



First Presbyterian Church

2023

ANNUAL REPORT



“Remember the wonderful works God has done.”

Psalm 105:5a

**Docket for Annual Meeting
First Presbyterian Church
215 5th Ave South Lewistown, MT
February 11, 2024**

Call to Order

Opening Prayer

Approval of Minutes

A Word from Your Pastor

Report of the Nominating Committee

See Report of Nominating Committee, page 16

1. Election of Elders
2. Election of Deacons

Annual Meeting of the Corporation

1. Call to Order
2. Business of the Corporation
 - a. Corporate Officers
 - i. Chair: Gary Slagel
 - ii. Secretary: Lisa Sanders
 - iii. Treasurer: Jan Waltenbaugh
3. Motion to Adjourn the Annual Meeting of the Corporation

Presentation of the 2024 Budget

Rev. Kimmy Briggs Terms of Call

Motion to Adjourn and Closing Prayer

A Message from Pastor Kimmy

I've been thinking a lot about hope. Throughout my life, I've hoped for many things. For a rainbow pony. To get A's without studying. To be on the gameshow Wipeout. To win the lottery.

But hope, in the faith sense, isn't just wishful thinking. Hope is working towards an unseen future.

In other words, hope is active.

I'm reminded of this kind of hope every time I run through Brewery Flats. If you haven't been out there in the last few years, members of our community recently planted some new trees. In the scheme of trees, they're still fairly small, but a group of people are committed to watering these trees through the hot, dry summer months, ensuring that they will continue to grow.

These trees were planted with the hope that future generations, their grandchildren, and even great-grandchildren, would be able to enjoy Brewery Flats just as we do today.

That's hope. Those who planted the trees may never see them grow to their full size; in their lifetime they may never see the full benefits of their labor, but they plant the trees with an eye toward the future, with a hope for the kind of parks they want their grandchildren to have and to experience.

I find myself wondering if that's something like the work of the church.

We all have hopes for this church, for who we will be and how the next generation will experience this church, both our building and its people.

I hear people express variations of the idea that we need to do something so that the church can exist into the future. Sometimes it's in reference to giving, and the financial stability of the church. Other times it's about membership and Sunday morning worship attendance. And other times it's about the average age of our congregation.

But the idea is the same, we need to do something today to ensure that the church is around for generations to come.

It's not just going to happen. We can't just sit around waiting for God to act. We, as God's church, have a role to play. We get up; we participate; we actively work towards the future we imagine.

We place our hope in an unseen future.

But we do so with confidence because we remember what God has already done. And we have this high and holy hope that what God has done, God will continue to do.

And so, these pages will tell you the story of First Presbyterian Church in 2023. They will help us remember God's work, so that we can look with confidence at the future ahead.

And then, these pages will invite us to keep hoping and to act in faith that God is with us, that something new is possible, and that God will carry God's work to its completion.

As we look to a year ahead, my prayer is this, that we will continue to hope. Continue to imagine. Continue to pray. Continue to discern. And continue to act.

And let's see what God will do in 2024 and beyond.

Grace and peace,
Kimmy



3,000+
person virtual
audience while
preaching to Iranian
Christians



28
hours of community
service as part of
leading a week
of Idaho Servant
Adventures in Idaho

**Service outside
the walls of FPC**

133+
miles logged
coaching
high school
cross-
country

100+
ordination exams
reviewed for
future pastors in
the Presbyterian
Church (U.S.A.).



14
sermons preached away from
FPC, including preaching
monthly at the Montana
Mental Health Nursing Center,
invitations to preach at camp,
in Turkey, and at a friend's
installation service



8,676
miles traveled
as a Trustee of
the Outreach
Foundation



792
miles driven to
participate in meetings
of Yellowstone
Presbytery

WHO WE ARE

First Presbyterian Church is a community of faith with roots in the Presbyterian tradition, actively involved in mission in the Lewistown community and beyond, and where all God's children can find a place to belong.

We welcome all to journey with us as we continue to move

TOWARDS GOD

- **Worshipping Together** - We invite people from all walks of life to worship with us and we work to cultivate joyful, meaningful, prayerful, and thoughtful worship experiences.
- **Learning Together** - We are committed to providing opportunities for disciples of all ages to learn about and grow in faith through guided Bible study and fellowship.
- **Creating a Community Belonging** - We are created for life together! We strive to be a welcoming and inclusive community where all God's children can find a place to belong.
- **Praying With and For One Another** - We are called to rejoice when our brothers and sisters rejoice, and to weep when our brothers and sisters weep. One way we do this is through our vital prayer ministries.

FORWARD IN FAITH

- **Improving our Facilities** - We invest in the maintenance and enhancement of our beautiful church home, so that all those seeking God, in present and future generations, can come to God's house to worship, learn and fellowship.
- **Stewarding our Resources** - God has entrusted us with gifts of time, talent, and treasure. We are committed to faithful stewardship of our resources.
- **Experimenting with New Things** - The "way we've always done it" doesn't always work. We are committed to continually trying new things as we seek to be God's church.
- **Dreaming About the Future** - We live in a rapidly changing world, so we are committed to looking towards the future, while remaining fully committed to joining God's work here and now.

OUTWARD AS DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST

- **Engaging People in Creative Ways** – In a changing world, we are called to engage people in new ways with a particular focus on our web and digital presence.
- **Welcoming People Into Our Building** – We have a beautiful building that we strive to use in ways that benefit our community.
- **Serving the Lewistown Community** – As God’s disciples, we reach out in faith and love in our homes, community, workplace, and beyond to meet the real, physical needs of people, while also inviting all people to know God.
- **Caring for One Another** – Jesus’ final act with his disciples, before his crucifixion, was to wash their feet. Following Jesus’ example, we are intentional about how we care for one another.
- **Showing Up In Our Community** – Outside our walls, you’ll find our members living their call to be a disciple of Jesus Christ by volunteering in our community. As a church, we are committed to learning about and knowing the community in which we find ourselves.
- **Joining God’s Work In the World** – We take “for God so loved the world” seriously. We believe God is at work all around the world, and so we strive to not only learn about God’s work but to join what God is doing, so that the Gospel might spread to the ends of the earth.



A LOOK BACK

2023 Highlights

"And because that is the past, because we remember, we have this high and holy hope: that what he has done, he will continue to do, that what he has begun in us and our world, he will in unimaginable ways bring to fullness and fruition."

Frederick Buechner, *A Room Called Remember*

8,645

people reached on Facebook



485+

interactions
with
children
and youth

725+

members of our community
attended the 2023 Cantata

\$5,731.71

given to local
and global missions

Topped

100

subscribers
to weekly
email



1,466

people reached
through Advent
Morning Prayer on
Facebook



9

Elders and

12

Deacons leading our church
family to move towards God,
forward in faith, and outward
as disciples of Jesus Christ



1,439

visitors to
our website



\$92,000+

awarded in grants to
support improving our
facilities and stewarding
our resources



We are a church which continues to move
TOWARDS GOD



WORSHIPING TOGETHER

3,500+
people gathered for services of
worship including Sunday mornings,
funerals, and Cantata

3
baptisms

8
sermon
series
preached



12+
musicians and
20+
choir members joined to lead
our congregation in worship



PRAYING WITH AND FOR ONE ANOTHER

28
individuals on
our prayer team



16
prayer cards returned
September-December

23
individuals prayed as
part of the 24-hour Ash
Wednesday Prayer Vigil



21
kids participated in The Junction, representing 9 families, each of whom were sent home with resources to talk about faith at home



200+
kids served in the nursery on Sunday mornings

LEARNING TOGETHER

155+
hours of education offered to children, youth and adults



10
Bible studies and Sunday School classes, engaging 50+ adults throughout the year

55+
hours spent with high school youth in partnership with Zion Lutheran



9
meals shared as a congregation, repeatedly overflowing our gathering space

CREATING A COMMUNITY OF BELONGING

750+
meals served over 24 different events

7
chilis entered in the 2nd Annual Burnt Spoon Contest, 1 champion crowned



406
Birthday, Anniversary, and Christmas cards mailed to friends and members

2,000+
cups of coffee brewed for 52 coffee hours hosted by the Deacons and Fellowship Team



We are a church which continues to move
FORWARD IN FAITH

OUR FACILITIES

IMPROVING

\$40,990.96
 in our Buildings & Grounds
 Savings Account

768+
 carpet tiles
 laid in the
 Fellowship
 Hall

37
 solar panels installed thanks to a
 \$55,200 grant from Northwestern Energy
 and the generosity of our congregation.
 We anticipate these panels will produce
 105% of our energy needs



600+
 hours of volunteer
 labor on the Fellowship
 Hall and Kitchen

4
 people ordained
 and installed
 Elders and
 Deacons for the
 first time



DREAMING ABOUT THE FUTURE

400+
 hours of ministry provided
 to our congregation by
 our Summer Fellow



164
 pages of reports helping
 us learn more about
 who we are, laying the
 foundation to help us
 discern where to go in
 the future

1,000
 miles driven to spend 4 days
 with the Resilient Church Cohort
 through Whitworth's Office of
 Church Engagement



138
blocks purchased to add to a newly created shelf to the sanctuary providing quiet activities for kids during worship

10
new programs or events hosted throughout the year

20+
people, from every generation, gathered at Frank Day Park for an afternoon of fun and food

104+
hours of coverage in the nursery, led by two outstanding nursery workers and countless volunteers



4.8%
increase in budgeted expenses, made possible by the generosity of our congregation

STEWARDSHIP OUR RESOURCES
\$166,035.50
given in undesignated offerings, an increase of 12.3%

\$11,390
raised by our congregation to support the installation of solar panels

We are a church which continues to move
**OUTWARD AS DISCIPLES
OF JESUS CHRIST**



23
yard signs printed
to advertise events

252+
postcards mailed
to families inviting
them to events

ENGAGING PEOPLE IN NEW WAYS

3,114
interactions with our Facebook Page

500+
bookmarks printed for
the pews providing
at-a-glance information
about FPC

22,800
minutes of video
streamed on
Facebook





9
Family Movie
Nights,
engaging 60+
individuals



WELCOMING PEOPLE INTO OUR BUILDING

750+
people entered the
building for an event
other than Sunday
morning worship

5
Parents Night Outs,
engaging 39 kids

560
new Welcome Cards
printed for the pews; 8
cards have been returned
since September

42
people participated in 3
craft nights at the church

10
outside groups
using our
facilities on a
regular basis



SHOWING UP IN OUR COMMUNITY

14
people filled the FPC
float for the Lewistown
4th of July Parade



30+
dozen cookies delivered
to the staff of Central
Montana Medical
Center expressing
our care and support
during their time of grief

300+
Christmas cookies
delivered to One Health,
CMMC, the Sheriff, and
the police, fire and
dispatch offices



OUTWARD AS DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST

Continued...

30

pies and sweet treats plates donated, helping the Deacons raise \$2,486



CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER

240

wreaths and swag sold, raising \$1,132.15, which the Deacons will use to serve our church family and the community

30+

bags filled and delivered to homebound members and friends of the church.



13

people joined our home visitation ministry, committing to calling, writing notes, and visiting those who cannot attend in-person worship



JOINING GOD'S WORK IN THE WORLD

\$1,700

given to support God's work through the global Church in places like North Africa, Egypt, Turkey and Syria

20+

people expressed interest launching a church partnership in Egypt

10

people committed to travel to Egypt in early 2024





30

kids and adults participated in Vacation Bible School in partnership with Zion Lutheran



15+

bags stuffed for Love INC's "Fill a Bag" drive. Combined with other churches, we helped provide \$4,500+ of products and goodies for 70 Christmas baskets, blessing 300+ individuals

SERVING THE LEWISTOWN COMMUNITY

\$4,031.71+

given to support organizations and individuals in our community

22

hours of bell ringing as part of the Salvation Army Red Kettle Drive. In total the drive raised \$18,500+, which will be used to meet emergency needs in our community

99.2

pounds of food donated following the Souper Bowl; 264.4 pounds donated throughout the year

250+

dinners served at the Christmas Dinner, requiring 30 turkeys, 3 hams, and more than 70 volunteers



STAFF & LEADERSHIP

2023 Church Staff

Pastor – Rev. Kimmy Briggs
Clerk of Session – Lisa Sanders
Treasurer – Jan Waltenbaugh
Administrative Assistant
– Amy Clarkson
Custodian – Linda Peterson
and Amy Clarkson
Interim Music Director –
Donna Byerly
Pianist – Donna Byerly
Organist – Brian Priest
Nursery – Sandy Mikeson,
Jeanette Miller, Skylar
Rutten, Allie Ueker

Session

Feb. 2021-Feb. 2024
Brian Ash (Buildings & Grounds)
Don Jenni (Finance)
Jordan Stilson (Adult
Education)
Feb. 2022-Feb. 2025
Lisa Ash (Visitor Follow-Up)
Kevin Kepler (Personnel)
Gary Slagel (Fellowship)
Feb. 2023-Feb. 2026
George Maruska (Resilient
Church)
Lisa Sanders (Clerk of Session)
Deb Slagel (Fellowship)

Deacons

Feb. 2021-Feb. 2024
Melissa Bell (Moderator)
Linda Bradley (Treasurer)
Sherry Cramer
Helen Hutchison
Mary Kepler
Feb. 2022-Feb. 2025
Nancy Barber
Abby Franks
Jean Raw (Secretary)
Barbara Smith
Feb. 2023-Feb. 2026
Kathy Ault (Treasurer)
Kandy Nielsen
Will and Angela Schenk

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Nominating Committee: Lisa Ash, Donna Byerly, Helen Hutchison, Sandy Mikeson, Jordan Stilson

Session

Feb. 2022-Feb. 2025

Lisa Ash
Kevin Kepler
Gary Slagel
Brian Ash*

Feb. 2023-Feb. 2026

George Maruska
Lisa Sanders (Clerk of Session)
Deb Slagel

Feb. 2024-Feb. 2027

Don Jenni*
Sandy Mikeson*

Deacons

Feb. 2022-Feb. 2025

Nancy Barber
Abby Franks
Helen Hutchison*
Jean Raw
Barbara Smith

Feb. 2023-Feb. 2026

Kandy Nielsen
Will and Angela Schenk
Jordan Stilson*

Feb. 2024-Feb. 2027

Linda Bradley*
Monica Clinton*
Mary Kepler*

***For Election**

FINANCE REPORT

Our finance committee again looks back on the last year with a profound sense of gratitude. As a church, we paid our bills and finished the year in the black (the 11th year in a row that we have done so). That is a congregational accomplishment that we don't take lightly; many churches would not be able to make that statement.

The 2023 tithing and support from our congregation exceeded our budget and, thanks to our staff, expenses came in less than budget. All of this is included in this annual report, so you can see where the money came from and where it went.

The 2024 budget which we recommended to the Session includes a modest increase in tithing as well as our best estimate of expenses, including appropriate pay increases for our staff. Now it is presented to you, the congregation, to review and hopefully approve at our annual meeting.

We are grateful to Amy Clarkson for her work in our church office, to Dale Huffine for his thorough financial review of our 2022 books, and to treasurer Jan Waltenbaugh for her continuing outstanding work on behalf of the church.

We are always available to visit about any questions or concerns you have about our church finances. This church believes in complete openness and transparency. All of this belongs to you and ultimately to the Lord.

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact any member of the Finance Committee: Don Jenni, Dave Byerly and Jan Waltenbaugh.

Thank you!!!!



2024 BUDGET

	2023 Actual 12/27/2023	
RECEIPTS:	2023 Budget	2024 Budget
Offering	143,215.00	153,892.00
Carryover from previous year	35,340.00	33,617.00
Restricted Contributions	5,000.00	5,000.00
Per Capita	1,800.00	1,800.00
Building Rent	5,000.00	5,000.00
Grant	0.00	0.00
Sale of Van	0.00	0.00
Interest Income	25.00	150.00
TOTAL	190,380.00	199,459.00
EXPENSES:		
Automobile- Insurance	0.00	0.00
Automobile- Fuel	0.00	0.00
Automobile- License Plates	0.00	0.00
Automobile- Maintenance	0.00	0.00
Building - Purchased Assets	1,200.00	1,200.00
Building - Custodial Expense	550.00	500.00
Building - Groundskeeping	50.00	50.00
Building - Garbage Disposal	800.00	900.00
Building - Insurance	15,870.00	15,807.00
Building - Maintaince & Repair	1,500.00	1,500.00
Building - Taxes	1,300.00	1,300.00
Building - Utilities	9,300.00	12,000.00
Building - Water	750.00	1,000.00
Building - Elevator	4,000.00	3,000.00
Kitchen Expenses	300.00	300.00
Christian Education & Youth Group	3,000.00	3,000.00
Missions - Deacons	1,200.00	1,200.00
Missions - Love, Inc	800.00	800.00
Missions - Clearing House	800.00	800.00
Missions - Misc	1,200.00	1,200.00
Fellowship	300.00	300.00
Office - Postage & Delivery	1,000.00	1,300.00
Office - Publications & Subscriptions	140.00	140.00
Office - Supplies	1,000.00	1,000.00

Office - Telephone/Internet	2,000.00	1434.16	1,500.00
Office - Licenses & Permits	250.00	290	250.00
Office Equipment	200.00	401.73	200.00
Office - Website	265.00	681.4	750.00
Bank Charges	100.00	40.11	50.00
Payroll - Choir Director - FICA Mat.	0.00	0	0.00
Payroll - Choir Director -Salary	0.00	0	0.00
Payroll - Handbell Director	0.00	0	0.00
Payroll - Pianist	0.00	0	0.00
Payroll - Organist - FICA Mat.	0.00	0	0.00
Payroll - Organist - Salary	0.00	0	0.00
Payroll - Pastor - Continuing Ed	600.00	600	600.00
Payroll - Pastor - Housing	27,000.00	27166	17,000.00
payroll - Pastor - Medical & Pension	23,609.00	24741.84	25,000.00
Payroll - Pastor - Salary	33,535.00	32887.8	45,535.00
Payroll - Pastor - Fica Mat	2,381.00	2441.66	3,483.00
Payroll - Pastor - Mileage Reimburse	400.00		400.00
Payroll - Secretary - FICA Mat.	1,325.00	1259.22	1,353.00
Payroll - Secretary - Medical & Pen	12,000.00	12032.65	12,520.00
Payroll - Secretary - Salary	17,000.00	13598.75	17,680.00
Payroll - Treasurer - FICA Mat.	362.00	386.59	376.00
Payroll - Treasurer - Salary	4,722.00	4659	4,915.00
Substitute Staff	1,000.00	1250	1,500.00
Nursery Staff	2,500.00	1060	2,000.00
Nursery matching FICA	0.00	0	0.00
Unemployment Tax	40.00	43.82	45.00
Custodian Salary	7,280.00	6980.25	7,280.00
Custodian matching FICA	557.00	465.4	557.00
Custodian Assistant	0.00	0	0.00
Workers' Comp	600.00	1082.98	1,000.00
Per Capita	5,394.00	5394	5,568.00
Pastor Search	0.00		0.00
Presbytery Meeting Local	0.00		0.00
Music Expense	1,000.00	997.62	1,000.00
Worship Expense	1,000.00	1736.71	1,500.00
Staff Appreciation	100.00	58.72	100.00
TOTAL	190,380.00	183,756.78	199,459.00

REV. KIMMY BRIGGS TERMS OF CALL - 2024

Compensation

Annual Cash Salary	\$43,535
Housing Allowance	\$17,000
Board of Pensions Dues	\$25,000
SECA Reimbursement	\$3,483
Continuing Education	\$600
Mileage Reimbursement	\$400

Other Benefits

Vacation: 4 weeks (including 4 Sundays)
 Continuing Education: 2 weeks, to include to 2 Sundays (cumulative to six weeks)
 Family Leave in accordance with the policy of Yellowstone Presbytery

DEACON FINANCIAL REPORT

Income

Coffee Hour (avg \$22.25 per Sunday)	\$1,157.05
Donations	\$1,500.00
Fundraising Income	
Sale of Roses	\$716.00
Pie Auction	\$2,496.00
Christmas Wreaths	\$1,129.58
Memorial Donation	\$600.00
Session Provided	\$1,200.00
Interest	\$1.09
Total Income	\$8,799.72

Expenses

Outreach Foundation	\$500.00
FPC - Solar Project	\$500.00
Shelter Solutions	\$500.00
Salvation Army	\$200.00
Council on Aging	\$100.00
Coffee Hour Supplies	\$279.97
Gift to Family of Four in Need	\$750.00
Cantata Expenses	\$462.63
Roses for Fundraiser	\$272.99
Angel Tree Gifts	\$426.06
Gifts to Pastor and Employees	\$425.00
Office Supplies (stamps & cards)	\$163.30
Salvation Army Phone Bill	\$458.28
Accidental Payments	
(Love, Inc & Clearinghouse)	\$400.00
Total Expenses	\$5,438.23

NET INCOME \$3,361.49

Submitted by Linda Bradley, Deacon Treasurer

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN REPORT

Bank info:

Checking account balance	\$2093.76
Savings account balance	\$1546.10

Submitted by Neva Crane

MEMORIALS

A total of \$800 was given in memory of our dearly departed friends & family members: Kathy Ault & Jesse Arneson. These memorials will help with our future repairs on our building and grounds. We thank all those people who honored these men & women by sharing in their beliefs, hopes & ideas for our Church family.



2024 PER CAPITA

Presbytery: 45.20

Synod: \$3.00

GA: \$9.80

Total: \$58 per member

Each year Presbyterian churches around the country pay something called "per capita." In our case, these funds are used to support the work of the PC(U.S.A.), the Synod of Rocky Mountains, and Yellowstone Presbytery, the three bodies we are part of as First Presbyterian Church of Lewistown. As a church, we are responsible for paying per capita according to our active membership (96 members x \$58/member = \$5,568). And we make this contribution joyfully!

So, you might be wondering exactly what our per capita dollars support and how those dollars impact our ministry here in Lewistown. Our per capita dollars provide administrative and program budgets for the Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly, which support things like staff, camp, and written and digital resources. While it may not always be obvious, our per capita dollars support our work and ministry right here in Lewistown. And our per capita dollars combine with the dollars of Presbyterians around the country to ensure that the good news of Jesus Christ continues to spread into every corner of our lives and communities.

Our 2024 budget reflects First Presbyterian's commitment to paying our full per capita (\$5,568). The Finance Committee invites you to participate in that commitment by contributing specifically to our per capita fund. If you would like to contribute towards per capita, please send in a check based on the number of members in your household. Check can be mailed to the church or dropped in the offering plate on Sunday morning. Please note "per capita" in the memo line.

2024 STATISTICS

Baptisms

Marley Stokken

Fischer Stokken

Mattie Stokken

Deaths

Barbara Gies – February 20, 2023

Dixie Joyner – June 8, 2023

Charles Taylor – June 9, 2023

Randy Stephens – June 10, 2023

Kathy Ault – July 14, 2023

John Keller – July 20, 2023

Olive Edwards – September 15, 2023

Gary Mane – December 3, 2023

Jesse Arneson – December 18, 2023

Liz Sawyer – December 18, 2023



AND WE HOPE

A Look Towards 2024 and Beyond

"To have faith is to remember and wait, and to wait in hope is to have what we hope for already begin to come true in us through our hoping."

Frederick Buechner, A Room Called Remember

WE CONTINUE TO MOVE TOWARDS GOD

As our children's program continues to grow, we hope to add a new set of children's Bibles to our Sunday School room to help our youngest disciples learn and grow in faith.

As we strive to create a welcoming and hospitable environment for fellowship and learning, we hope to add a coffee pot, a water kettle, and a selection of coffee and teas to each room in the education wing.

As we continue to offer unique worship experiences, we hope to see the chapel once-again become multi-functional, providing both a comfortable, living room feel for small groups, and a smaller worship space for special services and funerals.

The organ has a "dead note," meaning it can't be played, due to a problem with the electromagnetic valve below the pipe. This needs to be repaired soon, so that we can fully enjoy our organ in worship.

Once the Fellowship Hall opens, we hope to turn the Sunshine Room into a comfortable gathering space, where people can experience a sense of community with one another, whether they gather before worship, while their kids are in Sunday School, or at other times.



WE CONTINUE TO MOVE FORWARD IN FAITH

Our building is aging, and over the years water has found its way in since the drainage is currently going towards the building. This summer we need to grade the landscaping outside of the sanctuary to better move water away from the building. This will include fixing the gutters on the front of the sanctuary.

As our building continues to see increased usage, a new backpack vacuum would serve us well in helping to keep our facilities clean for all who gather in our building.

After a lot of use, and a few roots, we need to re-finish the office parking lot and install new sidewalks around the building, so that we might provide not only a beautiful space, but also safe access to our building.

We'd love a 6.5-foot Christmas tree to beautify our entryway as we welcome many people through our doors during the Advent and Christmas seasons.

Work continues on the Fellowship Hall, and we look forward to dedicating that space and dreaming about how we might use it for fellowship, worship, learning, and service.

To provide a handicap accessible men's bathroom, we hope to raise the floor in the basement men's bathroom, as well as install a new toilet.

In 2023, we were awarded a \$39,720 grant, from the State of Montana. We look forward to using that grant to install much-needed new doors and new locks for the building.

The second half of the kitchen is undergoing a major upgrade! We look forward to having a full kitchen again and we are dreaming about how we can use our kitchen for fellowship and service.

While the elevator is working right now, we know that a new one will be needed in the future so that both the sanctuary and the fellowship hall are accessible to all.

OUTWARD AS DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST

We're taking the youth on a mission trip! During the summer of 2024 we plan to take our high school youth to Camp Lutherhaven in Coeur d'Alene, ID to serve as buddies for a week of Champ Camp, a week of camp dedicated to those with special needs.

We are building a partnership with a church in Aswan, Egypt! While ten of us traveled to Egypt in January 2024, as we look ahead, we hope to offer fundraising opportunities so that future trips are more accessible for more people.

Together, we are the body of Christ and we each have a role to play in the church. We hope to offer increased opportunities for leadership training, so that all people discover their unique role in the life of our congregation.

As disciples, we're called to serve others both inside and outside our walls. We hope to provide more opportunities for hands-on service to expand our presence in the community.



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