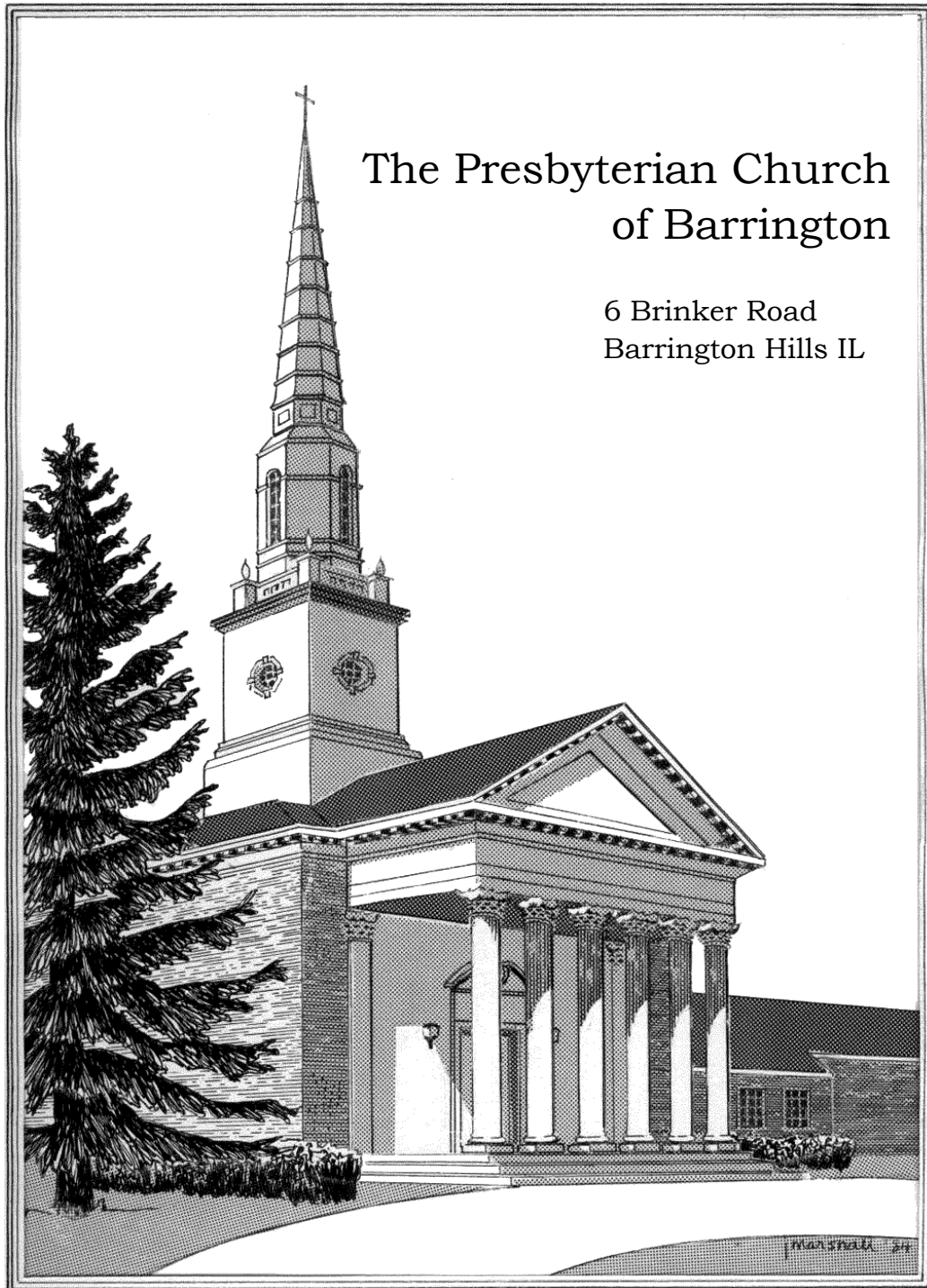


# Annual Report of 2025



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# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION AND CORPORATION

### AGENDA

- I. Call to order
- II. Opening Prayer
- III. Review of Annual Report
- IV. Business
  - a. Action Item:

**Motion:** Acting upon the unanimous recommendation of the Leadership Nominations Committee, the Session moves the election of Peter Shaeffer as an Elder to the Class of 2026 in order to fill an unexpired term.

**Rationale:** The Session learned that P.K. Johnson (Elder, Class of 2026) wished to resign from the Session in order to focus on her business development in Naples, FL. With reluctance, the Session concurred with her request and commended P.K. for her



leadership. The Leadership Nominations Committee (Bob Stine, chair) immediately went to work in ascertaining the needs of both the congregation and the Session and identified Peter Shaeffer, long-time Elder in the life of the Presbyterian Church of Barrington, to fill the unexpired term. Peter brings a wealth of knowledge to this role having served multiple years on the Finance and Personnel Committees, and institutional knowledge that should be accessed and codified. He has accepted this opportunity and we thank him. And the Leadership Nominations Committee is thanked for such an excellent nomination. With this needful action, the Session is following the process as delineated in the By-Laws, section 16, lines 211-213.

- V. Closing Prayer
- VI. Adjournment

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## PASTOR'S REPORT

For me, personally, 2025 was a very full but exhausting year.

We entered the year without an Associate Pastor. This marked the first time in 50 years in which the church intentionally decided to move forward with only a solo pastor. Part of the reasoning behind this decision was due to practicality, and part was due to reasons of economics. The outcome was that it shifted roles, methodologies of thinking, and engagements in the life of the church. It was a large adjustment which we are still navigating.

A bright spot in the life of the Presbyterian Church of Barrington is that we hired Raechel Sowa as our Director of Youth and Young Families. Through her leadership, she is showing us how to be more engaging towards two new generations of disciples. Notice how Raechel and the Christian Education Committee has implemented ways for all of us to take part in inter-generational worship and faith-learning activities. And do note how the totality of our congregation is responding positively.

For our youth, they experienced Triennium this past summer, an event that a number of our members have attended in years past. Held every three years, it is one of the things our denomination does exceedingly well to promote the development leaders for the future. Because the size of our own youth group is not very large, Raechel and the other youth leaders have reached out, invited, and included the participation of other youth from nearby Presbyterian congregations. It is exciting to watch all these young people grow in faith and maturity right before our very eyes.

Another coup that the congregation scored was in bringing Andrew Luzwick onboard as our organist and accompanying musician. He had been associated with the church for some time, and it worked out well that we were able to continue the relationship on a more permanent basis. His versatility at the organ and piano and other instruments gives the congregation a wide range of venues. (Of note is how many of you have stated that you delighted in his blending of jazz, gospel, and hymns.)

And Patti is now back in the office and on a full-time basis. For the past 6 years, she has been a voice on the phone, working remotely on a part-time basis. Having Patti here is a good thing as this church has many moving parts and it is needful in having someone who can be the administrative support and operational face of the organization. For me, this is a good thing as I too often had to wear that hat. I have already noticed the frenetic frenzy of 2025 showing signs of subsiding.

We also had another transition in the office as Nancy Arendt, our Director of Communications, learned that she had stage 4 pancreatic cancer. This was a grueling ordeal for the staff – going through the shock and grief and trying to be supportive of someone with whom you have bonded and worked closely in a collegial relationship. And now, all of us are experiencing the impact of Nancy’s recent death. We remember how Nancy brought a wonderfully creative component to her role which we much appreciated. She is definitely missed.

You should be proud of how the staff (and Mari Hoashi Franklin) picked up the various pieces of Nancy’s work during the last 4 months. Sure, some things went undone and other balls were dropped, but communication regarding the life of the church continued. This just shows the varied talents and willingness of dedication our staff to make things happen because we are all working towards something larger – the empowerment of Christ’s church and his people.

Time and space do not permit me to extol the work of Kirsten Hedegaard and Kathy Knee and all the others who labor behind the scenes to make things happen. Kirsten’s work is obvious in what she brings forth Sunday-in and Sunday-out. (By the way, I would be remiss if I did not note for you that in April, Kirsten will celebrate 20 years with us.) And Kathy’s work as our custodian goes by mostly unnoticed and unheralded. How would we function without her? I, and we, give them both a round of applause for what they provide for this congregation.

Let me also mention one other transition that occurred in 2025. The Session and you asked that I continue as your pastor. I was both honored and humbled by the recognition and your request to continue wearing the mantle of leadership. We are not as far along in the organizational process as I would like, but we will get there.

Things happen when you change the nature of a person’s calling. As the interim, it was my responsibility to help you make needed transitions for the immediate future and pave the way for the incumbent. Some transitions were made, but more were – and still are – needed. As the settled pastor, I have had to transition from a focus upon the immediate to one that requires a dual approach of navigating both immediate and long-term aspects. Allow me to briefly mention two.

One of the most important matters on the immediate horizon is for the Session to finalize its work in setting the goals and direction for the church. (And then communicating them to you for your buy-in). Much of the tone and direction has fallen upon my shoulders, and that has been ok for the short-term. But the outcome is far more important in that this needs to be a whole-church matter.

These determinations become the markers, the identifiers of who we are and where we are headed as a congregation, as a body of Christ. The Session has made good progress, but these have not been completed, communicated, and implemented as quickly as planned. But we are getting there. I will not belabor the point, but without goals and direction, we are all left wandering and wondering. It is like the quote with which Yogi Berra is famously credited: "If you don't know where you're going, you'll wind up someplace else."

A second important matter for PCB is increasing the Endowment Fund. This congregation has financial assets of approximately \$700,000, but that will not be enough to sustain the church for the future. The Finance Committee has recognized this and is formulating a plan to launch the push for increasing the Endowment Fund by the end of the first quarter of this year. The governing documents are being overhauled and reviewed, a committee is being organized, and focused goals are being formulated. I have taken the liberty of asking former pastor, the Rev. Dr. John L. Schmidt, to serve as the honorary chair. Over lunch, he and I talked at great length about the need for our members to create a legacy for future generations of faith. It was a blessing to share stories and learn how much this church has meant to you down through the years. As others made this church and the faith meaningful for you, now you can make this church and the faith meaningful for new generations.

There are other bright spots occurring within the life of the church. The experience of worship continues to be meaningful, and they have been augmented by festive and seasonal decorations. Educational offerings are increasing. There are numerous opportunities for hospitality and fellowship time. There are increasing opportunities for participation in the church's mission. And there has been an increasing number of people who are availing themselves of those opportunities. The facilities are in great shape. The church has enhanced its audio/visual capabilities. We are experiencing an increase in the number of new faces in the congregation.

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

*~ Pastor David*

Clerk of Session  
Presbyterian Church of Barrington  
Church Officers 2025

SESSION

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

SESSION

Dr. David Ezekiel, Moderator  
George Landes, Stated Clerk

Steve Alton ('25)	Anna Armstrong ('25)	Rich Barbour ('27)
Bard Boand ('25)	Ross Clover ('26)	Bob Dick ('27)
Mari Franklin ('25)	Debra Johnson ('26)	PK Johnson ('26)
Heather Layne ('26)	Robert Reilly ('25)	Molly Stine ('27)

DEACONS

Emily Dowell, co-Moderator ('26)  
Bob Stine, co-Moderator ('26)

Kari Blanchette ('25)	Carol Buchta ('25)	Nancy Currell ('25)
Sue Dechow ('27)	Janet Hirsch ('25)	Rich Larson ('26)
Margarette Schulze ('27)	Laura Semmen ('27)	Al Zick ('27)

TRUSTEES

	Ron Furst, Chair ('25)	
Ross Bogue ('27)	Linda Neton ('25)	Curt Moore ('26)

## Clerk's Annual Report

2025 was a year where a lot of foundational work was completed in preparation for PCB to develop and implement its vision for the future and where it wants to go. Much of this work is mundane, time consuming, and not necessarily easy to do, but your Session has managed to accomplish a large amount of this in 2025.

I believe the biggest achievement your Session accomplished in 2025 was acting on the unanimous recommendation of the Senior Pastor Search Committee to call Dr. David Ezekiel, thereby ending our search to replace Dr. Dorociak. This was a major accomplishment and one which is already bearing fruit as evidenced by increased attendance, donations, and participation.

Additionally, a Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries, Raechel Sowa, was hired to revitalize our youth program, and Andrew Luzwick was also hired as our organist. Patti Fugle has come back and is now working in the office as our Financial and Office Administrator.

The Personnel Committee, led by Robert Reilly, has been focused on these hires, while also completing a rewrite of the Personnel Manual. This is now an extremely comprehensive document detailing all aspects of how our personnel department manages its responsibilities, and the expectations of our staff. This was a monumental task for which we are grateful to Robert and the team on the Personnel Committee for this accomplishment.

The PCB By-Laws, which had not been updated in over 10 years, were updated by the Session, and approved by the congregation. Updating these By-Laws is an important step to helping people understand the guidelines PCB has in place to help people better understand how PCB works. Additionally, this year, an Administrative Manual will be completed to further outline church expectations and how programs are to be run.

Most SMART Goals are now completed and are being posted to the web pages. Each of the 12 committees have SMART Goals designed so that committees stay focused on their goals and not get sidetracked. Once we have a web administrator, these will all be published so that congregants can see what your committees are focused on.

With congregational approval, your Session eliminated the role of Trustees, with the Session deciding to absorb these responsibilities while also forming a committee to help manage the building and grounds. The Session also continues to reduce its size to 12, providing a more efficient and effective group to continue to move PCB "forward".

While not earth-shattering changes, these "basics" needed to get accomplished to get PCB moving forward to becoming a viable entity for years to come. In 2026 an Administrative Manual is being developed to outline PCB's policies and procedures for

a variety of topics, thereby helping to eliminate confusion and improving transparency in the workings of PCB.

It has been a very busy and productive year, with 2026 shaping up to be just as challenging and rewarding.

George M Landes, Jr.  
Clerk of Session

## Statistical Report

Average weekly in-person attendance	98
On-line average weekly viewing	56

During 2025 the following changes took place in the church records:

Total membership at the conclusion of 2025:	303
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Persons received into membership:	12
Members moved to inactive rolls:	47
Members who died:	07

### **Baptisms 2025**

Penelope Landes	6/29/2025
Amelia Liput	8/24/2025
Charles Clover	10/26/2025
Alice Johnson	12/28/2025

### **Confirmed 2025**

Dylan Harris
Katelyn Schomer
Liam VanCleave

### **Deaths 2025**

Ross Bogue	9/13/2025
Bill Crew	12/22/2024
Sally Kilham	1/15/2025
Sue Kosobud	2/23/2025
Denise Mitchell	6/23/2025
Tom Hayward	7/24/2025
Laverne Sams	10/28/2025

### **New Members**

Don Bouseman	2/24/2025	Richard Peterson	5/19/2025
Andy Carter	2/24/2025	Kathy Peterson	5/19/2025
Annalisa Carter	2/24/2025	Melanie Rauch	5/19/2025
Ralph Menick	2/24/2025	Chris Rauch	5/19/2025
Paul Murphy	2/24/2025	John Rauch	5/19/2025
Gavin Stanek	4/24/2025	Wendy Burdick	6/23/2025

## 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, had 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	Boand Bard	Conrad Gary
Alton Steve	Bogue Emily	Conrad Kathy
Anderson Jeff	Bogue Margaret	Consdorf David
Anderson Pam	Boling-Risser Martha	Consdorf Lindsay
Andler Don	Bondelli Caryl	Currell Bob
Armstrong Anna	Bouseman Don	Currell Nancy
Armstrong Jim	Bower Cole	Dale Chuck
Armstrong Kay	Bower Reed	Dale Cooper
Armstrong Sterling	Bower Scott	Dale Mary
Arndtsen Nancy	Bower Wendy	Davis Betsy
Asper David	Brown Pete	Dechow Philip
Asper Linda	Buchta Bill	Dechow Sue
Babos Florence M.	Buchta Carol	Detwiler Edward
Babos Joseph C.	Buecking Bill	Dick Bob
Baker Josephine	Buecking Diana	Dolan Skip
Baker Nicole	Burdick Wendy	Dowell Emily
Baker Russell	Carder Amy	Dowell Gregory
Barbour Barb	Carder Gary	Duke Alison
Barbour Rich	Carder Lauren	Ellis Beatrice
Barcroft Ann	Carmer Suzanne	Ellis Jack
Berg Bruce	Carter Andy	Ellis Sam
Berg Margaret	Carter Annalisa	Enskat Eric
Bilton Bette	Clarke Jackie	Erland Mitch
Bilton Stu	Clarke JC C.	Fish Amy
Blanchette Kari	Clover Emilie	Fish Andrew
Blomquist Connie	Clover Ross	Fish Jane

Fish Ryan	Gordon Dawn	Kaczmarek Vivian
Fish Stephen	Hamilton Phyllis	Kim Grace
Fitton Pamela	Harmsen Jodie	Kim Steve
Fitton Russell	Harmsen Kaden	King Charles
Frankenberg Blair	Harmsen Kelsey	Kircher Heather
Frankenberg Bruce	Harmsen Scott	Klear Janice
Frankenberg Haley	Hayward Sally	Klear Michael
Frankenberg Kari	Heath Barrie	Klear Ray
Frankenberg Katherine	Heath Mary	Koenig Barb
Frankenberg Reid	Heath Nancy	Koenig Kaitlin
Frankenberg Ross	Heath Owen	Koenig Stan
Frankenberg Sheryl	Helfrick Emmie	Koenig III Stanley
Franklin Lukass	Helminiak Audrey	Lain Vikkie
Franklin Mari	Helminiak Dawson	Landes Carly
Franklin Tija	Hilgendorf Sally	Landes Elizabeth
Free Bonnie	Hilgendorf Thomas	Landes George
Free Dexter	Hirsch Janet	Landes Tanner
Fuerte Ericka	Holmes Paul	Lanning Mike
Fuerte Reynaldo	Huesing Andrew	Larabee Chuck
Furst Peggy	Huesing Linda	Larabee Gwen
Furst Ron	Huesing Rachel	Larson Rich
Garrels Blake	Irby Adam	Layne Heather
Garrels Colette	Israel P Denise	Lee Connor
Garrels Corinne	John Ed	Lee Jack
Garrels Jen	John Judy	Lee Jenna
Garrels John	Johnson Byron	Lee Kimberly
Gerrard Claudia	Johnson Courtney	Lee Paul
Gerrard David	Johnson Debra	Leonard Nancy
Gerrard Gregory	Johnson Dorothy	Liput Jack
Gerrard Kelly	Johnson Gloria	Liput Maddie
Gill Bill	Johnson Herbert	Long Linda
Glantz David	Johnson Patricia	Long Thomas
Glantz Ginger	Johnson PK	Louiseau Stan

Lubinsky Susan	Nadig Gerry	Schild Wayne
Lumsden Penny	Neal Gerald	Schlemmer Carla
Marcussen Chris	Nelson Becky	Schlemmer Dennis
Martinez Joy	Nelson Bill	Schlesinger Elyse
Masterson Joe	Neton Linda	Schlesinger Emily Claire
Masterson Nancy	Osunde Audrey	Schlesinger Melissa
McDade Joanne	Osunde Joseph	Schomer Grace
Menick Ralph	Osunde Maureen	Schomer Nicole
Mesenbrink Penny	Osunde Osazee	Schoppert Richard
Mickey Brian	Osunde Sharon	Schulze Margarette
Mickey Christine	Patrick Marilyn	Semmen Gil
Miller Alysa	Peterson Katherine	Semmen Laura
Miller Dennis	Peterson Richard	Shaeffer Peter B.
Miller Patrice	Porter Myrna	Shaeffer William
Miller Ronda	Potter Rollin	Shapiro Ginny
Miller Sonya	Powers Sue	Shepin Laura
Minner Don	Raaths Chris	Sill Bob
Minner Jill	Raaths Jack	Sill Julie
Mitchell Don	Raaths Susan	Simpson Joyce
Mitchell Pat	Rauch Chris	Smalstig David
Monie Ian	Rauch John	Smalstig Susan
Monie Julia	Rauch Melanie	Smith Michael
Moore Curt	Reaume Alice Mae	Stanek Brad
Muhvic Alyssa	Reich Bernie	Stanek Gavin
Muhvic Bethany	Reich Grace	Stanek Joel
Muhvic Claire	Reilly Janet	Steffen George
Muhvic Jay	Reilly Robert	Steffen Julie
Mumaw Jack	Rennels Jack	Steinmetz Sue
Mumaw Lillian	Rennels Kay	Stine Molly
Murphy Dylan	Rodney Barbara	Stine Robert
Murphy Matt	Rubak Betsy	Suszko Anne
Murphy Paul	Schiewe Helen	Thiess Susan
Nadelhoffer Laura	Schild Sandy	Thorpe Stephen

Ustick Carole  
Ustick Michael  
VanCleave Aron  
VanCleave Katy  
VanCleave Sadie  
Vick Molly  
Watkins Brad  
Watkins Chase  
Watkins Rachelle  
Watkins Savannah  
Weidner Bob  
Weidner Kathy  
Williams Elizabeth  
Williams Jay  
Williams Jeff  
Wolfgram Daniel  
Wolfgram Joan  
Wright Donna  
Wright Kenneth  
Yapp George  
Youash Ashur  
Youash Caroline  
Youash Zico  
Youngs Pat  
Zentz Susan  
Zichal Cindy  
Zick Alford E

**The Presbyterian Church of Barrington**  
**Congregational Meeting Minutes of the Annual Meeting**  
**23 February 2025**

- A Congregational Meeting was held on 23 February 2025 to amend PCB's by-laws. The requisite two-week notice was observed. The Clerk of Session, George Landes, Jr, declared a quorum was present.
- Dr. Ezekiel opened the meeting with prayer at 11:05 am.
  - a. Motion – Amending the By-Laws – request from Peter Shaeffer
    - i. Motion: Shall the sentence in the By-laws which begins on line 123 be deleted or reworded? The sentence 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.*
    - ii. Rationale –The sentence beginning on line 123 of the By-Laws may be confusing, restrictive, and/or an exclusivist approach to the Lord's Supper. While in the Book of Order G.-1.0404, it was not intended to be in contradiction to the theological explanation offered in W.-3.0409 which reads in part: *The opportunity to eat and drink with Christ is not a right bestowed upon the worthy, but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love. All who come to the table are offered the bread and cup, regardless of their age or understanding. If some of those who come have not yet been baptized, an invitation, when appropriate, to baptismal preparation and Baptism should be graciously extended. Worshipers prepare themselves to celebrate the Lord's Supper by putting their trust in Christ, confessing their sin, and seeking reconciliation with God and one another. Even those who doubt may come to the table in order to be assured of God's love and grace in Jesus Christ.*

It is the polity of the Presbyterian Church (USA) that Christ's table is an "open table." And PCB has affirmed the stance that "if you are here, you're welcomed." However, those who read the statement beginning on line 123 may construe that Christ's table is an exclusionary one. (If requested, a more detailed explanation of these two statements can be provided). In short, it may be in the best interest of PCB to delete or re-word the statement.

- iii. Process - It has been the practice of PCB for the congregation to approve the By-Laws even though the State of Illinois gives boards (in this case, the Session) the power to create and amend the By-Laws for the larger organization (in this case, the congregation). If this amendment to delete or re-word the above sentence is approved, then it shall be submitted to the congregation for ratification. The suggestion is that any ratification be scheduled as a part of the annual meeting which is scheduled for February 23rd.
- iv. Motion was moved, seconded and approved to change the By-Laws by removing the wording "...all who have been baptized..." in section V, a.i. above
- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 with a prayer led by Dr. Ezekiel.

---

George M. Landes, Jr  
Clerk of Session

Rev. Dr. David Ezekiel

## Audio Visual

No report submitted

## Children's Education Committee / Youth

### **Financial**

Overall spending for both Children and Youth programs came in under budget

### **Staff and Committee Members**

In January, Raechel Sowa was hired as the part-time Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries and started work on February 3. Debra Johnson, Jodie Harmsen and Nikki Baker continued to work closely with Raechel, leading specific initiatives and continuing current programming. Additional committee members include Bill Shaeffer and Aron VanCleave. Ellie King also joined our committee, immediately taking on the leadership role of Parent Liaison.

In addition to our committee, all volunteers working with minors received updated background checks and participated in abuse training – how to recognize, avoid and deal with abuse. In addition, working with Session members, we updated our Child Protection Policy.

## **Initiatives**

### **Children**

- **Active worship participation:** Children and youth began to actively participate in worship weekly this year. This initiative began during Holy Week with children leading both Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday worship. Beginning in October, with the assistance of our music director, Dr. Kirsten Hedegaard, children have led: drumming in October, bell ringing in November and Advent candle lighting in December.
- **Family Worship Resource Center** was created with worship aids, books to read and faith-at-home ideas. One of the Narthex closets will be the new home for the Center starting in January 2026. In addition, Children's Bibles were added to all the pews for families to use during the service.
- **Program Evaluation:** During the summer months, we reevaluated our initiatives and shifted our focus to intergenerational worship and the research-based need for children to be present and active worship participants. Monthly articles were published in the Carillon to educate members on this shift and its importance.

• **Faith Formation:**

- o Sunday School (K-5<sup>th</sup>) meets in the children's lower-level library for 20 minutes following worship.
- o Intergenerational Faith Formation following worship during Lent and Advent.
- o Milestones: Distributed bibles to 3rd graders (and older children that hadn't received their Bible) in Spring and Fall. A list of scriptures to look up and a challenge to talk with Pastor David about a favorite scripture was included in a letter with the gift. In October our SS class focused on communion and in November we learned about prayer including a yoga class to learn the Lord's Prayer.

• **Strengthened Communication & At-Home Faith Development:**

Raechel sends weekly emails to families highlighting ways they can be involved in not only church, but also in faith development at home.

- **Nursery:** *We reevaluated our approach with the nursery and beginning in October, nursery was staffed with background-checked volunteers versus a paid attendant. A new monitor was added in November so worship can be streamed allowing volunteers to participate in the service while watching our youngest.*
- **Space:** Raechel and volunteers created new Community Rooms for all-church use by cleaning lower-level rooms and closets

## Youth

- **Youth Group** growth was a focus: two gatherings each month began in February. Friends were encouraged to come and other church youth were invited. Activities included: pizza party and "egging," bowling, Sunday night fun, Summer Games, mini golf and more. A highlight was our Good Friday campfire worship time. Both adults and youth participated.
- **Mission** was also a focus this year. Opportunities included Feed My Starving Children, FISH Food Pantry, CROP Walk, Church World Service Emergency Bucket/Period Pack sales, Cookie Walk baking for Ridgefield-Crystal Lake Presbyterian Church and supporting other church initiatives.
- **New Retreats:** Youth were offered a new opportunity – participation in retreats at Stronghold in both March and November. Four teens joined in March and seven participated in November. The retreats offer time for teens to unplug,

grow their faith, serve, and make new friends in the area as well we strengthen existing friendships - plus sleep in a castle!

- **Mission Trip / Triennium:** In 2025, the youth voted to participate in PCUSA's Triennium in Louisville versus a traditional mission trip. 10 high school youth and Raechel attended in July. They traveled with other churches within Blackhawk Presbytery for a week of leadership development and spiritual growth. In addition, participants fundraised through a Stock Certificate sale and held a Stockholders Meeting upon their return to share their experiences. Overall, the experience was great and worth repeating in three years.
  - 2026 Youth Mission Trip: Began preliminary planning for our 2026 trip. Youth will be traveling to Rapid City, SC, June 21 - 26 to participate in a Youthworks program, partnering with local service agencies. Some participants will again fundraise to support their trip.
- **Confirmation:** began in September with a new curriculum – "Changing the World" Mark Hinds. Dylan Harris, Katelyn Schomer and Liam Vancleave began their journey alongside mentors, Janet Ezekiel, Audrey Helminiak and Brad Stanek. Raechel led two four-hour workshops and students were commissioned in September with monthly meetings with their mentors beginning in October. Faith statements will be presented to Session in May.
  - Confirmation students and mentors were also Advent wreath candle lighters
- **Youth Lounge:** In June, we hosted a dedication of the renovated youth lounge in honor of the Moran family whose donation made possible the renovations to the lounge.
- **Program Evaluation:** To increase participation and impact, The CE team decided to focus on more family-focused youth events and service opportunities moving forward. The process to implement this initiative began in December.

## **Family Ministry**

Connecting our younger families is a focus of the children/youth CE team so this year we strengthened our family ministry program, offering both community-building and faith formation opportunities and hosted Breakfast with Jesus in April, a Pentecost Picnic in May, Dia de los Muertos in October and Dinner and Movie in December.

**Intergenerational Faith Formation:** Lent and Advent fellowship and learning following worship, Good Friday Campfire Worship, Blessing of the Backpacks and Ice

Cream Social, Kick Off Sunday “New Year Resolutions”, Dinner and a Movie for the First Sunday of Advent in Community, All Church Christmas Pageant,

- The Christian Education Committee

## **Communications and Outreach**

2025 was a year of transition for the Communications as committee members worked on discerning their own callings in service of the church community and determined their ability to effectively serve on the Communications Committee. We thank the following members for their tireless services as they move forward into new callings: Jodie Harmsen, Debra Johnson, PK Johnson, Jill Minner, and David Nelson. We also give thanks for the service of our recently departed staff member, Nancy Arendt, whose creativity and loving presence moved our work forward during her short time with us at PCB.

At current, the committee members are Cooper Dale, Tija Franklin, Heather Layne, Patrice Miller, Gil Semmens with Mari Hoashi Franklin serving as the Committee Chair with staff support from Patti Fugle (Connections, Carillon) and Andrew Luzwick (website). We are actively seeking new members, and ask members and friends of the Presbyterian Church of Barrington to contact Mari if you would like to join our work in sharing the good news of our events and ministries throughout our local community.

Our 2025 Communications Committee SMART goal reads: Coordination of digital assets for promoting events and news from all activities and committees of the PCB to create a coordinated public relations presence on the Internet and throughout the local community. Creating a presence that is inclusive, impactful, and loving, expressing our delight that viewers are connecting with the PCB. There are two complementary disciplines required to accomplish this goal: (1) Development of publicity materials, including visuals, documents, and collaterals summarizing/promoting our events and our community; and (2) Creation and implementation of processes that result in communications that actively invite the community and our membership to participate in our activities.

In 2025, the Communications Committee did the following:

1. Supported/implementation the creation of slides and announcement reels for use in worship.

2. Coordinated presence at the Barrington Area Chamber of Commerce Family Day at Citizens Park, including fliers promoting MOTH concert series, musician/singer participation in our music program, available ministry from the Stephen's Ministers, and a general church information bulletin.
3. Accepted the generous efforts of Deacon Bob Stine and Patrice Miller to create the general church information brochure, prayer request cards, and offering envelopes that are available in our pews.
4. Designed, printed, and distributed one-third page fliers: MOTH Concert series, Stephen Ministry, Music Ministry
5. Accepted the generous design and implementation of an Advent events flier by staff member Raechel Sowa.
6. Worked with the MOTH Concert series team to create and distribute materials to promote individual concerts through the following channels:
  - a. The Barrington Area Chamber of Commerce (email blast and event calendar),
  - b. the Barrington Area Library (event calendar and digital signage),
  - c. the Barrington 220 Virtual Backpacks (website),
  - d. the Village of Barrington (digital signage at the Village Hall and at the train station plus via their email blasts),
  - e. The Chicago and Blackhawk Presbytery (email blasts and website)
  - f. Quintessential Barrington (events page listing)
  - g. Country: Barrington Style & Substance (events page listing)
7. Working with the Ross Bogue Memorial Run the Hills 5K event to provide communications support to support our efforts to recruit more runners and sponsorships/donations.
8. Progress in drafting a process with staff to take in communications requires and effectively create/deploy materials to invite the community around us to engage in our offerings.

For 2026, the Communications Committee's goals include the following:

1. Adding members to our team of people who are interested in helping our various committees and subcommittees develop their communications collateral
2. Finalizing a standard publicity form with timeline to allow new committee members to quickly become experts in "getting the word out."

3. Creating work teams in our committee to best use the gifts of our committee members, whether they be focused on creation of visuals, scheduling publicity with publications and community partners, attending meetings with committees or community partners to gather the info that we would like to share, etc.
4. Beginning to sort our visual communications into elements that can form the foundation of a “Brand Book.”
5. Beginning to track metrics of our reach and to assess the appropriateness of using social media programs designed to promote the messaging of qualifying not-for-profits. These efforts would be focused on ways social media can help us build our IRL (in real life) worshipping community).

All of these goals will require the assistance of committee members who have not yet joined the committee. These are exciting times at the Presbyterian Church of Barrington, and we pray that some of the readers of this report would be interested in joining our team.

In Christ's Name,

Mari Hoashi Franklin for the PCB Communications and Outreach Committee.

## Hospitality & Fellowship

This committee was formerly Congregational Life and Ministry; membership responsibilities were transitioned to the New Members committee in August 2025. In 2026, Hospitality & Fellowship will focus on six principal objectives:

1. Engage the congregation in activities that help them get to know more people at the church, to feel more connected with the church, and to give them more opportunities to participate.
2. Collaborate with the Children, Youth & Family Ministry committee to increase the involvement of children, youth and families in our events.
3. Host more intergenerational activities to attract young families in order to grow our church population.
4. Encourage church members to bring family, friends, neighbors and others to our church.
5. Build awareness of our church, our programs, and activities within the extended community.
6. Provide opportunities for inactive and less active local members of our church to re-engage with the church.

The committee held a number of all-church events and activities in 2024:

- a. Lenten Breakfast in Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, April 16th
- b. A luncheon following the church service on Sunday, April 27th, to honor Pastor David's acceptance of our call to be our Senior Minister
- c. A well-attended church picnic outside on church grounds on Sunday, September 14th after the church service
- d. A Halloween-themed card party at the Barrington Hills Country Club on October 25th
- e. The Advent dinner in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, December 7th
- f. The committee continued to coordinate hosting of Sunday coffee hours after the service with all church committees. Each committee hosts approximately 5 dates throughout the year.

In 2026, Hospitality & Fellowship will have responsibility to coordinate meals and receptions for Music On the Hill concerts throughout the year, with the goal of increasing awareness of and attendance at these events. The committee will work with the Communications committee to publicize Music On the Hill events. The committee will cross-promote other PCB activities and events at Music On the Hill concerts to broaden awareness and participation in other church programs.

In addition, the committee will continue to plan and organize the annual church picnic, the Halloween-themed card party at the Barrington Hills Country Club, and the Advent Dinner. New activities this year will include a Maundy Thursday soup supper, a Boomers baseball game at Wintrust Field in Schaumburg, a mini-Ravinia event on church grounds in July and

attending a theatrical production at Prairie Center For the Arts in Schaumburg by HOTT Productions (HOTT=Helping Others Through Theater, Andrew Luzwick performing).

We look forward to a wonderful year of fellowship.

Susan Thiess  
Hospitality & Fellowship Chair

### **New Members/Membership**

The membership committee meets monthly to assess and implement ways to reach out to visitors and guests in a thoughtful and meaningful way. Follow-up greetings are sent to all guests and visitors who leave contact information. The New Member Committee offered Question and Answer / information events after worship on Feb. 16, March 16<sup>th</sup>, May 18<sup>th</sup>, July 20<sup>th</sup>, Aug. 17<sup>th</sup>, Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>, and October 19<sup>th</sup>. Six new members were added in 2025 and an additional 5 were reactivated for a total of 11 new congregants.

The committee outlined tasks and roles for 2025 that included:

1. Plan and oversee 6 new member orientation sessions each year
2. Create a formal welcome process for visitors
3. Create a formal welcome process for new members, maintain a welcome table for visitors and guests
4. Create and manage a follow up program for new members
5. Create a photo and or video record to introduce new members to the congregation
6. Collaborate with other committees to identify visitors and/or potential new members
7. Attract new members through collaboration with the communication committee
8. Share testimonials and updated information for the PCB website
9. Connect new members to critical resources ie. Deacons, Community Church Builder, newsletters
10. Notify Deacons, Children and Youth Director, and specific interest groups (ie. Men/Women Fellowship) of new members
11. Edit and maintain an updated new member guide
12. Revise the new member form as needed
13. Create and maintain an informal record of new members and their interests
14. Recruit greeters for our Sunday worship services

Your dedicated committee members will evaluate our successes n 2025 and revise and write smart goals to reflect what we learned to further out mission for growing the church. Included in these plans are revisions to the visitor information on our web site, a new member survey to better understand what potential new members are searching for in a church and a more defined mentor program for new members.

Respectfully submitted,  
Committee membership: Anna Armstrong, chair, Julie Steffen, Rey Fuerte, Steve Alton, Maggie Bogue, Susan Thiess, Ginny Shapiro and Wendy Burdick.

## Mission

The Mission Committee for 2025 supported several non for profits in 2025 to help support our local communities.

Financially we used \$23,000 from the budget along with \$21500 from the 5K race for a total of \$44,500.

These funds are allocated as follows:

<b>Mission</b>	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>5K</b>	<b>Total</b>
Good News Global	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 3,500.00
Christopher House	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 3,500.00
Fish Food Pantry	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
Habitat For Humanity	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
Presbytery of Chicago	\$ 4,000.00		\$ 4,000.00
Barrington Food Pantry	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 4,500.00
Palatine Food Pantry	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 6,500.00
Lincoln Park Presbytery	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 5,500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 23,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 21,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 44,500.00</b>

We continue to support the Youth Mission Trip with the Annual March Madness Fundriaser.

PCB also provided Christmas Cheer for 12 families from Christopher House by donating gifts and gift cards to help during the holidays.

Audrey Osunde stepped up to bring the Gift of the Heart Store to provide Emergency Clean Up Buckets and Period Packs for Church World Services.

We have wonderful volunteers that continue to do hands on work at Fish Food Pantry in Carpentersville and at Habitat for Humanity building homes along side future homeowners.

Thank you all for continuing to support all of our Mission work here at PCB.

## Personnel Committee

### Your Committee Activities

Your personnel committee serves as the human resources department of PCB. Your committee is involved in numerous routine administrative activities throughout the year, including preparing benefit statements and other communications with our staff, filing required documents with the Presbytery Board of Pensions, and preparing other routine employer statements for various regulatory agencies. While these routine activities are necessary, your committee's more important activities include conducting annual performance and compensation reviews with the staff and addressing immediate staff concerns and issues – both in consultation with head of staff Pastor David.

Most importantly, your personnel committee is involved with all staff changes (hirings and departures) and all position responsibility changes throughout the year – again in conjunction with head of staff Pastor David. Also, your committee works with the staff to make PCB a personally rewarding workplace for our employees – as well as a productive workplace for our church.

### Your Committee Members

When you see them in worship, please recognize our dedicated committee members Ron Furst, Joy Martinez, Linda Huesing, Peter Shaeffer and our newest member Cindy Zichal. It is a privilege and a pleasure to chair this group of committed servants to the church. We would particularly like to thank Jack Raaths who retired from committee service this year after many, many years of dedicated service. We miss his judgment and wisdom. In particular, we recognize the irreplaceable expertise and efforts of the committee's longest-serving member, Peter Shaeffer. To borrow a metaphor from the Gospel of Matthew, Peter is the petra (yes, that is Greek for rock) of your personnel committee.

### Your PCB Staff

Unquestionably, the worship committee, hospitality committee, adult and children education committees, and many other volunteer groups contribute greatly to PCB and to the PCB worship experience. That said, it is an important responsibility of your personnel committee to remind our members of the contributions of our dedicated staff. During worship, our members see and hear the contributions of our pastoral staff (Pastor David) and worship staff (Raechel Sowa, Kirsten Hedegaard, and Andrew Luzwick). Throughout the year, our members benefit from the efforts of our administrative staff (Patti Fugle and Kathy Knee). Please join your personnel committee in thanking these talented staff members.

Your personnel committee is aware that we are responsible for a significant majority of the PCB annual operating budget. Your committee takes this fiscal responsibility very seriously –

and we assure our fellow members that PCB enjoys a substantial “return on investment” from our church staff.

### Your Committee Accomplishments

During the year, your committee proudly accomplished many of our SMART goals. We worked with Pastor David to reassign several administrative responsibilities (to make our staff more efficient and effective). We developed up-to-date position descriptions for all staff members, reflecting our current organization. Also, we updated and expanded the PCB Personnel Manual, adding written policies appropriate for the current environment of our church and our society. Your committee worked with all staff members to accommodate personnel changes throughout the year. During the year, our church staff family welcomed Raechel as director of children and family ministries, made Andrew our permanent organist, lost our communications coordinator due to health reasons, and expanded Patti’s role as our full-time office coordinator. Your committee members really do think of our staff as family – and we encourage our fellow members to do the same.

### Your Committee Coming Events

During 2026, your staff family will celebrate two milestone anniversaries. Both office administrator Patti Fugle and music director Kirsten Hedegarrd will celebrate their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversaries with PCB. The congregation (and your committee) should prepare to recognize these significant accomplishments.

I role off as chairperson (really, facilitator or recording secretary) of your personnel committee at the end of 2025. But the commitment of your personnel committee will continue to capably serve PCB. Finally, while I do own a thesaurus, you may have noted that I use the same word over and over: your. PCB is your church. The PCB staff is your family. And the personnel committee is your committee – your interface with your PCB staff family.

Robert Reilly

## Finance & Stewardship

What a difference a year makes.

First and foremost, our financial condition is sound. We have total cash assets of somewhat more than \$500,000 of which the majority is invested in certificates of deposit and interest-bearing money market funds. Our current endowment balance adds an additional \$185,000 to our assets. Our church equity is in excess of \$560,000 after accounting for that portion of our cash assets that are allocated to pay defined, non-operating expenses - (e.g. memorial garden expenses) and amounts pre-paid against 2026 pledges.

We finished fiscal 2025 with a deficit of \$1,290.98 - unaudited. We essentially broke even, a feat that has not been achieved since PPP funds and post COVID. This was possible for two primary reasons:

- \* A very watchful eye on overall PCB expenses.
- \* The increased generosity of our members.

We also recognize and are grateful for the many non-cash gifts made by so many congregants. These include countless hours of time and talent to elected boards, committees, special events and many more. Also included are items donated by our members.

A brief note on the 2026 campaign. The amount pledged so far by 55% of our pledging units - household(s) - already exceeds the 2025 total and the average pledge has increased 14.23%. This is an amazing accomplishment.

We are grateful, thankful and extremely humble for all our members that have made PCB the great Presbyterian Church is continues to be. We look forward to a great 2026.

Finance & Stewardship Committee

Rich Barbour, Chairman

Ross Clover, Ron Furst, Michael Smith, Molly Stine, Peter Shaeffer, Al Zick & Andy Carter

## Worship Committee

In 2025, the members of the Worship Committee were Pastor David, Chris Raaths, Elder Bard Boand, Director of Music Kirsten Hedegaard, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries Raechel Sowa, Chancel Guild leader Emily Dowell, and members-at-large, Linda Neton, Susan Raaths, Martha Boling-Risser, and Julia Monie. Bob Dick joined as well, producing new procedures for various aspects of the Committee as well as being another valuable voice in the meetings. Using Zoom meetings the committee works to support and assist the church's worship leadership 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 scheduled for 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 task of ushering during Sunday morning worship and at other services held throughout the year, such as funerals, and more.

Emily Dowell has the role of leading the Chancel Guild. 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.

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. Towards the end of 2025, Julia Monie came on board to replace Linda Neton. 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. One highlight every year is the wonderful Christmas music, which was beautifully performed. Andrew Luzwick has stayed on as our organist, who came to us thanks to the Organ Scholar program. Kirsten also is leading Adult Education Sessions after worship on scheduled Sundays, exploring the lives and music of important sacred music composers. Each composer's music will be featured during that same Sunday's Worship service. And the tradition continues with our Choral Scholar program,

bringing additional new voices to our Choir, while they also can build their knowledge and experience in our Church environment. Thank you, Music Team!

Raechel Sowa joined us this year as well. She is bringing a fresh and energetic approach to our Children, Youth and Family Ministries. Just one example was the Christmas Pageant we had in 2025. It was something new and very enjoyable to all. She has lots of ideas that we will see take shape in the coming year too.

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 enjoyed, as great as they were.

Chris Raaths, Chairperson

## **Music**

During 2025 the Sanctuary Choir continued to provide weekly leadership for Sunday worship, as well as services for Holy Week and Christmas Eve. January kicked off with a series of sacred music written by black composers to support Pasto David’s parallel preaching series. During Lent, the music of Olivier Messiaen was featured as an opportunity for meditation, and Director of Music, Kirsten Hedegaard continued her adult education series on important historical composers, including a session on Messiaen. Guest instrumentalists played periodically through the year, and summer music was especially robust with a variety of music being presented, from jazz to musical theater and Beatles to bluegrass. The Bell Choir also continued to play throughout the season, including participation in the semi-annual Barrington-Area Bell Festival. Both the Sanctuary and Bell Choirs returned in the fall with several new members joining.

Following the departure of organist Andy McBeth at the end of 2023 and an interim period with Rich Leasure, Andrew Luzwick stepped in as interim organist in January of 2025. A former Choral Scholar at PCB, Andrew was offered the official organist position in June of

2025. He has continued to develop in the position and has become a cherished part of the PCB community.

To further engage children in worship, Kirsten worked with Raechel Sowa to create a monthly worship opportunity for children to participate in music-making. In September, children were introduced to the Sanctuary instruments; in October, they were invited to play percussion instruments for world communion Sunday; in November, they rang bells for the All Souls remembrance; and in December, children presented an intergenerational Christmas pageant in worship.

The Choral Scholars Program continued with four high school students, three of whom graduated in May. The other scholar returned in September and was joined by two 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 2025 with the remaining two concerts in the 2024-25 season: New Year Celebration with the Langen Connelly Quartet (Irish music), and a Mardi Gras program with the Charles Thomas Trio. Both programs were well attended and were accompanied by delicious community dinners. The 2025-26 MOTH season kicked off in fall of 2025 with a jazz program featuring Petra van Nuis and Andy Brown, accompanied by the (now) annual soup fest. In December, MOTH presented Holiday Joy! with guest musicians and readers, as well as a Christmas cookie reception.

## **Chancel Guild**

Chancel Guild consistently provided Sunday flowers for the sanctuary each week, supported by donations and dedications from the congregation at large. A schedule of committed volunteers was and continues to be maintained regarding weekly flower arrangements. Each guild volunteer purchased and arranged the Sunday service bouquets accordingly. Dedications and donations were and continue to be encouraged from the congregation in advance. Names of donors and dedications are printed in the weekly "Connections" email and Sunday bulletin. The PCB Deacons distribute the weekly Sunday flowers to various parishioners as needed.

Seasonally, the Chancel Guild prepared and decorated the sanctuary in accordance to the ecumenical calendar events. Main events included Lent, Easter and Christmas. Additionally, we added new autumn decorations including a standing banner, new hanging wall banners for Christmas and pre-arranged table bouquets for memorials in Fellowship Hall. Most decorations are stored and reused annually as appropriate. However, throughout the year we replenish candles, ornamental wreathes and replace worn out items.

Chancel Guild works and reports to the Worship Committee for coordinating necessary sanctuary events. We are always looking for additional volunteers and fresh ideas regarding the various chancel needs.

Many thanks to all helpers, especially: Amy Carder, Carol Buchta, Gloria Johnson, Patrice Miller, Jill Minner and Linda Neton for dedicated services.

Submitted on behalf of the Chancel Guild,  
Emily Dowell, Chairperson

## Deacons

### Board of Deacons

Emily Dowell and Bob Stine, co-Moderators / Deacons. Deacons: Kari Blanchette, Carol Buchta, Nancy Currell, Sue Dechow, Janet Hirsch, Rich Larson, Margarete Schulze, Laura Semmen, and Al Zick. Recording Secretary: Ericka Fuerte.

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. In 2025, the Board of Deacons at The Presbyterian Church of Barrington effectively fulfilled this important purpose.

The Board is to be comprised of at least 9 ordained Deacons. This year, we were fortunate to have 11 Deacons plus a recording secretary. Each Deacon is assigned to one of 10 parishes. The parishes are organized by general geography, each of which includes about 20-25 households. In addition, each member of the Board is assigned roles that they lead or assist with. In addition to the board's main roles (discussed below), there were also several notable one-time projects for the congregation's benefit:

- Coordination of a full update to the church contact database and member photos so an updated Church Pictorial Directory can be published. This began in November. When this is completed in early 2026, it will be the first update in a decade.
- Created a new prayer request card for the sanctuary pews, which became leadership of an overall update of all pew items involving many church areas including the New Members committee, Finance, the Trustees, staff, Communications, and others.
- The pre-Worship Greeter role was appropriately transitioned from the Board to the recently formed New Members Committee.

Thanks to all involved for making these important initiatives a success!

Ongoing areas of Deacon focus:

1. 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 quarterly for the Carillon newsletter. A Spring all-members mailing to all congregants was completed to ensure each member knows who their Deacon is, what they can do, and how to contact them.
2. Care List / Prayer Requests - The Board learns information from staff and congregants regarding members in need of care, joys and concerns. From this an internal 'Care List' for the Deacons' use is maintained. This list details the members' 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, a coordinator submits Prayer Requests for the congregation-wide weekly Connections email (always maintaining confidentiality as desired by the person in need).

3. Church Community Builder Database (CCB) - the Board helps maintain CCB by communicating new or obsolete addresses/emails/phone to administrator and assigning new members to a parish.
4. Flower Delivery - After the Sunday Worship Service, an assigned Deacons re-arranges the altar flowers into several bouquets and delivers them to members and friends who could use some cheer or who are celebrating joys. Lenten/Easter and Thanksgiving/Christmas plants are also periodically delivered to our home-bound members.
5. Off-Site Communion - Identify and serve those who desire receiving communion outside of Worship (ill, home-bound, care facilities).
6. Memorial Receptions - Provide organization and lead or support as requested. Several receptions were led or supported in 2025.

The Board held twelve monthly 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 June at the home of Deacon Bob Stine.

In 2025, the members of the Board and faithfully fulfilled the various roles as noted.

Parish 1 - Laura Semmen (Fellowship time hospitality - lead; Memorial receptions)

Parish 2 - Sue Dechow (Prayer requests)

Parish 3 - Emily Dowell (co-Moderator, Care List)

Parish 4 - Janet Hirsch (Flowers - lead)

Parish 5 - Nancy Currell (Prayer request - lead)

Parish 6 - Margarette Schulze (maintaining cards / supplies)

Parish 7 (The Garlands) - Carol Buchta (home communion) & Al Zick (memorial receptions)

Parish 8 - Robert Stine (co-Moderator, CCB lead, Secretary, meetings)

Parish 9 - Rich Larson (Flowers)

Parish 10 - Kari Blanchette (Memorial receptions - lead)

Recording Secretary - Ericka Fuerte (minutes, technology support, bulletin board)

Special thanks are due to four Deacons whose term ended in 2025: Kari Blanchette, Carol Buchta, Nancy Currell, and Janet Hirsch. Joining the board for a 2026 - 28 term are Wendy Burdick, Ericka Fuerte, and Julie Steffen. Thanks also to previous moderator Amy Carder who continues to assist with CCB support.

Submitted on behalf of the board by Bob Stine, co-Moderator

## Stephen Ministry

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 since 2021.

- 68 congregation members have been trained over that time as well as 7 members of other churches.
- A new class of 4 PCB members are currently training to join the Stephen Ministry team
- Our active Stephen Ministry team is currently 9 (6 Stephen Ministers and 3 Leaders).
- Over 125 people have been cared for or are being cared for through PCB's Stephen Ministry.
- Stephen Leaders work with the Pastor and Deacons to identify those needing Stephen Ministry care but any church member can reach out for care for themselves or others in the community.
- Grief booklets are sent to those within our faith community or their families 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 Pastor and members of our congregation for the continued support of Stephen Ministry.

The Stephen Leader Team  
Laura Semmen, Anna Armstrong and Cindy Zichal

## Nominating Committee

Leadership Nominations Committee

Bob Stine, Chair. Members: Bard Boand, Mari Franklin, Audrey Helminiak, Linda Huesing, Deb Johnson, and Jack Mumaw

The Leadership Nominations Committee (LNC) is an elected board of the congregation responsible to identify, discern and nominate members for the church's primary leadership boards - the Session and Deacons, as well as for the LNC itself.

In addition, we are sometimes asked by the Session on an ad-hoc basis to assist a new or under-resourced Session Committee with recruiting. This year, we especially helped with formation of the new Facilities Committee of the Session which replaced the Trustees.

Consistent with the church's overall trend toward progress, 2025 was a banner year for leadership with 25 new or renewing leaders being identified, agreeing to serve, and elected or appointed. This is a record success for recent years.

The whole congregation is grateful to the following individuals for their upcoming service:

- Session: Anna Armstrong, Bard Boand, Mari Franklin, Ron Furst, and Martha Boling-Risser
- Deacons: Wendy Burdick, Ericka Fuerte, and Julie Steffen
- Leadership Nominations: Bard Boand, Janet Hirsch, Linda Huesing, Deb Johnson, Jack Mumaw, Gil Semmen, and Bob Stine
- Session Committees:
  - Facilities: Ron Furst (Chair), Rey Fuerte, PK Johnson, Curt Moore, Linda Neton, and Bob Storozuk
  - Other: George Steffen - Christian Ed (Chair), Andy Carter - Finance, Julia Monie - Worship, and Cindy Zichal - Personnel

The LNC now operates April to November of each year, a significant change from past years where the process started much later in the year.

In 2024, the Session began instituting new SMART goals for church committees (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, Time-Bound). LNC was among the first groups to define and institute our goals, 100% of which were achieved both in 2024 and 2025. The main goals involve successful completion of the nominations process by November, and ensuring that members new to leadership positions are nominated (for those roles beyond current board members eligible to renew and who do so).

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

Submitted on behalf of Leadership Nominations, Chair Bob Stine

## 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 2025

Installation of a Handicap Ramp at the Courtyard entrance, replacement and redesign of plantings on the east side of Fellowship Hall, replacement of the upper hallway lights with new LED fixtures, painting of the brick wall and new Welcome/Visitor center in hallway leading to Fellowship Hall, upgrading of the A/V system with additional monitors, installation of outdoor electrical fixtures on the southern side of the parking lot for church outdoor functions.

An additional air conditioning unit was installed in the choir loft to prevent extreme temperature swings that were affecting our organ tuning and will provide additional comfort for our wonderful choir members. A new coffee maker was installed thanks to the efforts of the Worship Committee, which will provide easily made coffee for Fellowship Hour, meetings, and group events. Thank you, Chris Raaths, for all your hard work to make this happen.

A special thanks to Rachael Sowa and Debra Johnson for their hard work in the reorganization of the classroom's downstairs, turning the learning environment for our children into a brighter and more welcoming area, along with several new community rooms.

The Trustees were able to equip those areas with live stream monitors, wi-fi, and remote meeting capabilities.

The Trustees, which is now the Building and Grounds Committee, continually monitor the building, updating and repairing as needed. The work here is not intensive, however is critical to the preservation of our beautiful building and grounds.

Projects for 2026 include replacement of the carpeting in Fellowship Hall, upgrading of adding additional parking lot light fixtures, installation of security cameras, and the creation of safe zones along with emergency procedures. Any issues, items, or concerns you may have that need to be addressed to make our place of worship a more welcoming facility, please don't hesitate to bring them to our attention.

Faithfully submitted, Ron Furst

President PCB Board of Trustees

**CHURCH FINANCIALS  
2025 ACTUAL VS BUDGET**

	<u>JAN - DEC 25</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>
INCOME		
ROUTINE CONTRIBUTIONS		
INTEREST	13,756.69	15,000.00
PLEDGES - CURRENT YEAR	409,310.01	397,434.00
PLEDGES – PREPAID	120,123.15	120,123.15
MOP-MEMBERS - OPEN PLATE	62,278.63	45,000.00
VOP-VISITORS - OPEN PLATE	15,266.20	15,000.00
VERIZON	<u>33,537.91</u>	<u>35,821.56</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>654,272.59</u>	<u>628,378.71</u>
EXPENSE		
ADMIN & MAINTENANCE	154,237.72	153,000.00
CHILDREN & YOUTH	5,870.46	13,100.00
COMMUNICATIONS	780.00	2,900.00
HOSPITALITY & FELLOWSHIP	9,700.76	4,200.00
MEMBERSHIP	186.66	500.00
MISSION	23,000.00	30,000.00
PERSONNEL	418,937.78	477,106.98
SESSION/OFFICER	15,450.02	13,400.00
WORSHIP	<u>27,400.17</u>	<u>25,500.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>655,563.57</u>	<u>719,706.98</u>
NET INCOME	<u><u>-1,290.98</u></u>	<u><u>-91,328.27</u></u>

## 2026 BUDGET

Income	APPROVED
MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS	
Pledges - Current Year	\$ 486,640.00
Pledges - PrePaid	\$ 145,360.00
MOP-Members - Open Plate	\$ 37,500.00
VOP-Visitors - Open Plate	\$ 12,500.00
<b>Subtotal MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	<b>\$ 682,000.00</b>
OTHER INCOME	
Cell tower lease - Verizon	\$ 36,000.00
Interest	\$ 10,000.00
Misc. Income	\$ 24,000.00
<b>Subtotal OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 70,000.00</b>
<b>Estimated Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 752,000.00</b>
Expense	
AUDIO VISUAL COMMITTEE	\$ 500.00
FACILITIES	\$ 160,550.00
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	\$ 13,700.00
COMMUNICATIONS	\$ 1,000.00
DEACONS	\$ 1,000.00
HOSPITALITY & FELLOWSHIP	\$ 10,650.00
MEMBERSHIP	\$ 1,300.00
MISSION	\$ 30,000.00
NOMINATING COMMITTEE	\$ 100.00
PERSONNEL	\$ 471,040.00
SESSION / OFFICER	\$ 12,834.00
STEPHEN MINISTERS	\$ 3,300.00
STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE	\$ 100.00
WORSHIP	\$ 46,000.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 752,074.00</b>
<b>ESTIMATED DIFFERENCE</b>	<b>\$ 74.00</b>

## **2026 CHURCH STAFF**

**Pastor David Ezekiel**

Pastor/Head of Staff - PastorDavid@pcbarrington.org

**Kirsten Hedegaard**

Director of Music - Kirsten@pcbarrington.org

**Andrew Luzwick**

Organist - Andrew@pcbarrington.org

**Raechel Sowa**

Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries - Raechel@pcbarrington.org

**Patti Fugle**

Financial & Business Administrator - Patti@pcbarrington.org

**Kathy Knee**

Custodian

**Rev. Dr. John L. Schmidt**

Pastor Emeritus

**Rev. Dr. Joseph Dorociak**

Pastor Emeritus

## 2026 CHURCH LEADERSHIP

### SESSION

Dr. David Ezekiel, Moderator

George Landes, Stated Clerk

Anna Armstrong ('28)	Rich Barbour ('27)	Bard Boand ('27)
Martha Boling-Risser ('28)	Ross Clover ('26)	Bob Dick ('27)
Mari Franklin ('28)	Ron Furst ('28)	Debra Johnson ('26)
Heather Layne ('26)	Peter Shaeffer ('26)	Molly Stine ('27)

### DEACONS

Emily Dowell, co-Moderator ('26)

Bob Stine, co-Moderator ('26)

Wendy Burdick ('28)	Ericka Fuerte ('28)	Sue Dechow ('27)
Rich Larson ('26)	Margarette Schulze ('27)	Laura Semmen ('27)
Julie Steffen ('28)	Al Zick ('27)	