



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
PETALUMA, CALIFORNIA

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2022



## CONTENT

Pastor John	3
Budget & Finance	6
Bookkeeper & Office Coordinator	9
Facilities	11
Mission	16
Personnel	20
Student & Family Ministries & Student Ministries Coordinator	21
Worship	24
Music Director	27
Deacons	31
Nominating Committee	33
Session & Statistical Report	34

# Say This Reporter Asks Me...

JOHN CHASE, PASTOR

## My dear friends,

If the Press Democrat were to run a story about First Presbyterian Church of Petaluma, what would they say? What would you *want* them to say? I might start by handing them this Annual Report, which, in words and lots of pictures tells the story of God's faithfulness and Christ's incredible work through us in 2022.

I think they would be pleased to report that the folks at First Presbyterian Church care for one another and extend that love into the community. That they pray through hardship and celebration, prepare and deliver meals to one another, give rides, plant gardens, deliver vegetables, and collect warm clothes for the houseless.

Sure, they would write about your abundant hospitality, how you welcome newcomers without discrimination, share the campus with a wonderful preschool, rent an on-campus apartment to the Fijian Pastor and his family, and even welcome and bless chickens in worship. I think they would also be very impressed by your steadfast commitment to embracing a new way of being church, doing worship in person and online.

They would highlight such things as our Give & Get kids clothing and gear giveaway, how some of us walked to end Alzheimers, pedaled for protein, and hosted a community carol sing. They would ask about our beautiful liturgical art installations and new AVL equipment that enhance our worship experience. I



would share my excitement about the eleven new members who joined the church, and others who somehow found us and decided to stick around and be part of what God is up to. Most of all, I hope it would be reported that God's presence is clearly visible in this B Street congregation. It certainly was in 2022.

This year I continued to develop our social media and video presence. I Babbled-On with folks in our virtual cafe, and completed the new website. I continued my term on the Presbytery Council, co-chairing the Personnel Committee, and this year started serving as Council Chair. I led one of the



monthly pastor cohort groups, and helped form an affinity group with some Presbyterian colleagues (we call ourselves, tongue-in-cheek, the Fab 5). I met Bear, the friendliest neighborhood cat you will ever meet, and on cold days welcome him inside to hang out with me in my office.

I am so grateful for our wonderful leadership team. Our Session and Deacons worked so hard to get us through Covid, and we emerged, because of their faithful service, a stronger and healthier congregation. And I can't say enough about our fabulous staff. Thank you Roger, Grete, Jane and Jenny. And to Enrique Rojas, our new AVL Technician. It is a joy and a gift to work with each of you. You kept me grounded these last three years. And finally, there is all you, the members of this congregation, with whom I count it a privilege to minister. You constantly amaze me with your generosity and love.

It is such a blessing to be a part of this congregation, and to learn together what it looks like to be embody Christ in the world—with the folks behind the counter, the people who change your tire, or the strangers on the street. I wonder if the Press Democrat were to write an article about us at the end of 2023, what would they say? Would you *want* them to say? Let's go for it!

Your pastor, servant leader and friend,

Pastor John



*“We meet Jesus, who is with and for us when we are with and for each other.” - Kara K. Root*



# Budget & Finance

SHAWN DOOLEY, ELDER

---

**Commission members:** Shawn Dooley, (Chair, Treasurer), Dan Ellecamp, Eric Goodrich, Dan Mulkey, Pastor John Chase (ex-officio) Staff: Roger Johnson (Bookkeeper).

**General fund: 2022 experience and 2023 budget:**

The table below presents the line by line detail of the general fund budget and actual experience for 2022. The Budget and Finance Commission recommended a 2023 budget to Session. The budget will be presented to the congregation at the January 2023 Annual Meeting.

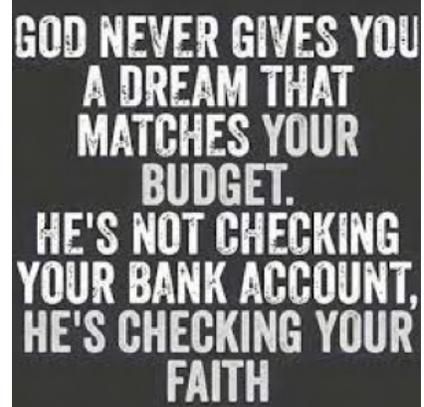


Total giving came in above budget, leading to a surplus in actual giving versus the budget. Rental income came in right at our budget figure. Operating expenses were less than budgeted for the year. BFC again commends the commissions for managing expenditures. Investments took a hit this year due to market conditions. Overall, the finances of the church are in great shape thanks to the faithful giving of the congregation!

2022 marks the year in which the sanctuary mortgage was paid off! Many thanks to the faithful givers over the past 19 years who made this happen!

### **Ray Swain Building Fund (RSBF):**

Giving to the RSBF in 2022 totaled \$30,620, which funded the final mortgage payments and helped pay for the AVL project! Future Ray Swain giving will go towards long term maintenance and capital improvements including projects such as foundation work on the Agape House, parking lot improvements, sanctuary painting and many other needed projects.



### **Accomplishments/actions during the year:**

- Bookkeeper Roger Johnson maintained high standards of accounting.
- This year per capita giving covered close to 100% of our members who regularly participate in church activities.
- Eric Goodrich rebuilt the banking team. Many thanks to Dan Ellecamp, Mark Hale, Dan Mulkey, Eric Goodrich and Shawn Dooley for faithfully counting and making the deposits of funds this year!
- Conducted a detailed analysis of pledge giving during the year.
- Completed and delivered employee performance review for Bookkeeper.

Respectfully prepared and submitted,  
Shawn Dooley, Chair  
2022 Budget and Finance Commission



First Presbyterian Church of Petaluma General Fund			2022		2023
Income			Budget	Actual	Budget
		Pledge Offering	135,200	130,650	159,470
		Non-pledge Offering	10,000	19,470	10,000
		Plate Offering	1,000	397	500
		Other Offering	0	0	0
	Total Offering		146,200	150,517	169,970
	Other		79,445	81,226	79,445
<b>Total Income</b>			<b>225,645</b>	<b>231,743</b>	<b>249,415</b>
Expense					
	Overhead				
		Pastor	95,367	95,308	102,190
		Personnel (non ordained)	64,874	52,927	76,803
		Facilities	51,500	62,056	68,100
		Office	2,750	2,159	2,550
		Per Capita (PCUSA)	3,400	3,400	3,045
		Mission Pledge (PCUSA)	1,500	1,500	1,800
		Budget & Finance	250	144	250
		Session	200	125	200
	Total Overhead		219,840	217,619	254,938
	Ministries				
		Worship	2,350	1,359	2,150
		Congregational Life	1,250	1,000	1,250
		Student & Family Ministries	500	0	500
		Outreach	870	665	1,000
		Missions Local	2,500	2,550	2,700
		Adult Ministry	500	0	500
		Stewardship	200	0	200
	Total Ministries		8,170	5,574	8,300
	Miscellaneous		0	693	0
<b>Total Expense</b>			<b>228,010</b>	<b>223,886</b>	<b>263,238</b>
Excess (Deficit)			-2,365	7,857	-13,823

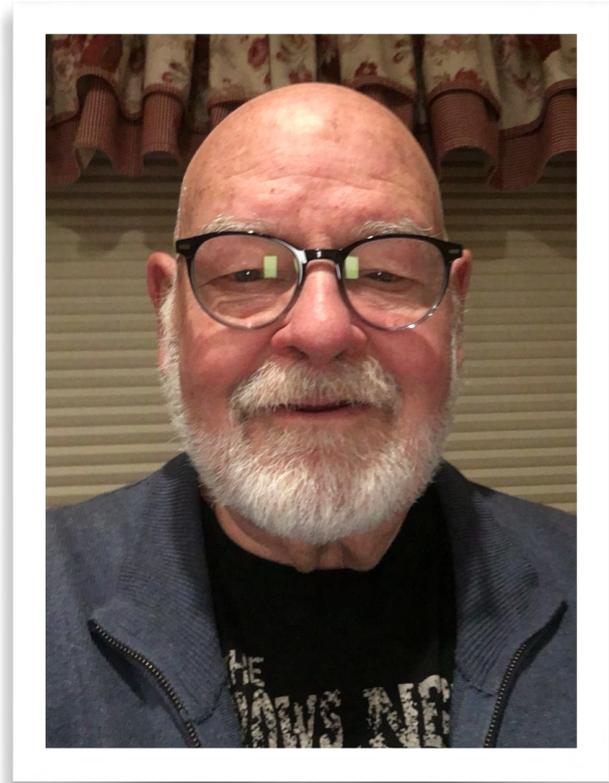
# The Office

ROGER JOHNSON, BOOKKEEPER & OFFICE COORDINATOR

---

**I continue to be amazed** by the hard work and dedication of so many people in our church family to make this a wonderful place to praise God and worship with friends and family. Thanks to **Steve, Karyl, Troy, Wayne, and Eric** for their hours of dedicated service.

We upgraded our Audio-Visual capabilities, with a grant from the Synod of the Pacific, and the generous donation of monies and time by congregation members. We contracted **Enrique Rojas** to establish our AVL presence and create a viable and robust worship experience for both those in the sanctuary and those online. We would not have had such a quick and seamless process without his involvement. He will be training volunteers on the new equipment in 2023.



After many years we switched our banking relationship to Summit State Bank, on the recommendation of members of the congregation. Our previous bank closed its downtown office and began assessing activity charges. Summit has a commitment to non-profits and offers services that fit our needs. This switch also allows us to use online Bill Pay services to pay vendors and reimburse members for out of pocket expenses.

I continue to work from home for part of my time and flex into the office on Tuesday or Wednesday and on Friday. It's a quiet place and expect it will be even quieter during Pastor John's sabbatical leave this spring. My hours will be posted if you need to contact me or you can call the church office and I will return messages as soon as possible. I look forward to a good year in 2023.





# Facilities

STEVE CROOK, ELDER

---

## **Facilities Commission Members**

Steve Crook (Chair), Pastor John Chase (ex- officio), At-Large Members - Karyl Crook, Dan Ellecamp, Chris Olson, Mike Roberts, Wayne Roberts, Mark Sturges and Troy West.

It has been an interesting year. Covid had changed the way we approach our facility programs. Your Facility Commission Members have continuously worked behind the scenes to maintain and improve our church campus. At various days and times members of this team have shown up to take care of the mundane and challenging tasks this church facility requires. With a limited budget, this amazing group of volunteers was able to accomplish the following:



## 2020 Project Achievements

- ☑ Performed all the campus janitorial work including cleaning and sanitizing the church facility in compliance with Covid-19 guidelines. Facility commission members saved the church in excess of \$30,000.00 (2019 – 2022) that would have been paid in janitorial salaries.
- ☑ Facilities worked with Bananas-At-Large on a needed, new improved Audio-Visual & Sound (AV&S) system for the church. This nine-month project included many long hours and days for Facilities in assisting the company with the installation. At the same time, Facilities was also responsible for the preparatory work which included the construction and installation of the AV&S media center. Facilities feels this huge amount of work was well worth the effort as feedback from our church members has been so positive.
- ☑ The Mow Team of Dan Ellecamp, Dan Mulkey, Wayne Roberts, Jack Schipper, Andrew Schipper, Mark Sturges, and Troy West mow, edge and weed eat throughout the year. In addition, Dan Mulkey regularly uses environmentally friendly products to inhibit weed growth on the campus. Thank you!
- ☑ Performed the following:

Facilitated removal of three trees on the campus and playground	Updated contracts with two of our facility users	Purchased church janitorial supplies
Contacted church tenants on weekly/monthly basis to maintain good working relationships	Repaired the gate closing system for the playground/ church garden	Reconstruct the Sanctuary front wall for the new A/V system
Oversaw the replacement of new light for the cross	Steam cleaned the Sanctuary Carpets	Painted bathroom cabinets in Koinonia
Setup for Sanctuary events. Attended events and cleaned up afterwards	Constructed and installed the new Audio-Visual Console in the Sanctuary	Removed all furniture, etc. For kitchen, Koinonia and CE prior to cleaning floors
Supported Preschool in relandscaping the circle drive Memorial Garden	Scrubbed and sanitized kitchen stainless steel table, and all the carts	Worked with our contract employee in improving changes to the Audio-Visual system
Cleaned and sanitized all garbage cans	Cleaned, sanitized, and straightened up Sanctuary	Met with the City Fire Marshal Inspector
Worked with fire extinguisher company to update equipment	Supervised striping and waxing floors in CE Room, Koinonia, and Kitchen	Repaired a leaking water pipe and valve on the playground

Made improvements to Sonic Wi-Fi system in the church sanctuary	Met with Recology Waste & Recycling representative	Improved sanctuary and Koinonia Hall door's ability to close
Oversaw the purchase of various Audio-Visual products and material	Replaced lightbulbs in kitchen, sanctuary, and CE Room.	Monitored the B Street front bench for unwanted "free" items
Met with neighbors and contractors regarding damaged parking lot light	Worked with Bananas-At-Large to oversee the installation of the Sanctuary Audio-Visual system	Weeded and removed vegetation around church office and Peace Garden
Used the leaf blower to clean walkways and main patio	Met with neighbors and contractors regarding fence issues	Hauled landscape debris to the dump
Repaired and replaced exterior walkway lights	Disposed of florescent lights and hazardous waste	Disposed of used batteries
Worked with Redwood Lock Company on updating Sanctuary door locks	Set up and maintained drip hoses to water the front lawn redwood trees	Sold off and disposed of unwanted church items
Unclogged sinks and toilets	Repaired & replaced toilet tanks parts	Repaired various pieces of church furniture
Performed various general handyman jobs.	Reset walkway timers and thermostats	Repaired several white folding chairs
Painted outside benches and chairs	Facility members helped with Christmas decorations	Pruned trees and shrubs around the church.
Replaced door handles with keyless entry handles	Trim trees around building per insurance requirements	Disposed of unwanted church items from the Discovery room
Held playground cleanup day with school and church	Worked with local plumber on sewer blockage problem	Arranged for cleaning of the kitchen grease trap
Opened and lock up church building every Sunday	Cleaned and organized Church storage closets	Made three trips to recycle e-waste
Cleaned gutters	Repaired solar lights along walkway	And a few others I cannot recall at this time



## 2023 Facilities Commission Goals

- Extend the Wi-Fi system to Koinonia Hall, Christian Ed and Fireside Rooms
- Prepping and painting exterior sanctuary, Koinonia Hall, church office exterior
- Replacement/repair of windows in church office and Koinonia Hall
- Re-establish the rose garden in the front of the sanctuary
- Install an exterior support post at the garden end of Koinonia Hall
- Repair and paint the remaining outside wood/metal benches
- Make temporary repairs to the parking lot and driveway asphalt
- Employ tree service to trim and remove trees
- Address Agape House foundation issues
- General structural repairs (sanctuary and Koinonia pillars)
- Repair, replace flooring in kitchen and Koinonia hall
- Patio concrete repair/replacement
- Repair/replace all exterior lighting
- Replace or repair the Discovery Room
- Improve campus security by installing camera system
- Install solar lighting on church sign
- Repair the book lending library at front of the church
- Develop a strong volunteer team to help maintain, with limited funds, our aging facility

The Facilities Commission welcomes input to any physical plant issues as well as volunteers to help accomplish them. Please feel free to contact any member of the Facilities Commission.

Steve Crook | Facilities Commission Elder





We are a Christ-centered community, committed to encountering God through—

- Scripture, prayer, sacrament and song
- Welcoming all
- Breaking bread together
- Caring for creation
- Serving the community
- Offering our lives as a witness to God's love and justice in the world



(FPCP Mission Statement adopted by Session April 25, 2019)



# Mission Commission

LEDRA BRADY, ELDER

We started the year slowly, dipping our toes back into life without Covid and gathered steam as the year progressed.

Our meetings were held with Jack Schipper, Roger Johnson, Pastor John and Ledra Brady (chair). We discussed support for both Ukrainians and Afghans, deciding to support both with a one time donation. We sent \$500 through The Presbyterian Relief Fund to Ukraine, and delayed money to the Afghans until we explored their needs a bit more. We sent \$500 to St. John's Episcopal Church in Petaluma, to assist the eight Afghans who they are supporting in Sonoma County.

Jack Schipper (aka Jack and the Beanstalk) has done an amazing job keeping the garden growing and healthy, and as a result congregants have been on the receiving end of fresh vegetables delivered to their doors, a veggie table for folks to buy from each Sunday morning and other vegetables going to COTS. One of the amazing things about this effort is the budget came out just about even with expenses for the garden and money from those who benefitted. There are several teams who work the garden under Jack's direction, planting, weeding and picking, for whom we are most thankful.

We also have bees in the yard in the capable hands of Mark and Debby Sturges. We all hope for success with them as we get more informed. They did quite well this year until the weather turned and then they left (swarmed) for no one knows where, but they did not return. We won't give up!



We also discussed the ongoing labyrinth project which has been dragging along, primarily because of COVID. Because we felt somewhat unsure of the use the labyrinth will get, and the cost of a permanent one, we decided to build a much less expensive simpler one to find out how popular it will be. Ledra met with David Ward who is with the City of Petaluma in charge of Public Arts Projects to talk about the labyrinth and the possibility of getting a grant to help pay for it. He was encouraging and interested, but in the end, the City did not have grant money this year. At this point, January 2023, we have everything we need to build it and when the weather dries out a bit we will finally get it done!



Some of the other things we took on this year were more in line with Outreach, and because that worked so well, we asked Session about combining Outreach with Mission. Session agreed. For 2023, Outreach and Mission are one with co-leaders to handle all the projects.



These projects included Pedal for Protein in May. Our church hosted the one day ride, breakfast, snacks and drinks before they rode and then a full lunch to replenish their protein after. There were 20-25 riders and they raised a good bit for the food bank.





Another thing was the very successful Give & Get in October, which was extended to a second weekend because it was so popular. The community brought and the community got and everyone was happy. This was Sue Carson's idea and she took it on and managed it like a champ. Thank you Sue!!!

We helped with the fall back to Church annual luncheon (we called it Fall Bounty and BBQ Shindig) and about 60-65 parishioners came. A good time was had by all.



Next we took on the Thanksgiving luncheon and again had a mob. Everyone was satiated and content. And then we hung up our aprons for the rest of 2022.

I want to stress that Deacons volunteered for all of these things and showed up ready to work! Neither Mission nor Session could have done all of this without them!!! Thank you to our wonderful Deacons.

We are looking forward to 2023 and invite everyone to join in. The new Elders for Outreach and Mission are Sue Carson and Phoebe Antonio. I am going to be the Elder for Congregational Life and will try to build it up again (including Young at Heart, and in partnership with Petaluma People Services Center).

I enjoyed being the Elder for Mission but admit that the restrictions of Covid changed my plans greatly. Thank you all for your support!

### Matching Gifts Recipients for 2022

Agency	Member Gifts	Matching Gift	Total Giving
Hope Counseling	1,425.00	967.30	2,392.30
COTS	180.00	155.61	335.61
Community Matters	50.00	59.85	109.85
Petaluma Peoples Services Center	100.00	119.70	219.70
Young Life	100.00	119.70	219.70
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,855.00</b>	<b>1,422.16</b>	<b>3,277.16</b>

# GIVE & GET

FREE Kids' Gear & Clothing

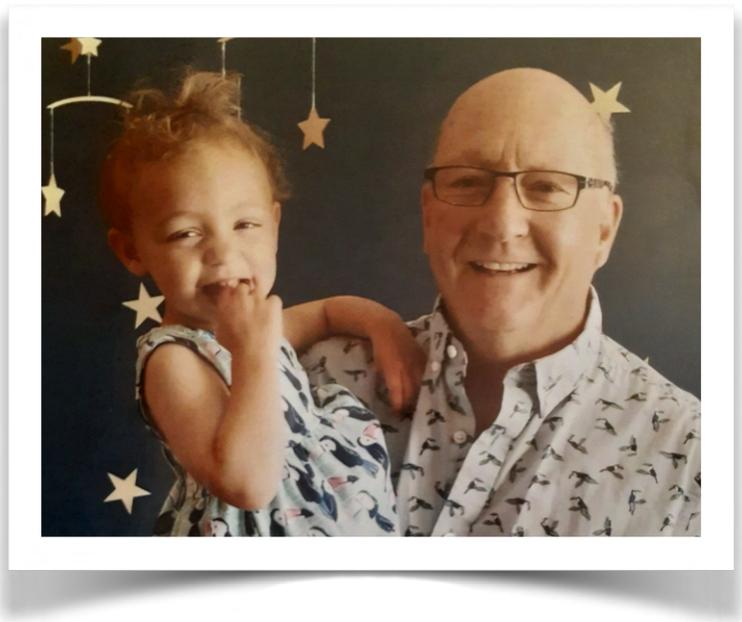


# Personnel Commission

MARK STURGES, ELDER

---

This was a busy year for our commission as we completed a position description and contract for a newly created Audio Visual and Lighting contractor. We then posted the contractor position, interviewed candidates and hired Enrique Rojas, who has been a welcome addition to the FPCP virtual team. Eric Goodrich worked with Pastor John and others to revise Grete Hansen's Children's Sunday School Coordinator position description to the new Student Ministries and Events Coordinator position in order to better serve our current needs and to make better use of Grete's many talents.



Our commission met with Pastor John during the summer to discuss his preliminary plans for a sabbatical, and reviewed the next steps he would take to bring this to a formal proposal which would be presented to session.

Finally, our commission completed and filed all annual staff reviews as required.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Sturges (chair)  
Eric Goodrich  
Mike Glose



# Student & Family Ministries

GRETE HANSEN, STUDENT AND FAMILY MINISTRIES COORDINATOR  
& DIANE OLSON, ELDER

---

2022 was a year to celebrate being together. We were able to do so many things as a church family once again and I found myself focusing on the joy that all of these interactions brought. Here are a few of the highlights from our Children and Family Ministry:

Super Bowl Sunday means Souper Bowl Sunday at First Presbyterian! We once again chose to donate to Una Vida to assist families in our community.



In March, we gathered at my home to make cookies for our unhoused neighbors living near the river. These girls are excellent bakers!



The kids really enjoy having a hands-on role in the Godly Play stories. Here they are with the Parable of the Mustard Seed.

The annual Easter Egg Hunt is always a highlight of the year. It's too bad these kids never have any fun!



We enjoyed getting a behind the scenes look at a film crew using our very own church parking lot as part of the set in a movie!

The kids also helped beautify the campus with a little succulent planting, had some bonding time with our furry friends during our Blessing of the Animals Sunday service, And Timmy Dooley was presented with his very own Bible..

A personal highlight for me this year, was watching the children tell each other the Godly Play Journey to Bethlehem story. It was so touching to watch them work together in bringing the story of Jesus' birth to life.

I look forward to watching our children grow in the church as we enter 2023!



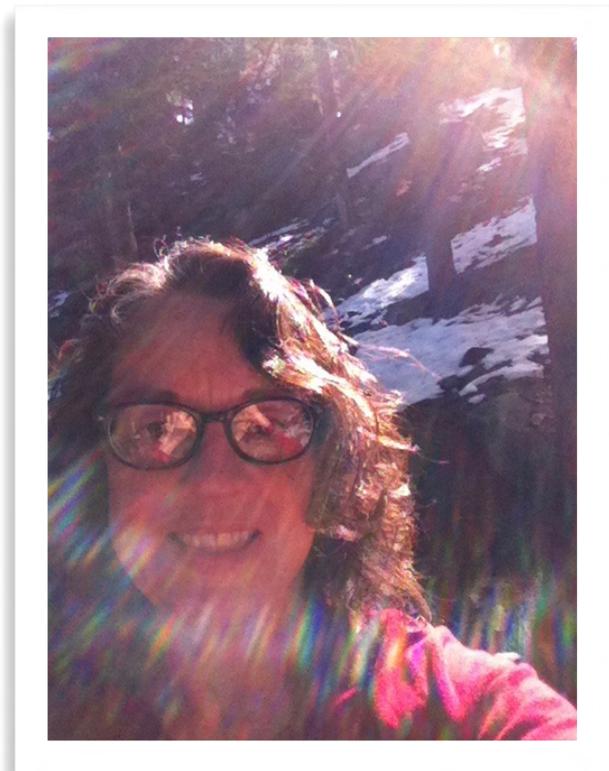
# Worship Commission

PAM SOMMER, ELDER

---

## **The Worship Commission is tasked in the Standing Rules with:**

- ❖ Evaluating and recommending improvements for the worship ministries and activities of the congregation
- ❖ Planning seasonal celebrations of the church
- ❖ Overseeing and supporting ministry teams, including, but not limited to the AVL Team, Choir and Worship Ensemble
- ❖ Preparing annual budget request and overseeing the spending of the commission's budget



## **The members who served on the 2022 Worship Commission include:**

Marcille Roth; Debby Sturges; Jenny Smith, Pianist/Organist; Jane Shelly, Music Director; Pastor John Chase, ex-officio; Pam Sommer, Worship Elder.

## **2022 Goals**

- ❖ Christmas Choir Concert after 3-year pandemic hiatus
- ❖ Blessings of the Animals October 9
- ❖ Community Carol Sing December 23 at Walnut Park after a 3-year pandemic hiatus

- ❖ Envision how to use the new AVL equipment in worship in new ways to enhance our worship (in progress)

## Highlights

- ❖ Collaborated with the Personnel Commission to fill a new Audio Visual Lighting (AVL) position including a position description, interview process and securing Enrique Rojas for final set-up of the new equipment, running the system for worship services and other events, and training volunteers.
- ❖ Bouquets and paraments artistically arranged and coordinated throughout the year (thank you, Marcille!).
- ❖ Choir singing and bell choir ringing throughout the year.
- ❖ World Communion Sunday October 2.
- ❖ Blessing of the Animals October 9.
- ❖ The Worship Ensemble was reconstituted to its former strength of vocals, guitar, piano, bass guitar and drums. Welcome Bob Heyman, bass guitarist to the ensemble, and handpan during Communion.
- ❖ Brought back the Greeter/Attendance Taker for Sunday worship service.
- ❖ Recommended offering to the Bethel Fijian Church the use of the new AVL equipment to encourage a partnership with our tenants and be supportive of their missions.
- ❖ Invited the Bethel Fijian Congregation to sing in the Christmas Choir Concert – a way for our two congregations to worship/fellowship together.
- ❖ Advent & Christmas starflakes liturgical art installation.



- ❖ Worship services and activities during Advent/Christmas including the Christmas Choir Concert Dec. 13; Longest Night Service Dec. 21; Community Carol Sing Dec. 23; Christmas Eve Service Dec. 24; Christmas Day Service Dec. 25.

***The Worship Commission would like to thank everyone involved with providing a meaningful worship experience for God's church.***

*Respectfully submitted,  
Pam Sommer*



# Music Ministry

JANE SHELLY, MUSIC DIRECTOR

---

2022 has been a transformational year for the music ministry at FPCP.

The Worship Ensemble welcomed Bob Heyman on bass guitar and welcomed back Pam Sommer (piano), Dan Ellecamp (drums) to supplement the efforts that Shawn and I had been doing regularly on Sundays.

The choir was only 7 strong at the time, so we decided not to sing every Sunday. We sang every Sunday in Lent and for Easter and then once a month till Memorial Day.

Over the summer, we laid plans to grow the music ministry, expanding the choir and singing every Sunday. I wrote some articles for the Exchange, highlighting those plans. The most significant plan was to have Jenny record all the parts of all the anthems. If people could not make it to a Wednesday night rehearsal, they would have the recordings to practice with at home.

We had a lovely party at Doran Beach with the extended music ministry family and I was able to lay out the plan for them then. The plan worked very well!

We welcomed several former members back and several new members as well: Susan Pearce, Jeannette Anglin, Dorothy Teply, Charles Fulton and Pascal Webb. I have not required 100% participation so you will see some people float in and out. We have some immensely talented people in our midst and I am trying to showcase them often. Andrew Schipper is a fine composer and he premiered his song “God Has What You Need” in October. The Worship Ensemble reprised his “Mary’s Trust” in church and also included it in our Christmas concert on December 18.





In the fall, Jenny recorded (and I created videos out of) 61 choral parts! Because the members learned the notes at home, we could spend rehearsal time working on analysis, expression, and good ensemble singing. People in the congregation (including our biggest fan, Elizabeth Arntz) noticed a difference in the choir.

Our December 18 concert was a great success. We invited the Fijians to sing a couple of pieces in the concert and their performance was so well received that we want to explore more collaborations. Having Timmy and Sophie Dooley join the bell choir has been fabulous! I love the idea that there is a new generation of musicians coming up! We also welcomed a few of my flute students and a colleague to perform during the offertory. I was particularly delighted that Enrique was able to be there and stream the concert live over facebook and Youtube. Our live audience was full and we had 119 views on YouTube!

While we did not raise the goal amount to give the piano the TLC it needs, we did raise enough to hire some extra instrumentalists for a couple of dates in the spring. (It is never too late to contribute to the Music Reserve Fund!)

On December 23, we had our annual Community Christmas Carol Sing in Walnut Park. Thanks to the marketing skills of Sue Carson, Stephen and Elizabeth McNeil, we had two great banners and lots of representation in our social media channels. Pastor John estimates that we had at least 120 people come through during the evening. Many thanks to all of you who brought cookies, helped set up and clean up afterwards! Many thanks to Amy Dooley for inviting people from the Petaluma



Community Band to add more instruments – the baritone saxophone was so much fun to hear on the bass lines! My favorite moment was when someone from the audience shouted “You guys are great!” Roger was a fabulous Santa Claus and added a real element of festivity. Shawn did a great job leading vocals and, once again, having Enrique there to do sound was really a blessing! We hope to see this Community Carols sing draw more and more people each year.

Thank you, dear congregation, for all your support of our musicians. I am looking forward to making great music (and perhaps a little joyful noise as well) to enhance our worship in the new year!

The choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 and again Sunday mornings at 9:00 on Sundays when we are singing an anthem. Come join us!





*"...so we, who are many, are one body in Christ,  
and individually we are members one of another."  
- Romans 12:5*





# Deacons

JOYCE SCHIPPER, DEACON MODERATOR

---

As 2022 returned to a more normal time and folks could meet again in person, Deacons worked in many areas to make our congregation feel whole. During 2022 we coordinated two memorial services and supported session with the September Fall Harvest and BBQ Shindig, Pedal for Protein, Thanksgiving Day luncheon and the Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. In addition, Deacons saw a need and formed a Widows Grief Support Group that has met monthly since November. The Deacons are responsible for the following:



**Communion:** Marcille Roth, with the help of Nelda Roberts, recruited and instructed servers and saw that it all took place smoothly in coordination with Pastor John. Communion is generally served on the first Sunday of every month, in addition to Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Easter Sunday, Thanksgiving Sunday, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day (when it falls on a Sunday.)

**Prayer Chain:** Jeannette Anglin led this ministry during 2022. There were 91 prayer requests and 330 ecards sent. There are currently 59 people who receive prayer request emails.

**Transportation:** There were 15 rides given in 2022 as well as 12 rides/support for shut-ins who needed help with errands. Rides were coordinated for church as well as other activities and appointments.

**Kitchen:** Dianne Trumpy and Troy West worked to keep the kitchen clean and tidy, often cleaned out the refrigerator and freezer, cleaned the coffee pots and kept our supplies well stocked.

**Visitation/Connections:** Victoria Ellecamp led her team including Cretia Horn and Doreen Dias during 2022 and they accomplished the following with the help of the entire Deacons team: Calls – 205 Cards – 94 Visits - 5

**Benevolence:** Joyce Schipper oversaw our benevolence ministry, helping provide basic areas of service and financial assistance for those in need. 10- \$50 gift cards were given to the office to share with those in need.

**Support Services:** Nelda Roberts took charge of this position which includes the medical supply lending closet, meals to families and helping provide for other needs as they arose. 10 meals were delivered in 2022.

**Treasurer:** Dan Ellecamp kept our finances up to date.

**Moderator/Secretary:** Joyce Schipper filled these positions during 2022. She planned and facilitated Deacons' meetings, distributed the minutes, coordinated the memorial services with the deacons' team and families, attended session meetings and offered support as needs arose for our congregation.

Deacons are grateful for the monetary and emotional support from the congregation. Our team can truly depend on each other whenever called upon. We are looking forward to a rewarding 2023 as we continue our wonderful ministries together.



# Nominating Committee

PAM SOMMER AND LEDRA BRADY, ELDERS

---

## **The members who served on the Nominating Committee:**

Nelda Roberts, Deacon Representative; Ledra Brady and Pam Sommer, Session Representatives; Pastor John Chase, ex-officio

Our major effort was to identify candidates to serve as Session Elders, Deacons and the Nominating Committee members at large in 2023. The following members were presented and approved by the congregation to serve during the November 20, 2022 meeting:

### **Deacons**

Amy Dooley – Class of 2024 (1st term) |  
Jeannette Anglin – Class of 2024 (2nd term)  
Nelda Roberts – Class of 2024 (3rd term) |  
Joyce Schipper – Class of 2024 (2nd term)  
Dianne Trumpy – Class of 2024 (2nd term)

### **Elders**

Susan Pearce – Class of 2024 (1st term)  
Wayne Roberts – Class of 2024 (1st term)  
Phoebe Antonio – Class of 2024 (1st term)  
Sue Carson – Class of 2024 (1st term)  
Ledra Brady – Class of 2024 (2nd term)  
Mark Sturges – Class of 2023 (half of 3rd term)



### **Nominating Committee (members-at-large)**

Amy Dooley – Class of 2024 (1st term)  
Lonna Mulkey – Class of 2023 (1st term)  
Debby Sturges – Class of 2024 (1st term)

The Nominating Committee is thankful for these members who have said yes to serving the congregation and others in our broader community.

# Session & Statistical Report

SHAWN DOOLEY, CLERK OF SESSION

## Session Meetings

January 20	July (no mtng)
February (no mtng)	August 18
March 22	September (no mtng)
April 19 (special)	October 20
May 16	November 17
June 21	December 8

## Congregational Meetings

January 30, November 27

## Those preaching the Word of God during worship in 2022

Rev. John Chase: January 2,9,16,23,30; February 6,13,20; March 13,20,27; April 3,10,14,17,24; May 1,8,15,22,29; June 5,12,26; July 10,17,24,31; August 7,14,21,28; September 4,11,18,25; October 2,9,16,23,30;-November 6,20, 22 (Interfaith Thanksgiving Service), 27; December 4,11,18,24

Rev. Bob Conover: February 27

Rev. Nancy Martin Vincent: March 2

Rev. Linda Powers: March 6, June 19

Linda Dragoo: July 3

Rev. Dvera hadden: November 13

## Statistical Information

Membership — 12/31/21	85
Additions:	
Confirmation of Faith	3
Reaffirmation of Faith	2
Certificate of Transfer	6
Total	11

### Subtractions:

Deceased	2
Certificate of Transfer	2
Removal of Membership	3
Total	7

Membership — 12/31/22	89
Infant/Child Baptisms	0
Teen/Adult Baptisms	0
Holy Communion was served times:	15
Weddings	0





FROM WHERE WE ARE TO WHERE YOU NEED US...FROM THE SECURITY OF WHAT WE KNOW TO THE ADVENTURE OF WHAT YOU WILL REVEAL...TO REFASHION THE FABRIC OF THIS WORLD UNTIL IT RESEMBLES THE SHAPE OF YOUR REIGN...

**JESUS, NOW LEAD ON.**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PETALUMA  
939 B STREET, PETALUMA, CA 94952 | 707.762.8269 | PETALUMAFIRST.COM