



St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church



2022 Annual Report

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ANNUAL MEETING DOCKET

January 29, 2023, 10:00 a.m., Zoom

- I. **Call to Order/Opening Prayer**
- II. **Honoring the Church Triumphant**
- III. **Lifting our 2022 Ministry to God in Prayer**
- IV. **Questions about 2022 Ministry Reports**
- V. **Clerk's Report**
 - a. **By-laws Revision**
- VI. **Election of 2023 Nominating Committee**
- VII. **Stewardship Report**
- VIII. **2023 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,

Let's begin our reflection on the ministry of 2022 with a remembrance of Sunday, December 18 - a brass ensemble played, the choir was singing, nine people either joined the church or expressed commitment to the church, a toddler was baptized. What a glorious day! Indeed, the whole season of Advent was glorious, with a strong image chosen by our Creative Worship Planning Team to guide us, and so much special music, in our building nicely warmed by a newly installed heating system and cleaned up after the horrible vandalism of the late summer. Our worship attendance slowly climbed throughout the year. Visitors are appearing and several are returning. As a new church year dawned in December of 2022, many signs of life were appearing.

In some ways, the end of the year stands in stark contrast to the beginning of the year when we went entirely virtual in the midst of the Omicron surge and your Session decided to require vaccination for all worship participants when we returned in February. We lost beloved people in the midst of all the opening and closing and hard decision making. And we lost beloved people to death in 2022, several hard deaths. Though we maintained gathered (hybrid) worship continuously from February on, we had periods when even the worship leaders remained masked because lots of viruses were circulating. We experimented with 9am worship in the summer, but this created confusion and perhaps depressed attendance, so we will stick with 10am worship all year in 2023 and aim for outdoor worship as much as possible from June-September.

The nadir of the challenging year was for sure the last Sunday in August when staff arrived early Sunday morning to discover that the church had been broken into and severely vandalized in the previous night. A broken stained glass window, harsh black spray paint on so many surfaces, sharpie taken to the wall of the sanctuary and some pews, mugs broken, apples smashed, classrooms defaced... Over \$20,000 worth of damage. We learned shortly thereafter that the same tag had been left at Congregation Neveh Shalom a few weeks before, on a Friday evening, just before their Saturday gathering. We convened a candlelight vigil in our courtyard, co-led by Rabbi Eve and myself, and gathered neighbors and friends with prayers for peace and healing. And so many sent in spontaneous gifts that, when combined with insurance, more than covered the cost of clean up and repairs, leaving funds for enhanced security.

Though this was the nadir, it was also, I think, a peak— it was a moment of strengthened relationships with other faith communities, of the outpouring of generosity from neighbors and friends even in far away places, and inspiration to service. It generated a

beautiful letter from Darwin to our vandals. And it helped raise awareness of our congregation in the greater Portland area. We responded with grace to the violation perpetrated upon us and so bore witness to our faith.

I suggested on Sunday, January 22, 2023, the week before our congregational meeting that discipleship is rather like a difficult climb up a steep mountain. And there's no question that we have all felt this acutely in the 3 years of pandemic, and throughout this past year particularly, but when the way is hard, we remember to ask for help. When the struggle is real, our connections with one another and with God in Christ can grow stronger. And given the strength of our song in December of 2022, the number of new members and friends finding their way to us, I think we have a testimony to this truth. We may be climbing a steep and slippery mountain, but we are not climbing alone. We have each other and we have Jesus. We are still connecting with Christ and each other to serve our neighbors. Thanks be to God.

Your Fellow Climber with and in Christ,
Pastor Sarah

CONNECTING WITH CHRIST 2021

EDUCATION AT ST. ANDREW'S

Laurie Donald, Elder

Education continues to reinvent itself to meet the needs of our congregation. As with every other area of life, we long to settle in with a “new normal”. Thanks to dedicated volunteers and Pastor Sarah’s leadership, we have reached out to our attendees in ever-changing ways.

Children’s Ministry has been creative in providing ways for our children to continue learning about God’s love and the ways that love can live in their lives. Post-pandemic attendance has not recovered, which is discouraging when the dedicated volunteer teachers have invested their time in preparation. In-person lessons are supplemented by mailings of fun activities. The lessons and activities mirror the texts used in worship, using examples that help children connect their experiences to the lessons from the Bible. When the children’s Christmas Eve service had to be canceled at the last minute due to the weather, the Children’s Ministry Team quickly responded with a mailed craft to help fill the gap. Carol Patterson, Lori Sweeney, Marie Dolson, and Connie Humphries faithfully guided Children’s Ministry again this year. After *many years of unwavering service*, they are looking for additional volunteers to step in. We are hopeful for a more robust attendance in 2023.

Aubrey Schiefelbein and Caroline Sanderson-Doughty have faithfully provided nursery care. They routinely have one attendee.

Parent’s Night Out (PNO) is an outreach offered by Children’s Ministry that offers complimentary activities and a meal, prepared by our volunteers. The December 9th PNO succeeded in attracting children from the neighborhood, Vermont Hills, and from our congregation. It proved an excellent opportunity to present the Christmas story to new listeners.

Learning and Fellowship opportunities continued to challenge assumptions and stimulate thought through both in-person and virtual sessions. The virtual platform allows participants to join from anywhere.

The Enneagram discussion group has continued 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. The group consists of St. A’s members and friends and continues to grow.

The anti-racism group has expanded its study with additional print, audio, and visual materials. The participants are gaining greater awareness of privilege and coming to terms with the racist foundations of our society. They have read and discussed books such as *Caste* and *So You Want to Talk About Race*, and discussed the podcast series *Nice White Parents*.

The men's Bible Study continued to meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 7 a.m. Pastor Tom usually facilitates their ongoing study of the Hebrew Scriptures.

Our parish associate, Dr. Sunggu Yang, offered a well-received four week Sunday morning class this summer in the chapel on pop culture and faith.

We had two educational offerings in 2022 to help us live into our vision of connecting across differences. In June, we hosted an online film screening and discussion of *Purple: America, We Need to Talk*, a documentary portraying the work of “Resetting the Table” in a purple community in mid-America. In September, we were blessed to receive a peacemaking grant from the presbytery that allowed us to bring in Eileen Mejia to facilitate a workshop on building compassionate community

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

WORSHIP

Laura Faulkner and Oliver Young, Worship Elders and Pastor Sarah, Primary Worship Leader

2022 was a turbulent year in the worship life of St. Andrew's. We started the year with our third shut down due to a surge in COVID cases and a return to virtual only worship. We resumed hybrid worship in February but said goodbye to two beloved members of our worship team, Hannah Feely and Alex Feely. Hannah and Alex both served so faithfully for so many years and especially through the first two years of the pandemic. Hannah was often the only singing voice heard in virtual worship and Alex managed our massively increased tech needs with grace and poise. We celebrated their many contributions and blessed them as they moved on to better meet their needs. At the same time they were departing, Joy Cha, our graphic designer and media specialist resigned. Joy created the PowerPoints for worship.

We were blessed to hire Elijah Brownell on a trial basis to cover both Alex and Joy's responsibilities from March through June. Nina Schiefelbein stepped in over the summer, and Elijah returned on a more permanent basis in the fall. We were blessed to have a rotation of volunteer songleaders step in. We are thankful to Connie Blumthal, Nancy Goering, Chuck White, Roberta Schlechter, Marilyn Palumbo, Kevin Sanderson-

Doughty, Cory Chesnut, and Pastor Sarah for playing this role once, twice, or many times this past year. It has been nice to hear multiple voices in the sanctuary and on zoom, and sometimes even to have harmony as Pastor Sarah often supplements the songleaders. You might wonder why we need songleaders. This is a need produced by our hybrid worship set up. In order for on-line worshippers to hear the music, we need someone, or a few someones to sing into a microphone.

We convened creative worship planning teams four times in 2022. For January, February, Lent, and Advent. These teams include worship staff, worship elders, and volunteers from the congregation. They meet on a Saturday morning and work together to discern a metaphor or focal image/theme to ground a season of worship. The process always works! And most find it to be a delightful way to spend a Saturday morning. Thanks to those who served with us in 2022, whether just once or several times.

We were blessed to collaborate with our neighbors at Valley Community Church for Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday 2022, holding drive by ashes and an in person evening service at Valley for Ash Wednesday, and an intimate service in our sanctuary on Maundy Thursday.

We continue to struggle with the temperature of the sanctuary in the summer months. Last summer your Session voted to hold worship at 9 am in July and August to help deal with this challenge. We experimented with outdoor worship on Labor Day, at 10 am, and decided that we'll aim for all outdoor worship at 10 am from June-September whenever possible next year.

We also were delighted to have our choir return for Advent 2022. Over 15 people showed up in the choir room in November of 2022, some returning members and some brand new. It is good to have a choir again. We're grateful for many special music guests in Advent and earlier in the year as well. The visit from Lasana Kanneh and the Cantalinas were two highlights.

We are also pleased that we have finally launched a Sanctuary team to attend to all the material aspects of worship-- communion, tech, candles, pews, paraments, offerings, etc. This team will gather quarterly to troubleshoot, anticipate upcoming needs, and evaluate current practices.

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 Laura Faulkner or Ollie Young or Pastor Sarah. We will be more than pleased to get you connected.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Don Feely, Director of Music

The music program has continued a slow return to normalcy this year, and we rejoice for the times we can worship together with music. With a return to in-person services, we were able to enjoy the musical gifts of our many guest soloists - particularly Nick Luchterhand, Dagny Regan, and Jordan Paulus during our services. Our new member, Eric Hamilton, has blessed us with his Tuba music and we were able to welcome a full brass and percussion ensemble again on the last Sunday in Advent.

The return of our choir has been especially gratifying, and we will continue to enjoy their leadership during 2023. We have lost several beloved members in the last two years but have been graced by new members willing to share their musical gifts. Thanks be to God!

The Canby High School Cantalinas returned to join us in December and it was wonderful to see the sanctuary full on that Advent Sunday. There are plans underway to have them join us again in the Spring. I am continually grateful to serve this kind and giving congregation.

CONNECTING WITH EACH OTHER

BOARD OF DEACONS

Merrie Backer and Becky White, Co-Moderators

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 fourteen members including two co-moderators/secretary. Currently, eight active ministry teams serve a variety of needs within the church family, as well as, serving our neighbors as approved. Each team is led by a Deacon coordinator and assisted by other Deacons or church members. We also support a Shepherd Ministry designed for members to maintain contact.

Our Teams

Bereavement Receptions Ministry

There were memorial receptions held for three of our church members. Deacons provided set up, cookies, punch and coffee, and clean up for the families as needed. In May, an all-church service was held to honor those lost when Covid-19 restrictions did not allow us to hold in-person services. Plants were given to each family represented and “packets of seeds” to everyone to take home and plant.

Card Ministry

Greeting cards are sent to members offering congratulations, encouragement, sympathy, and support in times of need. We also sent birthday, anniversary cards, and Veteran Day acknowledgement cards. Cards are sent monthly by three deacons. About 300 cards were sent this year.

Caring Friends Ministry

This ministry works with the pastor to provide support for St. Andrew’s individuals and their families who may be facing surgery or other medical concerns. Coordination of meals and/or other services are offered during recovery. During 2022, one member received meals.

Emergency Services Ministry

This ministry responds to short-term requests for identified needs for members or community members. There have been 10 requests granted. Funds, bus cards, short-term partial rental assistance have been provided.

Homebound Visitors and Communion Ministry

This team maintains connections between the homebound and the church. Contact is made by a Deacon and other members with each homebound person to include cards, phone calls, and/or home visits. Pastoral visits and communion are provided as requested. This team currently serves 12 homebound members. An updated list has been compiled, reviewed, and is shared frequently. It clearly identifies the person by name, their location, phone, address, and who is making the contact.

Paths of Recovery Ministry

Resources and personal contact, if requested, are provided to those facing issues of substance abuse and/or addiction. A “free” library of books and other materials are located in the church Lounge. A new and updated informational flier was created and is in the narthex and on the outdoor message board.

Prayer Chain Ministry

This ministry team of caring people provide prayer for those identified on prayer cards collected during weekly worship, on the Zoom chat line or Facebook Live, as well as other requests from within the St. Andrew’s family.

Transportation

This ministry continues to be enhanced and is available as requested.

Shepherd Ministry

With the onset of the pandemic, Pastor Sarah and the Deacons recognized the need for additional ways for our congregation to communicate and provide support to each other. In March 2020, the Shepherd program was initiated and sixteen Shepherds began communicating with their assigned members typically on a monthly basis. Shepherds were assigned 7-8 members per group and were encouraged to use cards, phone calls, emails and texts to maintain communication and offer support to our members. Our goal was to ensure that no one would be forgotten when we were no longer able to meet for worship on Sundays nor able to gather for other activities.

This program has evolved throughout the year. Shepherds are trying to make quarterly contacts. However, each Shepherd is encouraged to use their own judgement regarding the frequency of contact based on the needs of their flock.

WELCOME

Connie Blumthal, Elder

During 2022 the congregation of St. Andrew’s has been able to gather and connect throughout most of the year. The Sunday Worship attendance has grown steadily, including many visitors in-person, on Zoom or Facebook.

We are once again encouraging everyone to fill out the attendance forms that are located in the pews during worship. These are used to keep track of who is with us on Sunday mornings, both in person and online, and is especially helpful for letting us keep track of visitors and how frequently they attend. This information is then passed onto Pastor Sarah, making it easier for her to follow up with each visitor and invite them to connect further with the life and people of the congregation.

In December we welcomed seven new members to our congregation and affirmed two new pastors' connections to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. We are joyfully connecting at coffee hour on Sundays again.

The ever-changing COVID pandemic situation continued to affect or limit our activities and worship services with short closures, vaccination requirements, and sometimes mandatory masking inside our building. Connie continued as a member of the COVID-19 Task Force and now the Respiratory Virus Task Force.

Welcome Sign-In Tables are maintained at all church entrances with sanitary wipes, hand sanitizers, and cleaning supplies. Disposable and Fabric Face Masks continue to be offered free to all congregants and visitors.

We encourage all worship participants to wear name tags on Sunday mornings as this is especially helpful to those newer to our congregation. Thank you for the warmth of your welcome in 2022.

FELLOWSHIP

Becky Schiefelbein, Elder

Fellowship has taken on the task of preparing the coffee hour snacks and beverages. This time together has slowly been returning to a feeling of pre-pandemic normalcy.

Fellowship opportunities were limited in 2022 as we emerged from some of the most stringent pandemic restrictions.

The New Korean Church has become a comfortable partner in the narthex. They now use the coffee maker and some of the serving items, and always do a meticulous job cleaning after themselves and turning the equipment off. They have often been able to use our unused coffee and creamer, which is much preferred to throwing these items out.

We are looking forward to growing the coffee time together and bringing back art installations soon. If you have ideas for fellowship activities for 2023, please let Becky know.

SERVING OUR NEIGHBORS

MISSION

Darwin Força, Elder

Team Members: Jeanette Kloos, Mary Sherwood, Mary Poulsen, Laurie Donald, or Marilyn Palumbo, Katy Rustvold

Dear kindred in Christ. This year for the St. Andrew's Mission Team has been one of transition, restructuring, and reflection. We asked ourselves, our partners, and this lovely congregation we serve where we were being called to put our time and resources so they could be best utilized to serve Christ, community, and congregation in the coming years. This is what that has achieved this past year.

Restructuring

This year, the Mission Team said that we felt stretched thin. It was not just a sentiment coming from us by any means. Many people, churches, organizations, and communities have been feeling the effects of these past 3 years. Over the course of the pandemic we had kept the fires of Mission burning and even expanded and broadened them! Your Mission Team dove in headfirst and never stopped serving in new and creative ways since the first day of lockdown. But now it was time to evaluate those efforts and actions and where our resources could be best utilized. It was time to slow down, listen, ask, and wonder - with this feeling of being stretched thin, where were our resources going and how could they be maximized?

Following this line of questioning we set out to consolidate time and energy, refocus service opportunities and partnerships, and hopefully recruit more interested community members into carrying out acts of service.

Vision

The Mission team, having heard calls for increased communication and increased means by which congregants can become involved, has been crafting living documents to guide our work and root us in the St. Andrew's history and continued legacy of service. In that vision we stated we wanted to "regularly provide, promote, and engage in opportunities of service to each other, the church, and the greater community." This vision guides us in all of our work.

Partnerships & Projects

West Women's and Children's Shelter

Our long-time partnership with this 60-person shelter continued through 2022 as one of our strongest ministries. Guests at the shelter continue to appreciate delicious

casseroles faithfully prepared and delivered by St. Andrew's volunteers on the first Saturday of each month. The monthly signup is available in the weekly e-news.

Hygiene for All (H4A) and Multnomah Village Safe Rest Village

Numerous donations of new and used clothing have made a difference in the lives of our neighbors at the H4A "hygiene hub" in Southeast Portland. With this hygiene hub/clothing exchange fully operational in 2022, our focus shifted to the Multnomah Village Safe Rest Village where steady donations of gently used clothing new socks, underwear, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste made a difference for those without shelter and those transitioning into housing through the Safe Rest Village. We have also been working with the Friends of the Multnomah Safe Rest Village, a grassroots community group dedicated to developing and maintaining a successful working relationship between the SRV and its surrounding neighborhoods. We look forward to deepening this emerging partnership in 2023.

Ziploc Ministry & Operation Nightwatch

We looked into what our community and partners were needing and found that Operation Nightwatch who serves our houseless neighbors through a drop-in center with goods, supplies, and community connections, needed our help and we were able to offer it! They are now a beneficiary of our Ziploc ministry as well as the recipient of our 2022 Christmas Eve donation.

Marilyn Palumbo, who continues to be the faithful steward of this ministry, has worked with the Mission Team to identify which items will best serve this new partner as well as other neighbors living outside. She has worked tirelessly to restructure the requests and the way we do Ziploc to best meet the needs of what is being asked for. Operation Nightwatch, given its location in the Southwest and the nature of its drop-in center and resource distribution has proven an intuitive recipient of the Ziplocs and items in them. We are looking to expand into other necessary items for them as our partnership grows.

Neighborhood House & the SW Hope Feed the Hungry Campaign

Neighborhood House and St. Andrew's continue to be significant partners in local ministry, a relationship that has grown over the years, especially through the SW Hope Feed the Hungry Campaign. The pandemic tripled the need for the Neighborhood House Food Pantry services, and St. Andrew's responded with significant donations, as well as continued volunteer support.

For the 2022 SW Hope campaign, St. Andrew's alone raised \$8000 in direct money donations! Every dollar contributed was the equivalent to them being able to acquire four pounds of food for their food pantry. We also took part in other SW Hope events – dine out to donate, empty bowls, and the 5k at Oregon Episcopal School among others. Our year ended with participating in their Winter Wishes gift campaign, where clothing,

toys, games, and other necessary items were collected for the children who access their programming. We look forward to participating in these events again, being guided by where Neighborhood House sees the greatest need in the people they serve.

Cuba Partnership

We have missed in-person visits to our partner church in Santa Clara, Cuba, but we've stayed connected through email and WhatsApp. As air travel and borders continue to open up, we hope a visit to our partners is in our future. During 2022 St. Andrew's was represented on the Steering Committee of the national Cuba Partners Network which facilitates partnerships between U.S. and Cuban Presbyterian Congregations.

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 (the 2022 offering was directed to Operation Nightwatch)

The Chapel as a Mission Hub - Responsive and Responsible Use of our Building

In 2022 the St. Andrew's Chapel became the focal area for mission activities. With its exterior access and good ventilation, it was well suited to COVID safety protocols and accessible to community users. The Session affirmed a proposal to continue to adapt this space as a "Mission Hub." This is in addition to its continued use for forums, educational events, and other gatherings. The installation of cabinets to store donations and supplies for Neighborhood House, WWCS, and other partners enhanced this expanded use of the Chapel.

The Mission Team continues to witness an incredible heart for mission from St. Andrew's members. 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. Every member of St. Andrew's is a part of this transforming work. To become more involved, contact any member of the Mission Team: Darwin Força, Jeanette Kloos, Mary Sherwood, Mary Poulsen, Laurie Donald, Marilyn Palumbo, or Katy Rustvold.

QUILTING

Gail Planck, Coordinator

The quilt group had a busy and productive year in 2022. We were able to meet most months and were able to donate items to several charities. And we were especially excited to welcome two new members to our group. Beginning in January we are moving our meeting dates to the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 9:30. Everyone is welcome to join us, or just drop in sometime to get a closer look at what we do.

Donations for 2022

Pillowcases for Doernbecher	139
Quilts for Afghan refugees	12
Fidget quilts	5
Pillows for Safe Rest Village (SRV)	27
Quilts for Care Partners (hospice)	12
Quilts for VA	1
Quilts for Project Linus	7
Doll quilts	12
Quilts for members	1
Baptism quilts	1
Bags and potholders, new members	5
Stockings for SRV	40
Stockings for children	10
Dog beds	9

ADMINISTRATION

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Steve Ihrig, Elder

Team Members: Jeanette Kloos, Larry Patterson, Earl Stanfield, Marge Stockwell (Emeritus)

2022 was a very busy year for the Building and Grounds Team at St. Andrew's. After about five years of planning St. A's replaced our old boiler with two new modular boilers. This involved a modified chimney and a new electrical panel. All of this was a positive step toward becoming more ecologically friendly.

We also replace a very leaky hot water heater and downspouts and gutters. In April a new roof was placed over our library.

In 2022 St Andrew's took a big step toward installing solar panels on our new Sanctuary roof. I asked Amy Houchen, who led the efforts on the solar panel project, to provide an update:

As we started 2022, the Session had recently approved installing solar panels on the Sanctuary roof for \$94,000. The financial structure involved us raising \$12,000 in donations, with the remainder coming from an outside investor purchasing the panels for tax credits, St. Andrew's members purchasing preferred stock and donations from St. Andrew's members. Paying off the investor and stockholders would have lowered the church's net benefit from lowered electric bills to \$74,000 over the 25-year life of the panels.

During 2022, we've received \$55,000 in donations, obviating the need to sell stock. We never found an outside investor, but the Inflation Reduction Act allows the church to take the tax credits, so now we don't need one. So, as we end 2022, we need just \$1,000 in donations. With no investors to pay off, the church's benefit from lowered electric bill is now projected to be about \$123,000. Insuring the panels will probably be about \$300 per year, or \$7,500 over their expected life, for a net of about \$115,000. Alas, as is common with construction projects these days, we're not sure when installation will start.

Amy also headed a small committee to look into a landscaping project. During the first week of December this committee met with Blossom, the company hired after an extensive search, and reviewed the plan that was developed for renovating our landscape. Currently, committee members are reviewing the plan and will be making recommendations to Blossom for any changes we want included. The committee will

also look at the overall plan and determine how we can implement the plan in stages since it is a very extensive project. If financially feasible we would like to begin this project in 2023.

Some of the other projects completed in 2022 were:

- Continuous parking lot cleanup and removal of trash with Todd Kloos
- Playground cleanup and maintenance
- With Michael House, care and maintenance of the Rose Garden
- Plumbing repairs
- Assembling and placing the beautiful memorial bench in the courtyard
- Extensive assembly of the cabinets in the Chapel with Jeff Sweeney
- Completion of testing for fire safety and water purity
- Summer and fall watering team
- Maintenance of lights, locks, toilets, sinks, security system, heating schedule
- The Building and Grounds Team with Steve Planck, Sally Miller, and Dave Anderson are working to identify appropriate interior and exterior security measures that can be installed by our team and those that will need to be contracted for completion

Thank you to Jeanette, Larry, Earl, Steve Planck, Sally Miller, Dave Anderson, Todd Kloos, Michael House and Jeff Sweeney for all of your efforts to keep our St. Andrew's building and grounds safe, beautiful and working.

COVID-19 TASK FORCE - RESPIRATORY VIRUS TASK FORCE

Amy Tanous, Connie Blumthal, Steve Planck, Sarah Sanderson-Doughty, Marianne Parshley, and Scott Nasson

Our annual report last year began with the following sentences: *“With the introduction of safe and effective vaccines at the beginning of the year, we hoped that our task force would not be needed by the end of the year. Sadly, we were disappointed.”* That reported ended with the sentence: *“Maybe by the end of 2022, this task force will no longer be needed.”* We were again disappointed and now hope that this task force will no longer be needed by the end of 2023.

With the increased spread of the omicron variant, COVID-19 case rates skyrocketed and hospitals were overwhelmed again. In mid-January, we reverted to online-only worship services and the session voted unanimously to require COVID-19 vaccination for those attending in-person worship and other St. Andrew's events, with possibility of medical exemption.

In late February, we returned to hybrid worship services with the vaccine requirement. Over the next several months, masking and distancing recommendations were incrementally relaxed.

One year after the omicron variant spike began, infections with three different respiratory viruses were overwhelming our local hospitals. The tripledemic of respiratory syncytial virus, flu, and COVID-19. The pediatric wards were so swamped that some children were flown out-of-state for care. Our team was renamed the Respiratory Virus Task Force. A greater effort was made to have everyone in worship services wear masks in lieu of resuming online only services.

As long as our local hospitals are at or near crisis mode due to these viruses, we will continue to do the best we can to balance the precautions to protect our high-risk congregation from infections against the desire return to pre-pandemic life.

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR/NEIGHBORHOOD MINISTRIES COORDINATOR

Katy Rustvold, Staff Member

Last September marked my one year anniversary with St. Andrew's, and I feel like I have fully grown into this position as your Office Administrator and Neighborhood Ministries Coordinator. My first year here was unique, to say the least, as we navigated a re-opening of the building, then a re-closing, and then a re-opening once again. I am so thankful to now experience the full and renewed life of this church even as we continue to navigate the changing, and still necessary, policies and recommendations of our Respiratory Virus Team. Flexibility and patience are very much a part of my job!

I am sometimes asked how much each of my dual roles take of my time, and I respond that I spend about 70% of my time on office administration, and about 30% on neighborhood ministries, but the mental energy expended for both is the opposite. I have found a good groove with the weekly rhythms of this work, and enjoy using my skills to maintain the administrative functions of St. Andrew's as effectively as I can to meet the needs of the congregation and the wider community. I discussed some goals with Sarah for new tasks and projects I could take on to further utilize my skills, and some of these include finding better ways of sharing communications with the congregation (beginning with the new format of the printed announcements on Sundays), and increasing our social media footprint. Hopefully soon you will see some new initiatives here that will better meet everyone's needs.

Serving the congregation, neighbors, and wider communities of St. Andrew's is always my focus as Neighborhood Ministries Coordinator, and as for most who engage in this work this is where I experience my greatest challenges and my greatest rewards! I very

much enjoy working with the Mission Team to discern our best courses of action based on where we see the most interest in the congregation and the most need in the community, and then assisting where I can in making it all happen. Pastor Sarah and I have also been working over the last year to deepen St. Andrew's presence in Southwest Portland, showing leadership in matters of faith and the work of serving 'the least of these' in our midst. Every month we convene a group of ecumenical faith leaders in Southwest Portland to grow in relationship and see where the Holy Spirit is calling us for collaboration. We also work closely with the Hillsdale Assistance Team and the Friends of the Multnomah Safe Rest Village community groups, providing the consistent voice of the Gospels as we remember to always keep those we are serving at the center of our work. We look forward to drawing the congregation into this work as it develops, including a community wide educational event around homelessness in April. Stay tuned for updates!

Thank you all for the opportunity to do this work, and please feel free to reach out anytime if you need something, or just to get to know each other better. I appreciate all of you.

PERSONNEL

Steve Cook, Elder

Team members: Amy Houchen, Rebecca Nasson and Pastor Advisor - The Rev. Dr. Sarah Sanderson-Doughty.

We are grateful for the faithful staff of St. Andrew's, both our longstanding staff members, and our new staff members.

This year saw several transitions in personnel, but in our Session leadership and in members of the staff. As to Session leadership, the personnel elder of the past several years, Amy Tanous, rotated off the Session mid-year. Steve Cook transitioned back onto the personnel team after a year as stewardship chair, in order to lead the team. As to staff members, Hannah Feely resigned from her work with us as song leader and Alex Feely resigned from his support of worship tech. Joy Cha resigned as our graphic designer. As such we hired Elijah Brownell on a temporary basis to cover both Alex and Joy's responsibilities until June. We hired Nina Schiefelbein for this position for the summer and welcomed Elijah back in the fall.

Krissy Wilds assumed the bookkeeping role at the start of 2022 and remains with us in this role. Katy Rustvold completed her first full year as both office administrator and neighborhood ministries coordinator in 2022. Aubrey Schiefelbein came on as child care provider in 2022.

We are grateful for the continued ministry at leadership of Pastor Sarah, Don Feely, and LeeAnn Newell of New Broom Custodial Services for their steady service of St. A's over many years. We are also grateful to have had the support of the Rev. Dr. Sunggu Yang as a parish associate for liturgy and education the past several years. He provides twice monthly worship leadership support, pulpit backup, and at least one adult class per year. And we have appreciated the support of Todd Kloos with building locking and unlocking, sign changing, room set up, etc.

Pastor Sarah conducted reviews with staff at the end of 2022.

The combination of roles (graphic designer and worship tech; office administrator and neighborhood ministries coordinator) has decreased our overall personnel budget. We are recommending increases in compensation for all staff in 2023 given the inflated cost of living. We recommend 4.5% increases for pastor and musician, 4% increase for bookkeeper and admin/neighborhood ministries coordinator, and 3.5% increase for other more part time positions.

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.

Thanks to Amy Tanous, Amy Houchen, and Rebecca Nasson for serving on the team this past year.

COMMUNICATIONS & MEDIA

Becky Schiefelbein, Elder

The return to worship has given us an opportunity to use our new A/V equipment.

- The sound quality of those using the microphones is greatly improved.
- Several people are using the hearing assist devices. Early feedback indicated that over-the-ear headphones are preferred for those who wear hearing aids. To that end we spent \$50 on 5 pairs of better-quality headphones to be used with the hearing assist system.
- For those who have found the best usage (headphones vs the small single-ear microphone) and volume of this system to fit their needs, feedback has been fantastic. Users report clear and understandable sound without static.

Now that the A/V equipment has been upgraded the duties of the Communication and Media elder have become much reduced, allowing Becky to take on the Fellowship role.

Communication with the community has been taken on by Katy Rustvold. The church has its own Nextdoor account to post information about events and holidays, which is less confusing than postings from an elder's personal account.

Statistical Information for 2022

MEMBERSHIP COUNT AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2021: 176

ADDITIONS:		LOSSES:	
Confession of faith	0	Death	8
Reaffirmation of faith	1	Removal from active rolls	19
Letter of transfer	7	Transfer out	0
TOTAL 8		TOTAL 27	
Net loss: 19			

MEMBERSHIP COUNT AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2022: 157

MEMBER DEATHS IN 2019

Ken Cain	February 8 th
Roger Sauer	March 20 th
Jim Tallman	August 19 th
Marge Stockwell	September 1 st
Connie Humphries	October 7 th
Mary Rose	October 31 st
Jim Rose	November 2 nd
Irene Sparks	November 11 th

ADMINISTRATION OF SACRAMENTS

Baptism of infants and children:.....	1
Baptism of adults:	0
Weddings:	0
Holy Communion	
o 12 Sunday services,	
o 3 Advent Eucharist services	
o A few homebound	

FINANCIAL REPORTS

FINANCES & STEWARDSHIP

John Calhoun, Elder

2022 financial results for St. Andrews were much better than anticipated a year ago. Income was \$45K better than our budget, primarily because members caught up on pledges from prior years and the return of worship to the sanctuary brought our loose offering back to prior levels. In addition, spending was below plan as a result of lower personnel costs. Absences of hourly staff due to turnover and the elimination of a graphic designer position resulted in \$22k of savings. Instead of having to draw on the 2021 surplus to balance the budget as anticipated, we generated another surplus of \$24k.

For 2023 we are again anticipating a small operating loss that will be covered by the surplus from 2022. However, we are pleased that pledges are almost as much as we anticipated a year ago in spite of the fact that we lost members from death and relocation. Increased giving from current members and contributions from new members made up almost all of the pledge deficit. Spending increased in personnel due to the need for wage increases due to 2022 inflation. No new positions were added. As a result of our investment in a new heating system and the anticipated installation of solar panels this spring, we have been able to keep our utility costs from increasing in spite of significant rate increases by the utility companies.