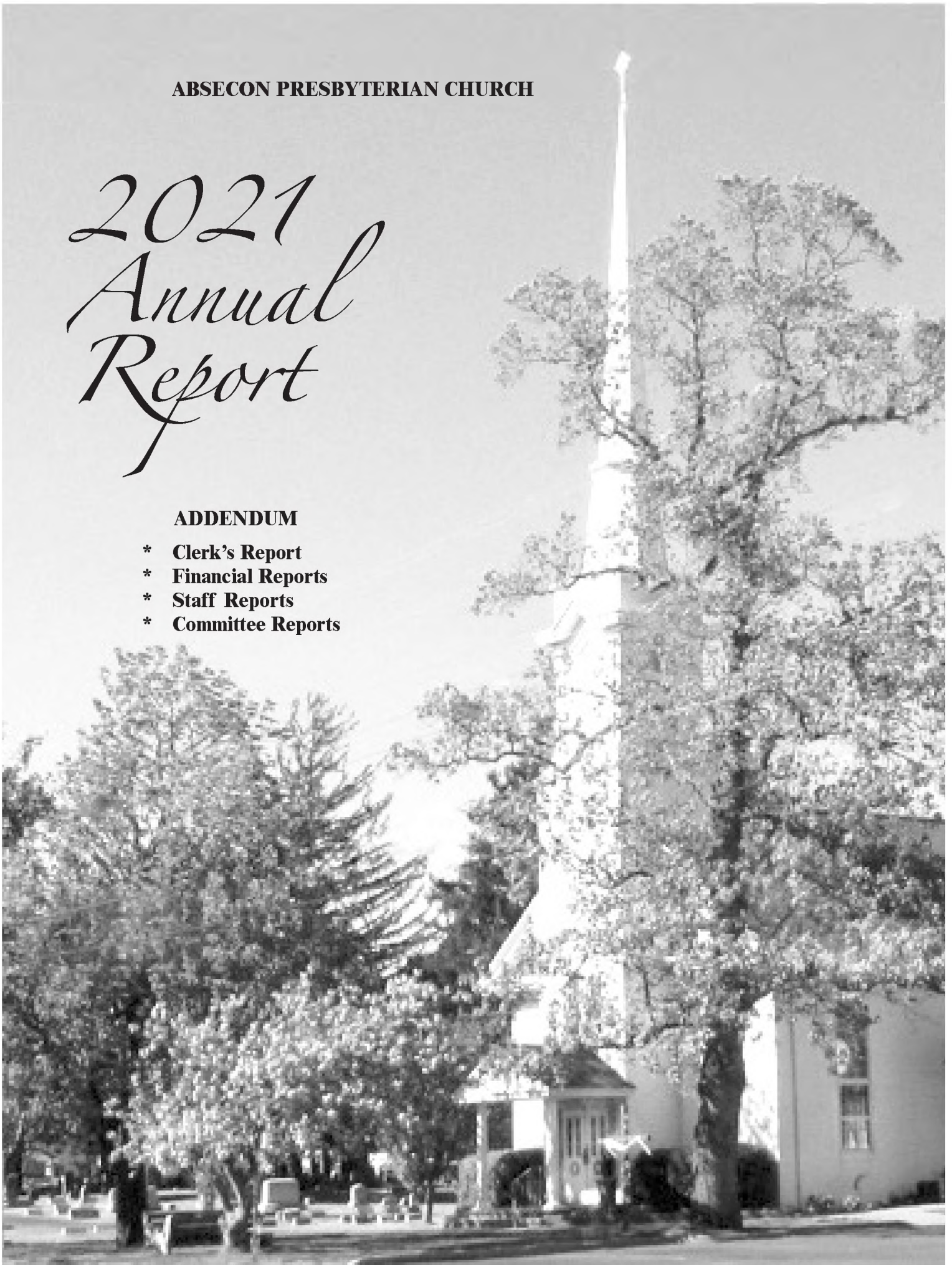


**ABSECON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

# *2021 Annual Report*

**ADDENDUM**

- \* **Clerk's Report**
- \* **Financial Reports**
- \* **Staff Reports**
- \* **Committee Reports**



## REPORT OF THE CLERK OF SESSION

Membership as of 12/31/2020 154

Members added by:

Profession of Faith	3	
Certificate	0	
Other	0	3

Members removed by:

Certificate	0	
Death	10	
Other	2	12

Membership as of 12/31/2021 145

Baptisms:

Child	1
Adult	1

Active Officers:

Elders	8
Trustees	6
Deacons	9

Communion Services: 12

Total Communicants: Indeterminable

Church Attendance:

AVERAGE

77.90

Special Services:	Christmas Eve	In-person	38
	Christmas Eve	On-line	35

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ann Wallace, Clerk

<b>Budget vs. Actual Report for General Fund</b>	<b><u>Budget 2022</u></b>	<b><u>Budget 2021</u></b>	<b><u>Actual 2021</u></b>	<b><u>Budget vs. Actual</u></b>
<b>Personnel</b>				
Pastor's Salary	\$23,500.00	\$47,000.00	\$29,965.38	\$17,034.62
Pastoral Expense			\$1,305.57	-\$1,305.57
Study Leave	\$750.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Pension/Medical	\$11,500.00	\$23,000.00	\$13,211.72	\$9,788.28
Administrative Assistant	\$28,100.00	\$26,520.00	\$22,331.26	\$4,188.74
Director of Music/Organist	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$18,598.84	\$1,401.16
Treasurer	\$8,300.00	\$7,800.00	\$5,452.13	\$333.63
ADP Fees	\$2,400.00	\$1,700.00	\$2,014.24	
Youth Director (Acting)	\$0.00	\$11,500.00	\$0.00	
Pastoral Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Moving Expense	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Christian Ed Coord	\$5,400.00	\$5,100.00	\$5,100.00	\$0.00
Custodian	\$13,800.00	\$13,000.00	\$12,019.75	\$980.25
Tech Director	\$5,000.00			
Pulpit Supply	\$7,500.00	\$1,000.00	\$6,475.80	-\$5,475.80
Moderator	\$650.00			
Mission Study	\$1,400.00			
Organist Supply	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Payroll Taxes (Church portion)	\$8,200.00	\$7,680.00	\$5,470.63	\$2,209.37
Special Music	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$750.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$142,850.00</b>	<b>\$167,150.00</b>	<b>\$122,245.32</b>	<b>\$31,704.68</b>

<b>Maintenance &amp; Operations</b>				
Custodial Supplies	\$900.00	\$900.00	\$316.33	\$583.67
Maintenance & Operations	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$2,294.19	\$1,705.81
Utilities	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$16,433.16	\$3,566.84
Insurance	\$22,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$21,686.12	-\$1,686.12
Manse Utilities	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,172.20	\$327.80
Manse Maintenance	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$514.20	\$1,485.80

<b>Budget vs. Actual Report for General Fund</b>	<b><u>Budget 2022</u></b>	<b><u>Budget 2021</u></b>	<b><u>Actual 2021</u></b>	<b><u>Budget vs. Actual</u></b>
<b>Maintenance &amp; Operations continued</b>				
Van Expense	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Van Insurance	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,119.00	\$381.00
Equipment & Purchases	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$10,921.98	-\$9,921.98
Service/Maint. Contracts	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,667.00	\$333.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$58,400.00</b>	<b>\$56,400.00</b>	<b>\$58,124.18</b>	<b>-\$1,724.18</b>

<b>Supplies &amp; Materials</b>				
Music	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$227.99	\$72.01
Printing & Stationery	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$72.48	\$427.52
Communication/Postage	\$5,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$4,465.01	-\$2,965.01
Per Capita Assessment	\$6,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$7,955.00	\$45.00
Copywrite and licensing	\$1,500.00			
Microsoft Office (100)				
Zoom (150)				
Malwarebytes (130)				
Music copyright (235)				
Music streaming (72)				
Song Select (204)				
Hymn copyright (277)				
CVLI movie (250)				
Canva (free)				
Bell Choir	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Miscellaneous	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$1,224.07	-\$724.07
Session Fund	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$641.47	\$358.53
Stewardship Fund	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$567.52	\$182.48
Treasurer Expense	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
Copier Expense	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,472.43	\$527.57
Office Supplies	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,224.07	-\$24.07
AV & Photo Supplies	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$6,305.39	-\$5,955.39

<b>Budget vs. Actual Report for General Fund</b>	<b><u>Budget 2022</u></b>	<b><u>Budget 2021</u></b>	<b><u>Actual 2021</u></b>	<b><u>Budget vs. Actual</u></b>
<b>Supplies &amp; Materials continued</b>				
Paper Products/Food	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00
Communion Supplies	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$215.15	\$284.85
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$22,100.00</b>	<b>\$19,100.00</b>	<b>\$25,370.58</b>	<b>-\$6,270.58</b>

<b>Programs</b>				
Spread the Word Com.	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$615.62	\$384.38
Worship Materials	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$135.71	\$464.29
Fellowship	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Sunday Sch. Ed. Materials	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
Summer Camp Scholarship	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
King of Kings	\$0.00	\$2,200.00	\$0.00	\$2,200.00
Rock Solid	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
New Disciples	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Drama Materials	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
Camps & Conferences	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
Confirmation	\$100.00	\$400.00	\$97.99	\$302.01
Adult Ed. & Dev. Supplies	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$411.83	\$338.17
Sunday School	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$309.31	\$1,690.69
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$6,700.00</b>	<b>\$13,200.00</b>	<b>\$1,434.75</b>	<b>\$11,765.25</b>

<b>Total General Fund</b>	<b>\$230,050.00</b>	<b>\$255,850.00</b>	<b>\$207,174.83</b>	<b>\$35,475.17</b>
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### General Fund Summary

<b>Balance 1/1/2021</b>			<b>\$18,633.83</b>
<b>Receipts:</b>			
Donations:	Altar, Christmas & Easter Flowers	\$346.00	
	McMullin Trust	\$24,633.00	
	Miscellaneous Estate Gifts/Cash Receipts	\$900.00	
Building Usage:	3rd Step	\$0.00	
	AA Groups	\$1,350.00	
	Elections	\$350.00	
	God is Faithful Church	\$600.00	
	Other	\$200.00	
Offerings:	Gift for The Magi	\$1,060.36	
	Energy Needs	\$2,444.96	
	Initial	\$57.88	
	Loose	\$180.96	
	Per Capita	\$1,852.50	
	Designated Pledge	\$39,468.19	
	Undesignated Pledge	\$54,224.99	
	On-line giving (87% Greatest Need)	\$31,331.28	
	Sunday School	\$0.00	
Maintenance & Operations	Equipment & Purchases (BF Edwards-A/C)	\$8,730.00	
	Insurance	\$124.00	
Supplies/Materials	Postage	\$0.00	
Programs:	King of Kings, New Disciples, Rock Solid	\$0.00	
	Camps & Conferences	\$0.00	
Rental Income	School Street & Stopher Building	\$38,261.04	
Fundraisers:		\$0.00	
Refunds:	Cemetery Chargeback for 2020 Payroll	\$5,210.55	
Transfer	Winter Fundraiser to General Accounts	\$20,000.00	
Other	BF Edwards to cover audio/video costs	\$7,500.00	
<b>Total Receipts</b>			<b>\$238,825.71</b>
<b>Disbursements:</b>			
Misc. Expenses	Altar, Christmas & Easter Flowers	-\$477.80	
Rental Expenses	School Street & Stopher Building	-\$17,969.56	
Maint & Operations		-\$58,824.18	
Payroll	Includes Cemetery before chargeback	-\$101,193.70	
Payroll Expenses	Benefits/FICA/Payroll Charges	-\$20,982.98	
Pastoral Expenses and Study		-\$1,315.57	
Pulpit Supply and Mileage		-\$6,475.80	
Moderator Supply		-\$240.00	
Organist Supply		-\$300.00	

<b>General Fund Summary</b>			
<b>Disbursements continued</b>			
Programs		-\$1,854.11	
Supplies/Materials		-\$25,599.09	
Licensing / Fundraisers		-\$100.00	
<b>Total Disbursements</b>		<b>-\$235,332.79</b>	<b>-\$235,332.79</b>
<b>Balance 12/31/2021</b>			<b>\$22,126.75</b>

<b>Capital Fund Summary</b>			
<b>Balance 1/1/2021</b>			<b>\$38,720.03</b>
<b>Receipts:</b>			
Donations	Loose	\$43.10	
	Designated Pledge	\$7,637.45	
	Undesignated Pledge	\$2,567.81	
	On-line giving (3% of Greatest Need)	\$1,078.70	
	Spring Fundraiser	\$13,204.90	
	Other (See Note 1 below)	\$2,600.00	
<b>Total Receipts</b>			<b>\$27,131.96</b>
<b>Disbursements:</b>			
	Improvements	\$0.00	
	Expense	-\$57.85	
	Other (See Note 2 below)	-\$20,000.00	
<b>Total Disbursed</b>			<b>-\$20,057.85</b>
<b>Balance 12/31/21</b>			<b>\$45,794.14</b>

**Note 1:** \$2,500 refunded from Presbytery for AV expenses and \$100 donation for new sign

**Note 2:** Transfer to General Fund for van purchase

<b>2021 Financial Status Report</b>				
General Fund Accounts				
<b>Special General Fund Program Accounts</b>	<b>12/31/20 Balance</b>	<b>YTD Income</b>	<b>YTD Expense</b>	<b>12/31/21 Balance</b>
Cobb Honorary Fund (GF Special Acct.)	\$15,201.56	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,201.56
Memorial Gifts (GF Special Acct.) See Note 1 below for YTD Expense	\$9,807.16	\$3,470.94	\$8,807.16	\$4,470.94
<b>Church Accounts</b>				
Raffle Account	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Capital Fund	\$38,720.03	\$27,131.96	\$20,057.85	\$45,794.14
Benevolence	\$11,551.25	\$27,052.73	\$25,052.88	\$13,551.10
Mission Sponsors	\$842.37	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$842.37
General Fund	\$18,633.83	\$238,798.71	\$235,332.79	\$22,099.75
<b>Total All Church Funds</b>	<b>\$94,906.20</b>	<b>\$296,454.34</b>	<b>\$289,250.68</b>	<b>\$102,109.86</b>

<b>Marketable Securities</b>	<b>12/31/19 Balance</b>	<b>12/31/20 Balance</b>	<b>12/31/21 Balance</b>	<b>2020-21 Change</b>
BF Edwards & Co.	\$96,545.51	\$107,512.43	\$103,558.78	-\$3,953.65
UBS Financial Services	\$303,361.52	\$371,977.44	\$390,827.93	\$18,850.49
New Cov. Treas. Oblig. Fund (Ben.)	\$393.89	\$409.03	\$410.43	\$1.40
New Cov. Bal. Inc. Fund	\$56,797.57	\$59,239.50	\$63,863.34	\$4,623.84
<b>Total All Church Marketable Securities</b>	<b>\$457,098.49</b>	<b>\$539,138.40</b>	<b>\$558,660.48</b>	<b>\$19,522.08</b>
<b>Total All Church Financial Assets</b>	<b>\$552,004.69</b>	<b>\$835,592.74</b>	<b>\$847,911.16</b>	<b>\$12,318.42</b>

<b>Cemetery Funds</b>						
<b>Fund</b>	<b>12/31/19 Balance</b>	<b>12/31/2020</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>12/31/21 Balance</b>	<b>2020-21 Change</b>
OHCB	\$3,472.04	\$5,173.25	\$7,390.36	\$7,420.93	\$6,062.13	\$888.88
UBS	\$88,970.47	\$108,875.38	-	-	\$104,278.92	(\$4,596.46)
UBS	\$77,307.49	\$81,095.07	-	-	\$86,664.97	\$5,569.90
Total Cem.	\$169,750.00	\$195,143.70	-	-	\$197,006.02	\$1,862.32

**Note 1:** 8/31/21 meeting that determined the Memorial total was overstated and to transfer any prior period donations and expenses at year end.



## Benevolence Fund Summary

<b>Beginning Balance 1/1/2021</b>		
<b>Receipts:</b>		<b>\$11,551.25</b>
Bakely House (M. Walker)	\$3,460.00	
Deacon's Fund	\$1,487.64	
Cents-Ability Offering	\$0.00	
Disaster Relief	\$0.00	
Family Promise	\$0.00	
Food Bank	\$0.00	
Interest CD	\$3,218.09	
Jean Webster Kitchen	\$324.88	
Mission Bouquet	\$311.00	
Offering- Designated Pledge	\$5,173.06	
Offering - Loose	\$20.80	
Offering - One Great Hour of Sharing	\$772.94	
Offering - Undesignated Pledge	\$6,983.76	
Offering - Online giving (10% Greatest Need)	\$3,693.66	
Other: Thanksgiving, Shoebox and Angel Tree	\$279.00	
Pakistan - God Cares	\$1,327.90	
Special Mission	\$0.00	
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>\$27,052.73</b>
<b>Disbursements:</b>		
AC Rescue Mission	-\$500.00	
Bakely House Mission Support	-\$4,502.92	
Community Food Bank	-\$2,000.00	
Deacon's Fund	-\$1,587.64	
Evangelism	\$0.00	
Family Promise	\$0.00	
Pakistani God Cares	-\$1,500.00	
Lisa Whittaker	-\$2,000.00	
Methodist Senior Center	-\$500.00	
Mission Work	-\$7,962.32	
Presbyterian Disaster Relief	-\$500.00	
One Great Hour of Sharing	-\$800.00	
Salvation Army (Christmas Offering)	-\$500.00	
Friends of Jean Webster	-\$2,700.00	
<b>Total Disbursements: Includes 2020 Gift of the Magi</b>		<b>-\$25,052.88</b>
<b>Benevolence Balance 12/31/2021</b>		<b>\$13,551.10</b>
<b>Mission Sponsors Balance</b>		<b>\$842.37</b>
<b>Total Benevolence 12/31/2021</b>		<b>\$14,393.47</b>

### **Benevolence Fund Budget 2022**

	<b><u>2021</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b>
Atlantic City Rescue Mission	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,000.00
Community Food Bank	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Friends of Jean Webster	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,500.00
Lisa Whitaker (missionary)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,250.00
Pakistani God Care Ministry	1,500.00	\$ 2,000.00
Salvation Army	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Senior Center at Absecon Methodist	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Various Christian Organizations	\$ 4,150.00	\$ 4,000.00
Community Based Mission/Evangelism	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
<b>Total Benevolence Fund Budget</b>	<b>\$20,150.00</b>	<b>\$21,750.00</b>

### **Administrative Assistant**

Once again, I find myself “flying solo” in the office. Things that Pastor Drew took care of are now passed on to me. Little “surprises” during the course of the day that he and I would handle together are now all mine. I find myself in conversations and situations that had always been done by “The Minister”. And it has been a real eye-opener. Each week I might find myself speaking with a stranger in need of assistance - a grieving family – a church officer with questions, or someone from our Fold who is lonely and just needs some conversation (sometimes that’s my mother). And the “Oh My Gosh” moment after adding info from the pulpit supply, filling in additional prayers, responses, daily scriptures and hymn pages to the bulletin, thinking it was ready to run then realizing it’s a communion Sunday and having to find and add a liturgy which then leads to a total reformatting of the bulletin. All while making sure the HomeTouch mailing, prayer list, incoming mail, supply orders, Presby Post, Sunday announcements, cemetery records and sales, etc. are all still taken care of and kept up to date each week. (No worries, I’ve placed the order already for this year’s palms.) I miss Pastor Drew. It is stressful and can wear me out, but at the same time I am being stretched (way) out of my comfort zone and remolded into the person that is needed during this Season. Please be patient.

This year’s volunteers were amazing as always. Ken Marshall is always quick to help update our website ([abseconpresby.org](http://abseconpresby.org)) with new information on a weekly basis no matter where in the world he may be. Ann Wallace continues to come in to count your offerings, make the weekly deposit to the church account, and fill in for me during my time off. Thanks also to Franklin and Don for spending hours setting up the new security equipment and readying phone lines for the switch from Verizon to Comcast phones. Special thanks to Patricia Allen for graphics assistance as well as proofreading documents. Virtual hugs all ‘round!

*Gay S. Channell, admin. asst.*

### **Christian Education**

It was a quiet but encouraging year for the Christian Education Committee. Since March 2020 all in person programs had been suspended but luckily technology was on our side.

Pastor Drew, Betsy Eberhard and I were able to put together a zoom Sunday school that allowed us to meet with children every Sunday. It was a great way to connect with families to continue sharing God's word. We continued this all through October 2021 when, Praise the Lord, we were able to meet again, in person. The fall of 2021 we received the green light to come together for Sunday school. We offered three classes, a pre-school to 1st grade class, 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade class and a teen Bible study led by some of our amazing young men. Bob Hudak, Bud Burgess and Jackson Harvey have answered the call and have worked with us to bring the older youth a chance to look at the bible through a different view. Even though our numbers are low, it is the belief of this committee that even if we share the love of God with just one child our mission is working.

An Adult bible study on the series "The Chosen" was led by Dan Hughes and me began in October. This is an amazing series, and we are so excited to share it with anyone who would like to come out. If you have missed this and are interested, please see Tina Harvey or Dan Hughes for more information. Season 2 will begin in mid-January so it's not too late to join. Meetings for "The Chosen" are on Thursday Nights at 7 p.m. in Cobb Lounge.

We were also blessed to be able to start gathering for events again. We were able to go to the Cape May Zoo and have a fall festival with lots of fun activities. We hosted an indoor movie night and a Birthday Party for Jesus! All these events were planned with Covid protocols in mind but what a blessing to be together again!

We thank all those who helped in anyway with our programs and pray that we will be able to continue to share the love and the Word of the Lord for 2022.

God Bless you and your families! We continue to pray for a healthy and happy New Year!

*In His name, Tina Harvey*

### **Mission/Evangelism Committee**

This has been a year of transition for Mission and Evangelism. We were deeply saddened by the loss of our dear friend and brother in Christ, Leo Ransone.

Our committee continues to move from using many of our monetary resources outside our community, to now using most of our resources for needs right here in Atlantic County. We continue to see that there are many needs, especially for community members dealing with homelessness, financial stresses, hunger, and mental health issues. Our budget reflects that we are helping those in need and supporting local programs such as The Community Food Bank, The Salvation Army, Friends of Jean Webster, AC Rescue Mission, and The Senior Center at the Absecon Methodist Church. We also will continue to support our stressed Christian communities in Pakistan and Lisa Whittaker with her mission work in European countries as funds permit.

Our committee currently supports an at risk (homelessness, food insecurity, financial insecurity) local family with transportation to a recovery center and to work. This family may continue to need our assistance financially and with transportation and prayer as they both look for full time work and are able to secure a vehicle. Our team is hopeful that others in our congregation will feel called to help in this important mission/evangelism work.

As we move forward, Mission and Evangelism realizes that needs in our community will always be there. We pray, with God's guidance, that we will continue to be ready and able to help the best we can.

*Respectively submitted, Naida Burgess, Mission/Evangelism Chair*

## Worship Committee

Honor and Glory to our Lord!

These words, I hope and believe, will be instrumental in our church and in our Worship Committee's thoughts and actions as we move forward in the coming year.

Despite still operating under Guidelines related to Covid 19, we have progressed in this unusual year.

During the Easter season we placed flowers on our altar, in honor and/or memory of our loved ones, and we thank Laura Pugliese for making the trip to pick up these flowers. The flowers not picked up after Easter Sunday by those who ordered them were delivered to various members and shut-ins. Mission bouquets were also donated. Artificial arrangements were provided by Donna Hughes which were placed on our shelves.

After being closed for over a year, we re-opened for worship slowly, following State and Presbytery Guidelines, first with pre-registration, alternating pews, social distancing, assigned seats and masks, with Franklin Nale in his "bubble." Incidentally, Franklin was approved and hired by Session as Worship Technology Specialist, a wonderful decision.

We then progressed to opening fully, still following State and Presbytery Guidelines, with alternating pews, social distancing, and masks while singing in our seats.

During our closure, our more than competent Administrative Assistant, Gay Channell, developed a new Bulletin and later invented "Bits and Pieces" containing additional information for congregants. Louise Speitel, Ken Marshall, Franklin Nale, and Judy Stebbins have been acting as Online Liturgists posting our readings hymns, etc. each Sunday, with Ann Wallace as back-up. Naida Burgess offered to deliver hymnals on loan to anyone requesting them in order for them to follow our services in an easier way.

Mary Bew has been lining up ushers with Naida Burgess providing Lay Assistants. Ann Wallace has been supplying acolytes when possible, enlisting help from Lay Assistants or Ushers to perform this duty or acting herself when necessary. Lynn Adkisson and Ann Wallace have been posting our hymn numbers each week in the front of the church. Ann has also been providing our in-person congregant count, with Franklin providing our online watcher count.

We have brought back our ability to order altar flowers in memory/honor of someone with a sign-up calendar next to the Sanctuary door. There is also a Prayer Request book on the table for making your personal requests. This book will be passed on to our Pastor who is preaching that day.

On Pentecost Sunday, May 23, Nicholas Sabo and Kwame Gyasi, were confirmed during our service. On a later date, Franklin Nale joined as a member.

In June we faced more challenges when our Pastor, Drew Mangione, moved on to accept a new position due to personal reasons and a Congregational Meeting was held on June 27 for this purpose. After meeting with Presbytery, we learned there were no Interim Pastors available. After contacting various Pastors on Presbytery's Pulpit Supply list, we have been fortunate to fill our Pulpit each week with a number of visiting Pastors who have provided us with wonderful sermons. We will continue along these lines with other plans in the works. Ruling Elder David Watts offered to provide us with a Christmas Eve service, which was approved by Session.

Our fantastic and extremely talented Music Director Rick DeKarski has again begun to play the organ as well as the piano. If interested in singing during the service so that online watchers can hear the hymns sung, Franklin has offered to provide microphones and Rick has agreed to meet with anyone so inclined at 10:15 for a short rehearsal.

In closing, I truly appreciate and thank all the Worship Committee members: David Burgess, Naida Burgess, Mary Bew, Betsy Eberhard, Louise Speitel, Bill Keener, Franklin Nale, Rick DeKarski, Georgina Umoren, Ginny Davenport and last but certainly not least, Ann Wallace. I must also include Gay Channell, for her invaluable assistance.

As we move forward into another year, may we keep in mind our love for our glorious Lord!

*In Christ's Service, Janet Gee, Worship Chair*

### Deacons

The Deacon Board is made up of nine members that include Victor Abelson, Jackson Harvey, Dorie Keener, Loretta Metz, Betty Price, Julie Seltzer, Sandy Shinsato, Georgina Umoren and Debbie Wong. Loretta Metz is Moderator, Debbie Wong is Vice Moderator, Dorie Keener is Secretary and Betty Price is Treasurer. The Deacon of the Month attends Session Meetings.

Due to the pandemic, house visits were curtailed, but phone calls were made to our church family.

In June we again started to provide homemade soups and breads to shut ins. For Funerals in non-pandemic times we provided set up, clean up, all paper products and utensils, and all beverages. We send fruit baskets, and this year provided take-out dinners for Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas to church members. We hope to continue this yearly. We also provide transportation to members for medical appointments. The Deacons provide the Deacon and Usher pins. We provide monetary gifts at Christmas or when needed.

The Deacons set up the communion table on Communion Sundays and clean up afterward.

Deacons serve three-year terms and may serve an additional three years before having to step down for one year before serving again.

The Deacons are not included in the church budget and solely depend on the generosity of the congregation and others. Without these contributions we would be unable to do these things. We sincerely thank everyone who gave and those who have continued to give so generously. Bless you all.

*In Christian service, Loretta A. Metz*

### Deacons Fund

Adjusted Balance 12/31/2020		\$2,440.23
Receipts		
Donations	\$4,989.66	
Interest	\$1.69	
Total Receipts		\$4,991.35
Disbursements	(\$4,275.36)	(\$4,275.36)
Balance 12/31/2021		<u>\$3,156.22</u>

*Respectfully Submitted by Betty Price, Treasurer*

### Stewardship Committee

Another year is over as we cycle once again through our financial cycle. From a financial stewardship perspective, 2021 has been a good year. In spite of trials on several levels, financial support and giving have remained steady and expenses were down slightly. Many are using the online giving option and Ann Wallace has been doing a super job of making weekly deposits for those who give on Sundays or mail in their offerings. We would like more people to pledge for 2022, not necessarily for more money, but so we have a better estimate of income to work with throughout the year. Working strictly off of "ooh, what did we get this week?" can be a little hard on the nerves!

We have drawn largely on the talents of those who keep the basic functions of the church running this year. The Trustees and property committee have maintained facilities, the worship committee has

reestablished in-person Sunday services while Franklin Nale has maintained our online service capability. Christian Ed has maintained contact with children and offered a few programs. The garden still produced food for the hungry. We are thankful for these people who have kept going through all the changes. As we move into 2022, we will ask each of you to consider what talents you have to share to help us open and bloom again.

*Yours in love, Lee Wolff, Stewardship Chair*

### **Chairman of Trustees**

This year, 2021, was a year of highs and lows for our congregation. On the one hand, we were finally able to reopen the sanctuary for worship, albeit with some restrictions. The vaccines have allowed us to take a breath of relief from the pandemic, but at the same time, the virus continues to challenge us. We had more church members, family members and friends afflicted with Covid-19 this year than in 2020. Sadly, we also know of a few that we lost to the disease. This has forced us to remain vigilant and thus, some of the restrictions have to remain in place.

Sadly, Pastor Drew left in June to accept a new calling which left us without the guidance of a pastor once again. We have a Mission Study Team up and running and once they complete their tasks; we should have a Pastor Nominating Committee put together soon to begin the vetting process. With the help of new technology, such as Zoom, Skype and Teams, we are hoping much of the process can be done remotely.

We have upgraded some of our equipment, with the help of a Presbytery technology grant, which allows us an improved presence on Facebook Live, for those who wish to continue to view worship from home. Thank you to our new Worship Technology Specialist, Franklin Nale for being instrumental in this upgrade. We have also converted the phone system from Verizon to Comcast which will hopefully save us a lot of money. We upgraded our building surveillance system to high-definition color cameras with options to add even more cameras which will help Gay, and the church staff feel safer, especially since they are now often alone in the building. Thank you to Gay for always fielding my questions and for all you have done to keep the ship afloat. We unfortunately had several heating/air conditioning failures in the Sanctuary, Madden Hall and the Stopfer building this year, one of which required the complete replacement of a 30-year-old system in Madden Hall. We are in the process of upgrading our long obsolete payroll time clock. We still need to make repairs to the Teen Lounge and kitchen ceilings and upgrade the exterior front doors. Thank you to Dan Hughes, who will be stepping down as Property Chairman, for your dedication all these years.

Our church finances continue to be solid, thanks to the pledges and generous giving of our congregation. The Stock Market has also seen highs and lows this year but has helped us to meet our budget which has seen some cost increases. Our rental properties are fully occupied but have incurred some major expenses this year, such as a water main break at 23 School St and several plumbing and HVAC issues at the Stopfer building. A generous donation from the Hamer family several years ago has helped us over several financial obstacles. Thank you to Bob Hudak and the Finance Committee for guiding us through these uncertain times.

Our Cemetery Committee was saddened with the loss of long-time member/treasurer Jerry Hoenes. He will be missed. On the other hand, we added Tina Brown and Bud Burgess to our Cemetery Staff this year, and they have been doing a wonderful job keeping the cemetery, as well as Manse and Church properties, neat and trimmed. Thanks go to Melvin Washington and his committee for being able to complete some long-standing tasks this year as well as working hard to keep the cemetery maintained.

Our Personnel Committee was busy reviewing and updating employee contracts, upgrading existing job descriptions as well as adding the new position and job description of Worship Technology Specialist. Thank you, Cindy Gorgo, for your time and commitment.

Thank you also to Betty Lloyd who has continued to be an invaluable at-large member of our trustee board as well as the Finance Committee.

As we continue to navigate through rough waters, I wish to thank our church family for continuing to come out and give their gifts of time as well as tithes and offering. God truly has a plan for us and as we remain faithful.

*Respectfully submitted, Don Wong*

### **Cemetery Committee**

This year has been good financially, but not good mentally for the committee members. Our hearts were saddened to know that Gerald Hoenes, who was the historian and treasurer for the cemetery, is no longer with us. In December we lost Ken Prescott, a long-time committee member and former chairperson. Thank you, Gerald and Ken, for your many years of service. (Rest in Peace.)

Our workload has been extended. The Property Committee has delegated the responsibility to us to maintain the property grounds at the church, School Street, and the manse.

This year we have sold 8 burial plots and 2 columbarium niches. There were 11 interments.

Thanks to Jack Heil, Tina Brown, Bud Burges who along with Ken Prescott helped probe for unused grave plots.

Our UBS portfolio is stable.

*Melvin Washington, Chairman*

### **Finance Committee**

My thanks to the members of this group for another year of dedication: Betty Lloyd, Ann Wallace, Don Wong, Donna Hughes, Loretta Metz, and Anne Hyatt. Unfortunately, we lost Jerry Hoenes this past year, whose diligence and presence will be missed by all.

We had a client review of our UBS account with Jeanne Easley at our May 18<sup>th</sup> committee meeting. The church funds are continuing to do well in a moderately conservative account, professionally managed, with a mix of stocks and income funds. The McMullin fund paid out a dividend of over \$24,633 to our general fund this year which helps pay for all of our church expenses.

We had two withdrawals from our B. F. Edwards account this year. In May, we withdrew \$7,500 for audio/visual technology upgrades so the church could better serve everyone in our church sanctuary or viewing the service from home. In July, we withdrew another \$8,730 for air conditioning repairs to our church. This account continues to do very well along with the stock market, but it was decided in our September finance meeting to move this fund into a more defensive and slightly more conservative fund, based on the recommendation of the account manager at B. F. Edwards.

In August, our full loan of \$31,585, which was given to us for the Payroll Protection Program, was forgiven by the federal government. This was a long process that Anne Hyatt and Ann Wallace took on and, through their diligence and perseverance, were able to see it through to completion. My heartfelt thanks go to both of them for a job well done.

Our church giving continues to remain steady through this Covid pandemic period, and we are always thankful for that. Our online giving, which started in May 2020, continues to be a source of revenue that has made it more convenient for people to utilize.

Some of our regular groups: 3<sup>rd</sup> Step, AA, elections, God is Faithful, are starting to make plans to return in the near future as the pandemic will allow, or have already returned in a limited capacity.

Our tenants in 19 and 23 School Street continue to be good tenants. Both of these properties continue to generate positive income for the church, as well as Mrs. Barnes' Playhouse. All continue to be professionally managed by a local realtor, who oversees the day-to-day needs of each property. 23 School Street and Mrs. Barnes' Playhouse had some building issues with plumbing, roofs leaking and HVAC systems, but were repaired as needed. The Bakely House at 15 School Street continues to meet the needs of our community with a family currently occupying it.

If you have not turned in your pledge cards for 2022, please take the time to do so now. These pledges are our guidelines in preparing our budget and keeping expenses in line. Also, please be sure

to pay your share of the Per Capita Expense so the church does not have to take the money from the General Fund.

*Respectfully submitted, Robert S. Hudak, Finance Chairman*

### **Personnel Committee**

We would like to recognize and thank the following individuals for their hard work and dedication to Absecon Presbyterian Church in yet another year that required changes and flexibility from our church staff: Gay Channell, Administrative Assistant; Linda Adkisson, Custodian; Rick DeKarski, Music Director; Tina Harvey, Christian Education Coordinator; Anne Hyatt, Treasurer; Jack Heil, Cemetery Manager; Tina Brown and Bud Burgess, cemetery and grounds caretakers.

Franklin Nale was added to our church staff this past year in the role of Worship Technology Specialist. We are forever grateful for Franklin's expertise that brought our church family closer together during times we could not meet in person. With his help, our church can continue to reach those families and friends who are unable to attend church for different reasons.

We would like to thank Pastor Drew and his family for their hard work and dedication to Absecon Presbyterian Church. They will be missed by our congregation. Thank you to members of our church who have stepped up to help with church services while the search for a new pastor ensues.

*Sincerely, Cindy Gorgo, Personnel Chairperson*

### **Property Committee**

I am writing this with a heavy heart and with some excitement. First, my time as Property Chairman was difficult to handle with my medical condition and then Covid. We have to all agree that we are Blessed to have Don Wong as President of the corporation picking up my slack with matters that I did not or could not handle. Second, I am excited that we have a person that is willing to step into the property chair position and I believe he will do a wonderful job.

Many thanks goes to Franklin for taking care of the media end of the Church. He and Don installed new cameras for security recently. That was a lot of work with running the wires for them as well.

The problems with the drains popping up through the floor are being looked at and a fix is in the works. Also the hole on the back side of the church is also being addressed.

There were a couple of HVAC problems this past year and they were handled by Don Wong.

There are a few other problems that need attention like the ceiling in the first floor classroom. That was caused by a leak in the upstairs men's bathroom. There were a couple of estimates given for that work and that should be taken care of soon.

I have to say that taking care of a 150 year old Historical Church has its rewards and trials. But it would not be in the beautiful shape it is in now without all of you. May the Church stand for another 150 years.

Many Blessings in the years to come.

*Dan Hughes, Past Property Committee Chairman*

### **Church Facebook Site – Features Sunday Services Live**

Ken Marshall set up this public Facebook page in Aug 2018. Prior to that our church only had a private Facebook group. This site is intentioned for community outreach. Little did we realize at the time the important role it would play broadcasting our church services at the onset of covid.

The church Facebook page includes live on-line church services as well as Facebook-archived videos of past services.

During the early days of covid, when worship was restricted to on-line only, Pastor Drew quickly adapted and broadcast the services on Facebook-live using his smart phone.



A couple of iterations later and voila, we now have a first-class audio/video system approved by our audio-video selection group and the Session. Franklin Nale, Don Wong and Rick DeKarski installed our current audio/video recording and networking capability for broadcasting church services. All aspects were expedited and facilitated by pastor Drew.

Franklin Nale is the main administrator for the Facebook site. Franklin was hired as our church worship technology specialist in 2021. Frank's duties include:

- He records all services on "Facebook Live". He simultaneously records the services on the church computer and posts the church Sunday bulletin and Sunday newsletter, "Bits and Pieces". Franklin schedules the bulletin and newsletter to be posted exactly 1 hour before the service starts.
- Starting in November 2021, all services were recorded on the church computer, so there is always a backup to the Facebook video archives.
- Franklin records and/or broadcasts wedding and funeral services on request.
- Franklin maintains our current audio/video recording and networking system for broadcasting church services
- Franklin and Don installed, and Franklin maintains our church video surveillance security system.
- Franklin has many mikes on hand so singers can share their voices with the Facebook viewers who otherwise only hear only the organ or piano.

Gay Channell posted the responses and the hymns as comments for the Facebook live service for the first half of 2021. Ken Marshall, Louise Speitel and Judy Stebbins jointly took over that job after Drew left in July 2021.

Last but not least we would like to thank Janet Gee for coordinating and expediting pulpit supply, and her working with session to expedite and troubleshoot problems encountered along the way.

*Submitted by Louise Speitel and Franklin Nale*

### **Church Facebook Group** (Attendees of our church only)

Access to this Facebook Group is by invitation only. We welcome churchgoers of APC to become members of this group. Notify Gay if you wish to join. Members can share information and photos of church events. The latest photos posted as of December 13 were photos taken by Debbie Wong at the Birthday Party for Jesus.

Church leaders: Remember to post info on upcoming church events and event photos of the event on this private Facebook group site.

The admins and moderators for this site in 2021 include: Gay Channell, Ken Marshall, Louise Speitel, Drew Mangione, Franklin Nale, and Scott Sabo. Pastor Drew was the most prolific contributor up to his departure in July.

Gay and Drew have been posting obituaries of church members. The family can also request the video of the church weddings and funeral services be posted. Links to obituaries of the following members of our church family who departed in 2021 were posted:

Ellen Plum: Jan. 18, 2021

Roy Birkbeck: May 22, 2021

Robert Cunius (Betsy Cunius's son): May 22, 2021

Leo Ransone: June 19, 2021

Mildred Felsberg: July 23, 2021

Dennis Scardilli: September 10, 2021

Carol Thomas: September 10, 2021

Robert Hudak: October 4, 2021

Ken Prescott: December 6, 2021

*Submitted by Louise Speitel*

**ABSECON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**ANNUAL MEETING – FEBRUARY 6, 2022**

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

Call to Order with Prayer by the Moderator  
Reading of the Minutes of the Last Meeting  
Reports  
Item #1 – Election of Nominating Committee for 2022  
(4 members elected by and of the congregation)  
Old Business  
New Business  
Adjournment with Prayer

**CORPORATION MEETING**

Call to Order with Prayer by the Chairperson Don Wong  
Reading of the Minutes of the Last Meeting  
Reports  
Old Business  
New Business  
Adjournment with Prayer

Benediction  
Closing Prayer

<u>Session</u>	<u>Deacons</u>	<u>Trustees</u>
2022	2022	2022
Bobby Hudak	Dorie Keener	Cindy Gorgo
Laura Puglise	Betty Price	Don Wong, Chair
Don Wong	Georgina Umoren	
2023	2023	2023
Janet Gee	Deborah Wong	Bob Hudak
Bill Keener	Julie Seltzer	Betty Lloyd
Jo-ann Weller	Sandy Shinsato	
2024	2024	2024
Naida Burgess	Vic Abelson	Amos Bhagwandeem
Jackie Rosen	Tina Brown	Melvin Washington
Ann Wallace	Jackson Harvey	