

2023 ANNUAL REPORT
Immanuel Presbyterian Church
February 18, 2024



"Grace and Gratitude"

⁶ But Timothy has just now come to us from you and has brought us the good news of your faith and love. He has told us also that you always remember us kindly and long to see us, just as we long to see you. ⁷ For this reason, brothers and sisters, during all our distress and persecution we have been encouraged about you through your faith. ⁹ How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹² And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³ And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints. –1 Thessalonians 3, selected verses

Grace and gratitude belong together like heaven and earth. Gratitude evokes grace like the voice and echo. Gratitude follows grace as thunder follows lightning.

Grace must find expression in life, otherwise it is not grace.

Laughter is the closest thing to the grace of God. -Karl Barth

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Immanuel Mission Statement	3
Staff Reflections	4
Staff and Leadership	8
Organization Overview	9
Statistical Report.....	11
Board of Deacons.....	12
Hospitality Team	13
Buildings and Grounds Team	14
Christian Education Team	15
Mission Outreach Team	16
Nominating Team	18
Personnel Team	19
Presbyterian Women's Association.....	19
Worship Team	20
Finance and Stewardship Team	21
Financial Statement	22
Endowment Fund.....	23
Memorial Garden.....	24



Immanuel's Mission Statement: Discovering and displaying Christ *in here* and *out there*.

Ministry & Mission Direction:

Faithfully journeying with Christ along:

- ***The path of worship*** (honoring God)
- ***The path of discipleship*** (learning and apprenticing the faith)
- ***The path of hospitality*** (building relationships and bridges)
- ***The path of mercy*** (caring for the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of the faith community and community at large)
- ***The path of mission*** (sharing the good news locally & globally in word and deed)

Values & Dreams of IPC:

- Christ is at the heart of all we do.
- We make room to belong, explore, ask questions, and hold a variety of Christian convictions.
- We creatively engage the culture without being political, polarizing, or pandering.
- Our perspective is holistic—ministering to body, mind, and spirit--in word and deed to the individual, family, church, society, and world.
- We are multi-generational.
- We exist for and have a purpose beyond ourselves in mission, evangelism, and justice.
- We strive to be generous and wise stewards of everything entrusted to our care.
- We seek to incorporate healthy spiritual practices to help us grow in Christ (i.e., prayer, study, service, play, fasting, etc.).
- We are open to change, innovation, and growth as the Spirit leads us.
- We haven't arrived yet, but we're moving forward. We're a people in process and transformation into the likeness of Christ more and more.
- We are shaped by the Triune God, Scripture, interactive prayer, the Reformed faith, and the collective wisdom of the church and culture over the ages that rings true with Christ.
- Our programs and procedures are crafted to honor and foster healthy relationships.
- We seek to equip, empower, and encourage one another in the work of Christ.

John Tittle, Pastor and Head of Staff

It's hard to believe when our family arrived here in the first part of 2008, I was thirty-five and bearded with long hair devoid of gray, Sarah was (and remains) forever young, and our three children were five, three, and eight months old. A fourth would arrive a few years later. Now, Abby just had her 21st birthday. In the fall, Abby, Luke, and Jude will all be students at NAU and Phoebe will be a freshman in high school. Time flies when you're having fun!

This has been a season of reflection as our time together draws nigh. The words that keep coming to me are "grace and gratitude." I feel deeply in my heart that God was so active and involved in bringing our paths together at Immanuel. You all have been such a vital part of our lives all these years. Our kids have no church horror stories, just memory after memory of kindness and love from you. We have been so enriched by you, through all the ups and downs and twists and turns that come with sharing life and being church together. So many memories, so much laughter and tears, so many celebrations and challenging times weathered together. Grace and gratitude.

God was (and is) alive and well and on the move in our community of faith in 2023. Our staff really gelled, a new playground for our church and community was installed, our parking lot repaved, financial challenges overcome, healthy transitions made, and lives were touched through us near and far in mission. We had ten baptisms this year, wonderful new people joined our faith community, and beloved members and pillars of the faith entered glory. We had the joy and meaningfulness that comes with worshiping the living God and following Jesus together. God was with us—giving us everything we needed and making us everything we're meant to be. The presence of his Spirit helped us be steady and determined, even in the challenges we faced. God is at work in the good and the bad, the comfortable and uncomfortable, to make us fit for the kingdom, fit for what he's called us to do. Grace is behind it all and through it all. Grace and gratitude.

Good things are going on. Some of our buildings will soon receive a much-needed new coat of paint. We're touching our community in new ways that is truly exciting. God indeed is working and will continue to be at work in and through Immanuel this year and beyond.

Although we'll remain in Tucson, it will be different. My prayers of blessing and goodwill will continue for all of you. We can still be friends as we see one another at presbytery and around town, but it will no longer be as your pastor. As a minister of Word and Sacrament, I will sign and honor a covenant of separation that all departing pastors enter into with their former congregations. This means that I will be fully supportive of the new leadership here, the future interim, the new pastor and head of staff, and the session. I won't be performing pastoral ministry here with weddings or memorial services. After a year's time, I'll only come at special events that are initiated by the new pastor and session. We do this in our denomination because it is for the health and well-being of the church. It blesses, affirms, and empowers the new leadership so that all of the new things God has in store for Immanuel can flourish. Being true to this covenant can seem hard at first, but it is a good, time-tested and sacred practice. But we will always be able to cherish the truly wonderful times we've had together. Grace and gratitude.

I love you all and am filled with a deep-seated joy about and past and the future. God has so many great things in store for us both, even if it is along new and different paths. I give this charge from the book of Jude to you: *"But you, beloved, build yourselves up on your most holy faith; pray in the Holy Spirit; 21 keep yourselves in the love of God; look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life."*

And the blessings of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, rest upon you now and always. And all God's people said, AMEN!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor John

Clay Whittington, Director of Music Ministries

The Music Ministry continues to offer a wide variety of music in both expressions of worship at Immanuel. 2023 was certainly a year of growth and development in leadership and performance within our ensembles. With the integration of service music (musical settings of certain parts of the liturgy) and the integration of the Glory to God hymnal, it was also a year of great progress in congregational participation.

This year, we presented two small-scale musicals, Joel Raney's *The Seven Last Days on Palm Sunday* and Joseph M. Martin's *Appalachian Winter* prior to Christmas. Members from each of our ensembles took on roles in the production and presentation processes for both works. I would like to offer a special thank you to Carol Van Gelder for her assistance in preparing the choir for both presentations. I would also like to thank our members who took part in the instrumental ensembles and worked so diligently in preparation for both musicals: Jonathan Cain, Sandy Russell, and Susan Swanson.

Adoración continues to lead congregational music at our weekly alternative worship services. We have explored new arrangements of older favorites as well as current hits on the Contemporary Christian and Pop/Rock charts. Our setlists have included music by Lauren Daigle, for KING & COUNTRY, and CAIN alongside popular artists such as Papa Roach, Coldplay, and U2. Thank you so much to George Davis, Becky Diebold, Joy Hager, Sandy Russell, Bob Van Gelder, and Carol Van Gelder for your continued dedication to Adoración and the alternative worship services.

The handbell choir presented a variety of selections at our traditional worship services, our summer unified services, and on Christmas Eve. Alongside traditional English handbell selections, we have added a few praise & worship selections and music from Latin America to this ensemble's repertoire. I would like to offer a special thanks to Joy Hager for her talents on the bongos in the performance of *When We Are Living (Pues Si Vivimos)* in the fall. The handbell choir maintains an active ensemble of eight ringers, capable of performing repertoire for 2-octaves of bells. I would like to thank Marcia Aurand, Belinda Badger, Susan Barnes, Lisa Cole, Becky Diebold, Linda Griffith, Laurel Hardy, Linda Peterson, Jamie Rappaport, Maggie Rappaport, Paris Rebl, and Anne Thornes for their contributions to the handbell choir in 2023.

The handbell choir wishes to offer their condolences to the family of Dot Weaver, who dedicated so much of her heart and time to this ensemble. We will miss the joys and laughs she brought to this group each week.

The sanctuary choir has been rehearsing in our choir room on Thursday evenings this year! The smaller space has allowed for quick and easy access to rehearsal tools and has allowed us to focus on concepts that become more difficult to tackle in a larger space. This ensemble's top focus remains on congregational leadership in our traditional worship services. This ensemble eagerly stepped up to new challenges in choral performance this year, including unaccompanied works, post-tonal works, and works in Spanish, German, Latin, and Greek! I would like to offer thanks to the singers that made 2023 a successful year for choral music at Immanuel: Sue Anderson, Tim Bacchus, Susan Barnes, Jonathan Cain, Curt Christy, Becky Diebold, Peggy Free, Lucy Greenleaf, Lynda Grochowski, Joy Hager, Jeff Hotchkiss, Candy Kaemerer, Pat Keene, Shirley Scott, Laurie Snodgrass, Norm Snodgrass, Tim Swanson, and Gary Wolfe.

Thank you so much to the members and friends of Immanuel Presbyterian Church for your continued support of our music ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Clay Whittington

Kris Goorsky, Director of Christian Formation

Reflecting on 2023 there was one thing on my mind and to do list the entire year: LET'S GET A NEW PIECE OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT! It was a huge task beginning with the goals of the playground, determining what was important (a HUGE slide!) and how to raise funds for such an expense. I'm so excited to say: IT'S HERE! It was so wonderful to hear the children's excitement in late January as they jumped up and down to play on their new playground! Many thanks to generous donors, the CE Team's time and energy and everyone's patience as we worked to do our best at the process. My time at Immanuel is a little bit like the playground project. Setting goals, sliding down the slide of covid, the swing of figuring out how to build relationship, and 2023, a year where we could find a new normal, reach out to the community in new and exciting ways and rediscover all the great things about being together more, experiencing what's next together.

We tried some new things like caterpillars and butterflies in worship to experience their transformation and ours from Lent to Easter. A special thanks to Joey and Sue Samoy for going above and beyond by transferring slimy worms to cups, and slimy chrysalis to a cage. In April, we offered a Spring Carnival to the community, and it was very well attended by many people we didn't know. We played games, water balloon fights (thanks Shane Burton) and had awesome live music (thanks Clay!). We also passed out several children's Bibles. The next Spring Carnival will be on March 2nd , come join us!

I designed a new Confirmation program for our youth, six youth were confirmed, three of which were baptized. We celebrated their affirmations of faith on Youth Sunday, where we also recognized our graduates. It was a wonderful day of lifting all our youth up in a special way.

Vacation Bible School was a full schedule this year, experiencing STELLAR VBS - SHINING GOD'S LIGHT! We had more than 60 kids and lots of volunteers! We tried something new and created a separate VBS Team to organize and recruit leaders. I was so grateful to have had Allison Nelson's assistance in the weeks leading up to the big week!

I created a new first Communion class for all children of any age and their parents. This class assisted parents and children in deciding when they would like to begin taking Communion. We had eighteen children attend the class with their parents.

As a CE Team we created so many new things: a training for Sunday School and Time Together teachers, a curriculum for all of our children to experience the life of Peter, complete with skits! We created a Sunday School curriculum for nursery children too. As well as great experiences for youth group Bible studies and a special winter retreat!

Respectfully submitted,
Kris Goorsky

Kate Kelly, Church Administrator

Reflecting on 2023, I am happy to say it was a very good year! Things here in the office mostly stayed the same and in a good rhythm and routine. My duties include the day-to-day operations of the church, processing payroll, scheduling, preparation of the bulletins, community life and slides for worship, church communications, assisting staff, ministry teams and the memorial garden. I am very fulfilled when I am able to support the staff and congregation in a helpful way.

Working with the staff here is very enjoyable – we all work well together and enjoy each other’s goofy jokes. I really enjoyed participating in the Spring Carnival and Vacation Bible School. We had as much fun as the children, maybe even more – but Clay (The Alien) was the star of the week! I look forward to what Kris has in store for us this summer with a SCUBA VBS theme.

I received a new computer (thank you Jason Hansen) and got the latest version of ProPresenter 7 for the worship slides. This upgrade made a huge difference in my productivity. We were also able to upgrade the computer for the financial secretaries, which was a significant improvement and very overdue.

Aaron Puckett and I put together a weekly/monthly calendar for cleaning and maintenance of the campus. Our system is going well, and I want to thank Aaron for all he does for me and for the church. We would love to have volunteers who would like to help maintain the beauty of our campus – there is a lot to care for.

Looking ahead to 2024, I will be handling the bookkeeping for Immanuel. I cannot thank Gary Wolfe enough for his years of dedication and service to the church. He has been invaluable in teaching me the structure and systems of the financials so that I have a wonderful foundation to begin with.

I must thank Lucy Greenleaf – she faithfully volunteers in the office each week and I can’t do my job without her.

I also want to thank Shannon Dooling-Cain. She has become our Facebook administrator and has been doing a fantastic job getting Immanuel and all the great things we are doing promoted on social media. We hope to launch an Instagram page in 2024.

Respectfully submitted,
Kate Kelly

2023 STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

Pastor, Head of Staff	Rev. Dr. John C. Tittle
Director of Christian Formation	Kris Goorsky
Director of Music Ministries	Clay Whittington
Online Worship Service Producer	Abby Tittle
Church Administrator	Kate Kelly
Nursery Attendant	Allison Nelson
Facility Assistant	Aaron Puckett
Financial Secretaries	Caroline Nelson, Laurie Emery, Sarah Tittle and Libby Bishop
Website Administrator	Anita Hansen
Treasurer	Gary Wolfe
Memorial Garden Treasurer	Gary Wolfe

2023 Members of Session

John Tittle - Moderator
Clerk of Session – Laura Fennema
Christian Education – Marcia Aurand and Michael Nana
Finance & Stewardship – Michael Dungan, Karl Aurand and Bradley Bishop
Hospitality – Kevin Murphy and Sean Shifflette
Mission & Evangelism – Jonathan Cain and Laurie Emery
Personnel – Liz Wallendorf
Worship - Debby Johnson and Ed Vander Woude
Buildings & Grounds – Mike Kobylinski and Bill Haldeman
*Elders ending terms in 2023 – Mike Kobylinski, Michael Dungan,
Bradley Bishop, Jonathan Cain, Laura Fennema, clerk of session*

2023 Immanuel Deacons

Bobbie Butler	Kay Schmidt	Joe Rudigier
Erminia Gomez	Belinda Badger	Shawn Wooll
Carol Kienbaum	Marlene Stevens	Ann Jarvis

Deacons ending a term in 2023 – Joe Rudigier

Endowment Executive Committee Members

Bobbie Butler, Cheryl Wood and Aaron Puckett

IMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH – ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

DEACONS

- Parish Ministry (home, hospital, and hospice contact and visits)
- Memorial Service Receptions
- Casa Maria Lunches
- Support to Youth On Their Own
- Gift cards for college students and military members
- Crafters Group
- Refreshments for Blood Drives
- Annual Junque Sale

SESSION TEAMS

Building & Grounds:

- Maintenance of buildings and grounds
- Maintenance of Memorial Garden
- Improvements to property and equipment
- Memorial Garden Support
- Work/Clean Up Days

Finance and Stewardship

- Budget Preparation
- Financial Management
- Endowment Fund Administration
- Financial Secretaries
- Memorial Garden Fund Administration

Hospitality

- Fellowship hour after worship services
- Special services, events and celebrations
- Blood Drives
- Trunk or Treat event

Personnel

- Employee Relations
- Personnel Handbook Revisions
- Human Resources Matters

Christian Education

- Sunday School classes for all ages
- Men's and Women's Bible Studies
- Youth programs
- Nursery
- Vacation Bible School
- Bibles for third graders

- Quilts for high school seniors (made by Crafters)
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Trunk or Treat
- Family Advent Festival
- Children's Christmas Pageant
- Talent show
- Montlure Camp Council

Worship

- Sanctuary Setup and décor
- Music Programs for Traditional and Alternative Worship
- Ushers and Lay Readers
- Flowers
- Technology (Sound & Projection Systems)
- Communion Preparation
- Procurement of Lay Readers
- Procurement of Communion Servers
- Choir Thank-You Brunch
- Preparation for All Special Services
- Memorial Service Planning Guidelines

Mission & Outreach

- Presbytery de Cristo's Matthew 25 Offering
- Frontera de Cristo - Border Ministry Assistance, Café Justo Coffee Sales, Douglaprieta Trabaja Women's Co-op
- Compañeros en Misión
- Haven Totes - Weekly Food Totes to 65 Children, Monthly Staffing of Food Pantry, Food Drives for Food Pantry
- Food Drives for Community Food Bank
- Booth-Fickett Magnet School Support
- Alternative Gift Market
- Presbyterian Campus Ministry
- Middle Eastern Presbyterian Fellowship
- Papago United Presbyterian Church
- Support to Local Churches Sheltering Migrants & Housing Mission Volunteers
- Certification as Hunger Action Congregation
- Spearheading the 4 PC(USA) Special Offerings

2023 STATISTICAL REPORT

Church Membership as of January 1, 2023: **297**

Deaths: **-08**

- Nancy Dukart, February 8, 2023
- Howard Ross, February 11, 2023
- Pauline McClure August 6, 2023
- Carole Smith, September 16, 2023
- Winn Brittain, September 20, 2023
- Dorothy Weaver, September 29, 2023
- Ronald Parker, December 19, 2023
- Richard Nelson, December 21, 2023

Transferred or Removed From Rolls: **-03**

- Transfer of Gary and Lynda Grochowski to New Spirit Lutheran, Tucson
- Transfer of Peggy Free to Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church, Naples, Florida

New Members: **+13**

- Isaiah Stewart, Reaffirmation of Faith
- Taylor Stewart, Reaffirmation of Faith
- Diana Place, Lette of Transfer
- Nicole Haldeman, Reaffirmation of Faith
- John Owens, Reaffirmation of Faith
- Andrea Owens, Reaffirmation of Faith
- Devin Wood, Affirmation of Faith
- Phoebe Tittle, Affirmation of Faith
- Payton Nagle, Affirmation of Faith and baptism
- Patrick Nagle, Affirmation of Faith and baptism
- Elle Linderman, Affirmation of Faith and baptism
- Sofie Bishop, Affirmation of Faith
- Sam Bishop, Affirmation of Faith

Restoration of Membership: **+0**
n/a

Church Membership as of December 31, 2022: **299**

Weddings (0):

Funerals/Memorials (7):

- Susan Eazer, March 4, 2023
- Howard Ross, March 18, 2023
- Bill Hanson, April 1, 2023
- Pauline McClure, September 9, 2023

Jim Kelley, September 30, 2023
Carole Smith, October 14, 2023
Dorothy Weaver, October 21, 2023

Baptisms (13):

Adult:

- Elle Linderman by affirmation of faith and baptism on May 21, 2023
- Patrick Nagle by affirmation of faith and baptism on May 21, 2023
- Payton Nagle by affirmation of faith and baptism on May 21, 2023

Infant and Children:

- Sabrina Cain, daughter of Jonathan Cain and Shannon Dooling-Cain on June 4, 2023
- Bryce and Alice Roberts, children of Erika and Colin Roberts, October 29, 2023
- Isaiah Alexander Stewart, Rozay Juligh Stewart, Jaycey Journey Stewart, children of Izzy and Tay Stewart
- Gracelynn Wooll, child of Shawn Wooll, November 12, 2023
- Maddie Owens, child of John and Andrea Owen, November 12, 2023
- Leticia Ann Alvarez and Maya Rose Alvare, children of Meghan Gulley and Arturo Alvarez on November 22, 2023

BOARD OF DEACONS

The Ministry of 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.

- **Casa Maria Ministry** – On the last Saturday of every month we collect lunches and donations to deliver to Casa Maria. In 2023 we delivered over 4,200 lunches. We also delivered over 500 lbs. of dog food, and large amounts of clothing, hygiene products and various other food/snack items.
- **Youth On Their Own “Spread the Warmth” Drive** – With donations from the congregation, we delivered 50 new blankets, 1 quilt, 39 pairs of new gloves, 16 hats and 29 pairs of socks.
- Each month the deacons did group card writing sessions to shut ins and those hospitalized. Deacon Ann Jarvis along with other deacons wrote many other cards to members.
- **Memorial Receptions:** One of the key ministries of the deacons is putting on the memorial receptions after the services. In 2023 the deacons prepared receptions for Susan Eazer, Bill Hanson, Jim Kelley, Pauline McClure, Howard Ross, Carole Smith and Dot Weaver. These are sacred times to bless the family and provide opportunities for church members and others to share condolences with family members.
- We served home/hospital communion to several members of the congregation.
- We sent gift cards and a note from the pastor to college and military members in May and in November.

- We had blood drives in January, May, and September – donating over 60 units of blood. The deacons provided food at the rest tables.

Deacon Ministry Coordinators:

Nominating Team Member: Ann Jarvis

Home/Hospice Visits: Bobbie Butler

Crafters: Belinda Badger

Greeting Cards: Ann Jarvis

College/Military Cards: Ann Jarvis

Youth on Their Own: Shawn Wooll

Blood Drives: Kay Schmidt

Receptions: Kay Schmidt

Deacon Secretary: Belinda Badger

Casa Maria Lunches: Erminia Gomez, Bobbie Butler
and Joe Rudigier

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Jarvis, Moderator

HOSPITALITY TEAM

A BIG THANKS to Aaron Pucket for his continued service in setting up and tearing down for fellowship hour. This includes making the wonderful 'Just Coffee' we all get to enjoy, and setting out the goodies when provided. Additionally, appreciation goes to Kate Kelly for helping to keep us all organized with dates.

Some of our major accomplishments this year included providing strawberry shortcakes and Egees around the 4th of July, hosting an ice cream social in July, providing cakes for Pastor Appreciation Day, and capping off the year with a cookie potluck. Moreover, let's not forget the awesome hotdogs cooked by Bradley Bishop for our awesome Trunk or Treat.

For this coming year, look for even more opportunities for food and fellowship. We are planning on introducing theme months for the fellowship hour, which are still in the planning stages. Otherwise, we plan to bring back our chili cookoff during the Trunk Or Treat, host an end of year holiday feast, and host a Pastor Appreciation Day celebration with more than just cake. We are excited to have Cheralynn Baylor on our team this year as a new incoming Elder. If you would like to be involved with Hospitality, we would love for you to reach out to Kevin Murphy, Cheralynn Baylor or myself.

Respectfully submitted,
Sean Shifflette

BUILDING AND GROUNDS TEAM

The Building and Grounds committee is comprised of two elders Jeff Hotchkiss and Bill Haldeman. One of our tasks in 2023 was to begin anew and prepare to compete the process of rebuilding the committee with members of the church congregation to aid in successfully managing and meeting the maintenance and repair needs of our pastor, staff, congregation and visitors. The tasks this year of the committee were to complete a major maintenance pavement project and unexpected issues with site drainage. The B&G committee would meet regularly on Ministry Night with Pastor John and as needed with other committees.

On July 17th, the administrative office was flooded again. Thanks to the quick thinking and work done by Aaron, Kate & Geoff Kelly, Mike Kobylinski and others, the office furniture was moved and saved from permanent damage. Kate contacted a water restoration company, and they were on the property within 90 minutes. The restoration team started drying out the carpets and removing excess moisture from the building. Geoff and Mike worked on a temporary structure to aid in preventing more rain from flooding the back entrances to the admin office. On July 23rd, a meeting was held after the church service to discuss what steps could be taken to avoid another flood event from occurring. During the meeting, Ed Vander Woude recommended that we inspect the drainpipe system and where it exits into a small wash area west of the Sanctuary. It was discovered that the drainpipe exits, was about 75% blocked by fine material that had accumulated in the wash from the parking lot over a number of years. On July 24th Bill Haldeman excavated by hand a small area from around the exit of the drainpipe which allowed water and debris to exit the piping system. There were many discussions of what the next steps should be taken to be fiscally prudent and yet successfully complete the repair. B&G selected a proposal and Session approved the choice to use the landscape contractor Wizard Paving and Turf to dig out the channel of the wash that the drainpipe system from Witherspoon Hall patio and the admin building drains into, west of the Sanctuary. This work was completed during the week of November 20th.

During the week of July 24th, the IPC parking lot was seal coated and restriped by Tucson Asphalt. This work was part of the warranty work negotiated as part of the original contract for the pavement resurfacing project from about 4 years ago. David Piper collaborated with the contractor to schedule the work and to ensure that they had access to the campus parking lots during the week. This work by Tucson Asphalt was completed at no charge to the church.

On November 18th, there was an IPC volunteer campus cleanup day involving church members and the Boy Scouts. The group of volunteers was led by church member Mike Kobylinski and the work was focused on cleaning up the desert area around the Sanctuary with many trees being trimmed and two tons of debris hauled off of the church. Pastor John provided donuts and pizza.

It is the goal that in 2024 we will commence with the building painting project, stucco repair, and cleanup of vegetation issues along 22nd Street.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Hotchkiss and Bill Haldeman

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TEAM

The Christian Education team had many rewards and blessings during 2023. Our team consisted of Kris Goorsky, Director of Christian Formation, Sarah Tittle, Linda Peterson, Michael Nana, and Marcia Aurand. Sarah Tittle was an active member of the CE committee through May 2023. However, she remains supportive of many CE activities and events.

Our Adult Education focused on a variety of themes in this year including Miracle, a Lenten Series – The Way, Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus, How to Read the N.T. Bible, Holding up Your Corner – Talking about Race in your Community and The Gift of the Nutcracker. Financial Peace University was conducted from January to March in person lead by Laurie Emery and Bradley Bishop. There were 9 participants this year.

Our youth group participated in a session approved Souper Bowl collection held on February 12th. The money collected was donated to the Vail Community Food Bank. They hosted the brunch at the Annual Meeting in February. The money raised will help send youth to Montlure camp. The youth made 36 soup jars for the ICS Food bank.

Confirmation classes were held beginning February 8th with confirmation held on Sunday, May 21. 9 youth participated and were confirmed. Graduating youth received quilts on May 21 and led worship that day. Kris and Shane Burton planned several summer activities for the youth - they went to a waterpark in Phoenix (June) and they met at Funtastics park (July). The youth assisted with the haunted house during our Trunk or Treat night on October 29th. We had a great turnout from our community! Youth also participated in an evening of Christmas caroling in December.

Sunday School for children began the year with a lesson about the life of Peter and Paul. Each session began with a drama skit. In the Fall we used the curriculum “All in One”. Between services on Easter Sunday there was highly anticipated Easter Egg Hunt. The fall kick-off was in August to coincide with Tucson area schools resuming. Children participated in a “Children at the Table” to prepare our children to take communion during church. The children prepared a Christmas Pageant for Sunday December 24th at the 10:00am service. Participation was terrific and the children also sang several songs. The service was well received.

We held for the first time a Spring Fling Carnival on Saturday, April 29th, 3-5pm. It included fun games, food trucks and prizes.

A very successful Vacation Bible School was from June 12-16 from 9am - 12:00pm. The theme was Stellar VBS – galaxies, stars, planets, comets and the Sun. The children participated in the Sunday service too.

Elementary, middle school and senior high students attended Montlure summer camp sessions. Time-Together continued throughout the year. A nursery staff person and a rotating list of volunteers kept our nursery running smoothly. Allison Nelson is our nursery staff attendant.

Discussions continued in early 2023 about refurbishing our children’s playground. Kris had several quotes and decided on a local playground provider “Play it Safe. They will remove the old equipment, set up the new climbing structure and replace the old gravel. Completion is set for January 2024.

After the success of Trunk or Treat as a community reach out event, the CE team considered different ideas for the Advent season. We decided to hold a Cookies with Santa on December 2nd. Santa took pictures with the children and handed out candy canes - many thanks to George Anderson.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marcia Aurand, Elder

MISSION OUTREACH TEAM

The Mission & Evangelism Team (MET) is thankful to God, and for the unwavering faithful support from the congregation, Session, Pastor John Tittle, and team members: Vikki Carpenter, Lucy Greenleaf, Cheryl Wood, Bobbie Butler, Anita Hansen, Pat Wood, Aaron Puckett, Kris Goorsky, and Shannon Dooling-Cain.

The team organized and supported successful all-church activities: the Iskashitaa Fruit Harvesting with the Youth Group, the Haven Totes Lenten Food Drive, Spread the Love Peanut Butter Party for Interfaith Community Services, Diaper Drive for the Community Diaper Bank, and the Fall Arts & Crafts Bazaar. The team retained its status as a PC(USA) Hunger Action Congregation.

In 2023, the team worked with the IPC community to provide nearly \$40,000.00 of support to its mission partners and community in giving. We are grateful to IPC Treasurer, Gary Wolfe for his continued support in working with our Missional Partners to disburse funds. The team was able to provide a summary itemization with the 2024 Stewardship Campaign, attached to this annual report.

MET continued to be led by God through the Word:

VISION STATEMENT:

“Go Therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Matthew 28:19-20

MISSION STATEMENT:

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me . . . Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”

Matthew 25:35, 36, 40

Faithfully submitted,
Jonathan Cain
2023 Co-Chair, Mission & Evangelism Team

2023 Giving Summary

Immanuel Presbyterian Church, A PC(USA) Hunger Action Congregation

2023 Giving Total: \$38,343

Casa Maria Soup Kitchen \$15,000 Casa Maria is a Catholic Worker House committed to nonviolence, voluntary poverty, prayer, and hospitality for the homeless, exiled, hungry, and forsaken. There are thousands of Catholic Worker communities around the nation, and internationally. Catholic Workers live simple lifestyles, serve the poor, and protest injustice, war, racism, and violence of all forms. Each month, Immanuel prepares hundreds of lunches to help feed the hungry in Tucson.

Compañeros en Misión \$3,000 Compañeros is one of five ministry sites of the Presbyterian Border Region Outreach (PBRO). Its mission is to build up worshiping communities in Sonora, Mexico. It addresses the physical and emotional needs of people along the border, by providing daily meals, healthcare, and personal care items.

Frontera de Cristo \$3,050 Another PBRO site, Frontera is located in the sister cities of Agua Prieta, Sonora, and Douglas, Arizona. FdC supports remedial education to children, ministry to people in recovery, the New Hope Community Center, a migrant resource center, and the Just Trade Center, which includes the women's co-op at Douglaprieta Works. It also provides personnel staffing assistance at the CAME migrant shelter and started the Just Coffee (Café Justo) cooperative.

Middle Eastern Presbyterian Fellowship \$1,500 MEPF is an Arabic-speaking fellowship that introduces the Christian Reformed faith to Arabic-speaking and Middle Eastern communities. The MEPF receives encouragement and financial support from Presbytery de Cristo, the Synod of the Southwest, the General Assembly, and various congregations and individuals.

Papago United Presbyterian Church \$1,000 Located in Sells, Arizona, Papago is a participating member of Presbytery de Cristo that serves the Tohono O'odham community. It has four chapels across the Tohono O'odham Nation: in Santa Rosa, Topawa, San Miguel, and Sells.

Haven Totes \$3,842 Haven Totes is a Christian-based food and educational assistance non-profit based at Fountain of Life Lutheran Church, focusing on supporting low-income children, families, and seniors in Tucson. Several Immanuel members volunteer at Haven Totes, and Immanuel's Annual Lenten Food Drive supports the organization. Immanuel also provides several as-needed items throughout the year, whether it be food items or school supplies.

Interfaith Community Services \$862 Serves Pima County seniors, people with disabilities, and people in financial crisis. They also administer the Eastside Food Bank which partners with the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona to distribute over 3,500 emergency food boxes each month to low-income seniors, individuals, and families in need.

Iskashitaa Refugee Network \$1,000 A Tucson-based, grass-roots organization that helps refugees rebuild their lives. Immanuel supports their Harvesting Project—an intergenerational group of refugees and volunteer who harvest approximately 100,000 pounds of fruits and vegetables each year from backyards and local farms. These foods are then given to refugee families and organizations that assist food-insecure families.

Young Adult Volunteers (YAV) Tucson Borderlands \$1,000 YAV is a non-profit that hosts volunteers for a year of service in Tucson, offering anti-oppression education, personal development, and vocational discernment. They are an ecumenical program of PC(USA) providing an opportunity for young adults, age 18-30, to serve in communities of need for a year, practice simple living in intentional communities, and participate in meaningful vocational discernment.

Montlure \$1,000.00 Montlure is owned by the two Presbyteries of Arizona; the Grand Canyon Presbytery and the de Cristo Presbytery. Montlure is a special place for children, youth and adults in the ministries of the church. It provides the opportunity for a Christian experience in a setting that places it apart from the everyday world. It brings campers in touch with the beauty of creation where God’s role in their lives is made real and enriches their relationships with others.

Vail Community Food Bank \$389 Our annual “Souper bowl of caring” supports the ReSources Vail Community Food Bank. ReSources Vail Food Bank partners with the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona to distribute emergency food bags each month to low-income seniors, individuals and families in need. Registered households can receive one food allotment per month, filled with basic food staples. As supplies are available, ReSources allows recipients to select supplemental food items to stretch their finances. This extra food comes from community food drives and from people like you. ReSources Vail Food Bank also stocks a small supply of personal hygiene items and provides emergency food bags for homeless individuals or households who have run out of food and are in crisis.

Community Diaper Bank \$700 Immanuel donated over 1000 diapers in September to the Southern Arizona Diaper Bank in partnership with the Vail School District. The Diaper Bank provides diapers to those at or near the poverty line where no public assistance exists. In 2000 the Community Diaper Bank of Southern Arizona became a free standing charitable organization, becoming the nation’s first Diaper Bank.

PC(USA) General Assembly/Synod/Presbytery Missions \$6,000 Funds to support the many missions, ministries, and programs in the PC(USA) denomination.

NOMINATING TEAM

The nominating team (Ann Jarvis, Joey Samoy, John Tittle, Laura Fennema) met on November 5, 2023, and will present the following nominees to the congregation:

Deacons:	<u>Class of 2024</u> Diana Place	<u>Class of 2025</u> Erminia Gomez	<u>Class of 2026</u> Bobbie Butler Wayne Barnes Susan Barnes Jean Samuelson
Elders:	<u>Class of 2024</u> Liz Wallendorf	<u>Class of 2025</u> Curt Christie	<u>Class of 2026</u> Karl Aurand Cheralynn Baylor Leslie Cullins-Schecter Jeff Fennema Jeff Hotchkiss

Elders ending terms in 2023 – Mike Kobylinski, Michael Dungan, Bradley Bishop, Jonathan Cain, Laura Fennema, clerk of session

Deacons ending terms in 2023 – Joe Rudigier

PERSONNEL TEAM

Immanuel is blessed with a talented, dedicated staff that helps to carry out our ministries. Their professionalism, teamwork and comradery are a true gift to the congregation.

After decades of service, Gary Wolfe has decided to retire as Immanuel's bookkeeper. Gary volunteered for this job, and has given selflessly of his time and talents. He has been a blessing to Immanuel. Kate Kelly, our office administrator, will take over the bookkeeping responsibilities. Session has approved an increase in her salary to reflect the added responsibility.

The Personnel Team recommended, and Session approved, a 3% cost of living increase for all salaried employees to help our staff members deal with inflation.

The Personnel Team is grateful for the faithful, energetic and professional staff and volunteers who are a vital part of Immanuel's worship and ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Wallendorf, Chair

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Members: Jean Nelson, Moderator, Mary Kay Bush, Secretary and Sue Anderson, Treasurer

Presbyterian Women at Immanuel (PWC) supports Presbyterian Women in Presbytery de Cristo, Synod of the Southwest, and the Churchwide PW with our annual pledges. These funds provide scholarships to events at different levels of PW, mission projects locally and worldwide, and day to day operations. Money pledged to Churchwide PW also supports the budget of PC(USA).

Presbyterian Women at Immanuel has two study circles - **Lydia Circle** meets the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30pm with a time for fellowship and refreshments and the lesson begins at 7:00pm. Meetings are held in Witherspoon Hall. **Agape Circle** meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month, from September to May, from 9:00am to 12:00pm in the homes of members. Agape Circle facilitates a local mission, Desert Sages at Immanuel. We also send letters to people we pray for during our meetings. Both circles use the Horizons Study Book.

All women at Immanuel are welcome and encouraged to join one of the circles for study, fellowship, and mission involvement.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Nelson

WORSHIP TEAM

The Worship Team prayerfully and diligently works to create a faithful and meaningful sanctuary setting and atmosphere for both the 8:30am Alternative Service and the 11:00am Traditional Service. Members of the Team include Pastor John Tittle, Clay Whittington (Director of Music Ministries), Ed Vander Woude (Elder), Debby Johnson (Elder), Barb Ayer, Amy Burton, Bobbie Butler, Merrily Davis, Ann Kellison, Louise Poehlman and Paula Rich. Linda Griffith also represents an important part of the team, creating the floral arrangements at Lent, Advent and in the sanctuary. The team meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm.

We celebrated with gratitude and thanks as Clay Whittington became Immanuel's Director of Music Ministries. His leadership of the choir, the handbells, and the Adoracion Ensemble, along with his own gifts of voice and music, has uplifted and inspired us all!

We continued our two styles of worship services: the Alternative Worship Service at 8:30am and the Traditional Worship at 11:00am. Communion returned to intinction at the 8:30am service and the elements were passed at the 11:00am service. During the summer months we had one service at 10:00am, which incorporated both the Alternative and Traditional worship expressions. Ed Vander Woude and his techies made it possible to view a service live streamed or after its conclusion, via our website and YouTube.

There are many ways to be a part of a worship service, even when people cannot be with us in person. With enthusiasm, solemnity and fun, Kris Goorsky engaged and informed children of all ages about the theme of the Sunday message during the Children's Message. Activity kits and children's books were available for use during the service.

During 2023, the Worship Team conducted business and planned normal Sunday services, as well as seasonal special services. Fresh flowers were utilized for the special services, liturgical colors were changed for specific church seasons or celebrations, lay reading and ushering continued and name tags were available as we continued to welcome new people and renew old friendships. Ann Kellison and Bobbie Butler organized and led our ushers. Ushering is an extremely important responsibility and it goes mostly unnoticed; we appreciate their welcoming smiles and hearts. We were available to assist with memorial services, helping families with service details and sanctuary set-up.

We send heartfelt thanks to the many others who help us: Judy (expert organizer), Brian (expert sweeper), Joe (expert locksmith), Wyatt (expert candle lighter), George/Harry/Phil (expert doers), lay readers and communion servers (expert volunteers) and everyone else who says "yes" when we need assistance!

We are very appreciative of the monies generated through the Lent and Advent flower appeals. These monies (referred to as the Flower Fund) enable the Worship Team to provide flowers as well as decorate and enhance the sanctuary. One half of the Lenten flower appeal goes into the Pastor Benevolence Fund. The team is committed and appreciative as it continues its service to the Immanuel family through 2024.

Thank you for calling Immanuel Presbyterian Church your home; worshipping, praising, thanking God and our Lord Jesus Christ with each other and others. It is with a humble heart and grateful spirit that this report is submitted.

Elders,
Ed Vander Woude and Debby Johnson

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP TEAM

Members: Elders, Karl Aurand, Curt Christy, and Laurie Emery, Pastor John Tittle, and Treasurer Gary Wolfe

The Finance and Stewardship Team is responsible for overseeing church finances, in particular the income and expenses of the general (operating)/ building funds. As a Christian community, We should all try to teach and practice generosity in every aspect of our lives. We believe that everything we have comes from God and that we are merely the stewards, not the owners of it. As reflected in the financial statement, 2023 was an extraordinary year for Immanuel Presbyterian Church.

We finished the year with a total income of \$436K, \$50K over our total budgeted income of \$386K. The total income is made up of general fund donations, interest earned on savings, and other income. Our annual giving for the year came in at \$436K against total expenses of \$419K, ending with net income of \$17K. We are extremely grateful for all of the financial contributions that were made in 2023 which allowed us to end in this position. 2023 did see some unique expenditures, mainly regarding the addition of nightly campus security and the new playground. Although we finished in a profitable position against our budget, we must be very careful as we plan for 2024.

The operating budget for 2024 is \$429K with forecasted operating expenses at \$438K. It is a conservative approach, but we think it is necessary to achieve a healthy year end against our budget. As always, our budget is a “fixed point” in time and can be updated when required. Pledging for 2024 is coming in strong and we are currently on target with prior years.

We ask for your prayers and guidance as we begin this new year. Thank you so much for your contributions and support.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karl Aurand, Curt Christy, and Laurie Emery

Budget and Finance Summary

Month End - December 31, 2023

General Operating / Building Fund

General Fund Checking:	\$80,699	62.9 : days	
Petty Cash:	\$0		
New Covenant MM:	\$578		
Morgan Stanley MM:	\$10,826		
Operating Funds (liquid):	\$92,103	71.7 : days	
General Fund PILP TN Investments:	\$65,942		(temp restricted)
General Fund NC BG Investments:	\$107,720		(temp restricted)
General Fund MS CD Investments:	\$10,000		(temp restricted)
Operating Funds (Restricted):	\$183,662		
Less Capital Expense reserve:	(\$92,647)	(\$82,296) : target	
Less BF Maintenance reserve:	(\$28,806)		(\$21K paint)
Less Other Dedicated Funds:	(\$69,248)		
Liabilities:	(\$190,701)		
Net:	\$85,065		

Endowment Fund

Endowment Fund Savings:	\$19,607	(not restricted)
Endowment Fund Investments (NC):	\$490,681	(perm restricted)
Net:	\$510,287	

Memorial Garden

Memorial Garden Savings:	\$6,226	(not restricted)
Memorial Garden Investments (NC):	\$99,342	(temp restricted)
Memorial Garden Investments (MS):	\$35,000	(temp restricted)
Net:	\$140,568	

ENDOWMENT TEAM

In 2023, The Endowment Executive Committee (“EEC”) continued to operate as a sub-team of Mission and Evangelism Team (“MET”), while also acting in accordance with the Immanuel Endowment Fund Resolution, dated 10-13-98 (“Resolution”).

The 2023 EEC consists of:

- Jonathan Cain, member of Session, secretary
- Laurie Emory member of Session
- Bobbie Butler, member at large, Class of 2025
- Cheryl Wood, member at large, Class 2024, chairperson
- Aaron Puckett, member at large, Class of 2023

With Jonathan Cain completing his term on Session at the end of 2023, his position and Aaron Pucket’s position will need to be filled by Session vote (c.f., Paragraph 2, Subparagraph C of the Resolution)

At the recommendation of EEC, the Session moved unanimously to disburse the following funds from interest:

- Ishkashitaa - \$1,000.00
- Montlure - \$1,000.00
- Papago - \$1,000.00
- TBYAV - \$1,151.85
- Companeros en Mision - \$3,000.00

As of Dec 2023, the total endowment is \$440,344.54.

Respectfully,
Jonathan Cain
Secretary and Member of Session
Endowment Executive Committee

MEMORIAL GARDEN

Gary Wolfe, Treasurer and Kate Kelly, acting secretary

Immanuel is blessed and honored to have such a beautiful Memorial Garden. It is a peaceful space for remembering our loved ones and to reflect and pray.

The Memorial Garden has 6 walls, each wall containing 42 niches. The total amount of niches is 252. Each niche costs \$600.00. The Garden also has a wall for memorial plaques which cost \$200.00.

The current status of the Memorial Garden is:

- 21 niches are still available:
(5 on Wall A, 8 on Wall B, 5 on Wall C and 3 on Wall D. Walls E and F are complete)
- 231 niches are either occupied or reserved

Monthly volunteers are coordinated by Skip Smith. The volunteers are Allan Wetzel, Skip Smith, Joe Rudigier, Anita Hansen, Cliff Fujii, Mary Kay Bush and Gary Grochowski. These volunteers put in countless hour maintaining and beautifying our Garden – thank you.

Memorial Garden Financial Summary Report as of December 31, 2023

PNC Savings Account	\$ 6,225.90
Liabilities	\$ (6,000.00)
Presbyterian Investment Program	\$ 13,749.12
New Covenant Investment Funds	\$ 99,342.30
<u>Reserve Funds</u>	<u>\$ 9,100.00</u>
Total Cash and Investments:	\$122,417.32