

Annual Report

2025



Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:19



First Presbyterian Church
— of Brighton —

Love God, Love One Another, Reach Out.

The Mission and Vision of the First Presbyterian Church of Brighton

Our **Mission** is to invite people into a lasting relationship with
Jesus Christ, to grow in faith together,

and to share the

Good News of the Gospel with the world:

Love God

Love One Another

Reach Out

Our **Vision** is to be a warm and welcoming spiritual home in
which people are challenged to grow to their fullest potential:

Worship that glorifies God and transforms lives

Evangelism that effectively communicates the
Good News of the Gospel

Community expressed in small groups and other
forms of caring

Awareness of the needs of the world and
positioning ourselves to serve

Recognition and implementation of the gifts God
has given us

Education and application of the Gospel to our
daily lives

First Presbyterian Church of Brighton
February 8, 2026
Table of Contents

Agenda	2
Annual Statistics	3
Pastor's Annual Letter	4
Associate Pastor's Annual Letter	5
Christian Education Purpose Team	6
• Children's Ministry	6
• Family Activities	7
• Student Ministry	11
• Adult Education Report	14
Communication Purpose Team	16
Fellowship Purpose Team	17
Ministry Purpose Team	19
Mission Purpose Team	24
• 2025-Hands on Ministry Efforts	25
Worship Purpose Team	28
Personnel Support Team	32
Property Support Team	33
Memorial/Honorariums 2025	35
Finance Support Team	37
• 2025 Stewardship Report	39
• General Endowment Fund Committee	40
• General Budget 2026	41

The Annual Meeting of First Presbyterian Church of Brighton

February 8, 2026

11:15 AM

AGENDA

Call to Order and Opening Prayer by Moderator	Scott Phillips
Reading of the Call for the Meeting	Scott Phillips
Declaration of Quorum	Scott Phillips
Appointment of a Clerk	Scott Phillips
Nominating Committee Report	Elder, Mark Duncan Nominating Committee
Review and Presentation of Budget for 2026	Facilitator, Steve Willis Finance Support Team
Pastor Report	Scott Phillips
Associate Pastor Report	Allison Webb
Presentation of the 2025 Annual Reports	Scott Phillips
Kitchen Renovation Update	Scott Phillips
Authorization to Approve the Minutes	Scott Phillips
Adjournment	Scott Phillips
Closing Prayer	Scott Phillips

Annual Statistics **For the Year Ending December 31, 2025**

Active Membership, 12/31/24	441
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Gains, 2025

Profession of Faith, Reaffirmation of Faith	18
Certificate of Transfer	8
All Other Gains (moved to active from inactive)	0
Total Gains 2025	26

Losses, 2025

Certificate of Transfer	0
Deaths	9
All Other Losses (moved to inactive/deleted from rolls)	18
Total Losses 2025	27

Active Membership 12/31/25	440
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Baptisms in 2024

Child	4
Adult	0
Total Baptisms for 2025	4

PASTOR'S ANNUAL LETTER OF 2025

Dear Church Family,

As I reflect on this past year, I find myself celebrating accomplishments and embracing the changes that have moved us forward as a congregation. Change is often difficult, and yet also inevitable if we are going to respond to the ever-developing world around us.

It has been nearly six years since COVID paused and, in some ways, forever adjusted some of the traditions and practices we had grown used to as a church. While some of these changes were lamented, over these last few years we have found new ways to navigate our calling as a Body of Christ.

We have grown our outreach to the community by opening our building to outside groups and, working with other churches in Brighton, offering fellowship experiences such as our Community Story Slams.

In worship we have seen significant growth in attendance both in-person and online. In fact, when we combine our in-person and online viewer attendance figures, our numbers reflect 2019 when we had two in-person worship services prior to the pandemic.

In addition, our staffing model has changed as well, especially in the area of administration. Sadly, we said goodbye to some long-term staff members but have been blessed to see new staff members come on board. Bringing new ideas into our church staff has allowed us to respond to an ever-changing world of ministry.

All changes come with challenges, which can cause us to wonder if we are making the right choices and decisions. Navigating the new waters of ministry moving forward takes courage and vision. Through discernment and prayer, we have found truth in the often-repeated biblical proclamation, "Do not be afraid, God is with you!"

Nothing can be truer than this, God is with us, and will continue to be with us as we look to what the spirit has in mind for us in 2026.

Blessings,

Scott

ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S ANNUAL LETTER OF 2025

Dear Family of Faith,

2025 was a year of transition, change, and new opportunity. As the world around us continued to shift and adapt, we witnessed the church changing as well. FPCB embraced many new opportunities this year, including new mission partnerships, outreach events, and deeper community engagement.

This past fall, our church had the opportunity to host our community in our building during the return of Destination Stars Hollow, the Gilmore Girls festival in downtown Brighton. Over 4,000 people passed through our open doors and parking lot to meet their favorite sitcom celebrities, enjoy refreshments and clean restrooms, and find a moment of respite amid this bustling community event. The community's response to the church's hospitality was heartening. Many people spoke of the warmth and welcome they experienced and expressed an abundance of gratitude. Some even asked, "Why did your church do this?"

So, why did we do this? Why open our doors to the community during an event that didn't seem to have anything to do with church at all? My friends, I believe this opportunity had far more to do with church than we initially recognized.

Our world today can feel like a frightening place. We are surrounded by violence, harmful rhetoric, and deep uncertainty about the future. We see people searching for belonging and for a safe place to land. In the midst of all this, the longing for connection, welcome, and hope, feels more urgent than ever. For some people, during Destination Stars Hollow, our church was the first church they had ever entered. For others, it was the first time in a long while they felt comfortable walking through the doors of a church. Regardless of where people were on their journey of life and faith, this place became a space of welcome and love, no strings attached.

Perhaps this is what it truly means to be the church...

In 2025, being the church looked like opening our doors during a Gilmore Girls festival. Being the church looked like our children harvesting food from the Children's Garden to share with the congregation during Coffee Hour. It looked like collecting cereal and macaroni and cheese on World Communion Sunday for students right here in Brighton. It looked like local and international mission trips, new Green Envelope organizations being supported, and an increase in community events hosted within our building.

My hope and my prayer for 2026 is that we, as a church, continue to seek new opportunities to share the love of Jesus Christ as God leads us, and to embrace the presence of the Holy Spirit guiding us ever closer to the kingdom of heaven through each act of generosity we are called to offer.

Gratefully,

Pastor Alli

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION PURPOSE TEAM

Staff:

Allison Webb	August 2023-Present: Full Time Associate Pastor
Jessica Doman	January 2023-Present: Full Time Director of Children's Ministry
Sandy Kinstle	December 2024-Present: Part Time Nursery Coordinator

CE Purpose Team Members:

Jessica Doman, Allison Webb (Staff)

Mary Crosier (Session Mentor)

Sally Montera, Mary Lane and Caitlyn Wasilenski (Deacon Representatives)

Joe Bottum, Sara Cartwright, Kent Clark, Meredith Dempster, Nancy Dempster, Mark Dunny, Crystal Gray, Angel Hamilton, Danielle Neely, Connie Simpson, Elena Strong, Joshua Summers, John Wells

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Children's Ministry Focus Team:

Staff Leader: Jessica Doman

Members: Nancy Dempster, Connie Simpson, Crystal Gray, Elena Strong, Mary Lane, Caitlyn Wasilenski

The team met the second Sunday of each month. Meetings were held in-person with the option of joining online.

Sunday Morning CE Programming:

Winter/Spring Sunday School Group Leaders:

Staff Coordinator: Jessica Doman

First Look: Mary Lane, Craig Minkler, Mark Michaels, Abby Usher, Katy Wilson

252 Kids/Activity Center: Dickson Manns, Joanne Manns, Keith Wasilenski, Tarah Wasilenski

Rotational Volunteers/Substitutes: Crystal Gray, James Gray, Ashleigh Hochstettler, Danielle Neely, Missy Kevra, Derek Kevra, Elena Strong

Winter/Spring Sunday School: Sunday morning Christian education programming was offered during the Unified 10:00am service every Sunday with the exception of the first Sunday of each month which is Family Worship. We used the Orange Curriculum to provide creative and fun ways for our students to interact with Bible stories. Our First Look class for preschoolers and kindergarteners teaches kids the following ideas: God made me, God loves me, and Jesus wants to be my forever friend. Our 252 class is based off of 3 basic truths modeled by Jesus in Luke 2:52, I need to make the wise choice, I can trust God no matter what, and I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

Summer Sunday School:

Leader: Jessica Doman

During our Summer Sunday School series: God's Colorful Creation from Seed to Bloom kids explored God's creation through art and gardening. Each week included a short lesson, nature-inspired art, and time in our children's garden. The children's nature inspired art was on display all summer in our Art Gallery.

Fall Sunday School Group Leaders:

Staff Coordinator: Jessica Doman

First Look: Katy Wilson, Mark Michaels, Mary Lane, and Craig Minkler

252: Dickson Manns, Joanne Manns, Danielle Neely, and Mary Crosier

Rotational Volunteers/Substitutes: Crystal Gray, James Gray, Ashleigh Hochstettler, Jill Bednarek, Keith Wasilenski, and Tarah Wasilenski

Fall Sunday School: In the fall, we again offered our First Look and 252 Sunday class during the 10:00 unified service, using the Orange Curriculum.

Nursery

Staff Coordinator: Sandy Kinstle

Nursery Volunteers: Jennifer Aittama, Missy Kevra, Ashleigh Hochstettler, Chelsea Gorman, Mike Gorman, Michelle Lake, Ian Lake, Jane Reed, Melanie Phillips, Danielle Neely, Lori Dunny, Lois Romans, Jennifred Jones, Abby Romans, Oksana Ericson, Elizabeth Houbech, Erika Perrin, Addison Hamilton, Betza Wilhelmsen, and Justin Wilhelmsen.

The staffed nursery is located downstairs in rooms B2 and B4 to accommodate our large number of babies and toddlers. Many of these babies are now "on the move" and love playing in the ball pit, on the slides, and riding the rocking horses in the nursery! Room D5, which was the former location of our nursery, is called the "Family Room." This room is available for parents and children to use together during all worship services. It is intended to be a space for nursing mothers, or parents with younger children, to use throughout the service as needed. Worship service is streamed into this room so they can continue enjoying service with their children.

2025 FAMILY ACTIVITIES:

Beloved Bonds

We have Beloved Bonds: Parent and me Play Time the second Thursday of every month in the NOSH, this is a toddler focused event but all ages are welcome! We have our Beloved Bonds: Parent Devotional the fourth Thursday of every month. This is a devotional and small group time for parents and young adults with Pastor Alli. Childcare is provided by our Nursery Coordinator in the Nursery. During the summer Beloved Bonds did park play dates.

Family Nights

We have Family Night the third Wednesday of every month. Families are invited to join us for a meal followed by a children's lesson, crafts, games, fellowship and fun! Over the summer children enjoyed numerous offsite Family Nights at the park and we even had a swim party.

Holy Week Activities

Holy Week began with a very excited group of children waving palms for the processional in worship on Palm Sunday. In the middle of the week we had a "Holy Week Family Night", where families enjoyed a meal together before moving room to room for an interactive journey through

Holy Week. We concluded Holy Week with a combined Sunday School party followed by a large Easter egg hunt on the front lawn of the church, the Easter Bunny even showed up!

Children's Garden

This year we launched our first Children's Garden. Families gathered to plant a variety of donated plants and flowers. Throughout the summer children watered and cared for the garden during Sunday school. Jess Doman and Joy Pomerville helped maintain the garden alongside the children. The harvest was shared with our congregation during coffee hour. Several of the vegetables were even used to prepare dishes for coffee hour and our church picnic, all made by our students. We can't wait to expand our garden next summer!

True North Vacation Bible School 2025-June 23rd-June 26th

Director: Jessica Doman

This summer, over 65 kids, 12 youth leaders, and 44 adult volunteers, embarked on an exciting journey to discover what it means to trust Jesus in this wild world! Through engaging Bible stories, hands-on activities, fun games, and uplifting music, children learned that no matter where life takes them, Jesus is their true guide. Students dove deep into the Bible and learned that Jesus is their true north through songs, art, science projects, games, and snacks. In Bible Stories, students learned about Jesus with a fun theater experience. Students also enjoyed several northern light themed snacks in Fellowship Hall, including bear foot cookies and moose cupcakes. In the Imagination Station, children explored trusting Jesus through science experiments. At Galactic Games, things got cool as children played games outside. On our last day, children had fun with our obstacle bounce house. As a service project, we donated over 200 food items to Gleaner's food pantry.

VBS Ice Cream Social Sunday-June 29th

Children enjoyed an ice cream buffet as they showed the congregation what they learned at VBS.

All Church Picnic-September 7th

Fellowship Team provided food for the picnic. CE ordered an inflatable obstacle course and an inflatable bounce house for the kids, and provided several lawn games for kids of all ages. It was a beautiful day to reconnect after summer break.

Fall Family Kick-Off-September 17th

Families with kids of all ages (0-12th grade) met in the church parking lot for dinner, s'mores and fellowship. Families enjoyed pizza, games, basketball, scooters, and of course s'mores. Children and adults also participated in a creative Ten Commandments Chalk Walk, combining movement, art, and faith, as we celebrated the start of a new season together.

Chambers Family Farm Outing-October 12th

Chambers Family Farm in Pinckney invited our group to come to their farm free of charge. We had 9 families join us at the farm for donuts, cider, pumpkin picking, hay bale jumping, soccer, tractor rides, and a corn maze. It was perfect weather and everyone had a great time!

Trunk or Treat-October 28th

Trunk or Treat 2025 was a great success! We started the event outside with some of our spooky trunks then people came inside the church and saw our amazing facility as we hosted a fun, spooky trunk or treat trail. Congregation members volunteered to set up over 35 amazing, creative treat stations. Fellowship Team provided a meal of hot dogs to the community. Serving almost 200 children, Trunk or Treat was one of our biggest community outreach events of the year!

FALLing for Jesus Sunday School Party-October 26th

Children enjoyed pumpkin painting and fall crafts during their Sunday school hour.

Advent: Food, Faith, Family-Dec. 3rd, 10th, and 17th

Children were invited to come and learn about Advent over a 3-week study. They learned about Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love, and created some fun Christmas crafts.

Christmas Eve Family Service Program December 24th (4:00)

Children of all ages (and their parents) had the opportunity to participate in an interactive telling of the nativity story on Christmas Eve. Under the direction of Jessica Doman, with assistance writing the script from Danielle Neely, gathering costumes from Lori Dunny, music from Sarah Manning, and lots of volunteer help, FPCB students led worship by telling the amazing story of the birth of Jesus. Several times during worship, all who wished to do so were invited to join the story as a stable animal or angel. This was a wonderful way to incorporate first time visitors and extended family members into the service on Christmas Eve!



Children's Ministry 2025



STUDENT MINISTRY REPORT 2025

Student Ministry Focus Team 2025

Staff: Tara Williams, Director of Student Ministry (January-July 2025)

Team: Joe Bottum, Sara Cartwright, Angel Hamilton, Meredith Dempster, Joshua Summers (2025 Team)

The Student Ministry Focus Team meets monthly to plan youth events and coordinate retreats, mission trips, and other activities. Meetings were combined with the Children's Ministry Focus Team and Adult Education Focus Team, and occurred on the second Sunday of each month.

Combined Middle School and High School Bible Study

Youth Bible Study took place every Sunday, except the first Sunday of the month, at 10AM downstairs in A-Level. Students gathered for a game and icebreaker, and then spent time studying God's Word together. Joe Bottum and other volunteers led these Bible studies. We used the PC(USA)'s curriculum for youth called Follow Me. It is based on practices Jesus did and taught us to do as faithful followers. It examines where these practices are found in the Bible and how they have been used in Christian faith then and now.

Family Worship

Students were encouraged to attend and sit together during Family Worship on the first Sunday of the month. Students worshiped with one another and took communion with our community of faith.

Youth Nights

In the fall of 2025, Youth Nights took place on the first Sunday of the month from 6-8PM. Students enjoyed a variety of activities and fellowship including game nights, hikes, and a Christmas party minute-to-win-it extravaganza!

Youth Mission Trip – July 21-25, 2025 – Livingston County

Seven students and two adult chaperones participated in a local youth mission experience focused on serving members of our congregation. The group spent the week at our church in a lock-in-style setting, combining hands-on service projects, worship, fellowship, and reflection. The students provided support to congregation members through assisting with yard work, outdoor projects, and cleaning. They also visited Woodland Village Assisted Living Center and shared stories with the residents.

Spring Hill Winter Youth Retreat

High school and middle school students attended the Spring Hill Winter Youth Retreat this year. Five high school students and two chaperones attended the high school weekend. Four students and five chaperones attended the middle school weekend. Students experienced times of worship and small group discussion, along with many fun activities including tubing, ice skating, broomball, ropes course, crafts, escape room, basketball, volleyball, and more.

Youth Group Events of 2025

January 17th-19th – High School Winter Retreat to Spring Hill

January 31st-February 2nd – Middle School Winter Retreat to Spring Hill

February 12th-18th – Bottle and Can Drive Supporting Mission Trips

March 2nd – Youth Night: Game Night

March 16th – Youth Night: Church Olympics

May 4th – Bake Sale Fundraiser for Mission Trips

May 4th – Youth Night

May 18th – Youth Night

June 15th – Graduation Sunday

June 22nd – Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser for Mission Trips

June 22nd – Youth Night: Water Games

June 23rd-26th – Volunteered at VBS

July 12th – Parking Lot Fundraiser for Mission Trips

July 13th – Youth Night: Window Painting

July 21st-25th – Local Youth Mission Trip: Livingston County

August 2nd-9th – College Age Guatemala Mission Trip

September 17th – Fall Kick-off Parking Lot Party

October 5th – Youth Night: Bunko and Ice Cream at Pastor Scott and Melanie's House

November 8th – Youth Night: Island Lake Lantern Hike

December 7th – Youth Night: Christmas Party



Student Ministry 2025



ADULT EDUCATION REPORT 2025

Adult Education Focus Team 2025

Staff: Allison Webb (Associate Pastor)

Team: Mark Dunny, Kent Clark, Sally Montera, John Wells

The Adult Education Focus Team creates opportunities that communicate the Good News of the Gospel through education in this church community. In 2025, the team provided a variety of engaging and diverse studies and programs that allowed all ages to experience the vibrant community at First Presbyterian Church of Brighton.

Adult Education Events and Programs

Let's Talk About It: Livingston Diversity Council – Wednesday, January 29, at 5:30PM

Facilitator: Pastor Alli and Nicole Matthew-Creech, Executive Director of Livingston Diversity Council

- 32 Total Attendees

We kicked off 2025 with a “Let’s Talk About It,” featuring the Livingston Diversity Council. The Livingston Diversity Council is a grass-roots, nonprofit organization of business people, private citizens, educators, government officials, and clergy, who live and/or work in Livingston County. They embrace and advocate for the virtues of diversity, equity, inclusion and access within and for our community. Led by Executive Director, Nicole Matthews-Creech, participants engaged in round-table discussion and Q&A. Dinner was served, provided by the Adult Education Focus Team.

Lent Adult Bible Study: Reflections on The Lord’s Prayer – Wednesdays, March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9, at 11AM and 6PM

Facilitators: Pastor Alli

- Averaged 30 Attendees each week during morning and evening sessions

This five-week Adult Education class took place Wednesday mornings and evenings during the season of Lent. Participants explored The Lord’s Prayer line by line by engaging in teachings by Pastor Alli and participating in thoughtful table discussions. We explored the depth and significance of this powerful prayer, reflecting on its message and how it applies to our daily lives.

Adult Ed Bible Study: “The Bible With and Without Jesus” by Amy-Jill Levine – Wednesdays, October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, November 5, at 11AM and 6PM

Facilitator: Pastor Alli and Mark Dunny

- 35 Total Attendees between morning and evening sessions

To kick off the Fall 2025 Adult Education programs, the book “The Bible With and Without Jesus” by Amy-Jill Levine was studied. Participants engaged in video lessons and conversations discovering how Jews and Christians read the same Bible stories through different lenses. Participants explored the stories of creation, Adam and Eve, Isaiah’s suffering servant, Jonah, and Psalm 22—showing how these ancient texts are understood across traditions.

Advent: Food, Faith, Family – Wednesdays, December 3, 10, 17, at 5:30PM

Facilitators: Pastor Alli, Pastor Scott, Jess Doman (Director of Children’s Ministry), and Mark Dunny

- Averaged 48 Attendees each week (including children 0 and up)

During the season of Advent, people of all ages, including children, students, and adults, participated in our Advent: Food, Faith, Family, study. Each week, all gathered to share a meal together, and then broke up into groups for study and fellowship. The topic of this year's study was based on John 1:14: "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us." The study was crafted based on Adam Hamilton's book, *Incarnation: Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas*. At the end of each study, the children and students returned to the large group and all would join hands to pray as one united body of Christ.

Bible Study Small Groups

- **Beloved Bonds: Parent Devotional w/Childcare**
 - 4th Thursday of the month from 11:30am-1:00pm
- **Sunday Morning Bible Study**
 - Sundays at 11:00am
- **Tuesday Women's Bible Study**
 - Tuesdays at 10:00am
- **Wednesday Men's Small Group Bible Study**
 - Wednesdays at 10:00am
- **Wednesday Men's Bible Study**
 - Wednesdays at 7:00pm
- **Friday Morning Men's Fellowship and Bible Study**
 - Fridays at 7:30am

COMMUNICATIONS PURPOSE TEAM

The current members of the Communications Purpose Team are Francis Diaz (Session Mentor), our newly joined member and Deacon representative Chelsea Gorman, Fred Oline, Vickie Oline, Melanie Phillips (also a Deacon representative) and Pastor Scott Phillips. We appreciate the years of service that Curt Owens gave to the team as he moved on to other ventures.

The Communications Purpose Team is focused on developing and supporting effective techniques to connect the congregation, including our fellow purpose teams, with each other and with the community. We had another very productive year in 2025! Highlights of the accomplishments include:

- We tracked and analyzed historical attendance and online viewership data to share with Session.
- We created and conducted a survey to get feedback on the online worship broadcasts which was presented to Session. This led to improvements in our streaming services.
- We continue to support and promote and educate on our online member directory. Midyear, the company changed platforms to improve security and it has taken several months to regain the features and quality we enjoyed before the change. We are planning a relaunch in early 2026.
- We promoted church events within our community through the Chamber of Commerce.
- We hosted Fellowship Hour after service on July 27, using the time to promote and educate members on the online directory and get more pictures uploaded.
- We began work on a formal Communication/Marketing Plan for the church, to be completed in 2026.
- We raised awareness in the community of FPCB through sponsorships such as Brighton High School t-shirts and a golf tee at the annual Love INC golf tournament.
- We sponsored targeted merchandise for the Gilmore Girls event designed and created by Chelsea and her team of volunteers.
- We organized our annual hosting of a booth at the Brighton Holiday Glow and Christmas Market. The support of many congregation members, the generous donation from Bennett's Beavers of wooden shapes to give away to children and the beautiful hand-knitted scarves, headbands, and hats, from our amazing Knitters Team ensured another successful event. In 2025 we also expanded this ministry to set up an adjacent booth for other neighborhood churches to join us in outreach to our community!
- We purchased a new 10' x 10' event tent for the church that has our name and logo on the tent topper!
- We purchased FPCB logo merchandise for promotions, giveaways at events, and for the New Member Welcome gifts.

The Communications Purpose Team is a team that has fun accomplishing our mission for the congregation and for our Lord. We prayerfully look forward to what the Lord brings to us in 2026 for new opportunities and new ways to connect us all to each other and our community!

If what we do sounds interesting to you, we would love to have you join us! Reach out to any member of the team for more information...you will be able to find us in your directory app!

FELLOWSHIP PURPOSE TEAM

Members:

Francis Diaz, Paul Laidler, Sue Rubin, Bonnie Vander Muellen, Beth Freiberg, Meredith Dempster, Marilynn Dawson, Keith Wasilenski, Margaret Moody-Ulmer.

Lois Romans, Carole Weaver and Sue Burkhart – Deacon Representatives.

Ashleigh Hochstettler – Elder Mentor.

Allison Webb – Staff.

The Fellowship Purpose Team (FPT) chairperson for 2025 was Keith Wasilenski, FPT chair to be considered in February 2026.

Mission:

Effectively communicate the Good News of the Gospel through connecting people in Christian community and fellowship.

Meetings:

The FPT meets the Second Sunday of each month in Fellowship Hall from 8:30am to 9:30am. You are invited to help with an event, even if you are not part of the team. We want to hear from you, so please share your new ideas and suggestions to the FPT.

We are actively looking for new members so, if you were ever interested in joining, now is the time, attend a meeting or reach out to a team member for more information!

Responsibilities:

Coffee Hour is held after service, roughly at 11:00am. Typically, the FPT will host the first Sunday of each month, and Deacons and Elders host the third Sunday of each month. The other Sundays are open for groups or families to sponsor coffee hour but please contact someone from the FPT to coordinate special occasion dates. Coffee and tea are always available and groups and families will supply the snacks. Food offerings and treats can be as simple or involved as you choose. We serve anywhere from 40 to over 100 each weekend, and there are always additional snacks in the kitchen if you run short! You can sign up on the posting next to the coffee station in Fellowship Hall. If you would like to help or host a coffee hour or prepare the coffee for the morning, please contact an FPT member, or look in Live the Mission for details. We also support many of the events sponsored by other groups within the church. Commitments are typically 1 to 3 hours based on the event and what is expected of the team. We always welcome help and participation at all the events.

Activities:

Our mission of serving and connecting people in Christian Community is why we support these events. Members of the FPT supported the following events. These cannot go on without the many volunteers, so Thank You everyone for making this happen.

A successful year of Coffee Hours where our church family was able to gather around tables talking, sharing stories and hugs, and enjoying time with each other. Thank you to all who have contributed from hosting to attending. We continue to look for new ways to reach out to our church family and the community. If you have any ideas of what you missed from the past, what

you like about today, and what you would like to see in the future, please talk to an FPT member with your thoughts and ideas, or you are always welcome to come to one of our meetings.

We started the year with some soup to help raise food and donations of \$130 for the community, and served some hotdogs at our Spring Fling. The scoopers were ready for VBS Ice Cream Social, and we wrapped up the year with the meaning and spirit of Christmas in our Christmas Corner in Fellowship Hall during the month of December. This is just a sample of the many activities that kept this team busy. At the Church Picnic on September 7th, we saw over 150 members of our church family enjoy a beautiful day while the grillers were busy keeping everyone well fed. Thank you to those who were able to assist with the meal by supplying side dishes and desserts, it was great to have time to get together as our church family. There were several opportunities for the Fellowship Team to assist other teams in their events such as Trunk or Treat and the Visual Arts Team as they hosted art showings. The hard work and dedication of this team made these events happen, and many laughs made the work much easier. Thank you for everyone's assistance throughout the year!

On-going Activities:

Golden Opportunity Club: This group is back and meeting every third Tuesday at various restaurants in the Brighton Area, and we look forward to future special events. Date, location, and time, will be posted in the weekly FPCB Happenings each month.

Where do I find out more?

Future events will be posted in email through the FPCB Happenings, on the monitors around the church, and on the Church website. Stay tuned for future events. Please contact Keith Wasilenski at keithwazoo@yahoo.com or any of our team members for more information on fellowship events, if you would like to help out, or if you want to join the Fellowship Purpose Team. We enjoy sharing our mission with you and look forward to a cup of coffee and cookie with you soon.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Wasilenski

MINISTRY PURPOSE TEAM

The aim and purpose of the Ministry Purpose Team is to connect people to serve within the Church. We meet monthly to make certain that we meet this goal. The yearly reports from our Focus Teams are listed below. If you are interested in serving on one of these Focus Teams, please reach out to one of our members, or contact the church office. You can also get more information about these teams by helping yourself to the Ministry Purpose Team's brochure, which is in the information rack in the Narthex by the welcome center.

Members:

Charlene Adkins (Visitation), Jill Bednarek (Caring Hearts Cards), Karen Diaz (Women's Ministry), Larry King (Stephen Ministry), Jack Padley (New Members Classes and Chair), Sue Radloff (Ushers and Greeters), Karen Stewart (Health and Wholeness)
Kimberly Lauren, Melanie Phillips, Stephanie Roth, Eric Stewart, Martha Vogel, and Carole Weaver - Deacon Representatives
Marti Driscoll - Elder Mentor
Scott Phillips – Staff

Caring Hearts Card Ministry

Submitted by Jill Bednarek

The Card Ministry began in 2024 with the goal of providing handmade cards for the Visitation Team and other church ministries. The group meets monthly (3rd Thursday of the month), and cards are created by a varied group who share fun and fellowship as they create. In 2025, approximately 70-75 cards were made each month. The group fills special requests, and this past year they made Valentine cards for the Women's Ministry and tags for the FPCB Knitters' creations. They also made welcome cards for new members, and baptism cards and thank you cards for church staff use. All are welcome to join as their schedules permit and no prior experience is needed. For more information, please contact Jill Bednarek via email at jillbednarek7@gmail.com.

Emergency Meals Ministry

Submitted by Nancy Dempster

According to the Emergency Meals file, in 2025 a total of 73 meals were served, normally over a three-four-week period, to six of our church families. I believe, however, that many more meals were delivered as our various church groups (e.g. Bible/Prayer/Choir/Bells) very much "take care of their own". In other words, when there is a need, our beloved encircles those in their group with meals, cards, and love. It may not be noted in my Emergency Meals file but I can definitely say that our church family most certainly live our Mission Statement of "*Reaching Out*" every time there is a need in our congregation.

With love and deep appreciation, I thank **ALL** of our church family for their kind and loving hearts.

Funeral Meals Ministry

Submitted by Gisela Bosch (Member at Large)

This year our fabulous volunteers have continued to support grieving families with contributions of food and running the kitchen, creating a nice environment, hugs and smiles, and being a liaison if the meals were catered.

Health and Wholeness Ministry

Submitted by Karen Stewart

The Health and Wholeness Ministry is completing its eighth year. Active team members include: Charlene Adkins, Jill Bednarek, Marcia Hegstad, Debi Jarvi, Deb Price, Karen Stewart, Martha Vogel and Paula Vukovich.

Our Ministry aims to reflect the compassionate love of Jesus Christ by assisting the congregation to achieve optimal Health and Wholeness of mind, body and spirit through prayer, education, referral assistance, and illness prevention. Our goals are to provide one health event per year, offer CPR classes as needed, and relay health and resource information regularly to the congregation.

In May 2025, we had Dr Rose from the University of Michigan, speak on “Dispelling the Myths of Alzheimer’s Disease.” A CPR class was offered in June but cancelled due to a lack of interest. Dancercise classes began in July and were offered weekly by Al Sutterfield. Gisela Bosch spoke in November on the Lymph System and how we can support it and she also provided a demonstration of Bowen Work. For Advent, we created a Gratitude and Acts of Kindness Journal, and it was given out to the congregation. Our team continues to maintain the 5 first aid kits and 2 AEDs. We provide monthly BP checks except for July and August. We regularly provide educational and resource information in the church’s weekly email Constant Contact, and also on our bulletin board and resource table located in Fellowship Hall.

Our team welcomes anyone with an interest in health or with a background in the health fields to join us. We meet every 2 months and as needed. If interested in joining our group or if you have any questions, contact Karen Stewart at kestewart726@gmail.com.

Home Communion

FPCB has a team of volunteers who will serve the Communion elements to anyone who is home bound or otherwise unable to take Communion during regular church services. If you are interested in receiving Communion at home, whether that is your home, nursing home, hospital, etc., or you know someone who may like to receive Communion, please contact the church office.

Knitting and Crocheting

This ministry meets at the church twice a month on Monday afternoons, to make blankets for our babies who are baptized in the church, prayer shawls and blankets for our prayer ministry, newborn hats to be donated to local hospitals, and hats and scarves for our Holiday Glow outreach in November. We are always looking for new faces to drop in and spend an afternoon with the group. Information is posted in the Constant Contact and on the weekly calendar on the website.

New Member Classes

Submitted by Jack Padley

In 2025, we held classes quarterly and we plan to do that again in 2026. The classes were held on designated Sundays, 15 minutes after the 10:00 a.m. church service concluded. Marti Driscoll, Melanie Phillips, Lee Yarber, and Jack Padley, worked together to promote and teach the classes. We had 26 New Members complete the classes and join our church in 2025. If you would like more information about our New Member Classes, please feel free to call or text Jack Padley at 734-718-4094. You can also email Jack at jackpadley@yahoo.com or contact the church office.

Stephen Ministry

Submitted by Larry King

Our Stephen Ministry Team works together to help members who need support during difficult times. This year our team has been reduced to five members since one of our members had to step away due to some problems. We had several care receivers during 2025. Here at the end of the year, we currently have two care receivers.

Mary Greene sends out a set of four booklets entitled *JOURNEYING THROUGH GRIEF* to members who have lost a loved one. One booklet is sent out every three months for a year. After a year, when the four booklets have been received, she follows up with the book entitled *WHEN WILL I STOP HURTING*. This is a nice way to let our members know that we care for them and pray for them during their sad time and throughout the year. We sent out forty-two sets of *JOURNEYING THROUGH GRIEF* booklets and twenty-one copies of *WHEN WILL I STOP HURTING* to those who lost loved ones in 2025.

If you need the support of a Stephen Minister, or if you would like to become a Stephen Minister, please contact the church office.

Sunday for Singles

Submitted by Delilah Tretinik

The Sunday for Singles Group meets once a month after church, on the third Sunday of the month, at different restaurants in the Livingston County Area. They enjoy good food, warm fellowship, laughter, and the joy of making new friendships. We welcome all singles to join us anytime.

Ushers and Greeters

Submitted by Sue Radloff

Do you feel welcome when you enter our doors? That is thanks to the people who volunteer to be Ushers and Greeters each week. They are the first contact that our visitors have when they enter our doors. Many of our members have indicated that being greeted warmly, and being made to feel welcome, influenced their decision to continue worshipping at First Presbyterian Brighton and to become members. Our Ushers and Greeters also help make our services run efficiently, handing out the Order of Worship, assisting with Communion, and helping with any issues that may arise during these services.

If you would like to join our ushering team in the new year, you can go to Sign-up Genius through the link in Constant Contact or through our church website; you can also sign the Usher-Greeter Book, which is in the Narthex every Sunday and, if you are looking for a niche to serve our membership, we need someone to help schedule the ushers and greeters. The Scheduler needs to make certain there are enough ushers and greeters each week and also keep the Usher Book and the Sign-up Genius website updated. The Scheduler is also the contact person for this focus team and attends the monthly Ministry Team meeting (1st Monday at 6:00 pm). Please contact Sue Radloff at sradloff@ymail.com or the church office for more information.

Visitation Team

Submitted by Charlene Adkins

The Visitation Ministry Team is comprised of volunteers who reach out to those in our congregation who are experiencing difficulties in their lives: the ill (short term and long term), the elderly, shut-ins, the hospitalized and the bereaved. The Team meets every other month on the third Tuesday in Room D1 at 5:00PM. Pastor Scott and Nancy Dempster edit and update the list each month and the updated list is emailed to each team member with names allocated to each member. At our meetings, the team members review the current list and make updates based on their contacts with individuals. Whenever possible, visits are made to homes, care centers, and hospitals. Cards and notes are sent and phone calls are made expressing our personal concern and the church's care.

We also partnered with Fish and Loaves Ministry delivering meals to some of our members who live alone or are unable to leave their homes. Thank you to Carole Weaver for coordinating this ministry. We are also blessed with a Caring Card Ministry organized by Jill Bednarek. She and her team of volunteers supply us with beautiful cards to distribute.

We have an enthusiastic and committed team, and anyone is welcome to join us! Living our mission is our goal: Love God, Love One Another, Reach Out. We experience joy in reaching out to those in need. If you would like more information about this ministry, please contact Charlene Adkins at rcadkins13@aol.com, or talk to any of our team members: Pastor Scott, Pastor Alli, Nancy Dempster, Bev Becker, Carol Kennedy, Kay Koch, Charlene Adkins, Sandy Newberry, Bob and Mary Lou Craig, Nancy Tillman, Marcia Hegstad, Betsy Herbst, Martha Vogel, Martha Leabu, Andrea Campbell, Eric and Karen Stewart, Carole Weaver, Stephanie Roth, and Kimberly Lauren.

Women's Ministry

Submitted by Karen Diaz

Each year, Women's Ministry tries to offer a variety of opportunities to the ladies of the congregation. We focus on activities supporting three pillars of our ministry: Spirituality, Service and Fellowship. These are the offerings from 2025:

- January - 890 Pairs of socks and underwear were donated to Perry Elementary School in Ypsilanti (*Service Pillar*)

- February - Valentine's Day cards were created by the Caring Hearts Ministry and sent to members of the congregation (*Service, Fellowship Pillars*). Also, Hosted Coffee Hour (*Service Pillar*)
- March - Dinner and a Movie; International Woman's Day pot-luck (*Fellowship Pillar*)
- April - Women's Retreat at Pine Creek Lodge: Chocolate Theme; Prayer Shawls were dedicated and donated to Ixoqi Women's Rehabilitation Center in Guatemala (*Fellowship, Spirituality, Service Pillars*)
- April/May - Seamless Bible Study (*Spirituality Pillar*). Also, helped with the Church Clean Up (*Service Pillar*)
- June/July/August – Presbyterian Peddlers Bike Group (*Fellowship Pillar*). Nine is Fine Golf Group (*Fellowship Pillar*). Gardening Group (*Fellowship, Service Pillars*)
- July - Ruth Pop-up Bible Study (*Spirituality Pillar*)
- August - Rahab Pop-up Bible Study (*Spirituality Pillar*)
- September - Esther Pop-up Bible Study (*Spirituality Pillar*). Also, Cooling/Changing/Children's station for the Gilmore Girls event (*Service Pillar*)
- October – Outdoor Movie Night (*Fellowship Pillar*)
- November – Visual Expressions Class led by Sandy Hanert (*Spirituality Pillar*)
- December – Cookie Exchange (*Fellowship Pillar*)

MISSION PURPOSE TEAM

In accordance with the Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 25:40: The King will reply, “I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.”

Members of the 2025 Mission Purpose Team wish to express our sincere and heartfelt thanks to members of the First Presbyterian Church of Brighton for your prayers, words of encouragement and support, both financially and through your hands-on ministry, in helping to serve others and to “Reach Out” during the year 2025.

As you read Annual Reports from other FPCB Purpose Teams, you will find additional acts of service made to outreach and hands-on ministry efforts. Please remember that your time of commitment and personal engagement, along with your hard-earned dollars pledged to the Church Budget, as well as those given directly to individual program fundraising efforts, such as the Monthly Green Envelopes, bring significant value and acts of kindness to the Mission - Outreach efforts of First Presbyterian Church of Brighton.

Mission

Our Mission is to be aware of the needs of our church family, community, and world, and thus position First Presbyterian Church of Brighton to respond according to these needs, in Christ’s name.

Vision

Our long-term Vision is to position First Presbyterian Church of Brighton to give \$1 in Mission for every \$1 spent on our local church, and to utilize our spiritual gifts to serve others as we serve ourselves.

Guidelines for Designated Giving

Our fundamental principle is that all forms of designated giving (donations, contributions, Green Envelope proceeds, etc.) will be directed solely to organizations, agencies, families, or individuals that either support basic human needs (food, shelter, clothing, etc.), or to ministry efforts that advance our Mission to Love God, Love One Another and to Reach Out.

2025 Mission Purpose Team

Associate Pastor Allison Webb, Steve Willis, Pauline Druschel, Dale Adkins, Diane Griffith, Ian Lake, Jane Sutterfield, Abby Usher, Anne Michaels, Katy Wilson, Mary Lane, Delilah Tretinik, Ann Doyle-Hodge, Gisela Bosch, and Joe Bottum.

God Bless all and all that you do!

Steve Willis, Chair - Mission Purpose Team

2025 Hands-on Ministry Efforts

Backpacks for Livingston County Children, Salvation Army Adopt-a-Family Christmas Program, Sew & So's, Crop Walk, OLHSA Walk for Warmth, Fish & Loaves Community Dinners, Red Cross Blood Drive.

Donations were made to the following organizations:

LACASA, VINA Dental Center, Guatemala Ministry of Teri Littrell, COTS, LOVE Inc (In the Name of Christ), Medical Benevolence, Howell Nature Center, Gleaners Food Pantry (Empty Table), Bountiful Harvest Food Bank, LC United Way, Livingston County Hunger Council.

2025 Mission Trips -Youth, Young Adult, and Adult

Youth – Seven students and two adult chaperones participated in a local youth mission experience focused on serving members of our congregation. The group spent the week at our church in a lock-in-style setting, combining hands-on service projects, worship, fellowship, and reflection. The students provided support to congregation members through yard work, outdoor projects, and cleaning. They also visited Woodland Village Assisted Living Center and shared stories with the residents.

Young Adult – Eight college students were accompanied by Pastor Allie, Amy Kato, Joe Bottum, and Jason Hamilton, to San Lucas Toliman, Guatemala, in August 2025. Activities included building a home, Vacation Bible School, sports and craft activities with the village kids, home nursing visits, and women's rehab.

Adult Trip – A team of eight adults (ages up to 80+ and one 12 yr old) went to San Lucas Toliman for nine days in early May. Activities included helping to build a house, hosting VBS for kids, dental cleanings, praying, and visiting with families. They visited the men's and women's rehab center to encourage their journey. They spent a morning visiting a pottery and weaving demonstration.

2025 Direct Financial Assistance

During the year, the Mission Purpose Team was entrusted to distribute dollars from the General Budget (@ 10%) - in 2025, this amounted to \$45,000, plus \$4,000 earmarked for Love Inc. for a grand total of \$49,000. Additionally, earnings from the Endowment Fund were distributed to Mission, and the additional expenses for Love Inc above \$4,000 were paid for with those funds. **Accompanying graphs and charts illustrate how your dollars were distributed to assist 29 agencies or programs within Livingston County, the Detroit Presbytery, and beyond.**

Green Envelope designees are supported by you directly each month - in 2025 we distributed over \$ 37,193 (See Below).

2025 Green Envelopes:		Amount
January	Love INC (In the Name of Christ)	\$2,636
February	OLHSA Walk for Warmth	\$3,195
March	LaCasa	\$3,557
April	Mission Trips	\$3,564
May	COTS	\$3,072
June	Salvation Army 'Summer Lunch Bunch'	\$3,697

July	Community Catalysts	\$3,585
August	DRAW (Disaster Relief at Work)	\$3,543
September	Bountiful Harvest	\$3,062
October	Crop Walk	\$2,847
November	VINA Dental Center	\$1,953
December	The Ivy Table	\$2,482
	TOTAL	\$37,193

First Presbyterian Church of Brighton - 2025 Mission Purpose Team Distributions

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
Local Mission				
Fish & Loaves	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400
Gleaners	\$750	\$750	\$750	\$750
LACASA	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Love INC	\$2,448	\$1,714	\$1,907	\$1,737
Livingston County Catholic Charities				\$1,000
Sew and So's	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400
V.I.N.A. Community Dental Center	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Youth Services Connection				\$500
Bountiful Harvest	\$750	\$750	\$750	\$750
Livingston County Hunger Council				\$1,000
LC United Way General - Matching Day				\$1,000
Howell Nature Center				\$500
SUB-TOTAL:	\$5,748	\$5,014	\$5,207	\$9,037
YEARLY TOTAL:				\$25,006

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
World Mission				
Presbyterian DR Fund Melissa				\$1,000
Presbyterian DR Fund -California Fire	\$1,000			
DR Fund TexasHill Country			\$1,000	
Restoration Hem Project	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250
House of Healing - Guatemala	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$3,000
SUB-TOTAL:	\$3,250	\$2,250	\$3,250	\$4,250
YEARLY TOTAL:				\$13,000

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
Local Presbyterian Mission				
COTS (Coalition on Temporary Shel)	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
Alma College	\$461			
SUB-TOTAL:	\$961	\$500	\$500	\$500
YEARLY TOTAL:				\$2,461

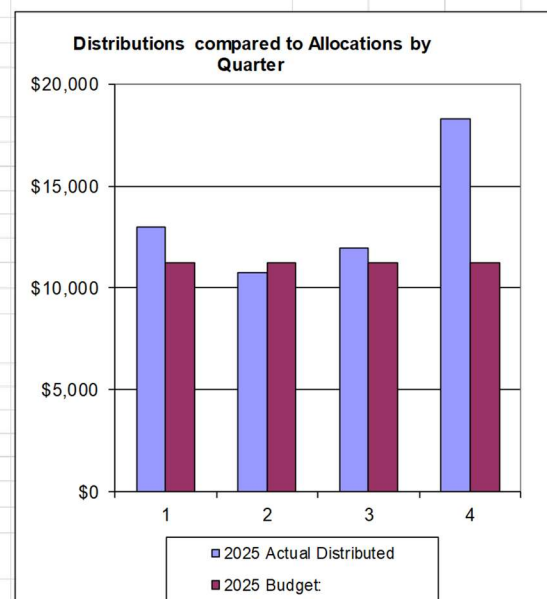
	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
World Presbyterian Mission				
Shared Mission	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
Pentecost				\$400
One Great Hour of Sharing				\$400
Christmas Joy				\$400
Peacemaking Offering				\$400
Medical Benevolence Foundation	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$400
SUB-TOTAL:	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$4,500
YEARLY TOTAL:				\$13,500

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
Yearly Grand Total				
2025 Actual Distributed	\$12,959	\$10,764	\$11,957	\$18,287
2025 Budget:	\$11,250	\$11,250	\$11,250	\$11,250
QT Over/(Under):	(1,709)	486	(707)	(7,037)
Distributed YTD:				\$53,966.88

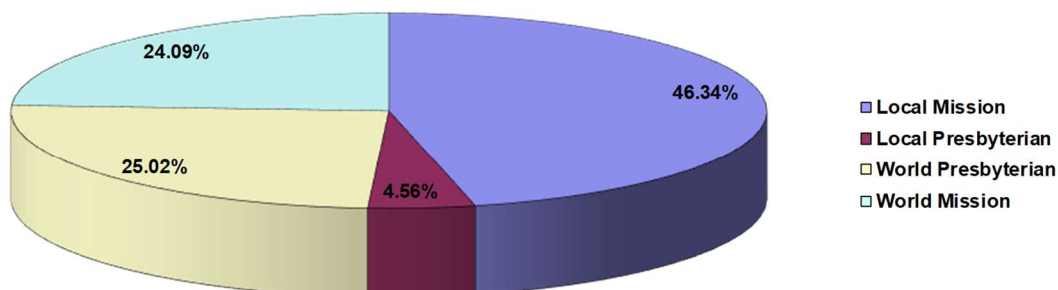
Local Mission	\$25,006	46.34%
Local Presbyterian	\$2,461	4.56%
World Presbyterian	\$13,500	25.02%
World Mission	\$13,000	24.09%

Local	51%
World	49%

Presbytery	30%
Non-Presbytery	70%



Distributions by Category



WORSHIP AND MUSIC PURPOSE TEAM

Worship Purpose Team

Staff: Pastor Scott Phillips

Music Minister: Sarah Manning

Minutes Reporter: Nancy Dempster

Session Mentor: Bethany Steudle

Deacon Liaison: Stephanie Roth

Facilitator: Susan Willis

Jill Bednarek

Sally Feil

Chuck Groves

Abby Romans

Suzanne Skwarski

Focus Teams & Music Groups

Worship Planning Team

Leaders: Pastors Scott Phillips and Alli Webb

Melanie Phillips

Susan Willis

Sarah Manning

Kelley Langen

Bethany Steudle

Bethann Craig

Suzanne Skwarski

Westminster Choir

Leader: Sarah Manning

Praise Band

Leaders: Bethany Steudle

Nick Steudle

Judy Workman

Sanctuary Ringers

Leader: Sarah Manning

Chancel Care/Communion Prep

Leader: Nancy Dempster

Organist/Accompanist

Rebekah Ratza**

Charlene Dibble

Visual Arts Team

Sally Feil Jon Nelson

Sandy Hanert Irwin McAuley

Margaret Adams Tara Wasilenski

Gisela Bosch Robin Vincent*

Meredith Dempster

Tech Team

Rick Kinstle, Tech Coordinator

Jim Craig

Bill Langhorst

Bethann Craig

Mark Perreault

Wedding Coordinators

Leader: Nancy Dempster

Funeral Coordinators

Leader: Suzanne Skwarski

Tech Team (con't.)

Jeff Berner

Fred Ogline

Derek Kevra

Joel Cartwright

Ken Romans

Bill Rito

Roger Tillman

*not a FPCB member

**Acted as Music Director in July-Aug while Ms. Manning was on medical leave.

Worship Purpose Team

The Worship Purpose Team considers all aspects of worship at FPCB with the aim to ensure that the services glorify God and bring people into worship. While much of the detail of individual services are left to the Worship Planning Team, the Purpose Team does consider questions such as: When should Communion be served, and how should it be presented to the congregation? What time should special services occur, and which worship space should be used? What are the needs to ensure quality worship (technical equipment, staff support, etc.) that should be communicated to the Session? The Team dealt with all of these issues in the past year.

In addition to these routine functions, the Team worked with the Pastors to revise/update the Funeral Booklet, which defines fee structure and responsibilities for funerals performed in our Sanctuary. This was updated to better reflect the needs of modern families in providing remote access to these events, while compensating our volunteers fairly for their time.

After many years of discussion, the Team decided to purchase a number of copies of the newest Presbyterian Hymnal: Glory to God (“the Purple Hymnal”). Enough copies were purchased to allow two per pew, while the digital rights to the music were also purchased, allowing the hymns, including the melody lines, to be projected on the screens in the Sanctuary (and legally broadcast to remote viewers). While many of the “old” hymnals were retained and continue to be used, some were offered to the congregation for their personal use and a free will offering was accepted for these items.

Another issue discussed was how to make family worship (typically the first Sunday of the month, which is also Communion Sunday) a better experience for children and families. The Worship Planning Team was tasked with providing more opportunities for children to participate in worship, resulting in children bringing forth the Communion elements at the start of worship and helping with collecting used cups during Communion. In addition, special children’s messages and opportunities to help lead worship were added throughout the year, as were special activity pages designed to coincide with the sermon themes. Discussion is ongoing with the Christian Education Purpose Team regarding a separate Children’s Worship time to coincide with worship when Sunday School is not offered (such as Communion Sunday).

Westminster Choir, Praise Band, Sanctuary Ringers

This year we had 41 Choir Members, 16 Sanctuary Ringers, and 12 Praise Band members who rehearsed weekly in preparation for musical offerings during the worship at 10:00 am on Sundays and other worship services as requested. The Choristers (children's choir) participated in several services over the course of the year, singing with the Westminster Choir as well as on their own. These groups were supplemented by soloists and instrumentalists from the congregation as well as outside musicians (bagpipes, oboe, violin, harp). Christmas Music Sunday included all of the music groups.

The Sanctuary Ringers attended a handbell conference in Columbus, Ohio, in April, with costs shared between the participants and the WPT. Music that was prepared for this event was also shared in worship, and the group has expanded their musical abilities.

Sarah Manning was named permanent Music Director in June. To date, her contributions to the music groups and to the overall worship planning has been very well received. She has worked with a number of accompanists and has selected music that both showcases the musicians' abilities and complements the liturgical themes of each service.

Former Music Director Christian Schoen returned for a piano recital on June 14 prior to moving out of the state. The WPT hosted a reception following the event.

Rebekah Ratza acted as Music Director during late summer as Sarah Manning was on medical leave. She provided organ and piano music and accompanied the Praise Band during that time. Her support was greatly appreciated.

Worship Planning Team

The Planning Team meets weekly to plan our worship services. Our online worshipping community, which some weeks almost equals in number the people in the Sanctuary, is an ongoing focus of this team, as we try to consider how various aspects of the worship service will be received by congregants viewing from home. The team develops sermon themes, and then plans the liturgy and music offerings for each service to complement the theme. In addition, for some series, special art displays are planned for the Chancel to provide additional focus on the theme. Worship continues to be a "unified" or "blended" combination of both traditional and contemporary elements, including music, prayers, and even secular elements that fit the theme and correctly meet the expectations of worship.

Tech Team

The Tech Team Coordinator position was made permanent early in the year (it had been a temporary position in 2024), providing more certainty to this group that is growing in importance to worship for both in person and online worshippers. The team provided support not only to weekly services but also to Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and The Longest Night, Dec. 21, Service (although the last two were not streamed). Among various technology challenges faced was the need to upgrade the Boxcast system. The WPT approved the purchase of the updated equipment required to continue our online broadcasts, although a special fundraiser for Tech Support later covered these costs as well as others incurred through the year.

Chancel Care/Communion Preparation

The Chancel Care Team continues to work with the Worship Planning Team to ensure that the Chancel is arranged to visually complement the worship and that Communion is prepared and presented according to the needs of the particular worship service (theme, placement of the Communion Table, stations for receiving communion). This team also makes recommendations regarding how Communion is served (number of servers, placement, etc.) based on their observations of monthly services.

Visual Arts Team

This team displayed art with a religious theme or component in the Galleria and The Focus Gallery throughout the year. There were five major displays this year, including the Lenten and Advent Displays. For the other three, coffee hours were hosted where artists were in attendance to talk about their work. Artwork was available for purchase, with a portion of the proceeds donated to mission efforts. A portion of the monies from 2024 art sales was donated to the Mission Purpose Team for forwarding to designated causes. Monies collected in 2025 were donated to the House of Healing (Guatemala) to help fund training technicians for a new animal clinic being planned.

The fall artwork display was developed with the theme “Thin Places” using art created by members of the VAT. The Worship Planning Team chose to use this same theme for the November sermon series, and incorporated much of this artwork in the visual elements used in worship. In addition, members of the VAT contributed their voices to readings that drew on the Thin Places theme to open worship each week.

Respectfully Submitted by Susan Willis

PERSONNEL SUPPORT TEAM

Aim: To advise and assist the Head of Staff and church leadership to help build and maintain a staff that supports the mission and vision of the church.

2025 Highlights:

- Following God's direction and the plan developed by the FPCB Strategic Implementation Team, the office staff structure was reorganized which included the development of a new position, Church Business Administrator.
- Recruited and hired Kandra Sobel, Church Business Administrator – Welcome Kandra!
- We did experience some turnover this year including the departure of Lee Ann Yarber at the end of 2025. We are grateful for her commitment and many years of service.
- Continue to create and/or revise policies, procedures and forms.
- Developed and submitted 2026 Personnel budget recommendation to the Finance Team.
- We are looking forward to an exciting year in 2026!

Yours in Christ,

Amy Preston
Joe Bottum
Jon Nelson
Leigh Bolitho
Lisa McAllister
Vickie Ogline
John Wells (Session Mentor)

PROPERTY SUPPORT TEAM

The ministry aim of the Property Support Team is to develop and maintain the facility, equipment and grounds so that the Mission and Vision can be fulfilled.

The members of this team include Joe Bottum, Curt Bond, Doug Campbell, Dave Cartwright, Susan Gloster (Elder Mentor), James Gray (Deacon), Ryan Greene, Jennifred Jones, Kathy Langhorst, Dickson and Joanne Manns, Mark Michaels, Jane Pendleton, Ken Price (Deacon), Pastor Scott Phillips (Staff liaison), Neil Tenpas, and Kandra Sobel (Staff liaison for 2 months).

Our church building is a wonderful asset and tool for ministry. Over the years we have taken good care of our facility, but it is now beginning to show its age. Our Sanctuary was built over 35 years ago and the CE and Office wings over 45 years ago. As we have expanded our vision to recognize the gift this building can be not just to our church community, but to the larger Brighton community as a whole, we have rediscovered the importance of good maintenance and much needed physical improvements. At the end of last year, we added the ADA doors and this past year we made significant improvements to several areas that have needed attention. We plan to continue that trend in 2026 with the much-needed kitchen renovation and other improvements to the building which make our building safer and more accessible to all.

Through the hard work of the Property Support Team, and generous giving and support of the congregation, below is a list of some of the accomplishments in 2025:

- Improvements and upkeep to property surrounding the church:
 - Spring and Fall clean-up were carried out with the help of church volunteers and WB Lawn Master LLC.
 - Beautification of the grounds through annual flowers and plants.
 - Sidewalks were leveled and caulked at Sanctuary entrance.
 - Sidewalk crack was caulked at south side entrance.
 - ADA doors were installed at both entrances.
 - Outside level A Door was replaced.
 - Irrigation water meter was installed.
 - Parking lot was resealed and parking lines were repainted.
 - A community garden was added.
 - Basketball hoop was relocated.
 - Rainwater drain pumps were replaced.
 - Lawn was fertilized and maintained.
- Improvements to the interior of the church facility:
 - Internet cabling infrastructure and relocation of server.
 - Upgrading of the livestreaming Boxcast system.
 - Praise Band monitors were refinished in black.
 - Chancel steps received new black tape.
 - Floor registers in the Sanctuary and Narthex were replaced.
 - Shelving for garage was added.
 - Middle wall on ramp was repainted.

- Women's stall door reversed.
 - Elevator repair was made.
 - Installed a new 70" monitor for back of Sanctuary.
 - Lighting in Sanctuary replaced and repaired, surge protectors added to each light.
 - Repairs made to damaged pulpit wood trim molding.
 - HEPA filter purchased for office area and entrance to purify and improve air quality.
 - Scaffolding purchased for lighting in the Sanctuary and future use.
 - New signage purchased for former Nursery – now designated "Family Room."
 - Church Business Administrator's office has been set up inside D1-3.
 - Carpet on steps by ramp was reattached.
 - Peeling trim near the Parlor was reattached.
- Building compliance projects:
 - Passed building fire inspection by Brighton Area Fire Authority.
 - Replaced/repairs batteries in 2 EXIT sign/emergency lights.
 - Identified needed EXIT sign in A-level lounge.

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS RECEIVED IN 2025

Given in Memory of:

Name of Donor:

Mary Griffith

Dick and Pauline Druschel

Mary Griffith

Mr. Lyle & Laura Yelsik Knoerr

Mary Griffith

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Mead

Jane Petrie

Ms. Mary Petrie

Ruth Raft

Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Berner

Ruth Raft

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sanders

Jim Siford

Mr. and Mrs. Jere Michaels

Gary Smith

Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Berner

Gary Smith

Mr. and Mrs. Ian Dempster

Gary Smith

Ms. Susan Florea

Gary Smith

Mr. and Mrs. Walter and Karyn Jakiela

Gary Smith

Mr. and Mrs. Jere Michaels

Inez Springstead

Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Berner

Inez Springstead

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Bush

Inez Springstead

Mr. and Mrs. Ian Dempster

Inez Springstead

Ms. Karen Goss

Inez Springstead

Mrs. Janet Hueston

Inez Springstead

Mrs. Carol Kennedy

Inez Springstead

Ms. Nancy Manaker

Inez Springstead

Mr. and Mrs. Dickson Manns

Inez Springstead

Mr. and Mrs. Jere Michaels

Inez Springstead

Mr. and Mrs. Scott Griffith

Inez Springstead

Mrs. Jane Pendleton

Inez Springstead

Mrs. Pauline Schaffer

Inez Springstead

Mr. and Mrs. Eric Stewart

Inez Springstead

Mrs. Jane Sutterfield

Inez Springstead

Mrs. Bonnie Westfall

Inez Springstead

Mary Tanner

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Druschel

Mr. Theodore Mallires

Given in Honor of:

Bill Langhorst

Kathy Langhorst

Name of Donor:

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Langhorst

Miss Janet Langhorst

FINANCE SUPPORT TEAM

The Finance Support Team reports the following financial operating results for the year 2025.

In 2025, Offering income totaled **\$734,126**. Including all special giving, total operating income totaled **\$848,943** with expenditures of **\$844,943**. Your generosity, along with careful expense management by staff and teams, allowed the church to finish with a P&L operating cash surplus of **\$4,004** for the year. We are thankful for the wonderful giving of this congregation and the careful stewardship by staff and our church's Purpose and Support Teams which allowed this result.

At the end of 2025, bank cash and CDs for all funds total **\$694,002** (including restricted funds). Funds in our Presbyterian Foundation accounts total **\$34,824** (on-line giving account), and **\$321,864** (Investments).

Net balance sheet value of restricted or designated funds at end of 2025 are:

\$278,527 Facility Contingency Fund

\$39,906 Memorial Funds

\$354,888 Endowment Fund

\$35,989 Capital Campaign (First Fruits)

\$61,398 Rollover Reserves / Carryover Funds

\$59,324 Endowment Distribution Carryovers

Net balance of unrestricted liquid funds for general operations: **\$220,658**.

At last count, the 2025 Stewardship Campaign completed successfully with 149 pledges totaling **\$651,000**. This represents a 4.8% increase compared to the value of pledges received in the previous year. In addition, we received 17 new pledges this year. It is in faith that we hope that our numbers will grow again in the coming year.

Included in this report is the Session approved budget for 2026. Based on the strong Stewardship Campaign, and Endowment Distributions, we are pleased to share that Session has approved a balanced budget for 2026. Session has determined that the budget, as approved, is sound and moves us forward strategically in our ministry goals and our Mission and Vision. This congregation has shown and proven its ability to respond and support the church in its ministry. Please consider how you can continue to give to grow our ministry.

All of this work would not be possible without the support of our Church office staff and counters, Kandra Sobel (Office Administrator), Pastor Scott, Pastor Alli, and the members of the Finance Support Team: Virginia Reid (Mentor), Joel Cartwright, Bob Craig (Treasurer), Lois Romans, Dave Schwartz, Scott Griffith, and Scott Mueller. It also would not have been possible without the support of the Interim Accounting Team which stepped in during the office transition in the fall of 2025. This team included Diane Griffith, Susan Willis, Kandra Sobel, and Lois Romans, supporting accounting operations as permanent support is still being finalized for the 2026 year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Willis

Facilitator and Corporate President

Finance Support Team

<u>First Presbyterian Church - Brighton</u>						<i>Summary</i>
Date: 1/12/26						
					2025 Budget	2025 Actual
Ordinary Income/Expense						
Income						
Envelope Income						
General (Pledged including Online)					613,220.00	547,977.00
Unpledged giving					160,000.00	166,678.00
Loose					3,600.00	3,793.00
Endowment Distribution – Session Designated					11,967.00	
Prepaid Pledges						15,678.00
Total Envelope Income					788,787.00	734,126.00
Pass-Through Fundraising & Special Income						
Mission Green Envelope					40,000.00	41,316.00
Per Capita					10,000.00	8,818.00
Other, CE Fundraising/Interest/Property/Special Income, etc					33,162.00	64,683.00
Total Pass-Through Fundraising & Special Income					83,162.00	114,817.00
Total Income					871,949.00	848,943.00
Expense						
Administration					37,600.00	45,898.00
Christian Ed					19,502.00	21,081.00
Communications Expense					4,988.00	6,760.00
Insurance					13,000.00	16,401.00
Ministry					2,450.00	1,280.00
Mission					50,000.00	50,461.00
Mission Green Envelope					40,000.00	39,673.00
Music and Worship Expense					6,000.00	7,677.00
Fellowship Committee					3,600.00	2,947.00
Other Expenses (excl. Fellowship)					2,804.00	23,568.00
Payroll Tax Expenses					27,500.00	16,570.00
Property & Maintenance					98,500.00	117,304.00
Per Capita					17,200.00	9,628.00
Staff Expenses					548,998.00	485,691.00
Total Expense					872,142.00	844,939.00
Net Ordinary Income					-193.00	4,004.00

STEWARDSHIP

All we have is a gift from God and as God's children we are called to recognize this truth and be good stewards of those gifts. Likewise, congregations are called to faithful stewardship as we use the financial offerings and the offerings of time and talents to do the ministry we feel called to do in our community and beyond.

In 2025, we were able to live into this calling as a church because of the faithful giving and the hours of volunteer time given to our ministry.

As you will see from the financial page found in this Annual Report, giving was strong which has allowed us to expand our vision and support not only our ministry but the work of other care agencies in our community. In addition to the normal offerings, we had an excellent response to your targeted giving. The monies received for those two targeted giving efforts received double our expectation allowing us to make improvements to both our Tech Booth and the Parking Lot this past year.

We should all celebrate this good work with an eye towards where God is leading us in 2026. From the perspective of the Stewardship Team the outlook for this next year is very positive. The pledged amount for 2026 is approximately \$643k, which is 105% of 2025's final pledged amount. We have received 17 new pledges.

Team members: Scott Mueller, Scott Phillips and Dave Schwartz

GENERAL ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE

The committee's goal is to receive gifts and bequests from which future earnings and investment gains can be used for the advancement of God's work in our church. Our charge is to inform the congregation of the present status of the fund, options available when planning a gift or bequest, and the encouragement of endowment giving.

In 2025 the Endowment Fund Committee met three times, reviewed existing policies, investments, and plans for the future, in anticipation of its next formal meetings in 2026. Results of investments were reviewed, past performance evaluated and discussed, and decisions made on continuing investments.

For the Endowment Fund, the committee looks at investment performance on a June to June plan year. For the period ending 6/30/2025, investments achieved a gain of \$31,470 with an invested value of \$295,153 invested in a diversified portfolio of stocks and bond related mutual funds through the Presbyterian Foundation. This represented an 11.9% annual return over this period.

With the success of the investments this year, by its distribution policy, the committee was able to recommend to Session distributions totaling \$16,433 back into General Fund for use to support its ministries and operations. This served as a valuable tool as the Session constructed its 2026 budget and demonstrates how the Endowment Fund used in this way supports both current and future needs of the church. The committee looks forward to future growth of the fund and future distributions.

We are thankful for all the generous giving which has created this fund, and encourage all interested in preserving the legacy of this church, as a vital contributor to this community, to consider opportunities to support the growth of the General Endowment Fund through direct giving or through estate planning.

The Endowment Fund Committee for 2025 was made up of the following members, Steve Willis, (Chair), Amy Preston, Robert Craig (Treasurer), Virginia Reid (Session Mentor), Pastor Scott Phillips, Jane Sutterfield, Alice Roderick, Chuck Groves, Dave Schwartz, and Doug Campbell. We are also thankful for Clerk Nancy Dempster for her support of the committee's minutes and records.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Willis
Finance Committee and Endowment Committee Chair

<u>First Presbyterian Church - Brighton</u>				2026 Budget for Session Approval		
Date: 1/12/26						
				2025 Budget	2026 Budget	
Ordinary Income/Expense						
Income						
Envelope Income						
General (Pledged including Online)				613,220.00	651,000.00	
Unpledged giving				160,000.00	155,000.00	
Loose				3,600.00	3,600.00	
Endowment Distribution – Session Designated				11,967.00	18,500.00	(if needed)
Total Envelope Income				788,787.00	828,100.00	
Pass-Through Fundraising & Special Income						
Mission Green Envelope				40,000.00	40,000.00	
Per Capita				10,000.00	10,000.00	
Other, CE Fundraising/Interest/Property/Special Income, etc				33,162.00	27,013.00	
Total Pass-Through Fundraising & Special Income				83,162.00	77,013.00	
Total Income				871,949.00	905,113.00	
Expense						
Administration				37,600.00	39,450.00	
Christian Ed				19,502.00	19,502.00	
Communications Expense				4,988.00	5,967.00	
Insurance				13,000.00		
Ministry				2,450.00	1,900.00	
Mission				50,000.00	52,500.00	
Mission Green Envelope				40,000.00	40,000.00	
Music and Worship Expense				6,000.00	6,526.00	
Fellowship Committee				3,600.00	3,715.00	
Other Expenses (excl. Fellowship)				2,804.00	3,354.00	
Payroll Tax Expenses				27,500.00	28,700.00	
Property & Maintenance				98,500.00	136,800.00	(incl. Insurance)
Per Capita				17,200.00	17,200.00	
Staff Expenses				548,998.00	549,390.00	(includes open positions for 2mo.)
Total Expense				872,142.00	905,004.00	
Net Ordinary Income				-193.00	109.00	