

# **2023 Year End Annual Report**

## **Atascocita Presbyterian Church**



**To Glorify God,  
Make Disciples,  
Meet Human Needs**

**Rev. Wayne Eberly,  
Moderator of Session**

**Doris Fisher, Clerk of Session**

**Steve Coleman, Moderator of Deacons**

**February 18, 2024**

**Reports to the 41st Annual Meeting of the  
Congregation and the Corporation of  
Atascocita Presbyterian Church  
Humble, Texas**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Officers of the Church and Church Staff  
Session Members Committee Assignments  
Pastor's Report  
Clerk of Session Report  
Board of Deacons Report  
Creative Learning Center Report

## **Session Committee Reports 2023**

1. Christian Growth and Nurture
2. Commitment
  - a. Finance & Stewardship
  - b. Personnel
3. Facilities
4. Spiritual Fellowship
5. Mission
6. Worship

## Church Officers and Staff

### Elders

#### 2023

Will Nees

Carol Cutshall

Terri Thomson

Libby Boyce

#### 2024

Judi Anderson

Joyce Olson

Marilyn Friedersdorf

Ron Powell

#### 2025

Traci Hlavaty

Gary Denmon

Joe Weir

Joe Breda

### Clerk of the Session

Doris Fisher

### Deacons

#### 2023

Linda Andrus

Sandra Berry

Lisa Clark

Carroll Hebert

#### 2024

Bonnie Carr

Carol Curtis

Kathy Gava

Frieda Walker

#### 2025

Jan Kennard

Claudia Nelson

Sandy Lee

Liz Frye

### Staff

Session Moderator

Director of Music

Pianist

CLC Director

Office Coordinator

Pastor Wayne Eberly

Joe Weir

Carl Braden

Cathy Gerald

Carroll Hebert

# Committee Assignments

## Session 2023

### Christian Growth and Nurture Committee

Terri Thomson Co-Moderator

ph: 713-205-0115

email: [tallaint@yahoo.com](mailto:tallaint@yahoo.com)

Joe Breda Co-Moderator

ph: 281-782-1576

email: [j\\_breda@oldhumbledistilling.com](mailto:j_breda@oldhumbledistilling.com)

### Commitment

Will Nees Co-Moderator

ph: 713-818-2941

email: [wgnees@me.com](mailto:wgnees@me.com)

Marilyn Friedersdorf Co-Moderator

ph: 713-204-0064

[mwfdorf@gmail.com](mailto:mwfedorf@gmail.com)

### Facilities

Ron Powell Co-Moderator

ph: 580-467-3095

email: [ronald.powell57@gmail.com](mailto:ronald.powell57@gmail.com)

Gary Denmon Co-Moderator

ph: 832-497-7895

email: [gdenmonjr@gmail.com](mailto:gdenmonjr@gmail.com)

### Spiritual Fellowship

Judi Anderson Moderator

ph: 281-221-8720

email: [jla.lpc55@gmail.com](mailto:jla.lpc55@gmail.com)

Sandra Berry

ph: 713-447-7719

email: [sanjef1993@gmail.com](mailto:sanjef1993@gmail.com)

### Mission

Libby Boyce Moderator

ph: 281-630-6347

email: [erboyce@hotmail.com](mailto:erboyce@hotmail.com)

Joyce Olson Co-Moderator

ph: 281-782-1576

email: [j\\_breda@oldhumbledistilling.com](mailto:j_breda@oldhumbledistilling.com)

### Worship

Traci Hlavaty Co-Moderator

ph: 281-435-6571

email: [trh@entouch.net](mailto:trh@entouch.net)

Joe Weir Co-Moderator

ph: 713-502-2084

email: [jweir@me.com](mailto:jweir@me.com)

## PASTOR'S REPORT

God provides! That theme, which guided our 2024 Stewardship Campaign, has proved to be true not only in our church finances, but truly in every aspect of our life together.

- Financially, God has indeed provided. We entered 2023 forecasting a budget deficit of some \$35,000. Through the faithful giving of our church, giving that was both generous and sacrificial, we ended the year on a better note than we ever imagined. We not only made up the deficit, we are blessed to enter 2024 with a surplus of some \$35,000. (Check the report of our Commitment Committee for the exact figures. And as you look at the report from that committee, join me in giving thanks for the faithful oversight they provide to our church finances and budget)
- Spiritually, God provided for APC in 2023. Our Faith Formation Classes provided weekly opportunities to study and grow in faith, those classes were for adults, children, and youth. Our youth class now meets every Sunday during the Faith Formation hour, and our children offerings are growing and meeting the needs of our littlest ones. We had Wednesday Bible Studies covering the Psalms in the summer and the Gospel of Matthew in the fall. PW met monthly with a faithful following of women, and we now have Time Out for Men on the same Wednesday the PW group meets. Our children had an exciting three weeks of summer camp at church, and the youth attended Conclaves and summer camp at Mo-Ranch.
- The worship life at APC is both reverent and joyful. Through the blessing of music, the liturgy that orders our services, the moments for children, our offerings and prayers, the preaching of God's word, and the celebration of the sacraments of communion and baptism, God is drawing our hearts together in very deep and meaningful ways.
- The fellowship life is a vital part of our church. Empty Nesters have dinners, Seniors and Friends have lunch, the Game Day provides fun and fellowship, the Ancient Mariners add a travel component that adds a measure of excitement. We have had numerous Wednesday night dinners that bring the whole church family together. The Live Nativity drew in great crowds both nights, and even the rain on Saturday night did not keep us from telling the story of the birth of Jesus. CLC brought to the church several fun Wacky Wednesdays, as well as the Trunk or Treat night which was a true celebration.
- God provided our church with many chances to share God's love through the mission life that was offered through our Witness and Outreach committee. We continued our support of HAAM, Seafarers, Family Promise, Presbyterian Children's Homes and Outreach, the Souper Bowl of Caring, and our special offerings. In the spring we learned about Sleep in Heavenly Peace, and now we not only actively support that ministry, we have opened our church parking lot once a month on Saturday morning to serve as the pick up site for bed deliveries.
- God has provided our church with a hard-working and diligent crew of folks who maintain our facilities. They have met the ongoing needs of our church campus with dedication and devotion. Many thanks are due to these hard-working friends.

I hope you can see why the theme "God provides" fits so well with the year we have shared together at APC. On a personal note, the phrase "God provides" means so much to both me and Julie. A year ago in February, February 6 to be exact, we arrived in Houston. We looked forward to the opportunity to join you all in ministry. What we have experienced has gone beyond anything we could have imagined. From day one we have been welcomed, supported, and encouraged in ministry. You have welcomed us into the life of the church, and even into your hearts. This new beginning has been such a rich and wonderful blessing. Our hearts are full of thanks and gratitude as we give thanks to God for calling us to serve with you and to share life with you. With glad hearts we joyfully proclaim...GOD PROVIDES!

## **APC MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION FOR 2023**

2022 ... 260 members

2023 ... 269 members

### **NEW MEMBERS: 15**

#### **April 23, 2023**

Nancy #1294 and Rick #1295 Anderson, by letter of transfer from First Methodist Humble

Julie Eberly #1296, by letter of transfer from Dunn's Corner Community Presbyterian Church, Westerly, Rhode Island

Chris Friedersdorf #1297, by letter of transfer, First Presbyterian of Kingwood

Suzanne #1298 and Robert #1299 Grawl, by transfer of letter from First Methodist Humble

Terri #1300 and John #1301 Parmerlee, by reaffirmation of faith

#### **May 7, 2023**

Adrianna Burleigh #1302, by confession of faith

Kristi Stanley #1303, by reaffirmation of faith

Jasper Stanley #1304, by confession of faith

#### **June 25, 2023**

Tchana Fangtang #1305, by letter of transfer from First Presbyterian Church of Sugarland

Chinelo #1306 Fangtang, by reaffirmation of faith

#### **July 16, 2023**

Frank Fitzpatrick #1307, by letter of transfer from Southminster Presbyterian Church, Crestwood, Missouri

Barbara Gable #1308, by letter of transfer from Southminster Presbyterian Church, Crestwood, Missouri

### **BAPTISMS: 6**

#### **March 26, 2023**

Blake Stone Eberly, son of Alex and Taylor Eberly, born June 26, 2022, in Houston, Texas. Grandson of Reverend Wayne and Julie Eberly.

**May 14, 2023**

Adrianna Burleigh, born September 9, 2009 in Kingwood, youth baptism.

Daughter of Kristi Stanley. Granddaughter of Reverend Shelley Craig and Forrest Craig.

Jasper Stanley, born September 3, 1978 in Houston, adult baptism. Husband of Kristi Stanley. Son-in-law of Reverend Shelley Craig and Forrest Craig. September 3, 1978 in Houston

**June 25, 2023**

Theo Fangtang, born September 27, 2022 in Humble, Texas. Son of Tchina and Chinelo Fangtang.

**August 20, 2023**

James Andrew Hannan III, December 3, 2021 in Kingwood, Texas. Son of Katherine and James Andrew Hannan, II. Grandson of Reverend Jacqueline Hannan and James Andrew Hannan.

**September 24, 2023**

Eric Daniel Tiller, born on October 10, 2022 in Kingwood, Texas. Son of Randy Combs Tiller and Kristin Jane Tiller. Grandson of Daniel and Patricia Williams.

**MEMBERS DISMISSED: 2**

**April 23, 2023**

Dalton Cruz, #1146 requested dismissal.

**October 22, 2023**

Sharon Sessions, #1087, transferred to First Presbyterian of Kingwood.

**MARRIAGES:**

**DEATHS: 4**

Marilyn Henderson # 72, February 22, 2023

Nancy LaNasa, #1266, April 20, 2023

Helen Wirt, # 1216, June 18, 2023

Tom Olson # 118, July 10, 2023

## DEACONS REPORT

### Class of 2023

Linda Andrus

Danny Williams

Lisa Clark

Carroll Hebert

### Class of 2024

Bonnie Carr

Carol Curtis

Kathy Gava

Frieda Walker

### Class of 2025

Jan Kennard

Claudia Nelson

Sandra Lee

Liz Frye

The office of Deacons as set forth by Scripture is one of care, witness, and service after the example of Jesus. The duty of Deacons is to minister to those in need, to the sick, and those in distress.

The Board of Deacons consists of 12 Deacons who are charged with the care of the congregation. Each person has been assigned 10-14 APC families. Caring for families means reaching out by calls or cards, providing food, and transportation as needed. It is important to know your families, and for them to know you.

In 2023, as new Deacons came onboard, the first meeting in January was to distribute information and assign families to the new Deacons. It was discussed to try to provide a casserole for the freezer every three months. This went well for the first of the year, then the need was not there, so we discontinued. A reception for the outgoing interim pastor, Tom Koop was held February 5 with the Deacons helping supply finger foods. Again, on February 19, the Deacons stepped up and prepared a reception for our new pastor, Wayne Eberly and his wife Julie.

The Deacons participated with the Easter events by serving donuts and gathering in the fellowship hall after worship with activities for the children and families. A new member's class was held and Deacons were invited to attend a class. A memorial service for Kiernan Dulany's mother was held May 27 with Deacons providing finger foods for the reception afterwards. In June, Deacon meetings were moved to 2 pm for the summer. Summer time was quiet with Deacons continuing to check on families and updates were reported at monthly meetings. Deacon meetings resumed to meeting at 5 pm after Labor Day.

Tom Olson, a long-time charter member of APC passed away in July and a memorial service was held after worship September 17 with Deacons assisting with set-up and food preparation.

November 12 was the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of APC in the fellowship hall with Deacons helping prepare foods and sending out invitations to former members.

In December, we met on the 14<sup>th</sup> to end the year of 2023 with updates on families, introducing new Deacons for 2024, 2025, and 2026. At this meeting, Steve Coleman accepted the role of Deacon Moderator. As I go off Deacon service, I am very much appreciative of all Deacons and APC families. I will always be a Deacon and ready to step up when needed. As I leave Deacon service, I leave each of the Deacons on the Board with many blessings and thanksgiving.

Deacon Moderator  
Linda Andrus



## CREATIVE LEARNING CENTER 2023

CLC was originally two distinct programs: Children's Day Out beginning in 1985 and the Creative Learning Center in 1987. The two were combined in 2001 under the umbrella name of Creative Learning Center. Both were begun as a mission outreach ministry to our community and have served successfully in that capacity for more than 35 years. In order to provide continuity, the program was conducted off-site until the new building was completed following the 2001 fire. CLC faithfully adheres to its original Purpose Statement: to provide a Christian atmosphere for young children to *learn, play, grow, and develop*. As a result, our graduating students are highly recognized within HISD for kindergarten preparedness.

- ☐ Enrollment for 2023 was approximately 100, which is below capacity. The number of staff was at 19-21, which is about the same amount as last year.
- ☐ All CLC supplies are regularly shared with Sunday school classes and VBS as needed.
- ☐ Playground equipment is updated as needed and maintained by CLC.
- ☐ G.A.T.E. (God's Acre that Educates) is maintained by CLC.
- ☐ Classrooms are painted every 3 years (**\$1750.00**), floors stripped every 2 years (**\$1900.00**), and all furniture, toys, paper towels, soap, cleaners, and disinfectants are provided by CLC for the use of church and school. These amounts are not included in the totals below.

Annual building inspection fees .....	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
Texas Health and Human Services (licensing).....	<b>238.00</b>
School portion of the phone bill .....	<b>408.00</b>
Cleaning of the classroom rugs .....	<b>400.00</b>
Fire ant treatment of playground/church grounds .....	<b>400.00</b>
GATE upkeep, additions and maintenance .....	<b>2,100.00</b>
Janitorial Service .....	<b>2,300.00</b>
Maintain and upkeep 7 classrooms.....	<b>4,000.00</b>
Maintain and upkeep playground including mosquito max .....	<b>800.00</b>
Monthly donations to APC (\$1250.00/month September – May \$650.00/month June and August), totaling .....	<b>12,400.00</b>
Miscellaneous .....	<b><u>250.00</u></b>

<b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	<b><u>\$24,296.00</u></b>
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Workers' Comp for CLC employees	<b><u>727.00</u></b>
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**Grant ERTC**

<b>Collier Materials .....</b>	<b>\$ 1,588</b>
<b>Dirt Cheap Mulch.....</b>	<b>225</b>
<b>Sherwin Williams .....</b>	<b>805</b>
<b>donation to APC for AC .....</b>	<b>6,000</b>
<b>Partner's Electric.....</b>	<b>1,267 (electricity for GATE)</b>
<b>Tay's sprinkler .....</b>	<b>8,349</b>
<b>Tay's sprinkler .....</b>	<b>4,020</b>
<b>water fountain/Filler .....</b>	<b>705</b>
<b>Pillar Plumbing.....</b>	<b>1,343</b>
<b>Carpet Connection .....</b>	<b>9,000</b>
<b>Carpet Connection .....</b>	<b>9,000</b>
<b>Amazon (laptop) .....</b>	<b>1,700</b>
<b>office depot .....</b>	<b>155</b>
<b>office depot .....</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Jesus.....</b>	<b>525</b>
<b>Jason .....</b>	<b>6,729</b>
<b>hood cleaning .....</b>	<b>520</b>
<b>smoke detector .....</b>	<b>285</b>
<b>.....</b>	<b>\$52,306</b>

The parents in CLC are very active in the participation of the HAAM FOOD DRIVE and the HAAM TOY DRIVE. In the past few years, the donations to the food drive have fed over 800 families equating to approximately \$2,400.00. If anyone would like more in-depth information, please contact Cathy Gerald for a copy of the Preschool Task Group report of 2006.

The Director, CLC Board, and faculty appreciates the staff and congregation for their continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Gerald, Director CLC

## CHRISTIAN GROWTH AND NURTURE (CGN)

During 2023, Christian Growth and Nurture has witnessed tremendous attendance growth in the Christian education opportunities. We have increased numbers of members attending Faith Formation classes at all levels. We have several families who have returned from the aftermath of the pandemic and we welcomed new members in our classes.

**Adult Education:** Three classes are offered on Sunday mornings. Sermon Scripture Study with Shelley Craig, endeavors to dive deeper into the weekly worship scriptures. Attendance is both in-person and virtual. Doug Kennard leads his class with in-depth discussions as they explore various books related to the life and culture of the Bible's historical time periods. Christian Chat offers members a place to meet and discuss a variety of topics with church family. Attendance is steady and one class is making provisions for greater seating as they are outgrowing their classroom. Pastor Wayne has also offered Bible studies throughout the year.

**Creative Learning Center:** We support the Creative Learning Center with their Wacky Wednesday program offering fun and fellowship to children in our church, the school families, along with welcoming the community to attend. Creative Learning Center director Cathy Gerald will submit a separate detailed report.

### **Children's Education:**

**Nursery:** The nursery is available Sunday mornings during both the Faith Formation and worship hours. Two adult attendants care for the children during this time.

**Preschoolers 3-4:** During the fall of 2023 we opened a Faith Formation class for 3- and 4-year-olds. Lisa Cruz, Charis Nees, and Lisa Clark have been leading classes. Katie Hannan will be joining us in 2024. Focus is on Bible stories. Students also join the K-5<sup>th</sup> grade class for music education during the final 15 minutes of class led by Debbie Becker, with David Gerald's accompaniment with his guitar. During December, the students participated in worship service by singing songs they had learned.

**Elementary students:** Students are learning the Bible stories as we work our way through the *Laugh & Grow Bible for Kids*. Music Education is the last 15 minutes of the hour. Classes are led by, Bonnie Russell, Charis Nees, Lisa Stacy, and Terri Thomson. Students participated in a song presentation during December worship.

**Easter Celebration:** Committee partnered with APC Deacons for the Sunday Morning Celebration. Our youth hid eggs for the children's egg hunts. Two crafts were available for everyone. Donuts with Deacons joined in the event as an opportunity for APC families to meet their deacons. The fellowship hall was full of fellowship and joy. Prior to entering worship, the youth helped release butterflies while the congregation watched with awe and amazement. A joyous morning for all.

**Summer Camps:** Each summer we offer three weeks of camps for elementary-age children. Each week has Bible lessons that coordinate with one of three themes -Art, Music, and Science. A session of physical activities is planned each day. We sold out this year in less than 48 hours, filling all 30 slots for each week. The children enjoy engaging in all aspects of learning. Their joy is a blessing to our congregation.

**Library:** The APC library is open to all members and guests for browsing a variety of resources with the capability of checking out books. Marilyn Friedersdorf and Lisa Ryan have organized and maintained the library.

**Youth:** Mid-year the APC youth director was called in a different direction and we sent him off with gratitude and prayers in his new journey. Julie Eberly is currently leading a Faith Formation class at 9:30 on Sunday mornings. Attendance has been steady and the youth are engaging in their new study Bibles. They have participated in PYCC functions, Conclaves, Jr High Jubilee, and Sr High Youth Celebration.

# **COMMITMENT COMMITTEE**

## **FINANCE, STEWARDSHIP, AND PERSONNEL**

### **FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP**

#### **Summary of 2023 Operating Results**

Due to the continued generous support of the congregation and friends of Atascocita Presbyterian Church total contributions for 2023 were \$374,599.75. With operating expenses of \$337,479.86, APC ended the year with a positive cash flow of \$37,119.89.

Personnel ended the year under budget by \$5,621.17 due to the resignation of our Youth Director.

Finance ended the year over budget by (\$4,702.35) due to increases in the facilities insurance, online giving fees, software licenses, office supplies, and mortgage cost.

Facilities expenses were under budget by \$3,204.65 due to the use of money that had been allocated to the Facilities Capital Maintenance Fund.

Worship was under budget by \$120.62.

Christian Growth & Nurture was under budget by \$565.45.

The Mortgage balance at the end of 2023 was \$275,383.29, with a payoff date of 1/2033. The mortgage is an adjustable-rate loan with a three-year term.

The Mission committee was under budget by \$23.69.

Presbytery of New Covenant	\$9,072.96
General Assembly Per Capita	\$2,856.00
Local/National/International Support	\$11,976.35

Support was given to Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Presbyterian Mission Agency, HAAM, Presbyterian Disaster Agency, Presbytery, CLC (Wacky Wednesday), Family Promise, Humble Area Charity Golf Tournament, Seafarer's Ministry, Houston Food Bank, Faith in Practice, Presbyterian Children's Home, and PTSD Foundation (Camp Hope). Total mission support provided by Atascocita Presbyterian Church including non-budgetary giving was \$29,924.46.

Total assets at the end of 2023 were \$95,765.58 and total liabilities of \$14,418.77. There was \$43,218.08 held in the Regions Bank checking account, \$50,822.26 with Morgan Stanley, and \$2,200 in online giving clearing with The Presbyterian Foundation. There was \$37,119.89 in the daily operating account and \$58,645.69 allocated to special funds. Examples of special funds include memorial, youth camps and mission, facilities capital maintenance, technology, Christian education and nurture, mission crafters, and other funds.

**Special Funds Disbursements of note.**

Church Growth                      \$7,250 for half payment of Pastor Moving Expenses.

Memorial                              \$4,132.92 transferred to Treasurers Report income.

Facilities Capital Maintenance    \$18,125.44 including LED parking lot lights, LED classroom lights, roof repair, emergency light repair, bathroom painting/repairs, HVAC repair. Exterior lighting of \$1,267.00 that was reimbursed by CLC.

Live Nativity Project                \$5,525.84

Technology                            \$4,192.56 including Solar Consultant, Pastor computer, sanctuary blind batteries, ChurchArt, ProPresenter, website security licenses, battery backup, estimate for GATE WIFI.

Special Offerings                    \$4,094.08 Including OGHS, Pentecost, P&GW, and Christmas Joy.

Thank you to Forrest Craig for his tireless work as Financial Secretary.

**PERSONNEL**

Wayne Eberly agreed to be our pastor and was installed in early 2023.

Personnel meetings were held with our office administrator, Carroll Hebert, and youth director, Aaron Seay. Aaron Seay resigned his position in the summer of 2023. APC does not currently have a paid youth director and we are grateful for the members that have volunteered to lead that program.

**COMMITMENT COMMITTEE**

Submitted by Will Nees, Committee Chair 2023

Dick Bruns

Forrest Craig, Financial Secretary

Marilyn Freidersdorf, Committee Co-Chair

Allan Griffin

## **FACILITIES COMMITTEE**

The committee kept busy in 2023 with a few major projects to tackle and various minor projects that kept the team occupied. We are fortunate to have several talented and caring members willing to share their time and energy to keep APC in good working order... and we are fortunate to have a congregation that is patient and understanding knowing that a facility of this age and size takes significant attention! Thank you!

Roof leaks and repair continue to be a reoccurring issue. Because of fund constraints, we choose to have a limited repair applied mainly to the junction area of the two buildings – old and new. The roofing company, Marlin Construction, worked with us on completing the job to our satisfaction as there were complications with the repair; this was a \$21,100 expenditure (April 2021).

Plumbing is another area of attention for us: Fixtures and valves (for toilets/urinals) are replaced as we learn of the problem. The water fountain was replaced with a bottle filling station. Leaks because of plugged kitchen floor drains are thought to be caused by bacterial buildup in the AC drain lines; they are being treated monthly to prevent clogs. The water supply line and electrical wiring for the water heater was rerouted as it interfered with the access to the HVAC unit located above the pantry.

Lighting for both the inside and the outside of the building received a good amount of the committee's time. Fluorescent lighting in the CLC classrooms was replaced with LED lighting. Outside security lights (on the building) were replaced with LED lights; parking lot lights were modified to LED lights.

Bathrooms (main hallway) were painted after sheetrock repairs were completed. New LED lighting was installed in the women's restroom with new diffusers. Emergency lighting was installed in both bathrooms.

Cleaning services continued to be an issue in 2023. After changing to Prestige in the fall of 2022, they provided unsatisfactory service. A good deal of time was spent searching for a new cleaning company; we've switched to Mint Condition.

A new AED device was installed in June; it is leased and maintained by the vendor. CenterPoint installed a new gas meter in July. Ceiling tiles stained by roof leaks were replaced. An UBS for Gateway (Pelican) controller was installed and has reduced the number of failures of the HVAC controller because of losing internet connection.

The sanctuary eastside air conditioning compressor was replaced in July after failing in June.

Gary and I wish to thank all of the people who have donated their time, talents, and financial donations toward helping keep APC in good working order and to improve it along the way.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Denmon and Ron Powell

# SPIRITUAL FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

## Summary of 2023 Activities: Plans for 2024

Under the guidance of Linda Andrus, the **Ancient Mariners** had a lot of fun at interesting outings: A trip to the Madisonville Museum and Froggy Winery in Huntsville in March; NASA Space Center in April; the Schulenberg Museum and German Meat Market in Flatonia in June; and the George H W Bush Presidential Library and Museum and Veterans Memorial Park in College Station in September. Trips being planned for 2024 include Minute Maid Park in January, the Brookwood Community in February, a trip to the Durham Library at Houston Christian University in April, and a trip to see *Cher* at the Theatre under the Stars (TUTS).

The **Empty Nesters**, under the guidance of Ellen Nipe, had monthly dinner outings at Italiano's, Sharkey's, the home of the Craigs, the home of Pat Litzinger, Time Out Tavern, and El Jimador.

**Presbyterian Women**, under the guidance of Judi Anderson, finished their study of "Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight" in May and began their new study "Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus-Christ in Luke-Acts" in September. The group also met during the summer for potluck, fellowship, and discussion of fun and interesting experiences.

**Game Day for Grown-ups**, under the leadership of Terri Parmerlee, met the last Thursday of the month for potluck and fun games including dominoes, bingo, trivia, and other fun.

**Seniors and Friends Lunch Group**, under the guidance of Bonnie Carr, met for lunch at various local restaurants once a month including Hacienda Los Arcos, Hippo Burgers, Tin Roof BBQ, Ling's Buffet, Spring Creek BBQ, Iguana Joe's, and The Catch.

**Hospitality**, under the guidance of Jane Church, sends Welcome Notes to visitors as well as distributes "Visitor Bags" to them. She is also presenting the APC Cookbooks to New Members.

**Needlers**, under the guidance of Rosemary Mumford and Karen Frye, meet twice a month to work on Community Service Projects such as making quilts for children.

**SF Live Nativity**, under the guidance of Sandra Berry, helped provide cookies, incense bags, gold coins, and letters from Santa for the Live Nativity event.

**Yoga**, under the leadership of Lisa Stacy, meets each Monday morning.

Spiritual Fellowship continues to be involved in **Shot Shuttle**, **Use of Medical Equipment**, and providing dinner for **Family Promise** on an "as needed" basis.

Other activities for the Spiritual Fellowship Committee for 2023 included the following:

- Thank You Reception for outgoing interim minister Tom Koop
- Welcome Reception for new Pastor Wayne and Julie Eberly
- Kitchen Project and Organizational Task Force
- Photography Presentation by Emily Murphy
- Participation in the Oktoberfest Feast
- 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of APC

## MISSION COMMITTEE

The Mission Committee develops and nurtures the congregation's influence outside the church to follow the Biblical imperative to help others and to support the mission of the Presbyterian Church (USA) at various levels. This committee is responsible for activities that reach out to those around us who are in need, for identifying community concerns, and developing appropriate responses to them.

- **Missions that we support**
  - Houston Food Bank
  - Camp Hope
  - HAAM
  - Youth mission trips
  - Seafarer's Center
  - Mission Northeast
  - Family Promise
  - Family Time Women's Shelter
  - Sleep in Heavenly Peace
- **Year at a Glance**
  - January/February: Diaper Drive – Family Time Women's Shelter
  - March/April: One Great hour of Sharing and Pentecost Offerings
  - June: Blood Drive
  - July/August: School Supplies
  - September: Seafarer's Boxes, Peace & Global Witness offering
  - October/November: HAAM food drive
  - December: Toy Drive, Christmas Joy Offering

The Committee shall be sensitive to new opportunities for mission as it strives to make mission an integral part of the life of the congregation. It shall communicate and interpret the mission programs of the church to the congregation and seek to foster broad participation in mission programs. The committee is responsible for certain concerns that may or may not receive specific emphasis each year. These concerns include:

1. Missionary support
2. Special offerings
3. Mission trips
4. Denominational benevolence concerns
5. The Committee shall seek and encourage the congregation to participate in mission experiences.

The Committee shall consider and evaluate special requests that come to the committee from time-to-time and make recommendations to the session for monetary and other support. The committee is responsible for maintaining ties with covenant organizations, and shall propose to the session persons to fill terms on the boards of such organizations. The Committee also has the responsibility for the promotion of special offerings as approved by the session, such as One Great Hour of Sharing, Peace and Global Witness, Pentecost, Christmas Joy, and other approved special offerings to be used for mission purposes.



## WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Atascocita Presbyterian Church has been blessed with a rich and meaningful year of worship.

The worship committee guided the planning and preparation that took our congregation through the seasons of the church year.

- Ash Wednesday service
- Palm Sunday
- Maundy Thursday
- Good Friday
- Easter
- Pentecost
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As we moved into summer the focus in worship turned to the Psalms in the month of July, and a celebration of favorite hymns through August. In the fall, the sermon series took the congregation through the Gospel of Matthew. All of this led up to a joyful 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary gathering on November 12. During the Season of Advent families took turns lighting the Advent Candles, and our hearts were full with a beautiful candlelight service on Christmas Eve.

Worship Committee is grateful for all those who joined to support the worship life of APC.

- Our Chancel Choir with their faithful service and ministry, under the outstanding direction and accompaniment of Joe Weir and Carl Braden.
- Ushers
- Greeters
- Liturgists
- Moments with children
- Preparation of communion
- Elders and Deacons who serve communion
- Our liturgical arts team who bring worship alive through their artistic offerings
- The decoration of the church for Advent

In addition to the many opportunities to worship through the life of the church, the Lake Houston Chamber Singers, as well as the Madrigal Singers from Atascocita High School also blessed us with the opportunity to host three concerts.

As we look back on the worship life at APC in 2023, we give thanks to all who helped in so many ways. We give thanks to God for the spiritual life and vitality that marks our gatherings. We enter 2024 looking forward to giving glory and offering our hearts in worship and adoration to our mighty God.

Worship Committee members in 2023

Traci Hlavaty (Moderator)

Joe Weir (Elder)

Cathy Gava

Sandra Berry

Allan Griffin