

2023 Annual Report

Our Mission Statement

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, our mission it to: seek God, follow Christ, serve and love our neighbor.

> St. Timothy Presbyterian Church 16700 Newburgh Road, Livonia, MI 48154 734-464-8844 sttimothypcusa.org sttimothy@sttimothypcusa.org

Questions



2023 Annual Report Table of Contents

Pastor	page 4
Docket	page 5
Congregational/Corporation Meeting Minutes	page 6
Clerk of Session	page 9
Finance and Stewardship	page 10
Financial Secretary/Head Teller	page 14
Memorial	page 16
Deacons	
Faith Education	page 18
Faith Circle	page 20
Mission and Outreach	page 21
Nominating and Personnel	page 22
Properties/STARS	page 23
Worship	page 24
Chancel Choir	page 25
Handbell Choir	page 26
2024 Church Officers	page 27

2023 Pastor's Report

⁶ I call on you, my God, for you will answer me; turn your ear to me and hear my prayer.

(Psalm. 17:6 NIV)

Way back in the middle of 2023 I had a lot of time to spend in prayer and discernment. During the Sabbatical that you gave to me as a wonderful gift, I was able to step away from the work and service, and step towards a time of renewal and reflection. Certainly, there was Sabbatical work that was planned - to turn my backyard into a place of joy and worship - but at a deeper level I needed the time to discern what God was saying to me and what he might be asking me to do next.

When I returned from those wonderful 12 weeks of refreshment, several people expressed surprise that I was coming back to serve here – there was an assumption that I was going to go somewhere else. It was this very question that I labored with over the summer. Going in to the time, I was uncertain about my next steps. I knew I was exhausted and needed rest, but beyond that I didn't know if there was still unfinished work God had in store for me, or if it was time to move on. I also knew that this wasn't something that I could rush through. I knew that I wouldn't get an answer in a day, or even a week, but if I kept at it, I knew that I would hear God speak and come to a deeper understanding of what I was meant to do next.

Indeed, it took almost the entire summer to work through this question – to dig into my time here and to call upon God. My prayer was not so much centered upon a particular answer; it was centered on God. One thing I realized was that over the past few years my prayer life was not as strong as it needed to be. I had lagged on reaching out to God and spending time in quiet so I could hear his voice. But during those summer months I was able to hear God again. Slowly at first, in fits and starts like a car that hadn't been used in a while, I thought I heard God speak in music and journaling. At the end of the summer, in a period of quiet worship, I finally heard that still small voice say that it was time... to stay. There was still more work to do, and I still had more to learn. God still intended for us to be together for at least a while more. I was so relieved and joyous that we all still had more time!

Now that the year has ended and we are firmly in to 2024, I've had more time to reflect upon the Sabbatical. I recall that God didn't promise that anything would work out, or that we would still be serving together in 10 years. God didn't promise an influx of new members or a balanced budget. But God did promise to hear our prayers and to answer the cries of our hearts. God did say that if we seek him, he will answer us. And for me, that's all I need. I don't need things to turn out in a certain way, but I do need God.

My hope for all of us as we look to the moment that we are in – one full of uncertainty in the world, in the Church, and in our church – that we will all call out to God in faith and trust that he hears us and turns to us in love. May we each become prayer warriors as we seek to be faithful.

In Christ's Loving Service,

Pastor Joel

Congregation/Corporation Docket

St. Timothy Presbyterian Church 16700 Newburgh Road Livonia, Michigan 48154

Annual Congregational Meeting February 25th, 2024 @11:30am

Docket for Annual Congregational Meeting

Call to order with prayer Motion to elect the secretary of the congregation Motion to approve minutes of the February 26th, 2023 (parts 1 & 2) , September 3, 2003 and December 17th, 2023 congregational meetings Review and reception of annual reports Presentation and reception of 2024 proposed general operating budget Presentation and approval of pastor's terms of call for 2024 Adjournment with prayer

Docket for Corporation Meeting

Call to order with prayer Motion to approve minutes of February 26th, 2023 corporate meeting Note acceptance of 2024 proposed general operating budget from congregational meeting Motion to accept elders as trustees of the corporation Motion to accept officers of the corporation President: Beth Olko Recording Secretary: Kimberly Gaines Treasurer: Tim Chanko Financial Secretaries: Linda Delezenne and Melanie Gumz New business Adjournment with prayer



February 26, 2023 Congregational Meeting Minutes 1

Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes February 26, 2023

A quorum was confirmed and the meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Joel at 11:50 a.m.

Motion to elect Linda Delezenne as secretary of the congregation was made by Lou Suveg. The motion was seconded and passed by vote of the members present.

Motion to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2022, February 13, 2022, and December 18, 2022 congregational meetings was made by Paula Boegner. The motion was seconded and passed by vote of the members present.

Motion to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2022 Town Hall meeting was made by Tim Chanko. The motion was seconded and passed by vote of the members present.

The annual reports were reviewed. Pastor Joel presented some information about his upcoming Sabbatical. The Sabbatical Task Force will handle any issues that come up during that time, and communication with Pastor Joel will be made through Tina Puntigam. Motion to receive the annual reports was made by Paula Boegner. The motion was seconded and passed by vote of the members present.

Tim Chanko presented the 2023 proposed general operating budget. Motion to receive the proposed budget was made by Bob Taylor. The motion was seconded and passed by vote of the members present.

Tim Chanko presented the 2023 pastor's terms of call. Motion to approve the 2023 pastor's terms of call was made by Greg Kateff. The motion was seconded and passed by vote of the members present.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bob Taylor. The motion was seconded and passed by vote of the members present. The meeting was closed with prayer by Pastor Joel at 12:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Delezenne

Recording Secretary

February 26, 2023 Congregational Meeting Minutes 2

Pastor Joel confirmed a quorum was present and opened the meeting with prayer at 11:45 a.m.

Dave Houghtby was nominated for a 3 year term as deacon. Dennis Delezenne moved that nominations be closed. The motion was seconded and passed by vote of the members present. Bob Taylor moved to accept this slate. The motion was seconded and passed by vote of the members present.

Cassie Sautter moved that the meeting be closed. The motion was seconded and passed by vote of the members present.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Pastor Joel at 11:49 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Delezenne

Recording Secretary

February 26, 2023 Corporation Meeting Minutes

A quorum was confirmed and the meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Joel at 12:13 p.m.

Motion to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2022 corporation meeting was made by Greg Kateff. The motion was seconded and passed by vote of the members present.

Acceptance of the 2023 general operating budget from the congregational meeting was noted.

Motion to accept the elders as trustees of the corporation was made by Tim Chanko. The motion was seconded and passed by vote of the members present.

Motion to accept these officers of the corporation was made by Bob Taylor:

President: Beth Olko

Recording Secretary: Linda Delezenne

Treasurer: Tim Chanko

Financial Secretary: Marilyn Taulbee

The motion was seconded and passed by vote of the members present.

Bob Taylor moved to close the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed by vote of the members present. The meeting was closed with prayer by Beth Olko at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Delezenne

Recording Secretary

September 3, 2023 Corporation Meeting Minutes

A quorum was confirmed and the meeting was opened at 12:03 p.m.

Tim Chanko moved to elect Linda Delezenne and Melanie Gumz to share the responsibilities of Financial Secretary. The motion was seconded and discussed. The motion was passed by vote of the members present.

Greg Kateff moved to close the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed by vote of the members present.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Pastor Joel at 12:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Delezenne Recording Secretary

December 17, 2023 Congregation Meeting Minutes

The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Joel at 12:40 p.m.

Lou Suveg presented the new officers and Nominating & Personnel Committee members as follows:

Deacons: Kathey Turnbull, Carol Prevost

Elders: Greg Kateff, Chris Korne, Tim Chanko

Committee Members: Chris Korne, Margaret Barsch, John Weiss, and Bob Taylor volunteered from the floor

A motion was made by Bob Taylor to close the nominations. The motion was seconded and passed by vote of the members present.

A motion was made by Randy Wright to accept the nominations. The motion was seconded and passed by vote of the members present.

Linda Houghtby moved to close the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

Pastor Joel closed the meeting with prayer at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Delezenne

Recording Secretary



2023 Clerk of Session Report

Communicant Membership -- January 1, 2022: 68

Additions:	By Confession or Reaffirmation of Faith	
	By Transfer	0
	By Restoration to Active Membership	0
	Confirmation	3
	Baptism	0
Losses:	By Transfer	0
	By Removal from Rolls	12
	By Deletion from Rolls (Death)	1

Communicant Membership -- December 31, 2022: 58



2023 Finance & Stewardship

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2023



2023 Financial Secretaries

The year of 2023 brought changes to the position of Financial Secretary, as St. Timothy's longtime and faithful Financial Secretary, Marilyn Taulbee, was unexpectedly called home by our Lord on June 30. As the responsibilities of the Financial Secretary require confidentiality and discretion, St. Timothy found itself in the awkward position of needing to fill a position for which no transition or succession plan had been created, and there was little to no knowledge of how the work of the Financial Secretary was done. Linda Delezenne and Melanie Gumz volunteered to jointly fill the position of Financial Secretary, and their appointment was confirmed by Congregational vote on September 3, 2023. Linda's background as Recording Secretary, and Melanie's background with tellering and computer software, make them an excellent job share team as they work together to serve St. Timothy with faithfulness, discretion, and integrity.

In 2023, the Financial Secretaries:

- Recorded contributions weekly for 50 members and friends
- Prepared and distributed giving statements
- Provided monthly pledging updates for the Bulletin
- Participated in monthly Finance and Stewardship Committee meetings
- Prepared confidential giving analyses for the Finance and Stewardship Committee, to assist tracking to the 2023 zero budget

In 2024, the Financial Secretaries plan to offer giving statements via email for any congregants who would find this convenient.

While St. Timothy and the rest of the world strives to regain a more normal existence in the post-COVID world, we find that COVID is still active and impacting members and friends of our congregation. The St. Timothy online worship service has literally been a God-send for those who wish to worship, but cannot do so in-person due to illness, bad weather, being home-bound, or travel.

We are thankful for those in the congregation who have made a faithful effort to keep up or exceed their pledged giving amount, those who have contributed purchased goods and services during the year, and those who have made extra contributions to endeavors such as Per Capita, Deacons, Faith Ed and the butterfly offering, and various other Committees. Your generous and dedicated efforts have been a great help in helping to meet our financial obligations.

Our 2024 budget contains only critical expenses. Committees will continue to self-fund for their needs. It is our hope that with the continued faithful support of our church family, we will be able to meet and exceed "hoped for" expectations, support innovative and inspiring programs that enhance our spiritual growth, fund and support mission and outreach projects, continue to maintain and update our excellent facility, and that all of these efforts together will honor and glorify our Lord and Savior.

It has been our privilege to step forward and accept the opportunity to serve the St. Timothy congregation as financial secretaries.

In Christ's service,

Melanie Gumz & Linda Delezenne

2023 Head Teller

2023 Head Teller

Teller volunteers ensure that your offerings are safely and securely deposited so that St. Timothy can meet the cash flow needs to cover expenses. The willingness of these volunteers to serve is much appreciated.

I wish to thank all the tellers who were active throughout 2023:

Rick Dunn, Kim Gaines, Melanie Gumz, Cassy Sautter, and Bob Taylor. And a big thank you to Shelly Walldorff who often serves as a teller partner during the week when we lack the ability to have dual control on Sunday after service.

Here's a review of the past year:

- St Timothy had a small, but mighty group of tellers that processed the church deposits each week, at times assisting during the week as needed.
- Our software-based teller platform worked well and provided efficiencies that assist the Financial Secretaries and Office Manager.
- We moved our teller functions into the church office, which places us closer to the network printer and vault as well as providing a secure and quiet location to complete our work.

For 2024, volunteers are still needed: there are computer and non-computer options for volunteers. (Remember that Sunday processing is optional so weekday processing can be arranged!)

We continue to seek efficiencies that will assist the church in maintaining accurate financial records.

It's been a blessing to serve as your Head Teller and I look forward to training more volunteers!

Your servant in Christ,

Paula Boegner Head Teller

In memoriam of Marilyn Taulbee. Marilyn was a substitute teller who was always willing to step in to assist on Sundays. Over the years she also used her talent to create written procedures, provide training to other tellers and share her recommendations on teller processes to the Stewardship and Finance Committee. She will be missed.



2023 Memorial Committee

Ephesians. 3:17-18:

"May your roots go down deep into the soil of God's marvelous love; And may you be able to feel and understand, as all God's children should, how long, how wide, how deep, and how high his love really is."

The main focus of this committee in 2023 was the Memorial Garden.

We care for the Memorial Garden with the invaluable help of STARS, Carol Prevost and Linda Delezenne. There were three work days this year (with food!). The two wood portions of the east wall of the garden were painted, even though some bees didn't like that idea. One of our work days happened while we had no power, a challenging day, but still much was accomplished. We also placed a stone engraved with "Love" in the garden center.

The area around the "big green box" was cleaned up; trellises and plantings were put in place. Chris Korne researched a new fence along the south border, and STARS completed the work.

Three new memorial bricks honoring the memories of Rose Danielak, Linda Osborne, and Marilyn Taulbee were ordered this year, and will be in the garden in the spring.

As intended, our three garden work days all happened during Pastor Joel's sabbatical. Our goal was to make as many improvements as we could during the time that Pastor Joel and Tina were working in their own garden.

There were so many volunteer workers for the garden-too many to mention. Even though your names are not in this report, know that without you it wouldn't have happened. THANK YOU!

Prayerfully submitted, Karlane Belaire, Chairperson



2023 Deacons

Romans 12:10

"Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves."

The Board of Deacons for the 2023 year were Kathey Turnbull (Moderator), Beth Olko (Vice-Moderator), Rick Dunn (Secretary), Dorothy Sanchez, and Dave Houghtby. We were guided by Pastor Joel.

2023 was a challenging year as we were without the guidance of Pastor Joel while he was on sabbatical. Every Deacon rose to the challenges presented by unexpected deaths of congregation members as well as a former member. We were able to get through with the help of all the Deacons as well as the Congregation and Shelly.

The Deacons continue to serve the church through various ministries as well as having individual flocks. We have a Deacon who schedules greeters and monitors Sunday attendance, one who monitors home visits and members in the hospital, support at funerals and memorial services, and working with the Mission and Outreach Committee to provide hats, gloves, and other cold-weather gear through our "Warming Tree" donations. This year we will be joining Mission and Outreach to pack bag lunches for Hope Clinic.

Three times this past year we were able to bring joy to some of those members who are not able to attend church in person. We "carol" at Christmas, Easter, and the Fourth of July. Our December caroling had the largest number of participants yet and was so well-received by those we visited. In July we sang to Sally Novak over the phone because she was at her daughter's house at that time. I believe that this activity provides as much joy for those who participate as for those we sing for.

Deacons are always available to help with other outreach activities such as Trunk or Treat, Rally Day, and Hanging of the Greens. We host an annual Easter breakfast and a picnic in June as well. Many of us attend the Friendship Club dinners and enjoy them as much as the participants.

During Pastor Joel's sabbatical we had to say goodbye to Linda Osborne, Marilyn Taulbee, and a former member, Rosemary Carlton. Linda and Marilyn left us unexpectedly and will be missed. We also supported Helen and Tim in the loss of their husband and father, Otto. The Deacons are spiritually supporting others who have various needs and concerns.

The Deacon Ministry is a fulfilling one, full of joy and allows us to do God's work on Earth. If you have never been a Deacon and have a caring heart, please don't hesitate to speak to one of the current Deacons to find out what it's all about!!

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Turnbull, 2023 Deacon Moderator



2023 Faith Education

Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Faith Education Committee serves you by striving to provide opportunities to learn more about our God and our faith.

The following list describes our activities:

Daily devotionals (Our Daily Bread), Lenten and Advent devotionals

Birthday cards and encouragement to our students

Rally Day activities, along with the Joy Verse Challenge

Memory card Bible verses

Ongoing mentor support to our 2023 confirmands

Children's Chapel and worship bags, as needed

Adult Sunday School after coffee hour

Thursday Morning Bible Study, a pre-sermon study

Easter Egg hunt for visiting children

Butterfly Offering (which supports all Faith Ed. activities)

Time with the Children presenters

Tuesday Prayer Call (6:45 and 8:15 a.m.)

Youth Appreciation Sunday honoring our children and youth

Teacher Appreciation Sunday in June, with small gifts, created by Kim Gaines

Zoom Monday at 12 Noon, a Bible study led by Tina Puntigam

Zoom Tuesday at 12:15pm, a Bible study led by Carol Prevost

Promoting youth participation in church activities

Managing our Child and Youth Safety Policy.

Thank you to Linda Houghtby, Dorothy Sanchez and Marilyn Taulbee, and Pastor Joel, and recently Matt Johnson for faithful service to this committee. Another thank you to Melanie Gumz and Kathey Turnbull for helping to review the Child and Youth Safety Policy. St. Timothy has been blessed with many who enjoy teaching and leading classes. If you have thought of a study you might enjoy, or if you might want to lead a study, please let us know.

If none of the study offerings meet your needs, either by topic or timing, tell us. We want to work together to find something that suits you.

Marilyn Taulbee is greatly missed, she was an inspiration to us all.

Prayerfully Submitted by Karlane Belaire, Linda Houghtby, Matt Johnson, Dorothy Sanchez and Pastor Joel



2023 Faith Circle

Faith Circle (Women's Association) meets every second Wednesday at 12:30 pm September through June. Our meetings begin with prayer and a Bible study led by Mary Baum. We are currently studying the book of Acts suggested by Pastor Joel who attended one of our meetings as an invited guest.

We:

- hosted 3 or 4 Fellowship hours
- hosted a Luncheon for STARS, Gardeners, and St Timothy Staff
- hosted a Christmas Salad Luncheon with Christmas gifts for all our guests that attended
- hosted a Funeral Luncheon for one of our members Marilyn Taulbee.
- We bought Christmas gifts for our "homebound folks"
- We adopted two teens a girl and a boy through the Operation Good Cheer program chaired by Kim and Scott Gaines.
- We donated 18 Backpacks with the help of the Congregation's donations of items to the Oakland County Foster Closet.
- We hosted Father's Day Fellowship Hour and gave gifts to the men.
- A donation of \$1,000 was donated to the IT group for St Timothy Social Media.
- We continue with the already established Missions donations while exploring others for which we could be useful.
- We also have a Card ministry for homebound folks, members experiencing illness and other such needs.

We are so very pleased that our 2023 Faith Circle Christmas Luncheon was a wonderful success. We sold craft items that were donated by our late friend, Joyce Sproul.

Our current officers are:

- Trish Abela, Circle leader,
- Margaret Barsch Moderator,
- Patty Kreitmeyer, Secretary and Card Ministry,
- Shelly Walldorf our church office manager is our ad hoc treasurer.

Since all women of our congregation are members of Women's Association and in the interest of attempting to include everyone, a monthly lunch has been established hopefully to help us to get to know each other better. Mary Baum has been coordinating this, but we are looking for others to coordinate different events of interest. Several of us went to Frankenmuth earlier this year. Perhaps some of you would like to organize something like this in the near future. Please let us know your ideas or feelings in this regard.

We look forward to hearing from all of you.

Respectfully submitted,

Trish Abela, Margaret Barsch



2023 Mission and Outreach

In 2023 Mission and Outreach became one committee. After putting our ideas, activities, programs and resources together we had a busy, fruitful year serving our community and our St. Timothy families.

We started the year by having a jean and coat drive for the Open-Door Ministry at Fort Street Presbyterian Church. Over 70 pairs of jeans and many winter coats were collected. The congregation also donated personal items and toiletries.

At the end of March, we had a congregation wide prayer vigil. We plan on doing it again next year.

A community wide Easter egg hunt was held in April. About 75 children and their families participated. A big thank you to the congregation for donating candy, plastic eggs and prizes.

The committee sponsored a cereal drive in the spring for the Presbytery of Detroit. Over 300 boxes of cereal were collected.

Friendship Club events were held in April and November. About 100 residents and their caregivers attended. Everyone enjoyed a nice meal, playing bingo and singing along to music from Greg Kateff and Mike Baum.

Committee members visited Hope Clinic in Ypsilanti to tour their facilities and to learn how St. Timothy can support them. We decided that the congregation could help pack bag lunches that will be given to those in need. Our hope is to continue working with them.

A Trunk or Treat took place in October. About 145 children and their families received candy and treats. Hot chocolate and popcorn were served to our guests. About 20 cars participated in this fun event.

A worship service was started in November for our Friendship Club friends. It will take place on the third Wednesday of every month. The service will include music, scripture and a short message by Pastor Joel. Christmas gifts were purchased for several of their residents. We hope that these ministries will continue to be a part of our wonderful relationship with the Friendship Club.

We sponsored a drive to raise funds for the People in Need Ministry along with purchasing name tags for the congregation.

The prayer ribbon ministry started in the spring. Everyone was invited to write a prayer, a praise or someone's name on a ribbon and tie it to the prayer fence.

Mission/Outreach continues to coordinate weekly fellowship hours and visitor gift bags. We are currently assisting the church office with a new photo directory.

The committee worked with the Deacons with our Holiday Caroling. Operation Good Cheer continued to be a success under the leadership of Kim and Scott Gaines.

We seek new opportunities to best serve the community and our congregation with prayer and guidance from the Holy Spirit. God is leading Mission/Outreach in an exciting direction.

Committee members are co-chair Dennis Delezenne, Karlane Belaire, Linda Houghtby, Patty Kreitmeyer, Margaret Barsch, Kim Gaines and Kathey Turnbull. Thank you for your leadership and dedication. Thank you to the congregation for your involvement and support.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Baum - co-chair



2023 Nominating and Personnel

The Nominating and Personnel Committee is tasked to recruit people who are willing and able to serve as Elders, Deacons and Corporate Officers each year who match the needs of those positions. Additionally, there is a responsibility to assist the church staff as well as provide evaluations of their performance in service at St. Timothy during the year. This includes the Pastor, the Music Director/Accompanist and the Office Manager. The committee consists of Lou Suveg (Chairperson), Margaret Barsch, John Weiss, Chris Korne and Dorothy Sanchez (Deacon Representative). For 2024 Bob Taylor will be joining the committee!

Deacon and Elder positions for the coming year were successfully filled. Carol Prevost and Kathey Turnbull have accepted the nomination as Deacon. This will be a second term for Kathey. Greg Kateff, Tim Chanko and Chris Korne have accepted nominations as Elder. This will be a second term for Chris.

Compensation increases of 2% was presented to Session, discussed for the 3 staff members. Session approved increase for Shelly Walldorff and Tim Falk. Approval for Pastor Joel's 2024 Terms of Call will be presented to the congregation. Thank you, Shelly, Tim, and Pastor Joel, for everything you do for St. Timothy and our congregation!

I have enjoyed working with my committee members. I look forward to the coming year with the guidance from our Lord leading the committee. In 2024 plans are to have each staff member join a monthly meeting, as well as auditing relevant committee documents.

If you have an interest in serving as Deacon, Elder, or serving on a committee please let me know. It would be a pleasure to have you. May God continue to bless our committee efforts and the members of the St. Timothy congregation.

Respectfully submitted,

Lou Suveg Chairperson Nominating & Personnel Committee



2023 Properties/STARS

Greetings,

Well, another year has come and gone. The STARS and myself have accomplished quite a few things in the last 6 months in addition to the usual sanitation of the building and trash removal. We've had quite a bit of outside maintenance other than normal grass mowing which includes the removal of two pine trees ourselves and professional removal of the large maple tree and other tree trimming.

The Memorial Garden has received a lot of attention with the addition of new fencing. And a big thank you to all who participated in the Memorial Garden fix up days especially Carol Prevost and Linda Delezenne We accomplished a lot with new plantings and the painting of the wall panels on the east wall.

We have had a few hiccups along the way, such as repairs to the garage windows and a few boiler repairs. But we're moving forward with the flooring and purchasing and assembling the cabinets for the new kitchenette in the Fellowship Hall.

STARS also did the annual maintenance on the lawn mower which saved us from having to pay to have it done. We have also organized the garage and work room.

In closing, may everyone have a safe and blessed new year. Chris Korne



2023 Worship Committee

January was a quiet month.

February brought Ash Wednesday and we were hosting the other Presbyterian churches but that was canceled because there had been an ice storm and as a result of that power outages.

Our Palm Sunday Worship service began with a procession into the sanctuary with palms.

Maundy Thursday service was hosted by Rosedale Gardens and Good Friday service hosted by St Paul's.

On Easter morning we had an early outdoor service that began at 8:00. Breakfast was served at about 9:00, followed by our traditional Easter service at 10:30.

There were two Wholeness and Healing Services as well as a Hymn Sing Service.

Pastor Joel had a sabbatical leave that lasted from May 20th to August 18th. While he was away we had three guest Pastors, those being Pastor Charon from the Presbytery and Pastor Kelly and Pastor Kate both from Rosedale Gardens! From our congregation, the guest pastors were Mary Baum, Mike Baum, Tim Chanko, Greg Kateff, Dennis Delezenne, Cassy Sautter, Bob Taylor and Kathey Turnbull! All delivered very meaningful messages and we were blessed to not only have those folks but also Paula Boegner and Matt Johnson who led the prayer time each week during the service!

Summer Campfire Worship Wednesday evenings began on July 5th through August 30.

The annual Worship in Mies Park took place on August 13th.

September 10th was Rally Day 2023 which begins our church year.

Thanksgiving Eve service was well attended and as always very enjoyable.

Then came Advent with those 4 weeks of anticipation of the birth of Jesus.

Because Christmas Eve came on a Sunday this year, we had our regular morning worship followed by our very meaningful Christmas Eve Worship later that evening.

Tim Falk each week does such a great job leading the choirs and we are grateful to him and those in the choirs.

We are thankful for our on-line service and to those who make it possible - Tim Chanko, Scott Gaines, Melanie Gumz and Tina Puntigam.

Our Worship Committee members are Linda Delezenne, Tim Falk, Karen Kateff, Pastor Joel and we welcomed our new member, Randy Wright.

Helen Chanko retired in 2023 after many years of dedication to the committee; we do miss her on our committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Houghtby



2023 Chancel Choir

We currently have 12 singers in our choir. The soprano singers are Cassy Sautter, Linda Houghtby, Margaret Barsch, and Sue Zabell. The alto singers are Paula Boegner and Tina Puntigam. The tenor singers are Matt Johnson, Greg Kateff, Rick Dunn, and Mike Baum. The bass singers are Bob Taylor and Pastor Joel Puntigam. Linda Houghtby and Rick Dunn did not sing with us for about the last half of the year for private reasons, but I expect them to actively rejoin the choir sometime in 2024. Tina and Joel went on a sabbatical from about May to August and did not sing with us during that time. Our music librarian is Linda Delezenne.

We continued to rehearse on Thursday evenings at 7pm and at 9:45 Sunday mornings on the Sundays that we were singing as a full choir.

We continued in 2023 our tradition of combined services with St Paul, and Rosedale Gardens for Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday. This included combined choirs for each service. Attendance and enthusiasm for these combined services has been trending downward for several years. Taking that into account, the worship committee decided to end our involvement in these three combined services and go back to holding these services on our own at St Timothy for 2024.

The music for the early outdoor service on Easter Sunday was led by Greg and Mike with guitars and vocals and they did an excellent job.

The choir took the summer off, as usual. Special music was provided by soloists, small vocal groups, and instrumentalists during the summer.

For Christmas season, we did not perform a whole cantata by itself. Instead we used Christmas songs and anthems from our music library which did include using a few songs here and there from past cantatas.

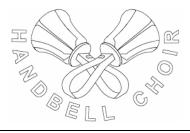
I tried to use youth for the music on the 3rd Sunday of every month. Singing at different times on these youth Sundays were Jillian Sautter and Dave Olko Jr.. When neither of them were available I had an adult soloist sing a solo. Several times this was Dave Olko Sr and he did a great job. The chancel choir was given these 3rd Sundays off from singing and meeting as a choir.

Musicians that helped with the music during 2023 were keyboardists Paula Boegner, Linda Delezenne, and Tim Chanko, guitarists Mike Baum and Greg Kateff, violinist Sue Zabell, and wind chimes player Tina Puntigam. Different singers and musicians helped out at different times

with various percussion instruments. Linda Delezenne also played the dulcimer at several services.

Tina helped greatly on the AV board, along with Tim Chanko, Scott Gaines and Melanie Gumz. Shelly Walldorff in the office has been very helpful and Pastor Joel has been very supportive of the music program and has allowed me the freedom and liberty to be creative and pick out the music that I think will work best for the services.

I am grateful for all the talent, hard work and great attitudes of everyone who helped out with the music program in 2023. I am appreciative of the flexibility of the choir members and their willingness to try different musical ideas and forms. I look forward to a great 2024 season! - Tim Falk



2023 Handbell Choir

Our ringers in 2023 were Cassy Sautter, Jillian Sautter, Mike Baum, Sue Zabell, Linda Delezenne, and Paula Boegner. The choir for the most part played on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. We took the summer off, as we have done in the past. Our rehearsal time was on Thursdays from 5:55 pm to 6:55 pm.

The great majority of our handbell library music is for 2 and 3 octaves, which is written ideally for a minimum of 8 ringers. When everyone shows up, we only have six ringers, so for most of our bell arrangements that we played, we had to modify the arrangement to allow for the lesser number of ringers. We also played special arrangements that took advantage of the different musical skills of our ringers, which included solo voices, keyboards, violin, guitar, bassoon, trumpet, and dulcimer. This helped us greatly on Sundays when we had less than 6 ringers and were unable to properly play a two octave handbell arrangement. Sometimes our music on a Sunday would be all bells, and sometimes it would be a mix of bells and different instruments.

The ringers had great attitudes and worked hard to learn the music and unique arrangements. Thank you, ringers! I am looking forward to a great 2024 for the handbell choir ringers. - Tim Falk

<u>2</u>

2024 Church Officers

Session **Class of 2024**

Dennis Delezenne Linda Houghtby

Class of 2025

Lou Suveg **Cassy Sautter**

Class of 2026

Tim Chanko Greg Kateff Chris Korne

Deacons

Class of 2024

Rick Dun Beth Olko

Class of 2025

Dorothy Sanchez Dave Houghtby

Class of 2026

Carol Prevost Kathey Turnbull

Corporate President Beth Olko **Officers Kimberly Gaines Corporate Secretary** Tim Chanko **Corporate Treasurer** Linda Delezenne **Financial Secretary Financial Secretary** Melanie Gumz