

Book of Reports 2024

For Annual Meeting
February 2, 2025



FIRST CHURCH
GUILFORD CT • FOUNDED IN 1643

United Church of Christ
Guilford, Connecticut

BOOK OF REPORTS 2024
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CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday February 2, 2025

To the members of the First Congregational Church of Guilford, Inc.:

The Annual Meeting of the First Congregational Church of Guilford, Inc. will be held on Sunday, February 2, 2025 at 11:00 am to:

- Receive and act upon the reports and recommendations of the Boards, Committees, and Organizations of the Church
- Act upon the proposed 2025 Ministries Budget as submitted by the Church Council
- Receive the report of the Nominating Committee and act upon their recommendations for Officers and Members of Boards and Committees of the Church
- Receive and act upon the reports and recommendations of the Ministers
- Discussion of the Visioning Process to date and how it will unfold for the balance of 2025

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Catlin, Clerk

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GUILFORD, INC
Annual Meeting Minutes February 4, 2024

The Annual Meeting of the First Congregational Church of Guilford, Inc., was called to order by Jen Willcox, Lay Moderator. Ginger led us in prayer. She asked us all to call out one thing for which we are joyful this day and then led us into a prayer of gratitude. Jen read the Call to the Meeting:

CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

To the members of the First Congregational Church of Guilford, Inc.: The Annual Meeting of the First Congregational Church of Guilford, Inc., will be held on Sunday, February 4, 2024 at 11am in the sanctuary, directly following the 10am worship service to:

1. Receive and act upon the reports and recommendations of the Ministers;
2. Receive and act upon the reports and recommendations of the Boards, Committees and Organizations of the Church;
3. Receive the report of the Nominating Committee and act upon their recommendations for Officers and Members of Boards and Committees of the Church;
4. Act upon the proposed 2024 Ministry Budget as submitted by Church Council; and
5. Discussion of the Visioning Process as it will unfold in the rest of 2024

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Catlin, Clerk

It was noted that the plan for today will involve looking at the items in the call in a different order. First up: Receive and act upon the reports and recommendations of the Boards, Committees and Organizations of the Church. Members were directed to the Book of Reports for this information. There were no questions. A motion to approve was made and seconded. Vote unanimously approved.

Next: Receive and act upon the proposed 2024 Ministry Budget as submitted by Church Council. Stephen Dudley was invited to speak to this topic. A handout was given to those in attendance that included new information that came in after the Book of Reports was completed. This handout is the budget that will be voted upon today. Some key points: increased compensation for the new leader of Pilgrim Fellowship which will be paid for by their funds; there is a 1% increase for the staff and Sandy Wiens' retirement is reflected in the staff line item; we reduced proportional giving by \$2000; and a few more pledges have come in. This leaves us with a deficit of approximately \$33,000.

Budget facts: currently we have 178 pledges compared to 194 last year; 5 of these 178 pledges account for 24.5% of our budget; The carry-over is down by about \$10,000 from last year; Trustees income is down due to their 2 year averaging

We are blessed to have an endowment that helps defray costs/provide funds annually but it is clear that we can no longer grow our budget without financial resources and, based on our Stewardship campaign to date, it is clear that we are at a critical financial juncture. While Stephen moves that we adopt this budget, it must be with the following conditions:

- The ENTIRE congregation must work to eliminate the gap
- Fundraising must be undertaken...this would fall under special events in the income column and has been zero for the last couple of years. This can no longer be the case.
- Those who are able are asked to increase their estimated giving or give above it when they can
- Each board and committee must work to reduce expenditures.
- We may need to determine what missions/services we wish to continue(more resources would be needed) or reduce them
- Staff hours may need to be reduced.
- The Board of Finance must plan for the future with realistic expectations.

Questions: Nancy Mann: where is the money from the endowment reflected in the budget? The trustee distribution as well as the ministry contribution.

- Marcia Myhre: remember that we had a very successful auction some years ago-might that be a consideration?. We have had auctions, golf tournaments, house tours, dinners. The problem with that is that we need people to lead them and participate.
 - Anne Godsey is willing to do fundraisers but she needs people to volunteer.
 - Mark Gothberg: media platform services expense? Budget for this year was \$4000 and we spent over \$6000. For this year the budget is \$6000. Why was there a 50% increase over budget? Annemarie Alexa (Bookkeeper): this includes FellowshipOneGo subscription, the membership and accounting software and new this year we added in mailchimp which is the software to send out the emails. We pay hosts for the church website.
- He also asked about grounds upkeep: budget was \$3200 and we spent almost \$9000. This was because last year Mark was working full-time and this work was part of his salary. This year that has been broken up and we had to out-service some of those expenses.
- The cost of flowers...we spend over \$1000. Can members contribute flowers each week in honor of someone? Barbara Nickel: this is still available but fewer people do it since Covid. She has been doing the flowers for a fee of \$35 to cover expenses. To continue this we may need a point person to help with this. Many of the flowers are provided by Mary Jane Potter from the church garden and Barbara puts them together.
 - Steven Hegedus: he agrees about fundraising. We need to think hard and strategically. He is concerned with the decline in pledges which has been steady since covid. How do we help here to support our membership, etc.? a follow up question: do people have to renew their pledge every year? Yes, we cannot assume that everyone's financial health is the same from year to year.
- Motion and second to approve: vote - all approve.

Receive the report of the Nominating Committee and act upon their recommendations for Officers and Members of Boards and Committees of the church. The committee, Gail Tomsich, Peter Rebuzzini, Sandy Nicholas and Carl Frano are tasked to fill 181 positions. Gail highlighted some individuals who are going off their boards/committees and some who always go above and beyond. One correction for the Book of Reports: the chairperson for PAJ is Gini King. Peter reviewed those individuals who have joined/are joining committees. Motion made to approve the individuals listed to join committees. Seconded. Discussion: Marti Carlson- explained that when Mark Twombly, who was highly skilled and worked full-time, retired, his position was filled with a part-time janitor and then we had to contract out for grounds keeping. Vote to approve: all approve.

Receive and act upon the reports and recommendations of the Ministers. Ginger and Reilly: we have read the reports so what questions do we have for them?

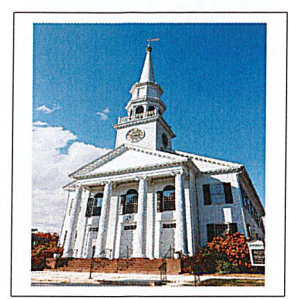
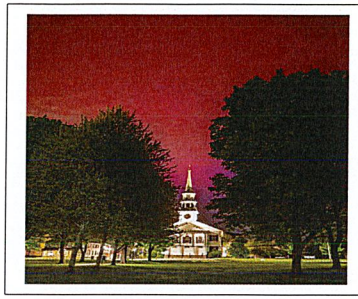
- Gini King: we are glad they are here
- Nancy Mann: is there a special project or something that is important to them? Reilly: people seem hungry for fellowship - this is something Reilly is interested in helping to develop these opportunities. Ginger: pastoral care-visiting homebound members, to hear and honor their stories. She wants to foster people to come and do that.
- Stephen Hegedus: thanks for both of them. Ginger for the mentorship she provided last year and Reilly for their awesomeness. Yesterday's Tiny Prayer workshop is exactly what we should be doing more of. Motion to accept reports of the ministers was made by Stephen and seconded. All were in favor.

Discussion of the Visioning Process as it will unfold in the rest of 2024. Ginger reported that next Sunday she and the deacons have a retreat during which they will have a zoom meeting with Paul Nickerson of Nickerson Coaching. Ginger has worked with him previously. He helps churches to identify their demographics and who are the people who may need us as much as we need them. How can we become a wider and deeper community where we can engage one another? We will be encouraged to ask each other questions, to pray together, to reflect on who we are and where we imagine that we are going. He will preach here in April and then will be available to answer questions after.

This completes the formal agenda for the meeting. Motion to adjourn made by Stephen, seconded by Bob Howard.

All in favor.

Anita Soucy



CHURCH COUNCIL 2024 REPORT

2024 was another very busy year!

We are blessed to have a team of extraordinary staff in place to provide for us spiritually while working to meet the myriad needs of an active, vibrant, and caring congregation. I ask all church members to thank them often for their commitment to enriching our lives and helping change and shape our community!

Our loyal and dedicated members and friends continued to support First Church throughout the year, both financially and through a wide variety of other activities. Our community and world are better places due to these efforts.

We have begun a Visioning process to help us formulate our future.

With your support, First Church will continue its mission to embrace the needs of its members and the community it serves.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Godsey, Chair

2024 REPORT OF THE CLERK OF THE CHURCH

<u>Total Membership January 1, 2024:</u>	610
Members Admitted 2024	
Confirmation	3
Affirmation	1
Reaffirmation	2
Transfer	6
Associate Member	2
Total	14
Members Deceased	4
Members Transferred	2
Total	6
<u>Total Membership December 31, 2024:</u>	618

Members Deceased (3): Mary Miller Mack (1/3/2024), Virginia Scribner Bodin (1/28/2024), Raymond Lewis Dudley (7/13/2024) and Elinor Leffingwell (11/21/2024).

Members Transferred Out (2): Jean and Richard Gresham.

New Members: T=Transfer A=Affirmation R=Reaffirmation AM=Associate Member

May 5, 2024 (4): Paige Karen Hammeke (RA), Megan Christine Hoover (A), Chris F. Soucy (T), Dawn E. Soucy (T).

May 19, 2024 Confirmation Class (3): Claire Cummin, Pierson Schlagheck and Asher Zide.

October 27, 2024 (7): Samantha Bennett (T), Beatrice Briggs (RA), Melissa Fogerty (AM), Robert Fogerty (AM), Sarah Natsis (T), August Natsis (T) and Abigail Curnow (T).

Baptisms (6):

February 4, 2024

Evelyn Jane Iuliano, born 10/18/2023 in New Haven, CT, to Amelia Maria Theresa Iuliano and Carly Lynn Iuliano.

March 17, 2024

Michael Vincent Fumiatti III, born 5/14/2023 in New Haven, CT, to Stephanie Sulkowski Fumiatti and Michael Vincent Fumiatti II.

Nolan Thomas Lees, born 3/18/2022 in Meriden, CT, to Allyson Lauren Lees and Daniel Sidney Lees.

May 19, 2024

Sienna Mae Just, born October 28, 2023 in New Haven CT to Lauren Ashley Just and John Carl Just.

Logan James Myers, born October 24, 2023 in New Haven, CT to Emily Larsen Myers and Kirby Tucker Myers

June 23, 2024

Michael Roger Conroy, born 9/29/1985 in New Haven, CT.

August 11, 2024

Archibald Alfred Linske, born 12/6/2019 in New Haven, CT, to Megan Ainsley Linske and Garrett James Linske.

August 25, 2024

Eleanor Mattie Cooney, born 6/11/2024 in New Haven, CT, to Marcia Reinauer Cooney and Jeffrey Alan Cooney,

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Catlin, Clerk

**LEAD MINISTER'S REPORT Moments from 2024 -
Submitted by The Rev. Dr. Ginger Brasher-Cunningham**

We have entrusted Mary Mack, Virginia Bodin, Raymond Dudley, Tracy Warfield, Richard Walsh, and Ellie Leffingwell unto God's care. We pray for family and friends who begin a new year without their loved ones.

I am grateful for our divinity students, retired clergy, clergy, staff, and lay ministers who serve at and beyond First Church. They continue to help lead in worship, teach classes, and support our ministries. Our congregation continued as a teaching parish. What a joy to empower students and learn from and with them. Intern Freddie Swindall-Endres has enriched ministry life at First Church through their pastoral care heart and insights from their theological journey from one denomination to another.

Life and culture continue to change. Twelve years ago, our church began adjusting to a variety of new clergy and a changing world. We still have scars and growing pangs. Changing staff and pandemic years-aftermath have been unsettling. Now shifting staff is a common part of church culture and ministry. An average pastorate is five years.

Through the past nine years great transition has occurred. Our church has joined with four bridge ministers and three other full-time clergy in ministry. Our prison minister retired, and we no longer have the position. Three Pilgrim Fellowship Directors and two Directors of Children and Family Ministries have led our children and youth. We have had four office administrators and three financial administrators. In 2023 we shifted from a full-time sexton to a part-time custodian. We still feel the sting of that change. At the end of 2024, our ministry assistant (our former office administrator for over two decades and our "glue") retired. The ripples of her departure are profound.

As we collectively hold all these shifts, turns, and feelings, we call ourselves to remember that church is not about any of us – specially - but about God's call for us to love others as Christ did. Jesus exemplified dreaming together about meeting needs of people and lovingly offered challenges as needed. As we embark on a visioning process, we hope to take our brokenness through the years, learn from it, and move forward as the spirit guides us.

I am ever grateful for the steadfastness, interactions with church community members, and for the gifts of our incredible staff. I am thankful to work with each one of our staff. They in conjunction with our church council, committees, and regular attenders ground us as a faith community ready to reshape and understand who we are now called to be in Christ.

A Few specifics of my daily life at First Church:

- Implementing and leading worship services, confirmation, providing pastoral care through visitation, conversations, emails, calls, texts, and cards.
- Mentoring students, supervising, and assisting staff.
- Being available for boards, committees, and groups.
- Connecting with denominational programs.
- Meeting with new members.
- Keeping First Church's name in the community.
- Being attentive to interpersonal interactions and the unspoken.

*And things that arise... Such Civil Rights History Trip to Charleston and daily surprises

My Wider Community Service Includes:

- Board member of SNEUCC Racial Justice Committee.
- Committee member of NHEC Church and Ministry
- Supervisor of Field Education Student through Yale Divinity School
- Speaker for community justice-related services
- Member of interfaith clergy group

I am certain I did not cover all of First Church life. I am happy to entertain any questions. 2 John reads- *I have much to write to you, but I do not want to use paper or ink (or annual reports). Instead, I hope to visit with you and talk to you face to face, so that our joy may be made complete.*

Peace and joy to you dear church community,
Ginger

ASSOCIATE MINISTER 2024 REPORT

As of October, I've completed two years with you as one of your ministers. It has been a great personal joy to feel settled into the rhythms and traditions of First Church. You have been gentle in reminding me of your names and generous to let me accompany you on your spiritual journeys. It is a privilege to bear witness to your triumphs, sorrows, transitions, questions, and discoveries. Thank you for being a part of the First Church family and ministry.

In 2024, I ministered among you by:

- Working with the Adult Education Committee, Community and Global Justice Committee, Stewardship Committee and the Finance Committee
- Leading an adult Bible study on Tuesday mornings during the Program year
- Partnering with Donna Gregory and Diana Dart Harris to participate in a Transgender Affirming Affinity Group education provided by the Southern New England Conference
- Delivering sermons
- Organizing the Lenten Dinner and Discussion series with the Adult Education Committee
- Organizing the calendar of Sunday Forums with the Peace, Affirmation, and Justice Committee, Community and Global Justice Committee, and the Environmental Ministry Team
- Providing pastoral care with individual meetings, conducting funerals, and officiating weddings
- Offering several opportunities for Fellowship gatherings on and off campus

I used my continuing education time and resources to:

- Complete a weeklong Mediation Skills training with the Mennonite Peace Center
- Complete 36 hours of Professional Coach training from Summit Coaching, in pursuit of a certification from the International Coaching Federation

In our wider community, I've been able to:

- Work with the Berkley Center at Yale Divinity School to provide spiritual direction for two seminary students
- Serve on the board of the ALEX Organization, which endeavors to support the LGBTQ+ community and their allies in advocacy, education, and resource sharing

I am excited for 2025 and seeing where God will lead us, particularly as we engage in a visioning process. As always, I'm grateful for you; your support and investment in First Church.

Grace and Peace,
Reilly

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES 2024 REPORT

This November, our choir sang the Requiem of Gabriel Fauré for the Annual Memorial Concert. When this requiem was first sung at a funeral service in the Church of the Madeleine in Paris, one of the musicians present noted: “Immediately after the ceremony was over, the vicar called Fauré into the sacristy and questioned him: ‘What was that mass for the dead you’ve just conducted?’ ‘It was a Requiem of my own composition.’ ‘Monsieur Fauré, we don’t need all these novelties; the Madeleine’s repertoire is quite rich enough, just content yourself with that.’”

Imagine if that vicar’s sentiment had prevailed. This Requiem would never have become a favorite of Barbara Eismeier; her daughter Christine Gill wouldn’t have sung the solo “Pie Jesu”; her father John Eismeier wouldn’t get tears in his eyes every time he hears that beautiful aria. I know that Barbara is present each time we sing that piece, because my heart remembers her.

Our Annual Memorial Concert is a memorial built of notes and harmonies and lyrics. It is “something that keeps remembrance alive” (Merriam-Webster) for a much-longer time than the nanosecond a sound wave enters the listeners’ ears and is processed by brains’ auditory cortices. The music gets intertwined with the remembrances listed in the program – George Baldwin, Tom Tomsich, Pamela Smith, Ronald Smith, Ben Lyster, Martha Rebuzzini, Floyd Corson, Magdalene and Helmut Haar, Charles Wilson, Anthony Sylvester, Stuart Lee Wilkie – beloved people who have shared life with members of our congregation. By retelling their stories, by sharing their names in our musical gathering, these people are present. Remember the sermon of Rev. Dr. Jeanette Zaragoza De León, who shared that in Latino cultures, for All Saints worship services, the names of the dead are read, and instead of ringing a bell as we do at First Church, all the congregation gathered respond aloud “¡Presente!”. Present, in defiance of death. Present, in the faith of resurrection.

Why does our church hold a memorial concert, and memorial services? Theologians would say that a gathering in the face of death and grief provides comfort one to another, especially among those bound in a covenant like the Salem Covenant. Others would argue that funerals are a time to reaffirm faith in the face of loss; those in grief rely on the faith of their friends at times when their own faith may feel weak. I would argue that we are called in ministry by Jesus to memorialize. Remembering is, at its core, being mindful and considerate (the definition of the Latin word ‘memor.’) Remembering is also like that Norse mythology figure Mímir (another etymological root of our word ‘memory’): the god who guards a well at a root of the tree of life, Yggdrasil, where all who drink from the well of memory gain wisdom and intelligence. In our monthly Christian memorial, we “remember on the night when Jesus was betrayed, he took bread.” Is communion a re-enactment, like people who dress up and fight fake Civil War battles? No; in the sharing of our history and our stories, in the sharing of bread and cup, we all become ‘presente’ one with another, past and present. We are mindful and considerate of each other’s joys and concerns. Memories are shared stories and experiences that become shared wisdom used in making new memories, which get added to and enhance our shared library of memories. Memories provide the wisdom and insight for visioning the way forward in First Church’s years to come.

Many of the churches that are currently languishing are ones that see themselves as conservators instead of stewards. Conservators repair and preserve; the goal is to maintain something as it was created for as long as possible. Memories are treated as museum items to be conserved. Communion becomes a stale bread idol instead of a shared meal. Communion instead must be a story set simultaneously in time past and present, a song to be sung together by the living. During COVID shutdown in 2020, one of the most depressing moments for me was when I came to record a video for online worship, and upon opening the door of the vacant sanctuary I noticed a peculiar smell: the building had started to smell like a historic museum, without the weekly traffic of life in its walls. It has taken several years for us to recover our shared life together, resurrecting our shared living memory from the distanced life of epidemic.

This fall Amy Earls produced the musical ‘Ordinary Days’ at First Church. Our cast included

Julie Fitzpatrick, Amy Earls, Michael Lindsay, and Matt Landry-McWilliams. Amy didn't invest the time of so many people – rehearsing music and staging, painting backdrops, building stage sets (a big thanks to Matt Earls), installing lighting (thanks to our friends Brian and Peter and Larch and Jim), installing the stage (special thanks to Peter Rebuzzini and Peter Palumbo and a host of other muscles), etc. – just because it's something we used to do before COVID came. Our memory, our shared stories that grew out of past productions [Godspell, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Fiddler on the Roof, et al] gave us all collective motivation to restart our church's stage-arts program. Why? Example one: the Dreamcoat production brought Vicki Newman to our congregation as singer and choreographer. How less wonderful our lives would have been over these years without the Newman family being a part of our life together here! Example two: every time we stage a musical, we bring members of the community into our sanctuary who have never been inside our building before, and just maybe it won't be the last time. Example three: every time we produce a stage-arts event, we experience our sanctuary in a new way. Its strong bones (thanks to the Business Committee) has shown us that God's space, our holy worship space, has room to also be a shtetl in Ukraine (Fiddler) and a New York streetscape (Ordinary Days) and a weekly sharing of music (30 Minutes of Joy) and a meetinghouse to discuss gun control legislation (Ed Meyer) and a safe space for transgender youth and . . . we continue to draw the circle wide(r).

Our adult choir is not a conservator of past music. Yes, we do resurrect notes off the page, such as the motet by di Lasso we sang this spring. It was written in 1565 in Munich in Latin, a language now dead. Yet it came alive in worship in a UCC church 450 years later, because it was remembered through hard work in rehearsal on Thursday nights for months. Yet even as we remember the church's past, through composers no longer living (from Bach and Mendelssohn to Moses Hogan, Jane Marshall, Alice Parker, etc.) we celebrate the church's present with composers like John Rutter, Will Todd, Gwyneth Walker, Sarah Quartel, Mark Miller, Elaine Hagenberg, etc. We also hold the hard memory of recent racist upsurges in the United States. Our choir library repertoire since 2008 has 11.4% of the anthems composed by African Americans; looking at anthems prior to 2008, the library has 1.2%. Our memories of BLM give us wisdom on a path forward to make our worship reflect more of our wonderfully diverse creation and our wonderfully diverse God, and we actively seek out composers and music that give us amazing new visions of the Divine One. Singers (like Mary and Sam) who have newly joined our band of musical misfits bring us new wisdom and insight along with musical talent. And because we're in covenant together, they join as full partners in the firm, fully adopted members of the family. As we participate in visioning, it is important that we listen most attentively to our newest members who have found a spiritual home here: they hold the diverse memories that we desperately need to make our own.

Our Music Committee did the hard work of raising money to invest for the Sandin Organ Repair Fund and for the Myrtha Licht Fund, that we use to fund stage-art productions. We raise money through concerts and cabarets and a musical and our annual Mother's Day flower sale. Our committee is made up of dedicated stewards, caring for property that is not ours, that will be inherited by others. The Music Committee looks after the whole music program here, so that we might freely give it to the visions and dreams of those that come after us. The choir sings music because it gives us great joy, but also because we share our harmony with our fellow passengers as we journey together, shared as a beautiful gift, shared like a piece of bread around a table. Shared to be added to our covenanted memories together.

Fauré wrote: "As to my Requiem, perhaps I have also instinctively sought to escape from what is thought right and proper, after all the years of accompanying burial services on the organ! I know it all by heart. I wanted to write something different." The musicians and stewards of music at First Church have, like Fauré, endeavored to remember in 2024, yet to do something different, escaping from past walls of 'right' and 'proper'; and through each of those mini-resurrections found visions of new paths for 2025.

Bill Speed, Director of Music Ministries

THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES AND THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 2024 REPORT

From January of 2023 through June of 2024, we continued our in-person, post COVID Sunday school program. More than seventy children participated in our weekly gatherings from nursery through to eighth grade. With twenty faithful volunteer teachers and student teachers we continued to study characters from the Hebrew Bible for our curriculum entitled, “Broken Vessels, Heroes of the Hebrew Bible.” We looked at the stories of ordinary broken people whose lives were used to change the course of history leading to the birth of the Messiah. Each Sunday we try to tell each story three ways in order to strengthen each child’s familiarity with the story and enhance the possibility that the story will create a faith connection to God.

We ended our curriculum year in June with Children’s Sunday. The children led the morning worship service by telling the story of Abraham, Joseph, Rahab, Moses, Jonah and others. It was wonderful to be able to listen and participate as they did the call to worship, readings, and help serve communion.

Over the summer, the Children’s ministry focused on Psalm 23. Children, church members and others helped me develop the 10:16 Moments as we creatively told the twenty-third Psalm together.

In September we held our “Welcome Back Party” for the children, their teachers, staff of First Church and new families. It was dually purposed, both to see each other again after the summer as well as to register children who wanted to attend Sunday school who had not already done so. Close to one hundred children and their families attended.

This year, our Sunday school program follows the same module we followed before. Our children’s chapel time reflects the integrity of the adult service. It includes worship music, a Bible story, an offering, the Lord’s prayer, and a corporate blessing. This year we are studying Jesus and those he met in his journey who were marginalized. So far we have studied the stories of Jesus and John the Baptist, the lepers, Blind Bartimaeus, the Magi. There are twenty teachers that rotate each Sunday and help make this all happen. We also have an incredibly supportive Christian Education committee that comes alongside to support faith formation for the children.

Our service projects this Fall included making cards and hand pies and delivering them to those in our church and community who are homebound or in need of cheer. The children assisted the prison ministry by bringing new toothbrushes for the backpack ministry and putting together compassion packs to give out to those in need in our community.

Our Christmas pageant took place on Sunday, December 15. Many thanks to Julie Fitzpatrick and Bill Speed for their assistance and support to the children this year. Sixty children participated in this service and many parents, grandparents, and others helped shepherds, the angels, the kings and prophets arrive at Bethlehem with Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus. It was delightful as usual and was a meaningful addition to the Christmas season.

Respectfully,
Debbie Ruotolo

DIRECTOR OF PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP 2024 REPORT



In April 2024, 53 dedicated members of Pilgrim Fellowship, along with the invaluable support of 15 adult volunteers, selflessly devoted their time to assist those who are impoverished. Their efforts were nothing short of transformative. Seven families, enduring ongoing tragedy, found solace and hope as their homes underwent remarkable renovations courtesy of our group. Guided by the spirit of service, these Guilford students took on a myriad of tasks, from constructing decks to revamping floors, painting walls, and renovating bathrooms. Their meticulous work not only beautified these homes but also ensured their safety and livability for the families within. Despite facing relentless rain and muddy conditions throughout the week, these PF members displayed unwavering determination and resilience in their mission. Their commitment to the task at hand, undeterred by the weather, was truly commendable.

In September, families gathered for an opening Picnic that buzzed with laughter and excitement. Students mingled, sharing homemade treats while engaging in fun icebreaker games designed to foster new friendships. Simultaneously, their parents/guardians learned about Pilgrim Fellowship through a presentation by the director and anecdotal stories of community and success.



In November, PF had two productive weekends raking leaves and hauling tarps. A few students were also shown how to use backpack or walk-behind leaf-blowers. This event is a cherished community tradition, where the youth have fun working together and the clients appreciate their yards being cleaned up. In December we hosted the Santa Breakfast Soup & Bread Supper and the Cookie Stroll.



ADULT EDUCATION 2024 REPORT

Winter/Spring Events:

Dinner and a talk-

.....Jan 10th Milton Brasher-Cunningham- author of *The Color of Together* spoke on the power of metaphors in religious language.

.....Feb 7th- Howard Veisz- author of *Henny and her Boat*, spoke on the story of the ship Gerta III and its role in the Nazi resistance.

.....April 3rd- Dr Robert Harms –author of *Land of Tears*, spoke on his new research into the slave trade and the city of Savannah Georgia.

.....May 1st- Alexa Patrick- author of *Remedies for Disappearing*, spoke on growing up as an African American in a predominately white CT community.

Saturday Workshop and Sunday Sermon- February 3-4.

.....The Rev. Micah Bucey, author of *The Book of Tiny Prayer* presented on Prayer as a Portal to Possibility.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeffrey Weber, Chair

Committee members:

Shannon Clarkson, Cheryl Cummin, Donna Gregory, Bob Howard, Barbara Johnson, Reilly Paige, Gini King, Robert Raines, Sandra Wiens.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE 2024 REPORT

The Business Committee has charge of all buildings, grounds, license agreements, rentals, and outside usage of church property, including approval of all encumbrances related to the above. The Committee also determines and executes all major maintenance projects, in accordance with and respect for the historical integrity of the campus. The Business Committee coordinates the duties of part-time Sexton Bill Fappiano, and Sunday Sexton Carlo Pappolla with the Lead Minister.

2024 Business Committee Completed Items:

- Spencer House Painting and major wood repair
- Church School shutters, window frames and doors painting
- Bat guano removal from the steeple
- Telephone System upgrade
- Narthex lighting upgrade
- Tree trimmed on the corner of Broad and State streets
- Nikko fir trimming
- Kitchen deep clean
- Spencer House window washing
- Major trimming of portico gardens

The Business Committee is grateful for the continuing support of the Harvest Fair Committee for our major maintenance projects. In 2024, the committee donated \$20,417 of the Fair proceeds toward the painting and repairs of the Spencer House.

In 2025, the Business Committee looks forward to the renovation of the Fellowship Hall flooring, installation of new air conditioning at 19 Church Street, upgrading the Chapel sound system, and miscellaneous other upgrades to be determined. (The cost of the Chapel sound system upgrade is being covered by an anonymous donor, to whom we are grateful.)

Respectfully submitted,

Marti Carlson, Chair

Business Committee members:

Bob Howard, Alison Linske, Andrew Tucci, Mark Haight, Peter Palumbo, JB Catlin, and Gary Knowles (adjunct)

BOARD OF COMMUNITY AND GLOBAL JUSTICE 2024 REPORT

“In Christ, God enters human affairs and takes the side with the oppressed.
Their suffering becomes holy suffering, their despair, divine despair.”

James h. Cone, *Black Theology & Black Power*.

The Board of Community and Global Justice (CGJ) supports:

United Church of Christ: One Great Hour of Sharing, Disaster Relief, UCC Promotional Giving supporting the Southern New England Conference, National Agencies and Global Ministries, Hosted UCC Mission Partner Paul Chimhungwe.

Local Support in Guilford: Meals on Wheels, Guilford Pride Parade, Covenant to Care, Women and Family Life. In addition, on the First Sunday of the month we collect food for the Guilford Food Bank **donating 13 to 22 bags per month**.

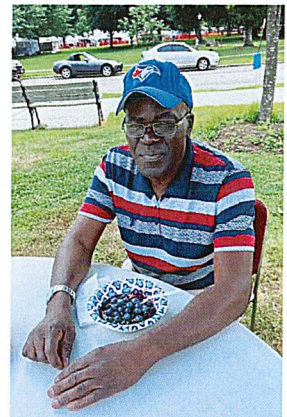
Greater New Haven: Columbus House, Raise the Roof-Habitat for Humanity, Christian Community Action, United Latina en Acción, Honeybee Project, Fellowship Place, Rosette Neighborhood Village-tiny houses, Court Appointed Special Advocate for Children and Youth, Elm City Reentry Project.

Global Ministries: Disaster Relief, Veteran's for Peace, Ahlie Arab Hospital-Gaza, Palestinian House of Friendship, UNRWA-United Nations Relief and Works Agency

Environment Ministries: Inter-religious Eco-Justice, Church Garden, League of Conservation Voters
The Church Garden donated **561 pounds of fresh vegetables** to the Branford Community Dining Room and CT Food Share. (This is the highest yield our gardeners have produced. Congratulations.)

UCC Mission Partner Pal Chimhungwe serving in Botswana. He spoke at First Church in July 2024 delivering the sermon and speaking at the outside fellowship time.

Committee Members: Suzanne Alberich, Cheryl Cummin, Gail Etter, Gay Harter, Gini King, Paul Kuehn, Nancy Leckerling, Linda Mayes, Andrew Rouillard, Sandy Wiens.



ENVIRONMENTAL MINISTRY TEAM 2024 REPORT

The mission of the Environmental Ministry Team is to inspire responsible stewardship of God's Creation by promoting witness, advocacy, and action within our congregation and in the wider community.

EMT's 2024 was "Living in God's Garden," and our goals were 1) to increase our garden output to send to CT Foodshare, The Branford Community Dining Hall and to those with food insecurity in our community, and 2) to enlarge our fellowship of Kinship Garden workers. Both goals were achieved. The garden produced/donated over 500 pounds, a 25% increase from last summer. To keep our environmental focus visible, ECO Echo articles were part of each *InSpire* newsletter, Creation care tips were listed in Sunday worship bulletins, and the EMT section of the church website was updated. An EMT table was outside of church with information about the importance of voting, and the church bells were rung 11 times at 11am on the 11th day of the three months leading up to the Presidential election to signal the "11th Hour of Climate Change." The EMT hosted Coffee Hour after worship in June, and had a table with environmental advocacy information and plant giveaways at the first Earth Day on the Green event in April. Sue Jones received our annual EMT Certificate of Appreciation. Several members attended at the annual IREJN Earthkeepers' Dinner in May. SNEUCC Conference Minister Rev. Dr. Darrell Goodwin and his spouse Ken, Ed and Patty Ann Meyer, IREJN supporters, were honored guests at our table. Members attended the SNEUCC Conference Justice Summit at Wesleyan in September. The EMT invited Lori Brown, Executive Director of the CT League of Conservation Voters, to speak at a Sunday Forum after worship in October.

The solar panels on the Moore building continue to produce excess energy, and some is being used for the new heat pumps in Fellowship Hall which provide heat or air conditioning as needed. The system produced another 28 megawatts during this past year. In the last four years, our carbon-neutral energy production is the equivalent of having planted 2328 trees and the system saves the church about \$3000/year in electricity costs..

The EMT is represented by Nancy Leckerling at the Board of Community & Global Justice meetings. EMT supports, through the CGJ, IREJN (CT IPL), and Outdoor Perspectives, a CT organization that offers counseling to youth through outdoor adventures. Nancy and Jon Leckerling continue to serve on the SNEUCC Conference Environmental Ministry Team, and Nancy coaches other UCC CT congregations in how to become "Green churches" through the SNEUCC Conference and IREJN.

New members are most welcome to be part of the EMT and we thank our members, past and present, who share their tireless passion about love of Creation and environmental justice--Mary Stevens, Lisa and Tom Finnegan, Susan Arnold, Sue Jones, Jon Leckerling, Bea Briggs, Nancy Mann, Mary Jane Potter, Ellen Durnin, Delores Connelly, Eugenia Barton, Sally Koslik, Rev. Milton, Barbara Nickel, Chip Dorwin, Kathy Abbatello, Kathy and Jillian Kruser, Mark and Lucy Mitchell. Thanks to Tarren, Lisa, Annette, and Penelope for their help. It takes a village to be good stewards of God's Creation!

With hope,

Nancy Leckerling, Co-Chair



BOARD OF DEACONS 2024 REPORT

Co-Chairs: Gail Etter & Lisa Freund

Members: Kathy Abatello, Ellen Edens, Lou Federici, Tara Hunt Melvin, Mark Mitchell, Anita Soucy

Retiring 2025: Mark Mitchell

New Members 2025: Donna Gregory, Kurt Linske

Deacon's Roles include:

Support Ministers, Spiritual Life of First Church, Congregation's concerns, Communion Sunday, Read Scripture, New Member meetings and welcome Sunday

2024 Monthly Notes:

New Chairs: Gail Etter & Lisa Freund as Deb Hess retired

New Deacons: Lou Federici & Tara Hunt Melvin

Deacon's Retreat

Visioning overview

Distributed Silver Lake Scholarships

Deacon-led service with focus on Psalm 91

Mark Mitchell's Exhibition

Pastor Appreciation Sunday on Thanksgiving Sunday.

Seasonal festivities with an added Christmas Eve communion

The 2024 Deacons were a truly compatible, consciences and caring group. They are completely supportive of the ministry team and each other. We are sad to see Mark Mitchell leave, however we understand the busyness of life and wish him the very best with family and work. We look forward to seeing him in church. And we look forward to welcoming Kurt Linske and Donna Gregory as new Deacons as we begin a new year filled with Faith, Hope, Love and Compassion.

Peace and Blessings,

Gail Etter & Lisa Freund

BOARD OF FINANCE 2024 REPORT

2024 was another year of blessings for First Church.

The Board of Finance continued to monitor our financial condition and look to our future. Topics considered were staff transitions, planning for our financial future and daily operations, and, as always, our annual budget.

First Church continues to be blessed with a great staff, hard-working committee members and strong financial support by our members and friends. We are, indeed, a very fortunate and thriving congregation. We are working to make our financial support be fairly supported by the entire congregation.

The Board wishes to thank all members of the First Church community for their support and assistance during the year.

Stephen Dudley, Chair

FLOWER COMMITTEE 2024 REPORT

Flowers enhance our worship, adorning the Sanctuary and Chapel on Sundays with the exception of Communion Sundays. The cost of flowers continued to increase this past year. An attempt has been made to be as frugal as possible: flowers from the church garden were used for arrangements in late summer and fall, and Christmas decorations were chosen so they could be used again.

Special flower requests with donation - 3

Regular flower arrangements – 28 Sundays

Flowers supplied by church member - 1

Special worship arrangements: Palm Sunday, Easter, Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas seasons.

If, in 2025, you would like to give flowers, or have the Flower Committee create an arrangement in memory, or in honor of a loved one, please contact me at 803-513-9787 or dfbbnickel@aol.com.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Nickel

HARVEST FAIR 2024 REPORT

56TH ANNUAL HARVEST FAIR!

Saturday, November 2, 2024 ~ 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Some general information about the Harvest Fair: ***its main purpose is to provide fellowship.*** Our fair has an established reputation for friendliness, high quality items, and fair prices. 2024 was again well-received by our First Church family as well as the community at large. We moved to keep the fair to Fellowship Hall, the 1st floor of classrooms, the driveway outside the shed for furniture and the garage for tools. We eliminated the toy room however, and we discovered that many were looking for that. We will bring it back for 2025.

Timeline: The new look of HF planning began with monthly meetings in August. Pre-planning included getting volunteers for "fair area" leaders, assigning rooms within the church for each fair area, receiving times for goods, set-up times, dumpster order, and more!

Set up: Sunday prior: Cleared rooms to be utilized for the fair and shifted tables as needed. Tremendous help from both PF and the Boy Scouts – they were life savers! It is best to set up immediately after worship while church folk are still around, so for 2025 we will reserve Fellowship Hall immediately after worship for a "HF set-up forum."

Week of: Accepted items from 9 am – 11 am and 5 pm - 7 pm weekdays. We tried to create smaller windows of drop-off so as not to distract from set up, and we were happy to receive items at almost any time. We also tried to get more upscale items however we continue to be a resource for people getting rid of all and any items they no longer need, regardless of condition. The dumpster comes in very handy for this! **Set-up:** Each fair area spent time during the week accepting items and setting up areas,

Fair Areas:

Attic Treasures: Holly Langewisch was lead with assistance from Kathy Abbatello and crew

Bakery Room: Sarah Natsis and daughters were leads with jams, toffee, cakes, bread, cookies, brownies and pies. Pre- event phone calls led to much greater donations.

Christmas: Nancy Johnson had a fabulously successful year this year with some very high-end donations and an exuberant buyer!

Jewelry Counter: Rebecca Bunting, Gail Etter and team - always the fair favorite.

Knitting: Ellen Connell supported the donations that came in from our favorite knitter, several leftovers that were packed up for 2025.

Luncheon: Carrie & Lou Federici, Nancy Carroll and TEAM - amazing job and a tremendous amount of donations. The food just shows up!

Got Tools? Bob Howard & crew started selling during set up on Friday and just kept on going.

Toy Shop: will be back for 2025

Record Room: Ken Medvetz pulls it off again even though he says it's the last year, every year!

Outside Furniture: Terri Koziell took the lead. Donations need to be more upscale.

Vintage Items: Barbara Nickel handled antiques, vintage and artwork. Well received.

Finances:

Gross Income: \$21,719.10

Expenses: \$ 2,608.50

Net Income: \$19,110.60

Thank you so much to all the many, many people involved. And a special shout-out to Holly Langewisch, Penelope & Peter Rebuzzini, Anne Godsey and Barb Nickel for going above and beyond. We look forward to another successful event in 2025.

Thank you!!!

Lisa Freund

HUMAN RESOURCES 2024 REPORT

As we continue deal with the aftereffects of Covid-19 and the evolving role of the church in the community, the dedication and outstanding leadership of our staff kept our faith moving forward!

We are blessed to have the committed individuals that we do, and I ask all church members to thank them often, for their commitment to enriching our lives and helping change and shape our community!

We welcomed an Office Administrator, and a new Bookkeeper/data Manager. Our Ministry Assistant retired after decades of dedication.

We resumed "Ministry Circles" – our evaluation process for staff, which was on hold due to Covid.

Our staff continues to embrace different ways to reach our congregation!

We once again revised the Employee Handbook, to reflect current pronoun use.

We strive to provide the best working environment for the staff and to help our fine staff better meet our goals as First Church. The committee thanks all who assisted in completing these duties.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Godsey, Chair

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE 2024 REPORT

The Memorial Committee is responsible for acknowledging memorial gifts made to First Church and to determine the use of these funds. Gifts are given for "items of lasting value" to First Church.

Gifts in 2024 totaled \$150 and were received in memory of Ellie Leffingwell. These gifts were personally acknowledged; the names and addresses of each donor were forwarded to each family.

There were no disbursements 2024.

The balance as of December 31, 2024 was \$5,037.74.

MEMORIAL GARDEN COMMITTEE 2024 REPORT

In 2025, the Memorial Garden will celebrate 25 years since its' creation in 2000. It was envisioned to be a place for the interment of ashes for members and friends of First Church, as well as a place for quiet reflection, worship services, weddings, baptisms, and church school classes. We hope it will continue to meet that vision for many years to come.

In 2024, we had six interments in the garden, with a total of 104 family, friends and members interred in this sacred space. In November, the Church Council approved our motion to increase the fee for a plot in the garden to \$750. If anyone wishes to purchase a plot for future use, forms are available in the Church Office during normal business hours

Respectfully submitted
Peter van der Grinten, Chair

MUSIC COMMITTEE 2024 REPORT

Mother's Day flower basket fundraiser – This year's flower fundraiser was again a success, raising \$2,400 towards organ repairs. Music Committee partnered with a new grower for the flowers, Shoreline Garden Center, in Clinton. The flowers were even more bountiful and beautiful than in past years. Thanks to many in the congregation who purchased baskets.

Annual Memorial Concert – The Senior Choir, under the direction of Bill Speed, performed Fauré's *Requiem* and *Cantique de Jean Racine*, for the 2024 concert which was held on All Saint's weekend, which marked the 100th anniversary of Gabriel Fauré's death.

Joyful Noise Concerts – The Music Committee hosted Schuyler Beeman in three cabarets. Audiences from Joyful Noise Concerts inspired the committee to create an email list for those interested in staying informed about church musical and theatrical events.

Theater – Theater performance returned to First Church in November, after a six-year hiatus. Audiences were delighted by the Adam Gwon musical, "Ordinary Days," which featured church members, Amy Earls and Julie Fitzpatrick, and friends, Matt Landry-McWilliams and Michael Lindsay, with piano by Bill Speed. The show raised \$5,000 for the Myrtha Licht Fund, which will be used to fund future shows.

Senior Choir – Senior choir welcomed several new members this year. "Bells" were the theme for the music for the Lessons and Carols service. This selection was chosen in honor of the 300th anniversary of the bell that blesses the First Church steeple. First Church Ringers, and Schuyler Beeman, contributed their talents to the service, as well.

Youth Programs – Four church youth assisted with "Ordinary Days," ushering and adding special effects. A youth trio sang at the Christmas pageant and on Christmas Eve.

Thirty Minutes of Joy – Bill Speed continues to offer weekly music for a loyal in-person audience and online viewers.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Earls, Chair

Members: Karen Anderson, Rebecca Bunting (secretary), Vicki Fisher, Joan Hickey, Jan Nelmes (HR & Council Rep), Debbie Peluse (treasurer), Mary Stevens, Jen Tucci, Tristan Vroom (Senior Choir Rep). Director of Music Ministries: William C. Speed Youth Director: Dawn Perrotti

The Nominating Committee, in cooperation with clergy and each board and committee, fills vacancies in accordance with the Church By-Laws, which dictate the number of members, term lengths and number of permitted consecutive terms. The Nominating Committee welcome members' inquiries and expressions of interest in any opening. Committee Chairpersons are asked to contact all new members inviting them to their next meeting.

Respectfully submitted

1/17/2025

term ends Feb	term #
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OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS

Chairperson, Church Council (1 yr / 3 terms)

* Peter Rebuzzini	2026	1st
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Assistant Chairperson, Church Council (1 yr / 3 terms)

<open>

Clerk (3 yr / unlimited)

Barbara Catlin -- Record Keeping	2027	5th
Anita Soucy -- Meeting Minutes	2028	3rd

Treasurer (2 yr / unlimited)

* William Bailey	2027	1st
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Assistant Treasurer (2 yr / unlimited)

<open>

Financial Secretary (2 yr / unlimited)

Mary Jane Potter	2027	4th
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Assistant Financial Secretary (1 yr / unlimited)

* Sandy Nicholas	2026	1st
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Lay Moderator (1 yr / unlimited)

* Gail Tomsich	2026	1st
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Assistant Lay Moderator (1 yr / unlimited)

Rebecca Johnson	2026	4th
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Church Council Recording Secretary

Pamela Dear	2026	7th
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BOARDS, COMMITTEES and ELECTED POSITIONS**Business (3 yr / 2 terms) 6-9 members**

Drew Tucci	2026	1st
Mark Haight	2026	1st
Alison Linske	2026	2nd
Peter Palumbo	2026	3rd
Bob Howard	2027	3rd
* JB Catlin	2027	1st
Marti Carlson	2028	3rd
Gary Knowles	adjunct	

Christian Education (3 yr / 2 terms) 6-9 members

Janice Nolan	2027	2nd
Joanna Price	2027	1st
Marcie Gara	2027	1st
Julie Fitzpatrick	2027	1st
Lauren Gunningsmith	2028	2nd
C Elizabeth Connors	2028	2nd

Community and Global Justice (3 yr / 2 terms)

C Gini King	2026	2nd
Cheryl Cummin	2026	1st
Nancy Leckerling (ETM rep)	2026	3rd
Linda Mayes	2026	1st
Andrew Rouillard-treasurer	2026	1st
Gay Harter (PAJ rep)	2027	2nd
Gail Etter	2028	2nd
* Sandy Wiens	2028	1st
* Suzanne Alberich	2028	1st
* Paul Kuehn	2028	1st

Environmental Ministry Team (part of Cmty and Global Justice)

C Jon Leckerling		
C Nancy Leckerling		
Tom Finnegan		
Lisa Finnegan		
Mary Stevens		
Bea Briggs		

Peace, Affirmation, Justice Team (part of Cmty and Global Justice)

Shannon Clarkson

Jill Benton

Mary Lee Duff

Gay Harter

C Gini King

Sally Koslik

Marcia Myhre

Claudia Buzzi

David Harding - treasurer

Charlotte White

Sandy Wiens

Deacons (3yr / 2 terms) 12 members

Ellen Edens 2026 3rd

Kathy Abbatello 2026 1st

C Lisa Freund 2026 1st

Anita Soucy 2026 2nd

C Gail Etter 2027 2nd

Lou Federici 2027 1st

Tara Melvin 2027 1st

* Kurt Linske 2028 1st

* Donna Gregory 2028 1st

open

open

open

Decorating (3 yr / unlimited)

C Marjorie Colton 2027 6th

Rebecca Bunting 2026 3rd

Delegates, Church (1yr / unlimited) 5-10 members

Twila Skelly 2026 29th

John VanEpps 2026 2nd

* Carl Frano 2026 1st

* Deb Ruotolo 2026 1st

* Carrie Federici 2026 1st

Finance (3 yr / 2 terms) 4-6 members

* Peter Rebuzzini (church council chair) 2028 1st

C Stephen Dudley 2028 2nd

Kurt Linske 2028 2nd

Alan Durnin 2026 1st

Leo Franchi 2026 1st

Mary Jane Potter (financial secretary) 2026 2nd

Flower (3 yr / unlimited) 2-4 members		
C	Barbara Nickel	2027 3rd
Harvest Fair (2 yr / unlimited) 4-6 members		
C	Lisa Freund	2027
	Nancy Johnson, Barb Nickel, Rebecca Bunting, Gail Etter, Ellen Connell, Holly Langewisch Ken Medvetz, Bob Howard, Anne Godsey, Carrie Federici, Lou Federici, Nancy Carroll, Kathy Abbatello, Penelope Rebuzzini, Peter Rebuzzini, Marcia Myhre, Mary Jane Potter	
Hospitality Committee (1 yr / unlimited)		
	Meredith Hentschel	2026 2nd
*	Sarah Natsis	2026 1st
*	Holly Langewisch	2026 1st
House (2 yr / unlimited) 1-2 members		
Human Resources (3 yr / 2 terms) 12 members		
*	chairperson: Anne Godsey	2028 1st
*	council chair: Peter Rebuzzini	
*	Treasurer: Bill Bailey	
	Business: Marti Carlson	
	Christian Education:	
	Deacons:	
	Finance: Stephen Dudley	
	Music: Jan Nelmes	
	Pilgrim Fellowship:	
	At Large: Andrew Rouillard	
*	At Large: Paul Kuehn	
Members-at-large, church council (3 yr / none) 3 members		
Memorial Committee (3yr / 2 terms) 6 members		
	Dianne Hughes	2026 2nd
Memorial Garden (3 yr / 2 terms) 6 members		
	Andrew Rouillard	2026 1st
	Chip Dorwin	2026 1st
	Barbara Nickel	2026 1st
C	Peter van der Grinten	2027 4th

Music (3 yr / 2 terms) 6-9 members

Karen Anderson	2026	3rd
Rebecca Bunting	2026	3rd
Joan Hickey	2026	3rd
Vicki Fisher	2027	1st
Mary Stevens	2027	1st
Debbie Peluse	2027	2nd
Jen Tucci	2027	3rd
Jan Nelmes	2027	3rd
Tristin Vroom (Sr Choir Rep)		
* Vicki Newman	2028	1st

Nominating Committee (3 yrs / none) 6 members

C Gail Tomsich	2026	4th
Sandy Nicholas	2026	3rd
Peter Rebuzzini	2027	3rd
Carl J Frano	2028	3rd
* Carrie Federici	2028	1st

Offering Collection (3yr / unlimited) 6 members

Bob Howard
Susan Leete

Parish Care Team (3yr / 2 terms) 12 members

Carl Frano	2026	1st
Diane Grigaitis	2026	2nd
C Barbara Hazall	2026	2nd
Ellen Connell	2026	1st
C Kathy Nelson	2027	2nd
Nancy Carroll	2027	1st
Joanna Murphy	2027	3rd
Pam Harding (knitting)	2028	3rd
Karen Kalbfeld	2028	2nd
open		
open		
open		

Pilgrim Fellowship (3 yr / 2 terms) 6-9 members (term ends in June)

C Russ Campaigne	2025	3rd
Trish Magee	2025	2nd
Teresa Buchanan - treasurer	2026	3rd
Michael Mikolay	2026	1st
Anne Waehner	2027	1st
Kevin Waehner	2027	1st
Doug Magee	2027	4th
Emily Oakes	2028	2nd
* Tarren Bailey	2028	1st

Stewardship Committee			
	P.L Keene	2027	1st
*	Samantha Bennett	2028	1st
Trustees (3 yr / 2 terms) 5 members			
	Anne Godsey	2026	1st
	Bill Bailey	2026	1st
C	Keith Bishop	2028	2nd
*	Linda Weber	2028	1st
	Bob Howard		adjunct
Usher, head (2yr / unlimited)			
	Peter Palumbo	2027	2nd
Usher, Assistant head (2yr / unlimited)			
	Marie Warner	2027	2nd
* new nominee; C chairperson or co-chair;			

PARISH CARE TEAM 2024 REPORT

The Parish Care Team's (PCT) mission is to reach out to church members in need of support and comfort. The PCT, with information from our ministers, responds to the short & long-term needs of our congregation, to let them know they are cared for by their church family. Ongoing activities include sending notes of sympathy or support, giving rides to appointments, and arranging for meals for those who need short term help. As time allows PCT members visit and/or call individuals with ongoing difficulties once a month or more often.

At the 10am service each week the PCT person of the month cleans & gives out assisted hearing devices to congregants, and records the Joys & Concerns for prayers and emails these to the ministers and the PCT. That person is also responsible for placing a rose on the altar for births or adoption. At Easter and Christmas, the PCT wrote notes to members who are homebound, ill, injured, lonely or grieving.

PCT & others knit prayer shawls year-round. We thank all who knit for their time and talent. The shawls are blessed at our meetings and given to those who need comfort due to loss of friends or family members, surgery or illness. At least 30 were given out in 2024. The prayer shawl ministry began in 2004, so our church has offered this meaningful outreach to the church community and beyond for 20 years.

Debbie Peluse & Barb Hazall co-chairs

Members: Debbie Peluse, Jamie Mikolay, Karen Kalbfeld, Kathy Nelson, Diane Grigaitis, Carl Frano, Joanna Murphy, Pam Harding, Nancy Carroll, Ellen Connell & Barbara Hazall.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE 2024 REPORT

The theme for the Annual Stewardship campaign was based on Paul's message in Romans 12 that we "love from the center of who we are; don't fake it." Through various outreach activities First Church family and friends were encouraged to display their love through action as Christ did.

- The campaign began in September 2024 when postcards were sent to First Church family and friends showing the percentages of the annual budget spent on Ministry, Christian Education, and Outreach and reminding recipients that their financial support of First Church is important.
- At the end of September, personalized letters were sent encouraging all to submit an Estimate of Giving for 2025 so that the 2025 budget could be built on realistic funding expectations.
- During October, congregants presented personal testimony at each Church service describing why they supported First Church financially.
- During October, November, and December, reminders were placed in the *InSpire* newsletter and in the weekly worship bulletins.
- In December, committee members sent emails and notes as reminders to those who had not yet submitted their Estimates of Giving.
- Committee members sent Thank You notes to those who pledged.

Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners, as of December 31, 2024, the Estimates of Giving total \$555,030 from 148 family units. This meets 96.4% of the \$576,000 goal. Our sincere thanks to all who submitted an Estimate of Giving!

Respectfully submitted,

Stewardship Committee: Cynthia Caligan, Carrie Federici, Susan Leete, and PL Keene

TRUSTEES OF ENDURING GIFTS 2024 REPORT

aka BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Report on the Endowment

Investment Update:

- Funds transitioned to United Church Funds (UCF) in April 2024, remaining aligned with our Socially Responsible Investment Guidelines.
- Sage Organ Fund is now separately managed within the UCF platform.

Growth & Contributions:

- Net Endowment value increased by \$235,323.87 (7.6% gain) after distributions.
- David Knapp's bequest of \$1,118,266 established the Knapp Endowment Fund, supporting the Annual Ministries Budget starting in 2026. David Knapp, a dedicated church member since 1989, died in 2023 and his estate transferred the stock donation in August 2024.
- Chuck & Dianne Ramsey established a new \$30,000 fund effective for 2025.

Distribution & Impact:

- Average endowment value: \$3,189,107.87
- Planned 2025 Distributions:
 - Current Expenses: \$91,534.59 (~11% of operating budget)
 - Major Maintenance Fund: \$46,492.94

To continue nurturing the endowment, we encourage your consideration of various support options, including stock donations, 401(k) rollovers, bequests, life insurance beneficiary designations, charitable trusts, or contributions via a Donor Advised Fund at the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven or the Guilford Foundation. For confidential inquiries, please contact [**trustees-of-enduring-gifts@firstchurchguilford.org**](mailto:trustees-of-enduring-gifts@firstchurchguilford.org) For comprehensive information on planned giving opportunities, please visit the FCC website, <https://firstchurchguilford.org/>

Respectfully submitted,

Keith B Bishop, Chair
Martin Ewing
Anne Godsey
Bob Howard
Bill Bailey

Attached:

Exhibit A: Trustees of Enduring Gifts; Financial Summary

Exhibit B: Trustees of Enduring Gifts; Fund Balances

Trustees of Enduring Gifts, Financial Summary

Value as of 12/31/2024

Exhibit A

<u>Trustee's Funds Balance</u>	Value as of 12/31/2023	\$3,071,445.93
	Value as of 12/31/2024	\$3,306,769.80
Total Assets (Restricted/Unrestricted/Liq)		\$4,420,176.17

	Gross Gain (loss) after disbursements	7.66%
Net Gain (loss) after dispersments and not including new contributions		7.34%
	Remaining Distribution Liability	\$0.00
	Curr Bal minus Liability	\$3,306,769.80
	Gross Gain (loss) minus Liability	7.66%

Average Market Value At End Of 12/31/2023 & 12/31/2024 = **\$3,189,107.87**
Distribution Basis (Fund Balances Rounded)

The balances above contain the following Fund balances which are held in trust, maintained, and distributed by the Trustee's Committee of First Congregational Church of Guilford. They are considered Liabilities.

Trustee's Managed Funds Activity

<u>Major Maintenance Fund</u>	Value as of 12/31/2023	\$0.00
Current Year Expenses	Income	Expense
2024 Distribution to Major Repair (41621.82)	\$41,621.82	\$41,621.82
May Disbursement \$20,810.91	\$20,810.91	\$20,810.91
Nov Disbursement \$20,810.91	\$20,810.91	\$0.00
		\$0.00
	Value as of 12/31/2024	\$0.00
<u>C.I. Sage Organ Fund and The Organ Fund</u>	Value as of 12/31/2023	\$87,254.09
		\$87,254.09
Minimum Balance	\$5,418.00	
Available Balance (Bal - min)		\$81,836.09
Current Year Expenses	Income	Expense
2024 Disbursement to Organ Fund	\$4,053.42	\$85,889.51
Transfer from Sandin Fund 6/11/2024	\$7,500.00	\$93,389.51
Transfer from Sage Fund to UCF Organ Endowment Fund		93389.51
		\$0.00
		\$5,418.00
	Value as of 12/31/2024	\$5,418.00
	Available Balance	\$0.00
UCF Account held for Music Comm (Organ fund)		
Current value of this fund		\$92,286.23
UCF Account held for Church Treasurer		
Current value of this fund		\$57,592.25
UCF Account for Knapp funds		
Current value of this fund (as of 11/19/2024)		\$1,113,406.37
UBS Account for Stock Liquidation		
Current value of this fund (as of 11/19/2024)		\$0.00
<u>Trustee's Disbursements to Church Financial Secretary from Endowment</u>		
2024 Disbursements to Current Exp Accts	\$83,497.62	\$83,497.62
May Disbursement \$41748.76		\$41,748.76
Nov Disbursement \$41748.86		\$41,748.86
		\$0.00
	Balance lue as of 12/31/2024	\$0.00
<u>Income from New Contributions to Trustees Named Account</u>		
1/31/2024 Peluse PF Mission Work fund	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
8/22/2024 David W. Knapp Fund	\$1,118,266.00	\$1,118,266.00
	Total	\$1,123,266.00

Trustees of Enduring Gifts; Fund Balances

Year Established	Fund Name	12/31/2024
Exhibit B		
		Distribution Basis Valuation
1973	Bradley & Leila Barnes Fund	\$32,295
1950	Charlotte E. Benton Fund	\$14,351
1959	Martha Seward Benton Fund	\$6,476
1968	Harry W. Carter Fund	\$16,925
1992	Anne R. Conover Fund	\$1,202
1975	Martha G. Cornell Fund	\$13,168
1964	Margaret Corwin Fund	\$2,775
1934	Mary E. Dowd Fund	\$1,286
1929	Katherine B. Dudley Fund	\$2,517
1932	Ruth C. Dudley Fund	\$10,108
1972	Ernest G. Dudley Fund	\$4,916
1984	John Fischer Fund	\$26,115
1947	Lambert H. Fowler Fund	\$8,045
1990	Charlotte Frey Bequest	\$2,479
1950	Eliza S. Graves Fund	\$3,502
1950	John Graves Fund	\$5,764
1901	Ellen Griswold Fund	\$1,763
1948	Moe Knowles Fund	\$95,817
1970	Charles S. Lee Memorial Fund	\$7,172
1907	Edward L. Leete Fund (1/2 Income)	-
1980	Edith P. Maynard Fund	\$3,151
1960	Rev. Wm. Henry Harrison Fund	\$6,400
1891	Betsy Parmalee Fund	\$3,527
1990	William H. Parmalee Bequest	\$4,958
1984	Wallard F. Robb Fund	\$1,388
1978	Fredrick L. & Janet White Rowland Fd	\$36,300
1957	Anne Davis Slocum & Mary Slocum Seward Fund	\$6,665
1929	Emily V. Snow Fund	\$10,069
1962	Robert B. & Elizabeth Kimberly Fund	\$6,224
1963	Anna C. Thayer Fund	\$6,224
1920	Third Church Fund	\$3,106
1978	Lucy E. Tuttle Fund	\$8,817
1992	Emma Mitchell Fund	\$4,808
1992	Edwin Quick Fund	\$2,404
1993	Florence Benton Fund	\$6,010
1993	George N. Mischler Fund	\$7,212
1995	William & Elizabeth North Fund	\$11,788
1996	Robert T. Campaigne Fund	\$2,520
1996	Herman W. Baskin Bequest	\$26,812
1996	Gertrude W. Corwin	\$1,822
2002	Louise & Louis Kemp Memorial Fund	\$12,860
2002	William Russell Memorial Fund	\$191,735
2006	Ellen Burt Memorial Fund (Current Expense)	\$110,288
2010	Gretchen S. Merkl Memorial Fund	\$2,917
2021	Barbara Bishop Fund	\$19,441
To Board Of Christian Education		
1907	Mary Cruttenden Fund	\$8,817
1925	Philo Blatchley Fund	\$4,935
1923	Albert H. Leete Fund (1/2 Income)	-
1964	Billy Pinchbeck Fund	\$30,171
2000	Christine & George Wilcox Fund - Adult Education	\$172,737

Trustees of Enduring Gifts; Fund Balances

Year Established	Fund Name	12/31/2024
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Exhibit B

Distribution Basis Valuation

To Alpha Club Formerly To Improvement Society		
1923	Albert H. Leete Fund (1/2 Income)	•
1944	Janet S. Douden Fund (1/2 Income)	•

To Community And World Concerns		
1884	Sarah McKeon Fund	\$882
1898	Amanda A. Stone Fund	\$882
1995	Niantic Prison "Toys" (Children'S Fund)	\$12,090
1986	Dorothy E. Bahnsen Fund (Deaconess')	\$134,696
1879	Clara B. Hotchkiss Fund (To Pastor)	\$3,428
1946	Simeon Baldwin Chittenden & Mary Hill Chittenden Fund (To Pastor'S Wife)	\$9,022
2000	Ministerial Trust Fund	\$12,617
2001	Anonymous (P.F. Mission Work)	\$29,341
2019	Peluse Pf Mission Work Fund	\$50,615
2006	Ellen Burt Memorial Fund (P.F. Mission Work)	\$165,432
2002	Leslie Pruett Memorial Garden Fund	\$7,015
2008	Ellie Leffingwell Fund	\$12,106

To Deacons Fund		
1889	Church Deacons Fund	\$59,481
1972	Frederic E. Davis Memorial Fund	\$49,158
1980	Sottery Floral Fund (2/3 Inc To Flower & Grounds)	•
1992	William E. & Harriet W. Pinchbeck Fund (Sch'Rship)	\$49,882

To Major Maintenance Fund		
1990	Gustaf H. & Jessie M. Bodin Fund	\$4,115
1914	Lidia D. Chittenden Fund	\$38,793
1988	Fred & Melida Edmunds Fund	\$254,079
1991	James Ely Rolston & Margaret Hall Rolston Fund	\$151,448
1962	George F. Walter	\$6,285
1962	George F. Walter Memorial Fund	\$62,885
1994	350Th Memorial Fund (Include 100%)	\$425,951
2005	Martha M. Shattuck Trust Fund	\$53,772
2012	Thomas & Kim Beckett Fund	\$35,845
1879	Sarah B. Cone Organ Fund	\$52,918
1910	Clara I. Sage Organ Fund Income (Min \$5418)(.5 Organ, .5 Organist)	\$3,985
	\$200 Min In 1910= \$5418 In 2019	
2012	Mitchell Memorial Choir Music Fund	\$37,396
2010	Melita House Mission Fund	\$336,425

Requires Distribution *		
1907	Edward L. Leete Fund (1/2 To Treas)	\$8,653
REINV	Edward L. Leete Fund (1/2 Reinv)	\$63,630
1944	Janet S. Douden Fund (1/2 To Improvement Soc.)	\$4,927
REINV	Janet S. Douden Fund (1/2 To Reinv)	\$31,598
1980	Sottery Floral Fund (2/3 To Flower & Grounds)	\$10,506
REINV	Sottery Floral Fund (1/3 To Reinv.)	\$27,010
1923	Albert H. Leete Fund (1/2 Bce & 1/2 Improvent)	\$10,459

Average Market Value At End Of 12/31/2023 & 12/31/2024 =

<i>Distribution Basis (Fund Balances Rounded)</i>	\$3,189,108
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* Fund Distribution Is Split, Balance Under "Requires Distribution"

Treasurer's Report for 2024

Statement of Financial Position

The Statement of Financial Position (aka the Balance Sheet) shows the overall financial picture for First Church, excluding the Trustees' holdings and property equities. The 2024 report, showing both the Beginning of Year and the End of the Year (YTD, Year to Date), is attached.

At the end of 2024 First Church's assets totaled \$455,272.50 up from 2023's total of \$412,616.13. In January 2024 the Webster Bank money market account was closed and the entire balance, \$45,929.65, was transferred to our high-yield savings account at Guilford Savings Bank (GSB). In May we moved an additional \$60,000 from the Webster Bank into the CD held at GSB. When this 6-month CD matured in May and again in November, we reinvested the money in a new CDs with the same term limits, but at the going interest rate. At the end of 2024, there was \$180,142.75 in the Webster Bank checking account, \$100,585.16 in our high-yield savings account at GSB and \$113,951.90 in our current 6-month CD at GSB. During 2024, the Short-Term Investment Account First Church established in 2021 and is monitored by the Trustees saw an increase from dividends and market price, so we ended the year at \$57,592.25, which is up 15.2% from our initial investment of \$50,000. The church's other assets include the rental deposit on Spencer House, which was at \$3,000.44 at the end of the year. The sale of grocery cards, a Non-Cash Asset, ended in June and has a zero balance at the end of the year.

First Church's Liabilities include a clearing account for the credit card with Citizens Bank used for church expenses; health benefits and annuity for eligible employees along with payroll taxes withheld from staff prior to being billed for these expenses by the Pension Board; donations made in 2024 for 2025 pledges to the Ministries Fund; the Spencer House Rental deposit; along with money held in the Trustee Endowment Transfer account for money that will be transferred from Webster Bank checking account to the Trustees' holdings. The Total Liabilities for the year were \$24,384.04.

The Fund Balances (the church's Net Assets) represent the funds in which the church has money to use for its many ministries. The Ministries Fund is reviewed monthly by Church Council and is used to budget and monitor the finances for the church's operations. In 2024 the Ministries Fund income was \$898,796.93 while the Ministries Fund expenses were \$794,506.09 resulting in a YTD difference of \$104,290.84. Income came from parishioners who pledged, contributions to Designated Funds (from the Trustee Endowment funds) and miscellaneous income (which also included some donations made in 2024 for 2025 pledges). Expenses covered costs for administration, buildings & grounds, Christian education, clergy, music, Pilgrim Fellowship and outreach. The table below shows the monthly income and expense subtotals and the totals for the Ministries Fund. The resulting YTD Difference for the year (minus the money donated in 2024 for 2025 pledges) can be applied to next year's budget with a recommendation from the Board of Finance and approval by Church Council.

Actual for Period by Month

FINAL 2024 Year End

Ministries Fund Income

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
Total Pledges to Ministries Fund	\$84,069.46	\$68,384.95	\$64,691.75	\$45,926.95	\$41,089.95	\$38,247.98	\$30,783.95	\$24,211.45	\$26,312.98	\$39,512.45	\$45,909.92	\$72,189.33	\$581,331.12
Total Designated Funds Contributions to Ministries Fund	\$49.00	\$100.00	\$6,016.01	\$8.00	\$28,871.67	\$35.00	\$18.00	\$0.00	\$241.00	\$0.00	\$28,251.35	\$0.00	\$63,590.03
Total Miscellaneous Ministries Income to Ministries Fund	\$12,608.18	\$72,682.17	\$43,223.26	\$11,169.01	\$8,250.01	\$13,357.34	\$3,487.13	\$14,839.54	\$10,436.17	\$9,625.31	\$16,946.20	\$37,251.46	\$253,875.78
Total Ministries Fund Income	\$96,726.64	\$141,167.12	\$113,931.02	\$57,103.96	\$78,211.63	\$51,640.32	\$34,289.08	\$39,050.99	\$36,990.15	\$49,137.76	\$91,107.47	\$109,440.79	\$898,796.93

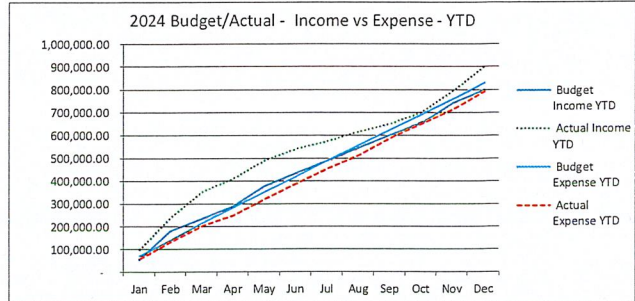
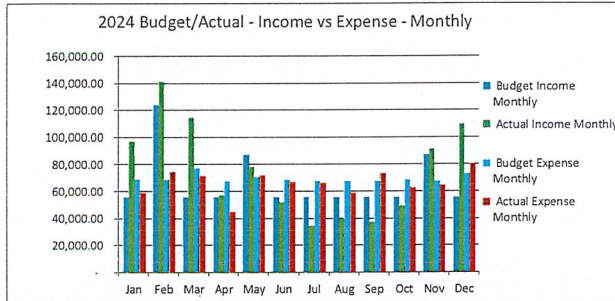
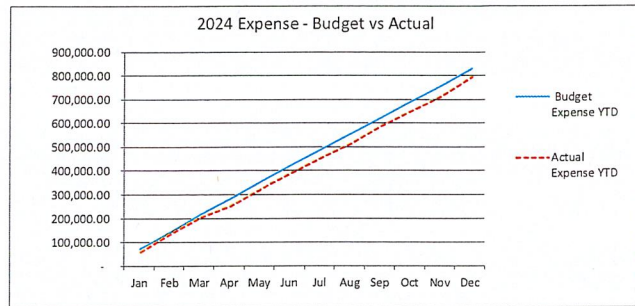
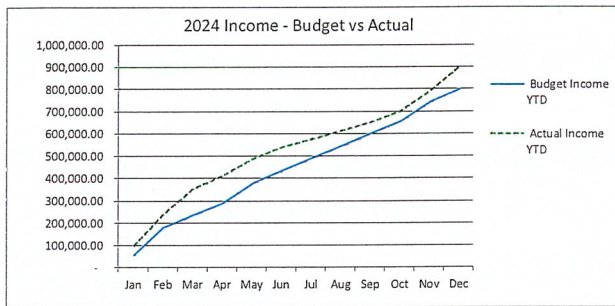
Ministries Fund Expense

Total Administration Expense	\$16,865.19	\$31,523.40	\$1,485.39	(\$589.05)	\$31,354.41	\$11,107.44	\$24,281.91	\$15,319.12	\$13,254.17	\$18,388.64	\$18,484.83	\$20,904.38	\$202,379.83
Total Buildings & Grounds Expense	\$10,647.00	\$8,168.37	\$19,304.45	\$9,066.45	\$8,774.56	\$16,330.71	\$9,797.61	\$8,680.96	\$20,507.45	\$12,355.17	\$9,895.26	\$18,388.76	\$151,916.75
Total Christian Education Expense	\$2,670.00	\$2,754.00	\$3,454.59	\$3,262.54	\$2,763.00	\$3,307.13	\$3,163.14	\$2,525.00	\$4,999.84	\$1,263.50	\$3,734.22	\$3,553.37	\$37,450.33
Total Clergy Expense	\$19,208.72	\$20,405.83	\$30,562.89	\$21,669.73	\$18,613.85	\$20,630.96	\$19,325.90	\$19,905.46	\$19,743.86	\$19,211.85	\$19,351.14	\$19,218.81	\$247,849.00
Total Music Expense	\$6,891.96	\$6,997.20	\$8,560.67	\$6,944.58	\$6,944.58	\$6,944.58	\$6,944.58	\$9,791.35	\$10,485.58	\$6,944.58	\$8,613.64	\$9,247.51	\$95,310.81
Total Pilgrim Fellowship Expense	\$2,038.24	\$4,101.00	\$2,911.29	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,591.19	\$2,440.49	\$2,500.00	\$3,545.67	\$2,916.22	\$2,500.00	\$2,895.10	\$33,439.20
Total Outreach Expense	\$569.11	\$270.34	\$5,153.05	\$1,974.39	\$689.69	\$6,121.28	\$487.07	\$263.39	\$754.34	\$1,749.08	\$1,815.59	\$6,312.84	\$26,160.17
Total Ministries Fund Expense	\$58,890.22	\$74,220.14	\$71,432.33	\$44,828.64	\$71,640.09	\$67,033.29	\$66,440.70	\$58,985.28	\$73,290.91	\$62,829.04	\$64,394.68	\$80,520.77	\$794,506.09

Difference

	\$37,836.42	\$66,946.98	\$42,498.69	\$12,275.32	\$6,571.54	(\$15,392.97)	(\$32,151.62)	(\$19,934.29)	(\$36,300.76)	(\$13,691.28)	\$26,712.79	\$28,920.02	\$104,290.84
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The graphs below show how we did financially compared to the approved Budget and includes all accounts included in the Ministries Fund. The graphs include the 2024 Income – Budget vs Actual, the 2024 Expense – Budget vs Actual, 2024 Budget/Actual - Income vs Expense – Monthly and the 2024 Budget/Actual - Income vs Expense - YTD. In 2024, we were above our total income budget for the year by 13%. Also in 2024, we were under our total expense budget by 6.9%. In fact, we were under budget in almost all Expense Categories while still maintaining the high quality of our many ministries at First Church. Great Job everyone!



The remaining Funds under Net Assets are monitored by individual committees within the church. The total Net Assets for 2024, including the Ministries Fund were \$430,888.46 and the sum of the Liabilities and Net Assets, \$455,272.50, matches the total assets.

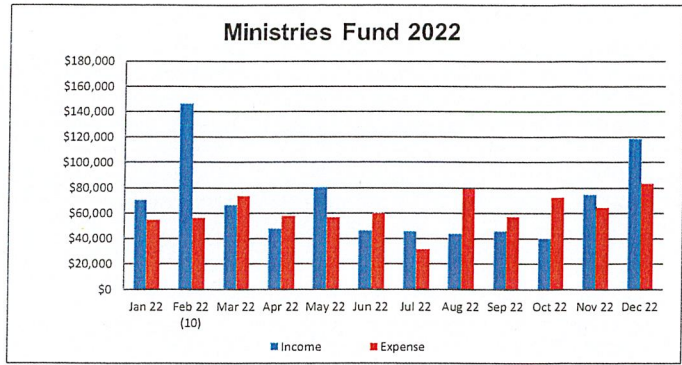
The Cash Flow Analysis on the next page compares the Income and Expenses of the Ministries Fund for 2022, 2023 and 2024.

CASH FLOW ANALYSIS

Data from Treasurer's Reports

Current Church Cashflow 2022

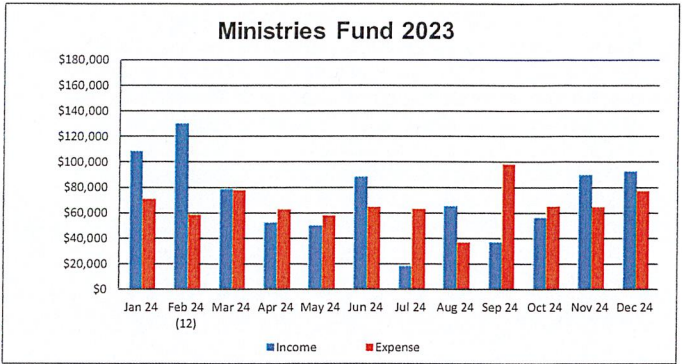
Date	Income	Expense	Surplus / (Deficit)	Annual Surplus (Deficit)	Prev.Yr Carryover Surplus (Deficit)
Jan 22	70,887.93	55,117.29	15,770.64	15,770.64	
Feb 22 ⁽¹⁰⁾	146,584.27	56,592.25	89,992.02	105,762.66	82,020.95
Mar 22	66,536.08	73,708.84	(7,172.76)	98,589.90	
Apr 22	48,328.71	58,187.52	(9,858.81)	88,731.09	
May 22	80,620.26	56,787.62	23,832.64	112,563.73	
Jun 22	46,434.58	59,957.63	(13,523.05)	99,040.68	
Jul 22	45,943.51	31,844.80	14,098.71	113,139.39	
Aug 22	43,691.96	79,645.90	(35,953.94)	77,185.45	
Sep 22	45,766.44	57,582.36	(11,815.92)	65,369.53	
Oct 22	40,420.22	72,630.41	(32,210.19)	33,159.34	
Nov 22	74,980.83	65,115.02	9,865.81	43,025.15	
Dec 22	118,877.20	83,900.56	34,976.64	78,001.79	
2022 YTD Totals	829,071.99	751,070.20		78,001.79	



Data from Treasurer's Reports

Current Church Cashflow 2023

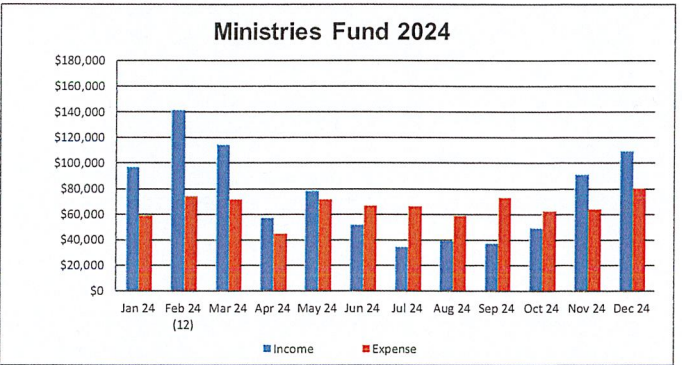
Date	Income	Expense	Surplus / (Deficit)	Annual Surplus (Deficit)	Prev.Yr Carryover Surplus (Deficit)
Jan 23	108,625.31	71,099.54	37,525.77	37,525.77	
Feb 23 ⁽¹¹⁾	130,425.46	58,564.32	71,861.14	109,386.91	78,001.79
Mar 23	78,492.24	78,099.17	393.07	109,779.98	
Apr 23	52,111.50	62,750.99	(10,639.49)	99,140.49	
May 23	50,251.42	57,900.84	(7,649.42)	91,491.07	
Jun 23	88,482.48	64,688.29	23,794.19	115,285.26	
Jul 23	18,044.46	63,129.10	(45,084.64)	70,200.62	
Aug 23	65,326.60	37,309.46	28,017.14	98,217.76	
Sep 23	36,994.11	98,444.61	(61,450.50)	36,767.26	
Oct 23	56,573.08	65,523.84	(8,950.76)	27,816.50	
Nov 23	90,082.68	64,855.30	25,227.38	53,043.88	
Dec 23	92,480.37	77,450.47	15,029.90	68,073.78	
2023 YTD Totals	867,889.71	799,815.93		68,073.78	



Data from Treasurer's Reports

Current Church Cashflow 2024

Date	Income	Expense	Surplus / (Deficit)	Annual Surplus (Deficit)	Prev.Yr Carryover Surplus (Deficit)
Jan 24	96,726.64	58,890.22	37,836.42	37,836.42	
Feb 24 ⁽¹²⁾	141,167.12	74,220.14	66,946.98	104,783.40	68,073.78
Mar 24	113,931.02	71,432.33	42,498.69	147,282.09	
Apr 24	57,103.96	44,828.64	12,275.32	159,557.41	
May 24	78,211.63	71,640.09	6,571.54	166,128.95	
Jun 24	51,640.32	67,033.29	(15,392.97)	150,735.98	
Jul 24	34,289.08	66,440.70	(32,151.62)	118,584.36	
Aug 24	39,050.99	58,985.28	(19,934.29)	98,650.07	
Sep 24	36,990.15	73,290.91	(36,300.76)	62,349.31	
Oct 24	49,137.76	62,829.04	(13,691.28)	48,658.03	
Nov 24	91,107.47	64,394.68	26,712.79	75,370.82	
Dec 24	109,440.79	80,520.77	28,920.02	104,290.84	
2024 YTD Totals	898,796.93	794,506.09		104,290.84	



Note: Current month's income & expense data subject to correction next month

(10) Income amount includes \$82,020.95 surplus from 2021 added to Income Account 401302 in Ministries Fund for 2022

(11) Income amount includes \$78,001.79 surplus from 2022 added to Income Account 401302 in Ministries Fund for 2023

(12) Income amount includes \$68,073.78 surplus from 2023 added to Income Account 401302 in Ministries Fund for 2024

Budgeted Financial Statement

The Budgeted Financial Statement shows the actual activity within each Income and Expense account the church uses to track its finances, the budgeted annual amount for each account, and the differences between Actual and Budgeted amounts by account. The 2024 report is attached.

The Ministries Fund Income accounts range from 400000 to 409999 and the Ministries Fund Expense accounts range from 500000 to 509999. The Ministries Fund Income accounts are subdivided to match the Income subtotals on the Statement of Financial Position. Donations from parishioners who pledged are included accounts 400000 to 400199; contributions to Designated Funds are included in accounts 400200 to 400999; and miscellaneous income are included in accounts 401000 to 409999. Likewise, the Ministries Fund Expense accounts are subdivided to match the Expense subtotals on the Statement of Financial Position. Costs for administration are included in accounts 501000 to 501999, for buildings & grounds in accounts 502000 to 502999, for Christian education in accounts 503000 to 503999, for clergy in accounts 504000 to 504999, for music in accounts 505000 to 505999, for Pilgrim Fellowship in accounts 506000 to 506999, and for outreach in accounts 507000 to 508999.

The Income Accounts that range from 410000 to 499999 and the Expense Accounts that range from 510000 to 599999 are not budgeted by Church Council, but they do role up to the other Balance Funds that are monitored by individual committees and are listed in the Statement of Financial Position.

Other News

Nothing else to report.

Respectfully Submitted,
Paul Kuehn, Treasurer

Statement of Financial Position for Period 12 - December
 Company#: 1 Name: First Congregational Church of Guilford
 Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2024

<u>Account</u>	<u>Beginning of Year</u>	<u>YTD Current</u>
ASSETS		
Cash Assets		
110102 Webster Checking Account	\$209,045.73	\$180,142.75
110104 Webster Money Market	\$45,927.82	\$0.00
110105 GSB - Checking	\$0.00	\$0.00
110110 GSB - Savings	\$50,401.35	\$100,585.16
110111 GSB - CD - 6 Month Maturity on 05-06-2024	\$50,210.82	\$113,951.90
110160 GSB Women's Fellowship & Outreach Checking	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Cash Assets	\$355,585.72	\$394,679.81
Short Term Investments		
120140 GSB Rental Deposit Spencer House	\$3,000.13	\$3,000.44
120150 GSB Sabbatical Fund CD	\$0.00	\$0.00
120200 Vanguard Group Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00
120205 Vanguard Future Organ Repair	\$0.00	\$0.00
120210 CTUCC Consolidated Trust Fund - UMF	\$50,344.28	\$57,592.25
Total Short Term Investments	\$53,344.41	\$60,592.69
Non-Cash Assets		
130100 Grocery Card Asset	\$3,686.00	\$0.00
Total Non-Cash Assets	\$3,686.00	\$0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$412,616.13	\$455,272.50
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS		
LIABILITIES		
200000 Accounts Payable/Vendors	\$0.00	\$0.00
200100 Citizens Bank Credit Card Account	\$670.24	\$0.00
200300 Employee Health/Dental Insurance	\$4,471.44	\$4,471.46
200500 Employee Annuity	(\$13,106.00)	(\$13,106.00)
210101 Payroll Taxes & Withholding	\$0.00	\$0.00
210121 Escrow Ministries Fund	\$27,410.00	\$0.00
210122 Trustee Endowment Transfer Account	\$0.00	\$30,000.00
211130 Rental Deposit - Spencer House	\$3,000.13	\$3,000.44
230100 Net Payroll	\$0.00	\$18.14
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$22,445.81	\$24,384.04
FUND BALANCE		
301100 Ministries Fund Balance	\$68,073.78	\$104,290.84

Statement of Financial Position for Period 12 - December
 Company#: 1 Name: First Congregational Church of Guilford
 Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2024

<u>Account</u>	<u>Beginning of Year</u>	<u>YTD Current</u>
301200 Ministries Fund Previous Years' Carryover Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00
311100 2020 Paycheck Protection Program/EIDL Fund Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00
312100 Audit Fund Balance	\$2,100.00	\$2,800.00
312200 Grocery Card Fund Balance	(\$7,638.44)	(\$7,176.44)
313100 Reserved for Council/Congregation Fund Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00
313200 First Church Fundraising Fund Balance	\$48.84	\$1,278.42
313300 CTUCC Consolidated Trust Fund Balance	\$344.28	\$7,592.25
325100 Major Repair Fund Balance	\$19,553.77	(\$1,412.08)
327100 Internal Building Escrow Fund Balance	\$5,951.95	\$5,951.95
332100 Church School Fund Balance	\$374.47	\$374.47
334100 Adult Education Fund Balance	\$37,656.23	\$38,949.22
334200 Mission Trip Fund Balance	\$4,978.13	\$7,015.13
341100 Clergy Professional Development Fund Balance	\$433.13	\$307.78
341200 Staff Appreciation Fund Balance	\$0.00	(\$108.80)
342100 Pastors' Discretionary Fund Balance	\$20,753.69	\$38,481.36
342200 Guilford Foundation Housing Grant Fund Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00
342300 Special Service Fund Balance	\$0.00	(\$424.68)
342400 Unrestricted Donation Fund Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00
343100 Wedding Deposit Fund Balance	\$2,675.00	\$3,075.00
352100 Annual Memorial Concert Fund Balance	\$9,462.61	\$8,387.61
352200 Hymnals Fund Balance	\$735.45	\$735.45
352300 Music Transformation Fund Balance	\$585.94	\$585.94
352400 Myrtha Licht Music Fund Balance	\$10,657.73	\$13,265.42
352500 Mitchell Memorial Choir Fund Balance	\$5,747.54	\$6,879.06
353100 Eric & Ann Sandin Organ Repair Fund Balance	\$2,137.00	\$2,987.00
362100 PF Service Fund Balance	\$58,769.47	\$61,429.06
362200 PF Escrow Fund Balance	(\$8,456.68)	\$28.55
372100 CGJ Miscellaneous Fund Balance	\$0.00	\$3,023.00
372200 CGJ Betsy & Clyde Work Fund Balance	\$16,529.69	\$15,972.64
372300 CGJ Prison Reentry Children Support Fund Balance	\$1,359.98	\$859.98
372400 CGJ Disaster Relief Fund Balance	\$0.00	\$1,814.10
372500 CGJ Environmental Ministry Fund Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00
372600 One Great Hour of Sharing Fund Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00
373100 Peace Affirmation & Justice Fund Balance	\$30,445.66	\$12,098.64
373200 Asylum Family Fund Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00
374100 Refugee Resettlement Fund Balance	\$22,589.89	\$14,143.63
381100 Women's Fellowship & Outreach Fund Balance	\$3,149.50	\$465.09
381200 Harvest Fair Fund Balance	\$23,417.34	\$22,625.60
382100 Parish Care Team Fund Balance	\$1,603.98	\$1,603.98
383100 Deacons Fund Balance	\$17,472.27	\$15,191.32
383200 Davis Memorial Fund Balance	\$13,867.24	\$15,847.58
383300 Scholarship Fund Balance	\$860.68	\$1,010.19
383400 Sabbatical Fund Balance - Lead Minister VBC	\$3,437.20	\$6,237.20
383500 Sabbatical Fund Balance - Associate Minister MJM	\$8,000.00	\$10,800.00
384100 Flower Fund Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00

Statement of Financial Position for Period 12 - December
 Company#: 1 Name: First Congregational Church of Guilford
 Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2024

<u>Account</u>	<u>Beginning of Year</u>	<u>YTD Current</u>
385100 Memorial Committee Fund Balance	\$4,887.74	\$5,037.74
386100 Memorial Garden Fund Balance	\$7,605.26	\$8,865.26
389100 Historic Preservation Fund Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	<hr/> \$390,170.32	<hr/> \$430,888.46
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	<hr/> \$412,616.13	<hr/> \$455,272.50

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 - December 100.00%
 Company#: 1 Name: First Congregational Church of Guilford
 Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2024
 Department: 0 Default Department

<u>Account #</u> <u>Description</u>	<u>Actual Annual</u>	<u>Budget Annual</u>	<u>Difference</u> <u>(Actual - Budget)</u>
Ministries Fund Income			
Pledges to Ministries Fund			
400101 Ministries Fund Pledge Inc	\$552,689.12	\$541,636.00	\$11,053.12
400102 Ministries Fund Pre Paid P	\$22,000.00	\$0.00	\$22,000.00
400103 Ministries Fund Previous Y	\$6,642.00	\$5,000.00	\$1,642.00
Total Pledges to Ministries Fund	\$581,331.12	\$546,636.00	\$34,695.12
Designated Funds Contributions t			
400320 Designated Christian Educ	\$2,277.09	\$1,980.08	\$297.01
400420 Designated Ministers	\$1,009.79	\$1,009.79	\$0.00
400510 Designated Organist	\$1,921.59	\$1,921.59	\$0.00
400620 Designated PF Committee	\$6,000.00	\$7,000.00	(\$1,000.00)
400720 Designated CGJ	\$558.05	\$558.05	\$0.00
400820 Designated Parish Care Te	\$5,991.33	\$5,426.25	\$565.08
400840 Designated Flower Commi	\$1,062.68	\$992.68	\$70.00
400860 Designated Memorial Gar	\$770.26	\$770.26	\$0.00
400910 Designated Endowment	\$31,843.94	\$31,843.94	\$0.00
400920 Designated Endowment F	\$12,155.30	\$12,310.59	(\$155.29)
Total Designated Funds Contribut	\$63,590.03	\$63,813.23	(\$223.20)
Miscellaneous Ministries Income t			
401101 2020 Paycheck Protection	\$9,411.57	\$0.00	\$9,411.57
401201 Ministries Fund Extra Con	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
401202 Ministries Fund Unpledge	\$109,446.03	\$60,000.00	\$49,446.03
401203 Operating Fund Bank Inte	\$1.83	\$25.00	(\$23.17)
401204 Miscellaneous Income	\$4,863.58	\$1,000.00	\$3,863.58
401206 Grocery Card Net Income	\$1,192.00	\$2,500.00	(\$1,308.00)
401207 GSB Savings Account Inter	\$4,254.16	\$0.00	\$4,254.16
401208 GSB CD Account Interest	\$3,741.08	\$0.00	\$3,741.08
401302 Previous Years' Deficit/Su	\$68,073.78	\$68,073.78	\$0.00
402601 Use of Facilities Income	\$6,227.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,227.00
402602 Neighborhood Music Scho	\$4,704.75	\$8,000.00	(\$3,295.25)
402603 Spencer House Rental	\$33,000.00	\$36,000.00	(\$3,000.00)
406101 PF Contribution to PF Dir	\$0.00	\$6,000.00	(\$6,000.00)
406201 PF Contribution to PF Ope	\$7,000.00	\$0.00	\$7,000.00
407301 Peace, Affirmation & Just	\$1,460.00	\$2,500.00	(\$1,040.00)
Total Miscellaneous Ministries Inc	\$253,875.78	\$187,098.78	\$66,777.00
Total Ministries Fund Income	\$898,796.93	\$797,548.01	\$101,248.92
Designated Funds Income			
412101 Audit Fund Income	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$700.00
412201 Grocery Card - Big Y Inco	\$11,942.00	\$0.00	\$11,942.00
412202 Grocery Card - Bishops In	\$1,880.00	\$0.00	\$1,880.00
412203 Grocery Card - Stop & Sh	\$3,800.00	\$0.00	\$3,800.00
413203 Fundraising - B. Bishop Bl	\$2,634.00	\$0.00	\$2,634.00

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 - December 100.00%
 Company#: 1 Name: First Congregational Church of Guilford
 Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2024
 Department: 0 Default Department

<u>Account #</u> <u>Description</u>	<u>Actual Annual</u>	<u>Budget Annual</u>	<u>Difference</u> <u>(Actual - Budget)</u>
413301 CTUCC Consolidated Trust	\$1,162.92	\$0.00	\$1,162.92
425101 Major Repair Fund Income	\$62,039.16	\$0.00	\$62,039.16
434101 Adult Education Fund Inco	\$9,592.76	\$0.00	\$9,592.76
434201 Civil Rights Mission Trip In	\$3,100.00	\$0.00	\$3,100.00
442101 Pastors' Discretionary Fun	\$21,845.06	\$0.00	\$21,845.06
443101 Wedding Deposit Fund Inc	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
452101 Annual Memorial Concert	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
452401 Myrtha Licht Music Fund I	\$4,892.75	\$0.00	\$4,892.75
452501 Mitchell Memorial Choir F	\$1,506.52	\$0.00	\$1,506.52
453101 Eric & Ann Sandin Organ R	\$11,262.00	\$0.00	\$11,262.00
462101 PF Service Fund Income	\$1,230.65	\$0.00	\$1,230.65
462102 PF Endowment Interest In	\$9,660.49	\$0.00	\$9,660.49
462103 PF Fall Cleanup Income	\$4,815.00	\$0.00	\$4,815.00
462104 PF Santa Breakfast Incom	\$792.75	\$0.00	\$792.75
462105 PF Soup Dinner Income	\$905.00	\$0.00	\$905.00
462106 PF Cookie Walk Income	\$615.00	\$0.00	\$615.00
462107 PF Event Fund Raising Inc	\$317.00	\$0.00	\$317.00
462108 PF Sponsorship Drive Inco	\$17,870.00	\$0.00	\$17,870.00
462201 PF Escrow Fund Income	\$77,945.64	\$0.00	\$77,945.64
472101 CGJ Miscellaneous Other I	\$4,323.00	\$0.00	\$4,323.00
472401 CGJ Disaster Relief Incom	\$1,814.10	\$0.00	\$1,814.10
472601 One Great Hour of Sharin	\$5,043.00	\$0.00	\$5,043.00
474101 Refugee Resettlement Fu	\$1,397.67	\$0.00	\$1,397.67
481101 Women's Fellowship & Ou	\$465.09	\$0.00	\$465.09
481201 Harvest Fair Fund Income	\$22,234.10	\$0.00	\$22,234.10
483101 Deacons Fund Income	\$3,796.22	\$0.00	\$3,796.22
483201 Davis Memorial Fund Inco	\$1,980.34	\$0.00	\$1,980.34
483301 Scholarship Fund Income	\$2,009.51	\$0.00	\$2,009.51
483401 Sabbatical Fund Income -	\$2,800.00	\$0.00	\$2,800.00
483501 Sabbatical Fund Income -	\$2,800.00	\$0.00	\$2,800.00
485101 Memorial Committee Fun	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
486101 Memorial Garden Fund In	\$2,200.00	\$0.00	\$2,200.00
Total Designated Funds Income	\$301,971.73	\$0.00	\$301,971.73

Ministries Fund Expense

Administration Expense

501102 Office Administrator	\$20,170.00	\$19,600.00	\$570.00
501103 Bookkeeper and Data Man	\$27,426.87	\$26,009.28	\$1,417.59
501104 Staff Appreciation	\$17.98	\$2,500.00	(\$2,482.02)
501105 Lead Minister Sabbatical	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00	\$0.00
501106 Associate Minister Sabbati	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00	\$0.00
501107 Staff FICA & Medicare	\$18,202.75	\$18,777.00	(\$574.25)
501108 Staff Life/Disability Insur	\$4,331.40	\$4,004.00	\$327.40
501109 Worker's Compensation In	\$1,206.00	\$4,452.00	(\$3,246.00)
501110 Ministry Assistant	\$16,499.74	\$18,378.00	(\$1,878.26)
501111 Communication Specialist	\$11,703.23	\$11,154.87	\$548.36

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 - December 100.00%
 Company#: 1 Name: First Congregational Church of Guilford
 Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2024
 Department: 0 Default Department

<u>Account #</u> <u>Description</u>	<u>Actual Annual</u>	<u>Budget Annual</u>	<u>Difference</u> <u>(Actual - Budget)</u>
501201 Treasurer's Expense	(\$2,309.70)	\$510.00	(\$2,819.70)
501202 Financial Secretary Suppli	\$127.49	\$1,000.00	(\$872.51)
501203 Bank Charges	\$0.00	\$250.00	(\$250.00)
501204 Payroll Processing	\$4,691.99	\$2,447.00	\$2,244.99
501205 Miscellaneous Taxes/Inter	\$0.00	\$500.00	(\$500.00)
501206 Credit Card Clearing Acco	\$1,336.24	\$2,500.00	(\$1,163.76)
501207 Professional Services	\$0.00	\$500.00	(\$500.00)
501208 Audit Fund Transfer	\$700.00	\$700.00	\$0.00
501209 Postage	\$1,974.00	\$2,000.00	(\$26.00)
501210 Administrative Supplies	\$3,014.12	\$2,500.00	\$514.12
501211 Media Platform Services	\$6,511.83	\$6,000.00	\$511.83
501212 Advertising	\$1,019.00	\$1,000.00	\$19.00
501213 Carleton Housing Allowan	\$13,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$1,000.00
501214 Credit Card Use Expense	\$2,553.20	\$3,000.00	(\$446.80)
501301 Consociation Dues	\$1,538.50	\$2,250.00	(\$711.50)
501303 UCC Proportional Giving	\$62,000.04	\$62,000.00	\$0.04
501304 Staff Development Expen	\$0.00	\$250.00	(\$250.00)
501305 Council Chair Expense	\$0.00	\$50.00	(\$50.00)
501306 Church Historian	\$0.00	\$300.00	(\$300.00)
501307 Stewardship Committee	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	(\$1,000.00)
501308 Human Resources Commit	\$1,065.15	\$50.00	\$1,015.15
501309 Digital Resiliency	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	(\$5,000.00)
Total Administration Expense	\$202,379.83	\$216,282.15	(\$13,902.32)

Buildings & Grounds Expense

502101 Sexton's Compensation	\$26,275.00	\$26,000.00	\$275.00
502102 Health Insurance - Sexton	\$0.00	\$3,184.00	(\$3,184.00)
502103 Sunday Sexton	\$5,117.43	\$5,465.28	(\$347.85)
502201 Sexton's Supplies	\$1,989.07	\$2,000.00	(\$10.93)
502202 Printing/Copier Expense	\$5,456.10	\$4,500.00	\$956.10
502204 Internet/Telephone	\$9,704.62	\$5,150.00	\$4,554.62
502205 Property/Liability Insuran	\$31,969.75	\$45,000.00	(\$13,030.25)
502206 Snow Removal	\$440.00	\$5,000.00	(\$4,560.00)
502207 Cleaning Services	\$19,110.00	\$22,500.00	(\$3,390.00)
502208 Grounds Upkeep	\$8,666.11	\$5,000.00	\$3,666.11
502209 Rubbish Removal	\$4,248.00	\$2,500.00	\$1,748.00
502210 Fire Systems Monitoring &	\$873.21	\$1,800.00	(\$926.79)
502211 Security Systems	\$3,755.52	\$1,500.00	\$2,255.52
502212 IT System Maintenance	\$537.50	\$600.00	(\$62.50)
502213 Office Equipment	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	(\$1,000.00)
502301 Electricity - Church	\$3,777.89	\$3,000.00	\$777.89
502302 Electricity - Spencer Hous	\$3,993.13	\$4,500.00	(\$506.87)
502303 Electricity - 19 Church Str	\$4,248.50	\$4,000.00	\$248.50
502304 Fuel - Church	\$6,945.11	\$9,000.00	(\$2,054.89)
502305 Fuel - Spencer House	\$2,756.03	\$3,000.00	(\$243.97)
502306 Fuel - 19 Church Street	\$1,853.86	\$2,200.00	(\$346.14)

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 - December 100.00%
 Company#: 1 Name: First Congregational Church of Guilford
 Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2024
 Department: 0 Default Department

<u>Account #</u> <u>Description</u>	<u>Actual Annual</u>	<u>Budget Annual</u>	<u>Difference</u> <u>(Actual - Budget)</u>
502307 Water - Church	\$876.99	\$750.00	\$126.99
502308 Water - Spencer House	\$1,049.22	\$500.00	\$549.22
502309 Water - 19 Church Street	\$957.60	\$900.00	\$57.60
502401 Equipment-New	\$865.21	\$1,500.00	(\$634.79)
502402 Equipment-Repairs	\$654.98	\$1,200.00	(\$545.02)
502403 Repairs - Church	\$217.98	\$1,600.00	(\$1,382.02)
502404 Repairs - Spencer House	\$5,087.94	\$1,000.00	\$4,087.94
502405 Repairs - 19 Church Stree	\$490.00	\$1,000.00	(\$510.00)
502406 Contract Work	\$0.00	\$7,500.00	(\$7,500.00)
502502 Sound System Supplies	\$0.00	\$150.00	(\$150.00)
502801 House Committee	\$0.00	\$100.00	(\$100.00)
Total Buildings & Grounds Expens	\$151,916.75	\$173,099.28	(\$21,182.53)
Christian Education Expense			
503101 Director of Children & Fa	\$28,775.00	\$30,300.00	(\$1,525.00)
503102 Nursery Care Wages	\$2,436.39	\$5,159.00	(\$2,722.61)
503201 Library Materials	\$293.16	\$300.00	(\$6.84)
503202 Church School Materials	\$4,101.80	\$4,000.00	\$101.80
503301 Confirmation	\$696.63	\$1,000.00	(\$303.37)
503302 Vacation Bible School	\$575.64	\$600.00	(\$24.36)
503401 All Church Event	\$571.71	\$500.00	\$71.71
Total Christian Education Expens	\$37,450.33	\$41,859.00	(\$4,408.67)
Clergy Expense			
504101 Lead Minister Compensati	\$115,978.80	\$115,978.80	\$0.00
504103 Lead Minister SECA Adjust	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
504104 Associate Minister Compe	\$84,407.52	\$85,607.52	(\$1,200.00)
504105 Associate Minister Housin	\$30,000.00	\$28,800.00	\$1,200.00
504106 Associate Minister SECA A	\$5,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
504107 Interim Minister Compens	\$6.96	\$0.00	\$6.96
504110 Guest Preachers	\$401.30	\$2,500.00	(\$2,098.70)
504201 Lead Minister Travel & Pr	\$2,944.97	\$4,000.00	(\$1,055.03)
504202 Assoc. Minister Travel & P	\$4,109.45	\$4,000.00	\$109.45
Total Clergy Expense	\$247,849.00	\$248,386.32	(\$537.32)
Music Expense			
505101 Director of Music Compen	\$83,334.96	\$83,334.96	\$0.00
505102 Cherub Choir Director Wa	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	(\$3,000.00)
505103 Junior Choir Director Wag	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	(\$3,000.00)
505104 Substitute Organists & Mu	\$2,625.00	\$5,000.00	(\$2,375.00)
505201 Music Supplies	\$530.60	\$1,000.00	(\$469.40)
505202 Music Instrument Mainten	\$5,070.00	\$4,650.00	\$420.00
505203 Music Choral/Instrument	\$1,043.39	\$3,000.00	(\$1,956.61)
505204 Music Equipment	\$1,088.87	\$1,500.00	(\$411.13)
505205 Music Professional Develo	\$565.42	\$2,000.00	(\$1,434.58)
505206 Music Member & License	\$1,052.57	\$1,900.00	(\$847.43)

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 - December 100.00%
 Company#: 1 Name: First Congregational Church of Guilford
 Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2024
 Department: 0 Default Department

<u>Account #</u> <u>Description</u>	<u>Actual Annual</u>	<u>Budget Annual</u>	<u>Difference</u> <u>(Actual - Budget)</u>
Total Music Expense	\$95,310.81	\$108,384.96	(\$13,074.15)
Pilgrim Fellowship Expense			
506101 Pilgrim Fellowship Directo	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00
506201 PF Operating Expense	\$3,439.20	\$3,000.00	\$439.20
Total Pilgrim Fellowship Expense	\$33,439.20	\$33,000.00	\$439.20
Outreach Expense			
507101 Prison Ministry Coordinato	\$300.00	\$3,800.00	(\$3,500.00)
507201 CGJ Outreach	\$16,000.00	\$16,000.00	\$0.00
507301 Peace, Affirmation & Just	\$4,218.72	\$5,000.00	(\$781.28)
508201 Parish Care Team	\$589.51	\$2,500.00	(\$1,910.49)
508401 Flower Committee	\$1,802.17	\$3,275.00	(\$1,472.83)
508501 Memorial Committee	\$0.00	\$300.00	(\$300.00)
508601 Memorial Garden Commit	\$472.43	\$500.00	(\$27.57)
508701 Hospitality Committee	\$2,777.34	\$750.00	\$2,027.34
Total Outreach Expense	\$26,160.17	\$32,125.00	(\$5,964.83)
Total Ministries Fund Expense	\$794,506.09	\$853,136.71	(\$58,630.62)
Designated Funds Expense			
512201 Grocery Card - Big Y Expe	\$11,480.00	\$0.00	\$11,480.00
512202 Grocery Card - Bishops Ex	\$1,880.00	\$0.00	\$1,880.00
512203 Grocery Card - Stop & Sh	\$3,800.00	\$0.00	\$3,800.00
513203 Fundraising - B. Bishop Bl	\$1,004.42	\$0.00	\$1,004.42
513301 CTUCC Consolidated Trust	(\$6,085.05)	\$0.00	(\$6,085.05)
525101 Major Repair Fund Misc Ex	\$83,005.01	\$0.00	\$83,005.01
534101 Adult Education Fund Mis	\$8,299.77	\$0.00	\$8,299.77
534201 Civil Rights Mission Trip M	\$1,063.00	\$0.00	\$1,063.00
541101 Clergy Professional Devel	\$125.35	\$0.00	\$125.35
541201 Staff Appreciation Fund M	\$108.80	\$0.00	\$108.80
542101 Pastors' Discretionary Fun	\$4,117.39	\$0.00	\$4,117.39
542301 Special Service Fund Misc	\$424.68	\$0.00	\$424.68
552101 Annual Memorial Concert	\$1,125.00	\$0.00	\$1,125.00
552401 Myrtha Licht Music Fund	\$2,285.06	\$0.00	\$2,285.06
552501 Mitchell Memorial Choir F	\$375.00	\$0.00	\$375.00
553101 Eric & Ann Sandin Organ R	\$7,500.00	\$0.00	\$7,500.00
553102 Eric & Ann Sandin Organ R	\$2,912.00	\$0.00	\$2,912.00
562101 PF Service Fund Misc Exp	\$8,294.30	\$0.00	\$8,294.30
562103 PF Fall Cleanup Expense	\$48.84	\$0.00	\$48.84
562104 PF Santa Breakfast Expen	(\$113.60)	\$0.00	(\$113.60)
562105 PF Soup Dinner Expense	\$105.10	\$0.00	\$105.10
562107 PF Event Fund Raising Ex	\$130.12	\$0.00	\$130.12
562108 PF Sponsorship Drive Expe	\$121.54	\$0.00	\$121.54
562109 PF Trustee Scholarship Mi	\$1,700.00	\$0.00	\$1,700.00
562112 PF Mission Trip Material E	\$11,031.51	\$0.00	\$11,031.51

Budgeted Financial Statement for Period 12 - December 100.00%
 Company#: 1 Name: First Congregational Church of Guilford
 Fiscal Year Beginning 1/1/2024
 Department: 0 Default Department

<u>Account #</u> <u>Description</u>	<u>Actual Annual</u>	<u>Budget Annual</u>	<u>Difference</u> <u>(Actual - Budget)</u>
562113 PF Mission Trip Misc Expe	\$310.45	\$0.00	\$310.45
562114 PF Mission Trip Advisor Ex	\$5,249.07	\$0.00	\$5,249.07
562115 PF Mission Trip T-shirts Ex	\$626.44	\$0.00	\$626.44
562116 PF Mission Trip Medical Ki	\$42.53	\$0.00	\$42.53
562120 PF Transfer to Director Sa	\$6,000.00	\$0.00	\$6,000.00
562201 PF Escrow Fund Misc Expe	\$2,133.78	\$0.00	\$2,133.78
562202 PF Mission Trip Transporta	\$25,589.11	\$0.00	\$25,589.11
562203 PF Mission Trip Vehicle E	\$17,741.32	\$0.00	\$17,741.32
562204 PF Mission Trip Food & Ho	\$21,890.00	\$0.00	\$21,890.00
562205 PF Mission Trip Activity Ex	\$2,106.20	\$0.00	\$2,106.20
572101 CGJ Miscellaneous Other	\$1,300.00	\$0.00	\$1,300.00
572201 CGJ Betsy & Clyde Work F	\$557.05	\$0.00	\$557.05
572301 CGJ Prison Reentry Childr	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
572601 One Great Hour of Sharin	\$5,043.00	\$0.00	\$5,043.00
573101 Peace Affirmation & Justi	\$18,347.02	\$0.00	\$18,347.02
574101 Refugee Resettlement Fu	\$6,843.93	\$0.00	\$6,843.93
574102 Refugee Fund Rent Expen	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
581101 Women's Fellowship & Ou	\$3,142.06	\$0.00	\$3,142.06
581103 Women's Fellowship & Ou	\$7.44	\$0.00	\$7.44
581201 Harvest Fair Fund Misc Ex	\$23,025.84	\$0.00	\$23,025.84
583101 Deacons Fund Misc Expen	\$6,077.17	\$0.00	\$6,077.17
583301 Scholarship Fund Misc Exp	\$1,860.00	\$0.00	\$1,860.00
586101 Memorial Garden Fund Mi	\$940.00	\$0.00	\$940.00
Total Designated Funds Expense	\$297,070.65	\$0.00	\$297,070.65

FINANCIAL SECRETARY's 2024 REPORT

Overview of Giving (01/01/2024 - 12/31/2024)

Category	Amount
101 - Ministries Fund 2023 Pledge Income	\$1,190.00
101 - Ministries Fund 2024 Pledge Income	\$526,485.62
102 - Ministries Fund Pre Paid Pledge Income	\$24,300.00
103 - Ministries Fund Previous Year Pledge Income	\$6,642.00
109 - Hunger Fund	\$500.00
110 - Current Expense Unpledged	\$138,834.03
111 - Visitors	\$9,411.57
124 - Misc. Income to Offset Credit Card Fees	\$1,862.02
132 - Christian Education Special Programs	\$297.01
141 - Gift Cards Big Y	\$13,300.00
142 - Gift Cards Bishops	\$4,200.00
143 - Gift Cards Stop & Shop	\$5,000.00
147 - Fundraising B. Bishop Blueberry	\$2,441.00
161 - Use of Facilities	\$6,924.00
162 - Neighborhood Music School	\$4,007.75
163 - Spencer House Rent	\$33,000.00
173 - Peace Affirmation & Justice Committee Income	\$1,590.00
182 - Deaconesses Fund	\$100.00
189 - Flower Fund	\$70.00
341 - Adult Education Fund	\$2,634.00
342 - Civil Rights Mission Trip	\$2,800.00
421 - Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$21,100.00
431 - Wedding Account	\$400.00
521 - Memorial Concert Fund	\$50.00
524 - Myrtha Licht Music Fund	\$5,302.75
531 - Eric & Ann Sandin Organ Repair	\$11,262.00
621 - PF Service Income	\$1,230.65
643 - PF Fall Cleanup	\$6,615.00
644 - PF Santa Breakfast	\$792.75
645 - PF Soup Dinner	\$905.00
646 - PF Cookie Walk	\$615.00
647 - PF Event Fund Raising	\$317.00
648 - PF Sponsorship Drive	\$17,870.00
721 - Blanket Fund	\$1,000.00
723 - CGJ Disaster Relief General	\$1,814.10
724 - One Great Hour of Sharing	\$5,043.00

725 - CGJ Other Pass-through Giving	\$600.00
812 - Harvest Fair	\$2,564.99
831 - Deacons Fund	\$1,400.00
851 - Memorial Fund	\$150.00
861 - Memorial Garden Fund	\$200.00
862 - Memorial Garden Plot Purchase	\$2,000.00
922 - Trustee Endowment Transfer Account	\$5,000.00
Total	\$871,821.24

MJPotter, Financial Secretary, 1/18/25

First Congregational Church of Guilford

Proposed 2025 Budget 1-21-25 As recommended by Council

Acct # Description	<u>Annual Meeting</u> <u>Approved 2024 Budget</u>	2024 (Actual) -- preliminary EoY numbers	<u>Proposed 2025 Budget</u>
Ministries Fund Income			
Pledges to Ministries Fund			
400101 Ministries Fund Pledge Income	\$541,636.00	\$550,389.12	\$552,072.96
400102 Ministries Fund Pre Paid Pledge Income	\$0.00	\$22,000.00	\$0.00
400103 Ministries Fund Previous Year Pledge Income	\$5,000.00	\$6,642.00	\$5,000.00
Total Pledges to Ministries Fund	\$546,636.00	\$579,031.12	\$557,072.96
Designated Funds Contributions to Ministries Fund			
400250 Designated Major Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
400320 Designated Christian Education Committee	\$1,980.08	\$2,277.09	\$2,211.81
400420 Designated Ministers	\$1,009.79	\$1,009.79	\$1,127.97
400510 Designated Organist	\$1,921.59	\$1,921.59	\$89.67
400620 Designated PF Committee/Relayed to Min Fund 406101	\$7,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
400720 Designated CGJ	\$558.05	\$558.05	\$623.36
400820 Designated Parish Care Team	\$5,426.25	\$5,991.33	\$7,118.42
400840 Designated Flower Committee	\$992.68	\$1,062.68	\$1,125.49
400860 Designated Memorial Garden Committee	\$770.26	\$770.26	\$860.40
400910 Designated Endowment	\$31,843.94	\$31,843.94	\$35,606.51
400920 Designated Endowment Fund - Carlton House	\$12,310.59	\$12,155.30	\$12,627.80
4009xxx - new allocation	N/A	N/A	\$12,525.82
Total Designated Funds Contributions to Ministries Fund	\$63,813.23	\$63,590.03	\$79,917.25
Miscellaneous Ministries Income to Ministries Fund			
401101 2020 Paycheck Protection Pgm/EIDL Special Income	\$0.00	\$9,411.57	N/A
401201 Ministries Fund Extra Contributions	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
401202 Ministries Fund Unpledged Income	\$60,000.00	\$139,446.03	\$60,000.00
****Adjustment to 401202		-\$30,000.00	N/A
401203 Operating Fund Bank Interest	\$25.00	\$1.83	\$25.00
401204 Miscellaneous Income	\$1,000.00	\$4,863.58	\$1,000.00
401206 Grocery Card Net Income	\$2,500.00	\$1,192.00	\$0.00
401207 GSB Savings Account Interest	\$0.00	\$3,998.90	\$2,000.00
401208 GSB CD Account Interest	\$0.00	\$3,722.36	\$2,000.00
401302 Previous Years' Deficit/Surplus	\$68,073.78	\$68,073.78	\$77,990.84
402601 Use of Facilities Income	\$3,000.00	\$6,227.00	\$4,000.00
402602 Neighborhood Music School	\$8,000.00	\$4,704.75	\$5,000.00
402603 Spencer House Rental	\$36,000.00	\$33,000.00	\$36,000.00
406201 PF Contribution to PF Operating Program Expense	\$6,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
407301 Peace, Affirmation & Justice Committee Income	\$2,500.00	\$1,460.00	\$2,500.00
Total Miscellaneous Ministries Income to Ministries Fund	\$187,098.78	\$253,601.80	\$197,515.84
Total Ministries Fund Income	\$797,548.01	\$896,222.95	\$834,506.05
Ministries Fund Expense			
Administration Expense			
501101 Office Manager's Compensation	\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
501102 Office Administrator	\$19,600.00	\$20,170.00	\$19,600.00
501103 Bookkeeper and Data Manager	\$26,009.28	\$27,426.87	\$24,499.92
Part time office			\$7,000.00
501104 Staff Appreciation	\$2,500.00	\$17.98	\$2,500.00
501105 Lead Minister Sabbatical Transfer	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00
501106 Associate Minister Sabbatical Transfer	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00
501107 Staff FICA & Medicare	\$18,777.00	\$18,202.75	\$16,713.00

501108 Staff Life/Disability Insurance	\$4,004.00	\$4,331.40	\$3,984.03
501109 Worker's Compensation Insurance	\$4,452.00	\$1,206.00	\$4,452.00
501110 Ministry Assistant	\$18,378.00	\$16,499.74	\$0.00
501111 Communication Specialist	\$11,154.87	\$11,703.23	\$11,657.10
501201 Treasurer's Expense	\$510.00	-\$2,309.70	\$510.00
501202 Financial Secretary Supplies	\$1,000.00	\$127.49	\$1,000.00
501203 Bank Charges	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
501204 Payroll Processing	\$2,447.00	\$4,691.99	\$4,700.00
501205 Miscellaneous Taxes/Interest/Penalties	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
501206 Credit Card Clearing Account	\$2,500.00	\$1,884.43	\$2,500.00
501207 Professional Services	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
501208 Audit Fund Transfer	\$700.00	\$700.00	\$700.00
501209 Postage	\$2,000.00	\$1,974.00	\$2,000.00
501210 Administrative Supplies	\$2,500.00	\$3,014.12	\$3,000.00
501211 Media Platform Services	\$6,000.00	\$6,511.83	\$6,700.00
501212 Advertising	\$1,000.00	\$1,019.00	\$1,000.00
501213 Carleton Housing Allowance	\$12,000.00	\$13,000.00	\$12,000.00
501214 Credit Card Use Expense	\$3,000.00	\$2,553.20	\$3,000.00
501301 Consociation Dues	\$2,250.00	\$1,538.50	\$2,250.00
501303 UCC Proportional Giving	\$62,000.00	\$62,000.04	\$62,000.00
501304 Staff Development Expense	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
501305 Council Chair Expense	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
501306 Church Historian	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
501307 Stewardship Committee	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
501308 Human Resources Committee	\$50.00	\$1,065.15	\$600.00
501309 Digital Resiliency	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
Total Administration Expense	\$210,782.15	\$202,928.02	\$202,816.05
Buildings & Grounds Expense			
502101 Sexton's Compensation	\$26,000.00	\$26,275.00	\$27,175.20
502102 Health Insurance - Sexton	\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
502103 Sunday Sexton	\$5,465.28	\$5,117.43	\$5,712.24
502201 Sexton's Supplies	\$2,000.00	\$1,989.07	\$3,000.00
502202 Printing/Copier Expense	\$4,500.00	\$5,456.10	\$5,500.00
502204 Internet/Telephone	\$5,150.00	\$9,704.62	\$4,500.00
502205 Property/Liability Insurance	\$45,000.00	\$31,969.75	\$48,000.00
502206 Snow Removal	\$5,000.00	\$440.00	\$2,000.00
502207 Cleaning Services	\$22,500.00	\$19,110.00	\$19,500.00
502208 Grounds Upkeep	\$5,000.00	\$8,666.11	\$8,800.00
502209 Rubbish Removal	\$2,500.00	\$4,248.00	\$2,500.00
502210 Fire Systems Monitoring & Maintenance	\$0.00	\$873.21	\$500.00
502211 Security Systems	\$1,500.00	\$3,755.52	\$3,800.00
502212 IT System Maintenance	\$600.00	\$537.50	\$600.00
502213 Office Equipment	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
502301 Electricity - Church	\$3,000.00	\$3,777.89	\$4,000.00
502302 Electricity - Spencer House	\$4,500.00	\$3,993.13	\$4,500.00
502303 Electricity - 19 Church Street	\$4,000.00	\$4,248.50	\$4,200.00
502304 Fuel - Church	\$9,000.00	\$6,945.11	\$8,000.00
502305 Fuel - Spencer House	\$3,000.00	\$2,756.03	\$3,500.00
502306 Fuel - 19 Church Street	\$2,200.00	\$1,853.86	\$2,500.00
502307 Water - Church	\$750.00	\$876.99	\$800.00
502308 Water - Spencer House	\$500.00	\$1,049.22	\$1,100.00
502309 Water - 19 Church Street	\$900.00	\$957.60	\$1,000.00
502401 Equipment-New	\$1,500.00	\$865.21	\$1,500.00
502402 Equipment-Repairs	\$1,200.00	\$654.98	\$1,200.00
502403 Repairs - Church	\$1,600.00	\$217.98	\$1,600.00
502404 Repairs - Spencer House	\$1,000.00	\$5,087.94	\$2,500.00
502405 Repairs - 19 Church Street	\$1,000.00	\$490.00	\$1,000.00
502406 Contract work	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
502502 Sound System Supplies	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
502801 House Committee	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Buildings & Grounds Expense	\$160,615.28	\$151,916.75	\$170,187.44

Christian Education Expense			
503101 Director CE	\$30,300.00	\$28,775.00	\$23,400.00
503102 Nursery Care Wages	\$5,159.00	\$2,436.39	\$2,720.00
503103 Health Insurance-Director Child & Youth Ministries	\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
503201 Library Materials	\$300.00	\$293.16	\$300.00
503202 Church School Materials	\$4,000.00	\$3,897.07	\$4,000.00
503301 Confirmation	\$1,000.00	\$696.63	\$1,000.00
503302 Vacation Bible School	\$600.00	\$538.22	\$600.00
503401 All Church Event	\$500.00	\$571.71	\$600.00
Total Christian Education Expense	\$41,859.00	\$37,208.18	\$32,620.00
Clergy Expense			
504101 Lead Minister Compensation	\$115,978.80	\$115,978.80	\$119,460.48
504103 Lead Minister SECA Adjustment	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
504104 Associate Minister Compensation	\$85,607.52	\$84,407.52	\$87,168.48
504105 Associate Minister Housing Allowance	\$28,800.00	\$30,000.00	\$28,800.00
504106 Associate Minister SECA Adjustment	\$2,500.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
504107 Interim Minister Compensation	\$0.00	\$6.96	\$0.00
504110 Guest Preachers	\$2,500.00	\$401.30	\$2,500.00
504201 Lead Minister Travel & Professional Development	\$4,000.00	\$2,944.97	\$4,000.00
504202 Assoc. Minister Travel & Professional Development	\$4,000.00	\$4,109.45	\$4,000.00
Total Clergy Expense	\$248,386.32	\$247,849.00	\$255,928.96
Music Expense			
505101 Director of Music Compensation	\$83,334.96	\$83,334.96	\$86,204.16
505102 Cherub Choir Director Wages	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
505103 Junior Choir Director Wages	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
505104 Substitute Organists & Musicians	\$5,000.00	\$2,625.00	\$5,000.00
505201 Music Supplies	\$1,000.00	\$530.60	\$1,000.00
505202 Music Instrument Maintenance	\$4,650.00	\$5,070.00	\$4,650.00
505203 Music Choral/Instrument Purchase	\$3,000.00	\$1,043.39	\$3,000.00
505204 Music Equipment	\$1,500.00	\$1,088.87	\$1,500.00
505205 Music Professional Development	\$2,000.00	\$565.42	\$2,000.00
505206 Music Member & License Fees	\$1,900.00	\$1,052.57	\$1,900.00
Total Music Expense	\$108,384.96	\$95,310.81	\$111,254.16
Pilgrim Fellowship Expense			
506101 PF Director	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$31,350.00
506201 PF Operating Expense	\$3,000.00	\$3,190.98	\$5,000.00
Total Pilgrim Fellowship Expense	\$33,000.00	\$33,190.98	\$36,350.00
Outreach Expense			
507101 Prison Ministry Coordinator Honorarium	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
507201 CGJ Outreach	\$16,000.00	\$16,000.00	\$16,000.00
507301 Peace, Affirmation & Justice Committee	\$5,000.00	\$4,218.72	\$5,000.00
508201 Parish Care Team	\$2,500.00	\$589.51	\$1,000.00
508401 Flower Committee	\$3,275.00	\$1,802.17	\$2,000.00
508501 Memorial Committee	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
508601 Memorial Garden Committee	\$500.00	\$472.43	\$500.00
508701 Hospitality Committee	\$0.00	\$2,777.34	\$3,500.00
508702 Welcome and Inclusion	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Outreach Expense	\$27,875.00	\$26,160.17	\$28,300.00
Total Ministries Fund Expense	\$830,902.71	\$794,563.91	\$837,456.61
DELTA:	-\$33,354.70	\$104,290.84	-\$2,950.56
CHALLENGE FUNDS for Ministers' Discretionary Fund		-\$2,000.00	
Less 2025 prepaid - can't be counted in oth 2024 an both years		-\$24,300.00	
Estimated carryover from 2024 to 2025		\$77,990.84	