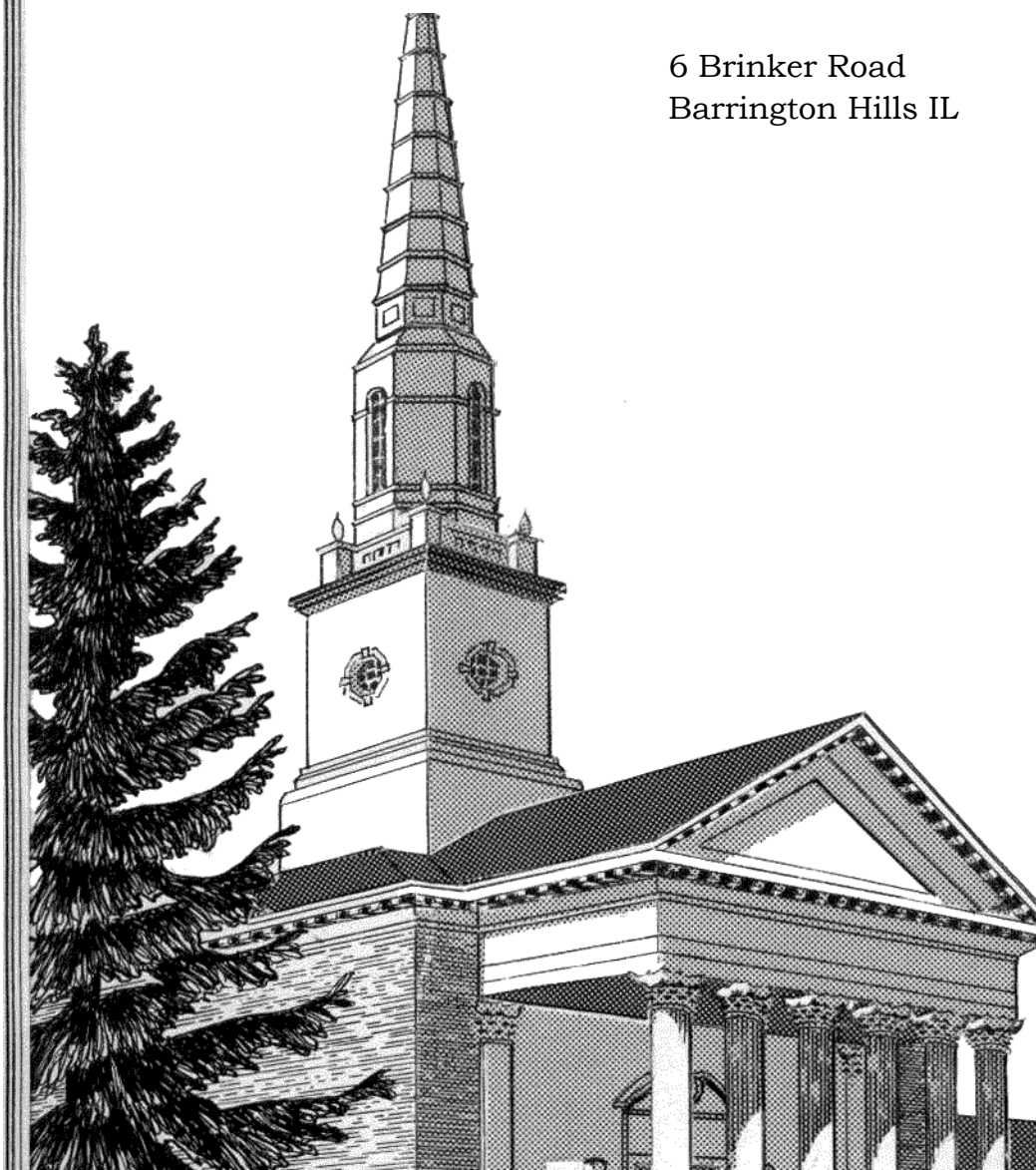


Annual Report of 2024

The Presbyterian Church of Barrington

6 Brinker Road
Barrington Hills IL



Phone: 847-381-0975

Email: Patti@pcbarrington.org

Web site: www.pcbarrington.org

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION AND CORPORATION

February 23, 2025

11:00 AM

Order of Business

Call to Order

Declaration of a Quorum

Opening Prayer

Action Items

1. Approval of an amendment to the By-Laws:

a. The Session sends to the congregation for its ratification the following motion regarding an amendment to the By-Laws:

Motion: The sentence in the By-Laws, which begins on line 123, shall be clarified by striking the phrase “who have been baptized” so that the sentence shall then read as follows: The invitation to the Lord’s Supper is extended to all, remembering that access to the table is not a right conferred upon the worthy, but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love.

b. Rationale: The intent of the motion is to clarify the church’s position regarding the Lord’s Supper. While the phrase “who have been baptized” holds a specific theological meaning not readily apparent to the typical church member, it was observed that including it in the By-Laws may be a confusing, restrictive, and/or exclusionary approach to the Lord’s Supper. The Presbyterian Church of Barrington practices an open table, meaning that all persons are invited to participate in the Lord’s Supper. This is in concert with our Presbyterian polity which encourages a wider acceptance to those who want to participate and affirms that all who desire to come to the table are assured of God’s love and grace in Jesus Christ.

For comparison purposes, the current wording in the By-Laws reads as follows: The invitation to the Lord’s Supper is extended to all who have been baptized, remembering that access to the table is not a right conferred upon the worthy, but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love.

Reviewing the Annual Report

Closing Prayer

Adjournment

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TRANSITIONAL PASTOR'S REPORT

For the Presbyterian Church of Barrington, 2024 was a good year.

Worship attendance has increased. In recent months, PCB has been averaging about 90-100 people onsite each week. Online worship attendance has also increased and has reached an average of 100-plus views per week. These metrics are incredibly positive trends for the congregation.

Other positive aspects were the number of worship experiences in which the congregation felt a positive engagement. Those who put together the worship services are particularly proud of your acknowledgement of affirmation and support. Special commendation for contributing so much to the vibrant life of worship at PCB is extended to those involved in the music ministry (Dr. Hedegaard, in particular) and the children's ministry (Debra Johnson, in particular). And there are so many others whose work in the background often goes unnoticed – the audio-visual team members, the worship committee, the ushers, the greeters, and those who put together the worship slides. So many moving parts, yet they work well together, and we thank each individual for the result.

Another positive metric has been that of membership. Though 50 persons were moved to the inactive rolls and 2 transferred to another church in another state, it does appear that the membership has stabilized and actually shows signs of growing. While we lost 8 who joined the church eternal, it was heartening that 14 persons desired to join this community of faith and 9 baptisms were performed. That means there is vibrancy in the communal life of this congregation. The active membership reported at the end of 2024 was 319.

With regards to staffing, the Senior Pastor Search Committee which is in full swing and is receiving resumes. We look forward to their ultimate report. Though the church is saddened that Pastor Jae accepted another call, it was a wonderful opportunity for him, and we pray God's blessings upon him and his new congregation. The Session has evaluated this change as the time to innovate its approach to ministry and is moving forward with new staffing ideas to continue facilitating the growth of the congregation. By the time you read this, at least one new person will be added to the staff for children and youth ministry.

The church ended the year on a financially positive note. Through the magnificent generosity of the congregation and prudent fiscal management, the church trimmed a predicted deficit significantly. Thank you for your support. The Finance and Stewardship Committee is now working on a stewardship education program for the congregation that will further facilitate the work of your ministry in the church and the community.

Not only that, but an Endowment Committee is also being formulated to put together the mechanism to ensure long-term support and sustainability for the congregation. It is significantly pleasing that there are members in the congregation who are desirous of leaving a

legacy by investing in the future of this congregation. Such gifts make it possible to continue to grow and develop the lives of our people by providing a steady, consistent, and perpetual source of income. Look for further information about this in the near future.

Additionally, the Session has been at work formulating a successful path to the future. The Session has been contemplating preferred goals, setting up a strategy to get there, and formulating plans to make these things happen. Informing these conversations has been the survey from the Senior Pastor Search Committee that you were asked to complete at the end of the summer. (Your cooperation and feedback were very much appreciated.) A lot of raw data was compiled - 152 pages worth - that is still being dissected and digested, and it will be used to facilitate this planning process. And when completed, those results will be presented to you for review and action. While it is true that the development of SMART Goals - Specific, Measurable, Actionable, Realistic, and Timely - has been slow, the Session is actively working on these so that the Presbyterian Church of Barrington can continue to remain active and vibrant for years to come.

Some of the other items the Session is working on for 2025 include the completion of job descriptions for all our committees, an update to our personnel policies and manual, church policies, and a manual of administrative operation. These are all ambitious projects but inch-by-inch they will be achieved.

So, thank you for your love and support for my ministry to empower you and this congregation to realize your potential to Christ's work. It is good to be in partnership with you.

~ Pastor David

Clerk's Annual Report

A lot of change occurred at PCB in 2024, to include the formation of the Senior Pastor Search Committee (SPSC), an outstanding youth mission trip in WI, an increase in attendance both in person and on-line, the creation of an Endowment Committee, the completion of the Youth Lounge renovation, and the departure of Pastor Jae for a new and exciting opportunity in Itasca, IL, just to name a few.

In the midst of all this, your Session had a successful 2024 with a lot having been accomplished. Many hours were spent by the Session understanding how to develop strategies and tactics to ensure PCB remains a viable entity well into the next decade.

Under Dr. Ezekiel's tutelage, the Session invested a lot of time and effort into defining SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-Bound) Goals for each committee, for the Session, and for PCB. These goals define the path forward for 2025 and beyond that committees will be working to achieve. These goals give definition and focus on where each committee is heading, as well as outlining direction for the Session and PCB.

Your Session also reviewed and updated PCB's by-laws, which have not been updated in almost 10 years. Additionally, work has been started on an administrative manual to help more clearly define administrative aspects of PCB that are currently confusing, contradictory, and, in many cases, non-existent. This manual will also outline who does what within PCB so congregants understand who to contact when they need help.

While so far unsuccessful, the search for a full time organist and youth leader/director continues. It is hoped to have these positions filled by mid-year 2025. The SPSC got off to a very strong start in 2024, and is now ready to start interviewing candidates. The church's profile has been posted on the Presbytery's web site with candidates to submit their information to the SPSC for review.

An Endowment Committee was reconstituted, and is just starting to get off the ground. There are also on-going discussions at Session so that we have the "right" committees that are viable and represent the interests of the Congregation.

Membership growth continues to be a frequent topic of discussion, and 2024 has shown an increase in attendance, both in-person and on-line. This trend seems to be continuing, especially evident at the Christmas celebration services where over 200 people attended the traditional 7 pm service in-person and on-line. You may have also noticed that Dr. Ezekiel has added more depth to some of our sacraments, with Baptisms being a great example with a more in-depth and meaningful ceremony.

Several initiatives for 2025 include the upgrading of PCB's audio-visual equipment, and a revamped new member committee where visitors to PCB will be followed up with to invite them back and answer any questions they may have. The New Member Committee is also helping to update pew cards so visitors learn what PCB has to offer.

The Youth Program is getting renewed focus as we believe we are close to hiring someone to lead this effort, especially now that Pastor Jae is gone. The 2025 Mission Trip is being planned, and the 5k run is also scheduled for this year. The biggest Session initiative for 2025 is discussing "Who do we Want to Be?" While we can't be everything to everybody, we do need to decide who our target audience(s) is and how we make PCB a viable alternative in meeting their spiritual needs.

PCB has a lot to offer congregants as well as the community at large with one example being the incredible music program. We are moving in an exciting direction with new initiatives and programs getting introduced. We thank you for your continued support as your Session works to move our church in a forward thinking and forward moving direction.

George M Landes, Jr.
Clerk of Session

Statistical Report

Average weekly in-person attendance	102
On-line average weekly viewing	89

During 2024 the following changes took place in the church records:

Total membership at the conclusion of 2024: 319

Persons received into membership:	14
Members moved to inactive rolls:	50
Members who died:	8

Baptisms 2024

Kennedy Monkman	01/28/2024
Lorelei Louise Algar	03/17/2024
Suzannah Noelle Marks	08/11/2024
Jude Chan Cho	07/27/2024
Elizabeth Vick	09/15/2024
Sharon Osunde	09/29/2024
Audrey Osunde	09/29/2024
Samuel Osunde	10/20/2024
Milica Lazic	11/17/2024

Confirmed 2024

Sharon Osunde	9/29/2024
Audrey Osunde	9/29/2024

Deaths 2024

Sandy Kane	3/5/2024
Kris Howard	3/13/2024
Mary "Dusty" Ash	3/17/2024
Barbara Cunningham	3/26/2024
Quinn Lanning	4/26/2024
Paul Leonard	6/7/2024
Lloyd McCarThy	7/8/2024
Alice Buchholz	8/2/2024

LIST OF ACTIVE MEMBERS

The following are those who are active members of the Presbyterian Church of Barrington. An active member is a person who has made a profession of faith in Christ, has been baptized, has been received into membership of the church, has voluntarily submitted to the government of this church, and participates in the church's work and worship. While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, oversights sometimes occur. Please bring any errors to the attention of the church office

Algar, Carlyn	Baker, Nicole	Bondelli, Caryl
Alton, Steve	Baker, Russell	Bower, Cole
Alton, Steven	Baker, Josephine	Bower, Reed
Anderson, Tyler	Barbour, Barb	Bower, Scott
Anderson, Jeff	Barbour, Rich	Bower, Wendy
Anderson, Pam	Barcroft, Ann	Brown, Pete
Anderson, Alex	Berg, Bruce	Brown, Julie
Andler, Don	Berg, Margaret	Buchta, Scott
Armstrong, Jim	Bilton, Stu	Buchta, Emily
Armstrong, Anna	Bilton, Bette	Buchta, Bill
Armstrong, Kay	Blanchette, Kari	Buchta, Carol
Armstrong, Sterling	Blomquist, Connie	Buecking, Diana
Arndtsen, Nancy	Boand, Bard	Buecking, Bill
Asper, David	Bogue, Emily	Carder, Gary
Asper, Linda	Bogue, Margaret	Carder, Amy
Babos, Florence M.	Bogue, Ross	Carder, Lauren
Babos, Joseph C.	Boling-Risser, Martha	Carmer, Suzanne
		Clarke, JC C.

Clarke, Jackie	Enskat, Eric	Garrels, Blake
Clover, Emilie	Erland, Mitch	Garrels, Colette
Clover, Ross	Fish, Ryan	Garrels, John
Conrad, Gary	Fish, Jane	Garrels, Corinne
Conrad, Kathy	Fish, Amy	Garrels, Jen
Consdorf, David	Fish, Andrew	Gerrard, Claudia
Consdorf, Lindsay	Fish, Stephen	Gerrard, Gregory
Currell, Bob	Fitton, Russell	Gerrard, Kelly
Currell, Nancy	Fitton, Pamela	Gerrard, David
Dale, Chuck	Frankenberg, Haley	Gill, Bill
Dale, Cooper	Frankenberg, Reid	Glantz, Ginger
Dale, Mary	Frankenberg, Bruce	Glantz, David
Davis, Betsy	Frankenberg, Ross	Gross, Jim
Davis, Jackson	Frankenberg, Blair	Gross, Jordan
Davis, Sean	Frankenberg, Kari	Gross, Julie
Dechow, Philip	Frankenberg, Sheryl	Hamilton, Phyllis
Dechow, Sue	Frankenberg, Katherine	Harmsen, Kelsey
Detwiler, Edward	Franklin, Mari	Harmsen, Scott
Dick, Bob	Franklin, Laila	Harmsen, Jodie
Dolan, Skip	Franklin, Tija	Harmsen, Kaden
Dowell, Jimmy	Franklin, Lukass	Hayward, Tom
Dowell, Gregory	Free, Dexter	Hayward, Sally
Dowell, Emily	Free, Bonnie	Heath, Owen
Duke, Alison	Fuerte, Reynaldo	Heath, Mary
Ellis, Jack	Fuerte, Ericka	Heath, Barrie
Ellis, Sam	Furst, Ron	Heath, Nancy
Ellis, Beatrice	Furst, Peggy	Helfrick, Emmie

Helminiak, Audrey	Kircher, Heather	Liput, Jack
Helminiak, Dawson	Klear, Ray	Liput, Maddie
Helminiak, Liesl	Klear, Janice	Long, Thomas
Hilgendorf, Thomas	Klear, Michael	Long, Linda
Hilgendorf, Sally	Koenig, Barb	Louiseau, Stan
Hirsch, Janet	Koenig, Bradley	Lubinsky, Susan
Holmes, Paul	Koenig, Kaitlin	Lumsden, Penny
Huesing, Andrew	Koenig, Stan	Marcussen, Chris
Huesing, Rachel	Koenig III, Stanley	Martinez, Joy
Huesing, Linda	Kosobud, Sue	Masterson, Joe
Irby, Adam	Lain, Vikkie	Masterson, Nancy
Israel, P Denise	Landes, George	McDade, Joanne
John, Judy	Landes, Tanner	Mesenbrink, Penny
John, Ed	Landes, George	Mickey, Brian
Johnson, Byron	Landes, Carly	Mickey, Christine
Johnson, PK	Landes, Elizabeth	Miller, Ronda
Johnson, Patricia	Lanning, Mike	Miller, Patrice
Johnson, Gloria	Larabee, Chuck	Miller, Alysa
Johnson, Courtney	Larabee, Gwen	Miller, Sonya
Johnson, Debra	Larson, Rich	Miller, Dennis
Johnson, Dorothy	Layne, Heather	Minner, Jill
Johnson, Herbert	Lee, Jenna	Minner, Don
Kaczmarek, Vivian	Lee, Kimberly	Mitchell, Denise
Kilham, Sally	Lee, Connor	Mitchell, Pat
Kim, Steve	Lee, Jack	Mitchell, Don
Kim, Grace	Lee, Paul	Monie, Ian
King, Charles	Leonard, Nancy	Monie, Julia

Moore, Curt	Reaume, Alice Mae	Shapiro, Ginny
Muhvic, Alyssa	Reich, Diane	Shepin, Laura
Muhvic, Claire	Reich, Bernie	Sill, Bob
Muhvic, Jay	Reich, Grace	Sill, Julie
Muhvic, Bethany	Reich, Bernie	Simpson, Joyce
Mumaw, Lillian	Reilly, Janet	Smalstig, David
Mumaw, Jack	Reilly, Robert	Smalstig, Susan
Murphy, Dylan	Rennels, Jack	Smith, Michael
Nadelhoffer, Laura	Rennels, Kay	Stanek, Brad
Nadig, Gerry	Rodney, Barbara	Stanek, Gavin
Nelson, Carolyn	Rubak, Betsy	Stanek, Joel
Nelson, Bill	Sams, LaVerne	Steffen, Julie
Nelson, Becky	Schiewe, Helen	Steffen, George
Nelson, David	Schild, Wayne	Steinmetz, Sue
Neton, Linda	Schild, Sandy	Stine, Robert
Osunde, Maureen	Schlemmer, Dennis	Stine, Molly
Osunde, Sharon	Schlemmer, Carla	Suszko, Anne
Osunde, Joseph	Schlesinger, Emily Claire	Thiess, Susan
Osunde, Osazee	Schlesinger, Elyse	Thorpe, Stephen
Osunde, Audrey	Schomer, Nicole	Ustick, Michael
Patrick, Marilyn	Schomer, Grace	Ustick, Carole
Porter, Myrna	Schoppert, Richard	VanCleave, Aron
Potter, Rollin	Schulze, Margarette	VanCleave, Katy
Powers, Sue	Semmen, Gil	VanCleave, Sadie
Raaths, Jack	Semmen, Laura	Vick, Molly
Raaths, Chris	Shaeffer, Peter B.	Watkins, Chase
Raaths, Susan	Shaeffer, William	Watkins, Savannah

Watkins, Brad
Watkins, Rachelle
Weidner, Bob
Weidner, Kathy
Williams, Elizabeth
Williams, Jeff
Williams, Jay
Wolfgram, Daniel
Wolfgram, Joan
Wright, Donna
Wright, Kenneth
Yapp, George
Youash, Gabriella
Youash, Marco
Youash, Ashur
Youash, Zico
Youash, Caroline
Youngs, Pat
Zentz, Susan
Zichal, Cindy
Zick, Alford E

The Presbyterian Church of Barrington
Congregational Meeting Minutes
11 February 2024

An Annual Congregational Meeting was held on 11 February for the purpose of electing officers and approving the Terms of Call for Pastor Jae Jin Cho

George Landes, Jr, Clerk of Session, declared a quorum was present.

Dr. Ezekiel opened the meeting with prayer at 11:00 am.

The nominees for the position of Elder were presented to the Congregation:

J.C. Clarke (1st term)
Ross Clover (1st term)
Deborah Johnson (2nd term)
P.K. Johnson (1st term)
Heather Layne (1st term)

There being no further nominations, a motion was moved and approved to close nominations and elect the slate of candidates for Elder by acclamation.

The nominees for the position of Deacon were presented to the Congregation:

Linda Huesing for the class of 2024 for a 1-year term;
For the class of 2026:
Emily Dowell (2nd term)
Rich Larson (1st term)
Bob Stine (1st term)

There being no further nominations, a motion was moved and approved to close nominations and elect the slate of candidates for Deacon by acclamation.

The nominee for the position of Trustee was presented to the Congregation:

Curt Moore (2nd term)

There being no further nominations, a motion was moved and approved to close nominations and elect Curt Moore as Trustee by acclamation.

The nominees for the Nominating Committee were presented to the Congregation:

Bard Board and Mari Hoashi Franklin, co-chairs
Russell Baker

Emily Dowell
Debra Johnson
Jack Mumaw
Bob Stine

There being no further nominations, a motion was moved and approved to close nominations and elect the slate of candidates to the Nominating Committee by acclamation.

Elder Robert Reilly of the Personnel Committee reviewed Pastor Jae's terms of call: Effective Salary of \$74,000, of which \$41,000 is designated as Housing Allowance. Full medical, pension, death, and disability benefits and Temporary Disability under the Pastors Participation Plan of the Board of Pensions at an annualized cost of \$28,860.

Member and family dental insurance under the Optional Plan of the Board of Pensions at an annualized cost of \$1,752.

Supplemental Life Insurance under the Optional Plan of the Board of Pensions at an annualized cost of \$750.

\$5,661 in reimbursement of 50% of Self Employment Tax liability.

Continuing Education allowance in the amount of \$1,500.

Expense Reimbursement allowance in the amount of \$1,500.

4-weeks of paid vacation.

2-weeks of paid study leave.

Total Terms of Call for 2024 in the amount of \$114,023.

A motion was moved and approved to accept Pastor Jae's terms of call.

There being no further business, a motion was moved, seconded, and approved to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 with a prayer led by Dr. Ezekiel.

George M. Landes, Jr
Clerk of Session

Rev. Dr. David Ezekiel

**Clerk of Session
Presbyterian Church of Barrington
Church Officers 2024**

SESSION

Pastor David Ezekiel, Moderator
George Landes Jr, Clerk of Session

2024

Rich Barbour
Jodie Harmsen
Gil Semmen
Bill Shaeffer
Al Zick

2025

Steve Alton
Anna Armstrong
Bard Boand
Mari Franklin
Robert Reilly

2026

JC Clarke
Ross Clover
Debra Johnson
PK Johnson
Heather Layne

DEACONS

2024

Amy Carder
Margarette Schulze
Laura Semmen

2025

Carol Buchta
Kari Blanchette
Nancy Currell

2026

Emily Dowell
Rich Larson
Bob Stine

TRUSTEES

2024

Anna Armstrong
Russell Baker
Jack Raaths

2025

Linda Neton
Ron Furst

2026

Curt Moore

Children's Education Committee / Youth

Financial

Overall spend for both Children and Youth programs came in under budget 2024 budget was adjusted mid-year with direction from Session. 2025 budget is in line with 2024.

Personnel

2024 was led 100% by members. Debra Johnson, Nicole Baker, and Jodie Harmsen in particular were essential to our Children's program and Mari Franklin was very involved with the Youth.

Tija Franklin led a successful Confirmation program

Pastor Jae was involved - he will be missed.

Search for a Children and Youth director has been fruitful. We are currently in discussions with a wonderful candidate for a part time position. This would be a huge win for PCB and the Children/Youth program.

Initiatives

Successful Confirmation program - Lizzie Williams, Jay Williams, Sharon Osunde and Audrey Osunde

We were successful in offering all children's milestone programs in 2024

Sunday School and Youth Programs continued without interruption due to positive committee engagement. Our key events - VBS, Christmas Eve, etc. were all well planned and executed, the Youth Lounge was completed and will be an excellent resource for our Youth. Teen Connection Bible Study in the spring and summer. Stronghold Youth Retreat in November was a big success.

Mission

Kenosha was successful once again. In 2025 we are looking forward to Presbyterian Youth Triennium in July in Louisville.

Mission programs continued including - Feed My Starving Children (Apr, Jun, Jul) Toiletry Drive to support the Mission Trip Work completing and blessing the Youth Lounge

Communications and Outreach

No report provided

Congregational Life

Congregational Life planned and provided the Lenten Breakfast in Fellowship Hall on Wednesday 3-27-2024. Congregational Life also sponsored the Church picnic with Fried Chicken under a tent on the lawn just south of the Church parking lot. Kirsten provided the musicians who made the event even better.

In October Congregational Life sponsored the Card party held at Barrington Hills Country Club. The Card party started with fellowship, dinner & cards. Congregational Life sponsored the Advent dinner at PCB in fellowship hall in 2024 with catered Lasagna + appetizers & salad. Pastor David read The Night Before Christmas to the children and the evening ended with a visit from Santa.

New Members/Membership

Membership was previously a part of the Congregational Life committee but was formed as its own entity as Session realized the pressing need to grow our church and reach out to our community. The committee began meeting in late August of 2024 to revise the new member guide, explore ways to welcome and connect with visitors to our church, provide information sessions for those who are interested in joining and continue to engage with those who choose to join. We offered two New Member Orientation Sessions in 2024 and welcomed 11 new members and 4 confirmands to our faith community this year. Our goal is to thoughtfully and intentionally reach out to the community and visitors in the coming year to grow our membership and spread God's message of hope and love.

Respectfully submitted: Anna Armstrong, chair
Julie Steffan, Rey Fuerte, Susan Thiess, Steve Alton, Maggie Bogue and Ginger Glantz

Mission

The Mission Committee continued to serve and support many wonderful groups in 2024. The missions we supported were Christopher House, Fish Food Pantry, Barrington Food Pantry, Habitat for Humanity, Good News Jail Ministry, Palatine Food Pantry, Feed My Starving Children, and the Crop Walk.

We have wonderful volunteers who continue to work monthly with the Fish Food Pantry and Habitat for Humanity. The Women's Only Build weekend with Habitat for Humanity was a wonderful highlight.

The 3rd Annual 5K run/walk was held in May and continues to be a success as a means to raise awareness and funds for the missions we serve.

The annual March Madness Fundraiser partially supported the Youth Mission trip.

The Crop Walk was a success this year as well. Thanks to the many walkers who gave their time to raise money through this engaging event.

We had several people decorate trunks for a Halloween Trunk or Treat event that BAMA is now taking part in. This year the event took place at St. Mathew's in Barrington.

The Family to Family Christmas giving helped provide gifts and gift certificates to 15 families in need.

The Youth Mission trip traveled to Kenosha, WI through Group where they served the local community in many ways and connected with each other and other youth from around the country.

Allocated funds for the year:

World Relief - \$1,000

Barrington Food Pantry - \$1,000

Palatine Food Pantry - \$1,000

Good News Prison Ministry - \$1,500

Christopher House - \$2,000

Fish Food Pantry Carpentersville - \$9,000

Habitat for Humanity - \$8,500

Presbytery of Chicago - \$6,000

Total Support \$30,000 of the \$35,000 budget. The \$5,000 in reserve for the Adult/Youth Mission Trip was not used.

Personnel Committee

Personnel Committee

The personnel committee serves as the de facto human resources department for the Presbyterian Church of Barrington (PCB). The committee performs both routine regulatory compliance activities and situational activities – related to both the pastoral and non-pastoral staff. The committee also assists the Session and other committees with position description and staff hiring activities.

First, I would like to recognize the hard-working members of the 2024 personnel committee: Pastor David Ezekiel (ex-officio), Jack Raaths, Ron Furst, Joy Martinez, and Peter Shaeffer. Like his apostolic namesake, for years Peter has been the petros (if you like Greek) or the cephas (if you prefer Aramaic) of the committee. I am excited to welcome freshman member Linda Huesing to the 2025 committee.

Second, PCB is a place of worship and a community of faith to our congregants. To the committee, PCB is, effectively, a small, closely-held business. If you have ever owned or worked for a small, closely-held business, you understand that your staff members become your family. Our family includes the staff members we see on Sundays – and the staff members we don't see on Sundays.

During worship, we get inspiration from Pastor David Ezekiel and (during 2024) Pastor Jae Cho and from music director Kirsten Hedegaard and organist Andrew Luzwick. Throughout the week, the church benefits from the dedicated services of buildings and grounds administrator Kathy Knee, communications coordinator Nancy Arendt, and office administrator Patti Fugle. Please join the committee in thanking our staff for their tireless service to PCB.

Third, in addition to thanking our devoted staff, the committee spends much of its time on routine administrative activities, such as preparing the annual budget, preparing employer letters and benefit statements, filing reports with the Presbytery, and participating in staff performance and compensation reviews.

The committee also participates in situational activities, such as considering the employee versus contractor status of positions during staff changes, assessing the impact of alternative implementations of changes to the Presbytery Board of Pensions pastoral benefit programs, and celebrating the departure of Pastor Jae.

Currently, we are assisting the Session and other committees in the design of – and hiring of – part-time ministry directors to assume the responsibilities of the associate pastor position. Fourth, in 2025, we have a busy agenda planned. In addition to our routine tasks, the committee will work with all constituents to evaluate and update the job descriptions of all of the staff positions (including the recently-created director positions). And we plan to update the somewhat-dated PCB personnel policy manual.

Fifth and finally, the committee requests the consideration and the help of the congregation. With the departure of Pastor Jae, this is the time for all members to think about volunteering their time and talent to the church. Particularly if you have an interest in our children, youth, or older member ministries, please raise your hand and join your friends in faith. While our staff deserve all of our appreciation, remember that PCB is a member-driven and member- led organization.

Robert Reilly
Personnel Committee Chair

Finance & Stewardship

It is important to preface this report with the fact that our financial condition is sound. At the end of the year, we have unrestricted, liquid net assets of \$420,000 along with an additional \$155,000 in liquid funds dedicated to certain non-operating areas of our church life. During the year we have managed these liquid assets through secure interest-bearing investments in a large certificate of deposit and utilization of money-market accounts.

However, from an operating perspective, 2024 was a challenging year. Our Session-approved budget going into the year projected a large deficit of almost \$150,000. We have ended the year with a deficit of less than \$25,000 which represents 3.7% of our 2024 revenue from all sources. We were able to do this because members of the congregation responded positively to a mid-year secondary stewardship campaign, and our Committee and the Session took a hard look at the budget and trimmed \$79,000 in projected expenses.

In early Fall this year, we started the financial aspect of our church stewardship looking to 2025. In mid-October we sent a letter communicating the 2025 budget process and details leading to a 2025 budget of \$719,000. This was followed by a pledge letter which was supported by four (4) Sunday messages about the meaning and importance of stewardship. We report that this year the number of potential pledging units for the 2025 campaign declined by 23 from the number for the 2024 stewardship campaign. This reduction was attributable to several factors, but we are encouraged that the 2025 campaign involved a number of new members.

On a weekly basis, we have been reporting the progress of the campaign in the "Connections" email sent each Friday. What has been remarkable and really historic has been the extraordinary increase in the average pledge from the many of the congregation who have responded. The increase in the average pledge has been almost 20%, and this has not resulted from one or two huge pledges but is spread widely throughout our generous congregants. We are most grateful and thankful for those many in the congregation who have responded so positively. Nevertheless, at the end of the year there were still a significant number who have not responded and our committee has taken steps to urge a positive response.

As we all know, Pastor Jae decided to take on a Pastorate at another church effective at the end of the year. The Session has decided, appropriately, to maintain the "cost" of Jae's position in the existing 2025 budget. Importantly, this will maintain more than ample budgeting for the cost of non-pastoral employment for the essential areas of our children, youth and younger families' ministries.

Finance and Stewardship Committee

Rich Barbour, Chairman

Ross Clover, Ron Furst, Jodie Harmsen, Peter Shaeffer, Michael Smith, Al Zick

Worship Committee

In 2024, the members of the Worship Committee were Chris Raaths, Elder Bard Boand, Director of Music Kirsten Hedegaard, Chancel Guild leader Emily Dowell and members-at-large Ginny Shapiro, Linda Neton and Susan Raaths. Using Zoom meetings with Pastor David and Pastor Jae, the committee works to support and assist the church's head of staff as they plan and lead the weekly Sunday morning services, as well as the special worship services held throughout the liturgical year. The meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month.

The routine responsibilities of the committee include the preparation and serving of communion, a sacrament observed every first Sunday of each month, as well as during selected Holidays. The committee members prepare the communion elements. The Setups were done by Chris Raaths and Al Zick. Al has graciously volunteered his time to assist Chris doing these setups. Bard Boand works hard to get us four Communion servers as well for those given Sundays and other times when it is called for.

Chris Raaths continued to lead the teams of ushers who assume the important task of ushering during Sunday morning worship and at other services held throughout the year, such as funerals, and more.

Emily Dowell took over the role of leading the Chancel Guild, with additional guidance from Linda Neton. We take note of the beautiful displays they arrange during all the Holidays as well as seasonal themes. The constant attention to detail shows throughout the year. Jill Minner took over the Sunday Flowers program as well.

Coordinating Liturgists was also handled by Linda Neton. She provides the Church with someone each week and is always looking for additional volunteers to step forward if they can. We appreciate the talent and time of these individuals.

The committee gratefully acknowledges the splendid contributions of our Music Director, Kirsten Hedegaard. The worship services are continually enhanced by the hymns, anthems and other musical selections which are carefully chosen to complement the liturgy and message of each service, and then beautifully performed by the chancel and bell choirs, youth participants from our congregation and guest musicians.

A lot of "behind the scenes" action takes place to create the worship services we come to enjoy week in and week out. The committee would like to thank the many congregational members who shared their time and talent this past year by ushering, serving communion, participating in the music ministry, decorating the sanctuary (including putting up the Christmas Trees), hanging the Pentecost banners, providing special coffee, cookies and more after a funeral service, and so much more when the need for assistance arose.

Also, thanks to Patti Fugle and Nancy Arendt, who help us in the communications chain for so many daily tasks, special events, special requests and all around just “everything”.

The worship services truly reflect the collaborative efforts of many to create a joyful and celebratory worship experience for all. Thank you, again, to everyone who was able to make the services we enjoy, as great as they were.

Music

During 2024 the Sanctuary Choir continued to provide weekly leadership for Sunday worship, as well as services for Holy Week and Christmas Eve. During Lent the sopranos and altos presented a concert featuring Stabat Mater by Giovanni Pergolesi, and the full choir was joined by guest musicians in Advent to present Bach’s Advent cantata, Nun komm der Heiden Heiland. The bell choir and guest instrumentalists continued to play periodically through the year.

Following the departure of organist Andy McBeth at the end of 2023, Rich Leasure stepped in as interim organist, mentoring PCB’s new Organ Scholar Andrew Luzwick. A former Choral Scholar at PCB, Andrew moved into the interim organist position in the fall and has continued to grow as an organist and church musician. Andrew will continue as interim organist during winter 2025.

The Choral Scholars Program continued with two high school students, one of whom finished their tenure in May. The other scholar returned in September and was joined by three new scholars. This program provides valuable church music training for young serious musicians, and in turn, the scholars support the Sanctuary Choir each week, as well as fill assistant leadership roles with choir, bells, the MOTH concert series, and music administration.

The Music on the Hill Series continued in the winter of 2024 with the remaining two concerts in the 23-24 season: Mardi Gras Celebration with the steel pan ensemble Caught Steelin’, and a Lenten program with members of the PCB Choir. Both programs were well attended and CLAM generously supported receptions for each concert. The 2024-25 MOTH season kicked off in fall of 2024 with a Day of the Dead program featuring the mariachi band, Cielito Lindo. With the addition of taco dinner and activities before the concert, attendance was at an all-time high for this program.

Chancel Guild

The Chancel Guild provided Sunday flowers each week, dedicated by members of the congregation. A schedule of volunteers was maintained for buying and arranging the Sunday bouquets. Dedications from church members were printed in the weekly "Connections" email and the Sunday bulletin. Donations for the flowers/dedications help fund the expenses. This process has become a necessary change from a couple years ago due to budget constraints when we used to hire out the service. The PCB Deacons continued to distribute the Sunday flowers with visits to parishioners.

Additionally, Chancel Guild prepared and decorated the sanctuary for ecumenical calendar events. Main events included Lent, Easter and Christmas. We reused most of the decorations from our stored inventory for Christmas. However, through out the year we replenished candles, ornamental wreathes and purchased and arranged live flowers for Easter.

Chancel Guild worked with the Worship Committee for coordinating necessary sanctuary events. We are always looking for new volunteers to join us with the above duties.

Deacons

As stated in the Book of Order, the ministry of the deacon as set forth in 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 at The Presbyterian Church of Barrington took strides to fulfill this purpose in 2024.

The Board is to be composed of at least 10 deacons. This year, we were lucky to have 11. Each deacon is assigned to one of 10 parishes. The parishes are organized by general geography and each includes about 20-25 households. The focus this year continued to be in the following areas:

Communication - Connect with parish members throughout the year via phone calls, notes, cards, emails and occasional visits, as needed. This might include birthday/ anniversary, illness, sympathy, confirmation, graduation, new baby, and holiday occasions. A bulletin board is maintained outside Fellowship Hall with Deacon pictures and a Parish map. A "Deacon's Corner" article is written monthly for the Connections email newsletter. A Valentine's Day mailing to all congregants to ensure they know who their Deacon is, what they can do, and how to contact. Valentine's were also sent to our known college students with a \$5 Starbucks gift card.

Care List / Prayer Requests - Gather information from staff and congregants regarding members in need of care and organize into a bi-weekly or monthly email for the Deacon's use which details the member's situation/history as appropriate and their needs (confidential details are noted). This helps the Deacons know who is in need of care and helps immensely with continuity of care as deacons and staff members change. It also provides a prayer list for the entire board and helps to identify those to whom flowers should be delivered.

Additionally, the coordinator submits Prayer Requests for the congregation-wide weekly Connections email when requested (always maintaining confidentiality as desired by the person in need).

Church Database (CCB)/Membership - Help to maintain CCB by communicating new or obsolete addresses/emails/phone to administrator. Assign new members to a parish.

Flower Delivery - After the Sunday Worship Service, arrange the altar flowers into several bouquets and deliver to members and friends who could use some flower cheer. Lenten/Easter and Thanksgiving/Christmas plants were also procured and delivered to our home-bound members.

Food Served with Love - Coordinate meals for members who could benefit from some extra support in this area perhaps due to illness or some other life circumstance.

Home Communion - Help to identify members who might want home communion and work with the pastors to schedule a visit.

Hospitality/Greeters - Provide coffee/donut service several times a year as assigned. Coordinate door greeters each week.

Memorial Receptions - Provide organization and support as requested. Five receptions were supported in 2024.

The Board held ten regular meetings, generally on the second Sunday of the month after the worship service (~11:15). As has become tradition, one of the meetings during the summer is a social event (this year held in August at the home of Linda Huesing). The December meeting was not held with email communications used to carry out necessary business.

A special project this year was to support the Youth Mission Trip with “care bags” that included snacks, hygiene items, and games along with a personal handwritten notes of encouragement from the Deacons.

In 2024, the members listed below ably and faithfully served as Deacons and fulfilled the various Coordinator roles as noted. Robert Stine and Richard Larson joined as new Deacons for 2024.

Parish 1 - Laura Semmen (Hospitality; Memorial receptions; Card replenishment)

Parish 2 - Amy Carder (Moderator; CCB/Membership; Care List)

Parish 3 - Emily Dowell (Flowers; back-up moderator)

Parish 4 - Janet Hirsch (General help/backup)

Parish 5 - Linda Huesing (Secretary; Bulletin board)

Parish 6 - Margarete Schulze (Food Served with Love; Deacon's Corner Archive)

Parish 7 - Carol Buchta & Richard Larson (The Garlands; Home communion)

Parish 8 - Robert Stine (General help/backup)

Parish 9 - Nancy Currell (Prayer Requests; Greeters)

Parish 10 - Kari Blanchette (Memorial receptions - primary) Submitted by Amy Carder (Moderator)

Stephen Ministry

The Presbyterian Church of Barrington is a Stephen Ministry Congregation!

The vision statement of Stephen Ministry at PCB is: "As part of our caring family of faith, we are equipped to provide and dedicated to offer Christ-centered care so that no one among us is left to suffer alone." Stephen Ministry care giving is available to PCB members, their families, friends, and neighbors in the community.

Stephen Ministry has been a vital ministry at PCB for over 22 years.

- 68 congregation members have been trained over that time as well as 7 members of other churches.
- Our active Stephen Ministry team is currently 9 (6 Stephen Ministers and 3 Leaders).
- Over 120 people have been cared for or are being cared for through PCB's Stephen Ministry.
- Stephen Leaders work with the Pastors and Deacons to identify those needing Stephen Ministry care.
- Grief booklets are sent to those within our faith community who have experienced the loss of a loved one.

"Being there" and offering care to help others by reaching out to our community, as well as our own congregation, has given us an opportunity to use our spiritual gifts which we do with Christ's guidance. We are grateful to our Pastors and members of our congregation for their continued support of Stephen Ministry.

The Stephen Leader Team

Laura Semmen, Anna Armstrong and Cindy Zichal

Nominating Committee

Leadership Nominations Committee

Mari Franklin and Bob Stine, Co-Chairs. Other members: Bard Boand, Russell Baker, Emily Dowell, Deb Johnson, and Jack Mumaw

Report of Activities

- The committee successfully accelerated its annual schedule significantly. All Nominations were completed by mid-November for a mid-December congregational vote. Previous years have not finished until early February.
- Nominations for elected leadership roles included 4 Deacons, 3 Session Elders, 1 Trustee, and all 7 Nominating Committee Members.

In addition, the committee assisted with formation of the new Membership Committee, recruiting three members for that key group. Lastly, the committee assisted the Deacons by recruiting for their desired new role of Recording Secretary (non-Ordained).

This means that 19 fully qualified PCB members were recruited for key roles by Nominations this year.

- At the request of the Session, Nominations created and adopted new SMART goals (SMART = Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-Bound). The main goal involved the establishment of specific key actions to occur by specific times each year - starting in April and completing in November. A second objective was approved where otherwise equally-qualified candidates who are new to a specific leadership role would be favored when deciding nominees. Note: this does not apply to existing leaders who are eligible for a subsequent term per by-laws.

Both goals were fully met with completion of Nominations in early November and 100% of new leadership nominees being new to their role.

Leadership Nominations is most grateful for the faithful, dedicated new leaders who answered the call to meaningfully serve the church we all love.

Submitted on behalf of Leadership Nominations, Deacon Bob Stine

Board of Trustees

The six-member Board of Trustees reports to and serves at the pleasure of the Session. A routine obligation is to assist the church accountant in the receipt, accounting, and documentation of the weekly offerings. We also ensure the proper and safe operation of the beautiful building and grounds that is our privilege to enjoy weekly.

Major achievements of the Board of Trustees during 2024

Replacement of the Handicap Ramps, repair and painting of the steeple, new building exterior lighting and additional parking lot lights, roof repairs and water damaged ceiling repairs. Replacement of bushes in the court yard. Cleaning and painting on several exterior wood surfaces.

The Trustees continually monitor the building, updating and repairing as needed. The work here is not intensive but is critical to the preservation of our beautiful building and grounds.

We urge members to search their hearts and eagerly volunteer in the future to become a part of our effective Board of Trustees.

Projects for 2025 include the brick sidewalk repair outside office, replacement of the carpeting in Fellowship Hall, replacement of the refrigerator and may include the repair/replacement of the parking lot. Any issues, items or concerns you may have that needs to be addressed to make our place of worship a more welcoming facility, please don't hesitate to bring this to our attention.

Faithfully submitted, Ron Furst, President PCB Board of Trustees

2024 ACTUAL VS BUDGET

	Jan – Dec 24	Budget
Income		
ROUTINE CONTRIBUTIONS		
Interest	17,308.27	23,400.00
Pledges - Current Year	375,383.13	394,281.00
Pledges - PrePaid	102,695.49	102,696.00
MOP-Members - Open Plate	55,039.51	45,000.00
VOP-Visitors - Open Plate	22,040.00	15,000.00
2ND STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2024	50,575.00	
Verizon	35,459.31	33,765.00
Total Income	<u>658,500.71</u>	<u>614,142.00</u>
Expense		
ADMIN & MAINTENANCE	142,542.63	152,855.00
CHILDREN & YOUTH	5,556.20	15,600.00
COMMUNICATIONS	650.18	4,055.00
CONGREGATIONAL LIFE	8,886.31	9,300.00
Membership	136.67	100.00
MISSION	30,000.00	35,000.00
PERSONNEL	454,625.12	494,238.28
Session/Officer	14,903.71	25,000.00
Stewardship/Finance	193.58	300.00
WORSHIP	25,499.41	25,500.00
Total Expense	<u>682,993.81</u>	<u>761,948.28</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-24,493.10</u></u>	<u><u>-147,806.28</u></u>

2025 BUDGET

	<u>JAN - DEC 25</u>
INCOME	
ROUTINE CONTRIBUTIONS	
INTEREST	15,000.00
PLEDGES - CURRENT YEAR	397,434.00
PLEDGES - PREPAID	120,123.15
MOP-MEMBERS - OPEN PLATE	45,000.00
VOP-VISITORS - OPEN PLATE	15,000.00
VERIZON	35,821.56
TOTAL INCOME	<u>628,378.71</u>
EXPENSE	
ADMIN & MAINTENANCE	153,000.00
CHILDREN & YOUTH	13,100.00
COMMUNICATIONS	2,900.00
CONGREGATIONAL LIFE	4,200.00
MEMBERSHIP	500.00
MISSION	30,000.00
PERSONNEL	477,106.00
SESSION/OFFICER	13,400.00
WORSHIP	25,500.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>719,706.00</u>
NET INCOME	<u><u>-91,327.29</u></u>

2024 CHURCH STAFF

Pastor David Ezekiel

Transitional Pastor/Head of Staff - PastorDavid@pcbarrington.org

Pastor Jae Cho

Associate Pastor PastorJaeCho@pcbarrington.org

Kirsten Hedegaard

Director of Music - Kirsten@pcbarrington.org

Richard Leasure

Interim Organist

Andrew Luzwick

Interim Organist

Patti Fugle

Business Administrator - Patti@pcbarrington.org

Nancy Arendt

Communications Coordinator - Nancy@pcbarrington.org

Rev. Dr. John L. Schmidt

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Dr. Joseph Dorociak

Pastor Emeritus