



www.gracechurchastoria.org

2022-23 ANNUAL REPORT

Presented May 21st, 2023

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Gods Plan

The Greatest Commandment: ³⁰ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' ³¹ The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

Mark 12:30-31

Our Vision:

To lead people in a growing healthy relationship with Jesus.

Our Mission:

To love God and make disciples who make disciples.

2023 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

Meeting Held on May 21st, 2023

1. Open with Prayer
2. Minutes from Last Meeting
3. Old Business
 - a. None
4. New Business
 - a. Annual Report questions or concerns
 - b. Approve Budget for June 2023 to May 2024
 - c. Nominating Committee Report / Election of New Officers
6. Good of the Order
7. Closing Prayer
8. Adjourn

THANK YOU!
for your contributions
to making 2023 a wonderful year
of ministry and life change!

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

Jude 1:24-25 (ESV)

2022-23 OFFICERS

Elected Officers (1 year Commitment)

Mary Walther	<i>Moderator</i>
Jan Osterby	<i>Clerk</i>
Jeanne Seppa	<i>Financial Secretary</i>
Julene West	<i>Assistant Financial Secretary</i>
Marsha Johnston	<i>Assistant Financial Secretary</i>

2023-24 NOMINATING REPORT

Elected Officers (1 year Commitment)

Mary Walther	<i>Moderator</i>
_____	<i>Clerk</i>
Jeanne Seppa	<i>Financial Secretary</i>
Julene West	<i>Assistant Financial Secretary</i>
<u>Heather Zile</u>	<i>Assistant Financial Secretary</i>
_____	<i>Assistant Financial Secretary</i>

OUR MINISTRY PARTNERS

Elders

Steve Ferguson
Jim Zile
Larry Osterby
Larry Mossman
Pastor Kevin Lewis
Pastor Andrew Johnson

Church Staff

Pastor Kevin Lewis
Pastor Andrew Johnson
Heather Zile, Office Manager
Jim Achilles, Media Assistant
Kevin Lesher, Janitor

2024 GOALS

1. We will provide opportunities for people to grow in their ability to share the gospel, their testimony, and to lead others in discipleship.
2. We will develop a whole church strategy that equips the church body for discipling people into maturity.
3. We will evaluate our church ministries, staff, and resources as we make plans for the future. The church needs a clear plan (LORD willing) as it grows numerically and identifies new ministry opportunities in the year to come.





Grace Community Baptist Church is part of the Lower Columbia Association of Church Venture Churches.

- Cornelius, OR - Cornelius Community Church
- Forest Grove, OR - Old Town Church
- Gaston, OR - Wapato Valley Church
- Hillsboro, OR - Hillsboro First Baptist Church
- Hillsboro, OR - Light My Way
- Hillsboro, OR - Ministerio Jesus es el Camino
- Hillsboro, OR - Sunrise Church
- Portland, OR - Life Light Community Church
- Saint Helens, OR - Grace Baptist Church
- Saint Helens, OR - Yankton Community Fellowship
- Seaside, OR - North Coast Family Fellowship
- Tillamook, OR - Bethel Baptist Church
- Vernonia, OR - Grace Family Fellowship
- Warrenton, OR - First Baptist Church

Trustee – Pastor Kevin Lewis (Astoria, OR)

2023 Active Membership

Active Membership (44)

Achilles, Jim and Joyce	Lane, Melinda
Barnes, Betty	Leshner, Melinda
Decius Tom and Joy	Lewis, Kevin and Becky
Ferguson, Steve and Cindy	Mossman, Larry and Mame
Grauff, Peter and Christina	Osterby, Larry and Jan
Halicki, Michael and Lisa	Osterholme, Sandy
Hansen, Lenard and Cindy	Peters, Marvin
Hendrickson, Maurie	Propst, Janice
Hillgaertner, Don and Terrie	Seppa, Mike and Jeanne
Johnson, Andrew and Anna	Sherman, Glennys
Johnson, Betty	Thompson, Harlan and Marge
Johnson, Colette	Walther, Mary
Johnston, Joe and Marsha	West, Julene
Kurns, John and Liz	Zile, Jim and Heather

Associate Membership (3)

(Non-voting), Not currently eligible for active membership rolls
*indicates missionaries on the field.

- Molsee, Steve and Barb*
- Grauff, Erin (College)

Membership Changes

- Carruthers, Nancy (Relocated to Idaho)

*updated 5/19/23

FINANCIAL SUMMERY FOR 2022-23

General Fund Summary

\$21,485.28	Balance June 1, 2022
\$16,551.16	Balance May 16, 2023
\$20,461.55	Average Monthly Income for 2022

Elder Fund (Restricted Fund)

\$640.97	Balance June 1, 2022
\$463.00	Balance May 30, 2023
\$523.82	Average Monthly Income for 2022-23

General areas of need in 2023: The Elder fund was not nearly as active this year as in years past. We helped a few households this year, mostly with personal items that could not be purchased through assistance programs. We also helped with transportation needs.

In addition to helping people in our community financially, GCBC also supports the Astoria Rescue Mission, Coast Pregnancy Center and the Astoria Food Pantry.

The general practice of the Elder Fund is to refer participants to community resources whenever possible before helping financially.

Grace Community Baptist Church of Astoria, OR is a CBnorthwest church. This means we are affiliated with like minded churches in the form of a Covenant Community.

Preface to the Covenant

At salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, every believer enters into a covenant relationship with God, and is placed into covenant community with all true believers, known as the body of Christ. Local churches represent specific covenant communities, of which each believer is to be an active part. In turn, CB Northwest is a voluntary association of autonomous local churches representing the body of Christ expressed more fully in covenant community with each other.

The Covenant of the Churches of CB Northwest

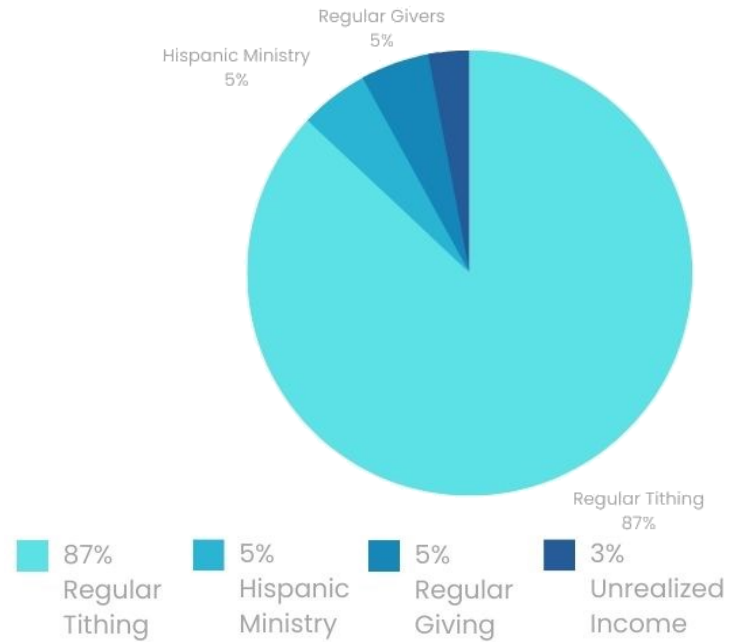
The association of churches known as CB Northwest, as a part of the body of Christ, acknowledges our God-ordained covenantal relationships as a fellowship of Conservative Baptist churches. Holding in common our doctrine, polity, and philosophy of ministry, we agree to a relationship expressed in dependence upon, responsibility for, and accountability to each other by God's grace. CB Northwest also seeks covenant community with other regional CB communities throughout North America and around the world.

BAPTISM'S 2023

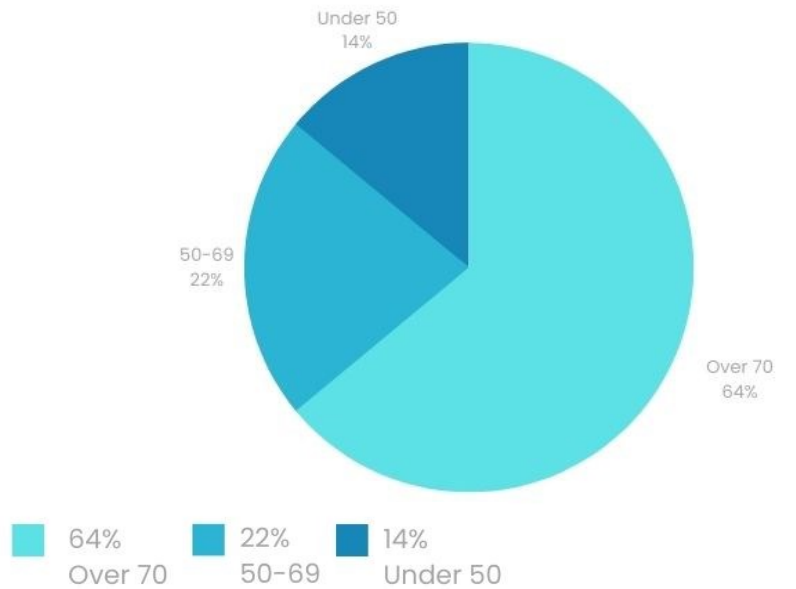
- Moriah Johnson and Noah Betts on August 21, 2022 by Pastor Andrew Johnson



Where does our Income come from?



Where does our Income come from by age category?



to be a Church of Restoration and reconciliation. That was the purpose of the visit of the spirit during 2022, to let us know what our purpose is and that we must be ready for those who need a rebirth and the Spirit of God has raised a revival, a yearning for the coming of our king and in this 2023 the spirit continues with us, showing us how great God is.

By Tomas Pineda, transcribed by Katherine Gonzales, and lightly edited for readability by Pastor Kevin.

YOUTHFUL HEARTS SENIORS MINISTRY

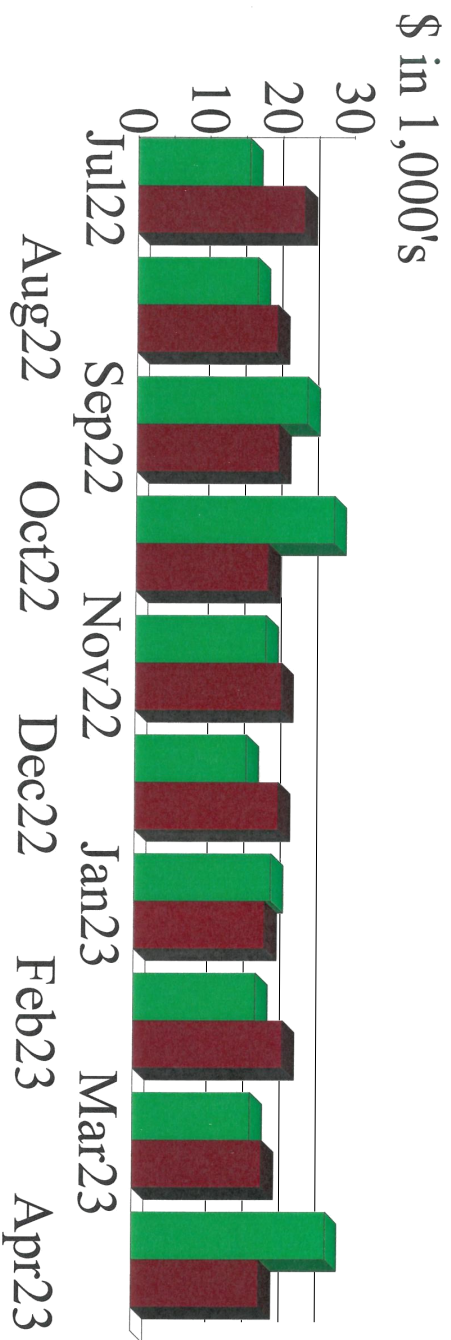
During the last 18 months and coming out of Covid, we have resumed our bi-weekly meeting schedule. Meeting on the second and fourth Thursday at 12:30pm, we bring our lunches and enjoy a multitude of conversations while we munch away. We praise the Lord for His faithfulness as we see Him answering our prayer requests.

Youthful Hearts have sponsored two movie nights, several gaming activities, a “road trip” to Tillamook and more. Our Bible Studies have been interesting with many points of group enlightenment.

The invitation is to all: Youthful Hearts is a ministry to senior citizens, 55 years or more, retired, working towards retirement, who enjoy sharing the things that would be pleasing to the Lord. Bring your lunch and join us!!

Larry Mossman

Income and Expense by Month
July 2022 through April 2023



2022 was a year where we could see how the spirit of God and his glory has been poured out on our beloved church. We have seen sick people healed, people who had their days numbered, like my brother who had an accident and was about to leave this world, the church united in prayer, unanimous with a single cry for the life of my brother. He was not committed to God, but there we were able to glorify God because even when we are far from him, he cares for us and listens to the cry of his people. A few days later he was better and not only healthy but with a new love, the love for the one who healed him and the one who saved him. Through this testimony many people from our community joined our congregation, not expecting a miracle, but rather hoping to know more about the God who works miracles. God is so merciful.

We are people who come from different places, with different cultures, but we are united in the Holy Spirit of God, we carry the presence of God. Our purpose is to remove all the barriers that make our Hispanic community unable to get closer to God. Through the blessing that God gives us we have helped other churches in other countries, like Peru and Nicaragua. In Peru a donation was made for the Sunday school of a church, and in Nicaragua we made a donation to a church called "Asociación Evangelistic Ministry, the Potter ", where they carried out an evangelistic campaign.

As I think of all those souls we have reached through the Renacimiento Evangelica Ministry, my heart rejoices in the Lord. I rejoice because repentant hearts in need of God, thirsty for the Spirit, hungry for reconciliation have come to deliver everything to be able to be reborn and start from scratch. Now they are new hearts wanting to work for the kingdom, with passion, like that day that they met God for the first time, with gratitude and love for the one who saved them.

We have realized that God's purpose for our church is

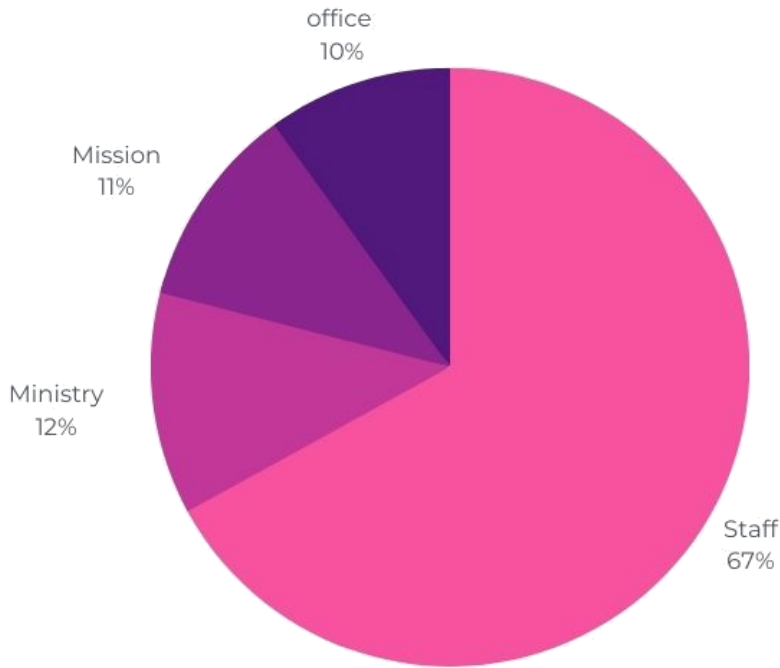
Wish-list items not included in the 2023-2024 budget

- Media computer for sanctuary \$2,000
- Gas furnace for office \$4000
- Parking lot striping and repair \$16,000
- Alliance for Defending Freedom Church Membership \$250.00 annual cost
- Additional Tables and Chairs for the fellowship Hall \$2000.00

Budget Notes:

- Income increases through the year: \$16,400 first 2 quarters, \$17,500 third quarter, \$18,000 fourth quarter
- No raise for all Staff Members (staff received a 6% cost of living adjustment in June 2022)
- All of the church supported missionaries have been raised to a minimum of \$200.
- Media Assistant, Jim Achilles, hired at 10 hours per week.
- Heather will go to 15 hours per week

2023 - 2024 Proposed Budget



Total: \$224,621

the Rescue Mission.

In February, Andy Meeko, serving with World Venture in Japan, visited up and updated us on the work that he is doing.

In March, Becky Loughridge, our AWANA missionary, updated us on her work. She also held a wonderful workshop for AWANA workers.

This year, Lynn and Arnie Swan decided to leave the field because of Lynn's health. We will continue to pray for them as they make decisions about their future. In their place, we are supporting World Venture missionaries Laurie and John Lopez. They are doing a church plant in Medellin, Columbia.

We are excited that Joshua, Jacob, and Abbey Lewis and Moriah and Jocelyn Johnson are making a missions trip to Thailand this summer to help the Armstrong's, one of our missionaries serving with Wycliffe. They will be chaperoned by Anna and AJ Johnson.

Jeanne Seppa for the Missions Team

HISPANIC MINISTRY

Leadership Team:

Pastor Tomas and Susy Pineda

Bible Teaching: Gustavo Hernandez

Praise Team: Jesus Morales, Vilma Moore, Chris Pineda

Kids' Zone: Flor Martinez, Maria Solano, Katherine Gonzalez, Vilma Moore

Women's Ministry: Flor Morales, Maria Solano, Susy Pineda, Katherine Gonzalez

Activities in 2023

11th February • WITH WHOM IS YOUR FIGHT?

25TH March • ARE YOU FREE?

8TH APRIL • ANNUAL ANIVERSARY

Thursdays: worship team join to practice.

Fridays Bible Stud: "Mathew" led by Gustavo Hernandez.

mission trip to Thailand, we held a “Tea for Thailand,” which educated our women about this trip, had them sign up to pray at a specific time while the mission trip is happening, as well as providing some awesome Thai food to eat.

In May, 2023, Joyce Achilles became the women’s ministry leader. We appreciate Becky Lewis’ many years of leadership to this ministry.

Grace women are growing in their walk with Jesus, and forging deeper friendships with one another.

Submitted by Becky Lewis and Joyce Achilles

MISSIONS’ MINISTRY

Mission’s team members were Glen and Karen Boring, Mary Walther, AJ Johnson, and Jeanne Seppa.

In July, Barbaba Bentley visited us and gave us the happy news that she is getting married next summer (2023). She and her new husband will continue to serve with World Venture in Africa.

In September, we hosted a two day Missions Conference. On September 17, we had a potluck and then listened to our three local missionaries speak – Pastor Rudy from the Astoria Rescue Mission, Stan and Trudy Brawley from Coast Pregnancy Clinic, and Ellen Cook from Child Evangelism Fellowship. On September 18, Lynn and Arnie Swan, missionaries to India, spoke during the Sunday School hour. Steve Molsee, serving with In Faith in Roberts, ID, spoke during the worship service. Attendance was good and it was a great time of fellowship.

This year our church was again a drop off location for Operation Christmas Child. We collected a total of 628 shoe boxes from thirteen different churches. A big thank you to all the volunteers that helped during collection week.

We again did Christmas stockings for the Astoria Rescue Mission. This year nine Christmas stockings were delivered to

2023 - 2024 Proposed Budget

23-24 PROPOSED BUDGET	
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
4100 · General Fund Giving	
4110 · Income Lattes & Littles	250
4111 · Income AWANA	1,000
4112 · Income Bible Study/ Books	400
4113 · Income Youth (NOT Thailand)	500
4100 · General Fund Giving - Other	204,900
Total 4100 · General Fund Giving	207,050
4200 · Hispanic Giving	12,000
Total Income	219,050
Expense	
5500 · Payroll Costs	
5510 · Pastoral Salaries-KL	64,304
5511 · Pastoral Salaries-AJ	53,933
5520 · Administrative Assistant (15 hours)	13,650
5530 · Janitorial Salary	5,000
5545 · Media Assistant (10 hours)	6,000
5550 · Payroll Tax & Expense	2,450
5570 · Employee Benefits-Retirement	4,344
Total 5500 · Payroll Costs	149,681
6000 · Church Ministries	
6025 · Christian Ed. & Sunday Sch	
6029Y · Sunday School	500
6029C · Children Church	900
6029SG · Small Groups	-
6029R · Right Now media	900
6025 · Christian Ed. & Sunday Sch - Other	200
Total 6025 · Christian Ed. & Sunday Sch	2,500
6030 · Vacation Bible School	1,000
6010 · Pulpit Supply	300
6050 · Music-Worship	1,000
6300 · Fellowship Ministries	750

6302 · Van Expenses-Gas, Oil, Repairs	1,800
6310 · Facility Maintenance	
6313 · Security	250
6312 · Janitorial Supplies	750
6310 · Facility Maintenance - Other	4,000
Total 6310 · Facility Maintenance	5,000
6315 · Church Supplies	800
6316 · Software Subscription & License	750
6320 · Kitchen Supplies	800
6335 · Pastor Business Expenses	800
6336 · Hispanic Ministries Expenses	2,500
6340 · Pastoral Meetings & Conferences	1,800
6345 · Elder Training	50
6350 · Deaconess Ministries	200
6360 · Women's Ministries	1,000
6380 · Youthful Hearts	300
6365 · Men's Ministries	200
6027 · Awana	3,000
6028 · Lattes and Littles	575
6370 · Youth	
6371 · Youth Retreat	900
6370 · Youth - Other	800
Total 6370 · Youth	1,700
6000 · Church Ministries - Other	800
Total 6000 · Church Ministries	27,625
6400 · Missions	
6402 · Mission Team Events	200
6430 · CEF - Ellen	2,400
6410 · Astoria Rescue Mission	2,220
6440 · Coast Pregnancy Clinic	2,220
6415 · CB NW-General Fund	1,200
6425 · Wycliffe- Armstrong	2,400
6426 · World Venture- B.Bently	2,400
6427 · World Venture- Meeko	2,400
6435 · IMB-Joachim	2,580
6405 · In Faith - Molsee	2,580
6445 · World Venture-Lopez	2,400
6428 · AWANA-Becky	2,400
6400 · Missions - Other	-
Total 6400 · Missions	25,400

other and the congregation's on-going needs. Attendance has been consistent with 12 men participating.

Report by Jim Achilles

WOMENS MINISTRY

In 2022, our goals were: provide events that encourage Grace women to become better acquainted with one another; offer Bible studies consistently throughout the year; and encourage our women to reach out to women in our community. In January, 2023, we expanded our vision to leading Grace women in growing a healthy relationship with Jesus, and to mobilize mature believers for service and discipleship. Our focus in 2023 is prayer.

Our Bible studies are a vital part of our ministry. We did four studies, offering both a morning and evening session for three of them. The studies were attended by 10-14 of our women. We are developing some new teachers/facilitators to assist in the studies.

Our "Not Dinner for Two, but Lunch for Four" ongoing event that we began in April of 2022, where we paired four women to have lunch together, is such a blessing! We had 20-24 women participating each time (June, August, October, January, March, May). We receive wonderful feedback from our women about this ongoing event. In 2023, we added the dimension of the four women at lunch spending some time in prayer for each other.

Fellowship events in 2022 included: our "Walk A Mile In Her Shoes" event in March where each participant shared a story about her life that was reflected in the pair of shoes she brought to the event; a canvas painting event in May; a picnic in July; several Grace women attended the annual retreat, this year held at Heritage Bible Church, in October, and a cookie exchange at our Christmas party.

Fellowship events so far in 2023 included: "Signs of Love" craft day in February; in April, to show our support for the youth

Jim Achilles serves as the primary director of the worship ministry, organizing the worship orders and leading music in the service. Betty Barnes assists, overseeing the music when Jim is away. Mary Walther continues to keep the church music library in order. For the past year, Heather Zile has assembled the media presentations for the service. Jim Achilles has now taken over that responsibility.

The Worship Team’s regular participants include Jim and Joyce Achilles, Betty Barnes, Melinda Cashion, Mary Walther, Mike Seppa, Heather Zile, Becky Lewis, and Dan Lempke. Pastor Kevin often plays bass and his sons Joshua and Jacob have played the clarinet and flute. Our support team includes Jim and Heather Zile, Moriah Johnson, Joshua Lewis, and Jacob Lewis running the sound, media, and livestream.

We are grateful for all the volunteers who keep this ministry running strong.

Report by Jim Achilles

MEN’S MINISTRY

God has given unique instructions and responsibilities to the men in the church. Our Men’s Ministry is designed to encourage men to lean into those responsibilities, to grow in their walk with God, and to build godly relationships with other men in the church.

Our calendar runs from September through June, and our theme for this season is “From Glory to Glory”—a reference to the way Jesus changes us as we stay focused on Him. We are reviewing the character traits of Christ in order to better reflect them in our own lives. In addition, we have been reading John Piper’s book *Don’t Waste Your Life*. The men have been challenged by its direct appeal for us to live intentionally for Christ.

Jim Achilles has been organizing the gatherings (once a month on a Sunday afternoon). At each meeting, we discuss the book, study passages related to our theme, and pray for each

6510 · Office	
6520 · Bank and CC online fees	300
6540 · Mailings	400
6550 · Office & Computer Supplies	2,000
6560 · Printing	500
6610 · General Insurance Policy	3,600
6620 · Workers Comp Insurance	600
6640 · Mileage	500
6650 · Professional Fees	2,400
6660 · License Fees	500
6710 · Advertising	200
6530 · Copier Maint. & Supples	3,976
6810 · Telephone (combined with copy)	
6815 · Internet	1,440
6820 · Utilities	5,500
6990 · Miscellaneous office	-
Total 6510 · Office	21,916
Total Expense	224,621
Net Ordinary Income	(5,571)

This year we are running a deficit of \$5,571.00. Rather than reduce several budget line items by a few dollars, the Finance committee purposes that we trust the Lord to provide these resources this year.

Respectfully submitted by the finance Team,
 Jeanne Seppa, Finance Secretary
 Heather Zile, Church Treasurer
 Steve Ferguson, Elder Chair
 Larry Mossman, Elder Secretary
 Cindy Ferguson, Deaconess Chair
 Pastor Kevin Lewis
 Pastor AJ Johnson

2022-23 MINISTRY TEAMS

Adult Sunday School

Pastor Kevin Lewis
Pastor AJ Johnson
Steve Ferguson
Joe Johnston

Awana Ministry

Pastor AJ Johnson
Moriah Johnson
Pastor Kevin Lewis
Joshua Lewis
Abby Lewis
Jim Achilles
Joyce Achilles
Mary Walther
Lisa Halicki
Melinda Leshner
Joe and Marsha Johnson

Children's Ministry

AJ and Anna Johnson
Peter and Christina Grauff
Becky Lewis
Heather Zile
Lisa Halicki
Greg Kenney
Bonnie Hamilton

Deacons/facilities

Greg Kenney
Mike Halicki
Mike Seppa

that they were lacking. Since then we aren't sure how the radio ad came about but it is becoming well known in the community and has a good reputation.

The goal of the group is to build relationships with moms in the community. Anna Johnson and Becky Lewis host the group and spend time pouring into the moms. We have tried different things like mom's night out and charcuterie night where mom's come without their kids. The women seem to really enjoy getting together. Because this group is walking through the same stage of life together, a lot of support is offered. Also because Anna and I have older children, we are often asked for advice and act as mentor moms. We have also had opportunities to speak truth into different situations or share the reason for our hope and joy. Some of the people coming have never been to church before and are having positive experiences inside our church. We have invited them to church and women's events on occasion. Please pray that we will have more opportunities to share Christ with these women.

We are praying for the Lord's direction for this ministry. We do not want to just be a social club but we want to be intentional with these relationships. We are thinking through how we can take the next step with these women. Some ideas we have brainstormed are starting a Bible study or a book club, retreats, etc. Please pray for God's guidance and for wisdom as we step out in faith. We praise God for bringing far more families than we ever imagined.

Report by Becky Lewis and Anna Johnson

WORSHIP MINISTRY REPORT

Our Sunday morning worship services continue to unite our hearts and voices in the praise of God and the exaltation of Jesus Christ. We have learned new songs and celebrated old ones. We continue to read the Scriptures publicly as a church, and devote time in each service to pastor-led prayer. In December, we assembled a Christmas Choir.

which I feel like is a close 2nd place!!) Anyway, on our smallest attended night of the year Bonnie was teaching about missionaries and what they do. As she was teaching the kids how missionaries ask people to accept Jesus as their saviour she also asked the kids if any of them wanted to ask Jesus into their heart.

Three of the boys responded! It was really wonderful to see their enthusiasm. One of the boys especially was fired up. He came out to check-out and informed both Joyce and Me that he had accepted Jesus as his savior. He also quickly informed his ride home (grandma) what had happened! We are so blessed to see God's faithfulness in the life of this young man. They have been faithfully brought by Grandma for 2 years now and went from seeming to not be sure that they were cool with being in a church, to accepting Jesus as his savior.

We are very excited for this story and many others! It's been tough at time, but what a wonderful way to finish the year. Report by Pastor AJ

LATTES AND LITTLES COMMUNITY PLAY GROUP

The last year has been exciting in the Lattes and Littles ministry. We have grown from a small handful of mom's and kids to averaging about 20 moms each week and their kids. The basement is transformed into a kids play zone. Couches are set up in a way for mom's to sit around and talk with other moms. There is a Facebook group used to communicate information and we have around 140 moms actively following the page. We have also had dads, grandparents, foster parents and nannies attend the group. Some of those who participate have experienced significant loss, health problems, relationship issues. These situations give us the opportunity to offer support, encouragement and practical help.

New mom's are coming almost every week and we recently found out that the group is being advertised by government agencies, doctors and on the radio. During Covid, pediatricians were referring kids to come play to get social interaction

Deaconess

Cindy Ferguson
Jan Osterby
Melinda Lesher
Marge Thompson
Glennys Sherman
Liz Kurns
Lisa Halicki

Elders

Steve Ferguson *Chair*
Larry Mossman *Vice Chair*
Jim Zile
Pastor Kevin Lewis
Pastor Andrew Johnson

Fellowship Ministry

Steve and Cindy Ferguson
Larry and Jan Osterby
Melinda Lesher
Larry and Mame Mossman
Mike and Lisa Helicki

Finance Team

Jeanne Seppa *Financial Secretary*
Heather Zile *Treasurer/Secretary*
Pastor Kevin Lewis *Staff Representative*
Steve Ferguson *Elder Representative*

Hispanic Ministry

Thomas Pineda

Latte's And Littles

Anna Johnson
Becky Lewis

Men's Ministry

Jim Achilles
Pastor Kevin Lewis

Missions' Ministry

Jeanne Seppa
Mary Walther
Glen Boring
Karen Boring
AJ Johnson

Music Ministry

Jim Achilles
Joyce Achilles
Kevin Lewis
Becky Lewis
Betty Barns
Mary Walther
Mike Seppa
Heather Zile
Joshua Lewis
Jacob Lewis
Melinda Lane
Nina Maher

Nursery Ministry

Anna Johnson
Moriah Johnson
Becky Lewis
Abigail Lewis
Joy Decius
Jan Osterby
Christian Grauff

Prayer Group Ministry

Mary Walther

Our middle-school and high-school Sunday School class meets Sunday mornings at 9:00 am, and it has been such a blessing to be a part of this group! We have been using the Lifeway Students curriculum, which features active introductions, lessons on Old-Testament and New Testament Scriptures, and conclusions that apply the big ideas from the lessons to our daily lives. The curriculum also includes 5-day devotional pages, which can be removed from the workbooks for students to take home. Our class always concludes with time for sharing praises from the previous week, along with prayer requests for challenges that people are facing. It has been so rewarding to see the students make connections between different parts of the Bible, and to listen to their thoughts and observations. They are a wonderful group, and I am happy that I can spend time with them each week!

Report by Pastor AJ, and Peter Grauff

AWANA

Our second full year of AWANA is coming to a close. It has been a good year of kids being loved by our faithful volunteers and having fun while learning more about God's Word. Our Sparks group has been fun and interesting this year with an average night being 8 boys and 1 girl. Sometimes more boys and up to 3 girls. They are full of energy—of course, and we have found that she is more than a match for them in energy and enthusiasm.

Again the year seems to have 2 different years to it. The Sept.-Dec. group and the Jan- May group. We topped out in December at a huge 28 on one of the nights. It is a challenge and encouraging that God sees fit to trust us with that many kids. Most of the year we ran just under 20 which was more than enough to keep things going and the room buzzing most nights. Everyone's favorite memory this year was definitely out of the Sparkies room. (We had 2 Cubbies get near perfect attendance

many other trips I've lead because we are actually flying somewhere. In the past I always have driven. I'm looking forward to see what the Lord has for us as we anticipate His faithfulness in the actual trip!

The group has gone on multiple activities and trips together. We went on our first High School only trip since COVID. It was the Winter Youth trip to Camp Tadmor. In the course of three days we enjoyed rain, sun and snow on the final day! The speakers and worship leaders focused on helping the students know how they could better walk with the Lord and reach out to others in their sphere of influence. It was a great weekend.

Our most exciting trip was probably camp. After camp we had 2 students get baptized and 3 of the guys in the group were moved to start reading their bibles regularly. We have been meeting regularly for almost a year now and we are steadily moving forward in the Word! After camp the girls also wanted to start a study and they have also been faithfully meeting and studying together.

The year has definitely had different challenges, but nothing too out of the ordinary. We are still praying and trusting the Lord for other volunteers to come join in the ministry with us. Also this year will see us graduate 2 more seniors which always has a profound change to the group. We are looking forward in faith to see where God takes us this next year.

Report by Pastor AJ

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Our Children and Youth Sunday School has had a wonderful year! Peter Grauff and his wife Christina have been teaching them this year. Christina's class is for kids age 5-5th Grade, and Peter has taken the older kids. Christina has displayed her heart for the kids this year by not only showing up consistently but because of the mechanics of curriculum she has been editing and writing the curriculum to tailor it to her class specifically. Peter shared the following below about his class.

Sound Ministry

Joshua Lewis

Jacob Lewis

Jim Zile

Heather Zile

Moriah Johnson

Women's Ministry

Becky Lewis

Melinda Leshner

Mary Walther

Christina Grauff

Debbie Kenney

Joy Decious

Joyce Achilles

Youthful Hearts

Larry and Mame Mossman

Youth Ministry

Pastor Andrew Johnson

Anna Johnson

ELDER'S REPORT

Elders serving from January 1, 2022 to May 31, 2023.

Steve Ferguson Chairman
Jim Zile* Vice Chairman
Larry Mossman Secretary
Kevin M. Lewis Senior Pastor
AJ Johnson Pastor

*(replacing Matthew Hensley when he relocated),

Leadership Activities:

- The Elders authorized Church Debit cards for the following people to aid in the process of bookkeeping and tracking expenses.
- Melinda Leshner, Heather Zile, Pastor Kevin Lewis, and Pastor AJ Johnson.
- Heather Zile, and Steven Ferguson were authorized to sign checks for the General and Restricted funds.
- The Elders held a dinner along with their wives to discuss the churches overall health and work toward assessing needs.
- Pastor Kevin, along with Steve Ferguson, met with the Ministry Team leaders to also receive their input.
- Elder Retreat, evaluations of staff & ministry teams, were reviewed.
- Mid - year review of insurance. All looking good.
- Majority of Elders met with Hispanic Team leaders and their wives to discuss the future and the current challenges they are facing.
- Kevin, AJ and Heather's salaries increased by 6% in June 2022 as an inflation adjustment.
- New Janitor, Kevin Leshner, was hired to fulfill the vacancy left by Maria.
- The Elders, along with Pastor AJ, were able to purchase a Van for church use.

and covered up the wall. I worked with Bud to install new toilet partitions. Following completion of the project, I cleaned the rooms and wiped down the new toilet partitions so everything would be ready for the church service on the following day.

Report by Greg Kenney

FELLOWSHIP TEAM REPORT

Beginning with a new calendar year of 2023 and a few new committee members we were able to create a plan of activities. Those plans include quarterly potlucks and monthly events as they occur i.e. Valentine's day, Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, church picnic, Harvest pie fest, Hanging of the Greens and caroling at the church.

So far, we have been blessed to have most things go as planned and look forward to the events ahead of us.

Many thanks to our team and all those who jump in to help make things flow smoothly.

Report by Jan Osterby

YOUTH MINISTRY REPORT

Growth! That is always the goal with leading students. Each year the parents, leaders, and individuals hopefully can look back and see that there was growth. These last 18 months have seen wonderful signs of growth, both physically and spiritually. Probably the most exciting thing is the one that we have been preparing for almost a whole year, and yet is officially going to happen in the next fiscal year...stay tuned. Our mission trip to Thailand is what I'm thinking of. However I can report that the students who are coming have been faithful to prepare, pray for, lead fundraisers, report to various groups, send prayer letters and in many other ways get ready to go. It has been a new experience for everyone already and has been different than the

Pursued approval from the City of Astoria and Pacific Power to install a pole mounted light fixture on the existing telephone pole near Irving Avenue at the base of the exit ramp from the parking lot. After more than a year of working with them, they decided to not allow a light fixture at this location. Instead, we are now testing the use of solar powered lights mounted on the existing parking lot railing that are dusk to dawn operated.

Worked with Terry's Plumbing to repair a faucet leak at the urinal in the basement men's bathroom.

Worked with contractor Bud as he scraped out paint blisters on the exterior siding and repainted the bare spot siding. Some blisters reappeared so further work will need to be done by using a heat gun and sanding the blistered area to the bare wood.

After the main level Women's bathroom experienced a serious water leak, I worked with Coastal Restoration to mitigate the resulting damaged areas both on the main floor and the ground floor. Coastal Restoration removed carpeting squares that were waterlogged on both levels and removed sheetrock on walls where water had intruded along with the vinyl sheet flooring and removed the plywood subfloor in the Women's bathroom. Holes were cut into some existing walls to allow fan forced air to dry the wood framing and fans were placed at various locations to dry the floor areas.

Once Coastal Restoration determined everything was properly dried and restoration could begin, I worked with Nu-Way Carpet to install a new sheet vinyl floor only this time it would be covered up the wall to prevent any future water leak from allowing water to seep into the walls, etc. Following the floor installation, new toilet partitions were installed by contractor Bud with my assistance. Bud also repainted the room and I ordered two new hanging mirrors to replace the existing wall mount mirror and Bud installed those also.

The decision was made to also upgrade the Men's bathroom, so I worked with Nu-Way Carpet to remove the existing sheet vinyl floor and sub floor and new sheet vinyl was installed

PASTOR'S REPORT

This last year and a half has flown by. I guess that happens when you have a fifth baby and stop sleeping regularly. Many people look at my life and wonder how I do it. I like to think of myself not so much as busy but as actively on task with the primary things I am responsible for, namely, my family, church, and community. The things that keep me active are my priorities. Balancing the lives of three teenagers and a toddler and baby along with my wife, who works two nights a week at the hospital, and my continuing education is not for the faint of heart. But we know this is only a season, and it too will pass. I am unsure how we do it all as a family, but I am certain we do it one day at a time, faithfully trusting the Lord in all he asks of us.

This is especially true as I answered a call to be in school...again! I am halfway through my Doctoral Program at Corban University. As I study the principles of transformational leadership, I am continually amazed at how practical and timely each class has been as I endeavor to pastor a growing church. As our church grows, our needs change. I am transitioning from being a pastor of a small family-driven church to a medium-sized mission-driven church. Our church is renewing its sense of urgency for preaching, teaching, and sharing the gospel with others, and this is an exciting sign of health and points to the longevity of our ministry.

I have seen this come true in many ways over the last year as the "challenges" have transitioned from relational issues to issues of resource. There are not enough plates, tablecloths, cups, and chairs. We need more water balloons, rides, and cash to make it all happen each week. This last year has been about resources for our church. Everything we have done, we have had to do bigger, more, and sometimes, more complex. A case in point was the Easter Celebration. We held two services and counted 149 people joining us for breakfast. It was electric as we celebrated the Lord's Resurrection!

As our church keeps growing, a new challenge for us is to

help those new to us to join in, buy-in, and learn our philosophy, values, and vision for ministry. I have been working this year to develop these ideas in a translatable tool I tried in the Discover class. By inviting people who are new in our church to discover who we are, what we are about, and where we are going, our hope is that they will become part of the Grace Community family.

Over the last year or so, we have been stretched and encouraged by growth. When I speak with my pastoral colleagues, I tell them we have all the best problems? Our great issue is that the Lord is blessing us, and we are trying to keep up with all He is doing in our lives. We are truly blessed, and I am excited to participate.

Pastor Kevin M. Lewis

DEACONES' REPORT

Definition of Deaconess: A deaconess is a woman who belongs to or assists in a church ministering to women. Various duties would be visitation, helping the needy, providing meals for the sick, new babies, etc., and serving in other ways as directed by the Pastor.

As Deaconesses at Grace Community Church we strive to serve our church as stated above.

We meet once a month sharing a devotion and praying for one another as well as women in our congregation. We continue to send out cards to specific people to let them know they were prayed for that day. This is such a small thing, however, we continue to hear how encouraging those notes are to women who need to know they are loved.

It seems like over the past year we have been busy providing meals for various families. We helped Joyce during her illness, Lisa recuperating from surgery, Christina recuperating from surgery, Julie recovering from a stroke, Jeanne from treatment, and Becky after giving birth. We also put together a "spa basket" for Becky in honor of Gwendolyn's birth. We col-

lect monies for Pastors gifts at Christmas time. In February we helped put some freezer meals together for the Lewis family. Whether it was food provided, money given or both, thank you for sharing what God has given you back to those in need.

Glennys Sherman, Liz Kurns and Lisa Halicki joined the team this past year. We recently started serving communion in the trays again. We continue using the 2 in 1 style cup. Will we ever go back to real juice and real bread has yet to be determined. Those currently serving besides the three listed above are, Marge Thompson, Melinda Leshner, Jan Osterby, and Cindy Ferguson. Please let us know of any needs you or someone else may have that we can help minister to.

Cindy Ferguson, Chairperson

DEACON'S REPORT/FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

Miscellaneous touch up painting of the Foyer walls.
Installation of a chair bumper guard on the sanctuary side of the foyer wall

Installation of ventilation vents and fire blocking above the closet doors for the server equipment to dissipate heat generated from the computer servers.

Installation of three electrical outlets each on a dedicated 20 amp circuit for the coffee bar outside of the kitchen and adjacent to the furnace room door.

Installation of an outlet and mounting hardware for a wall mounted

television set on a wall at the Pacific Community room.

Installation of wall switch occupancy sensors in all four bathrooms, the hallway for the bathrooms on the foyer level, the kitchen and the Young's Bay room and closets on the ground floor level