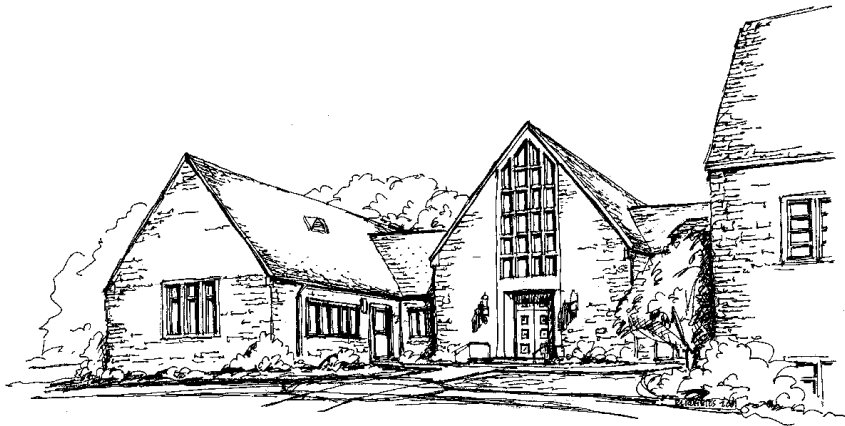


# Blacksburg Presbyterian Church

*2023 Annual Report*



**Pastor's Report**  
**Rev. Sarah W. Wiles**

Dear friends,

Wow! How can it be time for this look back yet again? It has been a wonderful year of ministry here at BPC. There is so much to give thanks for! I hope you will read through this report. I know it's hefty, but that's a mark of how lively and vital things are around here, and how many different ways we affect people's lives.

There's an old question often used to measure a church's impact: **If your church disappeared tomorrow, who would notice it was gone?**

As I look out at all of you on Sunday mornings—very young and very old, college students, teens, new retirees, some of you tired, some of you searching for meaning, some of you grieving, some of you who have walked through the doors for the very first time—I know the Spirit is moving within and among us. **I have seen lives changed** both gradually and suddenly through the ministry of this church. **Worship, fellowship, formation and education for all ages—these all make a real difference in people's lives.**

Then when I look out through the front doors, which are wide open on warm, sunny days, and think of our partners in the community who not only give housing and food and clothes, but also advocate for policies that can produce real change, I know **BPC is an essential member of this community**. And I imagine out even further, beyond the NRV, and think of our **international partners** providing rich theological education, supporting local health care, and changing lives through the healing power of the arts. God truly does do more with what we offer than we could begin to think to ask.

Much of the behind-the-scenes work this year has revolved around the **needs of our building**. The components of our heating and cooling systems are at the end of their life. The organ is in need of essential maintenance. And there are exciting ideas to revitalize spaces currently overlooked or underused, like the prayer room and the small conference room off of the Gathering Space. **This is mission work**. I'm proud to share that a rough estimate reveals that **during an average week, the building is used approximately 51 hours for BPC programs and work, and 50 hours for community ministries.**

Financially, our building is our biggest asset, and depending on how you measure it, one of our top two expenses—the other being personnel. But unlike many other church buildings, ours does not sit empty during the week. Neither do we hoard it only for internal events. Rather, it is bustling from morning to night with Head Start, PMO, choirs, scouts, quilters, yoga classes, support groups for families, and so much more. It truly is part of our mission in the community.

Overall, I'm just so grateful to be in ministry with all of you. This congregation takes seriously its call to extend a wide welcome, worship together, learn and grow together, and serve and give together. Thank YOU for being a part of it.

Grace and peace,  
Sarah

**Report from Parish Associate**  
**Rev. Emily Rhodes Hunter**

Dear friends,

It was a true joy to serve BPC as a parish associate this past year. The term “parish associate” is used to refer to an ordained PC(USA) pastor who is a participant in a congregation but not serving in an installed pastoral role. These folks have been through all the education and training that a parish pastor has, and often have served pastoral roles in previous congregations, but now work outside the church in related fields. This year, that work for me has involved campus ministry at UKirk at Virginia Tech.

Parish associates often serve congregations in a very specialized, limited capacity, and our contracts are renewed each year by the session. Because I only serve ten hours each month, my focus is limited primarily to congregational care and adult education. Within those realms, I’ve had the opportunity to provide pastoral coverage whenever Pastor Sarah has been away on vacation or study leave throughout the year. Occasionally, that’s involved officiating a funeral or simply reaching out to folks in the midst of illness or loss or other difficulties. Throughout the year, I’ve filled the pulpit, served as liturgist, administered the sacraments, and led the children’s time. From time to time, I’ve also partnered with Pastor Sarah to offer special services like Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday. In addition to these responsibilities, I’ve been a resource for BPC during our Death with Dignity adult education series this fall. Drawing upon my experience as a hospice chaplain, I helped our congregation reflect on the practical and spiritual questions that we face at the end of life.

This year I’ve also found that my role at UKirk flows naturally into my work at BPC. I’ve enjoyed working more closely with our university ministries committee to coordinate Feed the Flock and develop programs such as Campus Connections to deepen relationships with our college students. We’ve had many new students worshiping with us this fall – enough for two “UKirk pews.” A handful of students have also attended adult education classes or served as liturgists this semester. I’m excited to see how we can continue to strengthen those ties.

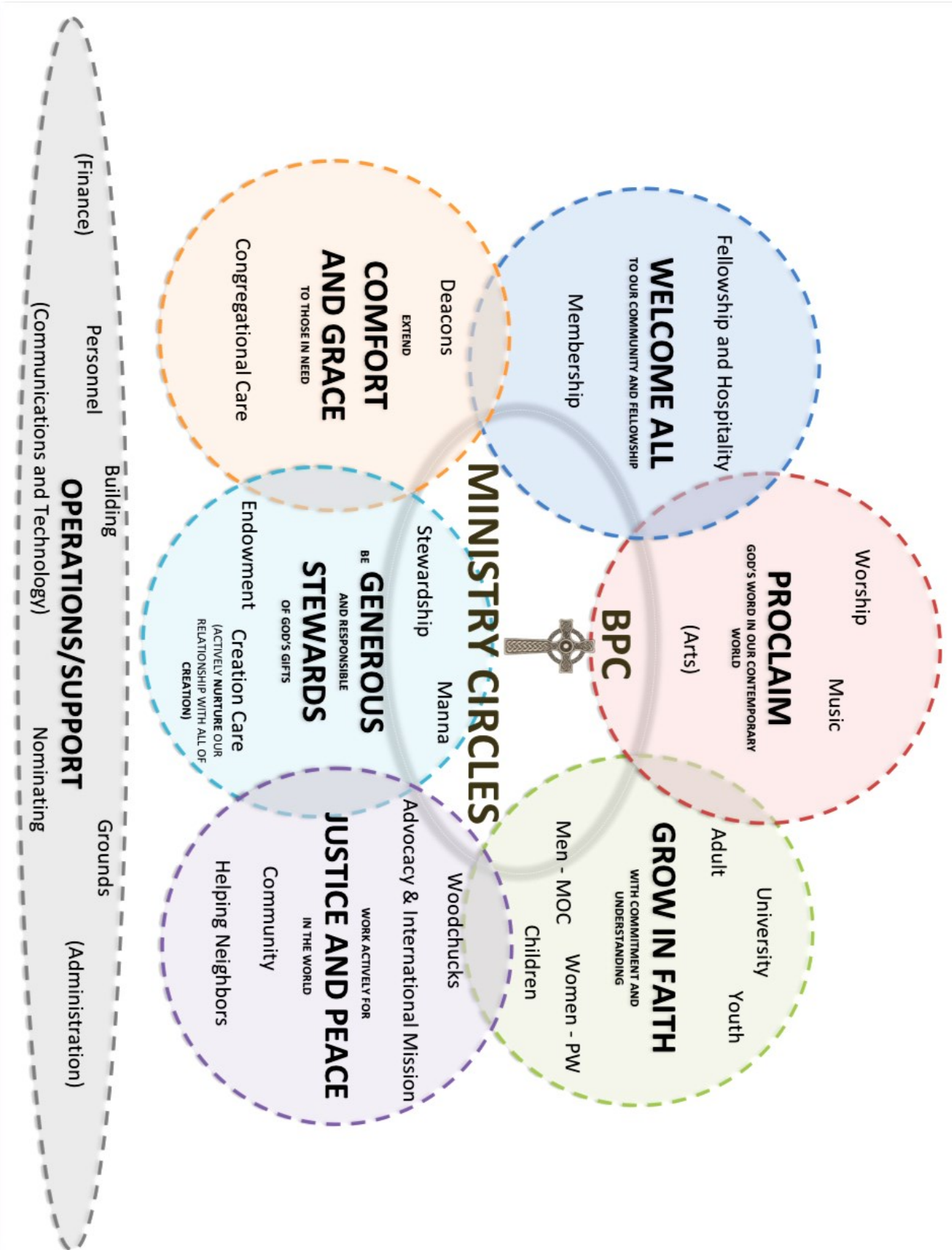
In the coming year, I’m hoping to help coordinate engaging adult education opportunities, partner with Pastor Sarah to create inspiring worship services and beautiful liturgy, support those with ongoing pastoral care concerns, and deepen our connection to our college students. In the meantime, I’m grateful to have you all as companions on the journey, and I hope we can grow in grace together as we enter this new year of ministry.

In Christ,

Emily Rhodes Hunter

# MINISTRY CIRCLE DIAGRAM

Approved August 2020



# **PROCLAIM MINISTRY CIRCLE**

**Worship**

**Music**

## **Worship Ministry**

### **Members/volunteers:**

Elder and Ministry chair: Elizabeth Day. Worship Ministry Team: Dave Snyder, Clay Waite, Beth Mattson, Marilyn Hutchins, and Heather Lawrence. Pastor Sarah Wiles, Susan Hunter, Rhonda Waller, and Sarah Windes (members of the weekly Worship Planning Team), Larry Wyatt (music director January through July), Amanda Raymond (pianist/organist January through June), Alice Sanders (Director of Music and Organist June to current), have also been instrumental in the Worship Ministry during 2022. Other members who support this ministry are Marcia Parks, Ben Corl, Julie Burger, Natasha Lowe, Anna Bach and Page Foster (banners), Phil & Susan Bailey (usher coordinators), Sylvia and Martin Klaus (communion elements preparation), Allen & Jeananne Bame (poinsettia care), Sharing Faith with Children leaders (Angela Anderson, Anne Campbell, Emily Rhodes Hunter, Larry Bechtel, Russell Gregory, Ben Corl, Marcia Parks, Ed Spencer, and Alice Sanders)

### **Goals:**

1. To support the Pastor and Music Director with worship planning, as needed, including special services such as Season of Creation, Christmas Eve, Easter, etc.
2. To plan for the preparation and serving of Communion on the first Sunday of every month and special services.
3. To arrange for placement of special appointments such as flowers, candles, banners, Chrismon tree and other objects of art in the sanctuary.
4. To support the usher coordinators in arranging for ushers for all services of worship at BPC, including Sunday mornings, holy days, funerals, and special services.
5. To support efforts that encourage devotional/worship practices including Advent and Lenten devotional activities.
6. To support the provision of live streaming of worship services

### **Accomplishments:**

1. Creating a Banner Team to better facilitate placement of sanctuary decorations.
2. Adding several new Sharing Faith with Children leaders, enriching this aspect of worship.
3. Special services during 2023 included: Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Palm Sunday processional with palm fronds, Easter service with flowering of the cross, 3-week Season of Creation, "Savior of the Nations, Come: An Advent/Christmas Hymn Festival" by Michael Burkhardt for worship one Sunday in December, and Christmas Eve evening service.
4. The BPC Choir and handbell choir provided music for worship from January through the first Sunday in June, and again from September through December. Various instrumental and vocal soloists from the community were engaged for services occasionally. Additional information may be found in the Music Ministry report (next page).
5. Take-home household resources were provided for Lent and Advent.

### **Hopes for 2024:**

1. To increase the frequency of celebration flowers in worship and wreaths during Advent.
2. To streamline the process of decorating the sanctuary (banners, etc.) by utilizing a team of members.
3. To continue supporting the worship planning and practices at BPC including in-person and live streaming services.

## Music Ministry

### Members/volunteers:

**Director of Music:** Alice Sanders (Larry Wyatt January through May)  
Organist/Pianist January through May: Amanda Raymond

### Regular members of the **adult and handbell choirs:**

Lynn Thye, Forrest Thye, Linda Frazier, Renee Jacobsen, Elva Miller, Susan Miller, Marilyn Hutchins, Jenny Marin, Judie Reemsnyder, Michele Bomar, Judy Davis, Nancy Phay, Daron Phay, Martha Dillard, John Dillard, Suzanne Sanford, Steve Drumheller, Judy McCord, Mac McCord, Shane Parson, John Hassler, Glenn Sanders, Bill Neely, Mary Lee Hendricks, Cameron Riley, Sarah Windes, Jenn Engelke, Lydean and David Spangler, Ranee Lahn.

### **Musicians** in the congregation who have played for worship:

Ben Wyatt, Ariana Wyatt, Larry Wyatt, Charlie Wyatt, Linda King, Molly Wilkins-Reed, Sam Woolsey, Heidi Swartzwelder, and others. Additional instrumental and vocal soloists from the community were engaged for worship occasionally.

Choral scholars and extra musicians (not volunteers) receive honoraria.

### **Goals:**

The music ministry seeks to provide congregational, choral, and instrumental music that supports, develops, and enhances the scriptures and topics chosen for each worship service, to honor musical traditions while introducing the congregation to fresh musical expressions of Christian faith, to find opportunities for people of all ages to offer their musical talents in worship, and to have enjoyable and efficient rehearsals for all musical groups.

A particular goal during 2023 was to accomplish a smooth transition to new leadership.

### **Accomplishments:**

- Collaborative worship planning has resulted in meaningful integration of music into the congregation's worship experience.
- Successful rehearsals have led to adequate preparation of anthems and other service music throughout the year with the adult choir, handbell choir, and other musicians.
- Music time with children has been established at the beginning of the Sunday School hour.
- Music for Mission concerts brought in guest artists, donations to BPC missions, and visibility in the wider community.
- Dr. Wyatt taught three classes on music composition and history in worship during Sunday school in July, with attendance between 20 and 30 each week.
- Dr. Wyatt also organized and conducted the "Summer Sing" community chorus of 60+ singers presenting Haydn's "Lord Nelson Mass" in July, an event hosted at BPC. The event was funded by the VT Summer Fine Arts Series. BPC also hosted three additional classical concerts in July as part of that series.

### **Hopes/Plans for 2024:**

- Continued creative use of our Glory to God hymnal and other resources.
- Increased musical opportunities for children.
- Special music services (such as the Advent Hymn Festival) and/or other musical programs.
- Significant progress in plans to restore the Holtkamp organ.

# **GROW IN FAITH MINISTRY CIRCLE**

**Children**

**Youth**

**Adult**

**Presbyterian Women**

**Men of the Church**

**University**

**Scouts**



## Children's Ministry

### Members/volunteers:

Susan Bailey, elder, and Susan Hunter, Director of Children and Youth Ministries, Heather Lawrence, Meg Laing, Emily Rhodes Hunter, Bethany Brownfield. **Sunday school teachers:** Susan and Phil Bailey, Bethany Brownfield, Julie Burger, Katharine Cleland, Ben Corl, Mary Lee Hendricks, Marilyn Hutchins, Abbie Knobl, Meg Laing, Heather Lawrence, Marcia Parks, Rachel Parson, Janet Rakes, Natalie Rasher, Melanie Spencer, Heidi Swartzwelder, Claire White. **Subs:** Jama Green, Susan Hunter, and Abbie Knobl. **Children's Music:** Alice Sanders, Michele Bomar, Linda King. **Worship Bags:** Meg Laing. **Fellowship events:** Jonathan and Angela Anderson, Julie Burger, Katharine Cleland, Ben Corl, Meg Laing, Chris and Heather Lawrence, Jama and Matt Green, Meg Laing, Anne Campbell, Mary Ann Bowling, Jenny Marin, Linda King, Suzanne Ducker, Melody Zobel. **VBS:** Anne Campbell, Elizabeth Day, Melanie Smith, Sarah Windes, Sam Woolsey, Alex Rascher, Nora Green, Gavin Faulkner, Claire White, Barbara McKenzie, Rachel Parson, Mary Harder, Linda King, Alex Rascher, Madeleine Evans, Bethany Brownfield, Angela Anderson, Liz Scott, Susan Bailey, Sarah and Emma Grace Woolsey, Jeff and Lindsay Call, Mike McGilliard, Katharine Cleland, Marcia Parks, Jen Stewart, Anna Bach, Nancy Furr, Soren Anderson, Clara Corl, Natalie Green, Julie Burger, Suzanne Ducker, Ben Corl, Matt Green.

### Goals:

1. To provide a loving environment in which children and families can learn about and experience the love of God through education and fellowship.
2. To maintain connections with and among families.

### Accomplishments:

- Children's Ministry continues to rejoice being back fully in person! Most activities have returned to "normal" and our team is once again meeting in a more formal sense, with a focus on maintaining wonderful traditions while dreaming for the future.
- After years of changes due to the pandemic, Sunday School returned to a full slate of classes, PreK-K, 1-2, and 3-5. Teachers are following the Spark Classroom curriculum, and all classes are meeting in person on Sunday mornings. Sunday School average attendance is 13 children per week.
- We were able to enjoy many of our traditional activities including the Easter egg hunt, Pumpkin Carving, and Gingerbread House dinner. Vacation Bible School was held June 11-14, 2023 and reached 24 children. The theme was "Hero Hotline: Called Together to Serve God." More than 40 volunteers helped bring the fellowship hall and classrooms to life through meals, assemblies, drama, discovery and games.
- This fall also brought the beginning of a children's choir. Alice Sanders meets with first through fifth graders before Sunday School and with the preschool-kindergarten class during Sunday School each week. Alice has been intentional in creating opportunities for children to participate in music during worship.
- At-home resources were offered for families to help observe Lent and Advent. Worship bags for children were updated with new books. Nursery/God's Garden childcare was offered.

### Hopes/Plans for 2024:

To continue our traditions, including the new children's choir.

To work with other BPC ministries to bring an intergenerational series during Lent that brings young and old together in fellowship and education.

To create a solution to the sound/volume issue in room 007 by researching and deciding on acoustic mitigation.

To create a sensory room for children and families who would benefit from a safe space.

## Youth Ministry

### Members/volunteers:

Director of Children and Youth Ministries: Susan Hunter, Mary Lee Hendricks, elder; Youth Group advisors: Russell and Colleen Drumheller, Jenny Fairchild and Susan Hunter, with support from parents of the youth; Sunday school teachers: Jonathan Anderson, Julie Burger, Judy Davis, Russell Drumheller, Jenny Fairchild, Susan Hunter, Todd and Natasha Lowe, Courtney Roberts, and Ben Wyatt.

### Goals:

To provide opportunities for youth to learn, grow in faith, build community with one another, to be involved in the life of our church and community, to incorporate aspects of the Matthew 25 Initiative, and to serve God in all aspects of their lives.

### Accomplishments:

- Youth Sunday School was held in-person for grades 6-12 using the Follow Me curriculum by PCUSA. Cobbie Palm and Dessa Quesada Palm, BPC's mission co-workers from the Philippines, met with the class in March. Attendance averaged 7 youth.
- The topic of the Youth Sunday worship service on April 23, 2023 was the Road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35). Youth led the service through prayer, music, scripture, a skit, and a reflection by senior Sam Woolsey.
- Youth Group met at BPC on Sunday evenings with dinner and a program. Attendance at meetings averaged 15 youth and advisers. Early in the year the group focused on BPC's Racial Equity Challenge. Later, the topics covered aspects of Matthew 25: 35-36. Video clips, discussion, acting, and games, such as the challenge of cooking a meal in teams with food pantry-type items, were related to those themes. They also fellowshiped during a Bob Ross-style painting party, movies, bowling, and games. They held a Christmas party and an end-of-the-school-year party.
- In October, eight youth and five chaperones attended a presbytery trip to the International Civil Rights Site and Museum in Greensboro, NC.
- Service projects included: collecting and washing communion cups, collecting Souper Bowl contributions for the Interfaith Food Pantry, filling plastic eggs with candy for the Easter Egg Hunt and hiding the eggs on the church playground on Easter morning, assisting with Vacation Bible School, sorting holiday donations for the Woodchucks, and donating to The Baby Shop.
- There were four 2023 confirmands: Jaya Eriksen, Heidi Swartzwelder, Sophia Warren, and Charlie Wyatt. Heidi, Sophia and Charlie offered a musical and spoken word program at Showalter Center in Warm Hearth Village.
- Youth assembled fleece blankets to present to the following graduating High School seniors: Elise Bailey, Wyatt Eschenmann, Kyle Knobl, Jackson Lawrence, Rylan Pospichal, Lily Rashcer, McKenna Slocum, Ginsey Thompson, Griffin Warren, and Sam Woolsey.
- Two youth and two adults attended the Massanetta Springs Middle School Conference in June. Four high school youth and two adults attended the Montreat Youth Conference in July.
- Youth participated in congregational pumpkin carving, bonfire and cookout at Caldwell Fields, and gingerbread house-decorating with potluck supper.

### Hopes/Plans for 2024

We hope to:

- Take youth to the Massanetta Springs Middle School Conference.
- Take senior high and middle school students to the Philippines for a BPC mission trip.
- Continue to emphasize Matthew 25 Initiative ideals and service projects.
- Plan and carry out a Youth Sunday Worship service

## Adult Ministry

### Members/Volunteers:

The Adult Ministry leadership includes Russell Gregory (elder and chair September to current), Jack Call, Jonathan Anderson (chair January to August), Jan McGilliard, Kathy Carpenter, and Peg Warren. The Adult Ministry also depends on the essential contributions and leadership from BPC's staff, particularly Sarah Wiles, Sarah Windes, and Emily Rhodes Hunter.

### Goals:

Fundamentally, all of these are means to develop a lived Christianity, an active faith, and a commitment to constant re-formation of one's everyday life. In this regard we:

- Build on the strength of Adult Education in the past. Certainly COVID led us to consider alternative ways to serve BPC, and since then, the program has continued to discern how this ministry can thrive.
- Maintain connections between Adult Formation activities and other parts of BPC congregational life.
- Host a distinguished speaker/s for the church and community to address an issue either from their academic discipline or their applied ministry
- Contribute blurbs in the newsletter to keep adults informed within and without BPC's congregation.

### Accomplishments:

#### Sunday mornings 9:00 AM

- Sarah Wiles and Jonathan Anderson led discussion based on *Streams of Living Water*, by Richard Foster (essential practices from the six great traditions of Christian faith) in the spring.
- In the fall, a group of facilitators (Anne and Greg Campbell, Sarah Wiles, Emily Rhodes Hunter and Dr. Bill Hendricks) guided a study entitled, *Death with Dignity*. The group, numbering between 20-30, appreciated both the background information and the practical suggestions they received.

#### Sunday evenings 7:00 PM

- In the spring, the evening group led by Jack Call and Russell Gregory explored *Do I Stay Christian* by Brian McLaren.
- In the fall and continuing into the first few weeks of 2024, the group focused on the well-known series of addresses by C.S. Lewis entitled *Mere Christianity*.

#### Tuesday mornings (7:30-9:00)

- A group of persons called "The Morningstars" continue to meet for sharing, prayers, and Bible study, led by Sarah Wiles and related to the scriptures set for the coming Sunday.

#### Thursdays (5:00-6:00)

- A group of members and friends meet at Rising Silo or Moon Hollow. Melanie and Scott Smith coordinate this gathering.

### Hopes/Plans for 2024

- New topics for Sunday Morning and Evening (TBA)
- A book study during Lent to complement our A Loving Lent intergenerational Sunday evening program.
- Choosing and hosting a speaker for the Smyth lectures.
- Play a more active role in the newsletter to encourage participation.

## Presbyterian Women

### Members/Volunteers:

Presbyterian Women (PW) are led by a Coordinating Team (CT) whose 2023 members included: Janet Rakes, Moderator; Judy Davis, Vice Moderator; Mary Ann Bowling, Recording Secretary; Sarah Woolsey, Treasurer (Beth Mattson served as Treasurer the first part of year); Melinda Winslow, Corresponding Secretary/Moderator of Search; Natasha Lowe, Historian; Angela Anderson, Faith Circle Leader; Sarah Windes, Hildegard Circle Leader; and Mary Lee Hendricks, Lydia Circle Leader. The three circles provide opportunities for Bible study and fellowship.

### Goals:

The goals of PW are found in its purpose: "Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study, to support the mission of the church worldwide, to work for justice and peace, and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's Kingdom."

In 2023, PW added a special goal. As BPC is a Matthew 25 church, PW planned to participate in inclusion by reviving Church Women United (CWU) in Montgomery County.

### Accomplishments:

- **Reviving Church Women United** came to fruition in 2023. The purpose of CWU will be to promote inclusiveness through worship and fellowship with one event annually, a World Day of Prayer service. BPC will host the first celebration in 2024. Christiansburg Presbyterian Church was invited to assist in the reorganization of CWU. A Steering Committee was formed including Mary Lee Hendricks, Chair, and Janet Rakes, Treasurer, from BPC, and Shelda Wills, Secretary, from Christiansburg Presbyterian Church. The Steering Committee also included representatives from St. Mary's Catholic Church, Asbury United Methodist Church, and the Chair of the NAACP NRV Religious Affairs Group. Reverend Sarah Wiles will plan the first service along with two other churches.
- **PW held its annual meeting in person in early February.** Reverend Sarah Wiles led the 6<sup>th</sup> lesson of the Horizons Bible Study and Janet Rakes, Moderator, installed the new leaders. Twenty women attended, plus eight guests joined the group briefly for the special music or for the Honorary Life Membership recognition. Deb Call was awarded an Honorary Life Membership in recognition of her faithful service to PW and to the church.
- **An all-women one-day retreat was held in March.** Reverend Sarah Wiles and Coordinator of Church Life, Sarah Windes, led a very successful retreat with 28 women in attendance.
- **The circles again each provided meals for the VT UKirk students.**
- **Faith Circle led the congregation in collecting twin-sized "Bed in a Bag" units.** The bedding was donated to Sleep in Heavenly Peace – NRV, an organization that builds beds for children in low-income families.
- **Reverend Sarah Wiles led the PW Gifts of Women Worship Service and Birthday Offering Celebration in May.** Ten BPC PW members participated in leadership for the service.
- **In December, PW offered the Alternative Gift Giving Fair at the annual Advent Festival.** Seven charitable organizations supported by BPC were offered for alternative gift giving. Also in December, PW organized and promoted the Christmas Joy Offering and assisted in the Giving Tree project for the Baby Shop.

### Hopes/Plans for 2024:

Each year, the hopes and plans of PW involve increasing its mission work. Helping others in need, including those in our midst, is the primary goal of BPC PW.

## Men of the Church

### Members/volunteers:

All BPC members and attendees who identify as “men of the church.” A complete listing is maintained in the form of a BPC Google Group and an Excel spreadsheet in a BPC Ministries Google shared drive. Craig Woolsey currently serves as the primary point of contact for the Men of the Church.

### Goals:

According to available records, this group has no established formal goals. The group’s activities have traditionally included social events, cooking meals for UKirk students, and preparing a congregational breakfasts during the Advent season and at Easter.

### Accomplishments:

- A small group attended a Salem Red Sox game in September.
- A small group cooked supper for the UKirk students in February.
- A small group cooked supper for the UKirk students in November.
- 1 to 2 dozen members prepared breakfast for the congregation at Easter and Advent.

### Hopes/Plans for 2024:

Contact Craig Woolsey if you have ideas and would like to be involved.

## University Ministry

### Members/volunteers:

Paula Stith, elder and chair; Mike McGilliard; Brent Opell; Mary Lee Hendricks; Gabrielle Minnich and Tom Tillar. Marcia Parks sends birthday cards to our BPC college and university students, and Meg Laing volunteers to bring food to Feed the Flock regularly. PW circles and Men of the Church provide meals one or two times a year.

**BPC Members on the UKirk Board:** Gabrielle Minnich, Meg Laing, Sarah Wiles (ex officio); Todd Lowe, Kathy Carpenter (outreach minister) and Emily Rhodes Hunter (campus minister at UKirk). Emily Hunter is a wonderful addition to UKirk. Her enthusiasm is inspiring.

### Goals:

The primary goal of University Ministry is to provide support and assistance to the faith journey of students attending college in the Blacksburg area and to BPC members enrolled in college.

### Accomplishments:

We have continued the following ongoing projects:

- Feed the Flock for both Spring 2023 and Fall 2023 sessions
- Spring 2023: 10 \$5 Starbucks gift cards were provided in lieu of exam snacks at UKirk.
- Exam Care Packages: 13 \$10 Starbucks cards were texted
- Fall 2023: 15 \$10 Starbucks gift cards were provided in lieu of exam snacks at UKirk.
- Exam Care packages: 20 \$10 Starbucks ecards were texted

The Starbucks cards have proved to be a big hit with the students again this year.

Funds leftover from the budget will go to UKirk to help fund the Winter 2024 retreat for the students.

### Hopes/Plans for 2024:

The University Ministry will be discussing a Spring 2024 session where university students help BPC members with their technology issues on devices.

We will continue to support UKirk with Feed the Flock.

We will continue to support local and out-of town students with Starbucks cards.

## Scouts BSA Pack and Troops 44

### Members/volunteers:

Chartered Organization Representative: Gavin Faulkner

Pack: Matt Erickson (cubmaster), Rob Briggs (committee chair)

Troops: Mark Nichols (boys' scoutmaster), Jim Dickhans (girls' scoutmaster), Kevin Jones (committee chair)

Many other parents served as den leaders, assistant scoutmasters, and committee members. In addition, a new Scouting Liaison Team was set up this year to work with the Scouting program and better fulfill our responsibilities as the chartering organization: Sarah Wiles, Jonathan Anderson, Gavin Faulkner, Mary Lee Hendricks, and Chris Lawrence.

### Goals:

Adapted from BPC's Annual Charter Agreement with BSA:

The purpose of the Scouting programs is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values and principles taught in the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

The Chartered Organization (BPC), as a duly constituted organization that serves youth, desires to use the program(s) of the BSA to further its mission respecting the youth it supports.

### Accomplishments:

Pack highlights include:

In 2023, we celebrated 71 years since BPC chartered its cub pack. This year's pack events included the Pinewood Derby, crossing the Corps of Cadets Obstacle Course, camping with the Scout Troop, touring a fire station, selling popcorn before VT football games (thanks are due to Rick and Nancy Furr for letting us use their front yard!), July 4th and Christmas Parades, volunteering at Micah's Backpack, hiking at Heritage Park and Pandapas Pond, night hike on the Coal Mining Loop of the Huckleberry, a swim night, and advancement and graduation ceremonies. At the end of 2023 we had 31 active cubs and 15 leaders in the pack.

Highlights of our boy and girl troops (which meet as a single unit) include:

We celebrated the 82<sup>nd</sup> year of scouting at BPC by having another scout achieve the rank of Eagle! His Eagle project involved leading scouts and adults in the replacement of split-rail fencing, and development of a gleaned garden at Smithfield Plantation.

35 scouts and four leaders attended summer camp at Camp Powhatan in June. Other activities included several camping and hiking weekends; carrying the Colors in the July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade and walking in the Christmas Parade; a Scouting for Food collection to support the Montgomery County Christmas Store; Memorial Day flag placements at the Memorial Gardens of NRV; volunteering at the Rescue Mission soup kitchen in Roanoke and at five Ruritan fish fries; and more! Three scouts participated in the National Scout Jamboree at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia. At the end of 2023 we had 15 leaders, 15 girls and 22 boys in the troops.

### Hopes/Plans for 2024

- We currently have five youth members of BPC involved in the program but hope that more will join us.
- The Patrol Leaders Council plans and runs the weekly meetings and will be tasked with welcoming several Webelos who will graduate from the pack to the troop in February.
- We have several scouts who should achieve the rank of Eagle Scout in 2024, and we would love to have BPC members involved in their Eagle projects.
- Other ways to be involved with the Scouting programs include serving on the committees or as counselors for one or more of the 135 merit badges that BSA offers.

# **JUSTICE AND PEACE MINISTRY**

**Advocacy and International Mission (AIM),  
including International Partners**

**Community Ministry  
including  
Woodchucks and Helping Neighbors**

**Matthew 25 Advisory Team**

## Advocacy and International Mission (AIM) Ministry

### Members/volunteers:

Rachel Parson (chair, elder and VICPP liaison), Deb Call (elder), Suzanne Ducker (Malawi liaison), Beth Mattson (CEDEPCA/Guatemala liaison), Scott Smith (Philippines liaison), Sarah Windes (staff support)

### Goals:

1. Participate in advocacy-related activities locally, statewide and nationwide.
2. Continue to maintain good relationships with mission partners.
3. Continue to encourage our fellow church members to become active in advocacy and missions.

### Accomplishments:

We wrote last year that we have been so busy, and it's true of this year also! We have been so busy, with an event or something to promote almost every month:

- 2023 began with Day for All People (Advocacy Day) at the Virginia General Assembly in January. Scott and Melanie Smith attended in person.
- Again this year, some of us participated in the Anti-Racism Discussion Group with the Unitarian Universalist Church, Blacksburg United Methodist Church and the edges congregation.
- In honor of Black History month, we facilitated an eye-opening Racial Wealth Gap Simulation, with youth and adults together in February.
- In March, a Bread for the World Offering of Letters was organized by Mary Lee Hendricks for the expiring Farm Bill which has many important laws regarding the health and safety of migratory farmworkers.
- In April, Beth Mattson went to Guatemala on a CEDEPCA trip and shared her visit with the Lydia Circle in May and the congregation during October International Mission month.
- AIM collaborated with NRV Justice Advocates and several other churches on a newspaper article in the *Roanoke Times* and *Roanoke Tribune* on Juneteenth about Christian nationalism's negative effects on the United States. The article was well received by many.
- International Mission month was held in October, with a series of emphases on the Philippines, Guatemala, and Malawi. (see more on next page)
- Twenty-five percent of the Peacemaking and Global Missions offering taken on World Communion Sunday, October 1, went to Moms Demand Action, to be used to promote anti-gun violence efforts in the local area. This donation felt even more appropriate after two local high-schoolers lost their lives to gun violence.
- Throughout the fall, AIM promoted various voting initiatives through the newsletter and weekly emails to remind people to register and vote in the November midterm elections. BPC signed on to become a 100%-voting church with VICPP (Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy) and proudly displayed our banner outside of the church. These efforts were critically important this year as Virginia was redistricted.
- We provided financial support to the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy (VICPP), the Presbyterian Office of Public Witness and the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship. We also gave funds to the NAACP, and the Blacksburg Refugee Partnership. Unallocated funds at year-end were given to Virginia Interfaith Power and Light to support our VIPL Water of Life partner engagement. We also gave to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for victims of the war between Palestine and Israel.
- AIM continued to promote the Cents-Ability anti-hunger offering, Bread for the World Offering of Letters, and the One Great Hour of Sharing and Peacemaking and Global Witness offerings. At the Alternative Gift Fair this year, booths offered the chance to donate to CEDEPCA and Malawi.

### Hopes/Plans for 2024

There is always so much to do. Opportunities seem to find us! We are very hopeful that we can work with the mission co-workers and advocacy groups to continue our goals of peace and justice throughout Blacksburg, Virginia and around the world. The trip to the Philippines that we are planning will give us a chance to see their culture and meet the people they help. We are very excited!



## **Advocacy and International Mission (AIM) Ministry Reports from International Partnerships**

### **Guatemala/Protestant Center for Pastoral Studies in Central America (CEDEPCA)**

Our mission coworkers **Betsey and Eric Moe** who work at CEDEPCA in Guatemala came for a visit to BPC in June and we had a pupusa dinner, a musical serenade and slideshow of their work. Beth Mattson, who visited CEDEPCA with the Peaks and James Presbytery travel group in April, is a continuing member of the CEDEPCA USA board, our church's liaison to the Presbytery CEDEPCA task force, and a member of the Justice and Mercy Committee of Peaks Presbytery. Our former representative to and chair of the Presbytery Task Force, Sandy Schlaudecker, moved to Ohio, and she is greatly missed. We are promoting another Peaks and James Presbytery trip to CEDEPCA/Guatemala in April 2024

### **Cobbie Palm and Dessa Quesada-Palm - Dumaguete, Philippines**

Our mission co-workers from the Philippines, Dessa and Cobbie Palm, visited BPC in March where they gave a presentation about their work in Dumaguete. This was the first time we had met in person!

Preparations were started in 2022, and are being finalized, for several BPC members to visit Dumaguete and the area around the city where Dessa and Cobbie work in May 2024. As many as 10 or more BPC visitors will be seeking to build our relationship with Cobbie and Dessa, and learn more about their work.

Following the Munford grant in 2022 of \$24,571.00 for a practice and performance venue for the YATTA (Youth Advocates through Theater Arts) drama group in Dumaguete, plans were drawn up and supplemental funding has been found to complete the center. It is anticipated that the center will be completed in 2024. Our group traveling to Dumaguete will be able to see the progress made on the practice space partially funded by these grant funds.

### **Malawi Partnership**

#### **Members/Volunteers:**

Malawi Committee in 2023: Suzanne Ducker (AIM liaison), Charles Good (past chair), Marquita Hill, Winnie Myers, Tom Howard, Rachel Parson (chair of AIM), with additional help in 2023 from Deb Call, Sarah Wiles and Sarah Windes.

BPC celebrated its 20th year of partnership with our friends in southeast Malawi. In 2023, we continued to partner with the Mulanje Presbyterian Mission Hospital (MPMH), the Mulanje College of Nursing and the Mulanje Community Day Secondary School (MCDSS).

Our main area of support at the hospital is for drug purchases and the Sustainable Livelihoods Program. At the Nursing College we have supported two nursing students who have successfully finished their three-year study and graduated in December 2023. In 2023 we sponsored five students at the Mulanje Community Day Secondary School (MCDSS), with two of them graduating in 2023. We will continue to support the last three students until they graduate in spring of 2024. The tutorial program at MCDSS continues to be a huge success and attracts many new students to the school. We provided 100% of the funding for this tutorial program and in 2023 we had a pass rate of over 87% of the 100+ students attending. This has been a very worthwhile and economical program - all for the cost of about \$1,300! Henderson Chiotcha finished his four-year medical degree in Radiology in December and is headed off to do his five-month residency. Henderson was fully supported by the Malawi Partnership program to obtain his degree.

During International Mission Month, the Malawi Team provided a wonderful soup lunch and educational program, appealing to interested BPC members for continuing this Malawi work. The Malawi ministry has been at a bit of a crossroads with many older members stepping down. Considerations and decisions about the future of this partnership will be reported in 2024.

## Community Ministry

### Members/Volunteers:

Joan Dickenson (chair January - August), Deb Call (chair August - current), Ben Corl, Garland McKenzie, Suzanne Sanford, Melanie Smith, Craig and Melinda Winslow, Peg Warren, Mike Harvey, Courtney Roberts (resigned due to church transfer mid-year), Sarah Windes (staff support)

### Goals:

To share our financial and volunteer gifts with community outreach organizations that serve low-income and vulnerable populations in the New River Valley.

Our focus is to provide spiritual and financial support to people who are oppressed, poor, hungry, unhoused, abused, unsafe, and those struggling to reenter society post-incarceration. Each year, after much discussion and review, various organizations are selected to receive our support. Selection is based on both the current need and the purpose of the organization, always considering our Matthew 25 commitment. Suggestions from BPC members are welcomed. Priority recipients are listed below.

### Accomplishments:

- **The Christmas Store:** We sponsored a pork & bean collection for the store, and contributed \$1200 for purchasing pork & beans to be distributed to families experiencing food insecurity.
- **The Interfaith Food Pantry:** A joint ministry of over 25 faith-based communities helping to meet food insecurity issues of qualified low-income families in the NRV. BPC supplied 16 energetic volunteers, \$4800 for food gift cards, \$500 for general security, and 500 cans of Green Beans for holiday gift bags. Food collection bins are available year-round at the church.
- **The Baby Shop:** Located in Christiansburg, low-income families receive help with diapers, infant supplies, and children's clothing, serving over 100 families regularly throughout the year. An online wish list enables direct donations through Amazon purchases. Collection bins are available at the church, with the most urgent needs listed in the BPC Midweek. Each December, congregants support the annual Baby Shop Angel Tree project, and BPC members volunteer during the year.
- **Manna House:** Located in Radford, the Manna House is rented by the Department of Corrections and provides transitional shelter for those seeking to reenter society post-incarceration. Volunteer help and \$2000 donation.
- **To Our House:** This ministry for unhoused folks in our community sheltered and welcomed 15-18 adult guests for one week at BPC. Volunteers provided food, a warm environment, and conversation. We had over 40 volunteers involved in 2023 and made a \$2,000 donation.
- **Blacksburg Refugee Partnership:** Volunteers have helped adults and children from Syria, Afghanistan, Burundi, and Somalia to resettle in Blacksburg. The partnership currently supports 15 local refugee families. \$5000 donation.
- **New River Community Services:** Supporting counseling services for both mental health and substance abuse disorders for adults and children living in the NRV. \$2,500 donation.
- **Future Economy Collective:** Among other things, this local initiative focuses on food insecurity (Downtown Community Fridge), plus the organization of various events that lend a voice to diversity efforts in the NRV - for instance, gender diversity and support of our transgender community. \$5500 donation.
- **Laundry Love:** Newer initiative (Glade Church) - provides help with laundry needs at a centrally located laundromat by supplying quarters for the machines to those in need. \$300 donation.
- **Women's Resource Center:** Provides services to adult and child victims of sexual and domestic violence in the New River Valley. \$5,000 donation.
- **Music for Mission Series:** This series continued in 2023 with two musical concerts at BPC which collected free-will offerings to provide financial support to the Women's Resource Center and to the Interfaith Food Pantry. These organizations gave talks at the concerts to raise community awareness. \$2,000 donation for concert support.
- **Advent Gift Wrapping:** Joined with the Fellowship Ministry to wrap presents for the Santa for Seniors project of the Agency on Aging and the Blacksburg Refugee Partnership families.

- **Pentecost Offering:** The chosen recipient of our local 40% was the Calfee Community and Cultural Center which supports all of Pulaski county's children, families, and organizations building a stronger future for the region. This center serves to revitalize and honor the legacy of the Calfee Training Center that served African Americans from 1894-1966.

### **Hopes/Plans for 2024**

To light even greater sparks of giving and volunteerism within our BPC community, making a difference in the lives of others as we build relationships of caring and hope through our commitment to the love of Christ and the love of all people.

## **Community Ministry**

### **Woodchucks**

#### **Members/volunteers:**

- BPC members: Mike Harvey (Chair), Ben Corl, Matt Green, Bill Neely, Alan Raflo, Suzanne Sanford, and Tom Pospichal.
- Other loyal inter-faith members: Charlie Betts, Glenn Bohr, Tom Diller, Bill Floyd, John Havran, Randy and Barbara Shifflett, and Mike Skinner. New members Zack Landis, Cheston Miller, and Andrew Martinson have joined us this year.

#### **Goals:**

- Our interfaith mission is to serve people in Montgomery County who are unable to heat their homes, by providing wood for heat during the cold months. We work all year to do this.
- During the Christmas season, we take Christmas baskets (bags of groceries and personal hygiene items) to some of our clients from donations of food and money made by BPC members - coordinated by Suzanne Sanford.

#### **Accomplishments:**

- We delivered 61 loads of firewood during the 2023-2024 heating season through December 14. We delivered 149 loads of firewood during the 2022-2023 heating season ending in June 2023. Also, 2023 was the first year we made firewood deliveries in the month of June. This was due to a few mornings with temperatures in the low 40's. Of those 149 loads, nine were paid loads delivered to BPC members and friends. Money from our limited firewood sales is used to repair and maintain our donated trucks and splitters.
- We delivered Christmas baskets to 12 of our clients during the Christmas season of 2022, with several additional food deliveries in January and February of 2022, until our groceries ran out. We delivered 12 Christmas Baskets in December of 2023. In the Christmas baskets, we included flyers about services and resources available to Montgomery County residents. This is in addition to Hormel hams and \$10 gift cards to Dollar General.
- We gained three new volunteer members. At the PW Alternate Gift Giving Fair in early December, 3 BPC members signed up to volunteer.

### **Hopes/Plans for 2024**

- Keep our neighbors warm in Montgomery County, relying on our inter-faith team of volunteer Woodchucks and donations from our church and community.
- Add new members, especially BPC members, to our inter-faith team of volunteers.
- Maintain our work session schedule of two days a week (more frequently when needed) throughout the year.
- Maintain/repair our donated equipment: 2 dump trucks and 4 mechanical splitters.
- Distribute flyers about resources to all our clients, including those who did not receive Christmas baskets.

## Community Ministry

### Helping Neighbors

#### **Members/Volunteers:**

Tom Tillar, Gabrielle Minnich, Marti Snyder and Melanie Smith.

We function without a chair. We lost two volunteers but thankfully gained two more. The church office staff, especially Office Manager Rhonda Waller, answer phone calls from people requesting assistance and fill out referral forms so we can do callbacks.

#### **Goals:**

1. Participate with other community agencies and churches to provide emergency and temporary financial assistance for people in the New River Valley.
2. Respond to phone calls to the church asking for assistance. We hope to take the burden off church staff of responding to callers, checking with landlords, utility companies, etc., making decisions on assistance, and filling out paperwork for payment to landlords and utility companies to provide financial assistance to callers. No money is distributed directly to callers.

#### **Accomplishments:**

In 2023 we had 122 requests, down from 141 calls in 2022 but higher than the previous years (81 in 2021 and 82 in 2020). In 2023 we provided about \$8,219 to landlords, utilities, for eyeglasses, car repair, and motels, in support of 71 recipients. In addition, we gave four Kroger gift cards for \$25 each. For comparison, in 2022 we gave about \$11,000, (2021: \$9,000 and 2020: \$3,500) in support of callers.

Helping Neighbors (HN) provided information and referred families to local service agencies either along with, or instead of financial support. We coordinated and cooperated with the Montgomery County Emergency Assistance Program because both organizations often help the same people. There has been an uptake of requests since the COVID-19 assistance has stopped. We have also lowered the one-time yearly help from \$200 to \$100. However, there are exceptions. BPC volunteers request that callers talk with MCEAP or related staff first, before we help with requests, because of the major assistance they can give, before supplying our assistance. For motel stays, we coordinated with Carol Johnson at MCEAP.

HN volunteers appreciate funds provided for this ministry from the church budget, Community Ministry, and church member donations restricted to this ministry.

#### **Hopes/Plans for 2024:**

Our hope is that more funding will be available from Montgomery County Emergency Assistance Program and through government funds provided to AEP, and thus fewer calls will be placed to the church. Our plan is to continue to respond as needed through the telephone procedures that were set up during the pandemic.

We also hope that there is another BPC member who would like to be involved to make sure there is full coverage every month.

After reviewing the annual cost of this program we plan to budget proactively and report monthly on distribution.

## Matthew 25 Advisory Team

### Members/volunteers:

Sarah Windes (staff support and chair), Tom Tillar, Jack Call, Phil Bailey, Susan Hunter, Scott Smith, Melanie Smith

### Goals:

The vision of Matthew 25 is to enable congregations to act boldly and compassionately in following Jesus to serve others - showing love, justice and mercy. BPC's specific chosen focus is *dismantling structural racism*. The Matthew 25 Advisory Team's work is focused on coordinating Matthew 25 initiatives and motivating BPC's ministry teams as they carry out the Matthew 25 work.

### Accomplishments:

- We keep a calendar on the BPC website, accessible by a link on the homepage, of anti-racism events and other Matthew 25-related events. Periodically, we promote community events that we think are worthy of attention, including Montgomery County Dialogue on Race, the local chapter of NAACP, and Justice Advocates in the Roanoke and New River Valleys.
- We regularly provide educational materials and inspirational quotes on anti-racism.
- We encourage regular reporting (at least 4 times a year) at Session meetings from Ministry Teams that have done work that connects with Matthew 25.

Highlights of BPC's Matthew 25 initiative this year include:

- Joint participation with the Blacksburg Unitarian Universalist congregation, Blacksburg United Methodist Church and the edges congregation in an *Anti-Racist Practice Group* which met monthly January through April.
- A month-long *Anti-Racism Challenge* in February, including the following:
  - Encouraging congregational members and households to participate in the "21-Day Racial Equity Habit-building Challenge" on-line, including a Sunday School-hour gathering for processing and discussing our learnings from the Challenge
  - Four "Moments of BPC History" during worship in February, telling stories from our history that have to do with race,
  - A talk and discussion by Daniel B. Thorp, associate professor of history at VT, on the "History of Slavery in Montgomery County,"
  - A "Racial Wealth Gap Simulation" (Bread for the World) with the youth group and adults.
- A *Lenten Prayer Walk* which featured poverty and racism as prominent themes.
- Support of an ad opposing Christian Nationalism which was published in the Roanoke Times.
- Hosting in our building a Facing Racism workshop led by Peaks Presbytery.
- A study and discussion of Matthew 25 during the Ministry Leaders gathering this fall.
- Participation by several members, including youth and VT students, in the Peaks Presbytery bus trip to the *International Civil Rights Center and Museum* in Martinsville, VA.
- Support of a Music for Mission concert which raised funds for the local NAACP chapter.
- An ongoing study of Matthew 25 in BPC's Youth Group in the fall.

### Hopes/Plans for 2024

We plan to do additional promotion of the Montgomery County African-American Legacy Driving tour, and perhaps incorporate it into our group Lenten Prayer Walk. Related to that, we are considering showing some short videos about Christiansburg Institute. We are exploring offering a talk early in the year by NL Bishop and/or Judy Diggs about growing up Black in the NRV. We hope to renew our inspirational quotes in *Midweek Updates* in January.

# **COMFORT AND GRACE MINISTRY CIRCLE**

**Board of Deacons**

**Congregational Care**

## Board of Deacons

### **Deacons:**

Anne Campbell, Suzanne Ducker, Bill Hendricks, Christy Savage, Linda Smith, and Elva Miller;  
Sarah Wiles, moderator

### **Role and Work of the Deacons:**

The role of the deacons is set forth in the PC(USA) Book of Order as follows:

*The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgment should be chosen for this ministry.*

This is lived out in different ways in different congregations. At BPC our board of deacons focuses on care for the most vulnerable members among us, as well as those in times of crisis.

The deacons care for more than a dozen people and households. This includes members who are primarily home-centered, very ill, or otherwise facing significant difficulties. Deacons extend care through cards, phone calls, regular visits, and assisting with specific challenges the person might face, as appropriate.

If you or someone you know is in need of a deacon, please feel free to reach out to Pastor Sarah.

## Congregational Care Ministry

### Members/volunteers:

*Organizing Team:* Emily Rhodes Hunter, Debra Call, Todd Lowe (elder liaison and chair), Julie Burger, Sandy Power, Gabriel Minnich, : Sarah Wiles (staff advisor)

*Casserole Care Coordinator:* Peg Warren

*Funeral Receptions:* Deb Call and Anne Campbell (coordinators), Melinda Winslow, Judy

*Pospischal Deacons Coordinators:* Sarah Wiles (moderator), Todd Lowe (Elder Liaison)

Also, many generous volunteers and contributors on an ad hoc basis.

### Goals:

The Congregational Care Ministry serves all the people of the congregation, with the following goals:

1. Enhance the fellowship of our congregation by planning and executing inclusive events outside of worship.
2. With Christ as the example, show active compassion toward members who are coping with illness, bereavement, difficult life transitions, and other special needs.
3. Support the spiritual and personal growth of our members on difficult issues such as grief, loss, elder care, end-of-life preparations, hospice, dementia, addiction, trauma, and mental health by providing opportunities for education and training.
4. Care for and serve the congregation by supporting the work of the Deacons.

### Accomplishments:

- A focus on Advent/Christmas season activities: The Team organized an Epiphany Lunch in 2023 (with another planned for 2024) that was well attended (73 attendees). The Team provided input on BPC's plan of activities, while serving as the leading ministry team for the annual caroling event, Chocolate and Cheer (December 16, 2023, 30 attendees). Special thanks to Fellowship for supporting these activities, particularly Gabe Minnich and Melinda Winslow.
- The Team hosted the Congregational Bonfire on October 22nd at Caldwell Fields. This was a great success with nearly 60 attendees including folks who had never attended this event prior, new members, many children, and multigenerational participation. Special thanks to Ben Corl for bringing firewood and for being the fire master.
- The team hosted two events for welcoming newcomers to BPC, one in April (Nellie's Cave Park, 30 attendees) and the second in October (Blacksburg Municipal Park, 12 attendees). These events show great care and interest toward prospective members and should continue to be held in the future. Good collaboration with the Membership and Fellowship ministries aided the attendance in April.
- The team has continued its in-depth support of members in need, often done in concert with other organizations such as Presbyterian Women or the Deacons. These have included ministries such as:
  - a. Casserole Care – Providing meals for those who need temporary help. Some cook while others pick up something at the grocery store.
  - b. Memorial Service Receptions – Teams coordinate food from volunteers and arrange receptions where grieving families can greet friends after a funeral or memorial service.
  - c. Caroling Arrangements - This team works with the Deacons to draw up a list of people for visiting or caroling during the annual event which was called Chocolate and Cheer this year.

### Hopes/Plans for 2024

The Team has developed a cadence of events that serve many people and groups within the church. In 2024, we hope to bring one more back: the congregational hike. The hike was canceled twice in 2023 due to rain, but plans are in place for building in contingency dates in 2024. We hope to lead or co-lead events along with the Fellowship ministry approximately every two months, focusing on these objectives in 2024:

1. Plan events and activities that can promote cross-generational engagement.
2. Cultivate fellowship among members with all household structures, including those who are single, recently or long widowed, with or without children in the home.

We hope to make all members aware of the ways BPC cares for the congregation. In concert with the Deacon Ministry, we would like to highlight these activities during worship services in 2024.



# **WELCOME ALL MINISTRY CIRCLE**

**Fellowship and Hospitality**

**Membership**

**2023 Membership Changes**

## **Fellowship and Hospitality Ministry**

### **Members/volunteers:**

Gabrielle Minnich (chair September to current), Mary Ann Bowling, Julie Burger, Deb Call, Todd Lowe, Paula Stith, Melinda Winslow (chair January to September).

### **Goals:**

- Help increase the number of congregation members participating in events planned by other ministries through providing and/or coordinating the food and beverage components.
- Assist in fostering the development of strong relationships (including intergenerational) among members of the congregation through a variety of events that provide more opportunities for experiencing interactions, working together for social justice, and strengthening faith.

### **Accomplishments:**

Facilitating cookies and lemonade after church each Sunday is one of Fellowship's best accomplishments. This simple contribution promotes connection and conversation among members and visitors, old and young.

Several opportunities throughout the year allowed Fellowship to assist with events sponsored by other BPC ministries. This support usually included organizing or providing food, setting up and cleaning up. Some of these occasions were the Maundy Thursday Congregational Dinner and Worship, the Newcomers Welcome Social, a Bible School dinner and the End-of-Summer Shindig. Fellowship also helped with snacks and drinks for two workshops that Pastor Sarah hosted at BPC. Supporting events such as Gingerbread House Decorating and Chocolate and Cheer fulfilled the goal of fostering intergenerational relationships in the congregation.

An event that stood out during 2023 was when BPC member Barbara Michelsen moved from the community, Fellowship Ministry worked with the Michelsen family to provide an opportunity for people to share best wishes with Barbara. The event expanded on Cookies and Lemonade after service, with the Michelsen family providing additional food. The family also invited other friends from outside the congregation. The event was very well attended and it was obvious that it meant a lot to Barbara and to her friends and family. It illustrated, to those who knew Barbara and those who didn't, that the BPC congregation is a family - and this feeling is something that we should expand upon in the future.

### **Hopes/Plans for 2024**

Hopes for 2024 include working with more ministries, developing and supporting new events, and involving more members of the congregation. Expanding and strengthening the Fellowship team is another goal for the next year. Finding ways to support the Matthew 25 initiative would make Fellowship even more impactful, and working in partnership with other ministries is an important component in achieving this goal.

## Membership Ministry

### Members/Volunteers:

Kyle White (elder liaison), Sarah Windes (staff support), Garland McKenzie, Phyllis Albritton, Jonathan Anderson, Deb Call, Anne Campbell, Mary Lee Hendricks, Elva Miller, Les Myers, Janet Rakes, Melanie Smith, Todd Lowe, Dan Bowling, Lynn Thye, and Peg Warren

### Goals:

The Membership Ministry team's primary goals are to ensure all people feel connected within the BPC family and to maintain a particularly strong focus on welcoming visitors.

### Accomplishments:

- Continued to welcome first time visitors with fresh bread delivered by Dan Bowling.
- Continued to keep a record of visitor attendance provided through the Friendship Registry each Sunday - Lynn Thye, Peg Warren, and Kyle White rotate turns with this.
- Continued to collect and disseminate data on time and talent offerings through the Engagement Questionnaire. Garland McKenzie prepared a spreadsheet for each Ministry Team of input gathered via the Engagement Questionnaire. The Engagement Questionnaire was set up and edited digitally by Jonathan Anderson.
- Planned and coordinated one two-part BPC Connect / Newcomers Class session. Several participants decided to become members at BPC.
- Continued the process whereby visitors who provide contact information receive welcome notes - Elva Miller and Phyllis Albritton.
- Planned and coordinated activities associated with producing a new pictorial directory; the new directory was published in Fall 2023.

### Hopes/Plans for 2024:

Membership Ministry will focus on welcoming visitors (notes and bread delivery), coordinating the BPC Connect / Newcomers Class, enhancing the BPC Engagement Questionnaire, and re-starting the Buddy system (program whereby new members are offered the opportunity to align with one or more existing members so that those who are new to BPC have a point of contact as needed for questions about church life at BPC).

## 2023 Membership Changes

1/1/2023 Active Members: 282

Gains: 12

Transfer – 6

Confirmation – 4

Profession & Reaffirmation – 2

Losses: 5

Transfer – 1

Death – 4

12/31/2023 Active Members: 289

# **GENEROUS STEWARDS MINISTRY CIRCLE**

**Creation Care Team**

**Stewardship**

**Endowment**

**Manna Team**

## Creation Care Team

### Members/volunteers:

Sarah Windes (chair), Forrest Thye, Nancy Furr (January to September), Darrell Bosch, Elizabeth Day, Sandy Power, Jimmy Ritter

### Goals:

To actively nurture our relationship with all of creation, continuing to enlarge our ministries as an active Earth Care Congregation (PCUSA) through Worship, Education, Facilities and Outreach.

### Accomplishments:

**Certification:** We were recertified as an Earth Care Congregation for our activities in 2022.

**Conference:** Sarah Windes attended the Presbyterians for Earth Care conference, "The Climate Crisis & Empowering Hope," at Massanetta Springs Conference Center. It was a powerful and educational conference, which also is helping to inform our work through interconnections with the Matthew 25 initiative.

### Worship:

- Working with the Worship Planning Team, we held, for our 9th year, a Season of Creation (SOC) in September, with the theme *Flourishing for All: Spiritual Postures for Life*. Each of our 3 Sundays focused in worship on one of the postures: hope, simplicity and mindfulness, and how they support our care for creation. Additional Season of Creation activities are listed below.

- We held a brief, informal outdoor worship service at the conclusion of our End-of-Summer Shindig.

### Education:

- We led a nature saunter to learn about Virginia native trees at Nellie's Cave Park Arboretum during the End-of-Summer Shindig.

- During the Season of Creation, we held a Creation Care Fair, which offered centers for folks of all ages on such topics as home solar, myths and facts about climate change, education about native and invasive plants, making a pod of native wildflowers to plant in your yard, and how to recycle items that don't go in your trash.

- During the Season of Creation, we also offered a screening and discussion of the film "Chasing Carbon Zero," a look at real world technologies that could help the U.S. achieve the goal of 100 percent zero carbon pollution by 2035.

### Facilities:

- We continue to maintain our Creation Care garden, this year adding a Joe Pye weed and sundrop flowers to fill spots where other plants have died or relocated. We reprinted the garden guide to fit better into the kiosk.

- We provided assistance with selecting plants for the new patio area near the parking lot.

- We applied for, and received, a Sacred Grounds designation from the National Wildlife Federation for actively linking faith practices and caring for the environment.

### Outreach:

- We continue to collect plastic film for Trex. In 2023, we collected enough plastic for our 10th bench!

- We officially changed our battery recycling program to rechargeable batteries only, in addition to inkjet cartridge recycling. Regular batteries are now placed in trash.

- We renewed BPC's membership in Presbyterians for Earth Care. We are also represented on the Presbytery's Earth Care Work Group, which remains quite active.

- We provided several opportunities for advocacy actions during the Creation Care Fair.

- During the Creation Care Fair, we collected several bags of items for delivery to the New River Creative Reuse Center, and learned how teachers use these items for art projects.

- Through BPC's Advocacy and International Mission, BPC made a substantial donation to Virginia Interfaith Power and Light, to support their work in advancing Environmental and Climate Justice.

### Hopes/Plans for 2023

We plan to continue the Season of Creation, End-of-Summer Shindig, our recycling projects and our garden and sacred grounds. We hope to show a film on earth care the Sunday before Earth Day.

## Stewardship Ministry

**Members/Volunteers:** Judy Pospichal (elder & chair), Judy Davis, Natasha Lowe, Brent Opell, and Shane Parson, Sarah Wiles (staff support)

### **Goals:**

The Stewardship Committee encourages members to give of their time, talent, and financial resources as an expression of gratitude to God. The committee worked to do this by participating in worship services, and by sending several individual mailings to our church community throughout the stewardship campaign.

### **Accomplishments:**

The theme of our stewardship campaign this year was Abundant Life. All letters and printed material reflected a themed logo and reflected this concept. Direct mail as well as Pastor Sarah's sermons communicated this message. We provided each member with a narrative budget which showed the dollars expended to provide a welcoming community and beautiful worship, to nurture lifelong growth through education and relationships, and to pursue justice and love in our community and the world. Included were the building, administrative, and personnel costs that are necessary to fund each of these areas. To help communicate these themes, we enlisted four members of the congregation to provide Minutes for Stewardship during the four Sundays of the campaign. Finally we hosted a celebratory stewardship luncheon after worship on November 12 which was very well received. Overall pledges increased about 1% for those who also pledged in 2023, and we received 18 new pledges for 2024.



### **Hopes/Plans for 2024**

We give because God first gave his Son to us. Stewardship is a big way we can express gratitude for all the things we're thankful for...our time, our energy, our skills, our passions and our money. We plan to continue to encourage a sense of abundance and a commitment to sharing that abundance here at Blacksburg Presbyterian Church.

## **Endowment Ministry and Manna Team**

### **Members/volunteers:**

Endowment Committee Members: Tom Tillar (chair August to current), Chris Zobel, Suzanne Ducker, Greg Campbell, Deb Call, Melinda Winslow, Brent Opell, and Sarah Wiles (ex officio)

Manna Team members: Lisa Smith (chair January to August), Sarah Wiles (ex officio), Peg Warren, Rachel Parson, Suzanne Sanford, Beth Mattson, Elva Miller, Darrell Bosch, Susan Bailey, Melanie Smith, Craig Woolsey, Melinda Winslow

### **Goals:**

The Endowment Committee seeks to be a responsible steward of Blacksburg Presbyterian Church's endowment, investing these funds wisely and using the income to share Christ's love with those in our local community and around the world. The standing committee oversees investments and establishes policies. A Manna Team is constituted each spring to represent the congregation in discerning how to award endowment income.

### **Accomplishments:**

There were five annual awards, totalling \$24,000, given to support the ongoing activities of ministry partners in 2023:

- CEDEPCA USA (\$8,000)
- UKirk at Virginia Tech (\$4,000)
- Virginia Interfaith Child Care (\$2,000)
- Blacksburg Presbyterian Church's Malawi Committee (\$5,000)
- Peacebuilders (\$5,000)

### **Hopes/Plans for 2024**

We hope to revise the by-laws to better reflect current practice, and support ways to have more communication around giving across teams.

# **OPERATIONS/SUPPORT MINISTRIES**

**Personnel**

**Grounds**

**Building**

**Audio-Visual and Technology Support**



## Personnel

### Members/volunteers:

Judy Pospichal (elder and chair), Marilyn Hutchins, Marti Snyder, Ed Spencer, Andrew Warren, Sarah Wiles (ex officio)

### Goals:

1. To make BPC a workplace that is conducive to personal and professional growth where staff can thrive as they seek to support the ministries of BPC.
2. To manage tasks related to staffing changes, provide staff evaluations, update the personnel and policy manual, and recommend salary adjustments.

### Accomplishments:

- Recommended salary increases for all staff for 2023.
- Presented the changes to the pastor's call at the 2023 annual meeting.
- After consultation with the current music staff, the team approved a plan to place two ads to hire either a half time music director/organist or only an organist, based on qualifications of those applying.
- Approved hiring Alice Sanders as the new music director/organist.
- Worked with the current music staff to establish end dates for their service and to ensure a smooth transition to the new music director/organist.
- Planned and hosted a farewell for our current music staff, Amanda Raymond, organist, and Larry Wyatt, music director.
- Held a welcome and greet gathering for Alice Sanders after worship.
- Met with current staff, including Pastor Sarah, in August, to complete their staff evaluations and goal-setting for 2024.
- Reviewed and updated the Personnel Manual and staff job descriptions.
- Recommended Emily Rhodes Hunter continue as Parish Associate with an increase to 20 hours a month in 2024.
- Discussed the 2024 Personnel budget and recommended the percentage raise for staff and pastor to be sent as a request to the Finance Team and the Session.
- Held a staff appreciation breakfast in December 2023 and expressed our deep gratitude for their outstanding work and their ability to serve as a team.

### Hopes/Plans for 2024:

We are grateful for our outstanding staff and look forward to continuing fulfilling tenures with each of them.

## Grounds Ministry

### Members/Volunteers:

The Grounds Committee is comprised of Ben Corl, Steve Drumheller, Jim Rakes (Chair), Scott Smith, and Sarah Windes. In 2023, Susan Hunter, Mike McGilliard, Suzanne Sanford, and Sheridan Bell also contributed their time and talents on the BPC grounds.

### Goals:

Coordinating the care for the natural habitat of the BPC grounds, including keeping the area safe and welcoming.

### Accomplishments:

- Coordinated with Total Lawn Care (TLC) taking care of the following:
  - Mowing and trimming of trees/bushes
  - Mulching and weeding
  - Cleaning up the columbarium, including removing plants, trimming trees, etc.
  - Raking leaves
- Coordinated with Tech Tree for trimming, taking out dead limbs, and removing trees as needed.
- Relocated the trash and recycling carts.
- Redesigned parking spaces, sealed, and striped the parking lot in conjunction with a new children's walkway/patio which was carved out of the lower end of the parking lot near the lawn. This new area includes a children's pathway free of car traffic from the building to the playground, and a flat patio area for outdoor gatherings. The border area between the patio and the parking lot, designed and implemented by Sheridan Bell, features plantings of native shrubs. A new traffic pattern was also set up in the parking lot to accommodate this area along with an update of accessible parking spaces.
- Replaced benches in several locations, in some cases using benches received from Trex as rewards for our plastic film collection.

### Hopes/Plans for 2024

- Repair/replace outside signs.
- Continue working to improve outside lighting around the church building.
- Stone clean-up and repairs in Columbarium.
- Replace plantings in larger flower beds.

## **Building Ministry**

### **Members/Volunteers:**

During 2023, Phil Bailey, Ben Corl, Gavin Faulkner, Chris Lawrence, Mike McGilliard, Brent Opell, Shane Parson, Jim Rakes (elder and convener), Brian Smith, Dave Smith, Tom Tillar, Andrew Warren, and Craig Woolsey worked with various phases of the Building Ministry. Primary day-to-day monitoring and coordination continued under the very capable hands of Rhonda Waller.

### **Goals:**

Maintaining a safe, functional, and efficient church building to serve Christ's ministry and welcome members of Blacksburg Presbyterian Church, the community, and all visitors, organizations, and groups who use and work within the facility.

### **Accomplishments:**

- Continued oversight of day-to-day maintenance and upkeep of the building, including cleaning, minor repairs, inspections, paying bills, etc., with management and coordination from Rhonda Waller. Rhonda continued to schedule and supervise the very helpful contractor she recruited to take care of everyday ordinary repairs in and around the building.
- Completed painting inside and outside.
- Refinished sun damaged church pews.
- Repaired and cleaned the gutters and downspouts.
- Repaired leak from the roof into the choir room and repainted.
- Purchased and installed portable AC/Heater unit for Director of Music's Office.
- Repaired the water leak in the HVAC cooling tower.
- Purchased a new computer.
- Performed an accessibility audit.
- Repaired the Scout room leak.
- Installed a keyless entry system on two outside doors.
- Researched and purchased Asset Management software.
- As always, we are grateful for the long-term and regular commitment of Gavin Faulkner, who makes sure the thermostats are set for when and how long the sanctuary, fellowship hall and other spaces are in use, thus keeping us comfortable (warm in winter, cool in summer), maintaining air flow to protect respiratory health, and making sure the systems operate as efficiently as possible.

### **Hopes/Plans for 2024**

- Continue developing a long-range plan and implementation of HVAC needs.
- Review outside building lighting.
- Transfer and organize building plans online and select a location for storage of actual paper plans.
- Continue study and improvements of accessibility and safety.
- Replace IT equipment as needed.

As keeping the church building in good condition is essential to BPC's welcoming ministry, the Building Team will continue planning for the future of the building.

## Audio-Visual and Technology Support

### Members/volunteers:

Livestream technician: Luke Clark (paid staff)

Sound technician: Gavin Faulkner

Fellowship Hall (FH) audio and projection: Jonathan Anderson, Gavin Faulkner, Sarah Windes

Google workspace maintenance and education: Jonathan Anderson, Sarah Windes, Rhonda Waller

### Accomplishments:

- Our worship services are live-streamed every week, and amplification through 6-8 microphones in the sanctuary is ably operated every Sunday by the live-stream technician and Gavin Faulkner at the soundboard.
- Each year, new officers and other leaders are integrated and educated into the use of Google Workspace for sharing information, including calendars, email, groups, shared drives, photos and data sheets.
- A new shelf system has been installed in the Fellowship Hall closet, giving us more organized space dedicated to sound and technical equipment. We will continue to use the rolling cart for projection equipment. We hope that better labeling and instructions will:
  - make it easier for folks to use the projection and sound equipment without help from an IT person.
  - assist with keeping various pieces of equipment separate and easy to locate among the various internal and external groups that use it.
  - create better order and a better use of space inside that small closet, where we also store all our FH tables.
- Blacksburg Children's Chorale has purchased a new screen for joint use by BPC and the Chorale, to be kept in Fellowship Hall.

### Hopes/Plans for 2024

We will continue live-streaming with sound support.

We will continue to refine and streamline our use of Google Workspace so that leaders can use it comfortably and effectively.

We will adjust our labeling and instructions as the year goes on to facilitate equipment use among more people with less stress, we hope!

# **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**Endowment Summary**

**Budgets**

**Pastor's Terms of Call**

**ENDOWMENT SUMMARY**  
December 31, 2023

	Principal 12/31/2021	Principal 12/31/2022	Additions to Principal in 2023	Earning/losses in 2023	6% available to spend in 2023	Bank fees in 2023	Principal Balance 12/31/2023	Available to spend 12/31/2022	Spent in 2023	Balance available to spend 12-31-23
Fisher	\$87,558.95	\$70,272.71	\$0.00	\$11,435.15	\$4,634.87	\$354.02	\$76,718.97	\$24,924.48	\$52.50	\$24,871.98
Smyth	\$67,264.34	\$53,715.90	\$0.00	\$9,048.35	\$3,546.13	\$280.12	\$58,938.00	\$18,842.95	\$0.00	\$18,842.95
Shear	\$150,989.57	\$120,782.56	\$0.00	\$20,109.38	\$7,971.15	\$622.56	\$132,298.23	\$30,211.83	\$3,724.05	\$26,487.78
General	\$1,913,236.15	\$1,595,435.76	\$100,001.10	\$197,117.47	\$104,166.81	\$6,102.50	\$1,782,285.02	\$231,584.64	\$124,000.00	\$107,584.64
Hassler	\$49,724.92	\$40,995.80	\$0.00	\$5,447.20	\$2,688.49	\$168.64	\$43,585.87	\$9,799.50	\$0.00	\$9,799.50
Dunlap	\$95,789.60	\$77,851.34	\$0.00	\$12,781.71	\$5,080.68	\$395.71	\$85,156.66	\$6,689.02	\$3,497.07	\$3,191.95
Shoulders	\$41,168.74	\$32,989.16	\$0.00	\$5,427.48	\$2,176.45	\$168.03	\$36,072.16	\$4,318.37	\$0.00	\$4,318.37
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,405,732.27</b>	<b>\$1,992,043.23</b>	<b>\$100,001.10</b>	<b>\$261,366.74</b>	<b>\$130,264.58</b>	<b>\$8,091.58</b>	<b>\$2,215,054.91</b>	<b>\$326,370.79</b>	<b>\$131,273.62</b>	<b>\$195,097.17</b>

**Expenditures in 2023**

<b>General Endowment</b>		<b>Fisher</b>	
Malawi	\$5,000.00	lighting prayer room	\$52.50
PCUSA Peacebuilders	\$5,000.00		
UKirk	\$4,000.00		
CEDEPCA	\$8,000.00	<b>Dunlap</b>	
VIACC	\$2,000.00	extra musicians	\$3,497.07
transfer to principal	\$100,000.00		
<b>Shear</b>			
travel expense	\$653.04		
CEDEPCA trip	\$1,500.00		
Civil Rights Museum	\$1,090.00		
PEC conference	\$481.01		

Total Fund Balance 12/31/2023	Principal Balance 12/31/2023	Rolling 6% average available to spend in 2024	TOTAL AVAILABLE TO SPEND IN 2024	
\$101,590.95	\$76,718.97	\$4,691.01	\$29,562.99	Fisher
\$77,780.95	\$58,938.00	\$3,598.36	\$22,441.31	Smyth
\$158,786.01	\$132,298.23	\$8,081.41	\$34,569.19	Shear
\$1,889,869.66	\$1,782,285.02	\$105,819.14	\$213,403.78	General
\$53,385.37	\$43,585.87	\$2,686.13	\$12,485.63	Hassler
\$88,348.61	\$85,156.66	\$5,175.95	\$8,367.90	Dunlap
\$40,390.53	\$36,072.16	\$2,204.60	\$6,522.97	Shoulders
\$2,410,152.08	\$2,215,054.91			

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## Blacksburg Presbyterian Church Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual January through December 2023

	Jan - Dec 23	Budget	% of Budget
<b>Income</b>			
4000 · Op.Income			
4020 · Open Plate	89,088.69	35,000.00	254.5%
4030 · Pledges - Current Year			
4031 · Carry Forward	61,240.27	61,240.00	100.0%
4030 · Pledges - Current Year - Other	550,374.00	580,000.00	94.9%
<b>Total 4030 · Pledges - Current Year</b>	<b>611,614.27</b>	<b>641,240.00</b>	<b>95.4%</b>
4040 · Bldg Use - Income	7,350.00	5,000.00	147.0%
4100 · Interest Income			
4110 · Banks			
4112 · Checking Int.	36.05		
4113 · Carter & AUB CD Interest	6,222.93		
<b>Total 4110 · Banks</b>	<b>6,258.98</b>		
4100 · Interest Income - Other	0.00	14,228.00	0.0%
<b>Total 4100 · Interest Income</b>	<b>6,258.98</b>	<b>14,228.00</b>	<b>44.0%</b>
4190 · Misc. Income			
4190.1 · Kroger Card Income	637.20	600.00	106.2%
<b>Total 4190 · Misc. Income</b>	<b>637.20</b>	<b>600.00</b>	<b>106.2%</b>
<b>Total 4000 · Op.Income</b>	<b>714,949.14</b>	<b>696,068.00</b>	<b>102.7%</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>714,949.14</b>	<b>696,068.00</b>	<b>102.7%</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
5000 · Op.Exp.			
5200 · Benev.-Local (Community)			
5233 · Community Ministries General	9,500.00		
5330 · Glade Church - Laundry of Love	300.00		
5363 · NRVCS (CW&O)	2,500.00		
5373 · Manna House/VA CARES	1,200.00		
5377 · Future Econ Collective	5,500.00		
5376 · To Our House	2,000.00		
5395 · Women's Resource-Budg.	5,000.00		
5398 · BBurg Refugee Partnership	5,000.00		
5200 · Benev.-Local (Community) - Other	0.00	31,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total 5200 · Benev.-Local (Community)</b>	<b>31,000.00</b>	<b>31,000.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
5900 · AIM (Prev PJGM) - Peace/Mission			
5910 · Peacemaking - General			
5910.2 · AIM Discretionary	3,900.00		
5910.5 · Malawi	2,000.00		
5910.7 · VICPP	800.00		
5910.9 · Peace Fellowship	800.00		
<b>Total 5910 · Peacemaking - General</b>	<b>7,500.00</b>		
5940 · CEDEPCA (AIM)	2,000.00		
5945 · NAACP	200.00		
5980 · PC(USA) - Ofc of Public Witness	800.00		
5900 · AIM (Prev PJGM) - Peace/Mission - Other	0.00	10,500.00	0.0%
<b>Total 5900 · AIM (Prev PJGM) - Peace/Mission</b>	<b>10,500.00</b>	<b>10,500.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



**Blacksburg Presbyterian Church**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual**  
 January through December 2023

	Jan - Dec 23	Budget	% of Budget
<b>5010 · Benev. - Other</b>			
5020 · Bread For The World	250.00	250.00	100.0%
5050 · Massanetta Conference Ctr	150.00	150.00	100.0%
5070 · Mission Family Support	10,000.00	10,000.00	100.0%
5080 · Montreat Conferenc Ctr	150.00	150.00	100.0%
5095 · Helping Neighbors Fund (Budget)	4,000.00	4,000.00	100.0%
5100 · Presbytery, Synod, GA	45,000.00	45,000.00	100.0%
5110 · PSCE/Union	500.00	500.00	100.0%
5140 · Scouts - Troop 44	270.00	270.00	100.0%
5180 · Theological Fund-Expense	500.00	500.00	100.0%
5190 · Univ. Ministry-Cooper House-Exp	11,000.00	11,000.00	100.0%
<b>Total 5010 · Benev. - Other</b>	<b>71,820.00</b>	<b>71,820.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>5800 · Educ.</b>			
5805 · Adult Ministry - Expense	176.37	300.00	58.8%
<b>5806 · Children &amp; Youth Ministries</b>			
5810 · Children's Ministry - Expense			
5810.5 · Nursery Worker	3,683.00		
5810.8 · VBS Expenses	730.54		
5810 · Children's Ministry - Expense - Other	2,628.32		
<b>Total 5810 · Children's Ministry - Expense</b>	<b>7,041.86</b>		
5840 · Youth Ministry - Expense			
5840.1 · Mission Trip or Retreat - Youth	3,415.94		
5840 · Youth Ministry - Expense - Other	2,935.98		
<b>Total 5840 · Youth Ministry - Expense</b>	<b>6,351.92</b>		
5806 · Children & Youth Ministries - Other	4,849.85	18,000.00	26.9%
<b>Total 5806 · Children &amp; Youth Ministries</b>	<b>18,243.63</b>	<b>18,000.00</b>	<b>101.4%</b>
5820 · Library-Bgtd. Expense	0.00	120.00	0.0%
<b>Total 5800 · Educ.</b>	<b>18,420.00</b>	<b>18,420.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>5600 · Nurturing Ministry</b>			
5605 · Congregational Care - Expense	157.86	700.00	22.6%
5620 · New Members/Outreach	116.74	300.00	38.9%
5628 · Creation Care Team	380.76	285.00	133.6%
5630 · Fellowship/Hospitality	1,391.15	2,000.00	69.6%
5647 · University Student Min. - Exp.	854.32	1,000.00	85.4%
<b>Total 5600 · Nurturing Ministry</b>	<b>2,900.83</b>	<b>4,285.00</b>	<b>67.7%</b>
<b>5650 · Worship</b>			
5655 · Adult Choir	1,445.32		
5660 · Bell Choir	250.00		
5670 · Continuing Ed/Music	380.00		
5680 · Extra Music	8,830.00		
5690 · Piano/Organ Maintenance	2,990.50		
5695 · Pulpit Supply	1,400.00		
5697 · From Dunlap Endow	-3,497.07		
5700 · Worship Supplies	451.25		
5650 · Worship - Other	0.00	12,250.00	0.0%
<b>Total 5650 · Worship</b>	<b>12,250.00</b>	<b>12,250.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
5696 · Live Streaming/Online Services	5,576.58	6,252.00	89.2%

**Blacksburg Presbyterian Church**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual**  
 January through December 2023

	Jan - Dec 23	Budget	% of Budget
<b>5400 · Admin.</b>			
<b>5400.1 · Administrative/Office</b>			
5401 · Accounting Fees	7,920.00	7,920.00	100.0%
5403 · Computer & Tech	9,655.26	8,000.00	120.7%
5408 · Communication	4,778.23	2,500.00	191.1%
5525 · Insurance - Expense	13,218.00	14,000.00	94.4%
5526 · Push Pay Expense	9,198.51	8,000.00	115.0%
<b>5530 · Office Expense</b>			
5540 · Office Copier-Expense	7,013.48	12,000.00	58.4%
5545 · Office Supplies-Expense	3,256.70	3,000.00	108.6%
5550 · Postage - Expense	3,308.57	4,000.00	82.7%
5555 · Telephone - Expense	6,201.22	6,600.00	94.0%
<b>Total 5530 · Office Expense</b>	<b>19,779.97</b>	<b>25,600.00</b>	<b>77.3%</b>
<b>Total 5400.1 · Administrative/Office</b>	<b>64,549.97</b>	<b>66,020.00</b>	<b>97.8%</b>
<b>5420 · Bldg. &amp; Grnds.-Maintenance</b>			
5421 · Bldg. & Grnds.-Other	18,152.33		
5425 · Carpet-Floor Maintenance	390.00		
5435 · Electrical & Maintenance	4,892.71		
5440 · Elevator Maintenance	1,406.05		
5445 · General Maintenance Misc.	2,058.50		
5450 · Heating & Maintenance	15,156.70		
5455 · Housekeeping & Supplies	27,886.46		
5460 · Landscape/Shrubbery - Expense	1,300.00		
5465 · Lawn, Grounds & Supplies	9,759.31		
5470 · Paint/Hardware & Maintenance	2,952.29		
5475 · Parking Lot & Maintenance	11,700.00		
5480 · Plumbing & Maintenance	651.62		
5420 · Bldg. & Grnds.-Maintenance - Other	0.00	85,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total 5420 · Bldg. &amp; Grnds.-Maintenance</b>	<b>96,305.97</b>	<b>85,000.00</b>	<b>113.3%</b>
<b>5500 · Utilities</b>			
5505 · Gas/Fuel Oil	9,527.85		
5510 · Electricity	23,169.62		
5515 · Water	5,072.14		
5517 · Trash Removal	2,145.60		
5500 · Utilities - Other	0.00	37,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total 5500 · Utilities</b>	<b>39,915.21</b>	<b>37,000.00</b>	<b>107.9%</b>
<b>Total 5400 · Admin.</b>	<b>200,771.15</b>	<b>188,020.00</b>	<b>106.8%</b>
<b>5645 · Stewardship - Budg. Expense</b>	<b>720.44</b>	<b>250.00</b>	<b>288.2%</b>
<b>6000 · Personnel</b>			
<b>6100 · Pastor</b>			
6100.1 · Pastor Salary	61,632.00	61,632.00	100.0%
6100.2 · Pastor Housing	25,000.00	25,000.00	100.0%
6100.3 · Pastor - Prof Exp	4,518.88	4,500.00	100.4%
6100.4 · Pastor- Phone Reimb	631.84	1,000.00	63.2%
6100.5 · Pastor - SECA Reimb	7,176.00	7,176.00	100.0%
6100.6 · Pastor - SECA (BPC Portion)	7,176.00	7,176.00	100.0%
6100.7 · Pastor - Pension	7,973.64	7,974.00	100.0%
6100.8 · Pastor - Medical	27,204.36	27,204.00	100.0%
6100.9 · Pastor - Death/Disb	1,407.12	1,407.00	100.0%
6100.10 · Pastor - Dental/Vision	1,494.84	1,208.00	123.7%
6100.12 · 403(b) ROTH Cont - Church	3,607.93	3,608.00	100.0%
<b>Total 6100 · Pastor</b>	<b>147,822.61</b>	<b>147,885.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

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## Blacksburg Presbyterian Church Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual January through December 2023

	Jan - Dec 23	Budget	% of Budget
<b>6060 · Office Manager</b>			
6060.1 · Salary - Office Mgr	40,484.00	40,484.00	100.0%
<b>Total 6060 · Office Manager</b>	40,484.00	40,484.00	100.0%
<b>6600 · Music Personnel</b>			
6600.1 · Salary- Music Director	35,512.09	22,680.00	156.6%
6600.3 · Organist	9,612.50	17,010.00	56.5%
<b>Total 6600 · Music Personnel</b>	45,124.59	39,690.00	113.7%
<b>6700 · CE Director</b>			
6700.1 · Salary - CE Director	39,770.00	39,770.00	100.0%
6700.2 · Conferences - Susan Hunter	31.05	750.00	4.1%
<b>Total 6700 · CE Director</b>	39,801.05	40,520.00	98.2%
<b>6800 · Acting Coord of Church Life</b>			
6801 · Salary/Hourly - ACCL	27,326.28	27,754.00	98.5%
6802 · Auto Allowance	0.00	250.00	0.0%
6804 · Prof Development	0.00	1,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total 6800 · Acting Coord of Church Life</b>	27,326.28	29,004.00	94.2%
<b>6815 · Payroll Misc. Expenses</b>			
6815.10 · Direct Deposit & FSA Fees	457.80		
6815 · Payroll Misc. Expenses - Other	528.62		
<b>Total 6815 · Payroll Misc. Expenses</b>	986.42		
<b>6817 · Parish Associate</b>			
6817.5 · Stipend - Parish Assoc	2,700.00	2,700.00	100.0%
<b>Total 6817 · Parish Associate</b>	2,700.00	2,700.00	100.0%
<b>6830 · Payroll Tax -FICA paid by BPC</b>	11,681.94	11,751.00	99.4%
<b>Total 6000 · Personnel</b>	315,926.89	312,034.00	101.2%
<b>Total 5000 · Op.Exp.</b>	669,885.89	654,831.00	102.3%
<b>Total Expense</b>	669,885.89	654,831.00	102.3%
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>45,063.25</b>	<b>41,237.00</b>	<b>109.3%</b>

**Blacksburg Presbyterian Church**  
**Restricted Accounts**  
As of December 31, 2023

	Dec 31, 23
<b>ASSETS</b>	0.00
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>	
<b>4200B · Rest. Inc. Liab</b>	
Misc Pass Through	2,098.22
Baby Shop - St. Paul's.	2,536.99
Bldg Contingency Fund	114,089.29
Burkhart Music Fund	1,944.07
Coffee	1,476.24
Columbarium - Inc. Liab	296.00
Digital Piano	401.67
Feasibility Study	1,500.00
Flower Committee - Inc Liab	1,332.27
Haiti Outreach Fund	2,409.21
Helping Neighbors Fund	-1,120.30
HIURP Epic Honorarium	1,250.00
Induction Loop	834.51
Library Fund - Inc Liab	686.53
Live Streaming Grant	2,951.21
Malawi	8,837.78
Malawi (Non-WG Budget)	
CHIBALE Project	389.40
Malawi (Hill)	8,200.33
<b>Total Malawi (Non-WG Budget)</b>	8,589.73
<b>Memorials - Inc Liab</b>	
Alderson, B	890.00
Alderson, S	500.00
Goodsell, Liz	1,035.00
Grover, N (Peace-Scholarships)	358.00
Judkins, Helen Memorial	1,044.49
Kline, Ralph (Intl Student Aid)	957.65
Misc. Memorial - Inc Liab	100.00
Russell, Frances	1,010.00
Spencer, Andrew	1,721.06
<b>Total Memorials - Inc Liab</b>	7,616.20
Men of the Church	271.67
Moms Demand Action	493.75
Morning Out - Inc Liab	17,520.46
<b>Munford House Proceeds</b>	
Grants	15,000.00
Endowment/Mission	112,000.00
BPC Expenses	74,722.59
<b>Total Munford House Proceeds</b>	201,722.59
Music for Missions	1,100.00
NRCA - Guarantor Trust Fund	32,000.00
Pastoral Education Fund	1,000.00
Philippines Mission Trip	6,904.74
Playground Account	45,204.48
Pledges Pre-Paid 2024	35,875.00
Woodchucks	17,337.11
<b>Total 4200B · Rest. Inc. Liab</b>	517,159.42
<b>Total Long Term Liabilities</b>	517,159.42
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	517,159.42
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>517,159.42</b>

Description	2024 BUDGET
<b>Income</b>	
Open Plate	\$25,000
Pledges and donations	\$660,402
Carry forward from last year	\$45,063
Rental Income	\$7,350
interest income	\$15,000
Kroger card	\$637
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$753,452</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Community Ministry	\$31,000
Peace, Justice, Global Mission (AIM)	\$10,500
Univ. Ministry - Cooper House-Exp	\$12,500
Scouts - Troop 44	\$2,000
Mission Family Support	\$10,000
Presbytery, Synod, GA	\$45,000
Caring for the Community (budget)	\$4,000
<b>Total Other Benevolences</b>	<b>\$73,500</b>
<b>Total Outreach Ministry</b>	<b>\$115,000</b>
Adult Ministry	\$300
Children's and Youth Ministry	\$18,000
Library	\$150
<b>Total Education Ministry</b>	<b>\$18,450</b>
Congregational Care	\$700
Fellowship and Hospitality	\$2,000
Creation Care Team	\$500
New Member Outreach	\$125
University Ministry	\$1,000
<b>Total Nurturing Ministry</b>	<b>\$4,325</b>
<b>Total Worship Ministry</b>	<b>\$16,205</b>

Description	2024 BUDGET
Live-streaming	\$6,000
Building and Grounds	\$105,000
Total Utilities	\$45,000
Stewardship	\$750
Personnel	\$336,778
Accounting Fees	\$7,920
Computer and Technology	\$13,000
Communication	\$5,000
Office Copier	\$10,000
Office Supplies	\$3,300
Postage	\$3,300
push pay expense	\$10,000
Telephone	\$6,300
Insurance Expense	\$14,000
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>\$72,820</b>
<b>Total Support Ministry</b>	<b>\$566,348</b>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$720,328</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$33,124</b>

Blacksburg Presbyterian Church  
Terms of Call for  
Pastor Sarah Wiles  
February 18, 2024

Salary	\$65,964
Housing	\$25,000
½ SECA	\$7,535

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**Effective Salary**                      **\$98,499**

½ SECA	\$7,535	
Medical	\$28,565	(29% of Effective Salary)
Pension	\$8,372	(8.5% of Effective Salary)
Death	\$985	(1% of Effective Salary)
Temp. Disability	\$492	(0.5% of Effective Salary)
Dental/Vision	\$1,268	
Phone Reimbursement	\$1,050	
403(b)	\$3,788	
Professional Development	\$4,725	

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**Total Package:**                      **\$155,279**

**Time Away:**

3 weeks of continuing education, including 3 Sundays

4 weeks of vacation, including 4 Sundays

**Sabbatical:**

3-month sabbatical after 5 years of service, with a good faith agreement to remain at BPC for 2 years following sabbatical

Blacksburg Presbyterian Church  
2023 Annual Report