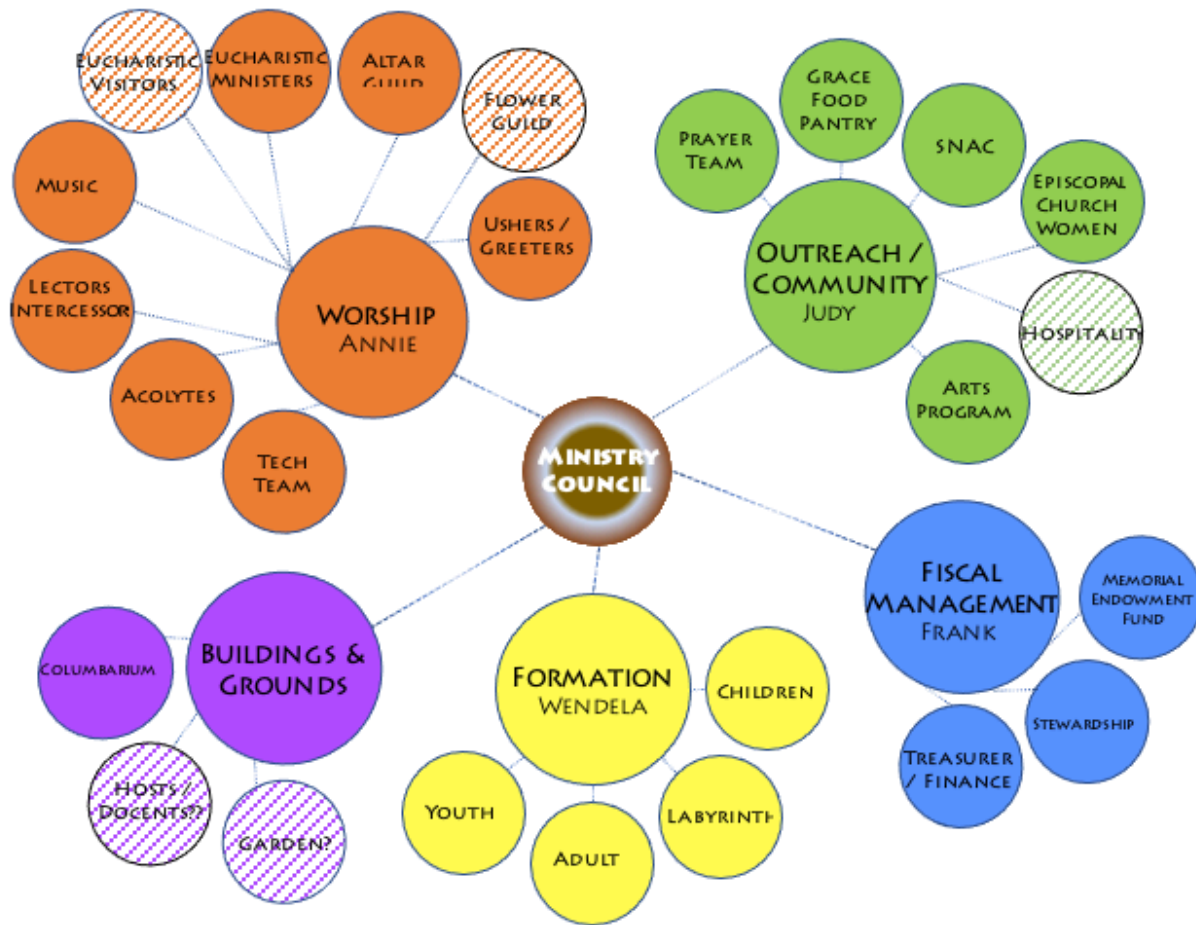


GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



THE RIGHT REVEREND DIANA AKIYAMA, BISHOP
DIOCESE OF WESTERN OREGON

THE REVEREND CARREN SHELDON, RECTOR



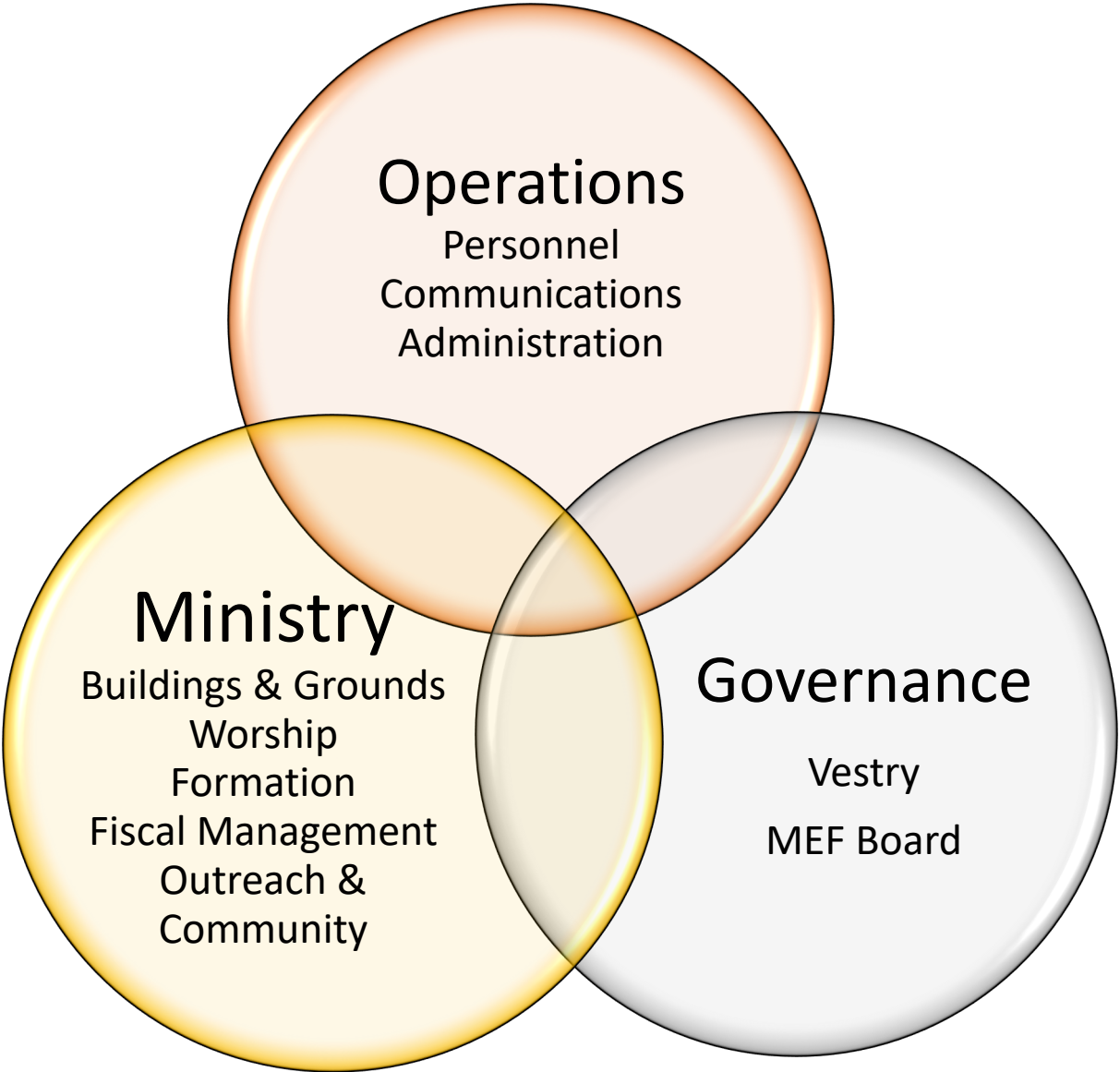
GRACE MINISTRY COUNCIL 2023

The Grace Ministry Council members were commissioned at last year's annual meeting; the council is still in its formative stage, with one team seeking its chair. After so much waiting, it is hard for us to resist the urge just to *get things done*; but sometimes *doing stuff* distracts us from the greater challenge of building relationships, cooperation, and a spirit of delight.

Part of our work is to learn the art of sharing responsibility. In the past, our parish has had to rely on individuals and small groups who worked independently shouldering big jobs and heavy burdens, and now we have room to begin to grow in cooperation. It's a big change: we were 6 months into the year before the Ministry Council had the revelation that Fiscal Ministries might be of assistance in ECW's rummage sale! After decades of successful sales running as smoothly as a well-oiled machine, it hadn't crossed anyone's mind that another ministry could add value to the event, but Fiscal Ministries is responsible for cash handling practices and credit card processing. We were ready to work together when ECW started planning its February 2024 book sale, and we're sure to learn things which will be helpful with the next church fundraisers, too.

“Striped” bubbles on our diagram represent ministries for which there is a purpose and interest, but not yet the right support and leadership. There are many opportunities at Grace for new members to make a difference and for old friends to find a fresh way to serve. We are brushing up our skills for empowering and appreciating new leaders and nurturing new ministries.

Stuff still gets done at Grace, but our real work is in building up the body of Christ, of a healthy community, with supportive leadership, direct communication, deepening relationships and joy! Please pray for the quality of our parish relationships in 2024.



WORSHIP MINISTRIES | Annie Dolber, Chair

Worship services have been the main way we gather as a community of faith: Sunday Eucharist, weekday Morning Prayer, and Wednesday Evening Prayer. Often, innovations enlivened our worship: seasonally, the Eucharistic liturgy changed to keep our prayer fresh, using the *Book of Common Prayer*, *Enriching Our Worship*, and other resources. Prayers of the People have been featuring selections from *Intercessions for Christian People*, which tie in with the readings each Sunday and relate them to our current experience. Some liturgical highlights in the seasons of 2023:

Epiphany

We celebrated this feast day with Holy Eucharist in the freezing cold; it was the first of three outdoor worship services in 2023. Attendance was sparse, as many congregants already had celebrated the feast day with an ECW retreat gathering in the Parish Hall.

Lent

We resumed the regular use of service music in the Eucharist, and began our Sunday services with the Penitential Order. Our weekly Evening Prayer included liturgies of the Celtic tradition, and our Fridays in Lent tradition continued with local musicians providing music for contemplation and self-guided Stations of the Cross.



Easter

The Easter Vigil's baptism and stories of Creation had a sense of immersion, thanks to films of water projected on the sanctuary walls by filmmaker Isabel Dunn; a sunrise Eucharist was celebrated in stormy weather at the South Jetty.



The Season of Creation

Liturgy focused on the earth as an expression of God's love: it began with an outdoor service and ran through October 4 with the Blessing of the Animals at Evening Prayer. In Morning Prayer during that time we read the Gospel from the First Nations translation of the New Testament.



Feast of All Saints

Evening Prayer featured a necrology and candle-lighting by participants in memory of their beloved departed. Advent Evening Prayer featured Taizé music.

In 2024, we plan to form a team of Eucharistic Visitors who will take Holy Communion from our Sunday worship out to our homebound neighbors.



Acolyte Corps | Team Leader sought

Our acolyte corps serves as a Worship Ministry, and it’s also an opportunity for Christian formation with direct access to clergy. Our young acolytes serve with loving-kindness, and grow in skill and versatility every week, an example for us all. This year, they’ve adapted to real wax candles, learned to be thurifer and boat, and deepened their understanding of our tradition. Thanks to our

2023 Acolytes (L-R): Sofia, Piper, Annie, and Poppy; not pictured: Blaine and Keira.

Altar Guild | Annie Dolber, Team Leader

The group has grown with two new members collaborating to form a team, so we ended the year with 3 teams for the 4 Sundays each month and one member covering fifth Sundays when they occur. An effort to economize has resulted in reintroducing wax candles on the altar, after our antique candlesticks were repaired. The guild met in December to discuss current practices and spend time together outside the sacristy. Dedicated members include Nancy Chamberlain., Annie Dolber, Betty Evans, Julia Stavenhagen, Karin Temple, and Pat Wilson.

Flower Guild | Team Leader sought

Since deciding that our offerings of flowers on the altar could be more meaningful and more fiscally responsible, we experimented with various ways of organizing this ministry, and we still await a leader who will take this team to its next level of organization and openness to the creative spirit of our congregation.

We continue to have the occasional pair of matching arrangements from our friends at Erickson’s, because that’s what some people prefer to offer, especially as a memorial; but on most Sundays, we saw free-will offerings of flowers and other marvels of God’s creation on (or near) the altar. These included the abundant produce of Grace’s homegrown dahlia plantation, thanks to Brenda Penner, Judy Atkinson, and Ashley Lertora.

The kind and artistic folks of our Altar Guild often lend a hand with the flowers, but Altar Guild is not responsible for flowers in any way, other than making sure they’re not placed in a way which might interfere with worship. See the cover for highlights of this ministry.

Eucharistic Ministers | Ashley Lertora, Team Leader

Lay Eucharistic Ministers serve the congregation by bearing the chalice and serving the consecrated wine. Training is required. Thanks to Roy, Ashley, and Linda for serving this year, and to Thor, our EM-in-training. One or two additional members would make scheduling easier. If you feel called to this ministry, contact Carren for information. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ashley.

Lectors/Intercessors | Annie Dolber, Team Leader

This year we combined lectors and intercessors so that one person covers each Sunday in both sections of the service. Thanks to Roy Chamberlain, Annie Dolber, Linda Marquet, Linda Moreland, Jo Pomeroy-Crocket, Julia Stavenhagen, Karin Temple, and Dan Travers for their ministry of praying the Word and the prayers of the people.

Music Ministry | Vincent Jones-Centeno, Team Leader

Vincent Centeno continues to accompany our Sunday worship on organ and piano. When Vincent is away, Amanda McClure and Ray Utterback filled in at the keyboards. While there are not yet enough singers for a formal choir, a few parishioners arrive early on Sunday mornings to practice the hymns with Vincent, so they can provide support to congregational singing. All are welcome! Our hopes to expand music ministries include the hope that a cantor and choir will fit within our budget in 2025. The hymn-selection team will resume work in 2024.



Tech Team Ministry | Team Leader sought

Our camera and audio equipment was relocated to a cupboard in September, a long-planned change which secures the components and better positions them for our camera operators' use. Thanks to Frank, Julia, Dan, and CC for their service in 2023. Continued livestreaming operations would be easier to schedule if we had an additional member or two to cover the openings left by Dan & CC's departure.

Ushers & Greeters Team | Wendela Howie, Team Leader

Thanks to our intrepid ushers and greeters, who warmly welcome worshipers to Grace with a smile and a helping hand. Ushers also set out the signs for accessible parking, present the elements of Holy Communion at the altar, and count the Sunday offerings. This team is very flexible when schedules need to change, and could use one or two more participants. On-the-ministry training is provided. The 2023 team includes: Wendela, Ashley, Frank, Vee, Jean, Linda, Lindilu, Karson, and Brenda. Many thanks to Thor and Charlie for helping out as needed.

FISCAL MANAGEMENT MINISTRIES | Frank Lertora, Chair

2023 has been a year of transition. An all-inclusive budget was developed. We started thinking “one family-one budget.” This is still a work in progress, and with each year it will get smoother.

Treasurer



Linda has been working hard this past year. First, she learned the Church Windows software to keep track of financials and donors of Grace. Then she developed a transition plan to migrate to QuickBooks and Little Green Light.

After that she implemented the plan and with the help of our bookkeeping contractor Jennifer Rasmussen, and successfully moved to QuickBooks and Little Green Light. The finances of Grace are now tracked in QuickBooks, and donor information is tracked in Little Green Light.

Linda prepared the financial portion (hard part) of our 2022 Parochial Report to The Episcopal Church. She invested operating reserves in Certificates of Deposit through Raymond James (as recommended in our 2022 audit). On top of all that, she has processed deposits and paid bills, as treasurers do.

Memorial Endowment Fund

Memorial Endowment Fund (MEF) Board of Directors: Secretary & Junior Warden: Brenda Penner, Treasurer: Frank Lertora, Chair: Carren Sheldon, Members: Charlie Clayton, Senior Warden, and Thor Sorenson.

MEF-managed accounts are invested in socially responsible options aligned with The Episcopal Church recommendations. The majority of MEF funds are invested in long-term growth funds that are meant to capture the gains in the market. A portion of the funds is kept in conservative short-term funds to provide a steady source of distributions to support the annual mission of Grace.

The 2023 beginning balance in all funds was \$776,093.81. The ending balance was \$883,558.96, growing by \$107,465.15. \$35,000.00 was distributed to Grace for operating expenses. The graph on the following page represents the total fund growth since 8/10/2009.

MEF Value



Stewardship | A team effort

Stewardship was exciting this year because we had such an enthusiastic and engaged team! Thanks to our new members David Nichols and Diana Garcia, as well as the continuing member Mark Barnes, and our Fiscal Ministries Team Chair, Frank Lertora, for their great ideas and hard work!

To date, we have received 40 pledges (a 29% increase over last year's 31 pledges), totaling \$123,765, exceeding our \$120,000 goal, (a 19% increase over last year's \$103,400).

Another pledge or two may come in over the next few weeks. (It's never too late; forms are available at our website and in the narthex.).

BUDGET VS ACTUAL 2023 INCOME & EXPENSE (PROFIT & LOSS)

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Revenue				
4.1.172 Resource Development		13,200.00	-13,200.00	
4.1.190 Transfer from Jubilee Ministries-Utilities		2,000.00	-2,000.00	
4.1.199 Transfer from Unrestricted Gifts & Memorials		6,731.00	-6,731.00	
Operating Revenue				
4.1.100 Pledges - Operating Fund	85,043.34	81,000.00	4,043.34	104.99 %
4.1.105 Thrivent Donor Directed	21,000.00	21,000.00	0.00	100.00 %
4.1.115 Plate Collections	4,208.19	3,800.00	408.19	110.74 %
4.1.120 Operating Income from MEC	35,000.00	35,000.00	0.00	100.00 %
4.1.130 Taize		100.00	-100.00	
4.1.135 Donations	39,192.04		39,192.04	
4.1.170 Other Operating Income	524.05	240.00	284.05	218.35 %
Total Operating Revenue	184,967.62	141,140.00	43,827.62	131.05 %
Other Revenue				
4.1.150 Sale of Mugs/Books/Calendars	268.00	260.00	8.00	103.08 %
4.1.160 Art Sales	707.00	300.00	407.00	235.67 %
4.1.171 Earned Corporate Deposits (thriv/fm/amaz,etc)	1,217.71	700.00	517.71	173.96 %
4.1.185 Donations for Space Use - Maintenance	1,270.00	250.00	1,020.00	508.00 %
Total Other Revenue	3,462.71	1,510.00	1,952.71	229.32 %
Restricted Funds Income				
4.1.140 Seminary Support Special Offering	85.00	25.00	60.00	340.00 %
4.2.500 Major Maintenance Income	50.00		50.00	
4.2.510 Keeping Grace Income	3,326.17		3,326.17	
4.2.511 Keeping Grace Roofing Income	350.00		350.00	
4.2.580 Unrestricted Gifts & Memorials Income	365.00		365.00	
4.2.585 Deacon Pat Scholarship	6.00		6.00	
4.2.600 Jubilee Ministries Income	6,800.00	3,500.00	3,300.00	194.29 %
4.2.610 SNAC Program Income	12,750.00	11,000.00	1,750.00	115.91 %
4.2.625 Christian Education Fund Income		190.00	-190.00	
4.2.650 Youth Activities Fund Income		1,025.00	-1,025.00	
4.2.680 ECW Fund Income	4,702.25	1,200.00	3,502.25	391.85 %
4.2.740 Good Friday Offering Income	250.00		250.00	
4.2.745 Pentecost Offering Income	170.00		170.00	
4.2.750 Thanksgiving Day Offering Income	125.00		125.00	
4.2.755 ERD Offerings Income	778.00		778.00	
4.2.765 Pack 211 Income	5,763.92		5,763.92	
4.2.770 UTO Income	150.00		150.00	
4.2.775 Diocese Outreach Project Income	23.00		23.00	
4.2.800 Altar Flowers/Candles Income	530.00	4,000.00	-3,470.00	13.25 %
4.2.801 RDF Direct Income	1,835.00		1,835.00	
4.2.810 Prepaid Pledges Income	0.00		0.00	
4.2.850 Altar Guild Fund Income		320.00	-320.00	
4.2.880 Labyrinth Fund Income	260.40		260.40	
4.3.200 P/S equity income		4,526.00	-4,526.00	
Total Restricted Funds Income	38,319.74	25,786.00	12,533.74	148.61 %
Total Revenue	\$226,750.07	\$190,367.00	\$36,383.07	119.11 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$226,750.07	\$190,367.00	\$36,383.07	119.11 %

2023 YEAR-END INCOME & EXPENSES

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Expenditures				
Buildings & Ground				
5.1.320 Water/Sewer - Church	862.70	1,000.00	-137.30	86.27 %
5.1.322 Gas/Heat - Church	2,797.58	2,400.00	397.58	116.57 %
5.1.324 Electric - Church	3,915.25	2,500.00	1,415.25	156.61 %
5.1.326 Trash - Church	883.11	900.00	-16.89	98.12 %
5.1.330 Water/Sewer - Rectory	890.02	850.00	40.02	104.71 %
5.1.332 Gas/Heat - Rectory	1,706.95	1,500.00	206.95	113.80 %
5.1.334 Electric - Rectory	1,095.07	600.00	495.07	182.51 %
5.1.336 Trash - Rectory	883.11	900.00	-16.89	98.12 %
5.1.340 Repair/Maintenance - Rectory	1,407.33	750.00	657.33	187.64 %
5.1.350 Repair/Maintenance - Church	2,320.60	2,000.00	320.60	116.03 %
5.1.355 Lawn/Landscape Maintenance	35.85	0.00	35.85	
5.1.360 Elevator License Fee/Maintenance	4,745.78	4,400.00	345.78	107.86 %
5.1.370 Security & Fire Alarm Service	997.81	500.00	497.81	199.56 %
5.1.380 Custodial Supplies	287.16	400.00	-112.84	71.79 %
Total Buildings & Ground	22,828.32	18,700.00	4,128.32	122.08 %
Fiscal Management				
5.1.610 Audit Expenses		50.00	-50.00	
5.1.630 Bank Charges & PayPal 3% Fees	38.44	50.00	-11.56	76.88 %
5.1.645 Stewardship Expense	243.33	260.00	-16.67	93.59 %
Total Fiscal Management	281.77	360.00	-78.23	78.27 %
Formation Ministry				
5.1.530 Christian Education		390.00	-390.00	
5.1.540 Youth Group Ministry		1,075.00	-1,075.00	
Total Formation Ministry		1,465.00	-1,465.00	
Operations & Governance Ministry				
Clergy				
5.1.100 Clergy Stipend	42,099.96	42,100.00	-0.04	100.00 %
5.1.120 Clergy Travel & Hospitality	20.70	500.00	-479.30	4.14 %
5.1.130 Clergy Health/Dental/Life Insurance	21,509.60	21,000.00	509.60	102.43 %
5.1.140 Clergy Continuing Ed	435.10	550.00	-114.90	79.11 %
5.1.150 Clergy Pension	13,140.00	13,230.00	-90.00	99.32 %
Total Clergy	77,205.36	77,380.00	-174.64	99.77 %
Other Operations Costs				
5.1.310 Insurance - Facility/Liability	5,641.00	5,500.00	141.00	102.56 %
5.1.328 Telephone/Internet - Church	5,663.97	6,024.00	-360.03	94.02 %
5.1.338 Telephone/Internet - Rectory	872.98	660.00	212.98	132.27 %
5.1.410 Office Expense	2,996.59	2,700.00	296.59	110.98 %
5.1.411 Outsourced printing costs		250.00	-250.00	
5.1.412 Office supplies for printers	108.78		108.78	
5.1.420 Corporate Filing Fee		100.00	-100.00	
5.1.440 Publicity/Advertising	125.00	500.00	-375.00	25.00 %
5.1.460 Postage	592.74	400.00	192.74	148.19 %
5.1.480 Technology Upgrades/Maint/Back-ups	1,038.93	1,245.00	-206.07	83.45 %
5.1.640 Other Operating Expense	115.05	250.00	-134.95	46.02 %
5.1.700 Diocesan Program Assessment	26,100.00	26,101.00	-1.00	100.00 %
Total Other Operations Costs	43,255.04	43,730.00	-474.96	98.91 %

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Personnel				
5.1.170 Sabbatical Fund		500.00	-500.00	
5.1.180 Supply Clergy		1,045.00	-1,045.00	
5.1.220 Organist	9,881.76	9,900.00	-18.24	99.82 %
5.1.230 Contract Musicians Expense	2,225.00	2,500.00	-275.00	89.00 %
5.1.240 Sexton	3,288.48	3,850.00	-561.52	85.42 %
5.1.255 Bookkeeper	1,110.00	5,200.00	-4,090.00	21.35 %
5.1.260 MED/OASDI/ORWC Church	1,291.03	2,500.00	-1,208.97	51.64 %
5.1.706 Clergy Convention Expense		300.00	-300.00	
Total Personnel	17,796.27	25,795.00	-7,998.73	68.99 %
Total Operations & Governance Ministry	138,256.67	146,905.00	-8,648.33	94.11 %
Outreach Ministry				
5.1.357 Art Wall Maintenance/Paint	99.88	100.00	-0.12	99.88 %
5.1.535 Fellowship	153.89	800.00	-646.11	19.24 %
5.2.600 Jubilee Ministries Expense	3,544.82	3,600.00	-55.18	98.47 %
5.2.610 SNAC Program Expense	6,056.81	10,800.00	-4,743.19	56.08 %
5.2.680 ECW Fund Expense	1,247.33	600.00	647.33	207.89 %
Total Outreach Ministry	11,102.73	15,900.00	-4,797.27	69.83 %
Restricted Funds Expense				
5.2.500 Major Maintenance Expense	5,009.13		5,009.13	
5.2.511 Keeping Grace Roofing Expense	16,208.00		16,208.00	
5.2.625 Christian Education Fund Expense	86.00		86.00	
5.2.650 Youth Activities Fund Expense	55.50		55.50	
5.2.740 Good Friday Offering Expense	500.00		500.00	
5.2.745 Pentecost Offering Expense	170.00		170.00	
5.2.750 Thanksgiving Day Offering Expense	125.00		125.00	
5.2.755 ERD Expense	678.00		678.00	
5.2.765 Pack 211 Expense	3,907.53		3,907.53	
5.2.770 United Thank Offering Expense	150.00		150.00	
5.2.800 Altar Flowers/Candles Expense	1,138.27	4,000.00	-2,861.73	28.46 %
5.2.801 RDF Direct Expense	1,009.61		1,009.61	
5.2.820 St. Cecilia Guild Expense	55.98		55.98	
5.2.850 Altar Guild Expense	449.95		449.95	
5.2.880 Labyrinth Fund Expense	600.00		600.00	
Total Restricted Funds Expense	30,142.97	4,000.00	26,142.97	753.57 %
Worship Ministry				
5.1.430 Worship- wafers/oil/wine	771.70	905.00	-133.30	85.27 %
5.1.450 Pre-Printed Materials for church	150.00	425.00	-275.00	35.29 %
5.1.520 Organ/Piano Maintenance	1,100.00	1,275.00	-175.00	86.27 %
5.1.525 Music License	419.00	410.00	9.00	102.20 %
Total Worship Ministry	2,440.70	3,015.00	-574.30	80.95 %
Total Expenditures	\$205,053.16	\$190,345.00	\$14,708.16	107.73 %
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$21,696.91	\$22.00	\$21,674.91	98,622.32 %
NET REVENUE	\$21,696.91	\$22.00	\$21,674.91	98,622.32 %

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY JANUARY – DECEMBER 2023

	TOTAL
Revenue	
Operating Revenue	
4.1.100 Pledges - Operating Fund	85,043.34
4.1.105 Thrivent Donor Directed	21,000.00
4.1.115 Plate Collections	4,208.19
4.1.120 Operating Income from MEC	35,000.00
4.1.135 Donations	39,192.04
4.1.170 Other Operating Income	524.05
Total Operating Revenue	184,967.62
Other Revenue	
4.1.150 Sale of Mugs/Books/Calendars	268.00
4.1.160 Art Sales	707.00
4.1.171 Earned Corporate Deposits (thriv/fm/amaz,etc)	1,217.71
4.1.185 Donations for Space Use - Maintenance	1,270.00
Total Other Revenue	3,462.71
Restricted Funds Income	
4.1.140 Seminary Support Special Offering	85.00
4.2.500 Major Maintenance Income	50.00
4.2.510 Keeping Grace Income	3,326.17
4.2.511 Keeping Grace Roofing Income	350.00
4.2.580 Unrestricted Gifts & Memorials Income	365.00
4.2.585 Deacon Pat Scholarship	6.00
4.2.600 Jubilee Ministries Income	6,800.00
4.2.610 SNAC Program Income	12,750.00
4.2.680 ECW Fund Income	4,702.25
4.2.740 Good Friday Offering Income	250.00
4.2.745 Pentecost Offering Income	170.00
4.2.750 Thanksgiving Day Offering Income	125.00
4.2.755 ERD Offerings Income	778.00
4.2.765 Pack 211 Income	5,763.92
4.2.770 UTO Income	150.00
4.2.775 Diocese Outreach Project Income	23.00
4.2.800 Altar Flowers/Candles Income	530.00
4.2.801 RDF Direct Income	1,835.00
4.2.810 Prepaid Pledges Income	0.00
4.2.880 Labyrinth Fund Income	260.40
Total Restricted Funds Income	38,319.74
Total Revenue	\$226,750.07
GROSS PROFIT	\$226,750.07

2023 STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

	TOTAL
Expenditures	
Buildings & Ground	
5.1.320 Water/Sewer - Church	862.70
5.1.322 Gas/Heat - Church	2,797.58
5.1.324 Electric - Church	3,915.25
5.1.326 Trash - Church	883.11
5.1.330 Water/Sewer - Rectory	890.02
5.1.332 Gas/Heat - Rectory	1,706.95
5.1.334 Electric - Rectory	1,095.07
5.1.336 Trash - Rectory	883.11
5.1.340 Repair/Maintenance - Rectory	1,407.33
5.1.350 Repair/Maintenance - Church	2,320.60
5.1.355 Lawn/Landscape Maintenance	35.85
5.1.360 Elevator License Fee/Maintenance	4,745.78
5.1.370 Security & Fire Alarm Service	997.81
5.1.380 Custodial Supplies	287.16
Total Buildings & Ground	22,828.32
Fiscal Management	
5.1.630 Bank Charges & PayPal 3% Fees	38.44
5.1.645 Stewardship Expense	243.33
Total Fiscal Management	281.77
Operations & Governance Ministry	
Clergy	
5.1.100 Clergy Stipend	42,099.96
5.1.120 Clergy Travel & Hospitality	20.70
5.1.130 Clergy Health/Dental/Life Insurance	21,509.60
5.1.140 Clergy Continuing Ed	435.10
5.1.150 Clergy Pension	13,140.00
Total Clergy	77,205.36
Other Operations Costs	
5.1.310 Insurance - Facility/Liability	5,641.00
5.1.328 Telephone/Internet - Church	5,663.97
5.1.338 Telephone/Internet - Rectory	872.98
5.1.410 Office Expense	2,996.59
5.1.412 Office supplies for printers	108.78
5.1.440 Publicity/Advertising	125.00
5.1.460 Postage	592.74
5.1.480 Technology Upgrades/Maint/Back-ups	1,038.93
5.1.640 Other Operating Expense	115.05
5.1.700 Diocesan Program Assessment	26,100.00
Total Other Operations Costs	43,255.04
Personnel	
5.1.220 Organist	9,881.76
5.1.230 Contract Musicians Expense	2,225.00
5.1.240 Sexton	3,288.48
5.1.255 Bookkeeper	1,110.00
5.1.260 MED/OASDI/ORWC Church	1,291.03
Total Personnel	17,796.27
Total Operations & Governance Ministry	138,256.67

2023 STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

	TOTAL
Outreach Ministry	
5.1.357 Art Wall Maintenance/Paint	99.88
5.1.535 Fellowship	153.89
5.2.600 Jubilee Ministries Expense	3,544.82
5.2.610 SNAC Program Expense	6,056.81
5.2.680 ECW Fund Expense	1,247.33
Total Outreach Ministry	11,102.73
Restricted Funds Expense	
5.2.500 Major Maintenance Expense	5,009.13
5.2.511 Keeping Grace Roofing Expense	16,208.00
5.2.625 Christian Education Fund Expense	86.00
5.2.650 Youth Activities Fund Expense	55.50
5.2.740 Good Friday Offering Expense	500.00
5.2.745 Pentecost Offering Expense	170.00
5.2.750 Thanksgiving Day Offering Expense	125.00
5.2.755 ERD Expense	678.00
5.2.765 Pack 211 Expense	3,907.53
5.2.770 United Thank Offering Expense	150.00
5.2.800 Altar Flowers/Candles Expense	1,138.27
5.2.801 RDF Direct Expense	1,009.61
5.2.820 St. Cecilia Guild Expense	55.98
5.2.850 Altar Guild Expense	449.95
5.2.880 Labyrinth Fund Expense	600.00
Total Restricted Funds Expense	30,142.97
Worship Ministry	
5.1.430 Worship- wafers/oil/wine	771.70
5.1.450 Pre-Printed Materials for church	150.00
5.1.520 Organ/Piano Maintenance	1,100.00
5.1.525 Music License	419.00
Total Worship Ministry	2,440.70
Total Expenditures	\$205,053.16
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$21,696.91
NET REVENUE	\$21,696.91

2023 STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (BALANCE SHEET)

AS OF 12/31/23

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
1.1.000 Bank/Pacific Operating Fund	128,814.54
1.1.120 Columbia Bank Debit Card	22.39
1.1.140 PayPal Account (zero out)	0.00
1.2.000 Bank/Pacific Restricted Funds	11,901.07
1.2.300 Bank/Pacific Rector's Discretionary Fund	1,088.16
1.3.000 Bank/Pacific PRESCHOOL	0.00
Total Bank Accounts	\$141,826.16
Other Current Assets	
1.2.140 Raymond James - Restricted	78,858.62
Payments to deposit	1,375.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$80,233.62
Total Current Assets	\$222,059.78
TOTAL ASSETS	\$222,059.78
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
2.1.100 Accrued Expenses Payable	510.00
Total Accounts Payable	\$510.00
Other Current Liabilities	
2.1.810 Prepaid Pledges Liability	15,900.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$15,900.00
Total Current Liabilities	\$16,410.00
Total Liabilities	\$16,410.00
Equity	
3.1.100 Operating Fund Balance	68,037.27
3.2.400 Rector's Discretionary Fund Direct Balance	772.16
3.2.500 Major Maintenance Fund Balance	2,942.18
3.2.510 Keeping Grace Fund Balance	32,964.69
3.2.511 Keeping Grace Roofing Fund Balance	7,230.90
3.2.512 Keeping Grace Heating System Replacement Fund	15,926.00
3.2.520 Sanctuary Lights Fund Balance	400.19
3.2.540 Sound/tech System Fund Balance	140.40
3.2.550 Sunday School Remodel Fund Balance	45.01
3.2.570 Sabbatical Reserve Fund Balance	3,600.00
3.2.580 Unrestricted Gifts & Memorials Balance	0.00
3.2.582 Art education fund/grant Balance	767.85
3.2.585 Deacon Pat Scholarship Fund Balance	3,221.67

2023 YEAR-END BALANCE SHEET

	TOTAL
3.2.600 Jubilee Ministries Fund Balance	13,205.14
3.2.610 SNAC Program	8,918.09
3.2.620 Sunday School Offerings Fund Balance	631.77
3.2.625 Christian Education Fund Balance	103.54
3.2.640 Youth Ministry Fund Balance	383.11
3.2.650 Youth Activities Fund Balance	586.02
3.2.680 ECW Fund Balance	4,935.20
3.2.685 Jean Barney Memorial Art Show Balance	2,177.10
3.2.714 Fr. Lance Memorial Balance	6,914.00
3.2.750 Thanksgiving Day Offering (Diocese)	0.00
3.2.765 Pack 211 Fund Balance	1,856.39
3.2.770 United Thank Offering Balance	0.00
3.2.775 Diocese Outreach Project	123.00
3.2.800 Altar Flowers/Candles Fund Balance	411.82
3.2.820 Music Fund - St. Cecilia Guild Balance	2,055.16
3.2.825 Music Fund - Organ Balance	5,427.33
3.2.850 Altar Guild Fund Balance	119.87
3.2.880 Labyrinth Fund Balance	57.01
3.3.300 Preschool Equity Fund Balance	0.00
Opening balance equity	3,430.14
Retained Earnings	-3,430.14
Net Revenue	21,696.91
Total Equity	\$205,649.78
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$222,059.78

Grace Episcopal Church Astoria

ONE PARISH – ONE BUDGET 2024

	Total		Proposed
	2023 Actual	2023 Budget	2024 Budget
7	Revenue		
8	4.1.172 Resource Development	13,200.00	20,000.00
9	4.1.190 Transfer from Jubilee Ministries-Utilities	2,000.00	
10	4.1.199 Transfer from Unrestricted Gifts & Memorials	6,731.00	
11	Operating Revenue		
12	4.1.100 Pledges - Operating Fund	85,043.34	97,920.00
13	4.1.105 Thrivent Donor Directed	21,000.00	22,080.00
14	4.1.115 Plate Collections	4,208.19	4,000.00
15	4.1.120 Operating Income from MEC	35,000.00	39,000.00
16	4.1.130 Taize		100.00
17	4.1.135 Donations	9,490.64	5,000.00
18	4.1.145 Memorial Gifts	29,701.40	
19	4.1.155 Grants	10,500.00	10,500.00
20	4.1.170 Other Operating Income	524.05	500.00
21	Total Operating Revenue	\$ 195,467.62	\$ 148,640.00
22	Other Revenue		
23	4.1.150 Sale of Mugs/Books/Calendars	268.00	300.00
24	4.1.160 Art Sales	707.00	700.00
25	4.1.171 Earned Corporate Deposits (thriv/fm/amaz,etc)	1,217.71	1,000.00
26	4.1.185 Donations for Space Use - Maintenance	1,270.00	2,700.00
27	Total Other Revenue	\$ 3,462.71	\$ 4,700.00
28	Restricted Funds Income		
29	4.1.140 Seminary Support Special Offering	85.00	100.00
30	4.2.500 Major Maintenance Income	50.00	
31	4.2.510 Keeping Grace Income	3,326.17	
32	4.2.511 Keeping Grace Roofing Income	350.00	
33	4.2.580 Unrestricted Gifts & Memorials Income	365.00	
34	4.2.585 Deacon Pat Scholarship	6.00	
35	4.2.600 Jubilee Ministries Income	1,800.00	
36	4.2.610 SNAC Program Income	7,250.00	6,020.00
37	4.2.625 Christian Education Fund Income		190.00
38	4.2.650 Youth Activities Fund Income		1,025.00
39	4.2.680 ECW Fund Income	4,702.25	1,200.00
40	4.2.740 Good Friday Offering Income	250.00	
41	4.2.745 Pentecost Offering Income	170.00	
42	4.2.750 Thanksgiving Day Offering Income	125.00	
43	4.2.755 ERD Offerings Income	778.00	
44	4.2.765 Pack 211 Income	5,763.92	
45	4.2.770 UTO Income	150.00	
46	4.2.775 Diocese Outreach Project Income	23.00	
47	4.2.800 Altar Flowers/Candles Income	530.00	4,000.00
48	4.2.801 RDF Direct Income	1,835.00	
49	4.2.810 Prepaid Pledges Income		
50	4.2.850 Altar Guild Fund Income		320.00
51	4.2.880 Labyrinth Fund Income	260.40	
52	4.3.200 P/S equity income		4,526.00
53	Total Restricted Funds Income	\$ 27,819.74	\$ 18,286.00

2024 BUDGET

54				
55	Uncategorized Income			
56	Total Revenue	\$ 226,750.07	\$ 190,367.00	\$ 209,820.00
57	Gross Profit	\$ 226,750.07	\$ 190,367.00	\$ 209,820.00
58	Expenditures			
59	Buildings & Ground			
60	5.1.320 Water/Sewer - Church	862.70	1,000.00	900.00
61	5.1.322 Gas/Heat - Church	2,797.58	2,400.00	3,000.00
62	5.1.324 Electric - Church	3,915.25	2,500.00	4,140.00
63	5.1.326 Trash - Church	883.11	900.00	994.00
64	5.1.330 Water/Sewer - Rectory	890.02	850.00	1,020.00
65	5.1.332 Gas/Heat - Rectory	1,706.95	1,500.00	2,112.00
66	5.1.334 Electric - Rectory	1,095.07	600.00	1,100.00
67	5.1.336 Trash - Rectory	883.11	900.00	994.00
68	5.1.340 Repair/Maintenance - Rectory	1,407.33	750.00	1,000.00
69	5.1.350 Repair/Maintenance - Church	2,320.60	2,000.00	2,000.00
70	5.1.355 Lawn/Landscape Maintenance	35.85	0.00	0.00
71	5.1.360 Elevator License Fee/Maintenance	4,745.78	4,400.00	4,665.00
72	5.1.370 Security & Fire Alarm Service	997.81	500.00	1,000.00
73	5.1.380 Custodial Supplies	287.16	400.00	300.00
74	Total Buildings & Ground	\$ 22,828.32	\$ 18,700.00	\$ 23,225.00
75	Fiscal Management			
76	5.1.610 Audit Expenses		50.00	50.00
77	5.1.630 Bank Charges & Credit Card Fees	38.44	50.00	550.00
78	5.1.645 Stewardship Expense	243.33	260.00	260.00
79	Total Fiscal Management	\$ 281.77	\$ 360.00	\$ 860.00
80	Formation Ministry			
81	5.1.530 Christian Education		390.00	100.00
82	5.1.535 Labyrinth			750.00
83	5.1.540 Youth Group Ministry		1,075.00	100.00
84	Total Formation Ministry	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,465.00	\$ 950.00
85	Operations & Governance Ministry			
86	Clergy			
87	5.1.100 Clergy Stipend	42,099.96	42,100.00	50,500.00
88	5.1.120 Clergy Travel & Hospitality	20.70	500.00	1,500.00
89	5.1.130 Clergy Health/Dental/Life Insurance	21,509.60	21,000.00	21,420.00
90	5.1.140 Clergy Continuing Ed	435.10	550.00	500.00
91	5.1.150 Clergy Pension	13,140.00	13,230.00	15,480.00
92	Total Clergy	\$ 77,205.36	\$ 77,380.00	\$ 89,400.00
93	Other Operations Costs			
94	5.1.310 Insurance - Facility/Liability	5,641.00	5,500.00	5,640.00
95	5.1.328 Telephone/Internet - Church	5,663.97	6,024.00	6,000.00
96	5.1.338 Telephone/Internet - Rectory	872.98	660.00	900.00
97	5.1.410 Office Expense	473.72	2,700.00	500.00
98	5.1.411 Printer Lease	1,305.32	250.00	1,250.00
99	5.1.412 Office supplies for printers	1,326.33		1,500.00
100	5.1.420 Corporate Filing Fee		100.00	100.00
101	5.1.440 Publicity/Advertising	125.00	500.00	500.00
102	5.1.460 Postage	592.74	400.00	600.00
103	5.1.480 Technology Software	1,038.93	1,245.00	1,245.00
104	5.1.485 Technology Hardware			1,100.00

105	5.1.640 Other Operating Expense	115.05	250.00	250.00
106	5.1.700 Diocesan Program Assessment	26,100.00	26,101.00	29,000.00
107	Total Other Operations Costs	\$ 43,255.04	\$ 43,730.00	\$ 48,585.00
108	Personnel			
109	5.1.170 Sabbatical Fund		500.00	500.00
110	5.1.180 Supply Clergy		1,045.00	1,045.00
111	5.1.220 Organist	9,881.76	9,900.00	9,900.00
112	5.1.230 Contract Musicians Expense	2,225.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
113	5.1.240 Sexton	3,288.48	3,850.00	3,850.00
114	5.1.255 Bookkeeper	1,110.00	5,200.00	5,200.00
115	5.1.260 MED/OASDI/ORWC Church	1,291.03	2,500.00	1,500.00
116	5.1.706 Clergy Convention Expense		300.00	300.00
117	Total Personnel	\$ 17,796.27	\$ 25,795.00	\$ 24,795.00
118	Total Operations & Governance Ministry	\$ 138,256.67	\$ 146,905.00	\$ 162,780.00
119	Outreach Ministry			
120	5.1.357 Art Wall Maintenance/Paint	99.88	100.00	200.00
121	5.1.535 Fellowship	153.89	800.00	800.00
122	5.2.600 Jubilee Ministries Expense	3,544.82	3,600.00	5,000.00
123	5.2.610 SNAC Program Expense	6,056.81	10,800.00	11,520.00
124	5.2.680 ECW Fund Expense	1,247.33	600.00	
125	Total Outreach Ministry	\$ 11,102.73	\$ 15,900.00	\$ 17,520.00
126	Restricted Funds Expense			
127	5.2.500 Major Maintenance Expense	5,009.13		
128	5.2.511 Keeping Grace Roofing Expense	16,208.00		
129	5.2.625 Christian Education Fund Expense	86.00		
130	5.2.650 Youth Activities Fund Expense	55.50		
131	5.2.740 Good Friday Offering Expense	500.00		
132	5.2.745 Pentecost Offering Expense	170.00		
133	5.2.750 Thanksgiving Day Offering Expense	125.00		
134	5.2.755 ERD Expense	678.00		
135	5.2.765 Pack 211 Expense	3,907.53		
136	5.2.770 United Thank Offering Expense	150.00		
137	5.2.800 Altar Flowers/Candles Expense	1,138.27	4,000.00	1,000.00
138	5.2.801 RDF Direct Expense	1,009.61		
139	5.2.820 St. Cecilia Guild Expense	55.98		
140	5.2.850 Altar Guild Expense	449.95		
141	5.2.880 Labyrinth Fund Expense	600.00		
142	Total Restricted Funds Expense	\$ 30,142.97	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
143	Worship Ministry			
144	5.1.430 Worship- wafers/oil/wine	771.70	905.00	905.00
145	5.1.450 Pre-Printed Materials for church	150.00	425.00	425.00
146	5.1.520 Organ/Piano Maintenance	1,100.00	1,275.00	1,725.00
147	5.1.525 Music License	419.00	410.00	430.00
148	Total Worship Ministry	\$ 2,440.70	\$ 3,015.00	\$ 3,485.00
149	Total Expenditures	\$ 205,053.16	\$ 190,345.00	\$ 209,820.00
150	Net Operating Revenue	\$ 21,696.91	\$ 22.00	\$ 0.00
151	Net Revenue	\$ 21,696.91	-\$ 22.00	\$ 0.00
152				
153				
154				
155	Tuesday, Jan 02, 2024 07:58:50 PM GMT-8 - Accrual Basis			

COMMUNITY / OUTREACH MINISTRIES | Judy Atkinson, Chair

These Community Ministries strive to bring Grace Church people together for fellowship and service and care of and for each other and the wider community. Ideas are being explored for Hospitality Ministry.

Supplemental Nutrition for Astoria Children (SNAC) | Charles Clayton, Team Leader
Supplemental Nutrition for Astoria Children (SNAC) is an outreach program, sponsored by Grace Episcopal Church, to provide food for students experiencing food and housing insecurities. In cooperation with the Astoria Schools, SNAC provides weekend food bags for at-risk students from kindergarten through 12th grade.

SNAC began delivering supplemental weekend food bags to 25 students in February 2022. Today, SNAC is delivering weekly food bags to 85 students, including 21 who are currently unhoused.

SNAC is sponsored by Grace Episcopal Church which has fiduciary responsibility. SNAC is independently funded, and staffed entirely by seven dedicated volunteers. We are a partner agency with the Oregon Food Bank through the Clatsop Community Action Regional Food Bank. Our entire budget is used to purchase safe, appropriate, easy to access non-perishable food through the Food Bank and local retail stores. Approximately 70% of the funds this year were spent at local stores in order to find appropriately packaged items that can be sent home with children.

In 2023 SNAC provided 2356 food bags over 31 weeks at a cost of \$6,300. Seven dedicated volunteers spent a total of 293 hours preparing and delivering the bags to the four Astoria schools. Three dollars fills one bag for one student for one weekend. \$100 will provide weekend food for one student for the entire school year. You can help by making a financial contribution payable to Grace Episcopal Church with the notation, SNAC on the "For" line. These contributions may be tax deductible. For more information, please contact Charlie, (503) 325-3508 phone or text, snac2022@gmail.com.

Prayer Team | Judy Atkinson, Team Leader

10 members commit to praying regularly and for special intentions as they come in, tracking prayer requests using a shared Google sheet. Please let them know if you have a request, if it's time to remove a name you added, or if you would like to join the team.



ECW, Episcopal Church Women | Janet Weidman & Judy Atkinson, Co-chairs
ECW began 2023 with a successful new event, a *Women's Christmas* on January 6th, Epiphany Day, which included prayers, readings, an art project, and reflections. Throughout the year, ECW helped set up and clean up at receptions and potlucks. They planned and carried out a rummage sale in the summer, which supported the Grace Roof Project, the Operating Fund and ECW ongoing projects. ECW meetings are held on the second Tuesdays of the month at 11:45am. The group's primary focus is doing good works to help others. It is a pleasure to be part of this wonderful group of women.



Grace Food Pantry | Ashley Lertora & Brenda Penner, Team Co-Leaders
The food pantry is one of Grace Church's shining examples of serving Christ through helping our neighbors. Open two mornings a week, they give a 3-day emergency supply of food for those seeking assistance. There are 13 volunteers, church members and community members, who gave close to 800 hours of service, which is the equivalent of a 0.38 full time employee.

This year over 550 households (2,100 people, averaging 187 people per month) were given assistance. This is an approximate increase of 50% over 2022 numbers. The clients are senior citizens, working families, and the homeless. 39 turkey dinners were given away at Thanksgiving, which were part of the Safeway and Clatsop Community Action Regional Food Bank Turkey bucks program. For anyone, there is a "give one/take one" coat giveaway rack, along with new socks and hats.

The pantry relies solely on donations. This year money was received from individuals, ECW, Clatsop County Human Services grant, Episcopal Bishop of Oregon Fund grant and Peace First Lutheran Church. If you are interested in serving in this ministry, please contact Ashley Lertora or Brenda Penner.

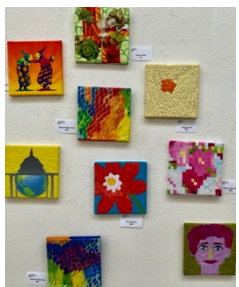


Arts Program | Jo Pomeroy, Team Leader

The Arts Program for 2023 featured 10 exhibits with a variety of fine art, including watercolor, acrylic, oils, collage, fiber art, and fused glass. Approximately 25 artists were included with two groups of fiber artists and individual local artists Tom Grog, Vee Lind, Wanda Sue Meiners, Carol Folk, Joyce Crawford, Stephen River Smith, Christine Kende, Karl Hauer, and others. Each exhibit was about 5 weeks in length. All artists expressed their appreciation of exhibiting at Grace Episcopal Church.



Sales of artwork yielded a total of \$1,485. Of that total, 70% (\$1039.50) went to the artists; the remaining 30% (\$445.50) stayed with Grace Church.



Viewers were complimentary and appreciative of the art. Although the Parish Hall “Gallery” is a distance from the main stream of Astoria’s galleries, a number of visitors enjoyed the exhibits. Future exhibits will include zentangle, fiber art, collage, drawing, painting, and more.

FORMATION MINISTRIES | Wendela Howie, Chair

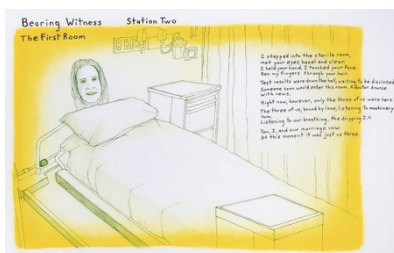
We have had a very productive year at Grace Church, with new enthusiastic members stepping forward to serve. The Formation area of the Ministry Council supports learning ministries, through which Christians grow and mature in their practice and understanding of our tradition.

Adult Formation

A noon-hour *lectio divina* group, *Base Community*, was formed in Lent to read and reflect on the coming week's Gospel text. This micro group continues to meet.

Five people participated in an Inquirers Group, led by the Revs. Randal Gardner and Carren Sheldon on five Sundays during the season of Easter. They explored prayer, transformation in community, and the call to serve as lay people within the church.

All who have participated in Sacred Ground over the past two years were invited to meet in April to explore steps which those who have completed the training could take to act on what they've learned about racism and equity. Lots of brainstorming generated lots of ideas.



Following All Saints Day, ten church members attended the workshop *Departure: Death, Dying, & Spirit*, which began by experiencing Philip Barasch's moving artwork installed in the sanctuary, followed by his remarks about his experience. The Reverends Randal Gardner, Lori Blake, and Carren Sheldon guided the group, providing time to reflect and share, along with written materials for end of life planning.



Youth Formation

Grace youth met twice monthly with First Peace Lutheran youth, in a variety of places, including the Rectory, at the Performing Arts Center, and on Ft. Stevens beach. They picked up microplastics, heard folk stories of the Caribbean, and enjoyed a bonfire in Warrenton.

Ministries with Children

In 2023, the primary children's formation opportunity was the acolyte program. Learning together by serving together, as Christians have done since antiquity, *praying shapes believing* just as the ancients said it would.

All Saints, Hillsboro donated Godly Play materials to Grace, and additional materials have been offered. Godly Play materials are used to present stories of the Christian people, and children from the Evergreen Woods Community School heard them in the sanctuary.



Labyrinth Guild | Karin Temple, founder/leader

The Labyrinth Walk tradition settled into a new schedule and format, marking equinoxes and solstices in the evening hours. Jennifer Goodenberger

performed contemplative piano music, joined by Shelley Loring, flute, in December.

A very efficient and dedicated 8-member Labyrinth Guild has formed to support labyrinth events. Average participation in a labyrinth walk is more than 30 labyrinth walkers, who express gratitude for this spiritual oasis. In the future, the Labyrinth Guild hopes to continue offering regular events, possibly adding an extra walk focused on peace. A permanent floor pattern would ease setup and make possible more spontaneous, frequent events and access.

JUNIOR WARDEN / BUILDINGS & GROUNDS, Brenda Penner

As a thirty-five year member of Grace, I thought I knew the church building. A favorite book title belonging to Earl Weaver, past Manager of the Baltimore Orioles, comes to mind: *It's what you learn after you think you know it all that counts.*"

Our 139-year-old carpenter gothic church building is a great lady, but as she has aged, she requires many hands to keep her in shape. Thanks to a great group of volunteers who worked with me directly via the Building and Grounds Committee, as well as a group of gardeners who assisted with flower planting, weeding, and grounds clean up, we have kept the church looking good throughout 2023. Many thanks to the committee members: Ernie Atkinson, Judy Atkinson, Ashley Lertora, Frank Lertora, Dan Travers, Chris Hoffman, Thor Sorenson, and Julia Stavenhagen. Additionally, we had excellent work groups who assisted in landscaping, grass mowing, bulb planting: Charlie Clayton, Diana and Sofia Garcia, Mary Goff, and Wendela Howie. An anonymous donor paid for TMZ Landscaping to provide major weed whacking, berry trimming, and mowing of the complete back yard, slope, and upper yard prior to the backyard service on September 10th. Our landscaping budget was cut to zero in 2023, so I totally appreciated the volunteer help and donor assistance.

We continued to do maintenance throughout the year overseeing scheduled servicing: filter changes for furnace maintenance, elevator service, fire alarms, kitchen health inspections, fire extinguisher inspections, backflow testing. Carren Sheldon was enormously helpful in assisting vendors with entrance and building history and details.

Thanks to Ashley, Judy, and myself, we found twenty planters in storage, donated potting soil, and planted dahlia and gladiolus bulbs in April in our sunny back yard and near the front stairs. By July, those plants produced beautiful bouquets for our altar through October. Daffodil bulbs planted in October will grace our gardens this spring.

As I ushered for Bob Westerberg's service and counted 5-6 people per pew, I was thankful to Ernie and Frank for reinforcing all our pews with "L" braces in April.

Ashley prepped and painted the outdoor stairs leading to the vestry room in June.

The west and east walls of the parish hall were painted by L&G Painting on August 28. We also collected numerous cans of paint stored throughout the church property, and Ernie and Judy labeled as much as they could, discarding old paint. It is now stored in one location.

A clogged drain in the rectory was cleared by Coastal Drain and Sewer in August.

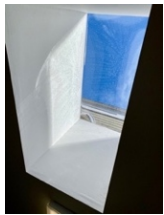


In preparation for the Evergreen Woods Community School home school cooperative operation on the ground floor old Sunday School area, we had tamper proof electrical receptacles placed throughout the preschool area. Charlie modified the backyard gate to ensure the required emergency egress for children. The backyard play structure was repaired by Frank. We received a donation to provide playground rubber mulch in the play structure area. The mulch has not been installed yet. The city approved the necessary

permits to allow for the school's use of our ground floor area on September 6. The school opened for business September 10.



We were fortunate to be the recipient of a grant through the Energy Trust of Oregon that paid for a consultation for energy-efficient lighting. Clear Results, Inc. then installed the high-efficiency LED bulbs in September. This should lower our electrical bill and reduce our carbon output.



Thanks to the tenacity of Carren, Dr. Roof finally got the city permit to proceed with the roof repairs. New roofing to the flat roof areas, repairs to the wooden cornice on the SE corner of the roof, and replacing three skylights were completed on September 21. Despite a long delay in finishing this repair (February to September), Dr. Roof came in \$440 under budget.



Dan moved all the electronic equipment used in our on-line broadcasts into a closet in the vestry room where shelves had been built by Ernie in September.

The closet on the east side of the parish hall was cleaned out. It now contains a few supplies for the food bank, Labyrinth walk, some kitchen equipment, and thirty stacked chairs. The storage area behind the moveable partitions has been reduced, and we gained an additional five feet of space for the parish hall.

No progress was made on a potential Columbarium at Grace in 2023.

I prepared a draft budget for Building and Grounds for 2024.

I served as a Recording Secretary for the Vestry.

The junior warden's job is not difficult, it is simply multifaceted and full of 139 years of details. I cannot thank my volunteers enough for all we have accomplished this year. Caring for our "ship of faith" is indeed a labor of love.

SENIOR WARDEN | Charles Clayton

Things Done and Things Left Undone

There are so many things that so many people have done over the past year since our last annual meeting. I will not try to capture everything, but do want to recognize some of the more significant. The gift of altar flowers from individuals and those grown in the church's back yard have been a wonderful blessing. The church and rectory have been improved in barely visible but significant ways, keeping water out of basements and attic closets and electrical outlets safe. We have new LED lighting throughout the church which will decrease our electrical consumption and be better for our environment. Our accounting system has been updated, and our budget for next year is ready for approval by the vestry. The members of the church have made a significant increase in pledges for the coming year, enabling us to do more for ourselves and our community. One of the greatest and most audible accomplishments this year is the presence and sound of children in our undercroft during the week.

That brings me to things undone. I long for the sound of young people in church on Sundays and at youth meetings and events. I am grateful for the faithful and dependable youth we have now, especially those who have been serving as acolytes. It is difficult to have active youth without active programs and difficult to have active programs without active youth.

We are also still struggling with communication. It is human nature to avoid those we disagree with, but also necessary in families, partnerships, and especially church to talk directly to those who we think we disagree with. It is surprising how we often have more in common than we thought. It is harmful to ourselves and to our community when we back-channel our hurts and disappointments without going to the source. If I have not listened to you or I have offended you in any way, big or small, please talk to me and give me a chance to apologize or clarify. I love and respect every one of you and I have been known to change my point of view following difficult conversations.

I am at the end of my tour of duty on the vestry. I have been on this vestry for six of the past nine years and look forward to supporting the new vestry. I am glad to move on, but am so grateful to everyone for hanging in there in support of Grace Episcopal Church in Astoria. I get the credit for being the Senior Warden, but I am not the one that did the work. Our Rector, Carren; Junior Warden, Brenda, Treasurer, Linda; vestry members Vincent, Jo, and Gigi; our ministry leaders; stewardship team and everyone who has supported them and this church have done all of the work. I thank you.

RECTOR'S REPORT | The Rev. Carren Sheldon

Everybody dreads preparing the annual report, but it's so enlightening to pause and reflect on all that we've done in this past year. It looks different from the perspective of a new year! What might we accomplish in 2024?

Frank Lertora stepped up this year to help with the printing, folding, and stapling of our Sunday service leaflets. He immediately streamlined the process and made time to prepare packets for weekly delivery to our homebound congregants. Annie Dolber and Julia Stavenhagen also help with the folding and stapling, from time to time.

During that time, we have successfully retired almost all of the enormous paper stockpile in stored in our office. Thanks to everyone who's struggled to read green, blue, gold, yellow, gray, or even cloudy paper leaflets; we went almost a whole year without having to purchase paper. Soon, we'll resume using white paper for everything.



Dealing with all that paper helped to make space for the reorganization of the office for greater efficiency. Our treasurer is happier with her new arrangement. We acquired (aka scrounged from Peace First Lutheran Church) a tall lateral file cabinet, which will accommodate the documents previously kept in five smaller cabinets. We gained enough floor space to move our worktable over to the window for natural light and easier accommodation of multiple simultaneous activities in the office. In the process, I have been going through each and every file in our offices. It's slow, and it's quite an education!



With help from the friendly staff at the City of Astoria's Planning Department, inspiration from founder/teacher Catherine Novak, and the support of her parent volunteers and our parish leaders, Evergreen Woods Community School's first classes met in September. If you come into the office on a weekday or volunteer or visit the Food Pantry, you're likely to hear the music of children's voices. They play together with such loving-kindness for one another, they are good role models for all of us!

Office and undercroft aren't the only places where we're rearranging the furniture. In the next few months, we'll pick up donated shelving and materials to complete a children's sanctuary which began taking shape last spring with a generous donation of Godly Play materials from All Saints, Hillsboro. For now, that will be set up in the Rector's office, which is easily accessed and monitored. The Rector will have to find somewhere else to put

her desk for awhile, fancying a closet above the Vestry, once sufficient shelving is installed in the west sacristy to accommodate materials now stored in that closet. Pastoral meetings already are being held in the Vestry room seating area, and gathering more wing chairs in that space will allow larger gatherings in that relaxed atmosphere.

A grant was made near the end of 2023 to cover the cost of moving our chancel furnishings, approved by the Vestry for completion in 2024. Our beautiful high altar is a free-standing piece of furniture, which can be moved closer to the people to a space which is large enough to accommodate all of the furnishings appropriate to our weekly celebrations of Holy Communion. We'll do this thoughtfully in stages, and if we decide in another year, or two, or forty, that we don't like it, it's easily restored to its previous locations. If you want to read more about this, see the [rector's reflection on this topic](#), in the 12/2023 folder of Vestry Documents, on our website.



In 2024, we'll experiment with an artist-in-residence program. The first artist-in-residence will be a guest in the rectory this spring for the purpose of making art in Astoria. I hope we'll have an opportunity to show her work before her residency is finished; I hope that she will be the first in a series of artists who will come to make art in Astoria as guests of Grace.

Sacramentally, we baptized one child, served 1,834 Holy Communions, and anointed 8 people for healing. In addition, there were 5 Burial Offices, including Cathy Swanson's, Carl Abraham's, and Bob Westerberg's. 203 Daily Offices (Morning Prayer & Evening Prayer) were said; total attendance for all services was 2,712, and our average Sunday attendance increased slightly to 33.

We have done good work in 2023, and we have prepared the way for growth in spirit and more good works in 2024. I look forward to the coming years of accompanying you in the adventure of following Christ at Grace, Astoria.

VESTRY NOMINEES



Thor Sorenson

Thor has served on vestry twice before. He says “We have been blessed with outstanding vestry boards in our history, which have guided our flock through challenging times for our church and for the community at large.” Thor has served as usher, lector, and he helped to bring our church outreach and business practices online.

After retiring from his engineering career, Thor continues working at the family business in downtown Astoria.

“Grace holds a key position in this vibrant community, and has several ministries to her residents that need to be nurtured and supported. I will do my best to work with the church leadership to successfully chart our course toward a good outcome,” Thor says.



David Nichols

David was born in Portland, where he lived until he left for St. Olaf college, in Minnesota. David says, “After graduation, I was afforded the opportunity to spend a year camping in Southeast Asia, courtesy of the US Marine Corps. The Corps also let me live in Hawaii for three years.” David’s had careers in his own lighting company and in information technology. Sailing afforded him the opportunity to visit about 50 countries. In a year at Grace, David already has initiated a new ministry, *Dinners for 8*.



Alexa Trimble

Alexa came to Grace over a year ago. “I was looking for a candlelight service for my visiting family to attend on Christmas Eve 2022 and the website made it very clear that absolutely every kind of person was welcomed at this church. That is really what made me give church another try after a 23-year lapse, and I have met so many kind wonderful people here. I am honored to have been nominated for the vestry and look forward to the opportunity to serve the church and its congregation.” Alexa works remotely for ZillowGroup full-time, in the summer you’ll sometimes find her working weekends at Mo’s. She’s a Clatsop County Master Gardener, volunteers at Flavel House, and recently joined North Coast Chorale.

CONTINUING VESTRY MEMBERS

Vincent Centeno (2025), Gigi Chadwick (2026), Jo Pomeroy-Crockett (2026)

MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND BOARD

The Rector, Junior & Senior Wardens of the Vestry are *ex officio* members of this board. This year's candidates for members at large are:

Brenda Penner, Grace Food Pantry, retiring Junior Warden, retired nurse manager.

Frank Lertora, Fiscal Management Chair, leaflet printer, camera operator, usher.

2024 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Appointment of Clerk
3. Presentation of Agenda
4. Approval of proposed amendment to parish bylaws (approved by vestry 10/18/2023)
 - i. Add to Section 5.4 (Rector)
 1. *The Rector or the Senior Warden shall sign all contracts and obligations of the parish.*
 - ii. Add to Section 5.5 (Wardens)
 1. The Senior Warden or the Rector shall sign all contracts and obligations of the parish.”
5. Approval of Minutes of 2023 Annual Meeting
6. Election of Vestry Nominees
7. Election of Memorial Endowment Fund Board Members
8. Approval of 2023 Annual Report
9. For the Good of the Community
10. Closing Prayer
11. Adjournment

LET US PRAY

Almighty Father, whose blessed Son before his passion prayed for his disciples that they might be one, as you and he are one: Grant that your Church, being bound together in love and obedience to you, may be united in one body by the one Spirit, that the world may believe in him whom you have sent, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

O God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Savior, the Prince of Peace: Give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions; take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatever else may hinder us from godly union and concord; that, as there is but one Body and one Spirit, one hope of our calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may be all of one heart and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify *thee*; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you." Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. *Amen.*



1545 FRANKLIN AVENUE,
ASTORIA, OREGON 97103
(503) 325-4691 OFFICE

WWW.GRACEASTORIA.ORG