

# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT



**Congregational Meeting  
Sunday, February 22, 2026**

Manasquan Presbyterian Church  
16 Virginia Avenue, Manasquan, NJ 08736  
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### Mission Statement



LOVE GOD • GROW IN GRACE • SHARE WITH OTHERS

The mission of Manasquan Presbyterian Church is to touch lives with the love of Jesus Christ. We do this through ...

- ✓ exalting Christ in meaningful worship
- ✓ reflecting the spirit of Christ in caring fellowship
- ✓ developing modern day disciples of Christ through diverse education for all ages
- ✓ promoting the message of Christ in our outreach to the community
- ✓ demonstrating the love of Christ in our mission to the world

Being richly blessed with many talents and resources, we encourage all our members to be involved in some meaningful form of ministry for Christ's sake in their sphere of influence.

We especially seek to...

- ✓ promote Christian family values
- ✓ support young people towards mature faith in Jesus Christ
- ✓ provide care and comfort to the aging and to those in need
- ✓ share the Bible's message with those who do not yet know that Jesus loves them

## **Introduction**

The annual report includes reports from the ministries of the Manasquan Presbyterian Church. Elders, who are members of Session, serve as Committee Chair. All of the committees, boards, teams and other groups of the Church report to the Session through one of the Session Committees. You are encouraged to read this report and offer comments and ask questions of the Elders and other leaders. Your participation in at least one area of meaningful and active service in the life of the Church is truly appreciated. Thank you for the ways you give of your time and talent for the Lord.

## **Session Elders 2026-2028**

### **Christian Education**

- Michael Petillo, Jr (2028)

### **Congregational Life**

- John Geantasio (2028)

### **Finance**

- Greg Shulman (2027)
- Ken Dioguardi (2026)

### **Mission**

- Kathie Parker (2026)

### **Personnel**

- Cherie Matthews (2026)
- Bob Rock (2028)

### **Property**

- Brian Poppen (2027)

### **Worship**

- Susyn Morales (2027)

### **Elders at Large**

- Sandy Holt (2028)
- Andrew Crowe (2028)

**Clerk of Session:** Larry Lee (2028)

**Moderator of Session:** Rev. Jim Dunson

## **Corporate Officers (as of December 31, 2025)**

Greg Shulman  
*President*

Ken Dioguardi  
*Vice President*

Sandy Holt  
*Treasurer*

Larry Lee  
*Secretary*

## Senior Pastor Report

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Dear members and friends of Manasquan Presbyterian Church, the following pages contain the Annual Report of our congregation covering the 2025 calendar year. As you look through this report, you will see that we are a blessed congregation, with a superb staff, growing in people and ministry. Thank you for the vitality at Manasquan Presbyterian, and we ultimately thank God for our church and the gospel of Jesus that we both live out and proclaim.

In May of 2025, I was able to participate and teach at a Conference in Merida Mexico called Pastor2Pastor. This conference is led by Jose Reyna, a missionary from Venezuela to Mexico. Our congregation has supported Jose in his ministry for more than 20 years and this ministry has expanded to the Yucatan Peninsula recognizing that there are numerous towns there with no Christian congregation. Jose's goal is for a Christian presence/church in all communities in the Yucatan. While I was there, I preached the gospel at two Mayan towns of Homun and Telchac Puerto. I have been working with Jose and the pastor at Telchac Puerto (Pastor Alex) to return there in the summer of 2026 with a team from our congregation to offer VBS (in Spanish) and help with local evangelism.

As part of my continuing education, I completed the Week 1 certification for Transitional Ministry. This took place at a PC(USA) conference center at Zephyr Point at South Lake Tahoe. I plan to complete week two within the next several years. I have registered for Credo Conference for September of 2026. CREDO is a weeklong, invitation-only conference sponsored by The Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) designed to support the holistic well-being of PC(USA) ministers. It focuses on four key areas—spiritual, vocational, physical/emotional, and financial health—to help clergy, from recently ordained to late-career, refresh their spirits and assess their ministries.

On a personal note, my wife, Cindy, encountered some health issues in the final part of 2025. A serious infection in her left kidney led to two hospital stays (within two months) and 26 days of at home antibiotic infusions. Providentially, this infection led to the discovery of a growth on her right kidney which turned out to be renal cell carcinoma. We are set up with treatment at Memorial Sloan Kettering and Cindy will have surgery on the right kidney sometime in the first part of 2026. We are encouraged with the treatment and thankful it was caught early. We are very grateful to this church, and to you who have reached out in support, care, food, cards, and your love.

In Christ,



Pastor Jim Dunson

## **Director of Congregational & Family Ministries**

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### ***Congregational Life***

It has been a great honor to witness the work the Lord is doing at Manasquan Presbyterian Church! By His grace we are growing in our knowledge of truth, and impacting our friends, family and younger generations with the Gospel! Our growth groups as well attended, and led by strong Christian leaders, and we continue to glorify God thru our fellowship events, special services and community presence!

2025 offered many new and exciting opportunities for church members, friends and our community to "Love God, Grow in Grace and Share with Others". We offered men's and women's groups, retreats, prayer groups, beginner and intermediate Bible Studies, young adult ministries, leadership conferences, parenting groups and so much more!

We had some special events that brought unity and fellowship to our congregation this past year including our Rise Against Hunger Initiative, our annual Fall Kick off Celebration and BBQ, Fundraising Dinners, our monthly Men's breakfasts; which are a great community resource, and our Together We Heal group continued to impact this church and the community to the glory of God!

We have a budding and strengthening Marriage Ministry, a rising women's fellowship that produced a wonderful, Spirit led and well attended 2025 Advent Breakfast, and a powerful new growth group on the power of prayer coming up...as well as a host of other groups, so be sure to check out our winter/spring growth group brochure located at the Welcome Center in the lobby!

If you are only spending Sundays at church, you are really missing out on the awesome work the Holy Spirit is doing in His people, so be sure to stop by my office anytime to discuss how you can get plugged into the "Life of the Church" here at Manasquan Presbyterian Church!

### ***Youth & Family Ministries***

As I enter my fourth year of overseeing our youth programs here at the church, I am still amazed at how God is working in the lives of our younger generations! On Wednesday nights we eat and worship together, and focus the rest of our time on unpacking the truth of God's Word! Many graduates of our program have come back to volunteer and lead the younger generation, which is a true testament to the work of the Holy Spirit at our church!

We have a great up and coming foundation of younger disciples that are the future leaders of our church! Let us come together as one body and consistently support and help train them up in the way they should go! If you see one of our youth here on Sunday (they may be worshiping or serving in various capacities) be sure to greet them warmly...it goes a long way!

Thank you to all the parents that prioritize youth group on Wednesday evenings in an increasingly busier and more hectic culture that 'church' contends with. And thank you to our amazing youth group leaders; Danene Wilenta, Mike and Jan West, Brian Poppen, Lauren Olsen, Sandy Crowe, Lauren, Emily and Mike Petillo, Austin Davé, Crist Cace and several others.

Thanks to the support of our congregation, and the fundraising efforts of our youth, we went on a mission trip to Johnstown, PA this past June, where we worked, served and worshiped alongside local families, and other churches. This trip allowed our youth to see others, particularly those who may not be as fortunate, through the eyes of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, with love, compassion and gratitude. It is this perspective that I desire our students to engage life through and be motivated toward love and good deeds, as they mature in their faith, and head out into the world!

Lauren Petillo continues to lead our K-5 Sunday School program and is thriving while using her gifts of teaching, music and Christian witness to help build our program in both numbers and knowledge, while leading a great group of volunteers. Our children are not only learning Bible stories, but also learning fundamental and vital truths of the Christian faith. This is so important in their young lives! Thank you, Lauren!

Lastly, thanks to our gifted growth group leaders, Karen Schwarz, Nancy Conte, Handri Kadash and the Deacons (and their dedication in providing monthly meals to youth group), our awesome prayer group, our facilities crew and of course Lisa Ward, Sandy and Janine in the office for their tireless efforts and commitment to the unity and growth of our church!

In 2026, let us join together as one body, under the rule and reign of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ, while He conforms us to His image thru His Word, and the power of the Holy Spirit living in us!

*“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well”*

- Matthew 6:33

In Christ,  
Dave Wilenta, Director Congregational Life & Family Ministries

## **Worship**

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### **Elder Report**

The Worship Committee oversees:

- Three Sunday Worship services: 8 AM, 9:30 AM, and 11 AM
- 8 AM Music Offering – Cathy Gaestel
- 9:30 AM Traditional Music Offering – Jan Blanton, Chancel Choir – Andrew Tufts
- 11 AM – Contemporary Music – Mike Petillo
- Flowers for the Sanctuary
- Decorating the Sanctuary for Christmas and Easter
- Banners hung reflecting the liturgical calendar and special services
- Special Services (e.g., National Day of Prayer, Healing Services)
- Baptism as approved by Session

The Worship Committee oversaw almost 200 services throughout 2025 and acted as a liaison for the many music ministries offered. We continued streaming our worship service.

Susyn Morales continued to serve as Worship Committee Elder. The Worship Committee consists of: Pastor Jim Dunson, Betty Anderson, Bruce Bechtloff, Jan Blanton, Nancy Davis, and Gay Wittenberg.

These are the subcommittees and their respective leaders for Worship:

1. Worship Planning – Pastor Jim Dunson
2. Worship Support – Betty Anderson and Bruce Bechtloff
  - a. Ensuring correct/aligning banners are hung, candles for various occasions, funerals, making sure the pews have enough cards and envelopes, and overseeing the general conditions for the sanctuary.
3. Special Services – Betty Anderson and Bruce Bechtloff
  - a. Manage all special services and banners, and decorations for them. This includes: Baptisms, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Harvest Sunday, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas, and New Year's Eve.
4. Flower Coordinator – Gay Wittenberg
  - a. Orders flowers for all Sunday Services (Lilies for Easter, Poinsettias for Christmas), special services, special announcements (e.g. births, 90<sup>th</sup>/+ birthdays, 50-year members).
5. Ushers – Bruce Bechtloff
  - a. Obtains ushers for all three Sunday services and any special services. Hands out special notices to the congregation. Provides usher training, as needed.
6. Communion – Bruce Bechtloff
  - a. Obtain, instruct and schedule communion servers for all three Sunday services and for special services (e.g. Agape Meal)
7. Wedding Coordinator - Open

Music Ministries and Directors are:

- Cathy Gaestel - Develop and Lead music for the 8 AM service, Director for Celebration Bell Choir
- Andrew Tufts - Director of Chancel Choir and Jubilee Bells
- Jan Blanton - Traditional Worship Service Coordinator, Church Organist, Director of Fellowship Men's Choir
- Mike Petillo - Director Praise Team for 11 AM Service

Special Services included:

- Ash Wednesday / AGAPE Meal
- Lent Services
- Palm Sunday
- Maundy Thursday
- Easter Sunday
- National Day of Prayer
- Mother's Day
- Pentecost
- Memorial Day
- Father's Day
- Worldwide Communion Sunday
- Veterans Day
- Thanksgiving
- Advent Services
- Christmas Eve Services
- Christmas Day Service
- New Year's Eve Service

Respectfully submitted,  
Susyn Morales, Elder, Worship Committee

### **Music Ministries and Directors**

- *Chancel Choir: Andrew Tufts*

The Chancel Choir continued to explore musical styles throughout the year as it aimed to diversify its musical fellowship with the Manasquan congregation. Easter was a particularly special occasion as multiple musicians filled the sanctuary: Kevin Perdoni returned on trumpet, Tim Tritsch played timpani, Tucker Dougherty joined on saxophone, and Andrew Tufts added trombone to the menagerie. During the Christmas season, Rick Benn dazzled on bass guitar with the Petillos as the congregation was treated to a rousing rendition of "We Three Kings". Other special music during the year included original vocal compositions by Bob Martin.

The Chancel Choir continued to maintain an open-door policy, welcoming any and all friends who want to share in their musical fellowship.

- *9:30AM Traditional Service Music Coordinator & The Fellowship: Janice Blanton*

Service support music and hymns are planned and scheduled in conjunction with our ministers' preferences and the liturgical calendar.

Music participation is coordinated with the support of Andrew Tufts, Cathy Gaestel, Barbara Hrebek, Mike Petillo, Lauren Petillo and many volunteer musicians.

Our summer schedule is loaded with musical offerings from members of our own congregation, during the time when our choirs are "on vacation." Those are arranged throughout the summer months and anyone who wants to participate is welcome to call (732) 915-2930 or email Jan at [otis5847@yahoo.com](mailto:otis5847@yahoo.com).

We appreciate the reliable and faithful support from our AV/Media Team, Mike O'Brien, Dennis Wilcox and Harrison Dunson, as well as our facilities support from Bill Knecht, Robert Petillo and Crist Cace.

Lessons and Carols was presented on December 21, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. as our annual Advent/Christmas Service. Congregants from all three services attended together. The entire music department took part with our ministerial staff. Those participating this year were The Chancel Choir, Andrew Tufts, Cathy Gaestel, The Jubilee Bells, The Fellowship Men's Choir, Greysen Tufts, Barbara Hrebek, Mike, Lauren and Mike Petillo, Cash and Clarence Holloway, Lauren and Karen Olsen, Samantha Shumway, Janice Blanton, Dave Wilenta and Pastor Jim Dunson. Manasquan First Presbyterian Church's dedication to scripture and music was represented in the telling of the story of Our Savior's coming and birth---Jesus Christ, God's Greatest Gift to all of us. Throughout the year, our office staff, Lisa Ward, Sandy Crowe, Janine Randolph and Rianne McShaffrey patiently and with great attention to detail, facilitated our efforts.

We held a Traditional Candlelight Service at 8:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve with readings by our ministers and music by Chancel Choir and Randy Linneweber, followed by another Candlelight service at 11:00 with music by Neal Masello.

- *Praise Band: Michael Petillo*

I'd like to thank God for his unfailing love and faithfulness. He has continuously blessed our ministry.

2025 was a good year for the praise band. The attendance at the 11:00 service was consistent throughout the year with a boost toward the end from youth group members. As in past years, our primary goal is to lead a spirit-filled worship service in which the congregation can be drawn closer to our Lord.

In June we led a healing and prayer service in the sanctuary. It was a service where anyone can come to be prayed over for healing. It was an emotional and spiritual service, and the turnout was very good.

We also made some improvements to Fellowship hall. The floors were stripped and coated with a floor finish which makes the floor look shiny and clean. We purchased a stage skirt which makes the stage look a lot more professional. These enhancements were made to change the atmosphere of our worship services.

In December we had our second annual Christmas concert in Fellowship hall. We had a great turnout despite a terrible snowstorm. I'd like to thank all who showed up to support our ministry. It was a beautiful event. Some of the children from the Sunday school program joined us in singing "Away in a manger". Andrew Tufts and a few members of his choir also joined us in singing "Silent Night" and "Go Tell It On the Mountain". The last event of the year was the Lessons and Carols service. We once again joined Andrew and the choir for "Hallelujah".

We also did an upbeat, and uplifting rendition of "We three kings", which drew a great response from the audience.

I pray that the Lord will continue to bless us and to use us to draw his people closer to him.

- *Jubilee Bells: Andrew Tufts*

The Jubilee Bells continued to provide special music for the Manasquan congregation throughout the calendar year. Collaborations with Jan Blanton and the Chancel Choir during Easter and Christmas have become Manasquan Presbyterian traditions, and 2025 was no exception. The

Jubilee Bells also continued their now annual tradition of performing for Andi Dalton at the Bay Head Christmas Walk. The big news for the bells this year was the addition of Anna Brashear and Anne Poppen to the choir. These two seasoned ringers give the bell choir a full bass section, which they haven't had in well over 5 years. It allows the director, Andrew, to actually direct, and provides the choir with the full sound they've desired and lacked. While the additions are wonderful, they could always use extra hands, and welcome willing participants.

- *8AM Service Music, Celebration Ringers & Sunday School Choir: Cathy Gaestel*

The 5+ smooth stones, Cindy Tufts, Rick Schwarz, Carol Voorhees, Handri Kadash, Lori and Jim Mathews, and Neal Masello have shown their dedication all year. They receive the music a week early and during that week receive an audio from me giving them a heads up to what we will be singing. They arrive at 7:15 on Sunday morning to prepare for the service. They amaze me how prepared they are. And besides singing with us, Neal Masello has been blessing us each week playing the offertory. We welcome anyone who would like to join us.

*Celebration ringers: Cathy Gaestel*

We have so much fun at our weekly practice preparing Bell music for some of the 930 services throughout the year. This year we also played for the women's Christmas service on December 2, 2025. It's always such a special service. New members are always welcome. We practice Thursday from 10 to 11. Our music is simple, but the camaraderie is pure blessing. Please join us.

## Christian Education

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### Elder Report

Our mission is to offer opportunities for Biblical learning and a deeper relationship with Jesus for All members- birth through adulthood.

Nursery - The nursery was staffed by Janine Randolph. There are adult and student volunteers who assist from time to time that have been a great help!

### Notable Events

- Summer Sunday School was held this summer led by Lauren Petillo.
- The Sunday School children have sung at a few of the 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services
- In November the children gave out cards to Veterans and brought food for the Food Pantry on Harvest Sunday.
- During Lessons and Carols the children sang.
- Christmas Eve Pageant – 3:00 p.m. Complete with 10-15 children reenacting the Birth of Christ.

Vacation Bible School was held in August with many volunteers and children attending.

Family fellowship events were held quarterly.

Sunday Support throughout the year included the following: Lauren Petillo, Debby Russo, Ava Wilenta, Anne Poppen, Dee Cahill, Christine Russo, Lynette Cace, Robert Petillo, Julia Caleen and Kai Delgado.

### Confirmation

In June 2025, 7 students were confirmed:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Max Lukowiak</li><li>• Luke Nisivoccia</li><li>• Joya Sanders</li><li>• Rowan Scimé</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• David Mellett</li><li>• Tyler Bonnet-Olsen</li><li>• JP Sanders</li></ul>
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We encourage parents to worship together with their children at 11:00 a.m. service. We are thankful for everyone who makes our youth program possible. Please continue to pray that hearts, minds and lives are changed by what we learn about Christ through the Bible, through fellowship of believers and in serving our community.

Gratefully submitted,  
Debby Russo, Christian Education

### Sunday School

Our theme for Sunday School this year was *Let Your Light Shine!* Using scripture, worship songs and hands-on activities, children were taught about the unconditional love of Jesus and why His sacrifice matters. Our goal by year's end is for students to gain an understanding of the gospel and recognize God's grace and redeeming love for them.

Throughout the year, Sunday School has continued to use the *Big Truth Bible Lessons for Kids* curriculum for weekly instruction. This program is firmly grounded in scripture, thoughtfully adapted for different age levels, and encourages creativity to enhance student engagement. We are blessed with a group of teachers and volunteers who generously give their time and resources to our students. Their love for God and commitment to teaching children in a caring environment is evident. I am very grateful

for Julia Caleen & Dominique Patella for volunteering their time to help in our classes when coverage was needed, as well as Debby Russo and Denise Cahill for their continued dedication to our preschool class. Class sizes currently range from 5–10 students, and we hope to see continued growth and more consistent attendance into the new year.

The current breakdown of teachers in each class are as follows:

1. Preschool- kindergarten: Debby Russo, Denise Cahill
2. 1st- 3rd grade: Lauren Petillo
3. 4th-6th grade: Julia Caleen
4. Sign in desk: various youth group volunteers including Madison Kreig and Braelynn Crowe

We are now using the main church Instagram and Facebook pages to post pictures of our students, promote upcoming events, and engage with the community in order to invite more families to our program. A line of communication is always open with parents through frequent emails, Remind app announcements and in person conversations before and after class on Sundays.

Throughout the year, students have learned a blend of Bible songs and contemporary Christian praise music and have sung at select 9:30 services accompanied by Mike Petillo on guitar. Moving forward, we hope to increase student participation within the congregation by having them sing more frequently during the 9:30 services.

Over the course of the year, we have hosted several events including an Easter egg hunt, a summer kickoff, and a fall celebration. We were also honored to welcome Freddie from Cypress Missions, who visited as a guest speaker for our students. One of our goals next year is to get our students involved in service project opportunities with Cypress Missions. We additionally plan to continue providing God-centered events that encourage family participation and fellowship within the church community.

The Christmas season is a busy one for our students and they have done a fantastic job participating in a variety of programs! On December 14th, some of our students sang “Away in a Manger” with our contemporary praise band during their Christmas worship concert. On December 21st, our students were included in the Lessons & Carols service and had the opportunity to sing “Away in a Manger” and “Joy to the World” for the congregation. Lastly on Christmas Eve at the 3:00 service, our students will put on a pageant demonstrating the birth of Jesus Christ. Students are assigned roles, speaking parts, and will sing a total of seven songs throughout the service. I am incredibly proud of the students for their hard work, and deeply thankful to their parents for their ongoing support and involvement.

Our biggest and most memorable event from this year was hosting VBS at our church from August 18th-22nd. The theme was Wonder Junction, where students went on a wild west adventure to explore God’s amazing love, discover Bible truths, and experience the wonder of His plan in a fun, frontier-style setting. We had over 60 students in attendance, which was a significant increase from last year! The student population consisted of children from our church, along with extended family members, friends, and children from nearby churches in the area.

Numerous high school youth group students and parents generously volunteered to help children with daily activities throughout the week. Dominique Patella, Robert Petillo and Denise Cahill were among the volunteers who ran daily stations, contributed to the set up/breakdown of the decorations in the church, and were involved in the overall planning process. The success of the week wouldn’t have been possible without their support, and I sincerely appreciate all they contributed. I am looking forward to next year!

I am truly grateful for the opportunity to continue guiding our students in their spiritual journey. This year has been a joy, as I’ve been able to build meaningful connections with both the students and their families on a more personal level. Watching our students grow closer to Jesus has been inspiring, and

I look forward to seeing how the Lord will continue to bless this ministry. I also want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the congregation for their support, and to Dave Wilenta & Pastor Jim for their ongoing leadership and guidance, which have helped us develop a strong and thriving program for our students. God bless!

Respectfully submitted,  
Lauren Petillo, Sunday School Leader

### **Nursery**

*Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.*  
*Proverbs 22:6*

In caring for our littlest church members, our mission is to support our young families and help their children feel loved and safe. We read, we play, we pray, and we share. I am deeply honored and blessed to be entrusted with this ministry. I do so with the assistance of loving, conscientious volunteers: Madison Bailey, Braelynn and Delaney Crowe, Sydney Eichhorn, Kayleigh Ewing, and Stephanie Gaffney. This year we had an average weekly attendance of 6-7 children.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janine Randolph, Nursery Leader

### **Congregational Life**

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#### **Elder Report**

Members of the Committee: John Geantasio, Joe Pilla, Judy Fury, Rick Schwarz, Larry Lee, Matt Reaves, Bill Klein, and Staff Resource Dave Wilenta.

The purpose of the Congregational Life Committee is rooted in five key areas:

**Evangelism:** Helping individuals begin and deepen their faith relationship with Jesus Christ.

**Congregational Care:** Responding to the joys and concerns of our Church family.

**Christian Fellowship:** Creating opportunities for fellowship that glorify God and strengthen relationships within the body of believers.

**Growth in Grace:** Building a strong foundation of biblical understanding, fostering faith, and creating relational ties through growth and ministry groups.

**Calling:** Guiding individual in discovering their passion and spiritual gifts to serve and edify the Body of Christ.

Our mission is to serve Jesus by providing opportunities for growth, fellowship and spiritual maturity amongst the body of Christ here at Manasquan Presbyterian Church. We work toward this by offering programs, studies, events and service opportunities to members of the congregation, while also intentionally reflecting the loving care of Christ to those outside of our church community!

Highlights include: Growth groups, Coffee Hour, Fellowship Luncheons, Congregational Outreach, Men's and Women's Retreats, Intercessory prayer group, Stitching Hands, Marriage Ministry and more!

To promote greater fellowship, the Congregational Life Committee hosted the Fall Kickoff Barbeque, Healing Services, Easter Breakfast, Bus Trip to Sight and Sound Theater, Progressive Dinner, and Praise and Worship Concerts.

To help those outside of our church community, the Congregational Life Committee sponsored the Rise Against Hunger event which helped pack 10,000 meals that were sent to those in need.

In support of our Youth ministries, the committee and Youth sponsored a Pasta Dinner in Fellowship Hall and a Pickleball Event that served as fundraisers for the youth programs of the Church.

Seekers and Joiners: Praise God as we welcomed 3 new members into our church family:

- Barbara Baron
- Crist Cace
- Dawn Green

Confirmands: This year with great pride, we welcomed 7 new confirmands:

• Max Lukowiak	• Tyler Bonnet-Olsen	• JP Sanders
• David Mellett	• Joya Sanders	• Rowan Scimé
• Luke Nisivoccia		

Gratefully Yours in Christ,  
Congregational Life Committee  
John Geantasio, Elder

### **Stitching Hands**

The members of "Stitching Hands" were quite busy in the year 2025. Over the course, of the year, we made a total of 400 miscellaneous items such as hats, mittens, scarves, lap robes, baby sweaters, and hot pads to name a few. These items were donated to the following:

• Grandmother's Cupboard	• Cypress Missions
• Jersey Shore Dream Center	• The Food Pantry
• Tower Lodge	• The Madonna House
• Mary's Place	

In addition, to these items, we made about 240 6" squares. The squares are than made in to baby blankets and are donated to the Deacons for their New Baby Project. 16 blankets were donated.

In November, we sold all 16 of the hot pads, making a nice profit. This went toward the purchase of additional yarn for new projects.

Our "Pocket Prayer Ministry" continues to grow beyond our expectations! Over the course of 2025, we made and distributed 1,109 "pouches" and we are still going strong! These were donated mostly to Rob Petillo, to be distributed to patients at JSMC, and to the members of our congregation.

We want to thank Lisa for making all of our copies and to Dave Wilenta for his continuing support. Most of all, we thank the Lord for giving us the talent as we continue to do his good work.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Nancy Davis

### **Board of Deacons**

The ministry of Deacon as set forth in the Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress.

The Board of Deacons consists of three classes of six members, each serving a three-year term. The Board meets the first Tuesday of the month from January to December. Leadership positions consist of a Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Treasurer, and Secretary.

The Deacons are responsible for maintaining a bank account and authorizing disbursements when there is a need. Additionally, the Deacons are occasionally asked to fund events and activities outside of our typical responsibilities. Income is obtained primarily from donations and a periodic allotment from the Church.

***Serving on the Board of Deacons for the 2025 calendar year were:***

- **Class of 2025:** Debbie Bottone, Kathy Geantasio, Jessica Lane, Pilar Ramirez, Karen Rihacek, Karen Schwarz (Moderator)
- **Class of 2026:** Nancy Conte, Handri Kadash (Secretary/Treasurer), Lori Mathews (Vice-Moderator), Jim Mathews, Danene Wilenta
- **Class of 2027:** Beth Benjamin, Crist Cace, Sandy Crowe, Lori Dioguardi, Kathleen Schmidt, Maddie Soales
- **Pastoral Representation:** Rev. Cindy Wilcox and Dave Wilenta.

***Restructure of the Deacon Board:*** At the recommendation of Church leaders, it was decided to restructure the Deacon Board effective 1/1/2022 under which the existing Committees were dissolved and a new framework for the Board occurred. The restructure breaks down the Deacon's duties into three Areas of Emphasis as below under the belief that this new framework would better serve those that rely on our services. Those mentioned below have volunteered to serve in those areas.

***Area of Emphasis: Internal Care-***

- Communion: Lori Dioguardi
- Outreach:
  - Visitation: Handri
  - Flower Delivery: Nancy, Pilar
  - Cards and Bulletins: Beth, Maddie, Sandy
- Helping the bereaved: Nancy, Handri
- Meal Providing: Karen Rihacek
- Greeters: Nancy

***Area of Emphasis: Servant Church-***

- Outreach to youth: All Deacons with Dave
- Blood Drive: Lori and Jim
- Welcoming Visitors and New Members: Kathy G. and All Deacons

***Area of Emphasis: Benevolence:***

- Monetary gifts for individuals in need (Social concerns): Nancy, Kathy G.
- Christmas/Easter gifts for Food Pantry participants: Nancy

***Highlights for 2025***

***Internal Care:***

Deacons prepared, set up, and cleaned up all of the Communion services that are provided weekly for the 8:00AM service and on the first Sunday of the month for the 9:30AM and 11:00AM services. We also provided Communion for the Agape Meal in March and the Maundy Thursday service in April.

Deacons stayed in contact with members of the Church family who are homebound or may be in need of outreach ministry to offer friendship and support. Each Deacon is assigned a person to keep in contact with at least once a month. Contacts include home visits, telephone calls, cards, and delivery of flowers.

Each week, flowers from the chancel were arranged into bouquets and delivered by the Deacons to members, friends, or relatives of the congregation. These flowers offer condolences, congratulations, thank you, and get well wishes. Lilies and poinsettias were delivered by Deacons at Easter and Christmas. A distribution list is maintained weekly.

In order to maintain a connection to our Church family members who can no longer attend services, a bulletin was sent out to them each week. The Daily Bread, which is mailed four times a year, and the Advent Booklet were also sent to these individuals. Birthday cards were sent to all who reached the milestone of ninety-plus years. Cards were also sent to those who have lost loved ones or are seriously ill.

Deacons responded to the needs of the members of the congregation and their families. These activities include organizing and hosting receptions during periods of bereavements or celebration. Three (3) repasts were held in 2025. Many meals were provided for Church family members during their time of need. We hosted a wonderful Farewell Reception for Rev. Wilcox and Dennis in April. In addition to the Meal List of volunteers we added a Baking List of people who are willing to bake for repasts and receptions.

With the generous help and support of Stitching Hands, we have added a new way to reach out to families in our church by providing them with a handmade baby blanket when a baby is born.

Church members served as greeters at all services. The schedule is managed by the Deacons.

#### ***Servant Church:***

The Deacons sponsored a blood drive in August. With the support of the NJ Blood Services/Div. of NY Blood Center, the Deacons publicized the drive, recruited donors, greeted donors, and assisted with the post-donation recovery. The drive was very successful, with 52 units of whole blood drawn.

On a monthly basis, the Deacons provided and served dinner to the Youth Group prior to their meetings. This is viewed as a very important function as the Youth Group is the future of the Church. Deacons coordinate with the help of the congregation to spread joy of the Christmas season through caroling to shut ins. In December, several Deacons were scheduled to go Christmas Caroling at the Brandywine and Artis Senior Living facility in Brick but unfortunately the weather prohibited the visit.

#### ***Benevolence:***

Through the Deacons, the Church provides financial assistance and help to those in need that are either members of the Church or individuals and families referred by Church members.

At Easter and Christmas, the Deacons, in cooperation with the Food Pantry, and with the help of the Youth Group, assemble Easter Baskets and Christmas Gift Bags for needy families in the community. In 2025, the Deacons provided the Food Pantry approximately 100 Easter Baskets and 75 Christmas Gift Bags.

Thank you all who have selflessly served on the Board of Deacons by devoting your time and talents!

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Schwarz, Moderator

### **The Food Pantry**

With the exception of the “Covid years”, 2025 seemed like every other year for the Manasquan Food Pantry until November came with the government shutdown. An outpouring of all manner of support that we couldn’t have imagined followed! As we reflect on the past year, we think of the many blessings provided to us by the community and the Ministerium churches. Generous donations helped to provide food and basic necessities for a record number of 4,113 visits (an increase of more than 980 from last year) while at the same time being able to extend a helping hand to other local pantries.

Food drives sponsored by numerous schools, churches, civic organizations, scouts, businesses, and individuals are an important source of much needed shelf stable groceries. Weekly donations from Panera Bread, local markets, bakeries, bagel shops and this summer’s 752 pounds of produce from the ecumenical Giving Garden at St. Denis were welcome additions to our usual options. Monetary support helps to defray our operating costs, maintain an emergency fund and to purchase food necessary to supplement the frequently limited variety and quantities available from Fulfill (formerly the Monmouth and Ocean County Food Bank).

Once again, we were able to offer Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner fixings including a ham or turkey, fresh fruit and vegetables and a frozen pie. Gift bags provided by the Deacons were a big hit at our Christmas distribution.

Without the blessing and cooperation of the congregation and staff of Manasquan Presbyterian Church, we would not be able to continue this mission about which we are so committed. But it’s the families who really thank you by daily extending their heartfelt thanks to our wonderful volunteers. People such as the family of six with three teenage boys whose SNAP benefits were reduced from \$900 to \$200; another family of six who lost their jobs, car and home within three months; grandparents raising grandchildren while their child undergoes cancer treatments, these are the people to whom your donations and prayers offer comfort and hope. Thank you!

*Give thanks unto the Lord,  
For He is good.”  
Psalm 106:1*

Respectfully submitted,  
The Manasquan Food Pantry Board

- Linda Fieros, Holy Trinity Lutheran, Chair
- Charlotte Petersen, Manasquan Presbyterian, Treasurer
- Kris Forcillo, St. Denis, Recording Secretary
- Jane Tully, St. Catharine’s, Corresponding Secretary and Chaplain
- Carolyn Kelly, First Baptist, Special Projects
- Rich Speiser, Church in Brielle, Food Delivery

## **Lay Pastors**

The Lay Pastor ministry began in our church in 1991 under the leadership of Pastor Alec Wendel. Among the first lay pastors were Ellie Buannic and Priscilla Everett. The lay pastors work with Pastor Jim Dunson and the David Wilenta, Director of Congregational Life and Family Ministries to meet the needs of the congregation.

1 John15:12 tells us to “love each other as I have loved you.” The lay pastors use this verse to guide them in their relationships with their flock and the greater church family. We are in contact with our flock through calls, cards, and home, hospital, assisted living facilities and nursing home visits. We pray that each member of our flock will grow in faith and have a stronger relationship with their Lord.

Our current Lay Pastors are: Betty Anderson, Darryl Chambers, Jo-Ann Hazel, Richard O'Rourke and Shirley Schmidt.

Respectfully Submitted,  
The Lay Pastors

## **Presbyterian Women**

Presbyterian Women is composed of women who share a common faith in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and unite through the church to proclaim the Gospel and demonstrate His love in all areas of life and grow in Christian faith and responsibility. We seek to implement this purpose by study, prayer, and service supporting with our giving through the work of PCUSA.

Our PW consists of 100 women in six circles that meet monthly from September to June for fellowship, Bible study, and mission projects. All women of the church are encouraged to participate in PW.

Our circles participate in monthly missions such as collecting items for various organizations like Ocean Harbor House, Family Promise, as well as sending Valentine gift cards to students away from home. Our circles also participate monthly by reaching out to the residents of The Arbors in Spring Lake, assisting with bingo.

Our PW collects money to support three PCUSA offerings: Thank offering in the Fall, Birthday offering in the Spring and “Least Coin” throughout the year. These offerings support outreach projects locally, nationally, and internationally. In addition, a monthly offering is collected from the members of each circle which is used to support our own budget as well as that of the Presbyterian Women of the Coastlands. We also contribute to the church Memorial Fund by honoring deceased members, (their spouses, and children.) This year we sadly said good-by to Peggy Sullivan.

PW is committed to mission outreach. This past year, PW held four fund raisers, which enabled us to distribute \$5500. We gave \$500 each to eleven charities within our community, country, and state. Also, in January (2025) we contributed \$1000 to the PCUSA disaster relief fund earmarked to help fight the devastating wildfires in California.

Our PW held two gatherings this past year for all circle members and women of the church. In May (2025), our very own member, Andrea Schuett spoke and displayed various items from her business in Manasquan called Greater Goods Refillery. This past September, Dave Wilenta spoke to the group on our Bible Study, THE ARMOR OF GOD. In December, PW hosted the Women’s Community Christmas Worship Program that included a luncheon. 140 women around the community attended.

We close each meeting and gathering with the benediction “Let us go forth in peace to love and serve God and one another.”

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kathleen Hancock, PW Moderator

## **Intercessory Prayer Group**

The Intercessory Prayer Group (IPG) meets every Wednesday morning all year and we begin every prayer session with scripture verses and we praise God for His mercies and answers to prayer. It is always amazing to see God's love shown in His answers and is such a blessing to hear from those who submit prayer requests and share with us the joy of answered prayer. To God belongs all the glory, honor and praise!

Some ask, "Why does God want us to praise Him?" **Consider who it is** who benefits from praise.

Praise lifts **your** spirit.

Praise helps **you** sense God's presence.

Praise enlarges **your** perception of God.

Praise reveals solutions **we** can't see.

Praise helps **us** remember God's blessing.

Praise enlists God's protection.

Paul tells us in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, "Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." By doing that, our attention is drawn to the Lord for more than calls for help and allows us to see Him working as prayers are answered in His timing and leads to more rejoicing and thanks! What an awesome cycle! The Lord dwells in the praises of His people (Psalm 22:3). The more we show gratitude and praise Him, the more we are able to see His blessings. And sometimes even the IPG is utterly amazed at an answer to prayer.

A card or note of encouragement may be sent to let you know you are in our prayers, if we have your contact information. We keep prayer requests in our prayers for one month unless we hear the request has been answered or it is resubmitted for more prayer. If you want someone to pray with you, IPG members are at the front of the Sanctuary at the end of the 8AM service on the first Sunday of each month, or you can reach out to an IPG member.

The IPG is glad to join with you in your prayer requests given to us. We also encourage you to discover for yourself God's amazing answers to prayer by praying every day at a regular time and place convenient to you. Pray for your concerns, your family, friends, our church, this nation, and the world. We realize that there are times when you're too overwhelmed to pray, but just a simple call out to the Lord, "Lord, help!" will be heard and answered by our loving, caring God.

Respectfully submitted,

Intercessory Prayer Group

Beth Benjamin, Judy Fury, Lisa Govel, Suzanne Lefebvre, Arlene McDowell, Christy Morford

## **Mission**

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### **Elder Report**

**Members:** Cherie Matthews (Elder and Chair), Kathy Geantasio, Ron Masella, Kathie Parker (Elder), Paula Radel, Jan Visceglia, Dottie Warren, Dareen Widmann

**New Members:** Beth Benjamin, Lynette Cace, Ted Schulz

**Staff Resource:** Pastor Jim Dunson

### **Overview**

The Mission Committee continued its calling in 2025 to support both PCUSA-affiliated and independent Christian ministries locally, nationally, and internationally. Through prayer, financial support, hands-on service, and community engagement, the committee worked to reflect Christ's love by responding to ongoing needs and emerging mission opportunities.

### **Supported Missionaries and Ministries**

During 2025, the Mission Committee maintained and expanded support for the following ministries:

- United World Missions / Mesa Global – Jose Reyna (Mexico)**

Continued partnership included financial support toward the purchase of a ministry vehicle, with multiple donations approved during the year. Pastor Jim Dunson preached and presented at Jose Reyna's Pastor-to-Pastor Conference in Merida, Mexico. Letters of appreciation were received expressing gratitude for the church's generosity.

- Urban Promise (Camden, NJ)**

Support included financial assistance for a new student, participation in Partner Days, student gift cards, Valentine outreach, Mission Day involvement, and ongoing sponsorship of students.

- Cypress Missions**

Cypress Missions remained a major focus in 2025, particularly their disaster relief and rebuilding efforts in North Carolina. Freddie Fiorentino provided multiple updates, spoke during worship services, and invited congregational involvement in mission trips. Cypress also continued ministry at Sister's Academy After School Program and through teaching and local service projects.

- CRU – Campus Crusade for Christ (Matt and Erin Kay)**

The committee explored deeper partnership opportunities, including Cojourners Evangelism Training, and ongoing missionary support.

- Mission Quest – Dave Terranova (Spain)**

Financial support continued during the year, with updates provided when available.

- Andrew Trathen (Alaska Internship/Mission)**

The committee approved a \$500 donation to support Andrew's long-term mission and internship work.

- Local Ministries**

Support and promotion were provided for The Samaritan Center at the Jersey Shore, The Center in Asbury Park, The Dream Center, Jersey Shore Rescue Mission, Code Blue (Trinity Episcopal Church), Clothing Closet at the Ford Center, and Love Lifts Us Up.

### **Friendship Suppers**

Friendship Suppers continued to be a cornerstone of community outreach in 2025. Dinners were held at 6:00 p.m. on the last Thursday of select months (January, February, March, April, September, and October). Attendance remained strong, with many church and community members participating. The committee continued to recruit volunteers for serving and clean-up, recognizing the importance of shared hospitality and fellowship.

### **Special Mission Projects and Collections**

- **Love Lifts Us Up** – The committee organized a diaper and baby items collection, providing practical support to families of severely ill infants. A certificate of appreciation was received and displayed on the Mission bulletin board.
- **One Great Hour of Sharing** – Collection envelopes were distributed, and funds disbursed as part of the PCUSA-wide effort.
- **Disaster Relief** – Donations were directed to wildfire victims early in the year and later to Cypress Missions for hurricane recovery work in North Carolina.
- **Sister's Academy** – Committee members volunteered directly, supporting students through faith-based lessons and encouragement in their afterschool program.

### **October National Mission Month**

October remained a highlight of the mission year. Ministry updates were shared during worship services, focusing on:

- Local Ministries
- Cypress Missions
- International Missions including Jose Reyna
- Urban Promise and Friendship Suppers

Speakers and committee members provided Moments for Mission, highlighting opportunities for service, giving, and prayer. shared hospitality and fellowship.

### **Financial Stewardship**

The Mission Committee reviewed and approved the 2025 Mission Budget and worked closely with the Finance Committee to ensure responsible stewardship of designated funds, including disaster relief and quarterly disbursements.

### **Gratitude**

The Mission Committee thanks the congregation for their continued generosity, prayerful support, and willingness to serve. Through shared commitment and faithfulness, the church continues to live out its mission beyond the building.

**Respectfully Submitted,**  
Cherie Matthews  
Mission Elder and Chair

## Property

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### Elder Report

The 2025 committee consists of Mike Petillo Sr., Jim Gibson, Sean Kennedy, Lisa Ward as Staff Resource, and Elder Brian Poppen. The committee is responsible for the care of the church property including all buildings, grounds and equipment owned by the church, including the manse. The committee meets monthly to plan and coordinate its activities, assigning committee members to work on tasks and identify and supervise vendors as needed.

In addition to normal annual inspections and maintenance for systems such as Alarm, HVAC, WAVE, and Plumbing, the committee performed several upgrades and improvements to the building in 2025 including but not limited to:

- Fellowship Hall Energy-Efficient Dimmable Main Lighting Replacement (performed by in-house volunteers)
- Christian Education Building Energy-Efficient LED Replacements for Hallways and Classrooms (performed by in-house volunteers)
- Parking Lot and Exterior Energy-Efficient LED Lighting Upgrade and Timer Replacement (performed by in-house volunteers)
- Christian Ed Building Heating Thermostats Replaced with Energy-Efficient Schedule Based Units (performed by in-house volunteers)
- Fellowship Hall Floor Refinishing (performed by in-house volunteers)
- Major Boiler Repairs and Maintenance for Sanctuary Heating System
- Major Computer System Overhaul Including Replacement of Aged Server and WiFi System
- Repairs to Manse HVAC System
- Sewage Pit Pump-Outs Due to Abuse of Plumbing in CE Building
- Sanctuary and Narthex Carpet Extraction
- Projector Bulb Replaced in Sanctuary (Will Need Full Projector Replacement in 2026)
- Purchase of Floor Scrubber Machine to Perform Wax and Buffing In-House

Respectfully submitted,  
Brian Poppen, Elder



## Personnel

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### Report

The 2025 Personnel Committee members are Elder Ted Schulz (chair), Elder Tracy Schaar, Matthew Reaves, Kelly Gaffney, and Pat Griffin. Rev. Jim Dunson serves as staff resource to this committee.

Manasquan Presbyterian Church is a vibrant and growing congregation, always striving to fulfill the ministry that Christ has given his church. We also have some complexities with three services, each unique in style, music, and worship. We recognize the importance of being disciples and making disciples, therefore we emphasize biblical teaching in our worship and Growth Groups. Our mission is to LOVE GOD (Matthew 22) through worship and prayer, to GROW IN GRACE (Matthew 28) through teaching/discipleship and fellowship, and to SHARE WITH OTHERS (Matthew 25) through service and mission. All this comes together through the dedicated work of the Manasquan Presbyterian Church staff serving alongside you the congregation. We are blessed to have a talented and hard-working staff to see the fruits of the ministry of Christ in our church and community.

We have been blessed with longevity from many of our staff. Pastor Jim Dunson, Dave Wilenta, and Lisa Ward have been with us over 12 years. Our music staff leadership has been consistent for more than 8 years. This is truly a blessing. In 2025 we also had some changes and welcomed new staff. Rev. Cindy Wilcox served our congregation for nearly 10 years in various part-time positions. In 2025 she received her first call as a pastor to Grace Presbyterian Church in Montclair. We celebrate with Cindy in her call and ministry. We thank Sarah Etzel for her vital interim work as Business Administrator; in March Sarah accepted a position in her original vocation and we were blessed to have Sandy Crowe fill that role for us in 2025. Rianne McShaffrey also started in 2025 with the responsibility of special projects, website and social media. After three years on Facilities staff Michael Petillo took a full-time position in his chosen vocation, and we hired two additional facilities staff. Beginning in 2026 we have Bert Petillo, Bill Knecht, and Bryan Knittle serving in facilities.

### Members of Staff in 2025

- Rev. Jim Dunson, Senior Pastor
- Dave Wilenta, Director of Congregational & Family Ministries
- Rev. Cindy Wilcox, Parish Associate (Left Summer of 2025)
- Lisa Ward, Director of Facilities & Administration
- Sarah Etzel (Interim), Director of Business & Finance (left Spring of 2025)
- Sandy Crowe, Business Administrator (started Spring of 2025)
- Jan Blanton, Traditional Music Coordinator, Organist, Director of The Fellowship Men's Choir
- Michael Petillo, 11am Music Leader
- Cathy Gaestel, 8am Music Leader, Celebration Ringers Director
- Andrew Tufts, Chancel Choir Director, Jubilee Bells Director
- Lauren Petillo, Sunday School Leader
- Janine Randolph, Office/Finance Support and Nursery Leader
- Rianne McShaffrey, Special Projects and Social Media (started Spring of 2025)
- Michael Petillo, Facilities Team (left Summer of 2025)
- Bill Klein, Facilities Team (left Summer of 2025)
- Crist Cace, Facilities Team (started Summer of 2025)
- Bill Knecht, Facilities Team (started Summer of 2025)
- Bert Petillo, Facilities Team and Audio Visual Team (started Summer of 2025)
- Dennis Wilcox, Audio Visual Team (left Summer of 2025)
- Mike O'Brien, Audio Visual Team
- Harrison Dunson, Audio Visual Team
- Tyler Bonnet-Olsen, Audio Visual Team

- Ethan Fletcher, Audio Visual Team

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. Jim Dunson, Staff Resource to Personnel Committee

### **Memorial Fund Committee**

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The Memorial Fund committee was established to oversee monies given to the church by members of the church family and others in memory of loved ones. It is the mission of the committee to decide the best way to use these funds to enhance the sanctuary, welcome center, fellowship hall and rooms within the church buildings and church grounds.

The committee works in cooperation with the committees of session and staff members for their ideas and often times for final approval of projects and expenditures.

The following items were purchased this year: 5 shrubs for outside the main entrance, flowers for the planters at the front entrance, 4 armchairs for UL-5, 2 accent chairs for UL-5, and 4 stackable armchairs for the Upper Room.

The members of the committee during 2025 were: Doris Pearson, Betty Anderson, Debbie Henderson, and Darryl Chambers. Doris Pearson sends out acknowledgements for all donations.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Darryl Chambers, Chairperson



## Finance

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### Report of the Treasurer and Finance Committee

As of December 31, 2025, the following individuals served as active members of the Finance team:

- Greg Shulman, Elder & Committee Chairperson
- Ken Dioguardi, Elder & Committee Co-Chairperson
- Diane Moss
- Sandy Crowe
- Janine Randolph
- Sandy Holt, Church Treasurer

#### I. Responsibilities & Duties

The Finance team has a dual mandate: (1) to manage the day-to-day financial operations of the Church with appropriate financial policy, planning, and oversight; and (2) to ensure the long-term financial viability of the Church by managing its endowment accounts with appropriate investment strategies and prudent levels of risk tolerance.

Specific responsibilities and duties include the following:

- to develop an annual Operating Budget based on our policy of balancing Total Operating Income and Total Operating Expenses for each fiscal year of the Church's operations
- to regularly monitor actual levels of income and spending throughout the year in order to meet budget targets, with spending adjustments as necessary to prevent year-end deficits
- to establish appropriate financial policies and procedures for the Church's day-to-day financial operations, and to monitor ongoing compliance with these policies and procedures by the Church staff and its various Committees.
- to prepare and distribute accurate income and spending reports, financial statements, etc. to the Finance Committee, the Session and members of the congregation
- to serve as liaison to third parties including accountants, banks and brokerage firms on behalf of the Church
- to ensure the Church's financial resources are used prudently and cost- efficiently
- to ensure that endowment funds available to the Church for longer-term investment are invested wisely in accordance with investment strategies, portfolio diversification, and asset allocation choices that are considered appropriate by the Finance team

## II. Financial Review of FY 2025 Church operations

**Summary of year-end results** At December 31, we reported annual Total Income of \$906,203 and Total Expenses of \$835,457, resulting in a net Operating Surplus of +\$70,746 for Fiscal Year 2025.

**Actual vs budget results** The projected goal of the Church's Operating Budget for 2025 was to achieve balanced year-end levels of Total Income and Total Expenses in the amount of \$876,362. The actual Total Income of \$906,203 for the year exceeded that budgeted income target by +\$29,841 and +3.4%. Total Expenses of \$835,457 reflected actual spending over the twelve months of 2025 that was \$40,905 and 4.7% below our expense budget for the fiscal year.

**Year-over-year results** Compared to prior-year results, Total Income of \$906,203 in FY 2025 represented increases of \$70,247 and 8.4% over Total Income of \$835,956 in FY 2024. Total Expenses of \$835,457 reported in FY 2025 were \$14,050 and 1.7% above total spending of \$821,407 for the Church's operations in FY 2024.

### **Sources of Income & Categories of Expense**

Giving from the congregation during the twelve months of 2025 accounted for approximately 76% of the \$906,203 in Total Income reported for the fiscal year. The remaining 24% of Total Income was provided from other sources including funding support from endowment accounts (9%), carryover of reserves and surpluses from year-end 2024 (8%), special one-time gifts such as estate bequests (5%), and contributions from the food pantry (1%) and other groups (1%).

Total Expenses of \$835,457 reported for FY 2025 reflected spending as categorized below:

Staff/Personnel	49%
Senior Pastor	18%
Administration (including utilities and insurance)	18%
Property	6%
Worship, Christian Education & Congregational Life	3%
Per Capita	3%
Mission	3%

## III. Review of FY 2025 investments

**Asset Allocation** The Church holds diversified investments in various Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) in four brokerage accounts. Per policy of the Finance Committee, the Church does not purchase or hold individual securities, whether stocks, bonds, commodities or cryptocurrencies. The investment portfolio reflects levels of risk considered appropriate for the Church over a long-term investment horizon. More than 90% of the portfolio is held in three of the four accounts (Perkins, Wolfinger, and Mantz) and invested in the same ETFs with the same asset allocation mix in each of those accounts. At FY 2025 year-end, the asset allocation consisted of approximately 68% U.S. and global stock funds, 28% fixed income funds, and 4% cash. The ETFs are linked to well known financial market indices and administered at minimal cost, with no asset positions in actively managed mutual funds.

**Restricted and Unrestricted holdings** Each of the Church's four investment accounts is classified as either *Restricted*, which may only be used for specific purposes as designated by its original donor(s), or *Unrestricted*, which is not designated for any particular purpose. In this context, the year 2025 year-end balances of the Church's investment accounts, each of which is detailed further below in this report, can be categorized as follows:

Restricted Funds (Wolfinger & Mantz accounts):	\$ 221,099. (12.3%)
Unrestricted Funds (Perkins & Account 42088):	\$1'577,297. (87.7%)

### Investment Accounts

As of December 31, 2025, as shown in the chart below, the total year-end balance of the Church's four investment accounts was \$1'798,396, representing a net annual gain of +\$149,700 and +9.1% over the prior year-end balance of \$1'648,696 in those accounts on December 31, 2024.

The **Perkins fund**, *Unrestricted*, is the Church's primary endowment account. As of December 31, 2025, the Perkins balance of \$1'488,816 reflected a net annual gain of +\$220,545 and +17.4% over its balance of \$1'268,271 at the close of FY 2024. The +17.4% net annual return of the Perkins fund (68% stocks, 28% fixed income, 4% cash) essentially matched the +17.8% nominal return of the all-equity S&P 500 index (100% stocks) during the year.

The reported year-end balances and returns for all four accounts (see chart below) include the net gain/loss of principal value in 2025, plus any net interest, dividends and administrative brokerage fees reported during the year. However, only the Perkins +17.4% annual return is representative of the real performance of the portfolio in 2025. This is because - unlike the other three investment accounts - there were no withdrawals or transfers of funds from that account during the fiscal year. Figures for the three other accounts - Wolfinger, Mantz & Account 42088 - were all affected by net withdrawals (see comments below) that reduce their year-end balances and net annual returns for the year.

The table below provides a statement by account of the year-end balances of the Church's investment holdings at UBS as of December 31, 2025, and also indicates the net annual return for each account:

UBS ACCOUNTS	31 DEC 2025	NET FY 2025 RETURN
PERKINS :	\$1,488,816	+17.4%
WOLFINGER :	\$72,837	-10.5%
MANTZ :	\$148,262	+13.5%
RESERVE 42088 :	\$88,481	-47.4%
 TOTAL UBS	 \$1,798,396	 +9.1%

As in years past, the **Wolfinger fund**, *Restricted*, provides funding support for the Mission programs of the Church in the Operating Budget for FY 2025.

The **Mantz fund**, *Restricted*, provides tuition assistance on a case-by-case basis to fund ministry scholarships for approved seminary candidates. During FY 2025, Mantz funding supported tuition payments for one semester for one seminary student.

**Account 42088**, *Unrestricted Cash* withdrawal of \$44,100 from this account provided funding for payment in 2025 of unforeseen Property-related capital expenditures. This became necessary due to the capital depletion in 2024 of the Gordon Fischer Fund\*, which had previously funded the Church's capital expenditure needs over a period of fourteen years. Account 42088 was also used in 2025 to administer cash transfers representing \$44,400 in endowment support of the Church's annual Operating Budget. (\*Note: *the Church no longer has a capital reserve or endowment fund that is specifically allocated or restricted for capital expenditure purposes.*)

#### **IV. Third-party associations**

The investment funds of the Church are held in brokerage accounts at UBS throughout FY 2025, with Mr. Gerard Melley of UBS supporting the Finance Committee in an administrative advisory capacity.

In FY 2025, the Church contracted with the CPA firm Smolin, Lupin & Co. for accounting services including monthly review of our financial statements and oversight of our compliance with accounting regulations.

#### **V. Annual Internal Review**

Each year the Finance Committee makes arrangements for a year-end third-party review of our financial reporting and business administration activities. For FY 2025, this review was conducted by congregation member Mr. Joe Pilla and is provided separately in this Annual Report. We would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to Mr. Pilla for his work in support of the Church.

#### **VI. A note of thanks to our congregation**

Finally, we would like to again express our gratitude to the congregation for your generosity and continued financial support throughout FY 2025. Thanks to your support, we are able to ensure that our ministry programs thrive, our mission initiatives move forward, and our Church community remains strong. Your contributions - whether by annual pledge, open plate giving, special gift, or estate planning bequest – are greatly appreciated. We are truly blessed by your generous giving and faithful commitment to our Church community ... Thank You!!!

On behalf of the Finance team, as always, it is an honor and privilege to serve you and, especially, Him.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandy Holt, Church Treasurer  
Greg Shulman, Finance Committee Chairperson

## First Presbyterian Church of Manasquan Financial Review Report

### **POLICY-**

As per the Finance Committee Procedural Manual approved by Session on August 20, 2024 under Section VII. FINANCIAL REVIEW PROCESS, the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. requires that each Church conduct a "financial review of all books and records relating to finances at least once each year". The Church, in agreement and compliance with this rule, also requires that a financial review be performed annually. Each year, either an Internal or External Review will be performed as follows. A member of the Church shall perform a review of financial records and operations of the church each year that an External review is not performed.

**A)** The reviewer should look for clearly defined management practices that provide for separation of the following functions and rotation of persons performing functions:

- I. Counting offerings
- II. Recording contributions
- III. Preparing deposits
- IV. Reconciling deposits with contribution records
- V. Reconciling the monthly bank statement

**B)** The financial review will also look for:

- 1) Separate accounts maintained for major funds with clear definition of purpose and the authority for expending.
- 2) Endowment funds and trust funds are held separate from the general funds of the church and the income expended for intended purposes. Independent evidence of each fund should be available to the reviewer in the form of bank statements and certificates.
- 3) Income recorded and deposited in a bank promptly. A paper trail is kept enabling offerings, deposits, bank statements, and contributions journal to be reconciled.
- 4) Expenditures are made only upon written vouchers, invoices, or receipts from vendors submitted to authorized persons for approval or in response to a recorded action of the Session or group. A paper trail from voucher to check to bank statement and fund account is reconciled regularly.

The following report is a summary of the informal/internal review of the First Presbyterian Church of Manasquan's financial records for 2025.

### **INFORMATION PROVIDED-**

Sandy Crowe, the Church's Business Administrator provided the following reports based on my request (please note that several of the financial reports listed haven't yet been fully reconciled by FPCOMs accountant):

- Check Register of the Manasquan Savings account (1.101.1500)
- Transaction Journal Report of Deposits
- Treasurer's Report for the Operating Fund
- List of current Finance Committee Members 2025
- 2024 List of Authorized Payments
- Consolidated Fund Activity Report
- Finance Committee Procedures Manual

### **OBJECTIVE-**

- To perform the annual internal review of the Church's financial procedures and transactions that occurred in 2025

### **METHOD OF REVIEW-**

- Remote cursory review of the aforementioned documents.

- Review of 22 selected transactions from the Check Register, which included both deposit and expense transactions. Sandy Crowe provided the requested deposit slips, payment request forms, and associated invoices/documentation for each selected transaction.

### **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS-**

- The Treasurer's Report for the Operating Fund as of December 2025 shows the Actual vs. Budget numbers. Below is a summary of those figures: *\*The figures in the Financial Highlights below reflected preliminary year-end results that were later revised when the final FY 2025 financial results were published by the Church's CPA Accountant.*

	<u>2025</u>
Annual Budget	\$876,362.00
Actual Income Collected	\$950,802.05
Actual Expenses	<u>\$835,710.18</u>
Surplus	\$115,092.47

<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Surplus/(Deficit)</u>	<u>Description</u>
Senior Pastor	\$155,725.00	\$153,082.11	\$2,642.89	
Worship	\$6,000.00	\$4,168.72	\$1,832.28	
Property	\$48,500.00	\$46,653.92	\$1,846.08	
Mission	\$21,400.00	\$23,870.00	(\$2,470.00)	
Administration	\$126,157.00	\$145,166.97	(\$19,000.97)	Primarily due to Utilities, Computer Contracts/Supplies, and Insurance
Personnel	\$472,300.00	\$420,186.25	\$52,113.75	Driven by Staff Salaries and resulting payroll taxes

Note that 69% of the budget was covered by pledges and weekly & holiday offerings. Special Gift Offerings accounted for 7% of the budget. Most of the remaining 24% of the budget was funded by transfers from the various Endowment Investment and Reserve accounts.

- Below highlights a few of the expenses that were materially over/under the 2025 Budget:

### **RECOMMENDATIONS-**

According to the Finance Procedures Manual, Section IV/Number 4, all checks above \$4,000 should have two authorized signers. It is my recommendation that any check written over \$4,000 be copied (excluding the companies/account names provided on the Authorized Payment list) before mailing to the payee and stored with the invoice. This will provide evidence that FPCOM is compliant with the procedures manual as it relates to check signing.

### **CONCLUSION-**

Based on a limited review of the Church's financial reports/records and notwithstanding my recommendations, it appears that the reports and transactions are all being properly recorded and I did not find evidence of omissions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joseph Pilla

### **Financial Reports**

#### **Presbyterian Women**

**Balance as of 01/01/2025**

**\$7,065.888**

#### **Income**

PW Circle Offering (Dues) 2,214.00

Thank Offering	239.00
Birthday Offering	160.80
Least Coin	453.68
Fundraisers / Donations	
<i>Bake Sale 4/13/25</i>	794.00
<i>Basket Fundraiser 9/14/25</i>	2,465.00
<i>Soup Sale 10/26/25</i>	1,250.00
<i>Bake Sale 11/23/25</i>	988.00
<i>Card Sale 11/23/25</i>	50.00
WCCP Receipts	1,828.00
Interest Checking Account	7.16
<i>Total Income</i>	<i>\$10,449.64</i>

### Expenses

Presbytery of the Coastlands 1,053.48

<i>Birthday Offering</i>	0.00
<i>Least Coin</i>	0.00
<i>PC USA</i>	200.00
Memorials	250.00
PW Op (Bible Study, Programs, Printing)	0.00
<i>PW Programs</i>	2,034.69
<i>Bible Study &amp; Periodicals</i>	1,168.00
<i>Printing</i>	0.00
<i>Fundraiser Expenses</i>	41.58
Ministry / Outreach	500.00
<i>Bingo @ The Arbors</i>	460.00
<i>Valentines for Students</i>	298.98
WCCP Expenses	
Charitable Giving	
<i>Good News Home for Women</i>	500.00
<i>180 Turning Lives Around</i>	500.00
<i>Ocean Housing Alliance (Valentine House)</i>	0.00
Manasquan Presbyterian Youth Mission	500.00
<i>Mary's Place By The Sea</i>	500.00
<i>Common Ground Grief Center</i>	500.00

Family Promise of Monmouth County	
<i>Jersey Shore Dream Center</i>	500.00
<i>The Center in Asbury Park</i>	500.00
<i>Cypress Missions</i>	500.00
<i>PW Mission Expense Arbors</i>	228.28

PCUSA Disaster Relief (CA Wildfires)	1,000.00
<i>Total Expense</i>	<b>\$11,285.01</b>
<b>Balance as of December 31, 2025</b>	<b>\$6,230.51</b>
 <b><u>Board of Deacons</u></b>	
<b><u>Balance as of 01/01/2025</u></b>	<b><u>\$8,362.25</u></b>
 <b>Receipts</b>	
Donations	
<i>Restricted</i>	3,479.56
<i>Unrestricted</i>	890.00
Deacon Youth Initiatives	0.00
Bank Interest	8.99
Miscellaneous Income	550.00
<i>Total Income</i>	<b>\$4,928.55</b>
 <b>Expenses</b>	
Receptions	448.40
Stephen Ministries	0.00
Christmas/Easter Baskets	527.92
Gift Given	120.55
Communion Supplies	381.68
Caregivers	0.00
Social Concerns: Church Family	0.00
Social Concerns: General	600.00
Deacon Youth Initiatives	1,090.81
Postage	0.00
Supplies	123.19
Equipment	0.00
Disaster Relief	209.65
<i>Total Expense</i>	<b>\$3,502.20</b>
<b>Balance as of December 31, 2025</b>	<b>\$9,788.60</b>

## **Senior Pastor Terms of Call for 2026**

Cash Salary \$86,477

Housing Allowance \$3,000

Cost of Benefits as prescribed by Board of Pensions:

Social Security & Medicare Offset \$9,180

Medical (family) \$44,400

Pension Contribution \$10,200

Death Benefit \$1,200

Temporary Disability \$600

Dental (family) \$1,752

Total Cost of Benefits \$67,332

Housing (Fair market rental value of manse- a non-cash item) \$35,000

**Total Compensation \$191,809**

Reimbursable Expenses:

Supplemental Medical \$1,400

Auto Allowance \$2,000

Study Leave \$2,000

**Total Reimbursable Expenses \$5,400**

**Manse Expenses paid by Church \$6,000**

**Total Pastoral Expense (less housing as a non-cash item) \$168,209**

## Church Operating Budget

### Manasquan Presbyterian Church

		<u>FY 2025 Budget</u>	<u>FY 2025 Actual</u>	<u>FY 2026 Budget</u>
<b>INCOME</b>				
3210	Pledges	425,000	426,869	460,000
3230	Open Plate Offering	210,000	221,845	230,000
3240	Initial Offering	1,000	600	600
3245	Easter Offering	1,500	1,950	2,000
3246	Thanksgiving Offering	1,000	850	1,000
3247	Christmas Offering	1,000	2,823	3,000
3250	Special Gifts	32,001	71,001	15,000
3251	Special Fundraising Events	0	0	0
3260	Per Capita Offering	3,100	2,942	3,000
3265	Receipts Miscellaneous	32,780	25,593	17,000
3290	Interest & Dividends	12,000	7,499	8,000
3271	Contributions from Internal Groups	19,500	6,750	6,000
3272	Transfer from UBS Wolfinger	21,400	21,400	23,800
3274	Transfer from Reserve Account / ERC	71,681	71,681	71,043
3275	<u>Transfer Earnings from Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>44,400</u>	<u>44,400</u>	<u>52,200</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>876,362</b>	<b>906,203.00</b>	<b>892,643</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
	Senior Pastor	155,725	153,082	162,209
	Worship	6,000	4,169	4,700
	Christian Education	6,700	5,525	6,250
	Property	48,500	46,654	56,000
	Per Capita	26,080	26,080	25,914
	Mission	21,400	23,870	23,800
	Administration	126,157	144,712	133,770
	Personnel	472,300	420,388	469,000
	Congregational Life	11,000	10,977	11,000

<u>Deacons</u>	<u>2,500</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>876,362</b>	<b>835,456</b>	<b>892,643</b>
<b>DIFFERENCE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>70,747</b>	<b>0</b>

## Balance Sheet

### Manasquan Presbyterian Church - Manasquan NJ Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2025

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

Page 1 of 2

Account # Account Name

Beginning Balance

YTD Balance

<b>Assets</b>			
1.101.1500	Manasquan Savings	90,621	88,343
1.101.1510	Manasquan Savings/Reserve	114,962	5,359
1.106.1550	PW Checking Account	6,985	6,230
1.108.1500	Columbarium Trust Account	47,022	47,070
1.109.1560	Deacons Checking	8,338	9,788
1.205.1500	Food Pantry Checking Account	59,494	64,524
	<b>Cash in Checking Accounts</b>	<b>\$327,424</b>	<b>\$221,317</b>
1.350.1560	UBS Reserve Account	168,325	88,481
	<b>Cash in Investment Accounts</b>	<b>\$168,325</b>	<b>\$88,481</b>
1.410.1685	UBS/Mantz	130,676	148,262
1.411.1785	UBS/Perkins	1,268,271	1,488,815
1.412.1885	UBS/Wolfinger	81,423	72,836
	<b>Endowment Investments</b>	<b>\$1,480,370</b>	<b>\$1,709,914</b>
1.500.1000	Prepaid Expenses	4,644	57
	<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$1,980,764</b>	<b>\$2,019,770</b>
1.600.1500	Land - South Street	159,651	159,651
1.600.1510	Land-Virginia Avenue	3,765	3,765
1.600.1600	Building-South Street	168,916	168,916
1.600.1610	Building-Church	20,000	20,000
1.600.1611	Building-Christian Education	50,000	50,000
1.600.1612	Building-Manse	1,700	1,700
1.600.1615	Building-BFWB Addition	2,334,001	2,334,001
1.600.1710	Furniture & Fixtures-Church	469,069	474,565
1.600.1711	Furniture & Fixtures-C.E.	201,079	201,079
1.600.1712	Furniture & Fixtures-Manse	14,181	14,181
1.600.1713	Furniture & Fixtures-BFWB Add.	207,575	207,575
1.600.1750	Van-Church	31,659	31,659
1.600.1810	Improvements-Church	903,744	908,435
1.600.1811	Improvements-Christian Ed	128,376	128,376
1.600.1812	Improvements-Manse	523,177	523,177
1.600.1813	Improvements-BFWB	23,366	23,366
1.600.2500	Accumulated Depreciation	(2,548,692)	(2,673,880)
	<b>Total Church Property</b>	<b>\$2,691,572</b>	<b>\$2,576,570</b>
1.604.1500	Playground Equipment	14,561	14,561
1.604.1550	Equipment	13,967	13,967
1.604.2500	Accum Deprec-NS	(28,529)	(28,529)
	<b>Total Nursery School Property</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
	<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>\$2,691,572</b>	<b>\$2,576,570</b>
	<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$4,672,336</b>	<b>\$4,596,341</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
2.000.0000	Accounts Payable/Vendors	69,100	0
2.500.0000	Accrued Expenses	0	1,025
	<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$69,100</b>	<b>\$1,025</b>
<b>Fund Balance</b>			
3.101.2500	Operating Fund Balance-WDR	91,739	162,490
3.106.2500	Presbyterian Women Fund-WDR	6,985	6,230
3.107.6000	Property & Equipment Fund-WDR	2,691,572	2,576,570
3.108.2500	Columbarium Fund-WDR	47,022	47,070
3.109.2500	Deacon's Fund-WDR	8,338	9,788
3.110.2500	Mission Fund Balance-WDR	34,450	17,860

**Manasquan Presbyterian Church - Manasquan NJ**  
**Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2025**

**Wednesday, February 4, 2026**

**Page 2 of 2**

Account #	Account Name	Beginning Balance	YTD Balance
3.111.2500	In/Out Fund Balance-WDR	7,068	(84,390)
3.201.2500	Christian Ed Fund Balance-WDR	1,439	1,439
3.202.2500	Youth Fund-WDR	1,117	1,092
3.205.2500	Food Pantry Fund-WDR	59,494	64,524
3.310.2500	Pastor's Discretionary Fund-WDR	937	3,892
3.315.2500	Lay Pastor's Fund-WDR	3,903	3,537
3.320.2500	Men's Ministry Fund-WDR	11,096	7,483
3.325.2500	Special Music/Choir Fund-WDR	11,796	12,724
3.330.2500	Bell Choir Fund-WDR	4,628	5,228
3.340.2500	Memorial Fund Balance-WDR	14,553	9,922
3.350.2500	UBS Reserve Fund-WDR	126,719	39,933
<b>Without Donor Restriction Funds</b>		<b>\$3,122,865</b>	<b>\$2,885,401</b>
3.410.2500	Mantz Fund Balance-DR	130,676	148,262
3.411.2500	Perkins Fund Balance-DR	1,268,271	1,488,815
3.412.2500	Wolfinger Fund Balance-DR	81,423	72,836
<b>Donor Restriction Funds</b>		<b>\$1,480,370</b>	<b>\$1,709,914</b>
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>		<b>\$4,603,236</b>	<b>\$4,595,316</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>		<b>\$4,672,336</b>	<b>\$4,596,341</b>

Manasquan Presbyterian Church - Manasquan NJ  
**Consolidated Fund Activity Report as of 12/31/2025**

**Wednesday, February 4, 2026**

**Account #      Account Name**

		Beg Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Transfers/JE's	Page 1 of 1 End Balance
3.101.2500	Operating Fund Balance-WDR	91,739.62	906,202.65	835,451.55	0.00	162,490.72
3.106.2500	Presbyterian Women Fund-WDR	6,985.88	10,349.64	11,105.01	0.00	6,230.51
3.107.6000	Property & Equipment Fund-WDR	2,691,572.00	10,186.45	125,188.21	0.00	2,576,570.24
3.108.2500	Columbarium Fund-WDR	47,022.84	47.69	0.00	0.00	47,070.53
3.109.2500	Deacon's Fund-WDR	8,338.25	4,928.55	3,478.20	0.00	9,788.60
3.110.2500	Mission Fund Balance-WDR	34,450.59	5,790.10	22,380.09	0.00	17,860.60
3.111.2500	In/Out Fund Balance-WDR	7,068.62	(67,274.22)	24,184.71	0.00	(84,390.31)
3.201.2500	Christian Ed Fund Balance-WDR	1,439.71	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,439.71
3.202.2500	Youth Fund-WDR	1,117.82	0.00	25.32	0.00	1,092.50
3.205.2500	Food Pantry Fund-WDR	59,494.30	114,409.49	109,378.92	0.00	64,524.87
3.310.2500	Pastor's Discretionary Fund-WDR	937.68	3,000.00	44.78	0.00	3,892.90
3.315.2500	Lay Pastor's Fund-WDR	3,903.52	0.00	366.35	0.00	3,537.17
3.320.2500	Men's Ministry Fund-WDR	11,096.21	305.00	3,917.81	0.00	7,483.40
3.325.2500	Special Music/Choir Fund-WDR	11,796.92	1,028.80	101.00	0.00	12,724.72
3.330.2500	Bell Choir Fund-WDR	4,628.79	600.00	0.00	0.00	5,228.79
3.340.2500	Memorial Fund Balance-WDR	14,553.43	1,134.73	5,765.17	0.00	9,922.99
3.350.2500	UBS Reserve Fund-WDR	126,719.62	1,889.03	88,675.00	0.00	39,933.65
3.410.2500	Mantz Fund Balance-DR	130,676.31	23,809.51	6,223.80	0.00	148,262.02
3.411.2500	Perkins Fund Balance-DR	1,268,271.01	234,157.25	13,612.52	0.00	1,488,815.74
3.412.2500	Wolfinger Fund Balance-DR	81,423.55	13,606.82	22,193.63	0.00	72,836.74
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,603,236.67</b>	<b>\$1,264,171.49</b>	<b>\$1,272,092.07</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$4,595,316.09</b>

## UBS Investment Accounts

	31 DEC 2025		
ACCOUNTS	31 DEC 2022	31 DEC 2023	31 DEC 2024
PERKINS (U)	\$1,024,607	\$1,172,490	\$1,268,271
WOLFINGER (R)	\$99,805	\$94,856	\$81,424
MANTZ (R)	\$128,597	\$120,844	\$130,676
SUB-TOTAL	\$1,253,009	\$1,388,190	\$1,480,371
RESERVE 42083 (U)	\$242,313	\$221,632	\$168,325
BRADY WENDELL	\$0	NA	NA
TOTAL UBS \$\$\$	\$1,495,322	\$1,609,822	\$1,648,696
			\$149,700
			9.1%
			17.8%
			S&P 500 :

R = Restricted

U = Unrestricted

## **Clerk of Session Report**

In 2025, the Session held Stated Meetings in every month except November. Congregational/Corporate Meetings were held in February and November. (see attached Minutes).

### **Church Membership**

Membership on Rolls as of January 1, 2025 **617**

*Additions:*

Certificates of Transfer (In)-	0
New Members-	3
Confirmands-	7
Reinstates Active-	<u>0</u>
	10

*Losses:*

Certificates of Transfer (Out)-	1
Deaths	6
To Inactive-	<u>41</u>
	48

Membership on Rolls as of December 31, 2025 **579**

Average Weekly Attendance 189

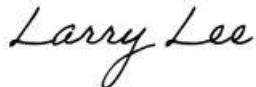
Marriages- 2

Baptisms- 3

### **In Memoriam**

• Peggy Sullivan	March 2	• Vicky Hayes	June 24
• Wally Wahl	May 21	• Roz Martin	October 31
• Al Hood	May 29	• Bob Hazel	November 23

Respectfully Submitted,



Larry F. Lee  
Clerk of Session

## Minutes of Congregational Meetings

### 2025 Annual Congregational/Corporate Meeting February 23, 2025

After it was verified that there was a quorum present (98 in attendance, 62 required), a Called Congregational/Corporate Meeting of the First Presbyterian Church of Manasquan, NJ was held in the Sanctuary. The meeting opened at 10:37AM with a prayer offered by **Rev. Dunson**.

**Motion made and carried** to approve the docket.

**Rev. Dunson** stated that the overall state of affairs of the Church remains strong. Church attendance continues to increase as well as attendance at the numerous activities provided by the Church. He encouraged the Congregation to take advantage of the numerous Growth Groups offered by the Church. Lastly, he asked the Congregation to live by the Church's Core Values of Love-Grow-Share.

**Rev. Dunson** then introduced **Elder/Clerk of Session Larry Lee** who updated the Congregation on Session activities and reviewed the year-end statistics for 2024. Larry also described the composition and function of the Session, highlighting the seven different committees as well as naming each committee Chairperson.

**Rev. Dunson** then introduced **Elder/Corporate President-Moderator of Corporate Meeting Greg Shulman** who first received the 2024 Annual Report. Greg then introduced **Elder Ted Schulz/Personnel Committee Chair** to present the Senior Pastor Terms of Call for 2025. **Motion made and carried** to approve the Session recommended Senior Pastor Terms of Call for 2025.

**Rev. Dunson** then requested that **Elder Sandy Holt, Treasurer** present the final 2025 Budget. Sandy reviewed the various Income and Expense items that make up the budget and thanked the Congregation for their continued financial support.

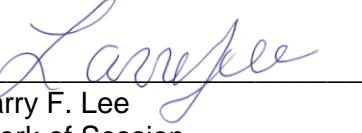
**Rev. Dunson** then remembered the following congregants who passed in 2024:

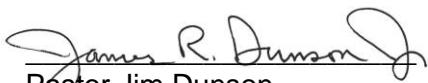
• Richard Chapman	June 27	• Christine Palfrey	October 16
• Dick Stern	July 12	• Ellie Buannic	October 18
• Deborah MacEachern	July 17	• Dan Bittner	December 27
• Barbara June Bates	August 3		

**Motion made and carried** to allow Session to approve the Congregational/ Corporate Minutes.

**Motion made and carried** to adjourn the meeting at 11:03AM. Meeting closed with a prayer by **Rev. Dunson**.

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Larry F. Lee  
Clerk of Session

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor Jim Dunson  
Moderator

**Called Congregational Meeting**

**November 16, 2025**

After it was verified that there was a quorum present, a Called Congregational Meeting of the First Presbyterian Church of Manasquan, NJ was held in the Sanctuary. The meeting opened at 10:34AM with a prayer offered by **Rev. Dunson**.

**Motion made and carried** to approve the Docket.

Rev. Dunson then introduced Elder Kathie Parker who served as Chairperson of the Nominating Committee. Kathie introduced the individuals who were nominated to serve as either an Elder or a Deacon.

**Motion made and carried** to elect the following Elders:

Andrew Crowe (2027)  
John Geantasio (2028)  
Sandy Holt (2026)  
Larry Lee (2028)  
Susyn Morales (2027)  
Michael Petillo, Jr. (2028)  
Bob Rock (2028)

There were no nominations from the floor.

**Motion made and carried** to elect the following Deacons:

Don Christensen (2028)  
Virginia Crowley (2028)  
Kathy Geantasio (2028)  
Jason Gray (2028)

Jean Lohmann (2028)  
Karen Schwarz (2027)  
Tara Jo Sealander (2028)

There were no nominations from the floor.

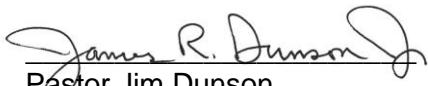
There was no motion to elect at large members of the 2026 Nominating Committee. The names of at large nominees will be brought to the Annual Congregational Meeting in February 2026 for approval.

**Motion made and carried** to allow Session to approve the minutes of this Congregational/Corporate Meeting.

**Motion made and carried** to adjourn the meeting at 10:46AM. Meeting closed with a prayer by **Rev. Dunson**.

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Larry F. Lee  
Clerk of Session

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor Jim Dunson  
Moderator

