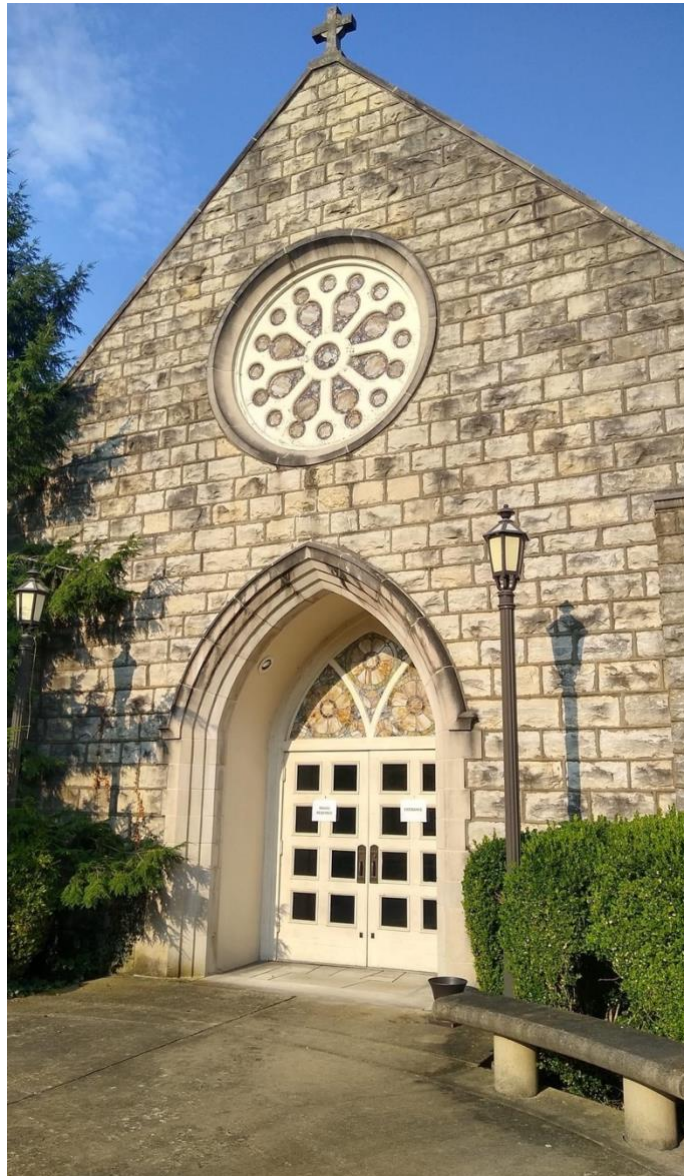


# CRESCENT HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*2022 Annual Report*



February 2023

Dear Beloved of God,

Enclosed you will find the annual report for 2022. As we continue to work toward reconciling the past and planning for the future, I hope you will find encouragement and joy in reading the reports of the various committees and groups who have been busy this past year doing the ministry and mission of this congregation.

I am grateful for the year I have had as your transitional pastor and for all the ways we have been a part of each other's lives. So many of you have made such a difference with your time, gifts and dedication.

We will remember 2022 as a seminal year of ups and downs, gains and losses, and changes and possibilities. As we look to 2023 may we continue to be faithful and hopeful as we work together toward the future God intends for us.

Peace,  
Peggy

# Session

Submitted by Peggy Hinds

**2022 Session Members:** Harrie Buecker, Claudia Foulkes, Lucy Steilberg, Doug Yeager, Jack Marcum, Don Mead, Marsha Berry, Clerk Polly Cushman, Moderator Peggy Hinds

The Session began the year by welcoming newly elected members Jack Marcum, Don Mead and Marsha Berry, and saying thank you to out-going officers. Because of COVID we were unable to have our retreat at Sisters of Loretto. Instead, we had a half-day retreat with Dr. Dru Kemp, who led us in a review of systems theory and discernment.

The Session sponsored four congregational gatherings to give congregants an opportunity for discussion, worship, and fellowship. The events focused on the past, present, and future of the church. We had good attendance at each gathering, and a written summary was made available to the congregation after each event.

Throughout the year, we continued to discern ways to bring healing and reconciliation to the congregation and to move us into the future. In our monthly meetings, we prayed for the congregation and special pastoral needs, read scriptures, and shared a time of reflection and learning. We heard reports from each of our committees and the deacons and acted on motions brought to us.

We ended the year as we began it, by welcoming newly elected officers for 2023, Dave Bush, Barbara Hedspeth and Eva Stimson. We gathered at Eva's home for dinner and examination of these candidates. They were ordained and installed on December 18, 2022.



# *Communication*

Submitted by Patti Marcum

The Communication Committee was formed to review present forms of communication and implement improvements on the ways we communicate who we are as a congregation and the ways we communicate to each other.

**2022 Communication Committee Participants:** Stewart Bridgman, Soni Castleberry, Gayle Collins, Erin Denny, Peggy Hinds, Janine Linder, Patti Marcum (co-chair), and Eva Stimson (co-chair)

**CHPC Website:** CHPC's website is designed for both internal and external communication of our identity as a congregation. The communication committee provides Faith Grady, administrative assistant, with updates and suggestions to improve the website. CHPC's website homepage now communicates the importance of worship, prayer, and mission in our congregation.

**CHPC Directory:** Because of concern that Congregation Builder, the software used for CHPC's directory, was no longer supported, we worked to update a directory of current members, their dependent children, participating ministers, and staff. Another app, Instant Church Directory, is being considered for future use. We encourage members to provide the church office with any changes in their contact information.

**CHPC Calendar:** A church calendar of activities is available from CHPC's website. Members are encouraged to provide Faith Grady with dates, times, and places of church activities.

**Westminster Weekly:** Westminster Weekly provides church members with information about our life together. A style sheet to provide consistency of dates, times, etc. was developed and a committee member proofs Westminster Weekly before it is emailed to the congregation. A listing of birthdays has been added to Westminster Weekly.

**CHPC Facebook:** CHPC has both a public Facebook page and a private group. Faith Grady and Peggy Hinds approve content. Submission of content and pictures is encouraged.

**Prayer Requests:** A deacon email, [deacons@crescenthill.church](mailto:deacons@crescenthill.church), was established as one of the methods that deacons can receive prayer requests. The Deacon of the Month monitors this email. Prayer requests are communicated to the pastor, deacons, and the congregation depending on the wishes of the requester.

**Guest Card:** A guest card is available in the pews and the narthex to obtain more information about guests. Please consider providing a guest with this card after greeting them.

**Item Locator:** A list of commonly needed items with their location in both buildings is now available on the refrigerator in the church kitchen.

# Worship

Submitted by Patti Marcum

**2022 Committee members:** Barbara Hedspeth (chair), Patti Marcum, Carol Roderick, Rick Roderick, Jerry Van Marter, and Doug Yeager **Staff:** Peggy Hinds and David Gibson

The Worship Committee guides the worship life of the congregation which includes Sunday morning worship, music, and special worship services.



The congregation began worshipping again in the sanctuary, as well as on Zoom, on Ash Wednesday 2022 and thereafter. The sanctuary was open during Holy Week for quiet and prayer. A Blue Christmas service was held during Advent.

Documents for communion preparation and serving were updated.

Worship Committee continues to oversee the following:

- Greeters/ushers at worship
- Communion scheduling, preparation, and clean-up
- Flowers, liturgical banners, and special decor during church seasons
- Special worship services during Lent, Holy Week, Pentecost, Advent, and Christmas Eve
- Worship service and summer picnic at Cedar Ridge Camp
- Scheduling Minutes for Mission

We have much for which to be grateful:

- Doug Yeager's expertise making worshipping by Zoom possible
- Our ability to worship again in the sanctuary
- Choir rehearsing and singing in worship again with David Gibson's leadership
- Preaching by Peggy Hinds, Nancy Troy, Bill Williamson
- Music by David Gibson, Frank Kirk, Amy Pauw, and Doug Yeager
- Christmas Eve service on Zoom despite wintry weather
- Christmas Day service on Zoom led by Rick Roderick and Doug Yeager
- Each of you who makes us a worshipping community called to live out love and grace with one another and the world



# Nurture

Submitted by Soni Castelberry

**2022 Committee Members:** Soni Castleberry (chair), Harrie Buecker (Session liaison), Bev Machin, and Eva Stimson

The year was one of acceptance, healing as some members re-engaged, traditional activities, and hopeful new beginnings. Our transitional pastor Rev. Peggy Hinds was a blessing to our work. Her creativity and “can do” attitude buoyed up the spirits of our three-person committee as she worked with us to educate members and strengthen relationships within our congregation.

## Youth Group

In early August, Rev. Rebecca Barnes talked with Pastor Peggy and our committee about her interest in trying to restart activities for youth. What an unexpected and wonderful answer to our prayers to find ways to reach out to youth. Rebecca contacted families with students in 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade to check interest. The church’s upcoming worship and picnic at Cedar Ridge Camp was a likely informal meet-up. Three high schoolers came and seemed to enjoy each other, pool time, and interactions with Rebecca, and other youth leaders, Chris Bischoff and Luis Kemmerle.

With a spark of interest rekindled, a kick-off pizza and pool party Wed., Aug. 31, generated brainstorming, and plans for monthly gatherings through year-end. Four regulars came and one or two more youth occasionally. Activities included checking in with each other while enjoying a picnic in the park, a visit to Joe Huber’s Family Farm & Restaurant, Halloween sightseeing on Hillcrest Avenue, roller skating, and movie watching. Two also served as liturgists and candle lighters in an Advent worship service. We are happy youth are finding meaning in being together. We celebrate the wonderful people that they are, their interest, the support of parents and other family members, volunteers, and Rebecca’s commitment, knowledge, and administrative work to lift this endeavor.



## Christian Education

- Eva Stimson, Jerry Van Marter, Luke Van Marter and his puppet “Sid,” and Bev Machin faithfully led children’s Sunday school classes using Zoom technology and the PC(USA)’s “Growing in Grace & Gratitude” curriculum for ages 8-10. Children learned from Bible stories from the Old and New Testament. As usual, Sid often misunderstood lessons but the children
- were quick to correct him. Ten children from five families attended one or more sessions. Weekly attendance varied from none to eight, averaging two or three. Amazingly, one child, whose family was on furlough in Washington state from assignment as mission co-workers in Malawi, participated both then and when they returned to Africa. CHPC member Connie Foss, and Bev’s grandson and daughter-in-law, also were additions to classes.

*Nurture report, cont.*

- Pastor Peggy and her husband Mark Hinds, graciously led a four-week Zoom study on Sundays at 5 p.m. in September/October using the book *Meaning Making*, published by Springtide Research. It followed Peggy's sermon series on eight values that research showed motivate people—especially young people—to join a faith community. About 10 folks came with an average of six adults.
- During three weeks in December, Amy Pauw blessed us with an in-person study on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. using the book *Father Abraham's Many Children: The Bible in a World of Religious Differences*, written by her Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary colleague, Dr. Tyler Mayfield. Discussion focused on familiar stories of Cain and Abel, Ishmael and Isaac, and Esau and Jacob and included how to read them to welcome diversity. About 10 adults attended.
- Planning ahead, Eva Stimson contacted Hunter Farrell and his co-author, Balajiedlang Khylllep, to lead a study in 2023 of their book *Freeing Congregational Mission* with our Guatemalan Connection group also leading some sessions.

**Special Recognitions Within the Liturgical Year of the Church**

- Lent -- We coordinated with Pastor Peggy who offered an excellent five-week study on forgiveness in March and April. Five adults attended in person at noon in Henry Young Hall with 10 more typically by Zoom on Sundays at 5 p.m. Peggy also helped our committee develop a packet for families with children with activities to do at home during the 40 days leading to Easter. Our committee, Jerry Van Marter, and Bev Machin's niece, bagged Play-doh, rocks, candles, sand, felt, activity sheets, and instructions for weekly activities. Claudia Foulkes, Judy Steer and Soni Castleberry delivered or mailed bags to 17 families. Our committee also sent Easter greetings to each family to celebrate Christ's resurrection. By December, we were already looking ahead to Lent 2023 and Eva Stimson began to revise this year's materials for families with children. We also pursued with Peggy possibilities for another study group and inviting a few members to contribute to a weekly devotional for the season.



- Pentecost -- June 5 was a huge day of activity as we celebrated the birthday of the Christian church and the hard work of several of Jesus' followers at CHPC. Two high school and two college graduates, as well as four Sunday school teachers (plus Sid-the-puppet), were honored in worship for their accomplishments. Those present were given gifts and cards of congratulations or gratitude, and others were delivered to their homes.

A new event – a Pentecost party after worship – gave about 35 adult members and guests, including seven children, a first-time opportunity to party in person this year. Although hot, there was a slight breeze, and folks enjoyed socializing over a prepared lunch which Allen Bridgman, Perry Chang, and Judy Steer helped Bev

## *Nurture report, cont.*

Machin provide and oversee. Foods wore mostly red to honor the liturgical color of Pentecost, and a variety of games and activities focused on images of wind, light, breath, and different languages. Thanks to Stu Bridgman and Pastor Peggy for help with tent canopies, and Rev. Lengulula Kashama, Nelly Ngandu, Lucy D. Steilberg, Beth Yeager, and Hilda Zuniga for help with activities, and to Doug Yeager and Polly Cushman for flute music and song leadership.

- Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany– Our committee encouraged participation in all services planned by the Worship Committee and staff. We appreciated their invitation to the youth group to be worship leaders one week in Advent. We also supported Peggy’s efforts promote scriptures and activities that members could use at home. Special thanks to Rev. Mark Hinds, for sharing his daily devotional– *The Twelve Days of Christmas* – as an organized, thought-provoking resource for reflections.

### **Fellowship Opportunities**

- It was a delight for 25 CHPCers to worship and picnic outdoors at Cedar Ridge Camp on Aug. 14 and for several more to join in by Zoom. We co-sponsored this with the Worship Council. We had a wonderful time together with Pastor Peggy preaching, Claudia Foulkes as liturgist, David Gibson on his keyboard, and Amy Pauw and Doug Yeager playing their flutes. Jerry Van Marter and Ben Langley were back at the grill. The weather was nice despite a strong brief rain. It set the mood for the service.
- In July, Jack and Patti Marcum began hosting coffee hour before worship. It was a great time to catch up in-person with each other, learn new things, and meet others in the congregation not as well-known to us. The coffees continued until just before Christmas and are expected to restart sometime next year. About eight different folks attended with six being the average.

### **Scholarship Funds**

- Three funds are administered by our committee and recommendations are approved by Session. These include the Fred Woosley and John Leake Scholarship Funds to help students with expenses for post-high school education either in college or trade school. The Jean Leake Youth Fund provides resources to help church families send their children to Cedar Ridge Camp or other local camps for summer enrichment activities. We were thrilled this year when Patti Marcum offered to coordinate the application and disbursement efforts for all three
- funds, and Bob Abrams and Lucy D. Steilberg continued to review and recommend applications to Session for approval. Six youth associated with our church were granted educational scholarships and two received camperships.

### Work in Other Areas of Our Responsibility

Patti Marcum helped clean up the youth room as well as the nursery and younger children’s classroom. She sorted materials, cleaned usable items, furniture, and curtains, and inventoried and shared needs for our committee to address early next year. We are eager for these supports for ministry to be operational.



*Nurture report, cont.*

### New Nurturers Needed

We value your ideas and welcome your help with Nurture Committee's work. If you would like to visit a meeting and possibly join Bev, Eva, Harrie, and Soni in this work please contact Soni at 417-6481 or [soni.castleberry@gmail.com](mailto:soni.castleberry@gmail.com). Meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 6:45 p.m. (plenary) and 7-8 p.m. (meeting), currently by Zoom.

## *Outreach*

Submitted by Don Mead

**2022 Committee Members:** Claudia Foulkes (Chair), Don Mead, Ben Langley, Lucy Stielberg, Perry Chang.

In 2022, Outreach activities at CHPC remained strong, despite the continuing presence of covid and the financial stringencies within our own church. The faithful Outreach Committee (Lucy Steilberg, Ben Langley, Perry Chang, Don Mead, and Claudia Foulkes, chair), met regularly to provide encouragement and support for the various groups engaged in the work of spreading the good news of God's caring love for all, often working with others beyond our congregation to help meet the needs of those on the margins of society. The teams at work were the following.

Gun Violence Prevention Team: This team, led by Lucy Steilberg and Eva Stimson, has grown to include members of at least four congregations. The team's biggest accomplishment of 2022 was organizing a Guns to Gardens safe-surrender event, which took place December 4 after several postponements. Some 20 volunteers from more than 7 local churches and other organizations received and dismantled 28 weapons. The gun pieces were taken to local blacksmith Craig Kaviar, of Kaviar Forge & Gallery, who is transforming them into garden tools and jewelry. Guns to Gardens is a national movement, sponsored by the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship and RAWtools. This was the first such event to take place in Kentucky.

During 2022, the GVP Team also advocated with local, state, and national government for laws and programs to help prevent gun violence. They began working on hosting a film screening, planned for 2023, of a documentary about former Arizona congresswoman and shooting survivor Gabby Giffords, as well as a community-wide book read, planned for 2023, of the book, *The Second Amendment: A Biography*

Build-a-Bed: In April, 2022, Crescent Hill Presbyterian Church was one of 24 build teams who came together to support the community-wide Build-A-Bed event at Broadbent Arena. At this event, we joined our hands and hearts with others to build 80 beds for children in our community who were identified by their schools as needing a bed. Plans are underway for 2023 to host a Build-A-Bed event at CHPC to build 20 beds, as well as to form a build team to participate in the community-wide event in April to build an additional 125 beds. Ben Langley played a key role in our work on this undertaking.

## *Outreach report, cont.*

English Language Learning: Despite complications and restrictions we experienced through COVID, the English Language Learners (ELL) program held classes in the spring from March until May. During the summer break, we gathered to enjoy a potluck dinner. Classes resumed in September, and we ended the year with a Christmas gathering. During the course of 2022, we adapted to various changes regarding food restrictions, vaccinations, social distancing, and wearing masks, which is particularly challenging while learning a different language.

During COVID, there was very little promotion to recruit new students. Our weekly attendance ranged from 2 – 5 students and 3 – 6 volunteers. Although Izzy Jones had not been present as a teacher since the beginning of COVID, her passing was a profound loss, with one student saying that Izzy had been like a mother to him. After many years as ELL teachers, Mark and Barbara Barnes retired from the program. We were thrilled to have Don and Carol Mead join us for fall classes. Long-time volunteers Eva Stimson, Diana Stephen, Soni Castleberry, and Shannon Langley continued in their roles as teachers and organizers.

Guatemala Connection: Crescent Hill church and its partner of 13 years – the Q'eqchi' Estoreño Izabal Presbytery of eastern Guatemala – engaged in several ways in 2022 through the wonders of modern technology. About 25 CHPC members participated over several occasions. This was especially important since the COVID pandemic and transitions within our own congregation made it impossible to carry out visits in either direction.

Our partnership experienced a difficult loss on January 21, 2022 when Pastor Ramiro Quib Caal – longtime Estoreño Presbytery leader – went to be with Our Gracious God at only 49 years old after years struggling with his health. Estoreño folks live-streamed two days' worth of remembrances – with crystal-clear audio and video. We felt like we were walking alongside Ramiro's casket as the funeral procession wound its way through the streets of El Estor, from Ramiro's church (Arca de Noe) to the city cemetery. Probably half a dozen people have been critical to the strength of the partnership, and certainly Pastor Ramiro was one of those. He had been on all three of our partners' visits to Kentuckiana and instrumental in all our visits to Guatemala. Originally an elder in his church, Ramiro participated in theological training that our partnership helped financially support. He was ordained in 2015 and installed as his church's pastor when a vacancy occurred.

Later in 2022, our partners live-streamed two days of a de facto revival organized by the youth and young adults of the Presbytery. They celebrated the anniversary of church youth and young adults first mobilizing there several years back (partly inspired by CHPC visits that included our youth in leadership roles). Doug Yeager and Perry Chang coordinated the collection of video greetings from CHPC folks and Doug assembled, edited, and sent them to our partners. It was a great way to support their efforts even from afar.

In the summer and fall, we worked with Pastor Raul Contreras Tut, pastor of El Estor's Altar de Noe church and a one-time visitor to Crescent Hill, to find a way – in the absence of Ramiro, the Presbytery's former treasurer – for CHPC to send funds directly to a Presbytery bank account. After several months, this transmission succeeded and should be easier next time. The Presbytery was

### *Outreach report, cont.*

given \$1,500 from CHPC's mission budget. When our partnership began, money rarely was given; however, in recent years, CHPC has sent this amount to the Presbytery for different projects. Crescent Hill usually aspired to add a tithe out of this amount – 10 percent – partly to support Presbyterian connectionalism – to the national church in Guatemala. For the first time, we did this directly, sending \$150 to the "IENPG" (the national Presbyterian church in Guatemala).

During Sunday worship CHPCers prayed each week for a different Estoreño Presbytery congregation or ministry. This year the deacons offered these prayers with information updated each week by Guatemalan Connection members. Estoreño folks also continued to pray for CHPC. Two leaders of the Estoreño committee charged with helping sustain the partnership – Pastor Benjamin Sacul of the Familia de Noe church and Pastor Raul– regularly sent videos, photos, and texts in Facebook Messenger to keep CHPC folks up to date.

Guatemalan Connection folks are hoping to have a brainstorming session in early 2023 – preferably involving a wide swath of people from across CHPC including the Outreach Committee, staff, youth and other interested CHPCers, and hopefully others in the Mid-Kentucky Presbytery – to reflect and make plans for the future of this partnership. We hope that many will come to learn and also consider playing a role in this important ministry. CHPCers active in helping steward our Guatemala partnership in 2022 included Carrie Mook Bridgman, Perry Chang, Soni Castleberry, Ben Langley, and Doug Yeager.

United Crescent Hill Ministries: in addition to the regular year-around collection of food for those in our Crescent Hill neighborhood, this ministry group undertook a creative response to a request for diapers, received shortly before Super Bowl Sunday, which we called "Souper Pooper Bowl Sunday". Reaching out for help from others living near the church, two full car-loads of diapers were collected and delivered to UCHM. This wonderful community event will be repeated in 2023. Claudia Foulkes was our leader in this relationship.



La Casita: in 2022, this Center provided immigrant families in our community with food, hygiene items, gently used clothing and educational materials. CHPC members donated items, especially lots of rice and beans and canned goods, during Advent as part of a "holiday partnership," organized by the Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Justice, of which CHPC is a member. Tricia Lloyd-Sidel served as our principal link with this organization.

The Outreach Committee also oversaw regular collections of food for Hope Buss, building on relationships of individuals in the congregations with this organization. Claudia Foulkes has been our principal link with these groups.

Spirit of Sofia: Under the leadership of Dana Sue Walker, Spirit of Sophia is a women's spirituality center that offers women's circles, workshops and retreats. Due to the pandemic, in March of 2020 they began offering our programs virtually. They have continued to offer programs on-line, and due to the impact they are making with reaching women not only from all parts of Kentucky, but also

### *Outreach report, cont.*

from across the country and globally – they will always continue to have a virtual presence, along with their in-person programs. Throughout 2022 they offered seven workshops, three retreats, two on-going monthly circles, and two special celebrations, serving over 325 women.

The Outreach Committee also oversaw the four special offerings of our denomination and sought to strengthen the relationships reflected in our gifts to the denomination in honor of three mission workers: Jeff and Christi Boyd, and Eliane Menez. In response to specific crises, funds were also sent to help those impacted by floods in Eastern Kentucky and those impacted by the conflict between Ukraine and Russia.

Crescent Hill Presbyterian Church has always been deeply committed to its Outreach programs, demonstrating the love of Christ through its engagement with those in need outside our walls. That has commitment has remained strong in 2022.

## *Earth Care*

Submitted by Polly Cushman

The Earth Care Team of Crescent Hill Presbyterian Church is focused on helping the congregation and the community to recognize the need for living in a sustainable manner. Though we did not meet as a group this year, along with our congregation, we were able to accomplish quite a bit working together to care for God's Earth.

In February the Team sent a proposal to the Session regarding the overture, **"The Time is Now to Cherish Creation, Cut Carbon, and Speak Up."** The team asked the Session to support this Overture and send it to the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky for its next meeting and to encourage the presbytery to initiate it to the 225th General Assembly (2022) for voting or to offer presbytery support if it has already been initiated by another presbytery. The Session passed the motion and sent the overture to presbytery. Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church, another Earth Care Congregation, also sent the overture to presbytery. The presbytery agreed to initiate the overture to GA, and a member of the CHPC Earth Care Team agreed to serve as the Overture Advocate to the Committee. The GA Committee considered it along with others. Though that committee it did not send this overture on to the Plenary Session for a vote, they did send a related overture regarding cutting fossil fuels, which passed.

In April, the team helped plan the Earth Day Sunday Worship for April 24<sup>th</sup>. The team provided and led the liturgy and asked Jessica Maudlin to preach. Jessica is the Associate for Sustainable Living and Earth Care Concerns for the PC(USA). The entire service focused on God's creation. In addition to this focused service, many other worship services contained a message regarding the need for preserving resources to help save our planet. In August, a CHPC service was held at Cedar Ridge Camp where the whole congregation was steeped in the wonders of the world around us.

*Earth Care report, cont.*

In May, the Team encouraged the Session to make use of a grant from presbytery to install an electric vehicle charging station in the parking lot. After much study and discussion, the Session acted, and the charging station has been installed. By fall, owners of electric vehicles were using this station, both members of the congregation and some people from the community around the church. There is a sign in the front yard to help publicize the station to the community.



One member of the Earth Care Team has continued taking pictures on his daily walks and providing them through email to anyone who wishes to receive them. Each day he sends them out along with a brief devotional about the environment. Many people, both in the congregation and outside it, are blessed by the daily reminder of God's creation.

Throughout the year, when members found articles either in newspapers or online, they shared the link with the rest of the team. We all learned a lot from this sharing. Many articles were placed into the weekly e-news explaining ways we can conserve. One such article contained links to extensive information about recycling in Louisville.

The Earth Care Pledge says we “will celebrate God’s grace and glory in creation and declare that God calls us to cherish, protect and restore this earth.” The CHPC Earth Care Team continues to follow God’s calling. During the coming year, we hope to continue raising awareness of the wonder and beauty provided to us by God. We also hope to update our presence on the church’s website, which is currently being upgraded. We recognize the critical urgency of restoring God’s creation so all beings can enjoy it.

## *Personnel*

Submitted by Marsha Berry

**2022 Committee Members:** Marsha Berry (Chair), Andrea Trautwein, Barbara Hedspeth, and Teri Lloyd

The Personnel Committee achievements this year included:

- Developed personnel policy for CHPC including harassment and grievance procedure. Presented to and approved by session.
- Administrative Assistant developed list of job tasks and information on workflow.
- Staff Evaluations were completed and reviewed.
- Recommended raises for staff if budget could accommodate.
- Recommended Peggy Hinds contract be extended for the additional year.

The Personnel Committee looks forward to continuing to review practices in 2023.

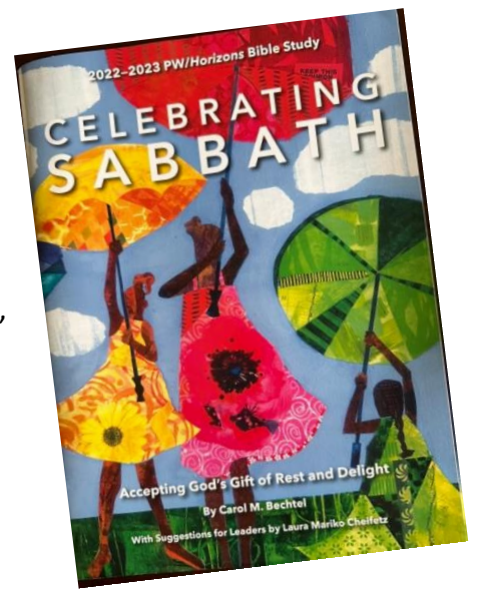


# Presbyterian Women

Submitted by Diana Stephen

This was a hybrid year for Presbyterian Women. For the first part of the year we met via Zoom. In October we resumed our in-person meetings. And were we happy to be with one another! Once again, we met during the summer—without an agenda—simply to check in with each other! While we're not yet up to full speed, we were able to:

- Mourn the loss of Mary Love, Polly Johnson and, especially Izzy Jones who had been a faithful link in our PW Circle. We miss her very much.
- Begin conversations with LaCasita for a fitting memorial for Izzy.
- Welcome David Gibson and Frank Kirk.
- Conclude our Bible study, *What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus*. This proved to be an excellent series of lessons that were both interesting and challenging.
- Begin our new Bible study, *Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight*.
- Share our mission giving of \$1,670 with: Buckhorn, LPTS Bookends, Church Women United, Furlough Home, UCHM, Wayside Christian Mission, PC(USA) World Mission, Cedar Ridge Camp, Habitat for Humanity, Least Coin, Dare to Care, LaCasita, and Uspiritus.
- Collect an additional \$500 for diapers and wipes for LaCasita.
- Attend the Presbytery's PW Spring Gathering at Harvey Browne PC.
- Gift CHPC staff and others with Christmas cookies.
- Pray especially for CHPC, its Session, staff, and PW members, as well as for our city, nation and world.



Come and join us on the second Tuesday of the month at 10:30 am in the Gathering Room in the back building. We pray, study the Bible, care for one another, and have a lot of fun. We always delight in expanding our Circle.

# *Deacons*

Submitted by Soni Castleberry

**2022 Deacons:** Allen Bridgman, Gayle Collins, Nelly Ngandu, Soni Castleberry, Shannon Langley

This was a year to cope with the continued impact of COVID-19, the lingering pain from the inactive status or departure of some CHPC members. Our congregation also grieved the deaths of three longtime CHPCers – Rev. Mary Love, Izzy Jones, and Polly Johnson – within six months during the middle of the year. Each was actively involved until the last couple years and to have three die and so quickly was hard to believe. Working with their families, deacons coordinated efforts with other church members to honor them at separate receptions following their services.

Besides these deaths, at least six members lost parents, siblings, and sons-in-law, and many more lost close family members and friends. At least 10 members had major surgeries, five fought serious illnesses, and countless more were sick with other illnesses including COVID-19. Others dealt with serious illnesses with family members, became caregivers, faced urgent housing transitions, struggled with mental health crises, lost jobs, and were confronted with legal issues and the incarceration of family members. We also had two young adults in congregational families who lost friends to suicide and/or gun violence. Fortunately, we also celebrated new births, and milestone birthdays and anniversaries. Even within our own group we experienced many of the situations outlined above. We quickly realized we had to practice self-care, ask for help, and support one another too.

Deacons met monthly on Zoom. We each served at least twice as Deacon-of-the-Month. Each of us had about 25 households on our Care Team. We were the points of contact with those on our lists when they needed support and we also called on them for help when other CHPCers needed care. This method proved more difficult this year as many of the people on our lists were inactive or less involved in church usually due to age or health issues.

Based on the situation, needs, and desires of members, deacons and volunteers responded in many ways to the growing needs in our congregation:

- Phone calls, texts, and cards
- Visits to hospitals and homes
- Drop-offs of meals or gift cards for food, or books
- Distribution of beautifully handmade items of comfort provided by the Prayer Shawl Ministry coordinated by Patti Marcum
- Transportation to a medical appointment(s)

Other accomplishments this year included:

- Revision of the church directory by Gayle, Patti and Jack Marcum, Pastor Peggy, and Faith Grady
- Update of our birthday list by Faith, Patti, and Soni
-

*Deacons, cont.*

- Serving in worship as the “Prayers of the People” leader and liturgist, collector of prayers spoken in-person or via Zoom chat to voice in worship, and writer of Tuesday’s *Always in Prayer* email
- Creation of a deacon email address in May (Thank you, Jack Marcum!)
- Coordination of refreshments for May 1 congregational gathering
- Reactivation of the deacon freezer to store meals (this was discontinued last year when access to the church was limited due to COVID)

Deacons were blessed to have the support and encouragement of our transitional pastor Rev. Peggy Hinds. She attended many of our meetings and kept us apprised when we were needed to assist with folks for whom she was providing pastoral care. We greatly appreciated having someone to anticipate and respond to these needs.

We also thank all who graciously stepped up when asked to help in any way. We could not have addressed the needs in our congregation without you. Your caring responses meant much to us and even more to those to whom you provided care.

Allen represented us on the 2022 Nominating Committee. They proposed to session that the number of deacons be reduced to four. Even with that change, however, the committee could only fill one slot and Allen agreed to serve a 4<sup>th</sup> year herself. She also led the zoom training Dec. 3 for newly-elected deacon, Gail DeMarsh, who was installed in December.

With only four deacons in 2023, it would be wonderful to have other members and friends regularly help in this ministry of compassion. Might that be you? Look at the tasks listed above and contact one of us or email [deacons@crescenthill.church](mailto:deacons@crescenthill.church) to volunteer.



# *Stewardship of God's Resources*

Submitted by Stewart Bridgman

**2022 Committee Members:** Stewart Bridgman (chair), Dave Bush, Jack Marcum (Treasurer), Alan Pauw, And David Wilding.

The Stewardship Committee oversees two major areas in the life of the congregation: (1) finances and (2) building/grounds. Here are some highlights from the year in each area.

## **Finances**

- A budget of \$207,814.48 was approved for 2022. The amount designated for pastor and staff was \$149,264.48, leaving \$4,727.84 for operations, \$7,450 for programs and \$9,300 for mission partnerships.
- The budget for 2022 included \$20,000 from reserves to pay the remaining severances for former pastor Roger Veliquette and former music director Debbie Dierks.
- We invested some of our reserves in certificates of deposit staggered quarterly.
- Led by the acting treasurer, Stewardship carried out the annual financial stewardship campaign in November and December. A total of \$164,490 in pledges were received.
- The committee put together a 2023 budget totaling \$177,411.04. (Session approved this budget in early 2023).
- We will utilize a tax accounting company to lower stress on current treasurer and improve quality of reports.



## **Building and Grounds**

- A new Insurance vendor was found thanks to the work of Alan Pauw. This resulted in savings for the church with equitable coverage.
- In February the pastor and administrative assistant returned to working at the church two days a week.
- Members of the committee planned clean up days in April, September, and October
- Water testing revealed a problem with lead pipes in the sanctuary building. As a temporary fix, bottled water was made available in the narthex, and the water fountains were turned off. The cost of replacing pipes is approximately \$10,000. (The pipes in the back building are fine.)
- Given financial problems, the committee decided not to replace the choir room's broken air conditioner. A window AC unit was installed instead.
- We provide keys to anyone needing to use the back building
- As a cost saving and safety measure, the committee recommended that worship be held only by Zoom following a snowstorm.

*Stewardship, cont.*

- The committee reviewed several requests for building use by outside groups, but all were turned down as none of the requesting organizations wanted to use the facilities for events or programs that aligned with the mission of the church.

## *Treasurers' Report*

*Submitted by Jack Marcum and Alan Pauw, Co-treasurers*

The church ended 2022 with \$173,794.75 in income and \$200,724.14 in expenses, for a differential of \$26,929.39. Session had anticipated that expenses would exceed income, however, and had approved transferring \$20,000 from reserves, so the net loss in the budget was thus \$6,929.39.

The large majority of income for the year came from pledges (88%) and other gifts from individuals (9%). The largest expense category was personnel (71%, including 7% for severance), followed by utilities (10%), other operating expenses (11%), mission partnerships (7%), and program expenses (1%).

Beyond the budget, \$8,009.80 was contributed to special offerings, including \$2,253.75 to One Great Hour of Sharing; \$1,370.05 to the Christmas Joy Offering, \$1,365.00 to the Peace & Global Witness Offering, and \$1,245.00 to the Pentecost Offering. The summer concert series raised an additional \$1,126 for mission causes.





## 2022 Financial Report Summary

### Income

Pledge gifts .....	\$154,805.30
Non-pledges gifts (named individuals) .....	\$ 15,813.03
Other .....	\$ 3,176.42

**Total income.....\$173,794.75**

**Transfer from reserves.....\$20,000**

### Expenses

#### Personnel

Severance payments.....	\$16,019.27
Transitional pastor	
Total effective salary .....	\$35,000.00
Benefits and expenses .....	\$18,196.30
Total transitional pastor.....	\$53,196.34
Other staff salary and benefits	
Music director salary .....	\$13,520.04
Administrative assistant salary .....	\$41,715.00
Custodian (contractor).....	\$16,900.00
Social Security for staff.....	\$ 4,649.74
Total other staff.....	\$76,784.78

#### Mission partnerships

Total mission partnerships.....	\$ 7,798.85
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#### Current operating expenses

Utilities.....	\$20,681.69
Insurance (ten months) .....	\$ 8,347.08
Office supplies.....	\$ 4,911.76
Other .....	\$ 4,901.23
Total current operating expenses.....	\$40,403.20

#### Program expenses

Per capita apportionment .....	\$ 3,879.65
Other program expenses.....	\$ 3,602.49
Total program expenses .....	\$ 7,483.14

**Total expenses.....\$200,724.14**

**Differential.....\$-6,929.39**

**CRESCENT HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Budget**  
**Approved by Session 1-25-2023**

Budget		2022	2023	Pct Change
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
<b>SALARIES</b>				
	<b>TOTAL SERVERANCE PAYMENTS</b>	\$ 18,501.90	\$ -	-100.0%
<b>PASTOR</b>				
	Transition Pastor			
	Base Salary	\$ 24,200.00	\$ 24,200.00	0.0%
	Housing Allowance	\$ 10,800.00	\$ 10,800.00	0.0%
	<b>TOTAL EFFECTIVE SALARY SUBTOTAL</b>	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	0.0%
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT</b>				
	AA--Jan & Feb 2023		\$ 7,300.12	
	AA--Feb-Dec 2023		\$ 18,250.30	
	<b>AA TOTAL</b>	\$ 41,715.00	\$ 25,550.42	-38.8%
<b>OTHER STAFF</b>				
	Music Director	\$ 13,520.00	\$ 14,196.00	5.0%
	Custodian	\$ 16,900.00	\$ 16,900.00	0.0%
	Vacation Organist	\$ 650.00	\$ 650.00	0.0%
	Pulpit Supply	\$ 300.00	\$ 900.00	200.0%
	<b>OTHER STAFF SUBTOTAL</b>	\$ 31,370.00	\$ 32,646.00	4.1%
<b>STAFF BENEFITS</b>				
	Benefits for Pastor	\$ 14,500.08	\$ 15,000.00	3.4%
	Business Expenses for Pastor	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	0.0%
	Continuing Education Funds for Pastor	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	0.0%
	Social Security for Pastor	\$ 2,677.50	\$ 2,677.50	0.0%
	Social Security for Staff	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 2,464.28	-45.2%
	<b>RETIREMENTS/MEDICAL SUBTOTAL</b>	\$ 22,677.58	\$ 21,141.78	-6.8%
	<b>PASTOR AND STAFF TOTAL</b>	\$ 149,264.48	\$ 114,338.20	-23.4%
<b>MISSION PARTNERSHIPS</b>				
	[Recipients to be named]	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 9,350.00	29.9%
	<b>MISSION PARTNERSHIPS TOTAL</b>	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 9,350.00	29.9%
<b>CURRENT OPERATING EXPENSES</b>				
	Gen Assembly, Synod, & Presbytery			
	Apportionment	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	0.0%
	Utilities	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 20,500.00	20.6%
	ADP and Vanco	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,500.00	25.0%
	Property & Equipment Maintenance	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 4,500.00	-35.7%
	Insurance-Prop & Work Comp	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 10,916.00	-27.2%
	Session Expenses	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	
	Deacon Expenses	\$ 500.00	\$ 800.00	60.0%
	Office & Building Supplies	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 1,750.00	-50.0%
	Miscellaneous	\$ 100.00	\$ 306.84	206.8%
	<b>OPERATING EXPENSES TOTAL</b>	\$ 49,100.00	\$ 46,272.84	-5.8%

**CRESCENT HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Budget**

Approved by Session 1-25-2023

	2022	Budget 2023	Pct Change
<b>PROGRAM EXPENSES</b>		<b>Revised</b>	
Music Expenses		\$ 1,000.00	
Earth Care Team		\$ 100.00	
Nurture Council	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,100.00	10.0%
Outreach Council	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	0.0%
Stewardship Council	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	
Worship Council	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	#REF!
Pastor Nominating Committee		\$ 3,000.00	
<b>PROGRAM EXPENSES TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,250.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,450.00</b>	<b>231.1%</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 207,814.48</b>	<b>\$ 177,411.04</b>	<b>-14.6%</b>
<b>INCOME</b>			
Pledges Received	\$ 165,550.00	\$ 164,490.00	-0.6%
Previous Year Pledges	\$ 500.00	\$ 200.00	-60.0%
Loose Plate	\$ 500.00	\$ 700.00	40.0%
Interest Income	\$ 500.00	\$ 2,500.00	400.0%
Non-Pledge Gifts	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	-46.7%
Per Capita Income	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	0.0%
Building Rental Income	\$ -	\$ 300.00	
Miscellaneous	\$ 564.48	\$ 521.04	-7.7%
General Treasury	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -	-100.0%
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 203,314.48</b>	<b>\$ 177,411.04</b>	<b>-12.7%</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 207,814.48</b>	<b>\$ 177,411.04</b>	<b>-14.6%</b>
<b>NET DIFFERENCE</b>	<b>\$ (4,500.00)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>-100.0%</b>
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 89,047.58	\$ 114,338.20	28.4%
Mission Partnerships	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 9,350.00	29.9%
Operating Expenses	\$ 51,350.00	\$ 53,722.84	4.6%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 207,814.48</b>	<b>\$ 177,411.04</b>	<b>-14.6%</b>
Total Operating Budget (Less Mission Partnership)	\$ 200,614.48	\$ 168,061.04	-16.2%
Mission Partnerships to Total Budget	3.46%	5.27%	52.1%
Mission Partnerships to Operating Budget	3.59%	5.56%	55.0%
Salaries & Benefits to Total Budget	73.42%	64.45%	-12.2%