



2022



ANNUAL REPORT

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**This Annual Report will be discussed at
the Annual meeting on February 19, 2023.**



Rev. Michelle Torigian

Senior Pastor

After coming off of two years of heavy mitigations for Covid-19, we were grateful to relax our guidelines significantly, bringing us to a place similar to where we were before Covid affected our world. We thank everyone for adhering to the mitigations throughout the time they were necessary and still making sure that we continue to be a place which encourages health and wholeness for all of our members.

It's been encouraging seeing the number of activities and participants increase throughout 2022. On a number of Sundays throughout the year, our attendance has grown to nearly 100 in worship. We continue to stream on Facebook, YouTube, on our website, and broadcast on Jubilee 690am. While our members are away, healing from illness or surgery, or not able to attend in person, they are able to watch our Sunday worship services. This has also been a wonderful tool to share the Good News of God's love and grace in our world. As a reminder, you can go to Facebook or to YouTube to find previous services if you would like to rewatch a portion or all of a service.

As the Capital Technical Improvement Project (CTIP) came to a close, the quality of sound and light in the sanctuary and other spaces was greatly upgraded. In Heritage Hall, the acoustic panels technology and various spaces in our church improved the way we could hear one another in meetings and other events. Once again, thank you to everyone who gave to the project!

This year, thanks to our tech team, we were able to host hybrid congregational meetings in which our members could join the meeting remotely. Our members who were not able to be present in person have the option to attend meetings through Zoom.

Early in 2022, a core team of congregants began working with Dr. Lisa Withrow with Clear Transition Strategies. While some time of reflection led us to pause the project in the summer of 2022, the process became recharged again by autumn. I felt called to create worship and activities around the theme of kindness for 2023, and this theme is being incorporated as part of the process. We also have some focal points which will be shared more in the near future.

During this year, I had the chance to lead a study and sermon series on the Statement of

Faith. I also helped out with the Tuesday morning Bible Study and led an Advent Study on the hymns of Advent. Our Social Justice book study met earlier in the year; we will look to see how we can begin this study again in 2023.

Stewardship continued the 50/50 raffle and included other fundraisers including the Cardinals baseball game and the return of Trivia Night (Thanks to Michael Wagner, our host!). We thank the Hoffmanns for hosting Margarita Monday at their home again this year. Also, we

thank everyone who hosted a St. Paul Friends event this year as we are grateful to be back socializing with our dear St. Paul friends at fun-raisers!

Our Christian Education team helped to organize and lead the VBS program "Food Truck Party" in June. It was wonderful working with Trinity UCC on VBS this year! Besides leading our team through the process, I helped them choose the curriculum.

Continued on next page



I continue to work with the youth on our monthly gatherings. I have enjoyed working with them on creating and leading worship!

The With You group, of which I'm a part, met consistently on the first Wednesday of every month throughout this entire year to discuss the needs of some of our congregants. I update the team as information becomes available. This has been a program that continues to expand and be a blessing to our members. I am leading communion once per month at St. Paul Senior Community during the worship service. We welcomed new members in September.

I am grateful for the establishment and regular meetings of the Pastoral Relations Committee.

Throughout the month of September, I held community office hours at various locations around Belleville. We continued our outreach efforts with events like the Alzheimer's Walk and Metro East Pride. Both with our Pride booth and the Shriner's Parade, we join efforts with Trinity UCC to promote our churches. I've attended a number of Belleville Chamber of Commerce events around town and have set up a Coffee Cup Connections for March 14, 2023.

I led 12 funerals and one baptism. We were saddened by the many losses, including our staff member Donna Young. We took time to wish Stephenie Bauza a happy retirement. Additionally, we welcomed Kathy Buehler, Ian Hipkins, Mary Blaies, and (welcomed back) Dr. Tristan Frampton to our staff.

I engaged in ecumenical and intradenominational work during the year as well. I am coordinating a group of Mainline Protestant clergy meeting each month at The Abbey. I served on the WISE discernment committee through the Illinois South Conference and presented at the Annual Meeting for the initiative. I also started co-chairing the Justice and Mission Team of the conference. I have helped to create worship for the United Church of Christ denomination and am currently helping to write liturgy for General Synod. I was also elected to be a delegate to General Synod in 2023.

For my own continuing education I attended the Festival of Homeletics in Denver in May 2022. Additionally, I had written materials in the *Abingdon Worship Annual 2023* which was released in 2022.

Shoutout to Rev. Merrimon Boyd in the spring as well as Rev. Shana Johnson who helped to lead services while I was recovering from surgery! And thank you to our lay leaders who helped to lead a couple services while I was on vacation.

As we joyously look ahead embracing the dreams of God, we know that God is with us as we vision together. I feel extremely blessed to be your pastor, and I look forward to the ways we are calling us to grow together in 2023!

May each of you experience the light of God as we share kindness with our world!
Blessings, Pastor Michelle





Tristan Frampton

Music Director

It has been an eventful, fulfilling, and challenging year for our music ministries here at St. Paul. Tristan Frampton was hired as the music director and started working with the Sanctuary Choir and Glory Ringers in February, just before Lent. It had been decided that the position of music director would be split to allow for a choir director and an organist. Our search for a permanent organist proved fruitless for quite a while. But our patience paid off. A stellar organist applied and accepted our offer to come and work with us. Continued patience is required, as he is not relocating to the area until May or June, but he is well worth the wait! In the meantime, we will continue to hire guest organists and pianists to play for worship. Not having a regular organist, it was determined that focusing on quality music offerings was more important than presenting complicated programs, like Christmas cantatas. But the focus on musicianship, ensemble, and tone has clearly proved valuable. Our ensembles are sounding great, and their music has contributed much to our worship services.

The Sanctuary Choir and Glory Ringers practice weekly during our regular “season,” which generally follows the academic calendar. The Sanctuary Choir provided anthems for worship weekly, and we incorporated the handbells into worship when the schedule of our ringers permitted. It is the hope that the Glory Ringers will be able to ring more regularly in the new year.

We have started to have more youth-led worship services. This included special music provided by some of our musically talented young members. We even had a Sunday during Advent when some of our youth, along with additional members of our congregation, provided impromptu, improvisatory handbell ringing that complemented one of our choir anthems. It is always nice to see our youth involved in worship and in music-making.

We have had several challenges this year, some of which are ongoing. As previously mentioned, we do not have a regular organist on staff. While this has been difficult in terms of repertoire programming and organization, we have made due scheduling guest organists. Janet Spencer has been invaluable in helping to put us in touch with talented individuals. She has also filled in at the organ bench when needed. Our regular organ technicians have retired, so we needed to find a new organ technician to maintain our beautiful instrument. Janet was instrumental in finding a satisfactory replacement. Another challenge is that our rehearsal piano in the music room is in poor condition. Our piano technician, Greg Junker, reported that it would be more expensive and time-consuming to refurbish the instrument than it would be to find a new piano, or a used one in good condition. St. Paul Fine Arts has graciously taken up the charge to find and fund the purchase of a piano for our rehearsal space.

Despite the challenges of the past year, we have continued to make good music here at St. Paul. We had organ and brass to celebrate Easter with glorious and triumphant tones. Our Sanctuary Choir and Glory Ringers provided wonderful music for Advent and Christmas seasons. On Christmas Eve, at the 7:00 PM worship service, the Sanctuary Choir performed

two pieces arranged by our music director, Tristan Frampton, and helped lead some of our most beloved carols. Tristan provided special music during the 4:30 PM Christmas Eve service, singing O Holy Night with Janet Spencer. We enjoyed a more informal Christmas Day service in Heritage Hall, during which we had special music provided by Jack W. and guitar-led congregational singing of Christmas carols.

All in all, it has been a wonderful year of music-making in service to our church and to God. Our ensemble members are in good spirits, we have a new organist that will be joining us in June, our musicianship has improved, our musical offerings are well- received on Sunday mornings, and there is excitement about things to come. It has been a good year in the life of the music ministries here at St. Paul.

-Tristan Frampton, January 2023

Ian Hipkins

Technology Coordinator

During the last seven months that I've been hired as Tech Coordinator, I had the experience of running the sound booth which holds the sound mixer, and computer that streams to OBS which streams to YouTube and Facebook. I also seized the line for the radio which is upstairs in the radio room. All of this for the first month was under the supervision of Richard Haar.



Other responsibilities of mine is I put together slides, play audio or videos, and set up audio equipment for events as well. As Tech Coordinator, I had to order equipment to fulfill certain requirements that were needed such as microphone adapters for the children's pageant in December. Also it's my responsibility to organize the volunteers and create their schedules for each month as well as training them, fixing anything that breaks, and helping them with whatever they need.

One of the more important responsibilities that I handle is trying to implement new ideas that are given to me in terms of setting up other equipment. One such idea is getting the TV in the welcome center to play videos and slideshows for images. Some ideas are more feasible than others, and I try my best to attempt as many as possible.

There are certain issues that I have come across while being Tech Coordinator, the most recent one is the choir monitors not working properly, but these issues are not permanent, and myself along with Richard Haar will investigate and fix them. Another issue is sometimes Google will automatically sign out of our account while mid-service, or perhaps YouTube decided to not stream. These are only minor issues, and they rarely happen and can be avoided easily.

Overall, there have been no long term issues, and everything runs smoothly for the most part. The volunteers have been fantastic, and have always been helpful and It's been my pleasure to work with them.

The main priority that is my focus in 2023 is going to be fixing and maintaining the systems that are in place, as well as learning more about how to be more efficient as a Tech Coordinator.

Finance Team

Serving on the Finance team were Wayne Kniepkamp, Dana Rosenzweig, Mike Pierce, Terry Kalinowski, Stephenie Bauza, Laurence Walton, Ken Nettleton (advisor, resigned in mid-year) and Staff Liaison Kathy Buehler. Stephenie and Kathy joined the Team mid-2022. The Team coordinated with other Church Teams to control expenses during the year. Fiscal controls and spending approvals put in place in previous years were continued and implemented. We wanted to protect our core investments in the Endowment Fund.

The FY2023 budget was prepared based on previous years expenditures and realistic revenue expectations. The various Church Teams provided solid input into the process. Some difficult decisions were made to strengthen the Church. The Church Bookkeeper and the previous Church Accountant worked together to prepare the final document.

Congregational offerings for FY2022 were \$383,640 which were \$4,440 above budget projections for the year which was outstanding. Our total operating revenues at close of year were at \$569,780.

Our operating expenses for FY2022 were \$572,345. And the difference between operating revenues and expenses for 2022 was \$2,569 in the red.

As of December 31, 2022, our investment funds were \$1,699,635 in the Endowment Fund and another \$355,355 in the Michelson fund. Loss of value of the core Endowment Funds due to a difficult investment market were offset by an infusion of \$223,402 from the St. Paul Home Foundation in November.

A distribution of \$39,035 was made from the Endowment Fund for capital improvements.

The highlight of FY2022 was that we did not have to withdraw any funds from the Endowment Fund for operating expenses as we did for the previous five years. We were originally budgeted to withdraw \$98,500.

We received \$14,845 in memorials. Personnel costs were 85 percent of budget due to personnel changes.

As of December 31, 2022, we have \$36,963 in the bank plus another \$55,668 of various designated funds.


We would like to thank all Church Teams for their efforts in keeping costs down during 2022. We would also thank all members of the Church for their continued generosity that enables the S. Paul UCC to remain in a strong financial position.

Sincerely,

Laurence Walton, Treasurer

Finance Team

Treasurer's Report to Council - December 2022

Cash Accounts		Operating Checking Account	Stifel Investment	The Michelson Organization	St. Paul Home Foundation Loan	Fritz Scholarship Fund
110200 - Cash in Bank-Bank of Belleville		36,963.96				
410610 - Cash Invested-Endowment			1,693,019.60			
410650 - Cash -The Michelson Organization				355,355.00		
610200 - Cash Operating - Fine Arts		22,089.58				
610610 - Cash Invested-FA-AGE Cash/Money FND			6,615.28			
011008 - Cash - Camp Scholarships		5,432.99				
011016 - Cash - Men's Culinary Group		5,369.81				
011021 - Cash - St Paul Friends (formerly Friends, Foo		3,823.28				
011024 - Cash - Youth Mission Trip		1,472.99				
011025 - Cash-Adult Mission Trip		2,224.45				
011029 - Cash - Radio		1,313.61				
011030 - Honduras/Ecuador		100.00				
011036 - Cash-Holiday Bskts		1,141.00				
011047 - Cash-Youth		988.96				
011079 - Cash - Library Fund		1,007.05				
011099 - Cash - Misc (\$3,971.06 funds moving to 2023)		4,507.83				
610101 - Cash - Gus Kuether Leadership Development		2,485.54				
610101 - Cash - Dr. Rose Adult Ed (652005)		3,710.77				
General Ledger Account Balances		92,631.82	1,699,634.88	355,355.00	0.00	0.00
2,147,621.70		= Total St Paul invested & operating cash				



Finance Team

Monthly Financial Activities

	2022 Final Budget	2022 Aug Actuals	2022 Sept Actuals	2022 Oct Actuals	2022 Nov Actuals	2022 Dec Actuals	YTD Actuals	% of Budget
REVENUE								
130100 - Congregational Offerings	\$379,198.97	\$22,928.00	\$20,252.00	\$45,510.60	\$32,949.00		\$347,132.43	91.54%
130102 - MDO Tuition/Other Income	\$55,110.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$20,601.00	37.38%
130103 - MDO Fundraiser/Memorials	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$2,019.00	N/A
130104 - Special Stewardship Events*	\$5,000.00	(\$863.80)	\$147.50	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$710.20	14.20%
130105 - Rental Income-205 W B St.	\$10,500.00	\$850.00	\$850.00	\$850.00	\$850.00		\$9,350.00	89.05%
130500 - Building Fund	\$21,000.00	\$1,273.00	\$907.00	\$1,242.00	\$890.00		\$18,541.00	88.29%
1302xx - Outreach (Various Missions #)	\$0.00	\$518.00	\$461.00	\$4,031.00	\$6,275.00		\$37,332.88	N/A
131100 - Memorials	\$11,000.00	\$719.50	\$2,310.00	\$2,128.00	\$3,360.00		\$13,667.50	124.25%
131200 - Bequests	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	N/A
131300 - Building Income	\$2,500.00	\$550.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$12.00		\$1,742.00	69.68%
131400 - Pastoral Honorarium	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$1,005.00		\$2,055.00	171.25%
131499 - Pastoral Expense Revenue	\$0.00	(\$65.95)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		(\$5.95)	N/A
131500 - Investment Income /Michelson Income	\$14,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,650.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$26,625.00	190.18%
131600 - Distribution from Endowment (Per Guidelines)	\$98,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	0.00%
131650 - Distribution from Endowment (Cap. Exp.)	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$39,034.75	260.23%
131900 - Other Income	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$123.86	\$0.00	\$9.17		\$2,041.02	170.09%
Total Operating Revenues	\$614,208.97	\$25,908.75	\$35,801.36	\$53,861.60	\$45,350.17	\$0.00	\$520,845.83	84.80%
Team Revenues	\$6,000.00	\$768.55	\$624.58	\$681.74	\$865.83		\$8,462.45	
Capital Expenses							\$0.00	
Grand Total	\$620,208.97	\$26,677.30	\$36,425.94	\$54,543.34	\$46,216.00	\$0.00	\$529,308.28	85.34%
EXPENSES								
PERSONNEL								
Total Personnel	(\$307,950.27)	(\$18,570.13)	(\$22,208.28)	(\$21,728.65)	(\$23,982.03)		(\$236,083.73)	76.66%
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT - formerly Operating Expenses								
Total Expenses	(\$53,350.00)	(\$2,941.07)	(\$4,463.29)	(\$2,990.91)	(\$10,127.24)		(\$52,289.66)	98.01%
OUTREACH (FORMERLY MISSION BOARD)								
Total Expenses	(\$13,970.00)	(\$1,847.22)	(\$99.27)	(\$126.30)	(\$15,792.41)		(\$33,465.82)	239.55%
EDUCATION (MDO LISTED)								
Total Expenses	(\$2,900.00)	\$0.00	(\$108.00)	(\$293.15)	(\$50.00)		(\$2,287.71)	78.89%
STEWARDSHIP								
Total Expenses	(\$1,675.00)	\$0.00	(\$197.01)	\$0.00	(\$169.45)		(\$1,046.30)	62.47%
PROPERTY								
Total Expenses	(\$191,043.45)	(\$17,032.47)	(\$30,934.78)	(\$11,705.85)	(\$12,373.20)		(\$163,058.76)	85.35%
CONGREGATIONAL CARE (FORMERLY WORSHIP BOARD)								
Total Expenses	(\$18,245.00)	(\$855.84)	(\$396.84)	(\$261.49)	(\$637.84)		(\$5,696.56)	31.22%
MOTHERS DAY OUT								
Total Expenses	(\$55,110.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		(\$28,455.82)	51.63%
GENERAL FUND								
Total Expenses	\$0.00	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
Total Operating Expense	(\$644,243.72)	(\$41,246.73)	(\$58,407.47)	(\$37,106.35)	(\$63,132.17)	\$0.00	(\$522,384.36)	81.08%
Difference between Revenue & Expense	(\$24,034.75)	(\$14,569.43)	(\$21,981.53)	\$17,436.99	(\$16,916.17)	\$0.00	\$6,923.92	

Finance Team

Revenue and Expense Comparisons									
2017 - 2023									
Budget			2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
			\$636,974	\$671,441	\$690,615	\$598,394	\$650,056	\$ 644,244	
Revenues			2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
Congregational Offerings	130100		\$431,123.17	\$385,786.82	\$364,917.68	\$391,903.61	\$372,727.02	\$383,640.11	
Fundraising Events (began in 2011)	130104		\$980.00	\$1,492.20	\$6,565.18	\$4,947.00	\$6,492.38	\$5,215.20	
Missions/Outreach	Various		\$43,900.56	\$29,117.17	\$27,439.19	\$29,587.73	\$26,480.39	\$32,303.57	
Memorials	131100		\$16,514.00	\$14,775.00	\$10,677.00	\$12,587.99	\$11,914.40	\$14,845.50	
Bequests	131200		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	
Building Income (Rental)	131300		\$9,870.00	\$11,141.00	\$11,548.97	\$2,481.00	\$1,111.27	\$1,881.00	
Building Income (205 W B St)	130105		\$9,600.00	\$9,600.00	\$9,600.00	\$9,775.00	\$10,075.00	\$10,200.00	
Pastoral Expenses (Revenue for begun 2018)				\$1,980.00	\$2,904.00	\$438.00	\$5.00	(\$5.95)	
Pastoral Honorariums	131400		\$500.00	\$1,380.00	\$2,025.00	\$1,135.00	\$2,185.00	\$2,055.00	
Investment Income	131500		\$5,487.00	\$5,487.00	\$11,360.00	\$17,040.00	\$29,465.00	\$26,625.00	
Endowment Distribution	131600		\$69,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$55,000.00	\$50,361.28	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	
Capital Projects (from Endowment)	131650		\$12,300.00	\$15,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$39,034.75	
Other Misc. Income (2020 includes \$67,300 from PPP)	131900		\$7,792.74	\$9,366.44	\$20,062.29	\$68,150.21	\$1,072.96	\$2,091.01	
Board Revenues (began in 2018)				\$26,311.23	\$18,584.27	\$16,260.75	\$9,193.39	\$9,683.65	
From Building and EGL funds (for Loan)			\$0.00	\$23,846.80	\$23,490.50	\$24,105.00	\$20,670.00	\$19,591.00	
			\$607,067.47	\$585,283.66	\$589,174.08	\$628,772.57	\$536,391.81	\$547,159.84	
Gain from Mother's Day Out (overage in Revenue)				\$11,536.77		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
				\$596,820.43	\$589,174.08	\$628,772.57	\$536,391.81	\$547,159.84	
Expenses (by Board)									
Personnel			\$298,763.86	\$303,852.47	\$305,606.71	\$308,821.11	\$271,853.81	\$259,244.42	
Operating (now Administrative Support)			\$32,555.76	\$41,966.79	\$44,360.81	\$40,286.33	\$36,740.75	\$52,781.87	
Missions/Outreach			\$64,696.23	\$43,101.40	\$38,030.38	\$42,364.88	\$37,822.88	\$45,610.57	
Christian Ed			\$3,881.11	\$12,242.36	\$5,362.68	\$663.30	\$762.46	\$2,225.99	
Stewardship			\$1,579.65	\$1,414.59	\$1,059.44	\$1,343.76	\$2,296.83	\$1,046.30	
Christian Growth			\$53.93	\$77.94	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Business & Property			\$170,905.24	\$181,556.19	\$188,902.01	\$144,135.42	\$173,855.01	\$174,742.43	
General Fund - Pastoral Expense (2018)				\$2,111.79	\$2,474.00	\$648.34	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Worship/Congregational Care			\$11,193.07	\$10,496.90	\$10,281.96	\$9,052.24	\$17,213.35	\$8,240.75	
			\$583,628.85	\$596,820.43	\$596,077.99	\$547,315.38	\$540,545.09	\$543,892.33	
Gain from Mother's Day Out (overage in Revenue)				\$11,536.77		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
				\$596,820.43	\$589,174.08	\$628,772.57	\$536,391.81	\$547,159.84	
Expenses (by Board)									
Personnel			\$298,763.86	\$303,852.47	\$305,606.71	\$308,821.11	\$271,853.81	\$259,244.42	
Operating (now Administrative Support)			\$32,555.76	\$41,966.79	\$44,360.81	\$40,286.33	\$36,740.75	\$52,781.87	
Missions/Outreach			\$64,696.23	\$43,101.40	\$38,030.38	\$42,364.88	\$37,822.88	\$45,610.57	
Christian Ed			\$3,881.11	\$12,242.36	\$5,362.68	\$663.30	\$762.46	\$2,225.99	
Stewardship			\$1,579.65	\$1,414.59	\$1,059.44	\$1,343.76	\$2,296.83	\$1,046.30	
Christian Growth			\$53.93	\$77.94	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Business & Property			\$170,905.24	\$181,556.19	\$188,902.01	\$144,135.42	\$173,855.01	\$174,742.43	
General Fund - Pastoral Expense (2018)				\$2,111.79	\$2,474.00	\$648.34	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Worship/Congregational Care			\$11,193.07	\$10,496.90	\$10,281.96	\$9,052.24	\$17,213.35	\$8,240.75	
			\$583,628.85	\$596,820.43	\$596,077.99	\$547,315.38	\$540,545.09	\$543,892.33	
Excludes Mother's Day Out									
Monies moved over to 2023 towards Operating Fund					\$9,199.00	\$3,842.73	\$3,134.38	\$ 3,107.83	
Difference			\$23,438.62	\$0.00	(\$6,903.91)	\$81,457.19	(\$4,153.28)	\$3,267.51	
PPP Loan						(\$67,300.00)			
Actual Revenue Overage or Shortage					\$2,295.09	\$17,999.92	(\$1,018.90)	\$6,375.34	

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Investment Committee

The ending balance of funds for all of St. Paul's accounts as of:

	<u>12/31/2021</u>	<u>12/31/2022</u>
Checking/Banking	\$ 136,223	\$ 103,869
Money Market (Fine Arts)	\$ 7,658	\$ 6,615
Endowment	\$ 1,681,085	\$ 1,693,020
Michelson Reality	<u>\$ 355,355</u>	<u>\$ 355,355</u>
Total invested assets and operating cash	\$ 2,180,321	\$ 2,158,859

Changes in total invested assets
And operating cash

Checking/Banking	\$ (32,354)
Investment Withdrawals	
Church Capital Expenditures	(39,035)
Church Operating	(10,965)
Capital Technology Improvement Project	(223,407)

\$ 47,800 Endowment Fund generated income (interest and dividends)

\$ (15,137) Stifel Management Expense

\$ 32,663 Net

\$ 26,625 Michelson Reality generated Income

Benchmark S&P was -18.11% and Barclays U.S. Govt. was -2.28%.

At a 60/40 portfolio ratio the overall Benchmark was -11.78%.

Our portfolio performed at a -9.65%

Respectfully submitted by

Louis Ryseff, Chair Investment Committee



Personnel Team

Personnel Team: Doug Bush, Chair; Sue Hoffmann, Donna Nettleton, Al Scharf, Al Stahl, Rusty Wagner, Brett White. Ex-Officio: Pastor Michelle Torigian; Dr. Steve Schmidt, President.

The major activity of 2022 involved filling vacancies by hiring five new employees. The vacancies resulted from resignations, death, and retirement.

Following the resignation of our Music Director in January, a search committee was appointed in January. The committee recommended the splitting of the position into two positions—choir director and organist. Tristan Frampton was hired as choir director in February. An organist was hired in August and will begin work in Summer 2023. We have had excellent help from substitute organists Jan Spencer, Robert Chamberlain, and Andrzej Zahorski throughout this time.

With the resignation of our Technology Coordinator in January, we advertised the position and conducted interviews. In the meantime we had volunteers and Evan Wilhelm serving as interim coordinator. We advertised the position, conducted interviews and hired Ian Hopkins for the position in June.

After 6 1/2 years of dedicated service working on our finances, accounting, and budget, Stephenie Bauza retired as Bookkeeper. We advertised the position, conducted interviews and hired Kathy Buehler as Bookkeeper in June.

In August we grieved the passing of our loyal and conscientious Receptionist, Donna Young. In November, as recommended by our team and the Church Council, we advertised and conducted interviews for the position of part-time custodian that could also help with receptionist duties with groups using our facilities. We hired Mary Blaies for this position in November. She will be helping with community activities in Heritage Hall and activity center. She will work Sunday mornings, and as needed during the week.

During the year, in evaluating our needs based on the present size of our church membership and attendance, we recommended to the Church Council that we not replace the positions of Director of Faith Formation and Director of Non-Traditional Music. The Visioning Committee is working on recommendations and needs for the future work of our church.

After a successful year of Mothers' Day Out under the volunteer leadership of Sue Hoffmann with volunteer helpers, it was decided to discontinue the program for 2022-2023 due to lack of enrollment and support.

We had substitute pastors in February when Pastor Michelle had surgery.

We oversaw the completion of staff evaluations and conducted the annual review of the Pastor.

We worked on filling vacancies on the Pastoral Relations Committee.

We had input from all of the staff regarding their jobs, working conditions, and any suggestions or concerns they had.

We worked with the Budget and Finance Team and Church Council on staff salaries for 2023. We considered the cost of living increases during the past year, the current job market, and aimed to ensure that our staff is adequately compensated for their high quality of work.

Respectfully submitted, Doug Bush, Chairman

Property Team

Business, Property & Security Year End Report for 2022

2022 is now in the novels of history.....We had some major ups and some major downs, and have prevailed!

After 2 ½ years of waiting, we were able to dedicate Heritage Hall in May. It was a beautiful day and a lovely dedication. Everyone came together to admire the work of all that so graciously donated their time and talents. Special thank you to the contractors, Dave Hoffmann, Roger Harris and Patrick Kinney!

A major addition to the main sanctuary was the new sound booth and the ability to have it finished to look like a part of our beautiful-mid century interior. We were able to match the white oak used in the rest of the church, allowing it to blend in, like it was always there! We also had the opportunity to hire a tech team member, Ian Hipkins, who has proven to be a valuable team member.

We added sound panels to the face of the old choir railing area. They blend in so well, that no one even knows they are there!

We put new cameras in the main sanctuary to help with security situations. We added a closed circuit monitor in the kitchen for the Culinares and are currently looking to add speakers that are loud enough to be heard over the cooking equipment.

The BEST thing that we did this year was have Patrick Kinney install the acoustical panels on the walls in Heritage Hall, which finally make it a space that people can have a conversation, without the echo. This will allow groups to gather for services or performances and be able to understand!

We installed new aluminum framed commercial exterior doors to the Activity Center. The original ones were heavy and the mechanism had failed, forcing the need to replace them.

The Security Team joined Business and Property again this year, as they have a good deal to do with the “Property” and this has worked out very well. The team, with Patrick has made our building a much more secure place during services and during the week. We owe them a good deal of credit for keeping us safe. The yearly orientations that Dave Hoffmann provides are a God send. The world is a different place, unfortunately, and this team is definitely necessary.

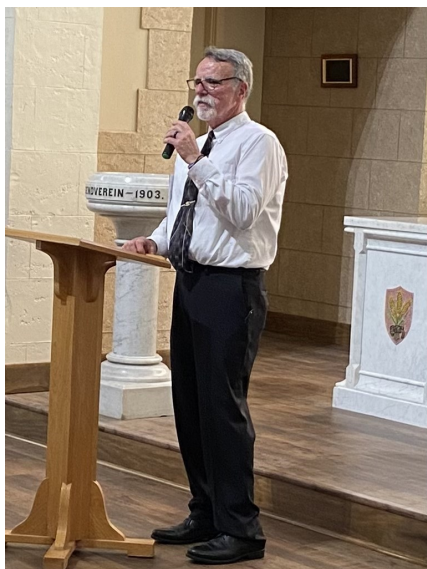
Another positive thing was the addition of Mary Blaies, and our relationship with St. Clair County Center for Aging. Because of her, we now have an active Pickle Ball group that uses the activity center daily, and a YOGA group that is able to use Heritage Hall. Another relationship that works well with our facility.

Continued on next page

We are still in a successful relationship with BASSC and the house they rent from us, across the street. We needed to replace the wooden ramp to the front door this year, and we were able to do this “in-house” avoiding a sub contractor to do the expensive labor. The BASSC organization is very easy to work with, and we hope to continue this in the future.

The “PIT” as it was once known, where the original organ console sat, then the sound booth. Once we built the sound booth on the main level, there was then a large opening in the floor. Patrick was able to build the flooring up to be level and no hazard to anyone walking in that area.

After coming off a fantastic wrap up to the Sanctuary Technology upgrade with the sound booth, and lighting additions, we were hit hard with some news regarding the very old electrical panels that had to be repaired. We retrofitted the panels that required immediate attention at the beginning of 2022.



Then, later in the year we were told that more panels had to be retrofitted. We had to obtain money from the endowment for this sizable expenditure. The congregation voted to move forward with the repairs.

They say bad things come in threes.....well, it did. We also lost the AC unit for the activity center. Thankfully, this happened towards the cooler part of the end of the year. We purchased the new unit, and it will be installed once there is a decent break in the winter weather.

We had some exterior issues with gutters, painting of the portecochere columns, and in typical “Patrick” fashion, he was on top of it and took care of everything in a very timely manner. We are so lucky and blessed to have this wonderful benevolent soul working with us. We would be lost without him. Thank you Patrick Kinney!

The good balanced out the bad. We all are thankful for the guidance of our past president, Dr. Steve Schmitt, and his unrelenting dedication to his position as Church Council President. His inspiration is a blessing.

On to 2023! Hopefully the Emergency Spending is over.....for a while!

Team Leader,
Laura Strohm Armstrong

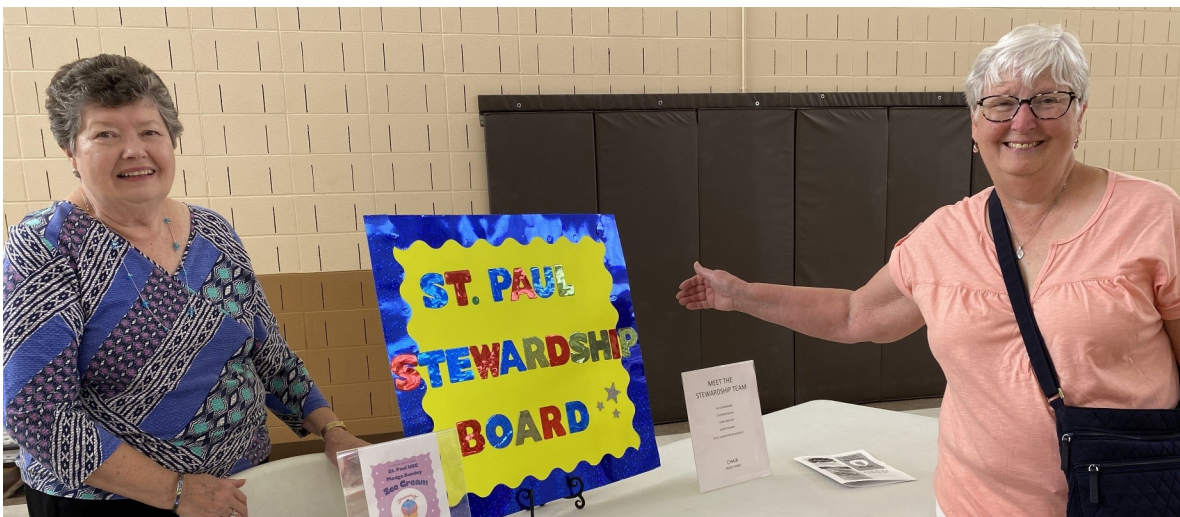


Stewardship

Team Members: Stephenie Bauza, Peggy Burke – team leader, Sue Sutherland, Sandy Wagner, Larry Walton, Rev. Michelle Torigian - staff liaison.

- Team members presented Stewardship Moments for One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen the Church, Neighbors in Need, and the Christmas Fund.
- The stewardship team provided the Lenten devotional Floriography. The worship team created a trellis to coordinate with the flowers featured in the devotional.
- Two 50/50 drawings were held – Our Mardi Gras 50/50 and Grand Slam 50/50 generated \$1,010 for the operating fund of the church.
- St. Paul members and friends attended the Cardinal baseball game on August 28. Even with a rain storm prior to the game, the Cardinals game was a lot of fun! We donated 15 tickets to Hoyleton and three of their houses attended. The kids were very excited to be at the ballgame. Jack and Dani did the field visit along with mom and grandma.
- Our October stewardship campaign utilized the UCC program From Bread & Wine to Faith & Giving. Stewardship events included a skit presented by the stewardship team, a Time & Talent Fair, and a Sundae Sunday ice cream social on Commitment Sunday.
- St. Paul Trivia Night took place on November 19. With team registrations, round sponsors, basket donations, and raffles, Trivia Night raised \$4,505 for the operating fund of the church. Our sincere thanks goes to Michael Wagner for his generous, humorous, and skillful hosting of the evening. We had 14 teams, 20 raffle baskets, 12 round sponsors, and 7 volunteers from outside of our stewardship team. In addition to basket donations from St. Paul teams and organizations, Pastor Michelle worked to get gift cards from several local restaurants, which she put together in a basket.
- Advent devotionals - A Less is More Christmas, from the SALT Project - were provided to the congregation.

The Stewardship Team thanks you for your generous gifts of time, talents, and treasures that sustain and enrich the works of St. Paul UCC. Like the old Sunday school song, “The church is not a building; the church is people,” and we are truly blessed by and with the people of St. Paul Church!



A Celebration of Heritage Hall

APRIL 24, 2022



CONGREGATIONAL CARE TEAM

CO-CHAIRS: Debbie Lippert and Beverly Brightwell

The Congregational Care Team represents all the groups in the church who provide support for and develop relationships among the members of St. Paul UCC, Belleville. We feel fortunate that groups and activities were able to resume normal in person functioning during 2022 and continue God's work to make our relationships stronger.

SUBTEAMS

CHOIR/MUSIC

We continue to be blessed with inspirational music provided by the choir, handbell members and organists under the leadership of Tristan Frampton who was hired as Music Director February 2022. The challenge of finding a church organist has been daunting, but we are hopeful to fill that position with a commitment for a new organist starting Summer 2023. We are sincerely grateful for the organists who have filled the void during 2022, with a special thanks to our own Janet Spencer who has shouldered much of that task. Also many thanks to the individual soloists and instrumentalists who provided special music during the choir and handbell's summer hiatus. Please refer to Tristan Frampton's Music Director's Staff report for full details of 2022 music activities at St. Paul UCC.



CULINAIRES

During 2022 the Culinares started having the third Sunday breakfast after having to suspend for 18 months. We have grown with two new Culinares. We have also contributed to the Tuesday evening Community Dinner. If anyone is interested in doing some cooking, please feel free to join us on the third Sunday at about 7:30am.

FIRESIDE

Inactive during 2022

ST. PAUL FRIENDS

Our St. Paul Friends met at the home of Dave & Sue Hoffmann in March, at the home of Rusty & Sandy Wagner in May, at the home of Al & Nancy Scharf in August and in Heritage Hall in December.



The group purchased shades for the new large meeting room and purchased gifts for the Star Tree. We also sponsored a Mother, Daughter, Friend celebration banquet in May.

Judy Koch, Organizer

PRAYER GROUPS

Centering Prayer Group is every 2nd & 4th Saturday, but currently on hold due to Covid. Led by Steve Schmidt.

Centering Prayer Group meets every 2nd & 4th Saturday morning at Trinity UCC, Belleville. All are welcome who are interested in personal development of meaningful prayer as a centering activity in their life.

ST. PAUL WITH YOU

Team Roster: Stephenie Bauza, Luci Bradley, Beverly Brightwell, Peggy Burke, Donna Davis, JoAnn, Elmore, Julie Harris, Judy Koch, Sandy & Wes Krummrich, Gus Kuether, Kathy Liddy, Debbie Lippert, Mimi Llamas, Marlene Mueller, Jeanette Phillips, Susan Relfe, Sandy Ritter, Lou Ryseff, Laureen Torigian, Rev. Michelle Torigian, Sandy Wagner, Brett White.



“How can we help the members of our congregation?” is the focus of our monthly meeting. Our team meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month to celebrate prayers that have been answered and to share where prayers and support are needed. Cards, visits, and phone calls are ongoing, and this year a few extra gifts were added. Participating in the October Time & Talents Fair, we distributed the monthly birthday/anniversary lists and suggestions for what to write in our many cards of support. We again sponsored the St Paul UCC Belleville Team for a successful Alzheimer’s Association Walk. The safety of one of our members was enhanced by the repairing of her front steps. Hot dinners were delivered with friendly conversation. We welcomed and got to know new church members. Outdoor Christmas lights decorated a member’s home. A group of 12 started the season with Christmas carols to some of our congregation, which we hope will become an annual event for more homes.

Each month, our agenda includes updates on approximately 30 of our members plus those residing at Senior Communities. Helping depends upon communication between all members of congregation and all groups within our church. The more we know about the gifts and talents you have to give, the greater the support we can offer to our friends. Everyone is willing to help, if we know where help is needed. Twenty-three of us are on our team roster, but everyone in the congregation is on our TEAM! Thank you!

ST. PAUL’S SENIOR COMMUNITY

The sale of St. Paul Senior Community consisting of the senior apartments and skilled nursing facility to Tutera was finalized Spring 2022 after a lengthy legal process. Subsequently, the St. Paul Home Board of Directors and the St. Paul Home Foundation Board were formally dissolved by Summer 2022. Immeasurable gratitude is owed to both Al Scharf and Rusty Wagner for their time and leadership of those respective Boards during the entire process. The Foundation Board balance has been donated to St. Paul UCC Endowment Fund.

Continued on next page



Volunteers continue to provide worship services on a weekly basis at the Senior Community, which is attended by a faithful group from the apartments; nursing facility residents attendance depends on staff availability. COVID outbreaks at the start of 2022 limited visitors and services, but they were able to consistently resume in person services March 2022. Many thanks to the volunteers who lead the worship services: Gay Eckert, Dolly Kirsch, Susan Relfe, Sandy Ritter, and Bette Rotert and also to Kim Brush and Peggy Burke who share piano responsibilities. Pastor Michelle provides communion on the first Sunday of the month. The Youth presented their Christmas program the first Sunday of December.

USHERS

Our St. Paul ushering team under the general direction of Wayne Caughman and his assistant, Terry Kalinowski, did a superb job in 2022 of providing support to members and others at all of our Sunday morning services and for concerts and other events that were held both in our sanctuary and in Heritage Hall. A special thanks to the ushers for all of their hard work! They are as follows: Dana Rosenzweig, Beverly Brightwell, Larry Walton, Laureen Torigian, Pam and Bruce Elser, Jan Friedrich, Jerry Pierce-Heisler, Sam Sivewright, Sherri Gericke, Scott Gentry, Cecil Crites, Terry Kalinowski and Wayne Caughman.



Late in 2022, new name tags were made for everyone and permanent weekly ushering assignments by individuals were made as well. Additional ushers are always welcomed. Contact Wayne Caughman if you are willing to help.

WOMEN'S GUILD



After a short break during January and February, the thirty-one members of the Women's Guild resumed meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. in Heritage Hall. The 2022 officers were: Bette Rotert, president; Stephenie Bauza, vice president; Susan Relfe, secretary; and Dorothy Maiworm, treasurer. Members of the Women's Guild are the behind-the-scenes support of many church events. With the help of church members, family, and friends, the Guild again sponsored a Rummage Sale in June. At the conclusion

of the year, \$2,500+ were sent to designated church funds and missions. Meetings this year were moved from evenings to 1:00 p.m., for everyone's comfort and safety. Bill Guthrie serenaded with Irish tunes at the Mothers' Day gathering. In July, a picnic/potluck included guests as we enjoyed games with refreshments. November was the annual wrapping of Puff's and writing Christmas cards to the 175 residents of St. Paul Senior Community. At every gathering, the names of members, friends & families needing prayers and those with celebrations are shared. Everyday, members are supported through phone calls, cards, and visits to wherever they currently reside. All women of the church are invited to join us to celebrate our many gifts to share and to enjoy the presence of one another.

NOTE: Mark your calendars and bring your donations to the 2023 Rummage Sales: March 31-April 1 and September 29-30, 2023.

WELCOME TEAM

First of all, I would like to thank Carol and Fred Hotz for leading the Welcome Team in previous years prior to the Pandemic. The Welcome Team is happy to back working the doors to greet our congregants! You will be met with smiling faces from Scott and Lana Gentry, Bette Ettling, Judy Koch, Ruth Bush, Marlene Mueller, Al Scharf, Lynn Bradley, Sherry Stepp, Jeanine Guthrie, Sue Sivewright, Beverly Brightwell, and Larry Walton. Thank you, Team!!!

Debbie Lippert, Contact Person



WORSHIP

Members are: Janice Friedrich Co-Chair, Wayne Caughman, Lynn Koehler, Debbie Lippert, and Pam Walton.

We opened the church in January with in person worship. The ushers wearing gloves took temperatures of parishioners at the door and masks were required. Ushers seated three people to alternate pews that had seat cushions and Bibles removed. Communion was offered in a sealed plastic cup containing grape juice and a wafer. These were given out along with the bulletin as they took their seat in the sanctuary. Later in the year we started having parishioners coming forward to receive a piece of bread given in their hand by the Pastor and selecting either wine or grape juice from the tray held by an usher, consuming it and returning to their pew seat. Offerings are deposited in wooden boxes which David Hoffmann made. We will discuss in 2023 about passing the offering plate again. The church music director resigned near the beginning of 2022 and Tristan Frampton was hired to work with the choir and hand bells. Tristan has been a wonderful addition to our music program. We have had guest organists throughout the year and a new organist has been hired and will begin in June of 2023. The Worship Committee has been blessed with the decorating skills of Laura Strohm Armstrong. We give a big "Shout Out" for her help at Christmas and Easter.



The church now has a digital record of all the banners and paraments. Pam and Jan worked on this project during the summer. Pam Walton made a new banner; "Be Still And Know That I Am God". Ushers provide assistance for Sunday services, funerals, and special events. They hand out bulletins, light candles, and take care of the offerings.

The Worship Committee would like to "Thank" Pat Kinney, Evan Wilhelm, and all Committee members for their help and support throughout the year. The Worship Committee tries to enhance your worship experience whether in the sanctuary or on technology outlets. If anyone would be interested in being a member of the Worship Committee we would love to include you in our group.

Respectfully submitted by: Janice Friedrich Co-Chair

Education Team

We started off the year slowly still being aware of covid and all its nastiness. However, we became more active as the year went on! Here are some highlights:

We provided Easter stories and goody bags for 25 children enrolled in MDO.

We marched in the Shriners parade and handed out candy & flyers for VBS. (Thanks to all who donated candy)

We worked with Trinity church and provided an excellent VBS program entitled “Food Truck Party” on a Roll with God! We had 17 youth each day and about 60 people at our finale! We collected 99 boxes of cereal to give to the interfaith food pantry as our mission collection this year. (Thanks to all who worked with the program registering, teaching, decorating, shopping, constructing food truck etc.) We have begun plans for VBS 2023 which will be held the week of June 19th.



Youth group meetings were held throughout the year led by Pastor Michelle with at least one or 2 of the adult CE team members also present. We played games, had discussions, graduation party, played mini golf, prepared youth Sundays Christmas skit, presented skit at St. Paul’s home as well as in church and worked on planning our schedule for 2023. We see the quality of these youth not the quantity! We will continue to work on building/growing this group. And look forward to trying our hand at pickle ball in 2023!

We participated in the time and talent fair that was held in October with a slide presentation on Pastor Michelle’s iPad as well as sign up sheets.

We donated a children’s themed basket to the November trivia night sponsored by stewardship committee. (Thanks to our team members for their donations.)

Some of our members helped with children’s moments on Sunday mornings (Thanks to Mary Lu, Bette & Syndy)

Plans for the 2023 Crafty mania started and flyers were printed and distributed. This will be a fund raiser for youth to go to a retreat in Dubois and for mission team.

Submitted by Synthia Kalinowski co-chair



Outreach Team

The Outreach Team consists of the following sub teams and programs:

- Beacon Ministry
- Community Dinner
- Community Events
- Fine Arts
- Mission
- Mission Trips
- Outreach and Publicity
- Prayer Shawls
- Quilters / Threads of Hope



Beacon Ministry

Beacon Ministry is a Belleville and surrounding communities organization that provides the setting for churches, businesses, and volunteers to join efforts to help break the chains of poverty. Beacon decided in 2022 to narrow its focus to providing connections with helping resources and providing furniture for those who need it but cannot afford to buy it. Beacon accepts furniture in good condition for future distribution and they are always grateful to receive monetary donations from individuals, businesses, or churches.

Community Dinner Team

Chair: Sandy Ritter

Community Dinner is held every Tuesday from 5-5:45. A hot meal is served with dignity to the working poor and the homeless. We make up 3 casseroles, usually spaghetti, chicken and rice and meatballs and noodles. The sides are usually applesauce, green beans and salad. Usually one of the volunteers brings in a dessert. We feed what is left from the Culinares on one Tuesday or I do egg casserole, biscuits and sausage. Culinares are going to serve on the 5th Tuesdays in 2023. We have been averaging 12 to 17 patrons. We had a group donate blankets, hats, gloves, money and socks that we were able to distribute in December. We had one donation given from the pickle ball group to support buying the food for us after they found out St. Paul provides the dinners on Tuesday and another donation from a member to purchase the food. We use 4 volunteers each Tuesday and everyone wants to help. All of the team work and donations make this outreach program possible. I am looking forward to continuing this outreach program in 2023.



Fine Arts Team

Chair: Sandy Wagner

Members: Stephenie Bauza, Tom Birkner, Luci Bradley, Peggy Burke, Bill Guthrie, Mimi Llamas, Osceola Mueller, Marilae Perkins, Eileen Peter, Judy Saeger, Jan Spencer, Barb Suess, and Tristan Frampton

Fine Arts Continued on next page

The St. Paul Fine Arts series sponsored the following events in 2022:

- February 12 Valentine Dinner & Concert was cancelled due to Covid protocol
- April 23 SWIC 10 Year Anniversary Alumni Concert
- April 29 Vocal Master Class with Christine Brewer
- May 1 Masterworks Chorale “A Night At The Opera” featuring Christine Brewer
- July 2 Millstadt Community Choir Patriotic Concert
- September 25 Equinox Chamber Players
- December 3 No Name Chorale “Wonder Upon Wonder”

Events planned for 2023 include the following:

- February 11 “Love & Other Things” featuring David Wagner & Dan Fry. An evening of voice and piano at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Reception following in the Welcome Center.
- March 26 SWIC Jazz Band & Friends at 4 p.m.

Mission Team

Co-chairs: Pete Kobernus and Sherry Davinroy

Members: Roger Harris, Linda Herrmann, Donna Kelly, Judy Koch, Jan Spencer, Bev Vokes

The Mission Team supported the following missions during 2022 thanks to the generosity of our congregation:

- Snacks for Heroes at Memorial Hospital (Belleville and Shiloh) and Touchette Hospital
- Food drive collections donated to the Interfaith Food Pantry
 - Souper bowl food drive in February
 - Holy week food drive
 - Reusable bag collections began in the 4th quarter
- Desserts sold at the Mother, Daughter, Friend Banquet in May
- Mother’s Day and Father’s Day Honor Roll collections were donated to Camp DuBois
- Two raffle baskets donated to Beacon’s trivia night basket raffle plus St Paul members participated in the trivia event
- Two raffle baskets donated to the Camp DuBois Fall Festival basket raffle
- One raffle basket donated to St Paul’s trivia night basket raffle
- St. Paul sponsored a hole for Hoyleton Youth and Family Services golf tournament and some St. Paul members played in the tournament
- Undie Sunday items (e.g., hats, gloves, undies, etc.) were collected and donated to Kindercottage in December
- Unfortunately, the team’s peanut square fundraiser was cancelled for 2022
- Monetary donations were also sent to:
 - His Kids Cancer
 - Kids for Christ
 - Franklin Neighborhood Association for their holiday baskets
 - Hoyleton Hope for the Holidays
 - The Star Tree at Christmas



Mission Trips

Chair: Roger Harris

Several adults from St. Paul and other churches in the area completed the following projects at Camp DuBois in 2022:

- Built a new cabin in the Rustic area
- Replaced the Deer Run shower house roof

Prayer Shawls

Primary Contact: Stephenie Bauza

St Paul's Prayer Shawl Ministry is looking for crocheters and knitters! We were once a large group of 24 however over the years have dwindled to just a small few. Our Ministry team provides shawls for those who need comfort because of illness or grief, and we provide baby blankets at baptism. It is a wonderful fulfilling ministry!

Are you not sure how to knit or crochet and want to learn? I or another member of our group would be happy to teach you. We gave out many shawls last year and our supplies are dwindling.

Call, email or talk to me on a Sunday. Stephenie Bauza, pesabauza@gmail.com or 618-920-9792.

Threads of Hope – Quilters and Stitchers

Chair: Sonja Myland

We have had an outstanding year in 2022. Started the year with 6 quilters. Two new quilters joined the group. Janet Kniepkamp and Zoe Alexander raising our total to 8. We are so happy to have them join us.

We completed 1 king size quilt, 1 queen size quilt, 1 full size quilt and 9 baby quilts. As per our agreement with the church, we gave \$512.60 to St. Paul.

We donated the following: several fleece blankets to be given out at the Community Dinner. Several baby size fleece blankets to Kindercottage at Christmas. Donated one baby quilt to the family of Ginny Muschopf at her funeral. She had hand embroidered the quilt top. Sent 24 pillowcases to the Ukraine through a quilt shop in Florida.

We currently have 3 completed baby quilts for sale for \$80 each. One has butterflies with a pink border, one has dinosaurs, and one is a farm scene with tractor and animals. We also are working on a Cardinal quilt which will be donated to the church for a raffle.



Delegate to Illinois South Conference Report

Day of Discipleship

Due to COVID-19, the Day of Discipleship was held on March 19, 2022 via Zoom.

The Townhall meeting gave us the opportunity to hear updates from:

- The WISE exploratory team
- The Dubois 6.0 campaign
- The ISC Hunger Action Team
- Uni-Pres Kindercottage's new Executive Director

During the first session, I attended Workshop #1: **Healthy Communication** by Rev. Lisa Hart, Intentional Interim Pastor at St. John UCC, Chesterfield, MO.

She spoke of how the interim will help the congregation through the process of preparing for a new pastor. Communication is needed by everyone. It needs to be clear and concise.

Confidentiality is important, as well. Permission is needed to put someone's name on the prayer list or to share information with the congregation. The interim needs to take time to work through things with the parishioners and to keep them informed. Praying for the new pastor regularly is very important.

During Session Two I attended Workshop #2 **Pathways to Promise: A Taste of Companionship**. Rev. Tim Darmour-Paul, Pastor at Grantfork UCC led this workshop.

The Companionship Model is a program which teaches members of the congregation how to build a circle of care with individuals who are facing emotional and mental health challenges. Companionship recognizes the need for a circle of care and support. We are not there to heal, but to be present and listen.

Annual Meeting 2022

The Illinois South Conference annual meeting was held on October 15, 2022. It was hosted by St. John UCC in Collinsville, IL.

Throughout the day, we were treated to the music of "The Many". Their music encourages "people to sing together about peace and justice and a world where all belong".

The Marketplace provided an opportunity to learn about our ministry partners and to purchase resources from Eden Theological Seminary bookstore and products from Fair Trade and SERRV.

During the morning plenary session, a presentation was given on becoming a WISE conference and/or a WISE congregation. WISE stands for Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive and Engaged when referring to those in our churches who are dealing with mental health challenges and the people who love them. In the afternoon session, this was voted on and approved.

There was also a discussion about the Divestment of Fossil Fuel. The fossil fuel industries, by extraction of oil, gas and coal focus on monetizing these resources in order to benefit a few companies and stockholders. The resolution urges the Illinois South Conference of the UCC, its congregations and individuals to divest from fossil fuel companies. A vote was taken later in the afternoon and the resolution was approved.

The 2023 budget was presented, voted on and approved.

The slate of nominees for 2023 was presented, voted on and approved, as well.

An update was given on the DuBois Center and DuBois 6.0. Offerings were collected for DuBois Center 6.0 as well as for Disaster Ministries of the UCC.

Before adjourning for the day, the attendees participated in Closing Worship with Installations and Communion.



Blessings, Laureen Torigian, Delegate to the Illinois South Conference

Our delegates in 2022 were Syndy Kalinowski, Terry Kalinowski, and Laureen Torigian

Archives

Performed the same tasks in saving all confirmation records.

The renovation of Heritage Hall was completed. Significant artifacts were found and are being processed in the Archives.

A catalog of archives material exists. It is an excel spreadsheet listing our inventory of items (newspaper, photographs, church records, artifacts, you name it...). The catalog is always updated as I find things in the Archive or from church members. This is a first for the Archives in that it is organizing the entire collection into one reference document.

I continue to find, organize, and digitize material every day.

Your archivist, Roger Henke

St. Paul United Church of Christ, Belleville, 2022 Church Council





Thank You,
St. Paul UCC!

We appreciate all of the ways you
shared your time, talent, and
treasures with us in 2022!