



St. Andrew's  
Presbyterian Church



# 2024 Annual Report

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## **SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING DOCKET**

**February 9, 2025, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary and Zoom**

- I. Call to Order/Opening Prayer**
- II. Honoring the Church Triumphant**
- III. Lifting our 2024 Ministry to God in Prayer**
- IV. Questions about 2024 Ministry Reports**
- V. Clerk's Report**
- VI. Election of 2024 Nominating Committee**
- VII. Stewardship Report**
- VIII. 2025 Terms of Call for Pastor**
- IX. Foundation Annual Report**
- X. Closing prayer**

## **PASTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT**

*The Rev. Dr. Sarah Sanderson-Doughty, Pastor & Head of Staff*

Dear Kindred in Christ,

At the heart of 2024, was a summer of honoring heart's desires, for my family and me certainly, and hopefully for all of you, too. Thank you for allowing me to take my first ever sabbatical and for honoring the sabbatical boundaries so beautifully. Thank you to Jan Reynolds for coordinating worship in my absence and to our many guest preachers. Thank you to the church elders, deacons and members who kept various ministries afloat. I'm particularly pleased that Supper Church continues, now largely lay led. At the end of the year we welcomed a new member who found our way to us during the sabbatical period. Great job, St. A's family, welcoming and nurturing her such that she was ready to commit within six months.

It seems the sabbatical has served as a reset button for me. It's hard for me to recall with any specificity the first six months of the year. Hard to imagine that at this time last year we were reeling under the impact of the January ice storm. We have made a beautiful recovery from those damages and were delighted to be awarded a FEMA grant for \$35,000 at the end of the year that will help us to address other pressing property needs. Thanks to our property and stewardship volunteers who did a massive amount of work this year (as they have been doing for so many years). And thanks to our mission team, under the leadership of our Neighborhood Ministry Coordinator, Katy Rustvold, for diligently working to get funds to our mission partners and increase the mission giving of our community. We began the year with a forecasted deficit and ended it with a substantial surplus! Thanks be to God and to the fine people of St. A's for your faithful generosity.

2024 reintroduced the chapel as a viable worship space for the congregation. Much of our summer worship unfolded in the chapel and we extended that through the month of September as summer heat persisted and there was value to being in an air-conditioned worship space. But it wasn't just about temperature. It felt good to fill a room. It felt good to be able to hear each other singing. It felt good to enter a more informal mode once a month for story sharing. Several of you expressed a longing for our beautiful sanctuary, nonetheless, and we did return to the sanctuary as our normal site of worship in October, but we have committed to worshiping in the chapel once a month and making these chapel weeks less formal and more connective. On third Sundays (ordinarily) we now gather in the chapel for story sharing. You have been knit together more tightly through these chapel experiences this year, Thanks be to God.

It is the hope of your Session that 2025 will be a year of allowing ourselves to be knit together more closely with other Presbyterians in SW Portland. We will share Holy Week with Multnomah Presbyterian and Valley Community Presbyterian Churches and seek to collaborate on mission as well. I hope you will commit to getting to know fellow kindred in Christ through these initiatives this year.

I returned from sabbatical and added two pieces to our welcome at the beginning of worship. I remind you, weekly, that over time language changes, and there may be language in prayers and songs particularly that doesn't sit well with you in any hour of worship and that you are welcome to alter language respectfully to make the hour as worshipful as possible for you. I also note that worship contains a series of invitations and that you need not accept every invitation extended. Both of these new parts of our welcome are intended to help worshipers honor their needs and be present as they truly are. We will seek new ways of deepening our welcome and inclusion in 2025.

I continue to delight in teaching the enneagram and anti-racism, and in facilitating the Conflict Assessment and Referral, Recommendation, Reconciliation Team of the Presbytery. Thank you for eight years of shared ministry in the Pacific Northwest.

In Christ, Pastor Sarah

# CONNECTING WITH CHRIST

## CHRISTIAN FORMATION

*Roberta Schlechter, Elder*

“Christian Formation” carries numerous meanings. One refers to “the work of God’s Holy Spirit in the lives of God’s people.”

(<https://www.cornerstonepresfranklin.org/christian-formation>)

Another speaks of “integrating Theology and Human Development.” A third highlights “the process of shaping our spirit and giving it a definite character.”

(<https://reflectingjesus.org/reference/what-is-christian-formation/>)

At St. Andrew’s, Christian Formation includes leadership in children’s ministry, plus outreach to all generations. I draw on previous St. A’s Sunday School staff experience, 1995-2009, and the PC(USA) Certified Christian Educator (CCE) program that I completed with St. Andrew’s blessing and financial support.

St. A’s has hired Jocelyn Baxter to offer Nursery coverage and/or companionship to any children or youth who attend Sunday morning worship services. Several caring adults are ready to step in at a moment’s notice.

**SUPPER CHURCH:** Each month, on the second and fourth Sundays, St. Andrew’s celebrates a gathering of young families with children... the generations we yearn for. Supper Church meets from 5:00-6:30 PM. To date we have served six families with toddlers through middle school.

The intergenerational liturgy begins with a song: *Here we are together*. Next we respond to a question like: *What’s one special thing that happened this week?* To introduce story time, we sing *Be still and know that I am God*. Each Bible story leads to a related take-home craft activity. Parents enjoy an organized chat time while the children complete their craft. Our dinner grace is the song, “*Thank you, God for giving us food... Jesus... Hallelujah, Amen.*” Then we enjoy an informal supper from a nearby restaurant.

Pastor Sarah and her family attend Supper Church, along with steadfast volunteers, including: Laurie and Richard Donald, Carolyn Gazeley and Brad Van Allen, and Gail and Steve Planck. Several other faithful supporters join us from time to time. At Supper Church there is no ceiling on numbers. To congregants with a heart for families who are just making their way in life; come visit the space we’ve created. Bring the young ones in your life. See what you can learn, and offer.

**MINISTRY TO ADULTS:** Each month the first weekly church email includes a bit of information about our Reformed tradition or Presbyterian doctrine. The Spirituality Class, a special adult learning opportunity, meets twice monthly, led by Spiritual Directors Amy Houchen and Rev. Jan Reynolds.

Pastor Sarah leads two adult discussion groups, via Zoom.

The **ENNEAGRAM** discussion group continues to explore better self-understanding and better understanding of others, especially in relationships, through the study of what motivates, drives, and fulfills the individual and others. In 2024 they read *The Complete Enneagram*, by Beatrice Chestnut. As she went on sabbatical, Pastor Sarah recommended *The Enneagram Guide to Waking Up: Find your Path, Face Your Shadow, Discover Your True Self*, also by Beatrice Chestnut, with Uranio Paes. For a lighter read, we were pointed toward *The Honest Enneagram: Know Your Type, Own Your Challenges, Embrace Your Growth*, by Sarajane Case. The group consists of St. A's members and friends.

The **ANTI-RACISM** group in 2024 finished reading *The Place We Make: Breaking the Legacy of Legalized Hate* by Sarah Sanderson. They went on to read *A Living Remedy: A Memoir*, by Nicole Chung; *The Enduring Legacy of Portland's Black Panthers*, by Joe Biel; and *Voter Suppression in US Elections*, edited by Jim Downs.

The **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY**... meets on the first and third Wednesdays, at 7 AM. Leadership is shared between Pastor Tom Campbell-Schmitt and Larry Kelley. Pastor Sarah joins when she can.

Please direct your questions to the Office. St. Andrews continues to nurture its congregation through these activities and more, helping individuals grow in their knowledge of and love for God.

## **WORSHIP**

*Eric Hamilton, Oliver Young, Worship Elders and Pastor Sarah, Primary Worship Leader*

As Pastor Sarah noted in her report, one of the highlights of worship at St. A's in 2024 has been the re-discovery of the joy of worship in the chapel. Many of the summer worship services took place in the chapel (a few were outdoors!) and many drew strength from the feeling of filling a room and getting to know one another better in this more intimate worship setting. We have had sound and other tech challenges in the chapel and are aware of some improvements that need to be made to make that a viable worship site in coming years. We will maintain once monthly worship in the chapel through the bulk of the year and the chapel will be our ordinary summer worship site, perhaps from June through September as our summers get hotter and longer.

The congregation was blessed to have a number of guest preachers this year, many from our own fellowship. Much thanks to Jan Reynolds, Amy Delaney, Eric Hamilton, Lindsey Santamaria, Roberta Schlechter, Sunggu Yang, and Steve Cook. And great thanks to Jan Reynolds for coordinating worship during Pastor Sarah's sabbatical.

We are maintaining hybrid worship and this requires tech support. We did experience a transition in our worship tech staff in 2024. Elijah Brownell served us faithfully the past few years, but stepped aside mid-year. Katy Rustvold and Steve Planck stepped in to

cover his responsibilities. Katy's daughter and her boyfriend often assisted with tech in the summer months and Caroline Sanderson-Doughty was hired for this role in September. We are grateful to the rotating tech volunteers Steve Planck, Laura Planck, Larry Patterson, and Ric Tower, and for all that Steve Planck does to support our technology needs.

We're also grateful for the ministry of Don Feely, for his work with the choir, his invitation of musical guests, and support of our volunteer song leaders, Nancy Goering, Connie Blumthal, and Pastor Sarah primarily this year. Pastor Sarah is delighted to provide harmony when other strong song leaders are available. Again, we have song leaders so that those worshiping on-line can have support for their singing at home; someone needs to be amplified for the benefit of virtual worshipers. We remain grateful for the ministry of our sanctuary choir. A highlight of the choir's year was the singing of an anthem composed for us by Eric Hamilton and Lindsey Santamaria on Easter, and, of course, singing with the Canby Cantalina's in December.

Many thanks to Amy Houchen for ably recruiting worship assistants throughout the year. We are also grateful to Barb Leahey for her steadfast coordination of communion every month and to Kevin Sanderson-Doughty for monthly bread baking.

Our Supper Church ministry, which is an intergenerational, informal opportunity for worship and fellowship, continues, now on first and third Sunday evenings at 5 pm, in the lounge and chapel. This is a forum for relaxed worship, education, and fellowship. Many thanks to the Supper Church Team, Roberta Schlechter, Emily Dew, Laurie Donald, Carolyn Gazeley, and Pastor Sarah and to the many volunteers who've cooked, set up, cleaned up, or otherwise supported the ministry.

The Sanctuary team formed in 2022, met a few times in 2024 to attend to all the material aspects of worship-- communion, tech, candles, pews, paraments, offerings, etc. This team intends to gather quarterly to troubleshoot, anticipate upcoming needs, and evaluate current practices.

We did convene a creative worship planning team for Lent last year, but have not managed to do so post-sabbatical. We have opted to purchase worship resources for Lent this year that our sister churches at Valley and Multnomah are also using to allow us to be on a similar journey.

Our budget for worship decreased dramatically in the past several years and your worship elders worked to bring us back closer to pre-pandemic levels for 2025. We want to continue to bring in guest musicians and otherwise enhance our worship experiences and appreciate having the budget to do so.

If you would like to support the worship life of the congregation, first, make it a priority to participate regularly, second, consider serving on a creative worship planning team or volunteering as a worship assistant, communion server, sound technician, or usher. If you want to help out but don't know what is needed, talk to Eric Hamilton or Oli Young or Pastor Sarah. We will be more than pleased to get you connected.



## **MINISTRY OF MUSIC**

*Don Feely, Director of Music*

This past year has been full of music, whether we were in the Sanctuary, outdoors, or in the chapel. Our wonderful choir led our worship on many Sundays, and we were blessed by special artists that included Dagny Regan, Lasana Kanneh, Caroline Sanderson-Doughty, Carlos Ramirez, Alex Feely, Eric Hamilton, and Lindsey Santamaria. We enjoyed a full brass ensemble on Easter, while Daniel Buchanan and John Sherwood again shared special music in the spring. During August we welcomed the PSU Community Choir, and the Canby Cantalinas visited us again in December for a memorable Sunday of Christmas music.

With much gratitude to our choir for their continued commitment to lead our worship with song, and to all of our members that share their musical gifts, I am continually thankful to serve this kind and loving congregation.

# CONNECTING WITH EACH OTHER

## BOARD OF DEACONS

*Becky White and Roberta Schlechter, Co-Moderators*

*Merrie Backer and Rebecca Nasson, Co-Moderators as of Nov. 2024*

### Board of Deacons Mission Statement

The ministry of Deacons is set forth in Scripture as one of compassion, witness, and service. At St. Andrews, the Deacons work faithfully to “connect with Christ and each other to serve our neighbors.”

### What We Do

The Board of Deacons is composed of twelve members, including two co-moderators. There are five Deacon teams addressing the needs of our congregation and community.

### **Our Teams**

#### Memorial Services:

A memorial service was held on April 20 for Kay McCauley. A celebration of life for Arlene Morrison was held on August 3. Refreshments were served after both services.

#### Personal Contact:

Greeting cards were sent by this Deacon team for landmark birthdays and anniversaries. Sympathy cards as well as those offering encouragement and support were sent.

#### Community Food:

This team worked to provide support and meals to those in need. Lunches were provided to those living in transitional housing at Safe Rest Village (SRV) in February and July. In December, dishes were prepared to contribute to SRV’s holiday feast. All of the deacons enjoyed the activities organized to prepare the lunches and dishes that were delivered to SRV.

#### Emergency Needs:

This team responds to requests from individuals in the congregation or community in order to meet short term needs. Requests for food or gas were honored with Fred Meyer gift cards, and several other high need requests were honored. The money to meet these requests is drawn from the Deacon Care Fund, which is comprised of monetary gifts made by families in appreciation for memorial services held for their loved ones.

#### Spiritual Connection:

A list of those unable to attend worship service was maintained and modified frequently as individuals passed away and/or home addresses changed. Transportation for those needing a ride to Sunday worship was arranged by a member of this team. A regular announcement is in the weekly bulletin giving contact information if someone wants to request a ride. In December, poinsettias that the deacons contributed to decorate the

church's sanctuary were delivered to home-bound members. Additionally, Pastor Sarah and one deacon visited and served communion to two home-bound members. The plan is to continue this service quarterly.

### Care Groups

In conjunction with Session's review of membership lists toward the end of the year, the Board of Deacons divided the current congregation into care groups, with each care group assigned to one deacon. The goal is to maintain contact with congregants who may not regularly attend services as well as to provide every congregant with a point of contact on the Board of Deacons for conveying requests for prayer or other assistance.

### Donations

Donations from the Deacon Care Fund were made to Operation Night Watch and West Women's Shelter. The Board of Deacons also contributed to the Mission Team's Christmas Bag Project, and reimbursed one deacon who assembled gift bags given to members of the Canby High School Choir in thanks for their Christmas concert.

## **WELCOME & FELLOWSHIP**

*Connie Blumthal & Becky Schiefelbein, Elders*

St. Andrew's congregation always strives to fulfill our mission statement: *CONNECTING WITH CHRIST AND EACH OTHER TO SERVE OUR NEIGHBORS.*

In 2024 attendance was steady, with some members continuing to join us over Zoom and with increasing visits over Facebook. Our church offered many opportunities to connect with each other to strengthen our bonds of spiritual friendship and support:

- We approached Pastor Sarah's summer sabbatical with a plan and air conditioning in the chapel, looking forward to seeing how summer services would be received. The change of scenery in the chapel, rotating weekly themes, and Jan's enthusiastic leadership resulted in some very enjoyable and creative services. We made connections with many summer visitors and strengthened connections with each other.
- Summer worship in the air-conditioned chapel also encouraged closer contact and personal story-sharing through pastor guided conversations in small groups. Our experiences were so rewarding that worship and story-sharing in the Chapel has continued on the third Sunday each month.
- Sunday potlucks during worship hour were shared three times in 2024: in June at the time of Pentecost, at Pastor Sarah's return from Sabbatical in September, and our annual "Big Table" on December 31<sup>st</sup>. All were well attended and very enjoyable as we ate great food, talked, sang and worshipped joyously around the large round tables.

- Coffee hour began using an online signup system and the variety of volunteers and offerings has been well received and much appreciated. Every Sunday following worship we share conversation, fruit and delicious backed goodies.
- Nametags continue to foster new friendships and help us to connect with visitors.

# SERVING OUR NEIGHBORS

## MISSION

*Katy Rustvold, Convener*

*Team Members: Pastor Sarah, Jeanette Kloos, Mary Sherwood, Mary Poulsen, Laurie Donald, Marilyn Palumbo, Gail Planck*

In 2024 Katy became the convener of the Mission Team in the absence of an elected Elder to fill this role. We re-established our monthly meeting days and times, and our first order of business was to go through our budget and allocate money that had gone unspent for many years (too long). Much of this money was for specific ministries but there were also general funds that had not yet been designated. Over the course of four months the Mission Team spent these funds in the follow way:

- Grauer Project - \$500
- SW Outreach Shower Program - \$1000
- Multnomah SRV - \$150
- Ida B. Wells student pantry (food and other necessary household items for students in need) - \$1000
- Scholarships for the 2025 Presbyterian Youth Triennium - \$2000
- Local youth mental health agencies - \$3000, split equally for the following organizations:
  - Dougy Center - specializes in youth grief counseling
  - Lines For Life - has resources for peer-to-peer mental health outreach as well as racially and culturally specific care options
  - Trauma Intervention Program NW (TIP NW) - Trauma and crisis mental health services
  - Morrison Child & Family Services - Includes outpatient mental health care and substance abuse programs
- We sent \$1100 to the Markham Elementary PTA, money that was intended for their backpack program that was donated not long before Covid. Markham no longer has a backpack program but their PTA has money set aside specifically to meet student and family needs as they arise. Our donation will contribute to that fund.

Because of this work the Mission Team goes into 2025 with a clean budget and ready to focus on the work ahead.

## Partnerships & Projects

### West Women's and Children's Shelter

Carol Patterson graciously agreed to reach out to West Women's and be a point of contact for this ministry. We were wondering if our monthly casserole donations were still a welcome source of meals for the women and children residing in this shelter. The answer was a resounding, YES! Our donations are typically used on weekends when their kitchen staff isn't working, and any excess they have is kept frozen until ready for use. Having home prepared meals is a source of comfort, as well as knowing our care for

them. We have a team of about 5-7 people who prepare casseroles on a monthly basis, and there is always room for more volunteers.

We also carried on the tradition of a West Women's and Children's Giving Tree last Christmas. We extend a very big thank you to Emily Dew who continues to coordinate this work. Within just a few Sundays all of the gift tags had been taken from the tree, and the gifts were delivered just before Christmas.

#### Multnomah Village Safe Rest Village

This year we continued to support and collaborate with the Deacons in serving the Multnomah Safe Rest Village. Members of St. Andrew's made regular contributions to Sandwich Mondays, when the wider community takes part in providing lunch for the MSRV participants, as well as two feasts this year, one around Easter and the other around Christmas. For Easter the Mission Team voted to sign-up for all of the remaining food contributions, which was a great relief to the feast organizers who didn't have to scramble at the end. The Deacons made large contributions of ham and vegetables to the Christmas Feast. St. Andrew's also sent holiday gift bags to all of the MSRV participants, filled with goodies, socks, and other useful health and hygiene items. This was a wonderful group effort, spearheaded by Gail Planck, that included the Mission Team and Deacons for funding, individual St. Andrew's donors, Supper Church families who helped decorate and fill the bags, and Ziploc ministry volunteers who put on the finishing touches. We will continue our MSRV ministry in 2025, in support these neighbors.

#### Ziploc Ministry & Operation Nightwatch

We continue our work with this ministry partner, gathering monthly to fill large Ziplocs with items critical to the well-being of those living outside. Representatives from Operation Nightwatch come each month to pick up these donations.

#### Neighborhood House & the SW Hope Feed the Hungry Campaign

Because of undistributed money designated to Neighborhood House in the Mission Funds that we finally issued at the end of 2024, we were able to send them an extra large donation this year. This was in addition to what we raised for SW Hope and the Fall Food Drive.

We continue to value our long-time partnership with Neighborhood House in the annual SW Hope campaign, and through the St. Andrew's Fall Food Drive. Katy once again participated in the SW Hope planning meetings, helping with the continuation of knowledge through year-to-year Neighborhood House staffing changes, as well as shaping the various fundraising activities based on feedback from St. Andrew's and the wider community. We look forward to SW Hope in 2025, which begins on March 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Mission Team also coordinated our annual food drive for Neighborhood House, that took place in the weeks leading up to Thanksgiving. And we continue to be so grateful to Jeanette who is the main deliverer of food donations collected at St. Andrew's during this drive and throughout the year.

### Cuba partnership

We continue to support our siblings in Santa Clara, Cuba, and this year has been especially challenging for them. The island faces increasing electricity shortages, as well as shortages of necessary food and health supplies. Morale is low as Cubans try to go about their daily lives with these hardships. St. Andrew's continues to support our partner congregation in Santa Clara by helping to fund their administrative costs so they can maintain a structure that lets the church continue to function. St. Andrew's also helps cover the costs of Pastor Reile's cellphone, keeping critical communication channels open.

### Local Environmental Mission

St. Andrew's continues to work on our parking lot, removing invasive plants and maintaining native ones. Thanks to the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts for helping at our work parties, where dozens of people give hundreds of volunteer hours. This was an especially challenging year because of all the trees that fell in the lot during January's ice storm. Through extra hard work, and neighbors taking the rounds of wood that were left over from the trees, by mid-summer everything had been cleaned up.

### PC(USA) Special Offerings/Christmas Eve Offering

The session authorizes the Mission Team to coordinate four PC(USA) offerings, and the Christmas Eve offering, directing St. Andrew's generosity to specific ministries of our denomination. Here are our special offerings and their purposes:

- One Great Hour of Sharing (global disaster/hunger relief)
- Pentecost (young people and at risk children)
- Peace and Global Witness (peacemaking)
- Christmas Joy Offering (past and future leaders of our denomination)
- Christmas Eve Offering (This year we split this offering between Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and Laundry Love)

### SW Outreach

St. Andrew's is the fiscal sponsor of this local mutual aid organization, which provides supplies, cold weather gear, and connection to neighbors living outside in Southwest Portland. SW Outreach continues to grow through volunteers and generous donations. Some of these volunteers partnered with the Hillsdale Assistance Team to open a new laundry ministry at the laundromat by the SW Community Center. Thanks be to God for this wonderful witness of faith based and non-faith based individuals coming together in service of others.

It has been another year of God showing us what is possible when we trust our belief in the inherent value and dignity of every human being, and our call to connect with one another through Christ. We plan to continue all of this work in 2025, and are excited to be receiving an extra \$2000 in our budget for the coming year. This will put St. Andrew's mission giving at approximately 5% of our budget, which is \$20,000. Our ultimate goal is to have 10% of the budget allocated to mission, and this is a great start in getting there. The extra money will be used as follows: \$500 to increase our (PC)USA partnership giving, \$500 to increase the budgeted amount to our Cuba partnership, and

\$1000 for additional Neighborhood Ministries funds. We are grateful to the stewardship and finance team for approving this request.

There currently is no Elder for the Mission Team, and it is important that we fill this role in 2025. If you are interested in leading this valued team in its important work, contact Katy or Pastor Sarah.

## **QUILTING**

*Gail Planck, Coordinator*

The St. Andrews Quilters is a mission group that meets twice a month to make quilts and other useful sewn items for various charitable organizations in our community. Using predominantly donated fabric we make quilts, pillowcases and even small pillows. Not everyone in the group sews. We also need people to cut, iron and arrange fabric to be sewn by others.

In 2024 we distributed 267 items.

- Quilts to members 3
- Quilts for Project Linus 13
- Quilts for hospice 6
- Doll quilts 17
- Pillows for Operation Nightwatch 35
- Pillows for Safe Rest Village 2
- Fidget quilts 7
- Pillowcases for Doernbecher 182
- Bag and potholder for new member 1

Please consider joining us on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 9:30. If you'd like to learn to quilt we can teach you.

## **Building Use**

*Katy Rustvold, Coordinator*

*Becky Schiefelbein, John Calhoun, Marilyn Palumbo, Consulting & Planning*

There were significant updates made to our building user policies, procedures, and fee schedules going into 2024, and while there were some wrinkles that needed smoothing in the beginning, by the end of the year we had fully integrated these changes into our relationships with current building users and new building users. The biggest challenges were with our existing building users who were being asked to pay much more for their building use in order for us to keep up financially with the growing costs of maintaining the building and grounds. A big thank you to Becky, who created formal contracts and negotiated some of the costs down for groups that were committing to long term use.



However, when it came to new building use inquiries these new implements were very helpful when fielding new building use requests, and we saw an increased number of building users in 2024 which translated into increased revenue for maintenance and upkeep. Our rates are still lower than what can generally be found at other spaces, which keeps us attractive.

Our building use fee schedule (hourly) is as follows (unchanged from 2024):

Space	General Building Use	
	Standard	Nonprofit
Calvin Hall (1/3 section)	\$20	\$15
Chapel *add \$5 in warm months	\$30	\$20
Friendship Hall (Gym)	\$55	\$40
Kitchen (Service Only)	\$35	\$25
Kitchen (incl. dishwasher, dishes, etc.)	\$50	\$35
Lounge	\$35	\$25
Sanctuary	\$50	\$35
Narthex	\$20	\$15

So far in 2025, our building users include:

- Vermont Hills
- New Church
- Multiple sports groups
- Multiple scout groups
- Three AA groups (and one prospective)
- Suzuki Violin lessons
- Multiple choir & performance groups
- Two charitable/advocacy organizations
- One crafting group

And we anticipate even more as the year goes on as new building use requests come in steadily each month.

One of the constant challenges of open our building to the community is managing the tensions and conflicts that come from the shared use of space. I am thankful to Marilyn Palumbo and Steve Ihrig especially, who are usually the people handling the delicate conversations and interactions that come from these. I will do my best to manage building users in a way to decrease any tension or conflict as best I can. Please know that as these situations come up we are working on the back end to maintain good relationships within and amongst the building user groups. It's a challenge, but it's also part of our mission.

# ADMINISTRATION

## BUILDING & GROUNDS

*Marilyn Palumbo, Elder*

*Team Members: Jeanette Kloos, Larry Patterson, Earl Stanfield, Richard Donald, Steve Planck, Steve Ihrig, Marge Stockwell (Emeritus)*

Last year's annual report for our facility opened as follows: "It is not always easy to separate the Facility Team projects from others that involve other contributors and other leaders." This continues to be the case at St. Andrew's where leadership, collaboration and commitment are ever-present.

St. Andrew's solar panels, thanks to the leadership of Steve Cook and Amy Houchen, became fully operational this year, their performance and efficacy evolving under the watchful eye of John Calhoun. Solar power generated 45 MWH or about \$9,000 in savings at current rates. Environmental stewardship has become an operational reality!

Irrigation, renovation, and planned phases of habitat beautification stayed on track in 2024, bringing year-round delight to building users and passers-by. Careful planning and fundraising brought the whole congregation into participation and appreciation of God's beauty in nature.

To help maintain our renewed grounds we continue to engage the services of a couple for regular landscape service. This transition from volunteer landscaping efforts has freed many members to serve in countless other aspects of St. Andrew's mission and vision.

Our parking lot is significant in size and natural beauty. Throughout the year Jeanette and Todd Kloos provide consistent leadership and hard work (223 hours in 2024!), Jeannette also coordinates seasonal *Parking Lot Cleanups*, work parties in collaboration with Dave Anderson and Scout Troop 150.

The memorable chill of January of 2024 brought significant damage and disruption to the building and grounds. In June, 2024 St. Andrew's was found eligible for federal funding to cover thousands in unreimbursed damages. We're grateful for the Presbytery of the Cascades for not only for transmitting information about grant but also for making a significant contribution to funding repairs.

As we continue to experience record high summer temperatures, we're grateful for the ability to offer the Chapel as an air-conditioned space not only for worship, but also for gatherings, meetings, and service events, supporting our mission of connection.

Our security team led by Steve Planck has begun the strategic installation of cameras in the courtyard and the turn-around, enhancing confidence in the safety of our building and grounds. Early in 2024 a new office-area entry door was installed providing great visibility, security and function.

## **OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR/NEIGHBORHOOD MINISTRIES COORDINATOR**

*Katy Rustvold, Staff Member*

Life in the St. Andrew's office continues to roll along, with the ups and downs, joys and sorrows, excitement and quiet that come with being the person who is often the first point of contact for the wider community outside of Sundays. This year brought more quiet than usual, with Pastor Sarah on sabbatical over the summer. I could tell that this wasn't just a time of rest and renewal for her, but also for the congregation as things were very quiet in June, July, and August! I once again shortened the office hours by one day over the summer, and am thankful to you, the flexible congregation that allows me to do this. It gives me more time to spend with my own family while everyone is home for the summer.

I have once again enjoyed my role as Neighborhood Ministries Coordinator over the past year. I am part of the Pathways Home Planning Team, a group of people from St. Andrew's, St. Luke Lutheran Church, Riversgate Church, and Friends of Multnomah Safe Rest Village who have spent the last year and a half putting on events for neighbors and communities in southwest Portland to deepen understanding of the experience of being homeless, remove barriers to conversation between housed and unhoused people, and connect people to ways they can help. One of our actions in 2024 was partnering with Street Roots for a series of Civic Circles, forums that brought Street Roots vendors and housed people together for conversation. We've had three so far and the feedback has been very positive for all. This spring we are planning a showing of the film, No Place to Grow Old, which tells the story of the rising crisis of senior homelessness in Portland. We hope to have a good showing of people from St. Andrew's to represent us.

In the coming year the session has placed a priority of growing relationships with Valley Community and Multnomah Presbyterian Churches. My goal in this process will be to identify areas for shared neighborhood ministries and create times and spaces where these congregations can come together to uncover the possibilities. There is so much opportunity here! I look forward to seeing it unfold and helping St. Andrew's connect to this work.

## **PERSONNEL**

*Steve Cook, Elder*

*Team member: Rebecca Nasson and Pastor Advisor - The Rev. Dr. Sarah Sanderson-Doughty.*

We had two staff turnovers this year. Elijah Brownell stepped out of their media specialist role mid-year. Katy Rustvold has added PowerPoint creation to her weekly administrative duties and Caroline Sanderson-Doughty has been hired to covered tech needs on Sunday mornings. Aubrey Schiefelbein needed to step out of her child care role as her school responsibilities increased. Jocelyn Baxter stepped into this role in the fall. We are grateful for the faithful staff of St. Andrew's, both our longstanding staff members, and our newer staff members. We give thanks for years of faithful service

from Elijah and Aubrey and wish them blessings in their new commitments and are delighted to welcome Caroline and Jocelyn to team.

We are grateful to the Rev. Jan Reynolds who ably planned and coordinated worship during Pastor Sarah's sabbatical. We are grateful to Tom and Patty Campbell-Schmitt, pastors emeritus, who provided loving pastoral care, including leadership of a memorial service, during the sabbatical.

The personnel team offered year-end bonuses to three staff members and recommended increases in compensation for all staff in 2025.

We are in need of more members for the personnel team. If you would like to join us, please let Steve Cook or Pastor Sarah know.

## Statistical Information for 2024

**MEMBERSHIP COUNT AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2023: 150**

<b>ADDITIONS:</b>		<b>LOSSES:</b>	
Confession of faith	0	Death	5
Reaffirmation of faith	1	Removal from active rolls	21
Letter of transfer	0	Transfer out	0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	
	<b>1</b>		<b>26</b>
<b>Net loss: 25</b>			

**Membership count as of December 31, 2024: 125**

### **MEMBER DEATHS IN 2024**

March 9	Kay McCauley
March 27	Bob Erickson
March 19	Carol DeFrancq
July 4	Alene Morrison
July 29	Jane Zahler

### **ADMINISTRATION OF SACRAMENTS**

Baptism of infants and children:.....0

Baptism of adults: .....0

Holy Communion

- 12 Sunday services
- 1 Eucharist services
- A few homebound

### **Mean Sunday Morning Attendance**

In person ..... 44

On Zoom ..... 6-7

Facebook clicks..... 78

# FINANCIAL REPORTS

## FINANCES & STEWARDSHIP

*John Calhoun, Elder*

2024 revenues were \$37 thousand higher than we expected a year ago. Pledge income, loose offerings, interest income, and building rentals were all higher than we budgeted. Pledge income was higher because some members gave more than they pledged. Loose offerings are always hard to predict. However, building rental was up because we actively raised rents and pursued new renters. Interest income increased because rates did not drop as expected and we moved cash to higher rate accounts proactively.

Spending was below budget primarily because facility costs related to gas and repairs to equipment came in under budget. The drop in gas bills was partly due to lower rates but also because our new furnaces finally came fully on line and are more efficient. Equipment repairs is a hard to predict number but gave us a favorable benefit this year.

As noted in last year's report, in January we suffered major storm damage that ended up costing more than \$60 thousand. Insurance covered most of this cost and we also received funds from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and our own Foundation.

The net result for the year is that while we had predicted a loss of \$11 thousand, we actually generated a surplus of \$38 thousand. In addition, our financial assets grew an additional \$61 thousand to a total of \$99 thousand primarily due to investment gains.

Our budget for 2025 assumes a conservative, but still healthy estimate of revenues. Expenses are increased. The biggest increase is in personnel reflecting raises for staff that attempt to partially compensate for below inflation increases in prior years. We also increased mission and music budgets. Facility costs grow due to rate increases for utilities and insurance.

While our budget is only a forecast and many things can turn out differently than we anticipate, our biggest potential exposure is our insurance cost. Our insurance rates are on a July to June schedule so we won't see the new rates until May or June. Given the storm damage the insurance company absorbed last year and the general increase in property rates across the country, it would not be surprising if the increase turns out to be well above the 10% increase we have budgeted.