

20
22



MINISTRY IMPACT REPORT



ROOTED &
GROUNDED
IN LOVE



This report is a summary of all the ways
your financial generosity has transformed
our church and **changed people's lives** in
the past year.

We offer you **our deepest thanks.**
Inside, you will find **the results of**
what we can do when we are
ROOTED & GROUNDED IN LOVE.



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Only a surprising act of generosity, beyond our categories of expectation, has the power to break the deathly pattern of anxiety, fear, and greed. When we are immersed in such immense generosity, we are able to get our minds off ourselves, and focus on the work of loving our neighbors. It is precisely an inexplicable act of generosity that delivers us from the cycle of scarcity, and frees our lives for community.

”

WALTER
BRUEGGEMANN

SENIOR MINISTER REPORT



In 2022, we committed ourselves to the task of rebuilding our community in the wake of a global pandemic that had a devastating impact on churches and organizations around our nation. Our Board of Deacons worked diligently to reestablish their connections to each other and the congregation by investing in governance and growth. The Ministry of Community Life worked tirelessly to create opportunities to bring our members together again through a variety of socials, fellowship events, and small groups. The Ministry of Justice and Outreach brought back Rise Against Hunger, which reconnected us with what has always mattered the most to us as a church—helping those in need. As one of our marketing slogans says, “Giving Back to the Community is Still the Secret to Our Togetherness.” With God’s help, in all these things, we were successful. Our members came back to worship, relationships were reborn, programs were renewed, and new guests were welcomed into our congregation.

Yet 2022 also brought unexpected losses of key staff members like Charlotte Judge, Rev. Mia McClain, Matt Caine, Rev. Joe Aldrich, as well as Tom and Amy Jones. It is incredibly difficult to rebuild community while the pandemic is still impacting our lives, but it is even more challenging when key members of your community move on due to changes in circumstance or for new opportunities. We would be naïve to imagine that these staff departures did not inhibit our valiant attempts to rebuild community. Our community grieves these losses, yet nonetheless, we open our eyes to new horizons and continue forward with the hope that the Spirit is shaping and molding us into the community God has called us to become.

A new year comes with a new beginning and 2023 presents fresh possibilities for our future as a people on a journey of faith. We have the opportunity to celebrate our 80-year anniversary as a church by sharing our stories with each other in new ways. We have the opportunity to continue rebuilding community. And we have the opportunity to be rooted and grounded in love as we welcome new staff and new members. We are not just a church or even simply a community of faith, we are an inclusive community for spirituality and social justice that is literally changing people’s lives every single day. In this Ministry Impact Report, you will see the ways your generosity has changed people’s lives and our world for the better. We share this report in a spirit of gratitude and say “Thank you” for the sacrifices you made to help us thrive in 2022 and build a foundation for a powerful and transformative 2023.

Gratefully,

DEACON CHAIR REPORT



In 2022, we began to move forward while still dealing with the effects of Covid on our church, our city and our world. Our health and wellness team was instrumental in this work, meeting weekly and keeping us informed. The deacons planned a virtual retreat to build relationships, set objectives, and clarify roles and responsibilities for staff and laity. We committed to begin to rebuild our community.

Our in-person navigation classes began again, and new members joined both in spring and fall. Their willingness to share their personal stories, their path to MPBC, and their belief that they had found a spiritual home were so moving and affirming. MPBC is still changing people's lives in such an important way.

Our worship service continues to be the highlight of the week. Our excellent virtual service provides a consistent opportunity for many more people to join us on Sundays and enjoy a variety of inspiring sermons from our Free Pulpit as well as our wonderfully talented choir. The diversity of music programs continues to be innovative and uplifting.

Looking forward to 2023, our objectives are to connect and engage our community through many fellowship and spiritual growth opportunities that will be available, reimagining stewardship in a new way and focusing on our sustainability both short and long term. We will be celebrating our church's 80th anniversary in 2023 and we are looking forward to hearing the stories from many of our long-time members. We knew we needed to have a strong financial finish to our year in order to keep our momentum going. A big thank you to the congregation for responding so positively and due to the generosity of our congregation we finished with a surplus.

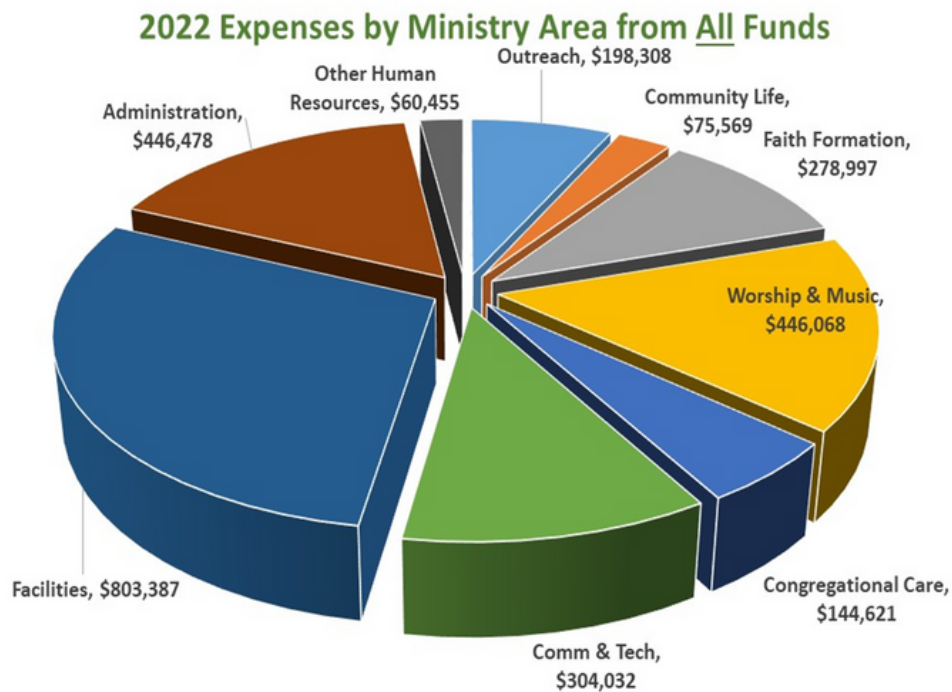
As we look towards the future, we are focusing on continuing our journey of faith, to recommitting to our mission of social justice and inclusivity and envisioning a beloved community for all.

GROUNDING IN GENEROSITY

Financial Resources at Myers Park Baptist Church

Grounded in generosity . . . rooted in love. It was love that inspired one of our young MPBC families to offer a \$40,000 matching gift to the church, on top of what they were already giving in 2022. And it was love that inspired our congregation to respond by matching that \$40,000 in new and increased gifts, for a total of \$80,000 additional dollars for our Finish Strong campaign. Because of the extraordinary way your love for our church manifested into generosity we finished the year with a surplus of \$61,447.

The pie chart below illustrates how funds were spent in 2022:



Some financial highlights from 2022:

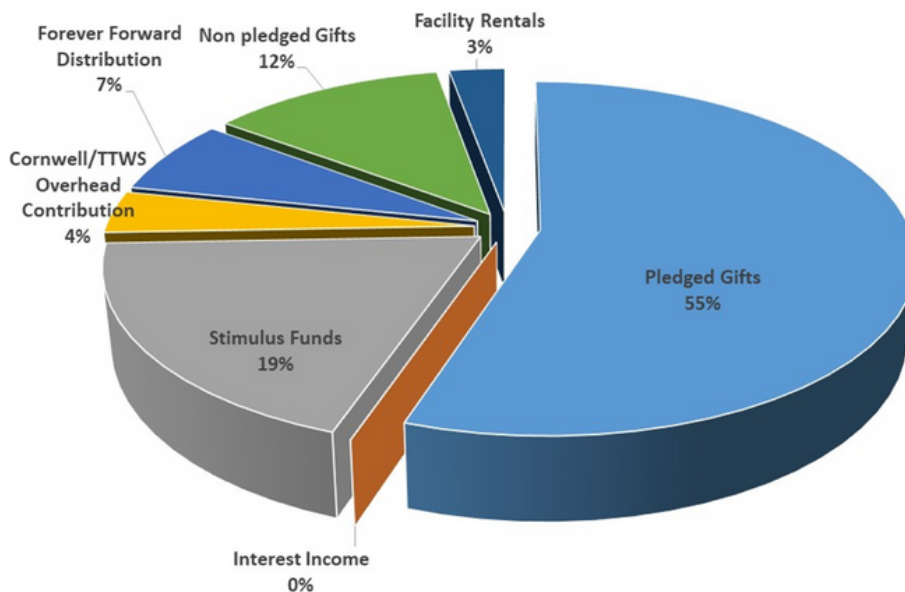
- Recent trend of declining giving units reversed in 2022 with 76 new giving units
- Collected 102% of pledges in 2022 up from 80% in 2021
- Matching gift challenge of \$40k worked! MPBC netted an additional \$80k to Finish Strong
- MPBC ended a year with a significant surplus of \$61k, which will be a shot in the arm for 2023
- Of the total expenses in 2022 of \$2,757,914, 71.6% of these came from the operating budget; 20.4% came from endowment funds, and 8% came from designated funds.
- 2022 was the official end of the 75th Capital Campaign. As of the end of the year, we have collected \$3,268,202 in pledges. The net (minus expenses) is \$2.9 million. This is the most successful capital campaign in our history. While the campaign is officially over, there are several people who wished to continue payments through the spring to pay off their pledge. So, this is not the final reporting for the campaign.
- Salary and benefits apportioned by ministry area in the chart above.

FINANCIAL REPORT CONT.

The Cornwell Center had their first surplus in history where the operational endowment was not utilized (\$27,642). However, their budget did utilize \$100,000 in stimulus surplus funds. Still, this was a great year for Cornwell, as Afterschool, Summer Camps, and the Basketball programs all saw their highest revenue ever. Facility rentals saw its largest year ever as well. Although membership has still not bounced back to its pre-pandemic levels, it did begin climbing back up in 2022. Realistically, we still have quite a way to go before membership reaches pre-pandemic levels. Since the operational endowment was not used in 2022, those funds will be used to renovate the fitness space in early 2023.

TTWS follows a different fiscal year than the rest of the campus. Their fiscal year ended in July. They netted a surplus of \$34,898, which they then passed over to the Church to help offset operational costs such as administration of their accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll, and facility costs.

2022 Church Revenue by Category



Your gift matters and we need to be able to count on you to support our programs, ministries, and operations into the future! As you can see from the chart above, pledging remains the most consistent way to ensure revenue for the church.



Give online at <https://pushpay.com/g/myersparkbaptist>. It's simple, fast, and secure. Set it and forget it! You can also set up a recurring gift, so you don't have to add something else to your to do list each week.



Text your donation. Text 833.833.3995. You can set up a recurring gift by text as well.



Mail a Check to us at the church office: 1900 Queens Road, Charlotte, NC 28207.



Consider a **Stock Gift**, which can be liquidated by the Church and used for operations.

And as always, our Finance staff are happy to help you with these transactions. Simply call us at 704.334.7232.



GROUNDING FOR THE FUTURE

The generosity of our founders and forebears in the past has grounded our church for the future. **The MPBC Endowment Fund** continues to be a significant source of support for programs and operations. In 2022, church endowment funds comprised 20% of all funds expended for programs and operations. This amounts to over \$500,000.

In 2022, earnings on Endowment funds were used to fund programs and ministries that would otherwise have not been possible:

- Development of a New Website
- Staff Sabbaticals
- Renovation of our Entryways
- Pilgrimage to Legacy Museum in Montgomery
- Faith in the 21st Century Series
- Youth Retreats
- Confronting Whiteness Conference
- Guest Musicians in Worship
- Security Cameras
- Habitat for Humanity Project
- Much more!



Anyone can support the Endowment, either through a gift today or through a planned gift for the future. By doing so, you will join our **Friends of the Covenant** – those who have left or plan to leave a legacy gift to support the Church. These gifts can be made from cash, stock, life insurance, estate bequests, and much more. For more information on how to leave a legacy gift to the church, contact Leigh Anne Duncan at LDuncan@myersparkbaptist.org.



FRIENDS of the
COVENANT
at Myers Park Baptist Church



JUSTICE & OUTREACH

In 2022 the high-speed Ministry of Justice and Outreach (MOJO) had two facilitated retreats for the purpose of creating a strategic plan for their ministry which would focus their efforts on three specific areas: Economics, Environment, and Education—all of which are enveloped and impacted by systemic racism and white supremacy. MOJO then created affinity groups for each of their three focus areas and adopted the slogan “Justice is what love looks like.” The Economic Justice Affinity group is led by Cindy Adcock, the Environmental Justice Affinity group is led by Paula Fricke, and the Educational Justice Affinity group is led by Laura Handler. Each of these affinity groups started building momentum in 2022 and will be looking for more members to join them in their efforts in 2023.

In addition to their strategic work, MOJO helped to plan and lead some incredible programming in 2022:



JUSTICE
IS what
LOVE
looks like
MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

- Participation in the Mayfield Memorial Affordable Housing Initiative and Groundbreaking
- Supporting the Book Launch of Confronting Whiteness in July at Common Market
- Hosting our first LGBTQ Conference planned by Devin Green in partnership with PFLAG, Time Out Youth, and Transcend CLT
- Traveled and networked with the Alliance of Baptists event: Excavating Our Roots in Montgomery, AL
- Marching in CLT PRIDE for the first time since 2019 and having the largest attendance in history
- Hosting a Rise Against Hunger event in Heaton Hall





COMMUNITY LIFE

This year we embraced the challenge of (re)Building Community and created opportunities for new congregants and longtime congregants to connect with one another. We hosted two Navigating classes for guests and welcomed 24 new members in 2022. We gathered for Hangout with the Pastor, Welcome Sunday BBQ lunch, New Member Receptions, the Men's Breakfast, Walkie Talkies walking group, and Hiking around Charlotte. We found ways to be together that built new friendships and reignited others. It was a year that allowed us to embrace the new and celebrate the traditions we missed when we were closed during the pandemic.



OPEN TO ALL
INCLUSIVITY | COMMUNITY | SPIRITUALITY | JUSTICE

[LEARN MORE ABOUT US](#)



COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY

Communications

We launched a brand-new website with a fresh, modern look focused on clearly portraying who we are as a church community, and centering around our mission words: Inclusivity, Spirituality, Community, and Justice. We were intentional about using consistent and inclusive language to make our content more accessible to visitors while increasing our search numbers and online ranking.

Our Weekly newsletter mailing list gained 315 new subscribers. We continue to revise and restructure the newsletter to provide as much information as possible while trying to be concise and provide links for more details. The Weekly continues to be our primary source for information about what is going on at MPBC. It is read by an average of 635 people per week (66%) with a click through average rate of 116 (12%). These are extremely high percentages for church communications (standard open rate is 45% and click through rate is 3%). Those who have developed the habit of reading it every Monday have become very well informed.

Technology

- Continued to improve and expand Wi-Fi throughout the campus.
- Added security cameras for the Sanctuary accessible entrance and also the Sanctuary basement entrance under the Pastor's Study.
- Implemented automatic dusk to dawn lighting controls for most of the campus outdoor lighting – they adjust all year long and don't have to be manually changed each season.

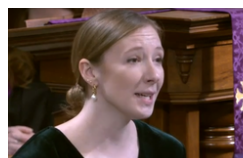
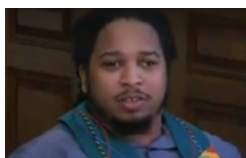


MUSIC & WORSHIP

In 2022, we offered eleven diverse worship services including Jazz, Rock, Calypso, and Indigenous music. We added new vocal scholars to our Chancel Choir who have helped reinforce the high quality of music we have in worship. Our Good Friday service featuring our Chancel Choir, soloists, and instrumentalists presenting *Stabat Mater* by Karl Jenkins was incredibly powerful.

2022 was also a year of transition for our music ministry with the departure of Charlotte Judge and Matt Caine. Thankfully, our retired Minister of Music, Fran Morrison, graciously returned in August and helped not only to steady the ship but to rebuild our Chancel Choir to the strength it was before the pandemic. She was joined by Candace Williamson who launched a Music and Arts class for children on Wednesday evenings. In addition, we were fortunate to host Artist-in-Residence, Dr. Caleb Hopkins, who led rehearsals with our choir and his partner Susanna Stewart who performed as a soloist in worship.

Worship in 2022 also included phenomenal preaching from our Rev. Dr. Boswell, Rev. Mia McClain, and Rev. Tara Gibbs, as well as special guests like Rev. Melissa McQueen Simmons, Rev. Dr. JJ Flag, Rev. John Pavlovitz, and the return of Rev. Dr. Carter Heyward who famously preached amid controversy over her LGBTQ identity at our church back in the late 70s.





MEMBERSHIP & ATTENDANCE

Virtual Worship Statistics are derived by counting the views we have each week on multiple platforms: Livestream, Facebook Live, and YouTube. Most churches count each view as 1.3 to account for multiple viewers in a single household (i.e. couples or families). However, in 2022 we counted each viewing as 1. Our worship participation decreased slightly in 2022 as you can see in the chart below.

Attendance Year	2020	2021	2022
Average per Sunday	526	379	367

2022 Average Attendance by Month

Jan	311	Apr	445	Jul	380	Oct	370
Feb	330	May	409	Aug	351	Nov	352
Mar	302	Jun	384	Sep	424	Dec	343

NEW MEMBERS

We welcomed 24 new members in 2022, some of whom had not even been on campus.



Joe Sojka & Laura Thomason
Joined January 5, 2022



Eugene (Gene) Kustener
Joined January 11, 2022



Ashley Bailey & Shaina Hinds
Joined February 6, 2022



Sadath & Allison Jean Pierre
Joined April 3, 2022



James (Jim) Mooring, Jr.
Joined April 3, 2022



Matthew Riley-Moffitt
Joined April 3, 2022



Morgan & Nicolas Rhyne
Joined May 7, 2022



Edward Bell
Joined September 16, 2022



Josh Barnes
Joined October 10, 2022



Allen and Myah Davis
Joined November 20, 2022



Mark & Nina Engstrom
Joined November 20, 2022



Joni Adams & Tim Emry
Joined November 20, 2022



Valarie Kovolski
Joined November 20, 2022



Thomas Wukawitz
Joined November 20, 2022

We don't have photos for the following new members at this time

Foli Pontillo | April 4

Destinee Washington | May 25

Marilyn Hubley | August 31



IN MEMORIAM

We remember those we lost in 2022.

Edith Freeman Patton	January 1	Samuel S. Williams	July 23
Michael Joseph Henderlite	January 27	John Aves	August 7
Dr. Fred H. Allen, Jr.	February 3	John L. Stickley	September 8
Thelma McLaughlin	February 3	William Todd Geer	November 18
Mary Byrd Dowd	March 11	Elena Soleil Denning	November 23
Lee Rose	April 5	Jane Wensil	November 25
Dr. Ernest A. Rider	April 20	John Timothy Martin	December 7
Emil F. (Jim) Kratt	May 1	John Bean	December 22
Barbara Dickson Scott	May 6	George Edward Linney, Jr.	December 22
Norma L. Munn	May 15	Camilla Moffitt	December 30



CONGREGATIONAL CARE

2022 was a year of transition for our Congregational Care ministry. We celebrated the retirement of Rev. Joe Aldrich after 30 years of service to our congregation. We will be forever grateful for the way Joe has cared for our congregation. In the absence of Joe, our Senior Minister, Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell has stepped up to take a larger role in pastoral care. We also welcomed our new Associate Minister of Pastoral Care and Justice, Rev. Dr. JJ Flag and his family in December.

About Dr. JJ Flag

Dr. Flag received his Master of Divinity at Princeton Theological Seminary and his Doctor of Ministry at Drew University Theological School. He was ordained in the United Church of Christ, completed multiple units of Clinical Pastoral Education, and has served as a hospital chaplain in New Jersey. Most recently, Dr. Flag was Pastor of Emmanuel Congregational United Church of Christ in Watertown NY, and before that he was Pastor of Turning Point United Methodist Church and Princeton United Methodist Church.

Dr. Flag is gifted at connecting with people across lines of difference, and he has a passion for creatively engaging in ministry around issues of social justice. Dr. Flag takes prophetic stances in ways that remain accessible while calling people to more fully live into God's love. He engages his own social location in ways that reflect sensitivity to the negotiation of power in community and deep valuing of those around him, both colleagues and those to whom he ministers. Dr. Flag is a person of faith who is constantly willing to learn and grow—even sometimes change—his theology as he encounters new perspectives and persons. His engagement with the divine and other human beings is dynamic.

Join us in offering our warmest welcome to JJ along with his wife Ebony, and two daughters: Arianna (11) and Mikayla (5).





SPIRITUAL GROWTH



Compassion pushes us out of our comfort zone; it's easy to become nonchalant and uncaring, but harder to be compassionate and loving.

- John Pavlovitz, Faith in the 21st Century Speaker 2022

We are forever grateful for the work Rev. Mia McClain accomplished in her role within Spiritual Growth. We continue to look forward to the great things this ministry will do with Rev. Tara Gibbs in her new role, while maintaining our tradition of love for all of God's people. It is that rich love that has provided us with thoughtful and forward-thinking ministry chairs, caring and insightful ministry members, and reliable class leaders.

- Facilitated engaging Spiritual Growth classes in both spring and fall for all ages.
- Created and implemented a streamlined class offering using an 8-week model.
- Offered learning opportunities virtually, on campus, and at Southminster.
- Hosted a well-attended forum entitled "The Death of Sunday School," in April.
- Highlighted "Women Who Walked with Jesus" during Lent & Easter.
- Learned and laughed with guest scholar John Pavlovitz at our Faith in the 21st Century Weekend in October.
- Traveled and networked with the Alliance of Baptists event: Excavating Our Roots in Montgomery, AL.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

As we resumed our programming, we engaged with parents, asking them what they needed and wanted for their kids. Children's Worship was reimaged and bloomed into a robust spiritual growth experience. We dedicated children into the life of the church partnering with their families in the journey of parenthood. Five third – fifth graders went to camp, and we hosted an amazing all outside Vacation Bible School. It was a year of discovering what is to come!



Candace Williamson joined our Children's Ministry team as Interim Children and Youth Music Coordinator. She and her family (Chris, Evie, and Piper) joined MPBC in the fall of 2019, and soon after Candace was engaged in our Children's Wednesday night programming and adult choir. As a trained vocalist and music educator, Candace brings a wealth of knowledge, experience and enthusiasm to our youth and children's music programs. Please join us in welcoming her into her new role as Interim Children and Youth Music Coordinator.



Seth Pilz took on the role of Children and Youth Ministries Intern. In the fall of 2019, Seth was on a journey of deconstructing and reconstructing his faith. He found MPBC to be a place where he could learn and experience faith in a new, robust and authentic way. He jumped right in, participating in worship, small groups, socials, and more. Over the summer, Seth approached Revs. Carrie Veal and Tara Gibbs, asking if he could help in children and youth programming. With enthusiasm, they said, Yes! He was so inspired by these ministries, that he applied for the Internship and was hired. We hope you will join us in welcoming Seth to the team.

Wednesday night programming is a place where children and adults come together for food, fellowship, and friendship all while creating beautiful music and art! Caregivers are volunteering and participating in programming alongside their children, allowing for much needed connection between families, volunteers, and staff. Our youngest congregants expressed their deepest creative spirit through song, movement, and play and led in worship during Lessons and Carols. Our children and families are endlessly creative, and we look forward to evolving the program to highlight their unique gifts and abilities as we continue to grow.

Sunday morning Children's Worship was reimaged. As families came back to church, they asked for a Children's Worship experience. Carrie, Candace, and Seth created an experience that brings Bible stories to life while allowing space for curiosity and wondering. Over time, a cohesion developed between Wednesdays and Sundays to allow for a more integrated program.



YOUTH MINISTRY



Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

- 1 John 3:18 NIV

This year, our youth ministry focused on love: Loving God, Community, and Growth. It is through this lens of love, that we increased not only our numbers of regular participants, but awareness for issues in our community. This year was a beautiful blend of our traditional programming such as Fall Retreat, Service According to Youth, and Discipleship, while incorporating fresh ideas such as themed gatherings, youth-led service projects, and guest speakers.

Loving God

- Enrolled 8 youth in Discipleship 2022-23.
- Created and presented "Faith Around the World" for Youth Sunday with a Spotlight on Seniors.
- Encouraged over 30 different youth to participate and serve in worship as acolytes, reading scripture, collecting offering, and acting as greeters.
- Shared good news and prayer requests weekly at Youth Block.

Loving Community

- Donated and delivered 2 bins of non-perishable goods to Reeder Memorial Missions Place during the Fall Youth Retreat.
- Volunteered and packed meals at the churchwide Rise Against Hunger event.
- Completed a chalk mural for our Chalk the Chapel/Service According to Youth Event.

Loving Growth

- Welcomed Intern Seth Pilz and Music Coordinator Candace Williamson.
- Increased weekly youth block attendance.
- Provided scholarships and gifts to rising first year college students.
- Learned from special guests including the Ministry of Justice & Outreach, church members, and local artists.

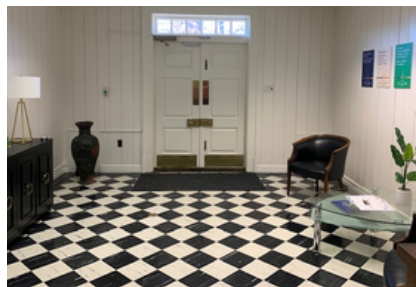


FACILITIES AS MINISTRY

Our facilities facilitate ministry! We take seriously our call to be good stewards of all our resources, including the buildings and fixed assets under the umbrella of our Ministry of Facilities Management. Our facility resources provide a space in which ministry and programs can occur, children can learn and play, youth can connect with others, and inspirational worship happens. Our space also provides us some revenue, as we open our doors for others to utilize our space each week.

In addition to the usual maintenance and administrative items we encounter each year, such as ensuring adequate insurance coverage, keeping interior and exterior spaces clean and safe, and paying utilities, we also gave our Narthex and Administration Building reception area a much-needed refreshment with new paint and some new furnishings.

The Ministry of Facilities Management realized that we needed to make our campus a more accessible place. To that end, we began planning projects in late 2022, to be implemented in 2023. These projects would update doors, bathrooms, and more - creating accessibility for all persons.





THROUGH-THE-WEEK SCHOOL

leading the community in early childhood education

During 2022, we provided a year of quality preschool experience to 180 students led by 33 staff members. With COVID becoming more manageable, we were able to return to many of our beloved pre-pandemic traditions and celebrations including welcoming parents back into the classroom for Star of the Week and birthday lunches, Camp Summer Fun, the Halloween parade, and Christmas Caroling. The children enjoyed our weekly specials of Science, My Gym, Music, Storybook Matinee, and Exploration Station. TTWS utilized fundraising dollars for playground improvements.





CORNWELL CENTER

2022 was a great year for the Cornwell Center. In the years prior, the pandemic had affected the Cornwell Center considerably with memberships, rentals, and youth programming all declining. However, in 2022 there seemed to be a resurrection of hope and participation with everyone making their personal wellness a priority yet again. Membership improved; group exercise classes filled up; pickleball and basketball courts were flooded with players of all different skill levels. Third party groups that at one point called the Cornwell home came back in full swing. Youth programming had their best year to date with the afterschool program, youth basketball league, and summer camp participation all reaching maximum capacity.

To support this resurgence the Cornwell Center looked at ways it could maximize its space and converted the former Lounge into a new childcare area. The former Conference Center became the new permanent home to the elementary afterschool program and a newly unused space downstairs paved the way for an expanded fitness area coming in 2023.

In addition to the newly revamped space, the Cornwell Center underwent new leadership, officially naming Tripp Caldwell Director in September. As we look ahead to 2023, The Cornwell Center will continue to improve its programming and offerings centered around whole family wellness. Whether you are 9 weeks or 99 years old there is an opportunity to participate, flourish, and improve upon one's wellbeing and feel the love and sense of community the Cornwell Center has to offer. We look forward to celebrating our 20th anniversary in 2023!



STAFF CELEBRATIONS

2022 was a year of transitions and care for our staff

Parting is such sweet sorrow

The time came for some of our beloved staff to transition into a new chapter in their lives. Rev. Joe Aldrich and Tom and Amy Jones retired in the last months of 2022. Though, it was difficult to let them go, we celebrate our friendships and their dedication and all that they gave to us and our church.

We are so glad you joined us

Fran Morrison generously returned from retirement to serve as our Interim Minister of Music after Dr. Matt Caine and his family relocated to SC for new endeavors. Fran has made a big impact and revitalized our Chancel Choir. We also welcomed Dr. Caleb Hopkins as Artist-in-Residence who worked with and helped lead the choir and provided one-on-one voice coaching with choir members. His partner, Susanna Stewart shared her vocal talents during some worship services.

We welcomed Rev. Dr. JJ Flag as our Associate Minister of Pastoral Care and Justice. JJ brings a wealth of knowledge, experience, and compassion that will be beneficial to our community.

Time for self-care, rest, & rejuvenation

Thanks to the generosity of the Hunter Family and their endowment gift that makes sabbatical possible for all our full-time staff after every five years of service. Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell, Rev. Leigh Anne Duncan, Carol Cedar, and Laura Geer were able to enjoy time away for rest and relaxation.



OUR MINISTERS



Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell
Senior Minister



Rev. Carrie Veal
Executive Minister



Rev. Dr. JJ Flag
Associate Minister of
Justice & Pastoral Care



Rev. Tara Gibbs
Associate Minister of
Spiritual Growth



**Rev. Leigh Anne
Duncan**
Campus Administrator



Fran Morrison
Interim Minister of Music

OUR STAFF



Laura Geer
Communications Director



Wes Cobb
Director of Audio Visual
Productions



Caroline Manning
Executive Assistant



Judy Freeman
Finance Manager



Rainey Underwood
Events Coordinator



Carol Cedar
Operations Assistant



Candace Williamson
Interim Children & Youth
Music Coordinator



Lisa Caldwell
Facilities Manager



David Willingham
Head Custodian



Adrian Hill
Facilities Staff



Aretha Jeter
Facilities Staff



Tripp Caldwell
Cornwell Center Director



Izzy Simpson
Cornwell Center Youth
Services Coordinator



Belinda Geuss
Through-The-Week
School Director



Joanne Hylinski
Through-The-Week
School Assistant Director

OUR 2022 DEACON BOARD



Ryan LaPrade
Chair



Karen Taylor
Chair-Elect



Angie Kinghorn
Secretary

Ministry Council



Cherie Swarthout
Lead



Ed Hinson



Scott Crowder



Lauren Campbell

Strategic Planning



Carol Reid Fricke
Lead



Ray Owens



Mac Sasser



Angie Kinghorn



Bethany Johnson



Greg Mayer



Mollie Brugh



Ryan LaPrade
Chair



Karen Taylor
Chair-Elect

OUR 2022 DEACON BOARD CONT.

Leadership



Cindy Clemens
Lead



Robert Dulin



Morris Green



Carla Hines



Karen Taylor

Financial Resources



Gary Morrison
Lead



Koren Cranford



Jim Lergen

Human Resources



Dave Dougherty
Lead



Leslie Sellers



Cathy Thompson

OUR 2022 MINISTRY CHAIRS

Congregational Care



Cathy Thompson

Community Life



Cindy Clemens

Communications & Technology



Daniel Norton

Facilities



Suzette Buchan

Faith Formation



Lorin Bent

Faith Formation



Ann Hester

Financial Resources



Gary Morrison

Human Resources



Dave Dougherty

“

Only a surprising act of generosity, beyond our categories of expectation, has the power to break the deathly pattern of anxiety, fear, and greed. When we are immersed in such immense generosity, we are able to get our minds off ourselves, and focus on the work of loving our neighbors. It is precisely an inexplicable act of generosity that delivers us from the cycle of scarcity, and frees our lives for community.

”

WALTER
BRUEGGEMANN

A YEAR IN BOOKS AT MPBC

PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE

CONFRONTING WHITENESS

A Spiritual Journey of Reflection, Conversation, and Transformation



W. BENJAMIN BOSWELL
Foreword by Gerardo Marti

CONFRONTING WHITENESS PARTICIPANTS GUIDE

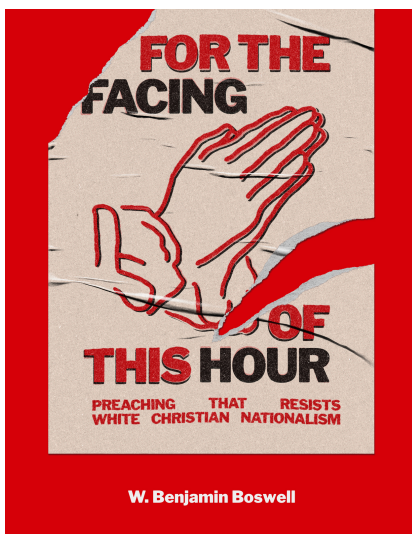
by Rev. Dr. W. Benjamin Boswell

The participant's guide to *Confronting Whiteness* offers people a new posture for addressing racial issues. Spiritual practices will help participants engage writings and films by Black authors and filmmakers and develop habits that confront and undermine the power of Whiteness. While anyone can purchase the participant's guide, the Confronting Whiteness journey was designed primarily for white people and is best experienced in community by taking the course with a group led by a trained facilitator.

FOR THE FACING OF THIS HOUR

by Rev. Dr. W. Benjamin Boswell

In this book, Dr. Boswell offers spiritual resources, biblical insight, and theological tools for people of faith to resist the deadly ideology of White Christian Nationalism in their families, churches, neighborhoods, and communities. Each of the sermons in this collection was preached at MPBC on a Sunday immediately following one of the many tragic social and political events of the last five years: mass shootings, police killings of Black Americans, the Muslim travel ban, child and family separation at our southern border, the insurrection at the U.S. Capitol, and numerous other instances of homophobia, patriarchy and misogyny.



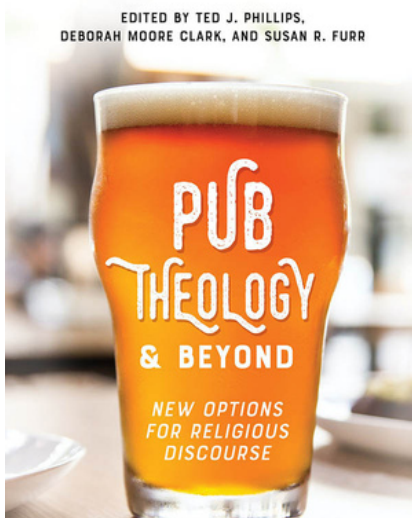
W. Benjamin Boswell

PUB THEOLOGY & BEYOND

by Various Pub Theology group members

Edited by Ted Phillips, Deborah Moore Clark, and Susan Furr

Sometimes the best way to explore your thoughts and learn about topics is by gathering at a table with a trusted friend in Christ. *Pub Theology & Beyond: New Options for Religious Discourse* provides a background and framework to do just that through regular meetings of open-minded and open-hearted people of faith in the safe, informal environment of a pub, bar, or restaurant. Topics include conversations on life, religion, spiritual, and contemporary issues, each thoughtfully explored by the diverse perspectives of current and past pub theology group members.



EDITED BY TED J. PHILLIPS,
DEBORAH MOORE CLARK, AND SUSAN R. FURR



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