

First Presbyterian Church of Naples

*In the Heart of Naples with the Love of God:
we worship, we love, we grow, we serve*

2025 Annual Report

250

THE
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF NAPLES

Annual Meeting
April 19, 2026

2 Index and Agenda

Agenda	2
From the Senior Pastor	3
2025 Pastor Transition	3
Remembering the Saints	4
Statistical Report	4
Stephen Ministry	5
Board of Deacons	5
Facilities	7
Finance	8
Intergenerational Christian Education	9
Membership	12
Membership/Communications	12
Missions	13
Personnel	15
Presbyterian Women	16
Worship and Music	17
Active Elders	18
Active Deacons	18
Nominating Committee	18
Staff	19

Agenda for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation

Prayer
Declaration of quorum
Moderator's Report
Election of Nominating Committee
Financial Report
Other Reports
Adjournment and prayer

From the Interim Pastor, Rev. Dr. Scott Kenefake



It has been my privilege to serve as Interim Senior Pastor for this congregation for the past seven months (June through December). I have learned that certain patterns take place in congregations when they are between installed Pastors:

Anxiety runs high immediately following the departure of the previous Pastor—there is a

mourning period that congregations go through when the pastoral relationship has been a good one.

Equilibrium is eventually restored as congregants gain trust in new leadership, and a shift slowly takes place from focusing on the past to optimism about the future.

By honoring congregational traditions and affirming the ministries that the congregation does well, honest discussions around areas that need improvement naturally begin to take place as the congregation prayerfully searches for a new leader.

I have seen all of these patterns and shifts at FPCN in the second half of 2025, during this “interim” period.

Highlights have included two presentations that I gave to the congregation on Interim Ministry (Sunday, July 13 and Wednesday, October 22).

The Wednesday evening Speaker’s Series honored our ecumenical and global partnerships with speakers such as:

- The Rev. Fraser Aitken (retired, Church of Scotland) from Prestwick, Scotland, who preached on Sunday, October 26, and spoke on Wednesday, October 29 about his time as a Chaplain to Queen Elizabeth II.
- Deb McCollister of the Tri-Faith Initiative in Omaha, Nebraska, where a UCC congregation, a Synagogue, and a Mosque share a campus and community service initiatives but maintain their own worship and education spaces.
- Diana Butler Bass, Church Historian and Theologian, author of eleven books, spoke on her most recent publication: *A Beautiful Year: 52 Meditations on Faith, Wisdom, and Perseverance*.

Throughout these months, baptisms were celebrated, new members were received, weddings were celebrated, new officers were trained, and deceased members and friends were honored and memorialized.

A Stewardship Campaign, *The Grace of Giving*, was also initiated.

Finally, Advent and Christmas traditions were celebrated and honored as we looked forward to a new year with optimism and hope.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dr. Scott M. Kenefake

Interim Senior Pastor

2025 Pastor Transition 3

In preparation for Craig Goodrich’s retirement in May, the Session appointed an Interim Pastor Hiring Committee (IPHC), that included Chuck Work, Chair; Marti Beard; Roy Cashion; Marc Miller and Liz Speake. The IPHC created a job description, then identified and interviewed candidates from throughout the PC(USA). Rev. Dr. Scott Kenefake, who was then serving as Interim Senior Pastor at the House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul, Minnesota, was selected for his preaching and his strong leadership as Interim Pastor in 7 other congregations. Scott joined the staff effective June 1, 2025.

FPCN also obtained permission from Peace River Presbytery to begin our Mission Study just prior to Craig’s official retirement, as a search for a new senior pastor cannot begin until this document is completed. A committee consisting of Barbara Beach, Heather Carelock, Teresa Doane, Jacque Foust, Doug Gibbens, and Kathi Webber was formed, with support from Rex, to prepare this document and Session approved the Mission Study on May 27, 2025. The report was then presented for approval during the June 2025 Presbytery meeting.

The Nominating Committee selected a slate of candidates to serve on the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC), to search for, interview, and select a candidate for the position of Senior Pastor. Working with Presbytery guidance, the PNC reviews applications and ultimately recommends a single candidate to the congregation for a vote.

On September 7, 2025, our FPCN congregation elected the following members to serve on the PNC:

Cindy Esler
Jacque Foust
Jack Marsh
Cindy McCarthy
Marc Miller, Chair
Dorrit Nelson
Janet Yanushefski

The PNC started meeting in mid-September, and by November 13, 2025, they posted the Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP) with the Presbyterian Church (USA) in order to provide prospective candidates for the position of Senior Pastor an overview of FPCN and what we are looking for in our next pastor.

The PNC continues to meet regularly as they search for a new Senior Pastor/Head of Staff. The PNC is currently in the process of identifying, screening, reviewing and interviewing prospective candidates. This is a complicated and long process, as the PNC will ultimately review and evaluate well over 150 candidates. The PNC’s hard work and dedication will continue until they select FPCN’s next Senior Pastor.

4 Remembering the Saints

*O blest communion, fellowship divine! We feebly struggle; they in glory shine.
Yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Samuel C. Allen
Linda Lee Arsenault
Patricia M. Barton
Ruth Batcher
Norman Brown
John P. Debbink
D. Fred Garner
Ann Goodnight
John Knoll
Daniel C. Mac Lea

Michael Mans
John Marshall
Helen Isabel Patton
Gary Lee Sissel
Katherine L. Stuckey
Lawrence N. Succop II
Jack H. Tiller
G. Sheldon Veil
Anne Wenger-Hornbach
Kenneth J. Wulfert, Jr.

Statistical Report

As of December 31, 2024

Members	577
Affiliate Members	<u>161</u>
Total Members	738

Members Joined

By Confession/Reaffirmation	5
By Letter of Transfer	3
Affiliate Members Joined	<u>8</u>
Total Gains	16

Members Deactivated

By Death (Members)	18
By Death (Affiliate Members)	6
By Session Removal	18
By Request	16
By Transfers	2
Affiliate Members Removed	<u>13</u>
Total Losses	73

As of December 31, 2025

Members	531
Affiliate Members	<u>150</u>
Total Members	681

Baptisms performed 2025

Children	3
Adult	<u>0</u>
Total Baptisms	3

Stephen Ministry is an important part of Congregational Care. At the present time, there are ten (10) Stephen Ministers: Saralene Oldham, David Witman, Shirley Hagerson, Linda Ferrario, Gary Root, Jack Marsh, Karen Parker, Tom Clark, Janeen McClure and Walter Gadkowski.

Stephen Ministers receive fifty (50) hours of training over a three-month period before they are commissioned to serve our congregation. Stephen Leaders undergo a full week of daily training in Orlando, Florida.

Stephen Ministers form one-on-one relationships with members of our congregation who are experiencing challenging times in their lives, eg., death of family members or friends, divorce, medical conditions, and the like. These relationships continue as long as the care receiver needs them. They are completely confidential and are designed to provide spiritual companionship to let people know that they are not alone in their struggles. Typically, a Stephen Minister meets with her/his care receiver every week at the same time for about an hour.

Stephen Ministers also do hospital visitations every week-day of the month, again, to let our members know that their Church cares about them, prays for them, and is there for them in times of medical need.

Janet Yanushefski, Moderator
Rev. Dr. Scott Kenefake, Interim Pastor/Rev. Rex Childs, Associate Pastor

STEPHEN MINISTERS SERVING FPCN

Tom Clark
Linda Ferrario
Walter Gadkowski
Jack Marsh
Janeen McClure
Karen Parker
Shirley Hagerson
Saralene Oldham
Gary Root
David Witman

Board of Deacons

The year 2025 was a period of faithful and remarkable service for our 35 Deacons. The ministry of the Deacons remains firmly grounded in three core pillars: service to the church, outreach to the wider community, and the cultivation of meaningful connections within our individual parishes. Throughout the year, our Deacons carried out these responsibilities with unwavering dedication, compassion, and care.

Parish Connections and Individual Care

While our collective teams handle large-scale needs, the heart of our ministry lies in the personal relationships Deacons cultivate within their assigned parishes. We recognize that every parishioner has different needs, and our Deacons reach out in various ways as their unique gifts and schedules allow. This individualized approach ensures that our care is as diverse as our congregation:

- **Personal Communication:** Many Deacons maintain regular contact through birthday and holiday cards, phone calls, and emails, ensuring members feel remembered throughout the year.
- **Visitation:** Several Deacons prioritize in-person connection, visiting members in their homes or at senior living facilities to offer a listening ear and a steadying presence.
- **Building Local Community:** To foster fellowship where we live, some Deacons host neighborhood parish gatherings.

Vital Outreach and Community Support

- **Blood Bank Team:** The team coordinated five blood drives this year, welcoming approximately 140 donors. This vital outreach ministry continues to be a cornerstone of our commitment to community health and lifesaving efforts.
- **Deacons' Fund and Benevolence Ministry:** Our team vetted and distributed financial assistance to local agencies best equipped to support individuals and families facing urgent, temporary needs. In 2025, thanks to the immense generosity of our congregation, the Benevolence Fund distributed **\$20,000** to approved nonprofit partners.

Worship and Sacramental Support

- **Communion Preparation Team:** Meeting monthly, this team ordered and prepared all elements for our worship services. Their dedicated "behind-the-scenes" work ensures that the sacrament is offered with grace and reverence.
- **Home Communion Team:** Our team of 12 trained servers provided the sacrament to five members on a regular monthly basis, while also responding to additional requests throughout the year as they arose. In nearly all instances, Deacons visited in pairs, ensuring a meaningful experience of both reverence and fellowship. The team is well-staffed and stands ready to serve anyone in the congregation who is unable to attend worship in person.

Friendship Pads Team: Following the final service each Sunday, this team collected and organized friendship pads to assist staff with attendance tracking. Using a structured floor plan, they ensured accurate counts and timely information for welcoming guests and visitors.

Hospitality and Fellowship

- **Deacons' Brunch Team:** In October, the team hosted a beautifully presented "home-cooked cornucopia" following worship. The event served approximately 175 parishioners and guests, providing a warm setting where many lingered for deep conversation and connection.
- **Deacons' Sunday:** Held on February 16, this event offered a wonderful opportunity for the congregation to meet their Deacons in person. Thanks to the hospitality of our team, it was a day of full hearts and well-fed guests.
- **Greeters Ministry:** Deacons coordinated a welcoming presence at every entrance for Sunday and special services. This year, the ministry involved over 260 Deacons and volunteers, ensuring every person who entered felt at home.



Church Tours Team: This team provided ten guided tours of our facility, welcoming 18 guests and sharing the history and beauty of our spiritual home.

Compassionate Care and Remembrance

- **Memorial Receptions Team:** We had the honor of hosting nine memorial receptions in Spencer Hall this year. These gatherings provided comfort and hospitality to families and friends as we celebrated the lives of cherished members.
- **Flower Team:** Each week, altar flowers were beautifully repurposed into arrangements for homebound members or those celebrating milestone birthdays. In 2025, approximately 180 bouquets were delivered. When members were away, Deacons continued to mark these milestones through thoughtful calls, cards, and emails.
- **Holiday Remembrances Team:** To ensure no member felt forgotten, this team prepared and delivered 25 gift baskets at Easter and 33 at Christmas. Additionally, eight Christmas gifts were mailed to out-of-state members to keep them connected to our church family.

In every ministry and interaction, the Deacons sought to embody the spirit of compassion and service. The Board of Deacons is deeply grateful for the ongoing support of the congregation and remains honored by the opportunity to serve.

Janet Yanushefski *Moderator, Board of Deacons*

FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT



The Facilities Committee oversees the grounds, building, equipment, maintenance, cleaning and refurbishing to maintain an attractive, functional, inviting house of worship. Members included: Roy Cashion, Francis Engelhardt, Chair, Joan Gust, Les Kasten, John Rader, Rev. Craig Goodrich/Dr. Scott Kenefake, Eduardo Martinez, Maintenance and Jeff Newman, Director of Facilities

Highlights in 2025 include:

- Updated Sanctuary lighting control panel.
- Purchased new pots and cooking utensils for the kitchen.
- Wired and lighted Dove in Sanctuary.
- Rehabbed school playground exterior matting.
- Inspected the roof by a servicing company and repaired as needed.
- Replaced/repaired numerous A/C equipment and accomplished miscellaneous maintenance tasks to keep the facilities in top shape.
- Completed the upgrade of the elevator to meet current regulations.
- Contracted with new elevator monitoring/maintenance company.
- Installed a monitoring camera in the Narthex.
- Developed and provided to the Finance Committee a 2026 Facilities Operation Cost budget and a Capital Project Plan with estimated cost projections.
- Contract with Cintas to supply paper goods and other supplies to reduce waste.
- Completed installation of new gas/electric range.
- Installed new Chapel signage.
- Completed moving of telephone equipment into interior space.
- Obtained flooding dams to prevent minor flooding at outside doors.

Respectfully submitted:
Francis A. Engelhardt, Facilities Committee Chair

Jeff Newman, Director of Facilities

FINANCE COMMITTEE

2025 was another year marked by faithful generosity and continued strong financial support for First Presbyterian Church of Naples. At a time of significant change in our church, 2025 was a break-even year. We were able to increase our overall budgeted missions giving to support local charities who depend on our contributions. Our 2025 generosity campaign set a new record for our church with \$1.72M committed (and realized) in pledged giving. These funds, along with added non-pledged donations, allowed us to invest in church programs, increase capital spending, and meet our missions and Presbytery commitments.

Key 2025 Highlights

- Total Revenue was up 5% over 2024 with pledged giving up slightly over budget, non-pledged down significantly to budget and preschool up over budget.
- Expenses were up 8% over 2024 but below budget by 3% reflecting continued good management by the church staff.
- Our preschool continues to perform very well with increasing tuition revenue and strong cost management.
- Year end bottom line was essentially break-even.

Generosity

- Our 2025 generosity campaign kicked-off in Q4-2024, in keeping with the past several years' practice. We ended the campaign in March 2025 at a RECORD \$1.72M, due in part to a matching program launched in February 2025 with the support of several member donations.
- 247 families made pledges in 2025 and our total revenue from pledges was slightly over budget at year-end. GREAT NEWS!

Giving Highlights

We met our 2025 missions' commitments through thoughtful planning and by committing a portion of our \$118k carry-over excess cash to missions. Our total charitable giving for 2025 was \$294k, bringing our four-year total to approximately \$1.25M!

Endowment

The value of our endowment on December 31, 2025 was \$9.7M up from \$9.0M year-end 2024. This included transfers to operations of \$400k and capital spending of \$163k.

At this time of change in our church, our programs are vibrant and growing due to the blessing of generosity from members, both financially and in giving of time. We are very blessed.



INTERGENERATIONAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION/PRESCHOOL

Teresa Doane, Preschool Elder
Amy Agnew, Preschool Director

- Enrollment was robust at 95% with full classrooms. We served a variety of families, including a few children hailing from Chicago and Massachusetts, who joined us for the season.
- During the past year, our VPK State Assessment scores placed us in the top 20% of all preschools in the State of Florida for school readiness. We were able to meet the needs of children to form connections with trusted adults, navigate peer relationships, and learn using a developmentally appropriate, engaging and intentional curriculum.
- One new lead teacher and two new aides were added to the staff. Two former aides were promoted to lead teacher. With these new additions and promotions, the preschool remains supportive of teachers' learning and development by encouraging their ongoing training and education. Four teachers are currently working toward certificates in the early childhood field. Our Assistant Director is also working to complete her State Director Credential.
- We provided a very full Summer Camp experience during the month of June for children, toddler age through those leaving for kindergarten. The camp provided extra enrichment experiences for children focused on cooking, art and science.
- We awarded two full scholarships and one partial scholarship during the 2025-2026 school year.
- We hosted our second annual Scholastic Book Fair and invited members of the community in for on-site field trips. These included visits from the Naples Police Department, Naples Fire Department, Naples Botanical Gardens and the Central Avenue Library.
- We continued to invite experts in the field to consult in the Preschool This included both an Occupational Therapist and a teacher/family coach.

SPIRITUAL PRACTICES

- Through Sacred Habits we guided a journey across Lent and Advent, offering Christian contemplative practices and reflections.
- Expanded our labyrinth ministry with contemplative walks in the chapel, at Vacation Bible School, and a special session at the Naples Botanical Garden, inviting prayerful reflection and rest.

INTERGENERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Sustained monthly GenWE Sundays intentionally integrating children and youth in worship leadership and liturgy to grow participation and belonging (October – May).
- Continued “Sacred Season Boxes” as at-home faith formation resources, equipping families to practice prayer and service together.
- Celebrated community traditions, hosting our sixth annual Easter egg hunt welcoming members and friends.



- Honored 19 graduates of every age during Graduation Milestone Sunday, blessing next steps with prayer and congregational support.
- Sent 6 youth and 3 adults to the Montreat Youth Conference, nurturing faith, leadership and community.
- Continued youth group, welcoming 18 middle school students and engaging them with a curriculum on Trust.
- Hosted two youth group family dinners deepening family-to-church partnership, celebrating student growth, and inviting new families into community.



- Kept our young adult ministry active with monthly gatherings – in person and via Zoom – and hosted a dinner with 17 participants at California Pizza Kitchen.
- Delivered care packages to 9 college students reminding them they remain rooted in a caring church community.
- Organized an intergenerational Vacation Bible School that engaged participants of all ages in Scripture, creativity and service.
- Offered summer Sunday School, an experience for children to experience God’s love through friendship and fun.
- Hosted a Halloween Pumpkin Patch/Trunk or Treat for all ages, building joyful connections across generations.
- Engaged families during Christmas Eve with children of all ages participating in the story of Jesus’ birth.
- Partnered with Vibrant Faith Ministries through their Lilly Grant to enhance intergenerational faith practices.
- Selected to participate in Vibrant Faith Ministries’ Lilly-funded “Raising Faithful Kids” initiative beginning fall of 2026.



Through these initiatives, we increased cross-generational engagement in worship and community, expanded faith practices at home, and strengthened our sense of belonging as one church across every age.

INTERACTION WITH THE CHURCH, PRESCHOOL PARENTS AND STUDENTS

- Continued five chapel lessons weekly for preschool students, nurturing faith through age-appropriate worship and storytelling.
 - Continued our monthly Parents’ Night Out for preschool families, offering childcare and a restful evening to support parent well-being and build community.
 - Provided faith formation resources to preschool graduates and their families to support spiritual growth at home.
 - Partnered with the preschool to host a Back-to-School Blessing, praying over students, families, and teachers for the year ahead.
 - Hosted the third annual “Boo-Hoo Yahoo Breakfast” for parents on the first day of school, creating space for community, encouragement, and care.
 - Continued weekly coffee hours with preschool parents to build relationships, listen to needs and share practical resources.
 - Hosted a Preschool Family Day at Baker Park, welcoming families for play, connection and fun.
- We strengthened meaningful connections between the church and preschool community-supporting families with care, resources, and shared faith experiences.



WEDNESDAYS AT FIRST

A catered dinner and a series of diverse and educational speakers across a wide range of topics has continued to attract large audiences and an increased feeling of community among church members. Wednesday night programs occur for four weeks in the Fall and four weeks starting in January and leading up to Lent. Speakers included:

- Thomas Lockyear, Manager of the Museum of the Everglades. He discussed the history and role of the park, a world heritage site and largest subtropical wilderness in the United States.
- Captain Daniel Andrews, Co-founder and Executive director of Captains for Clean Water which advances science-based solutions to restore and protect our water quality.
- Rev. Dr. Ronald White, professor, pastor, and noted author of several books about Abraham Lincoln, one about Ulysses S. Grant, and one on Joshua Chamberlain. He spoke on "Abraham Lincoln: Wisdom for Today."
- Dale Mullin, President of Warrior Homes of Collier, whose mission is to assist veterans and their families with housing, mental health and education.
- Rev. Dr. Scott Kenefake, Interim Pastor, discussed how the interim process typically develops, where we want our church to be headed, and hence what kind of person is best suited to be called as our next senior pastor.
- Rev. Fraser Aitken, Minister emeritus, St. Columba Church, Ayr Scotland where he served as Parish Minister for 28 years. He discussed his lovely weekend as a guest of Queen Elizabeth.
- Deb McCollister, a leader in the creation and development of the Tri-Faith Initiative in Omaha, NE which brought together a synagogue, Christian church and mosque in permanent residency to enable people of all faiths to come together to study and interact.
- Diane Butler Bass, an award-winning author of eleven books, popular speaker, and inspiring preacher who discussed her newest book "A Beautiful Year: 52 Meditations on Faith, Wisdom and Perseverance."



**Wednesdays
at
First**

Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. and the program at 6 p.m. Invite a friend!

Sign up in Spencer Hall or by contacting the church office.

The cost for dinner is \$15, payable at the door by cash or check.



Wednesday, February 12

We are excited to welcome the **Rev. Dr. Ronald C. White**, a noted author of several books about Abraham Lincoln, one on Ulysses S. Grant, and one on Joshua Chamberlain, all of which include a good analysis of the faith component of their lives. He has been a university professor as well as a pastor. He has spoken extensively around the world on President Lincoln. His Wednesday night talk is entitled: "Abraham Lincoln: Wisdom for Today." Books will be available for purchase and book signing. Dr. White is a long time friend of Coke Evans.

Wednesday, February 19

We will be joined by **Dale Mullin**, President of *Warrior Homes of Collier* (WHC) and Barbara Salkow, WHC Board member. WHC's mission is to assist veterans and families with their needs, focusing on housing, mental health and education. The goal is to see that no veteran in need is left behind in our county.



12 Membership

Janie Brown Casassa, Membership Committee Chair
Rev. Dr. Scott Kenefake, Interim Pastor
Rev. Rex Childs, Associate Pastor

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Committee Members: Chairman, Janie Brown Casassa, Heather Carelock, Jacque Foust, Bill Kearney, Gerald Miller, Saralene Oldham, Joanne Slager, Kathi Webber, Kitty Wildman. Staff members: Rev. Rex Childs, Rev. Craig Goodrich, Kathleen Law, Susan Pratt

- Welcome Table set up in Spencer Hall with gift bags for first time visitors.
- Seekers and Joiners classes are held on the third Sunday of each month after church.
- Participated in Fall Festival/Trunk or Treat in October
- Friends Sunday was held in March and October
- Water bottles and church information flyers were handed out before the St. Patrick's Day Parade.
- A Congregational Dinner was held in March.
- Two theatre trips to Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre were arranged.
- Advertising was done in the Naples Illustrated, Naples Visitor Guide, Relocator Guide, Facebook and Naples Daily News for Special Events.
- Sponsored a "Music for Jesus" themed Christmas tree in the Naples Festival of Trees and Christmas Market to benefit the Starability organization.



MEMBERSHIP COMMUNICATIONS

In 2025 we continued to grow in our communications to our members and friends, both near and far. We continue to offer our Sunday service via livestream and a recorded service is emailed to our list of recipients, as well as posting it on our website, Facebook page and YouTube channel.

We offer several ways to livestream or view anytime, anywhere: Website, Facebook and YouTube. YouTube began the year with 316 subscribers and we now have 452. We have over 1,200 Facebook followers which includes members, former members, friends, businesses and mission partners. Additionally, our weekly e-blast now reaches nearly 1,000 subscribers.

We continued to produce more video clips and pastor messages, including several short videos for our Generosity Campaign.

Our worship videos are viewed by people living not only in nearly every state in the USA, but also in Canada, Germany, England, Switzerland and other nations.

New to 2025 was our advertising through WGCU which includes PBS television and NPR radio stations. We have had positive feedback from those ads including many visitors who have stated they participated in events due to hearing or seeing the ads. Print advertising was focused online and in local magazines including *Old Naples News*, *Naples Illustrated*, *Naples Visitors Guide* and *Southwest Florida Relocation Guide*. Special events and holidays are also advertised in the *Naples Daily News*.

"Wednesdays at First" programs were taped and added to the website for viewing.

A Season of Music Concerts and the Lenten Concerts were livestreamed and added to the website for viewing.

All of this has increased our engagement with others and impacted many lives both here in the heart of Naples and beyond.

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Committee Members: Barbara Beach, Yancey Brame, Rev. Rex Childs, Jacque Foust, Chris Horsman, Scott Jacobs, Marc Miller, Betty Plum, Molly Singerling, Mark Speake, Susan Sonderby, Gay Stover, David Wiegel, Chuck Work

- **Distribution of Mission Funds:** Local \$97,500. International \$18,000. Some funds were held until after hurricane season. With the extra funds, we sent \$5,000 to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for Jamaica and \$2,000 to each of the six Feed the 5,000 organizations specifically for food distribution. We added Warrior Homes of Collier to the local Mission list after they offered a presentation at one of our Wednesday Nights at First programs. The Mission organizations receive half of their funding in July and the other half in December so they are able to budget accordingly. The Missions Committee also set aside funds for Cuba to assist with the delivery of vitamins and medications with the assistance of Dr. Mark Speake. Assistance of \$10,000 has also been set aside to assist with a midwife in Guatemala.
- **Presbyterian Church in Matanzas:** Scott Jacobs has diligently and patiently taken on our partnership with the Presbyterian Church in Matanzas. In 2025, we began planning for a 2026 trip to Cuba to renew this partnership, which resulted in two people, Scott Jacobs and Tim Stover, planning to travel to Matanzas in April 2026.



- **Guatemala Medical Mission trips:** Dr. Mark Speake continues his biannual trips to Guatemala in April and December to provide much needed medical care to the residents.
- **Mission Tours:** Mission tours were taken at the Neighborhood Health Clinic, Grace Place, David Lawrence Center, St. Matthew's House, Providence House, and the Shelter for Abused Women and Children.
- **Mission Fair Sunday** was held in Spencer Hall on February 23, 2025.

they pack bags of food containing protein, vegetables, juice, breakfast items, fruit, snacks and a sweet item, for students at Big Cypress Elementary School who would not otherwise have enough food to eat over the weekend. These bags are put in the appropriate child's school bag on Friday. This includes approximately 7,200 food items each year.

- **Feed the 5,000.** Feed the 5,000 is a monthly mission headed by Tom Clarke. The ushers have available a list of grocery items needed the first Sunday of each month and on the second Sunday, parishioners bring their bag of groceries or funding to the Sixth Street door entrance to be collected. In 2025, 464 bags were collected along with \$16,776 in funds. THANK YOU FPCN!!!



- **Habitat For Humanity Work Days** were held. A group of parishioners travels to the work site by church bus and helps with different jobs to finish the homes for deserving recipients.

14 Missions

- **Immokalee Fair Housing Alliance.** With funds from our generous congregation, we were able to furnish one 3-bedroom apartment and two 2-bedroom apartments. These funds provide furniture, bedding, towels, dishes and daily living requirements. If there are needs prior to families moving in, our committee shops for the necessary items to complete the apartments.



- **Other Mission Outreach Included:**

Meals of Hope, sponsored by the Christmas Eve offering. Cindy McCarthy organized 100 volunteers who gathered in Spencer Hall and packed over 40,000 meals for those in need. Volunteers included students who were on holiday along with some FPCN parishioners and staff; **Salvation Army Bell Ringing**, held at Publix shopping center the first week of December; **Angel Tree**, supporting the children of Mision Peniel. This past year we collected 75 gifts and 75 pairs of shoes for distribution. Thanks to Rev. Rex Childs, Chris Horsman, Barbara Beach, Jeff Newman, Nick Zamagni and Eduardo Martinez, the gifts were packed into the church bus for delivery to Immokalee. **Undy Sunday**, where underwear and socks are collected for Catholic Charities to be distributed to needy children.



Thank you to my team for a successful year and to our Parishioners for supporting us with their generous gifts so that we can have an impact for our Mission groups.

Submitted by,
Barbara Beach

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Committee: Jim Mahon (Chair,) Ned Camuti, Janie Casassa, Fran Engelhardt, Doug Jensen, Betty Plum, and Chuck Work

From the Personnel Committee's perspective, the best word to describe 2025 was 'Transition.' We celebrated a couple of retirements, rearranged a few staff positions, welcomed Joan Congine into our Finance department, hired an Interim Senior Pastor, and experienced a busy year with the normal staff turnover in the Preschool department.

Highlights for the year include:

- A Retirement Reception and Recognition for Sandy Poore was held in January 2025, where we celebrated her 43+ years of service here at FPCN.
- Employees received a small bonus in February based on the 2024 year-end financial performance.
- Sharman Pfaus announced her desire to step down as the Executive Office Manager effective July 1st, and to move into a part-time Administrative Support role as she transitions towards retirement.
- Rev. Craig Goodrich was recognized, was celebrated, and retired in May after 10 years of faithful service, with the final \$10k of his personal loan being forgiven in appreciation for all he did for FPCN.
- Rev. Dr. Scott Kenefake was hired to be our Interim Senior Pastor.
- Executive transitions were completed with Debbie Savage moving into the role of Executive Director, Sharman Pfaus moving into the role of part-time Executive Assistant, and Joan Congine was hired to be our Finance Administrator.
- Kathleen Law, Director of Publications and Social Media, reduced her hours to allow for a 4-day work week as she transitions towards retirement.
- Countless hours were put into beginning the process of updating our Employee HR Handbook.
- The church's Performance Review forms were updated.
- Janie Casassa resigned from the committee due to an upcoming move.
- The committee reviewed the cost of staff medical insurance and benefits and agreed to continue to cover the expense at the same level as they had in recent years.
- In keeping with historical practice, the Personnel Committee approved a Personnel budget which included staff salary increases equal to COLA plus 1%, resulting in 3.8% increases for 2026.
- Rev. Rex Childs Terms of Call for 2026 were approved and included a \$2,500 reduction in his personal loan as appreciation for his service to the church.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

- Our first Gathering of the Year in January was *Helping Hands Makes a Difference in our Community*, Highlighting the Prayer shawl ministry and the quilts for Immokalee.
- About 50 blankets were gathered on January 11 and 18 and taken to Mission Peniel



- February's Gathering introduced us to Coke Evans, the author of our Study, *The Vine Life*, interviewed by her daughter Andie Goodrich.
- *A Fashion Show with Purpose* was our March Gathering with fashions purchased at thrift stores and models escorted by volunteers from Habitat for Humanity.
- Prayer Shawls and Quilts were blessed on Women's Sunday, March 16.
- One of the organizations we support, *Laces of Love*, was our April Gathering.

- We began the 2025-2026 Season in November with a Book exchange and light lunch
- We welcomed the Christmas Season with a holiday concert by our preschool children.
- Our 2025-2026 study has been *Finding Resilience, Joy and Our Identity in Jesus Christ*.
- To date 48 quilts have been delivered to families moving into apartments at Immokalee Fair Housing Alliance. We have completed over 90 with another 100+ to go.
- Our Stamp Ministry continues as we collect used stamps for the Alliance Stamp Ministry based in Florida. Over \$1.9M has been raised which helps to buy Spanish language Sunday School material for children in this country and abroad.



WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE

Members include: Patty Rutzler, Chair; Mary Armstrong; Bill Kearney; Scott Macdonough; Gary Tincu;
Martha Waddell-Gill

Ex-officio: Rev. Dr. Scott Kenefake; Dr. Brice Gerlach

- Rev. Craig Goodrich preached his last sermon May 18 — “Love Never Ends” — the day after a retirement reception was held for him and Andie in Spencer Hall.
- Rev. Dr. Scott Kenefake arrived in early June as Senior Interim Pastor, and preached his first sermon June 22.
- This year, a single service at 10:00 a.m. is being held thru ‘the Season’, better filling the sanctuary and enhancing the feeling of communal worship. Attendance remains strong, similar to prior years.
- Guest ministers have included: General Presbyter Rev. Melana Scruggs, Rev. Lisa Lefkow, Rev. Winston Lawson, and Rev. Dr. Fraser Aitken.
- Special services have included: Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Kirkin’ O’ the Tartan, Thanksgiving Day, Blue Christmas, and Christmas Eve, .
- New members have joined the church on several Sundays thru the year, both full-time and affiliates.
- Several baptisms occurred thru the year, including infants, and children.
- Memorial services have been held throughout the year, as needed and requested by families of departed members.
- Staff Appreciation was observed last May.
- A Blessing of the Animals was held in the parking lot on October 4.
- The Seekers and Joiners Class has been held on a regular basis thru the year.
- The Choir presented its annual Christmas Concert Dec. 7, with string orchestra.
- FGCU vocal students continue to augment the choir ranks, a welcome addition.
- A Season of Music concerts included some notable performances by Solomon Eichner, Amit Peled, Damin Spritzer, and Voices-of-Naples, as well as the combined choirs of First Presbyterian and Moorings Presbyterian Church.
- Noontime Lenten organ recitals were well attended, and included many non-church members. Tours of the organ and displays of the Saint John’s Bible followed.
- Bob Henstein filled in for Brice on several occasions when he was away.
- The Children’s Choir sang on several occasions, including November 2 and Palm Sunday.
- The appeal for new head ushers is ongoing; please consider helping out!

18 Active Elders

Class of 2026

Ned Camuti - Personnel Committee, Finance Committee Chair

Teresa Doane - Preschool Committee Chair, Intergenerational Christian Education Committee Chair, Clerk of Session

Fran Engelhardt - Facility Committee Chair, Personnel Committee

Linda Gadkowski - Finance Committee

Class of 2027

Roy Cashion - Facilities Committee

Scott Macdonough - Worship and Music Committee

Jim Mahon - Personnel Committee Chair

Susan Sonderby - Missions Committee

Alex Yanushefski - Finance Committee, Missions Committee

Class of 2028

Richard Dryer - Membership Committee

Jacque Foust - Membership Committee

Chris Horsman - Membership Committee Chair

Mark Speake - Missions Committee Chair

Martha Waddell-Gill - Missions Committee, Worship and Music Committee

Officers of the Corporation

Fran Engelhardt - President

Alex Yanushefski - Vice President

Ned Camuti - Treasurer

Teresa Doane - Secretary

Active Deacons

Class of 2026

Carolyn Bennett
Michael Bennett
Barbarann Budd
Heather Carelock
Doug Gibbens
Brenda Lilly
Cindy McCarthy
Mike McCarthy
Sarah Miller
Audrey Smith
Deb Streamer
Gary Tincu
Kathi Webber
Kitty Wildman

Class of 2027

Marti Beard
Walter Gadkowski
Bob Karl
Pam Karl
Jack Marsh
Sylvia Marsh
Melissa McClayton
Cheryl Myers
Sharon Newman
Sarah Nichols

Class of 2028

Stephanie Hayes
Lynda Johnson
Betty Mangos
Cari Rieder
Mary "Gay" Stover
Nancy Walkenhorst
Janet Yanushefski

Nominating Committee

CURRENT

At-Large Nominees: Bill Kearney, Doug Jensen, Saralene Oldham, Karen Parker

Deacon Representative: Cindy McCarthy

Session Representatives: Barbara Beach, Scott Macdonough

PROPOSED

At-Large Nominees: Dave Burgess, Saralene Oldham, Karen Parker, Jane Rogers

Deacon Representative: Sarah Nichols

Session Representatives: Linda Gadkowski (Chair), Scott Macdonough

MINISTERS



Rev. Dr. Scott Kenefake
Interim Pastor



Rev. Rex Childs
Associate Pastor

WORSHIP AND MUSIC



Dr. Brice Gerlach
Director of Music Ministries



Taylor Irvan
Sound and Video Operator

INTERGENERATIONAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Nancy Van Fleet
Director of
Children, Youth
and Family Ministries



Ashley Hancock
Assistant for
Children, Youth
and Family
Ministries



Samantha Sacristan
Nursery Care
Provider

PRESCHOOL



Amy Agnew
Preschool Director



Paige Buck
Assistant Preschool Director

OFFICE



Joan Congine
Finance Administrator



Sandy Knight
Office Assistant/
Receptionist



Josh Miller
Marketing and
Communications
Coordinator



Sharman Pfaus
Executive Assistant



Susan Pratt
Coordinator of
Membership and
Caring Ministries



Debbie Savage
Executive Director

FACILITIES



Eduardo Martinez
Maintenance



Jeff Newman
Director of Facilities



Nick Zamagni
Custodian

20 Staff

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone: 239.262.1311</u>	<u>Ext.</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Pastoral			
Rev. Dr. Scott Kenefake, Interim Senior Pastor		2035	scottk@fpcnaples.org
Rev. Rex Childs, Associate Pastor		2027	rexc@fpcnaples.org
Worship and Music			
Dr. Brice Gerlach, Director of Music Ministries		2039	briceg@fpcnaples.org
Taylor Irvan, Sound and Video Operator			
Intergenerational Christian Education			
Nancy Van Fleet, Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries		2029	nancyv@fpcnaples.org
Ashley Henning, Assistant for Children, Youth & Family Ministries		2012	ashley.henning@fpcnaples.org
Samantha Sacristan, Nursery Care Provider			
Office			
Debbie Savage, Executive Director		2042	debbies@fpcnaples.org
Sharman Pfaus, Executive Assistant		2036	sharmanp@fpcnaples.org
Joan Congine, Finance Administrator		2041	joanc@fpcnaples.org
Sandy Knight, Office Assistant/Receptionist		2000	sandyk@fpcnaples.org
Josh Miller, Marketing and Communications Coordinator		2013	joshm@fpcnaples.org
Susan Pratt, Coordinator of Membership and Caring Ministries		2037	susanp@fpcnaples.org
Facilities			
Jeff Newman, Director of Facilities		2028	jeffn@fpcnaples.org
Eduardo Martinez, Maintenance		2014	eduardom@fpcnaples.org
Nick Zamagni, Custodian		2016	nickz@fpcnaples.org
Preschool			
Amy Agnew, Preschool Director		2009	amya@fpcnaples.org
Paige Buck, Assistant Preschool Director		2038	paigeb@fpcnaples.org



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