



PebbleCreek
COMMUNITY CHURCH

2024 Annual Report

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Pastor's Report *Nate Watkins* 2024

PebbleCreek Community Church is part of the Protestant branch of Christianity, which came into existence by way of a split with the Catholic branch back in the early 1500s. The name “Protestant” was assigned to all those followers of Jesus at the time who were “protesting” against the way church was being done. From their perspective, quite a bit of the church doctrine and practice needed to be changed, transformed, improved, or revised. The word they settled on in the end was the need for the church to be “reformed.” Thus, the whole movement came to be known as the “Protestant Reformation.”

One of the rally cries of that movement was *semper reformanda* – a phrase in Latin that means “*Always reforming*.” The idea was that just as followers of Jesus should never be satisfied with who they are, but through the Word of God and the power of His Spirit, should always be looking to experience change – seeking to become more and more like Jesus each day – so the church at large also ought to expect an unceasing reformation of the heart over time. Every group of believers who call themselves a church, in other words, ought to be willing to change in order for them to become the church God needs them to be in their context. It means never being satisfied or content with who we might have been yesterday, or how we might have done things yesterday, but always committed to the process of becoming who God needs us to be today. *Always reforming* is a key idea of our Christian tradition.

And this is what I have been focused on the most in 2024. As your pastor, I have been pushing us to reconsider, reevaluate, reassess, and reexamine who we are and what we do, not because anything is wrong or the ways things have been done in the past are no longer working, but because reformation reflects our commitment to God’s process – both individually and collectively. Even if we make no changes at all from year to year, the practice of re-assessment is healthy. It keeps us focused. Limber. Flexible. It keeps us listening to God’s voice and asking – what do You want to do in and through us this coming year? Is there any area that we can strengthen, improve, become more strategic?

And that commitment to reformation has already led to a number of small changes that are fairly obvious to anyone in attendance – changes in our worship service structure, the use and location of our choir, changes in our worship technology, new signs, new seating arrangements, a new website is in the works, our online presence is growing, the bulletin is undergoing a makeover, and much more. All of those changes are due to my commitment to *semper reformanda*. But there are also quite a few changes happening outside your notice in the Board meetings, the membership process, the finances, the composition of our committees, even re-looking at our original constitution and bylaws. I have encouraged a reassessment across the whole organization...because I believe *semper reformanda* is essential to the mysterious move of Spirit in our church.

In fact, let me show you how this idea applies to me in particular. A few months ago, I was having lunch with a group of local pastors and the one who was in charge that day asked everyone to explain how they approach preaching on Sunday. “Explain your process...” he said. And yes, this is a typical question among pastor-types – you might think it incredibly boring. Anyway, I listened to several of the other pastors provide lengthy explanations of their process and what structure they use for their sermons and what resources they tend to use as their basis for doctrine, who they try to pattern themselves after, etc. And frankly, most of them simply were repeating what they had been taught in seminary.

When it came my turn, I told them that my basic approach to preaching is fascination. I focus my study on what fascinates me as I read through the text. What intrigues me? What captivates my attention? What questions pop into my mind as I read? I then ask the Spirit of God to help me communicate that fascination with my congregation, with the end goal of my preaching being that my congregants will develop a lifelong fascination with the Word of God. Because I am confident that if they do, God’s Spirit will teach them all they need to know over time.

The pastors around the table stared at me like I was a dog with no legs.

And yet, as I explained it further, they began to understand. Because what every preacher knows is that it’s near impossible for everyone in your crowd to follow your train of thought and make the intuitive leaps of logic that seem obvious to you, the preacher. Even the best preachers recognize this reality. Even the best seminary training can’t overcome this obstacle. Some congregants will fully grasp what you’ve said, others might grasp some of it, but the majority will forget all of it the moment they head to lunch. But what they will remember long after the knowledge is gone, is your attitude. If in your preaching you set an example for what it looks like to be in love with God’s Word and consistently express how compelling, and challenging, and transformative it has been to your own life, your people will remember that approach far longer than the actual knowledge you tried to impart.

I also shared with them how focusing on fascination allows me to revisit the same passage later on, maybe a few years down the road, fully expecting to be intrigued by something different this time. So often, pastors attempt full explanations of a passage and then feel they’ve exhausted their study of that scripture, never to return. And that means, at a certain point, they just begin to recycle sermons, because they’ve said all they know to say about that passage. But if you allow fascination to be your guide, then you will find you are not intrigued by everything in a passage, just some of it, and you can leave the rest for next time. Sticking with what fascinates you today provides you with a compelling reason to return to it tomorrow, reexamine your assumptions, and allow God to teach you something new.

In any case, I tell you all this because fascination is one way I try to live out the “always reforming” ideal. By focusing on my internal motivation for studying God’s Word rather than the amount of knowledge I can remember at any given moment, I provide myself with the necessary ingredient to stick with the discipline over time, and that benefits me greatly. I am always learning. Always in the mind set that God will bring something new to light that grabs

my attention. And the same is true for all of you. When we focus on our attitudes and our motivations, and get them right, the rest seems to fall into place.

So, thank you all for embracing me as your pastor/leader this past year and giving me some freedom to reexamine what we do and why we do it. I couldn't have asked for a better congregation. I look forward to 2025!

Pastor Nate

Chairman of the Board Report 2024

Chair: Charlie Newcomer

Board Members: John Aycock, Inge Chapman, Leota Easley, Sharon Graville, Steve Kirk, Mary McFarland, Faye Sessoms, and Pastor Nate Watkins

Dear fellow Christians of PebbleCreek Community Church:

As the snowbirds retreated to cooler climates this last summer, Pastor Nate led us in a “Summer of Psalms”. In Psalm 51:10-12, David spoke to God saying “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me”. (ESV)

Also from Psalms, a hymn of praise of David: Psalm 103:1-2 requests “Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits”. (ESV)

PCCC Staff:

Pastor Nate and Rocio completed their first year leading us in word and song. We are graced with their talents that enriches our worship experience. Pastor Nate has become very involved in the community through softball and other activities. This outreach has attracted new attendees to our church services, and to Pastor Nate’s Bible studies.

Pastor Nate just completed his third Bible study, the book of Romans.

Katie Croy continues to direct our choir, and was able to attend a music conference this past year. From this conference, she brought several pieces of music for the choir to sing, and for the congregation to enjoy.

Phyllice Walton continues as our secretary, bringing her talents to our church. She works closely with Pastor Nate, producing the church bulletins on a weekly basis.

Our congregation lost our treasurer in the fall, as God called our beloved Syd Mersereau to join all the Angels in Heaven. We all miss her dearly. Don Hlusak has stepped in as our interim, and is fulfilling all duties of the treasurer position. Resolutions were passed by the Elder Board giving him responsibilities as interim. Long term plans for this position will be addressed early in 2025.

God Continues to Bless PebbleCreek Community Church

- Our worship attendance continues to increase. Pastor Nate, and a few Elders, held two meetings this past year to inform potential new members about our church, its Boards and Committees.

- There continues to be a sense of unity and excitement in our congregation. On Sunday mornings Pastor Nate takes a moment for the congregation to greet one another. Those moments seem to be growing longer with increased enthusiasm every week!
- Our production team continues to produce online recordings and pictures to enhance the services. The music and sermons are made available on YOUTUBE every Sunday afternoon for those unable to attend in person.
- Tithes, gifts, and offerings continue to increase so that we are ending the year with a surplus.
- All Boards and Committees continue to meet regularly. Their efforts are much appreciated. We would like to encourage new member and attendees to become involved in these committees, bringing their talents and expertise.
- The Elder Board met monthly, with the exception of the summer months. We continue to have monthly devotions from the book Spiritual Leadership. This book gives principles of leadership that are scripture based. We continue to oversee the Boards and Committees, oversee the budget process, and continue to monitor the needs of our church and congregation.

We give praise to God as He continues to bless His Church here in PebbleCreek.

Respectfully Submitted,
Charlie Newcomer
 Chair of the Elder Board

Board Of Deacons Report

2024

Chairperson: Jan Kirk, *Elder Liaison:* Inge Chapman

Deacons: Kathy Cheek, Gladys Conklin, Barbara Geiges, Mary Lou Goss, Linda Pardue, Jeanne Schimmelpfennig, Ruth Windorski

Objectives:

1. The Board of Deacons elected and confirmed by the church membership is to nurture members and regular attendees of PebbleCreek Community Church. They greet visitors, send cards for several occasions, assist at times of bereavement, and provide meals to those members in need due to surgery or illness, and regularly contact the congregation via. phone calls, texts, and e-mails.
2. To facilitate up-to-date communication between individual Deacons, each posts ministry activities information regularly on GoogleSheets.

Review of the past year: (January 1, 2024 ~ December 31, 2024)

- The Deacons made numerous visits in homes and convalescent facilities. The Deacon Outreach Ministry made 299 visits, 332 calls, and sent 77 e-mails and texts and 297 cards. (These cards are in addition to those sent by the Card Ministry Distributor). The Deacon ministry continues to provide visits, encouragement, and prayers for the ill. The Deacons (through our Outreach Ministry and Monthly Deacon Coordinators) have prepared 28 meals.
- The Deacons (through our Outreach Ministry and Monthly Deacon Coordinators) have prepared 53 meals.
- A team of 31 Deacon Helpers graciously agreed to provide meals as needed. Our list of Deacon Helpers was updated for 2024.
- The Card Ministry sent birthday, anniversary, get well, and thinking of you cards to regular attendees and members. Sympathy cards were also sent to members and the PebbleCreek community at large as a part of our outreach to non-members for a total of 364 cards in 2024.
- The Mats for Homeless Ministry has made and delivered mats to Andre House in Phoenix and Aqua Fria Food Bank, for a total of 280 mats.
- The Band of Brothers (Men Helpers) is a group of 10 men who are available to help other men by visiting at homes or in rehab facilities, driving a man to doctor/physical therapy appointments, and/or other general help as needed. They also plan activities/outings for men in the congregation, including one event in 2024.

- A Maintenance and Repair Members list includes 10 who are available to help the congregation with general maintenance, battery/smoke detectors, organizing and downsizing , and computer problems.
- Grief Share met at Robson Reserve for two sessions (each lasting 13 weeks) with an average attendance of eight (8) in the spring and (10) in the fall. The group works together to provide support, direction, and healing. Grief Share also provides a way for participants to share their grief journey experiences after a loved one's death.
- Every effort is made to greet members and visitors and reach out to serve PebbleCreek congregation and community.

Board Of Trustees Report

2024

Co-Chairs: Don Hlusak, Todd Spiegel, *Elder Liaison:* Charlie Newcomer

Trustees: Liz Arnold, John Conklin, Keith Easley, Jim Gillespie, Frank Glowinski, Greg Goss, Darrell LoCascio, Nancy Love, Tom MacKenzie, Dave Modderman, Ruth Walters

Objectives:

1. Provide for the physical set-up, tear-down, and storage of equipment for each service and event, including the sound system, projectors, and camera for the 9:00 a.m. service.
2. Maintain an inventory (count, condition, and value) of the physical assets.
3. Purchase supplies for the fellowship time after services, as needed
4. Place signs (4) advertising PCCC at various locations in the community on Sunday morning. Pick up after service.
5. Prepare coffee, hot water, and ice water for the fellowship time, as needed.
6. Set up all sound equipment, microphones, and camera, as needed, and provide Trustees to operate the equipment for all services and special events.
7. Lower the screens and prepare the projector and computer for on-screen presentation.
8. Set up the camera and record the service. Edit it and place on the website on Sunday afternoon
9. Provide a count of church attendance each Sunday and for special events.
10. Return all equipment to storage after the service.
11. Recommend to the Board of Elders any maintenance or new equipment needs.
12. Maintain a spreadsheet during the summer to show the need for additional help with set-up and take down. Recruit assistance from the congregation to fill in during the summer months.
13. Maintain contact between Chairpersons and Elder Liaison throughout the year to address any problems or concerns.

Review of the past year: (January 1, 2024 ~ December 31, 2024)

- Trustees were assigned for each Trustee function: physical set-up and tear-down for each service, sound system, and camera recording.
- Coordinated with the Activities Office/HOA for changes in seat numbers when the snowbirds leave and when they return. There are four different configurations each year.
- Updated the inventory of all church-owned equipment.
- Counted church attendance each week and for special events.

- Provided one trustee (Nancy Love) to the Nominating Committee to fill openings for all three boards.
- Elder Liaison and Chairpersons kept in contact throughout the year to work out any concerns or problems.
- Coordinated with Pastor Nate to modify set-ups for worship to conform with his needs and desires, especially with regard to the sound and music functions. Acquired new sound equipment to support the Pastor's musical service needs.
- Worked with Elder Liaison and Nominating Committee to add three trustees in 2024 to complete our roster.
- Purchased three new hearing assist units to add to the three units that we current have..
- Purchased a set of steps for use in the worship service to more easily transit between the floor and the stage.
- Purchased and assembled shelving for the church office.
- Secured commitments from three Trustees whose terms expire in 2025 to be willing to serve for another three year term.
- Coordinated use of risers owned by PC Singers for use at the PCCC Cantata. This included set-up, take-down, and delivery to the PC Singers storage facility.
- We are constantly reviewing our objectives and methods in order to effectively serve PCCC and its mission.

Church Officers and Staff
As of December 31, 2024

Pastor:	Nate Watkins
Elders:	Charlie NewComer (<i>Chair</i>), John Aycock, Inge Chapman, Leota Easley, Bob Geiges, Sharon Graville, Mary McFarland, Steve Kirk, Faye Sessoms, Pastor Nate Watkins
Board Secretary:	Mary McFarland
Trustees:	Don Hlusak, Todd Spiegel (<i>Co-Chairs</i>), Liz Arnold, John Conklin, Frank Glowinski, Darrell LoCascio, Nancy Love, Tom MacKenzie, Dave Modderman, Ruth Walters
Deacons:	Jan Kirk (<i>Chair</i>), Kathy Cheek, Gladys Conklin, Barb Geiges, Mary Lou Goss, Linda Pardue, Jeanne Schimmelpfennig, Ruth Windorski
Secretary:	Phylice Walton
Treasurer:	Syd Mersereau
Choir Director:	Katie Croy
Pianists:	Shirley Nebergall Karen Peterson
Prayer Coordinator:	Edna DeFord

Choir Director Report 2024

Objectives:

1. Research, select, and order music that represents biblical truths and supports the church and pastor's vision.
2. Work collaboratively with pastor
3. Participate in the Worship Committee
4. Plan and direct choir rehearsals
5. Encourage current choir members
6. Recruit new choir members
7. Create a ministry environment of care and support within the choir
8. Select and present a Christmas Canata
9. Attend a choral workshop to inform selection of future music
10. Work collaboratively with our choir pianist, Shirley Nebergall
11. Prepare articles for PebbleCreek Post as needed
12. Assist with other duties as assigned

Review of the past year: (January 1, 2024 ~ December 31, 2024)

This year has been a true blessing to my heart. The choir has moved past the transition phase to a committed community of singers who are dedicated to providing worship and praise to the Lord through their music ministry. Shirley Nebergall has been a blessing to the choir as our accompanist and recorder of SATB parts. These recordings are available for the choir to use independent of our weekly rehearsal time.

As a reminder to those in the congregation who may wish to join us, choir membership does not require an audition. New members may join any time during the year by contacting Katie. We have grown again this year to 35 members who all give freely of their talents and praise to the Lord. The choir schedule includes Sunday anthems from September through May with practice sessions each Tuesday from 4:00pm-5:30pm in the Robson theater. The choir is on hiatus in the summer and during Christmas break.

One of the highlights of the choir ministry for 2024 was the Christmas Cantata "Love is Born". The cantata was presented twice, once to those at Robson Reserve and again at our church on

December 8th as an outreach to the PebbleCreek community and our congregation. Attendees commented on the strength and beauty of the voices and the uplifting spirit of the cantata. A

huge thank you to the Fellowship Committee for the delicious Christmas cookies they provided at both presentations.

I would like to thank the church board for allowing me to attend the summer choral music conference. It was an uplifting and informative time of growth. I was able to attend exceptional workshops and participate in an abundance of music reading sessions. The end result of the conference was the excellent music I was able to select confident that the music would align with the choir's expertise and more importantly present biblical messages meant to provide a spirit of worship and praise for the congregation.

We welcome all those who are interested in joining the choir to attend a rehearsal to become familiar with this important ministry. You are also welcome to call me anytime to request a meeting where I will provide an overview of my work with the choir plus a walk-through of our rehearsal time and answer any questions you might have.

Honored to Serve Our Savior,

Katie Croy

619.675.2264

Communications Committee Report

2024

Chairperson: Valerie Spiegel, *Elder Liaison:* John Aycock

Committee Members: Bonnie Brown, Katherine Gibson, Jean Kotula

Objectives:

1. To coordinate messaging within the church, via website updates relative to worship, personnel, social events, meetings, committees, finances, and other news items.
2. To keep the entire PebbleCreek Community informed of our church's activities and worship opportunities via website, Post publications, and clubhouse bulletin boards.
3. To alert PebbleCreek residents of on-campus Sunday worship opportunities and the existence of a non-denominational church within their community.

Revue of the past year: (January 1, 2024 ~ December 31, 2024)

- Maintained a communications management strategy with a committee member assigned to each major church committee/committees as liaison for that communications channel.
- Video recording of Sunday Worship services and special events were published to our website each Sunday via YouTube thanks to the faithfulness and initiative of Joe and Liz Arnold.
- Submitted 17 articles to the PebbleCreek Post regarding church activities throughout the year.
- Renewed monthly PCCC advertisements in PC Post and the annual Sourcebook thanks to Dave Modderman. In addition, the church advertisement featured on the back fence of the PebbleCreek Ball Field was refunded. We also posted separate ads in the PebbleCreek Post highlighting Easter and Christmas worship opportunities.
- Submitted timely internal articles and pictures for posting on the church website so potential visitors and members can easily access current church news and future participation opportunities.

Connections Committee Report 2024

Chairperson: Butch Windorski, *Elder Liaison:* Bob Geiges

Committee Members: Nancy Duncanson, Brad Evans, Mike Priebe, Jim Reynolds, Larry Sessoms, Don Wynne

Objectives:

1. To do all we can to make visitors in our church feel comfortable and welcome.
2. To encourage people who attend our church to become regular attenders and/or members.
3. To assist in the reception of new members.
4. To track attendance and follow-up on inactive members.
5. To work on policies and programs that enhance outreach and make participation in church a joyful and spiritually rewarding experience.

Review of the past year: (January 1, 2024 ~ December 31, 2024)

- **Welcome Packets:** These packets will continue to be distributed to first time visitors. fr They have been updated to include a current message from Pastor Nate and information about our church.
- **Church Pictorial Directory:** Our committee retains responsibility to update our church directory and print as needed.
- **Worship Service Attendance Growth:** Our church experienced significant growth in worship service attendance. Our committee will continue to search out innovative ideas for how we can, in a friendly manner, reach out to receive people with Christ's love. We welcome any input from our congregation around how we might better serve and minister to the needs of our congregation.
- **Our Goal:** The goal of our committee is to meet, welcome, and create a relationship with visitors to make them feel comfortable in making a decision about joining us in fellowship on a regular basis.

Education Committee Report **2024**

Chairperson: Mary McFarland, *Elder Liaison,* Leota Easley

Committee Members: Joe Arnold, Howard Atkinson, Steve Duncanson, Rebecca Wible, Ruth Windorski

Objectives:

1. To increase biblical discipleship and promote spiritual maturity of the PebbleCreek Community Church congregation.
2. Facilitate Bible study and support group leaders with prayer, communication, resource study materials, recruiting, and training new leaders.
3. Communicate to the congregation with a current list of the groups that are meeting, including the study topics, meeting times, and contact person, biblically based materials including “Our Daily Bread” and pamphlets, and information on biblical educational opportunities in the area.

Review of the past year: (January 1, 2024 ~ December 31, 2024)

- Supported eight (8) bible study groups meeting in person and on Zoom
 - a. Women (2)
 - b. Men (2)
 - c. Mixed (4)
- Continued holding Bible studies in Robson Reserve
- Served as a resource for Bible study topics and questions from leaders
- Recognized Bible study leaders during a worship service
- Showed Christian movies in Robson Reserve Theater throughout the year
- Began a discussion group of the previous Sunday’s sermon
- Organized two tours of the Bible History Museum in Goodyear
- Contributed articles for the Post publication
- Continued writing the monthly “Know Your Bible” article for the bulletin and website. A total of 45 books have been reviewed
- Supplied “Our Daily Bread” and other Biblical materials
- Managed the church library cart each Sunday by adding appropriate books and encouraging members to take the books home and enjoy

Fellowship Committee Report

2024

Chairperson: Jan Kirk, *Elder Liaison:* Faye Sessoms

Committee Members: Mary Lou Goss, Leslie Henson, Sharon Moran, Susan Preston
Patricia Wilson, Ruth Windorski

Objective:

The goal of the Fellowship Committee is to provide opportunities for our members, regular attendees, and prospective members to socialize together, get to know one another, and build relationships while sharing fun activities throughout the year.

Revue of the past year: (January 1, 2024 ~ December 31, 2024)

Fellowship Hour: The social time each Sunday after church services provides snacks, coffee, and great conversation.

Fellowship Events: The Committee planned eight (8) events over the period of a year.

- **JANUARY-APRIL, 2024:** Small Social Circles with four (4) groups and 31 participants led by Steve and Nancy Duncanson, Nancy Love, Syd Mersereau, and Todd and Valerie Spiegle.
- **JANUARY 25, 2024:** Square Dance and Home Style Buffet Dinner
- **MARCH 5, 2024:** Pre-Season Baseball Game at Goodyear Ballpark featuring the Guardians vs. Mariners included a buffet lunch with beverages and dessert.
- **APRIL 1, 2024:** Spring Fling Fellowship Dinner featuring CJ Magician
- **JULY 14, 2024:** Summer Fellowship Event “Popcorn and a Movie”
- **NOVEMBER 1, 2024:** “Picnic on the Patio – Welcome Back Church Family.” Due to rain, the event moved in indoors but included lots of games, good food, and fun.
- **DECEMBER 3, 2024:** Robson Reserve enjoyed a performance by the PCCC Choir followed by cookies and snacks provided by the Fellowship Committee.
- **DECEMBER 8, 2024:** Christmas Cantata “Love is Born” performed by the PCCC Choir. Cookies and decorations arranged by the Fellowship Committee.

Finance Committee Report

2024

Chair: Dave Modderman *Elder Liaison:* Steven Kirk

Committee Members: Carol Berg, Bob Geiges, Don Hlusak (assistant treasurer), Ted Huntoon, Sydna Mersereau (treasurer)

Objectives:

1. To create the annual church budget based on estimated tithes and offerings, expenses requested by committees, and other expenses; to request special offerings for Christian purposes; to inform the Elder Board of the church financial position throughout the year; and to inform the congregation of the Elder Board's decisions in such matters.
2. To oversee and manage the church's general fund account, the church's reserve fund accounts, Missions account, and restricted special funds for the furtherance of the purposes of the church.
3. To oversee the church accounts monthly and to conduct an annual review of church financial records.

Review of the past year: (January 1, 2024 ~ December 31, 2024)

- Proposed a balanced and growing 2024 budget for the ninth year in succession, with anticipated growth.
- Reviewed each month's financial results and provided monthly financial reports to the Elder Board. For the year, tithes and offerings were \$360,326, higher than budgeted. We had a 24.6% increase in weekly attendance. The church's aggregate bank accounts increased from \$362,987 on January 1 to \$404,056 on December 31, 2024.
- Conducted the annual Finance Committee review of the church's 2024 financial statements and found no exceptions
- Managed the investments of the reserve funds. While interest rates remained steady during the year, the funds are primarily designed for safety through placement of bank FDIC-insured deposits.
- Prepared a budget for the coming year 2025 with planned tithes and offerings anticipated to rise due to the increase in attendance. Expenses edged up slightly to cover added projects. Syd and Don were able to compile a Treasurer's Manual for future training and use.
- Don Hlusak joined the finance team as the Associate Treasurer. With the sudden passing of Syd Mesereau, he will oversee the duties of treasurer until the appointment of a replacement.

What we will do in 2025 and beyond:

- Continue to work to achieve a balanced budget.
- Examine each item in the church budget for furtherance of the Kingdom of God.
- Continue to improve the efficiency of the Church's financial systems and provide meaningful reporting to the Elder Board.
- Continue to oversee the Church's investments and expenses to ensure that we are being good stewards of God's resources.

Thank you for your loving outpouring of tithes and offerings for the work of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Missions Committee Report 2024

Chairperson: Edna DeFord, *Elder Liaison:* Mary McFarland

Committee Members: John Aycok, Inge Chapman, Jim Gillespie, Donna Grover, Steve Kirk, Michael Priebe

Objectives:

1. Focus our giving toward meeting spiritual needs, as well, as meeting humanitarian endeavors.
2. Support mission outreaches that are effective in presenting the claims of the gospel and winning people to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and His Grace.
3. Support missions reaching out to people in keeping with our Lord's teaching to feed the hungry, provide clothing, shelter, and medical care to those who are hurting in this world.
4. Support missions which are viewed as meeting established criteria. These missions will represent local, state, national, worldwide Christian ministries, and their missionaries in accordance with the church goals. This includes individual(s) working with these ministries that are required to obtain their own financial support.
5. Support American Indian missions and their ministries.

Review of the past year: (January 1, 2024 ~ December 31, 2024)

- The Committee has been working diligently to make the best use of the funds dedicated to missions and to provide as many "hands on" service opportunities for our congregation. We met monthly using ZOOM technology and continued to review our missions to ensure they meet the criteria set up for our mission endeavors.
- We supported nine (9) missions at \$ 200.00 per month. These local, national and international missions are Agua Fria Food & Clothing Bank, Alaskan Christian College, Eve-A-Douglas Caribbean Deaf Ministry, JESUS Film Project, JOY Brazil, Phoenix Rescue Mission/Changing Life Center, Zach Hsu, Arizona State University(ASU) Student Christian Challenge, Samaritan's Purse (SP), and World Gospel Missions Southwest Indian Ministries. The remaining budgeted funds were used to assist other missions brought to our attention by God and reviewed worthy of our help in spreading the Gospel Message throughout the world.
- Added 1) Rachel Wolter, Thailand, Student at Bangkok University studying the Thai language and living in the student housing at the university. Working under The Navigators Program to engage with students while obtaining a degree in languages. Our church enabled her to leave with her team of four students on December 3, 2024 for a two year commitment at Bangkok University. 2) Voted to add Rancher Jack from Rainbow Acres Developmental/Physical Challenges Community in Verde Valley, AZ

with a monthly personal support, starting in 2025 bringing our monthly paid missions/missionaries to a total of ten monthly missions.

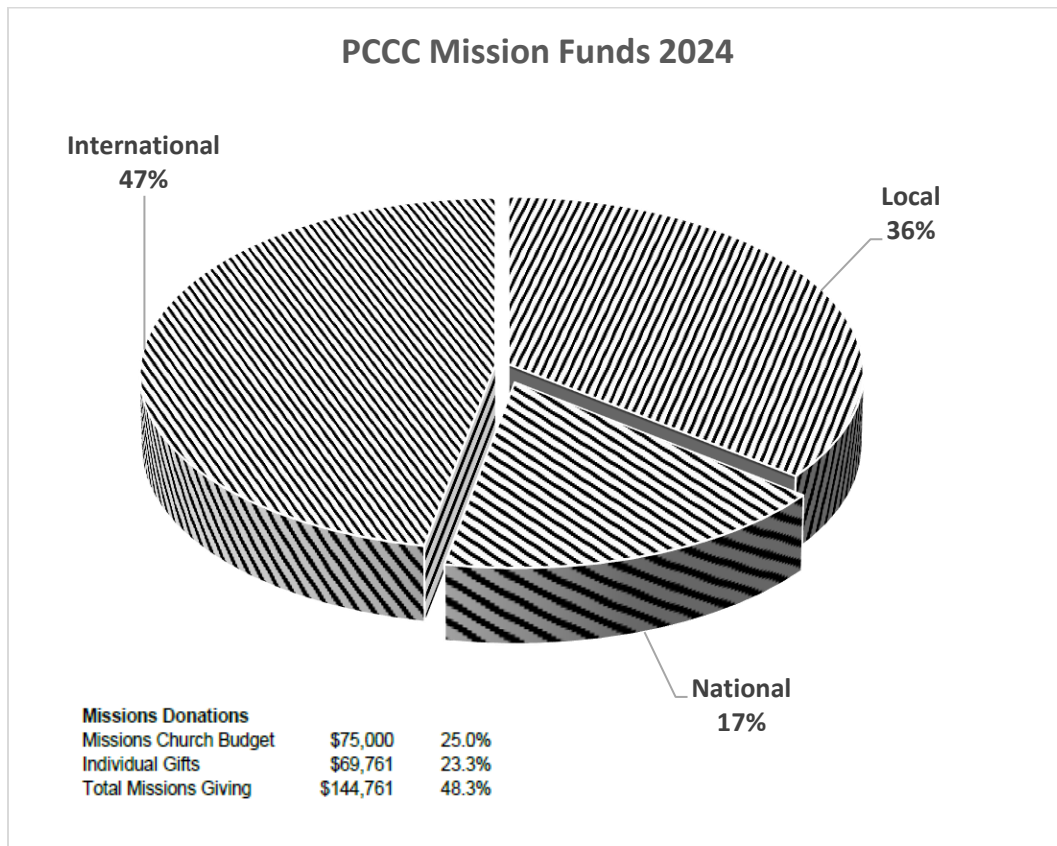
- Increased monthly funds to \$300.00 per month for each monthly mission which is paid quarterly a total amount of \$900.00 per quarter 2025.
- Realigned the JESUS Film Project from the monthly supported missions to the occasionally supported group. Sharon Joiner, JESUS Film Project Ambassador was a speaker at one of our Moments for Missions.
- Removed St. Bonaventure Mission in New Mexico so more funds could be applied to the Indian Reservation work in Arizona.

Specific Projects Included:

- Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child (OCC) Shoe Box Ministry led by Edna DeFord and Inge Chapman which resulted in a total of 438 filled Shoe Boxes in 2024. A special ONLINE website was developed by Samaritan's Purse for PCCC to allow shoe boxes to be filled online and credited to PCCC. This resulted in a total of 62 shoe boxes to be filled online from the comfort of their homes. Individuals also funded 265 "Adopt A Box" by paying the \$10.00 transportation fee. The OCC Shoe Box Prayer Dedication was held at the November 24, 2024 worship service. We thank God that shoe boxes from PebbleCreek Community Church blessed children in several countries and in areas we will never know about as it is too dangerous to reveal their locations.
- Donations were made to Samaritan's Purse for disaster relief deployments for the many disasters and fall Helene Hurricane Disaster in NC, GA, and to Samaritan's Purse World Medical Mission trips made by Dr. Allan Sawyer to Papua, New Guinea and Africa.
- Aqua Fria Food & Clothing Bank was the recipient of \$3,000.00 for their School Uniform Program during the summer months. The Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Distribution Program was supported by financial assistance and the collection of plastic bags and empty prescription bottles. PCCC was generous in donating 594 pounds of food and 165 pounds of clothing during our Fall Food and Clothing Drive.
- The Missions Committee supplied slide shows on several Sundays, and additional presentations to keep the church updated on the exciting event of churches being built by our congregation's funds.
- Took a tour of Rainbow Acres Community to access the possibility of assisting this Christian Community for Developmental/Physical Challenges as a possible mission opportunity. Rainbow Acres Ambassador Choir visited our church on October 6, 2024 and stayed for a special breakfast afterwards.
- Toured the Phoenix Rescue Mission Changing Life Center for Women in Phoenix.
- Review of Missions Selection Criteria: After reviewing the current Selection Criteria, a committee was setup which includes Steve Kirk and Pastor Nate to compile a revised selection criteria based on new categories suggested by Pastor Nate. This criteria will be completed in 2025.

Other Major Mission activities in 2024 include:

- **Mission updates** were included in the PebbleCreek Community Church prayer.
- **Fourth Sunday Monthly Special Mission Prayer Time** in worship service for two of our missions by committee members responsible for the missions.
- **Provided funding to Aqua Fria School Uniform Program** where over 400 young people received two new school uniforms.
- **Special Designated Funds went to Brother Jacob in India** for use in his ministries including the purchase of school supplies, food for 6,500 children, and funds for equipment for new a hospital building. Also sent funds to assist with severe flooding disaster.
- For **St. Bonaventure Indian Mission** we also sent funds for the water truck which is the only source of water to many families on the reservation,
- **Pastor Daniel in Uganda** received funds to obtain a new dwelling place due to eviction from current home so landowner could sell property. Food and school fees for the 30 orphans they became responsible for after COVID.
- **Alaska Christian College** received a special designated student scholarship funding of \$2,000 for an Arizona student attending the college. This is an annual commitment, and anyone interested in adding to this scholarship is encouraged to contact a Missions Committee member for information.
- **Pastor Elijah – Kenya:** Pastor Elijah received funds to support orphans that the government determined belonged to the church because their parents died and there were no other relatives. Funds for food and school fees were supplied.
- **Katie Rawson – InterVarsity Christian Fellowship** was given support to publish a new booklet on working with students from different cultures. A retirement gift was given to Katie for her great service to the international students.
- **Phoenix Rescue Mission** received funds to assist in the renovation of the older building and for special programs to help the homeless by distributing water, sandwiches, and God’s message of love.
- **Our church was blessed with many speakers from our supported Missions in 2024.** Dr. Allan Sawyer from Samaritan’s Purse World Medical Missions; Phoenix Rescue Mission; Eve-A-Douglas, Jamaica; Leanne Leonard, Agua Fria Food & Clothing Bank; LeRoy & Sandy Anderson, World Gospel Missions, Southwest Ministries; Bishop Jacob Rise & Shine India Video and many updates.
- **Sent three missions a \$1,000** gift designated as a Merry Christmas Gift for their dedicated staff.
- **Worked with new Acting Treasurer to ensure all information was available due to passing of long time Treasurer Syd Mersereau.** Helped reconstruct a complete list of missions and banking information to send checks and wire transfers to missions in an accurate and orderly manner,
- **Pebble Creek Community Church members and guests** are to be congratulated for their strong mission support in our community, nation, and around the world. We are following the commands of our Lord to “Go into all the world and preach the gospel” and to share the Love of Christ with our PebbleCreek neighbors.



**TOTAL DONATIONS TO PCCC Missions
for 2024**

**from both the Missions Committee and
our generous Donors =**

\$ 144,761.00 = 48.3% of Giving

Worship Committee Report **2024**

Chairperson: Phylice Walton, *Elder Liaison:* Sharon Graville

Committee Members: Katie Croy, Barb Geiges, Linda Pardue, Pastor Nate Watkins

Objectives

To assist the Pastor in preparing services which enhance our worship services and deepens our commitment to follow Christ. Our areas of service include:

1. Music Ministry
2. Baptism, Communion Preparation
3. Special Times of Worship: Advent, Christmas, Palm Sunday, Good Friday, Easter, Thanksgiving
4. Special Emphasis Services: Moments for Mission, Memorial Day, Father's and Mother's Day, Veteran's Day, Operation Christmas Child, Dr. King Observance
5. Banner selection
6. Worship Assistants

Review of the past year: (January 1, 2024 ~ December 31, 2024)

- Provided suggestions of ways to enhance our worship services
- Selected the weekly Scripture readers and Communion servers
- Purchased and prepared elements for Communion
- Prepared Advent Wreath and selected Advent readers
- Purchased and distributed Veteran's Day, Mother's and Father's Day gifts
- Purchased Christmas poinsettias and Easter flowers. Distributed to local assisted living facilities: LaLoma, Robson Reserve, The Groves
- Submitted Worship Committee budget for 2025