy Lubbers  
Edgar and Wendy Marty  
Charles H. Meier  
Michael Mesnak

Brad Miller & Nessa McCCasey  
Gary & Sharon Morley  
Kenneth & Tammy (TJ) Norris  
Mary Peterson  
Emily Peterson Wadhwa  
Ken Porter  
Judy Rogers  
Mary Lou Smith  
Jean Springer  
Lydia Stubbs  
Hank Swain  
Froylan and Sarah Torres  
Carol Townsend  
Chris & Jill VanAntwerp  
Werner & Marianne Veit  
Bryan & Angela Walters  
Judy & Darwin Weersing  
Philip and Louisa Wheeler

# **MINISTRY & STAFF REPORTS 2022**

REV. CHRISTOPHER ROE  
MELISSA HOEZEE  
LYDIA STUBBS

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

ACTING SENIOR MINISTER  
REV. CHRISTOPHER ROE

**“All that you touch you Change.  
All that you Change changes you.  
The only lasting truth is Change.  
God is Change.”**

Octavia Butler

In 2022 we worshiped at the altar of Change - and it was beautiful.

Of course, not a beauty of aesthetic or appearance, but rather a beauty of complexity, challenge, transformation, and richness.

If 2020 was the banner year of Covid-19 that we just as soon forget only to be narrowly eclipsed by that of 2021 and its challenges that it also presented, I would suggest that it was 2022 that truly brought into focus just how rich our shared ministries have been this year, and just how transformative this season has proven to be.

As Covid-19 morphed into variants and sub-variants, a devastating war began in Ukraine, police brutality arrived in our own backyards, and the reversal of reproductive freedom rocked our inner and outer worlds, we saw just how “beautiful” our church is and just how important it is to each of us and our community.

On more than one occasion we were the People’s Cathedral for grief and lament. In more than one instance the broader community looked to us as a beacon for liberal morality and creative response to injustice in Grand Rapids.

And at more than one occasion we showed up in West Michigan as the only voice for the voiceless on a myriad of issues.

At times it seemed as though we were wandering, if not entirely lost, and it was in those moments that the beauty of liminality and mystery were most known to us.

Through a series of guest speakers and a Summer Speaker Series of our own friends, we were challenged to “Free Our Minds” and imagine together a world grounded in Love.



# **ACTING SENIOR MINISTER REV. CHRISTOPHER ROE**

After being forged in the fires of Covid-19 we sang in one voice of unity and solidarity on Easter Sunday, and every Sunday since, and relished in seeing one another's faces for the first time in years as our masks came off on Sunday, September 11.

And as we entered the fall days of awe and reconciled with the reality that it may not be time of call a Senior Minister, we saw just how beautiful it is that multiple truths can and do exist in tension with one another, and that the enlightened life truly does call us towards saying "no" to some things, so that we can ultimately say "yes" to another.

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

## GENERAL MANAGER OF OPERATIONS MELISSA HOEZEE

Hello Fellow Fountain Streeters!

Wow, another year has gone by and we have had a lot of transitions once again. It was a slow start to the last church year because we were still dealing with the pandemic, but wow, have we gotten off to a great start this church year!

Many meetings remained virtual throughout the past year but we have moved on to hybrid or all in-person meetings, depending on the group. It is good to be back in community with all of you, I missed the busy Sunday's and seeing all of your smiling faces!

This past year, we have tried to streamline as many processes as possible utilizing our new database. We are able to take registrations (paid and non-paid), sign-ups, and inquiries all through the database. Several committees took advantage of the slower pace by starting to make changes, creating more inclusive groups. For instance, the Social Action Committee is now the Social Justice Team, the District Leaders who became the Community Corners are now the Community Life Team.

We started this church year off full-throttle, with the Art Committee hosting ArtPrize, along with a couple ArtPrize related events; several weddings; the churchwide potluck; flu shot clinic, workshops; the Liberal Legacy Society reception; the Senior Lunch; several groups returning from COVID; a couple of fun Halloween themed Stewardship fundraisers; and unfortunately a memorial or two. That is just the first two months!

I hope we keep the momentum going and will not be able to without our amazing team! So I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of them. Rev. Christopher, who I believe is steering the "ship" beautifully. Laurie Rikkers, our newly promoted Office Manager, who has picked up the ball and ran with it from day one! Jamie McDaniels, our Head Custodian who helps keep our beautiful building clean, along with Shannon Stiles and Darius Moore, our two part-time custodians. Kayle Clements, our new Head A/V Tech, who has made several improvements in the tech department already, along with Cliff Thomas and John Prussner our part-time A/V techs and our faithful volunteer, Dick Wood.

# GENERAL MANAGER OF OPERATIONS **MELISSA HOEZEE**

Katie Bush, our new Interim Director of Children and Youth Programs, who has some big shoes to fill in Lydia's vacancy but I know she is up for the challenge! All of our Character School classroom leaders, Sara VanEek, Kat Hapner, Tom Keys, and Michael Keys, who keep our youth engaged and our childcare employees who care for the youngest while their parents are in the service. Last but not least, our new Chaplain, Margi Peterson Derks, who has connected with many people who cannot physically come to services. Thank you all for the wonderful work you do!

Blessings,

**Melissa J. Hoezee, SHRM-CP, PHR**  
General Manager of Operations

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

## CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS

Dear Fountain Street Church Community,

Thank you for valuing our children and youth learning programs.

During the end of 2021 and the first part of 2022 all children and youth programs continued to meet in the social hall, due to the pandemic. It was a fun place in its own way, but our youngest congregants love being back upstairs in their own classrooms. A big thank you to all adults for being so flexible during those strange times.

Gathering in our spruced up 2nd floor rooms is wonderful and personally, I love seeing our children working together and becoming friends. Many years ago, the FSC Ushers donated big maple blocks to the Character School and still, so many years later, every Sunday the children love to build with them. We have a few youngsters who are becoming very efficient builders. It amazes me every week how they recreate our beautiful sanctuary and church house, and any loud noises you might hear in the social hall could be attributed to those blocks.

On Sundays we gather from 9:15 am onwards in the nursery, then at 11 am it is time for the Character School and Tower Club, and at 12:30 pm our Fountain Club youth meet up. Doing research, writing lesson plans and getting the classrooms ready for our youngest congregants is one fun part of this adventure in the children & youth programs.

In the beginning of the year we learned about holidays & holy days around the world, discussed what it means to have a church home, and how to be a welcoming community. We planted some flowers and made bird feeders. Tower Club was busy all season painting their special ABC's and helped renew a lot of older chairs & tables for our youngest congregants. Our Fountain Club youth organized and executed a very successful AltProm. Overall, the early part of 2022 was marvelous and the later part of the year is also looking awesome too.

The main goal in this new church year is to encourage friendships and build a strong community. Learning that we are all different and all are welcome through books, craft activities, games and fun explorations is the best way to do that. As a group we have toured the FSC building, made vision boards, had a yummy friendship salad, worked together to help with food insecurity in the greater community, and will figure out how to be together. It will be a fun year!

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2022**

## **CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS**

Thank you, FSC community, for the honor to serve in this incredible capacity on and off for over 22 years. It has been a privilege to see so many children grow into amazing youth and adults.

Take good care,

**Lydia Stubbs**

Director of Children and Youth Programs

# **MINISTRY REPORTS 2022**

**GROUPS AND  
COMMITTEES**

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022 DIRECTORY

## GROUPS AND COMMITTEES

ART COMMITTEE	<b>Edgar Marty</b>
BEFRIENDER MINISTRY	<b>Mary Moore &amp; Mary Peterson</b>
BUILD GUILD	<b>Todd Fettig</b>
CHOICE FUND	<b>Ginger Hensley</b>
CHOIR	<b>Connie Winter-Troutwine &amp; Vickie Vandenberg</b>
COMMUNITY CARE TEAM	<b>Sherron Collins, Louisa Nally, Judy Botts</b>
CONNECTIONS CIRCLE	<b>Jean Bahle</b>
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE	<b>Steve de Polo</b>
PARENT'S CIRCLE	<b>Katie Reilly-Mitchell</b>
PROPERTIES COMMITTEE	<b>Kristen Lundeen</b>
RELIGIOUS SERVICES COMMITTEE	<b>Dick Wood</b>
SENIOR MINISTER SEARCH COMMITTEE	<b>Paul Arnold</b>
SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAM	<b>John Considine</b>
TOGETHER WEST MICHIGAN	<b>Jean Bahle</b>
STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE	<b>Win Irwin</b>

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022 DIRECTORY

## GROUPS AND COMMITTEES

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION **Marie Penny**

WOMEN'S INTERGENERATIONAL BOOK CLUB **Carole VanHoven**

YOUNG ADULT CIRCLE **Will Gallmeyer**



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022 ART COMMITTEE

During the 2021-2022 Church year the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continued to affect Art Committee activity. Nevertheless, the committee was able to mount three significant exhibits and address other work during the year as noted below.

## 1. Exhibits

During the year the Art Committee mounted three exhibits:

ArtPrize - Art to Change the World, an exhibit of social justice themed art.

Samaritas Student Artwork, including 48 works by young people who have immigrated to the USA from Central and South America.

Hiroshima Children's Drawing, including a film about the origins of the drawings in a congregation's response to the bombing of Hiroshima in World War II - All Souls Unitarian Church in Washington D.C.

## 2. Holiday Order of Service Covers

Holiday order of service artwork was commissioned for Christmas and Easter services and the committee coordinated production of orders of service with church staff.

## 3. Permanent Collection

Order of Service Art Collection: The committee reorganized display of order of service artwork from as early as 1959 to the present on the lower level of the church house. The new display employs rail mounting of the artwork which will accommodate a growing collection.

Catalog: Work continued recording artwork owned by FSC in an online catalog. The project focuses on upgrading images, provenance, and general information about the work.

Donation: The committee coordinated receipt of a painting by Mathias Alten. FSC now owns six works by this important Grand Rapids artist.

## 4. Other Projects

Tours: A tour program was planned and seven tours focusing on the art and architecture of the church were conducted for congregants after Sunday services.

Films: Planning was completed for a film program to be inaugurated in the 2022-2023 church year.

Storage: The committee consolidated storage of artwork and display equipment in a space on the mezzanine. The new space provides convenient storage in a temperature controlled environment.

# ART COMMITTEE

Character School: A large bulletin board which had been removed during a painting project was rehung on the second floor Character School hallway. Its size and weight complicated the project but its provenance as a memorial gift made it important to return it to its original place.

## **Art Committee Members:**

**Paul Arnold**

**Penny Barstow**

**Michael Cahill**

**Merrily Holladay**

**Edgar Omar Marty - Chair**

**Penny Jane Schindler**

**Julie Smith**

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022 BEFRIENDER MINISTRY

The BeFriender Ministry has twelve trained BeFrienders. We currently have eleven people we are befriending. Over the past five years we have befriended 56 congregants.

Our group holds monthly meetings that include either ministry reflections or continuing education. The ministry reflections are designed to provide supervision, mentoring, and group support. The continuing education sessions provide skills training for our members.

This year, our continuing education will focus on church culture. We are in the process of designing two continuing education workshops for our members that provide a deeper understanding of supremacy culture.

Mutuality is a key principle in BeFriending. We practice mutuality in relationships where each person is worthy of respect, consideration, and equality. As trained BeFriender Ministers we believe we are in a position to provide leadership in dismantling toxic supremacy thinking and behavior.

Our goal for 2022/2023 is to use our BeFriender training to help lead the church through this time of learning and growth.

Co-chairs:

**Mary Moore**

**Mary Peterson**

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2022 BUILD GUILD**

"Bringing people together to take action, whether near or far, to help make and restore homes for those who need a hand." That's the Build Guild mission statement.

The past couple of years, the Build Guild team has focused on projects closer to home. While in the past Build Guild has traveled to Texas and North Carolina to help hurricane-ravaged communities rebuild, the COVID-19 pandemic forced us to re-evaluate and reprioritize.

In these past years of reflection, guided by our former co-chair Dolli Lutes, we've come to appreciate the great need for Build Guild services here at home. Build Guild has coordinated monthly volunteer sessions, working with Home Repair Services, Family Promise, or the Land Conservancy of West Michigan. On occasion, our volunteers also have worked with Habitat for Humanity, on painting projects at Fountain Street Church, and to address needs at congregants' homes.

In November 2022, we hosted an in-person Build Guild annual meeting, to reflect upon the past couple of years and to plan our future.

We currently are planning a church service, scheduled for January 2023. We hope the service will raise awareness of the work we and our partner organizations do, and we hope to recruit more volunteers, to increase our impact.

**Core Team Members of Build Guild:**

**Todd Fettig**

**Jay Fowler**

**Skip Swanson**

**Jim Winter-Troutwine**

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022 CHOICE FUND

The Fountain Street Church Choice Fund exists to provide grants, not loans, to those seeking abortion services and endures based on the qualities and values of compassion, appreciation and respect.

~My body, My choice~

Today the FSC Choice Fund is a continuing feature of our church's historical social justice actions and support of the Pro-Choice community; we do not shy away from talking about our mission to fund abortions or asking for individuals for donations. We are the only fund (of this scope) in the state, region and perhaps the entire U.S.

The requests for abortion funding are increasing from previous years, the challenges to continue safe access to abortions are also mounting, we need ongoing financial support beyond the previous fundraising actions listed below;

- ~ Annual Thanksgiving Sunday Pie, Dessert & Treats Sale
- ~ 4th Quarter Year End Annual Special Plea Fundraising Letter
- ~ January Annual Roe v. Wade Gala
- ~ April Annual Bowl-A-Thon ~ POSTPONED DUE TO COVID-19

With 802 requests for funding for our accounting year, it is with kind generous donations of individuals in our community and members of Fountain Street Church that we have budgeted our grants, in the amount of \$55,000.00 (or more) for 2022-2023. We fund those whose physical address is in west Michigan and seek abortion services at our 2 local abortion clinics. For 2021-2022 we granted to our local abortion clinics \$39,219.00

As the current climate for safe legal abortion is changing, our local clinics are faced with many of the same capacity challenges as clinics nationwide. We will adjust our funding strategies as necessary.

- Did you know that 1st trimester abortion costs exceed \$600!!

It is in the spirit and actions of partnering with national abortion organizations, that the patient, their family and friends through your giving, that enables us to assist in providing funding for abortions.

Abortion is healthcare. Period.

# CHOICE FUND

Over 40 years ago we thought with the landmark Supreme Court decision of Roe v. Wade our rights were secure for people who make the decision regarding their body to access abortions as healthcare. It's important to remember that they are experiencing:

- Economic and healthcare challenges daily
- The conservative swing in our courts
- Elected officials who don't trust people to make their healthcare decisions

We simply won't go back. Not now, Not ever! Do you hear us Supreme Court Justices?

When abortion is in the headlines, the news is often negative, we counteract that news, join us.

It is through the generous and ongoing giving of our donors that we as a caring community make a positive difference in people (regardless of their age) lives seeking safe legal abortions.

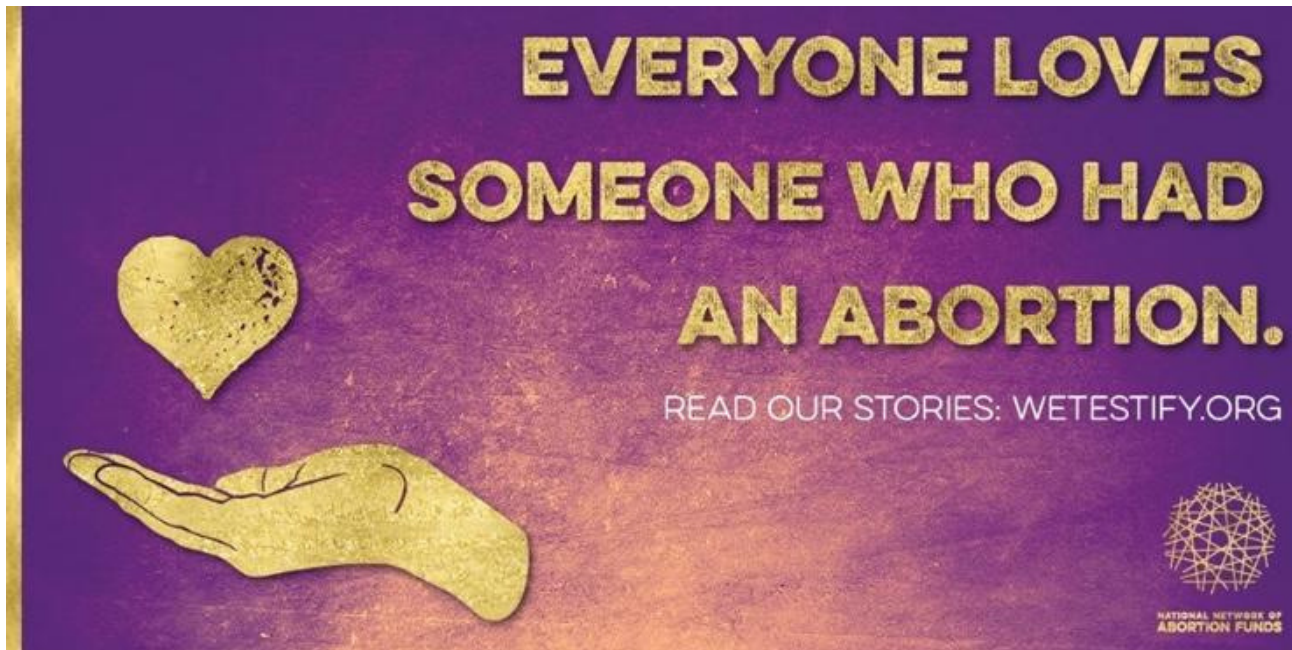
As our fundraising endeavors have been stalled due to COVID-19, your generous giving is now more vital than ever, so please consider a generous donation in raising your voice and funding grants to support, abortion is healthcare, or to honor an individual or as a memorial gift, see below.

Please donate weekly, monthly or perhaps an annual gift, donations (regardless of size) are necessary and appreciated; <https://www.fountainstreet.org/choice-fund>

Checks may be sent to; Fountain Street Church ~ 24 Fountain Street NE ~ Grand Rapids, MI 49503 in the "memo" area, please write "**Choice Fund**". Cash is also graciously accepted.

Funding abortions, this is the mission of the Fountain Street Church Choice Fund.

# CHOICE FUND



Respectfully submitted,

**Ginger Hensley**, FSC Choice Fund Committee Chair

**Marianne Warnock**, FSC Choice Fund Committee Treasurer

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022 ADULT CHOIR

## **Mission**

The mission of the Fountain Street Adult Church Choir is to establish, promote, and maintain a program of choral excellence which supports the spiritual life, membership, and worship of Fountain Street Church.

## **Going forward in 2022 and 2023:**

The choir held a day-long “camp” experience on September 24, 2022. This intensive camp allowed us to continue spending time on vocal technique and to work on repertoire that would see us through the end of the calendar year.

Morale is high now that we are singing together again this year and under our new director. Having survived 2021, 2022 is again allowing us to sing together and contribute to the artistic and worship life of the church. We continue to sing with masks on until we are more comfortable with Virus statistics.

We are determined to remain one of the most active volunteer ministries of the church.

**Choir Rehearsals** - The choir rehearses each Thursday from 7:00- 9:00 p.m. during the Church year. (All are welcome!)

**Sunday Services** - the choir sings for approximately 30 Sunday Services during the church year and supplies many musicians for summer services.

**Christmas Caroling at Porter Hills Village**—a choir tradition for FSC members residing at Porter Hills. We will hopefully return in 2022 pending status of Covid.

**Oratorio Choir** performs an annual Memorial Concert in the spring, though we had to cancel due to Covid. We are currently looking at returning for a performance on April 15, 2023. Rehearsals will be held on Saturdays 11am-1pm starting January 14, 2022.

**Good Friday and Christmas Eve Services**

**Memorial Services** (on request)

## **Leadership:**

### **Choir Director:**

• Austin McWilliams



# ADULT CHOIR

## **Choir Board:**

- Co-presidents—Merrily Holladay and Vicki Vandenberg (incoming)
- Vice President – Bruce Morrison
- Secretary – Deb Pebley
- Treasurer – Connie Winter-Troutwine
- Members Services – Meredith Bradley

## **Choir Board Advisors:**

- Ruth Stein, Librarian
- Gary Eberle, Historian/Archivist
- John Schweizer – Building Security

## **Regular Sunday and Rehearsal Accompanist**

- Margi Derks Peterson

Respectfully submitted for the choir board,  
Vicki Vandenberg  
Merrily Holladay

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

## COMMUNITY LIFE TEAM

### **Meet the Community Life Team**

What? Something new? Well, yes and no. Yes, the name is new, It's really a pretty good description of the purpose of the group. Community Life Team grew out of the Beyond Sunday Ministry and its color Districts. Then it became the Community Corners. If you remember those, you have an idea of what the Community Life Team plans to do. That is, help each of the individual Fountain Streeters come together to meet and help and work together with other individual Fountain Streeters, to build friendships that make up the WE of our church.

Already, the Community Life Team has planned and carried out the member work of the FSC Picnic. We found volunteers to manage the food service. We cooperated with the staff who made all the set-up. We found volunteers to do so much of the clean-up. There were lots of happy faces and full tummies that Sunday.

We will continue with several traditional all-church events that bring people together. At the end of November will be the Hanging of the Greens as we prepare for Christmas, and We'll remember the enjoyment as we take it all down at Epiphany. Oh—between those will come Sweet and Savory Sunday, the celebration of eating gathering. We'll sponsor a Family Promise potluck charity, and look forward to having a Church Work Day to do those picky little tasks that are too big for the staff. Think silver polishing, and dusting all the walls and seats in the Sanctuary!

Current members of the Community Life Team are Judy Botts, Sherron Collins, Louisa Nally, and Renee Therriault. We depend especially on staff members Melissa Hoezee and Margi Derks Peterson.

We meet by Zoom the second Monday of each month at 10 a.m. for about an hour.

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

## OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

**Oversight Committee**  
**2022 Annual Report**  
**Submitted by Steven G. de Polo**

The Oversight Committee (OSC) is one of three standing committees of the Governing Board, the other two being the Finance Committee and the Nominating Committee.

Membership of the OSC consists of at least three Governing Board members and at last three additional persons from the voting membership.

According to the current church Bylaws, the OSC shall conduct evaluations of the Senior Minister, Executive Director, and other duties as assigned by the Governing Board. As we currently do not employ an Executive Director, which would be evaluated annually, or a Senior Minister, which would be evaluated at least once every three years, no evaluations were conducted in 2022.

Also pursuant to current FSC Bylaws, FSC Policies are to be reviewed every 3 years and FSC Bylaws no less than once every 6 years. The next scheduled review of FSC Policies or Bylaws was a policy review in 2022, which happened.

During 2022, the OSC addressed the following:

1. The FSC Policies were updated with the removal of the Executive Director and Executive Team and transfer of those related duties to the Senior Minister or Board.
2. Upcoming reviews will include provisions for electronic member voting, creating new language for a diversity policy, modifying the number of minimum members on nominating slates for the Governing Board and Senior Minister Search Committee, modifying voting procedures when elections are uncontested to minimize church expenditures, modifying expenditure limits, providing policies for managing the church during emergency situations, clarifying non-Standing committee structure, and clarifying policies regarding access to financial information for budget preparation.
3. In February and March 2022, the Oversight Committee considered a Code of Conduct Policy in collaboration with the Communications Committee, which did not move forward because it was unfeasible.
4. In May 2022, the Oversight Committee updated the policies for Congregant Comments and clarified who has access to congregant giving information.
5. In June 2022, the Oversight Committee updated the Asset Protection Financial Policy of 2013.
6. In August 2022, the Oversight Committee took on developing an Inclusion Policy based on the FSC Inclusion Statement.

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2022**

## **OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

### **Oversight Committee Members for 2022:**

- **Steve de Polo, Chair, FSC Governing Board Member**
- **Brad Miller, FSC Governing Board Member**
- **Steve Crandall, Voting Member**
- **Jerrold Nickels, FSC Governing Board Member (resigned)**
- **Paul Arnold, Voting Member**

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022 PARENTS' CIRCLE

Parents' Circle was historically a group of (mostly) mothers and small children who met several times a year, often at the church itself. As the first generation of children grew and parents returned to work and other activities, the group became more of a social outlet for the whole family. We met as adults at local restaurants and as families at nearby parks for potlucks.

During Covid, we halted activities to protect the health of our youngest members. Separately, we see how many demands families have on their time, and certainly don't want to become one more "to-do." With significant overlap between Parents' Circle, Young Adult Circle, and Character School, we hope to build a useful and accessible network for Fountain Streeters raising kids and looking for adult connections. One example is the return of the beloved Quiche Lunch this November!

FSC Parents' Circle is open to all families with children, whether those kiddos are newborns, pre-teens, or off at college. You can keep up with happenings on our "FSC Parents' Circle" Facebook page (it's private so please request to join) or contact Katie Mitchell at [k.reilly.mitchell@gmail.com](mailto:k.reilly.mitchell@gmail.com) for more information. Your family belongs here!

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

## PROPERTIES COMMITTEE

### Fountain Street Church 2022 Properties Committee's Annual Report

**Properties Committee Role and Responsibilities:** The Properties Committee (PC) currently has no formal definition of its function in the current 2019 FSC By-laws. It continues to carry on the historic functions for maintenance, altering, repair, and improvements of the church buildings and properties. The Properties Committee provides assistance to the staff General Manager of Operations, and upon her request, participates in specific operational building projects.

Thirteen congregants contribute to work of the committee meeting bi-monthly to review needed repairs and/or maintenance projects. Win Irwin is Governing Board liaison to the PC; Lisa Garvey is the Foundation's liaison to the PC; and staff representative is Melissa Hoezee.

#### PC 2020 Budget and Expenses January - October 2022:

Income: 2021 Foundation Roll Over Funds	\$ 342,471.27
2022 Foundation Allocation Funds	152,120.09
2022 Private Donor (Bell Tower)	200,000.00
Anonymous Contribution	<u>615.00</u>
 Total	 \$ 695,206.36

#### Expense Line Items (actual YTD expenditures):

Exterior Repairs: 4th floor back roof	\$ 6,166.00
Kitchen repair	900.00
Interior Repairs: Electrical upgrades	1,430.00
Door Opener	2,175.00
Bell Tower Netting (falling debris)	21,911.00
Quinn Evans/OAK (construc. prep)	<u>97,695.13</u>
 Total	 \$ 130,277.13

# PROPERTIES COMMITTEE

## **Properties Committee 2022 Summary**

In spring 2022 in the Church Hall, a 4th floor rear roof leak developed; repairs were made.

The Church Hall's Fountain Street front garden areas have been replanted with native flowers. Plans for a cement seating bench will be installed in Spring 2023.

The PC in 2021 approved that the expenditures were to be conservatively managed so as to set aside unallocated budget dollars to apply to the restoration of the Bell Tower. Due to the complexity of the restoration of the Bell Tower, the Governing Board in October 2021 formed a Bell Tower Task Force to closely examine the key structural issues, the bidding process for the project, and analyze how to fund these repairs. Ann Arbor architectural firm, Quinn Evans, and Owens-Ames-Kimball (OAK) Construction were engaged to assess the project and proceed with implementing initial pre-construction preparations of the Tower.

The PC regularly monitors energy utilization of the church buildings. Staff and PC members met with Pleune Service contractors to assess increased utility expenditures. The review found the HVAC utility costs were primarily due to the occupation of the 3rd & 4th floor of the Church Hall by Samaritas. Pluene is to prepare a HVAC operational manual for staff to ensure operational consistency for the system.

At mid-year, Samaritas's Unaccompanied Teen Education Program was temporarily placed on "pause" by Samaritas. This program has now been terminated by Samaritas and they will not renew the rental for 2023. It is expected that utility costs will decrease because of this factor.

The Church Hall's main four-story central elevator mother board stopped working in August. The elevator contractor, Elevator Service, Inc., determined that the mother board needed updated technical elements. Estimates for the mother board upgrades are being secured. The elevator will not be in use until late 2023 spring.

Sanctuary lighting is being examined for better lumination. A contractor has been contacted to present a proposal to improve the system; the proposal will be reviewed by the PC in the December meeting.

# PROPERTIES COMMITTEE

The PC is looking for new members to join the committee, with expertise/experience in architecture, facility maintenance, construction, and engineering. Please contact any of the PC members with suggestions of individuals who would be interested in joining this committee.

**Properties Committee Members:**

Bruce Ling, John Considine, Chris Crandall, Dick Wood, Merrily Holladay, Tom Logan, Wesley Beck, Win Irwin, Pat Eaman, Lisa Garvey, Matt Riegler, Ric Dokter, and Kirsten Lundeen (Chair). Staff representatives are The Rev. Christopher Roe and Melissa Hoezee.



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022 POETRY-READING GROUP

## Great News for Poetry Lovers (and the Poetry-Curious)

The FSC Friday Poetry-Reading Group will be meeting in 108.

Poetry brings us beautiful, often surprising and usually thought-provoking ideas and perspectives. Life, love, and death; past, present, or future. Any subject is fair game for the poet.

You don't have to be an expert; none of us is. Each week we read a poem, then discuss it—what we liked, didn't like, or didn't "get." The camaraderie is a big part of the fun we have.

Our meetings start at 10:30, and last until 12:00. Some folks like to show up a bit early to get in some chit-chat time before we begin reading.

We'd love to have you join us; the more points of view, the more fun!

So if you're at all inclined, please give us a try. We meet on Fridays at 10:00 Any questions? Please contact Louisa Nally, 616-874-8150 or [pnally999@gmail.com](mailto:pnally999@gmail.com)



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

## RELIGIOUS SERVICES COMMITTEE

Continuing a long-standing traditions, the primary responsibility of the Religious Services Committee is to seek and schedule a variety of volunteer speakers to cover services usually from mid-June through Labor Day. Speakers are allowed to craft their own message and select readings and music in cooperation with the church staff. Services are held at 10am in the chapel. This past summer season was longer than in past years and featured the following speakers:

June 12 – Win Irwin, June 19 – John Robinson, June 26 – Ken Norris, July 3 – Patrick Eaman  
July 10 – Kristen Loch, July 17 – Jill Van Antwerp, July 24 – Jennifer Kinne, July 31 – Sue Clay  
August 7 – George Zuiderveen, August 14 – John Schweizer, August 21 – Linda and Jim Jones, August 28 – Austin McWilliams, September 4 – Margi Peterson

**Staff Ministers:** Christopher Roe, Greta Jo Seidohl

**Service Musicians:** Margi Peterson, Robin Connell, Phil Pletcher

In addition, the RSC has assisted the church staff in preparations for special services (ex. Christmas Eve) and remains a source of continuing assistance to the ministerial staff.

**Committee Members:**

**Carol Kooistra, Heather Palmer, Dick Wood**

**Staff Liason:**

**Rev. Christopher Roe**

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

## SENIOR MINISTER SEARCH COMMITTEE

### Senior Minister Search Committee

The SMSC 's task is to find a senior minister candidate to present to the congregation.

- The committee began meeting weekly in mid May.
- We determined that if we had an internal candidate, we would fully vet them before we looked for an outside candidate.
- In June, Rev Christopher indicated to us that he was indeed interested in applying.
- In July, we met with Rev Christopher and informed him that he was our only candidate and we would use the same application process that was used for Rev Mariela.
- In August, we distributed a “Leadership Survey” to the congregation. We received almost 240 responses.
- In September, we sent Rev Christopher a letter, requesting the documents that would formalize his application in preparation for the congregational vote.
- On September 11, Rev Christopher delivered a sermon that stated that he did not think we were ready for a Senior Minister at this time.
- On October 16, 2022 the team delivered a presentation to the congregation outlining our process up to that time.

Currently, the committee is working to support Rev. Roe’s vision of a healthier, more dynamic church community.

**Members: Paul Arnold, Natalie Beversluis, Judy Botts, Kathleen Higgins, Marie Penny, Mary Peterson, Chip Wall and Angie Walters**

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

## SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAM

This has been our year of transition. We changed our name to the Social Justice Team (SJT) to more accurately reflect our activities, mission and the social climate. (Formerly SAC- Social Action Committee). We meet monthly on the 3rd Wednesday from 5-6 pm. The SJT is seeking to increase membership in the group and expand and diversify our outreach beyond grant giving. To that end, we are supporting various city-wide justice groups: Together West Michigan, GR Climate Coalition, bike collection and distribution, among others.

We have several topics under consideration:

**\*\*How do we create an alliance of FSC groups doing social justice projects to work with SJT in an umbrella group of equal partners? The plan is to reach out to the congregation at large for encouragement and support for any ideas that fall within our mission.**

**\*\*Since the SJT (formerly SAC) gives out grants from 50% of plate collections at Sunday services, we want to determine best practices for distributing this money to the larger Grand Rapids area community. We are considering:**

- Small grants to several organizations as we've done in the past.
- One large grant possibly forming an alliance to work with the recipient group.
- A few medium size grants possibly in collaboration with other FSC teams doing social justice work.

Since funding is still low because of Covid, SJT voted to postpone the Grant Cycle to the spring of 2023 both to build to a larger amount and so that the team can continue to engage in an ongoing discussion about how to apportion these funds.

The Social Justice Team is a work in progress.

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

## SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAM TOGETHER WEST MICHIGAN

CONNECTIONS and beyond....Introducing Together West Michigan

Although Connections Circles have been on hiatus for the past couple of years, the heart of the small-group ministry has found expression in new ways. A core Tennon of Connections' circle process is listening.

Here's how listening has played out this past year:

Last fall the governing board led a series of "listening circles" to begin the process of really hearing one another, to discern what we as a congregation are yearning for. Those listening circles provided an important "paving the way" to the Together West Michigan House Meetings held this past spring.

The newly formed broad-based organization of which Fountain Street Church is a member, is built on the fundamental value of listening to foster and strengthen relationships.

Fountain Street held more than a dozen House Meetings, sitting in small circles and listening to each other as we asked and answered one simple question: "What keeps you awake at night?" At the Issues Assembly in June, the twenty-plus churches and non-profits that make up TWM identified six major areas of concern - Housing, Safety, Child Care, Mental Health, Immigrant and Refugee, and Transportation - that arose from listening to each other.

Since July, each Issue Team has been engaged in "research meetings" - more listening! By meeting with agencies and individuals who can address those concerns. The ripple effect continues as we deepen our ties with our community by deepening our relationships with each other.

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022 STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The Stewardship Committee has pursued two goals for the past year. The first was to conduct the annual Stewardship Campaign with a budget goal of \$600,000 and a stretch goal of \$650,000. In late September, the Governing Board signed pledge requests to our church community that were mailed in early October. We quickly achieved 100% pledge commitments from our Governing Board and most pledges were received throughout the Fall and Winter. We did an additional mailing to past pledgers and other contributors, and we finally reached a total of \$573,422 in pledges, \$26,578 short of the budgeted goal, by the end of May.

The pledge campaign suffered because the church was not fully open until late Spring, and the pandemic clearly prevented members from coming to church to attend services and events.

The Stewardship Committee had a second goal of raising additional church operating funds through additional fund-raisers and events. Thanks to Paul Arnold and our staff, we were able to conduct a successful 2022 Goods & Services Secret On-Line Auction. We were able to raise \$4,500 for the church.

Additional fund-raisers were delayed as the Covid-19 pandemic continued to prevent large gatherings.

Finally, we were able to host two of our planned fund-raisers in October. On October 22nd we hosted a Halloween Hop in the social hall. We danced to music provided by James Taylor, our DJ for the evening! We enjoyed delicious appetizers and desserts, accompanied by water, wine, and 'Dirty Liberal' punch. It was a very joyous gathering of our Fountain Street Community, and we were entertained with some great Halloween Costumes!

On Sunday October 23rd, we hosted a community showing for the original "Hocus Pocus" in the Sanctuary. We had popcorn, candy, and snacks for sale as well as water. All in attendance had a fun time and enjoyed this classic Halloween movie. However, our attendance was not as expected because the temperature was in the 70's and the sun was shining. We were hoping for typical gloomy, rainy Michigan Fall weather. While our fund-raising efforts fell short of our goals, the Stewardship Committee was energized by the dozens of volunteers who helped make these two events possible, and the tremendous energy and joy we all had in just gathering!!

# STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

We have one additional fund-raiser planned for Sunday, December 18th – a Holiday Talent Showcase featuring Fountain Streeters and Friends. Mark your calendars!

Whether you have already pledged or are considering your 2023 pledge, please know every dollar contributed will be wisely used, and that if we all contributed just a little it more, we can do additional things “To Free the Mind, Grow the Soul, and Change the World”.

The Stewardship Committee:

**Paul Arnold, Bob Chapla, Kathy Higgins, Melissa Hoozee, Win Irwin, & Reverend Christopher Roe.**

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

## WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

The Women's Association has not been as active in the past two years because of Covid but we still supported a myriad of different projects at Church.

Along with Christmas Chancel poinsettias, we organized our congregant-led Women's service in March and we have assisted with numerous Memorials. The Memorial Guild grew out of the Women's Association and has been a wonderful addition to many families at our church.

We are happy to say that we have been busy so far this year with helping with the Halloween Hop and Foundation event. We are bringing back our "Quiche be with you" lunch on November 20th with the proceeds going toward purchasing a new refrigerator for the kitchen. Trinkets and Treasures will be back on December 11th along with a bake sale and Sweet and Savory on December 18th. We again will be having our women's service in March on the 5th and the return of our Irish soup lunch with an Irish music session on March 12th.

We have some other events in the planning to be announced as we get closer. Women's Association is the oldest group at Fountain Street and we would like to see it become a cross section of our church members with new ideas and energy.

It plays a very important role at our church but we would like to bring it out of the kitchen a little and do more social action projects and speakers.

We hope to have an open house meeting soon and would love to welcome new faces, so please reach out if you are interested in learning more about us.

[mariemaher65@gmail.com](mailto:mariemaher65@gmail.com)



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

## YOUNG ADULT CIRCLE

The Young Adult Circle has been in hibernation for some time now. In the past we met for socializing and conversation, but no events have taken place for a few years.

There is a Facebook group called FSC Young Adult Circle with 51 members. Anyone wishing to contribute/host/brainstorm is welcome to join, and a new leader would also be welcome. Just contact Will Gallmeyer at (616) 826-3574 or [wgallmeyer@gmail.com](mailto:wgallmeyer@gmail.com)