

the LANTERN

First Presbyterian Church

November 2022



Letter from the Pastor Stewardship

This month we are sharing with you a Stewardship Snapshot which includes a few visual representations of our finances this year through August. Please feel free to reach out to Becky or me if you have any questions, would like to see more detail, or would like to see some different charts. If you have any suggestions on how we can be better stewards, please share your ideas with an elder on session as the session is beginning preparations for next year's budget.

Also, we ask that you return your pledge card for 2023 to the office as soon as possible. This will aid our session in their discernment process as we make plans for the future. Pledge cards can be found in your bulletin or by reaching out to Becky. We thank you for your contributions and support to First Presbyterian Church.

Peace,

Pastor Josh

STEWARDSHIP SNAPSHOT 2022

First Presbyterian Church – Kirksville, MO

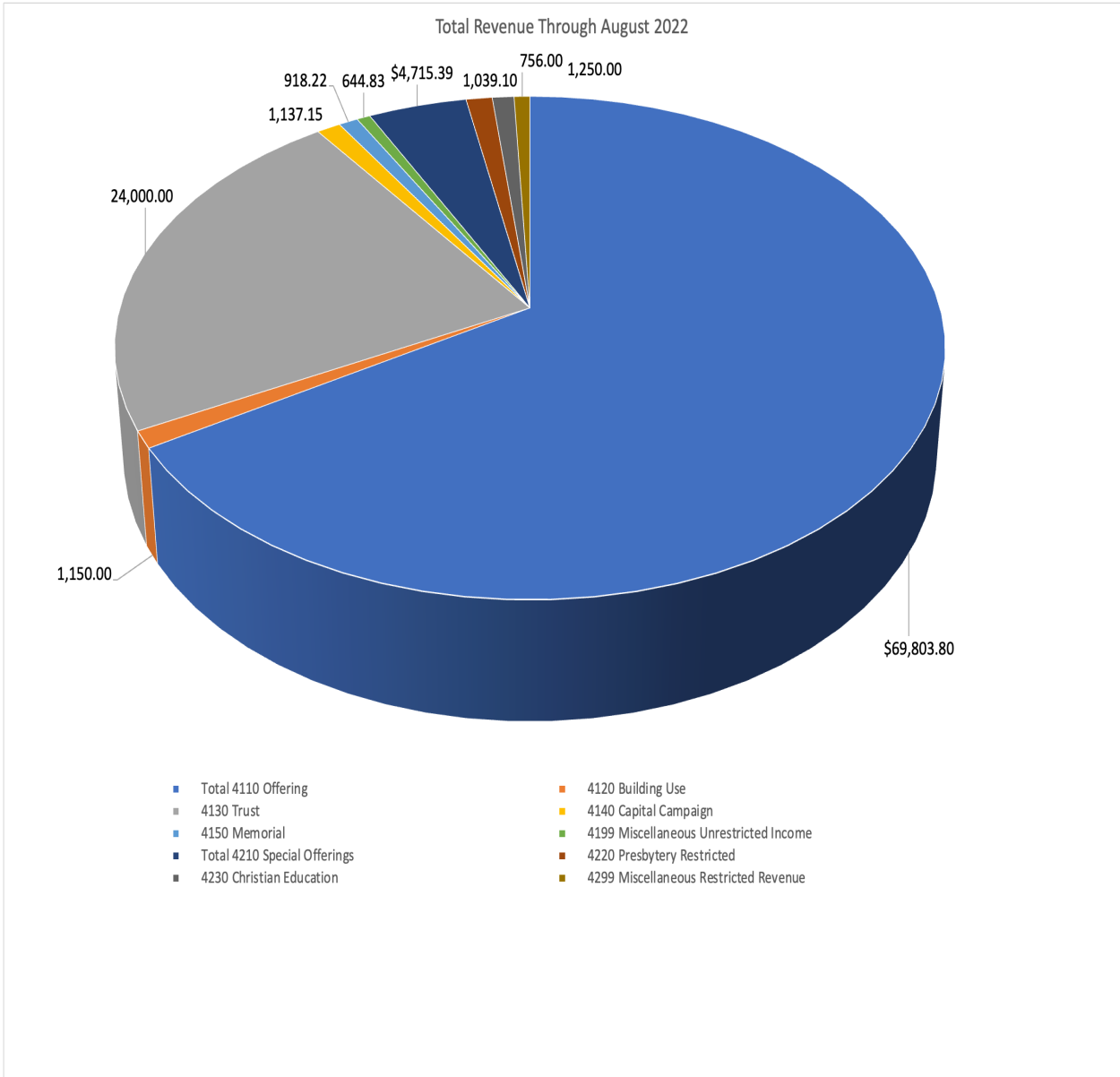


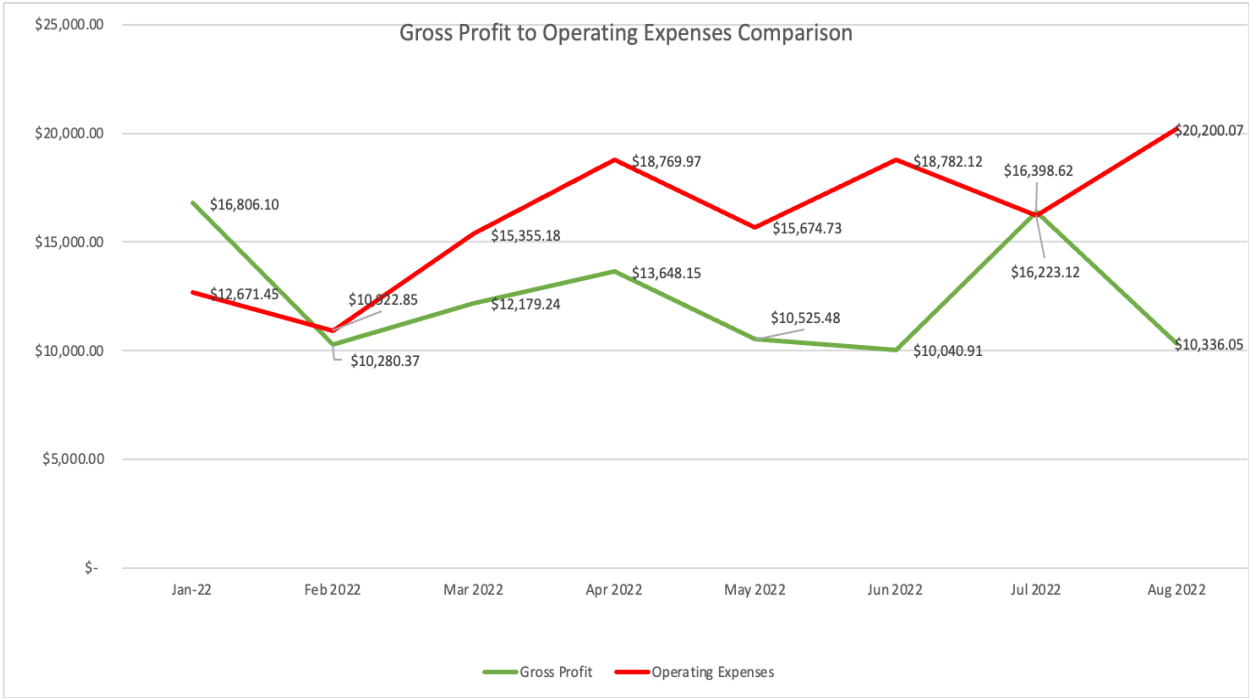
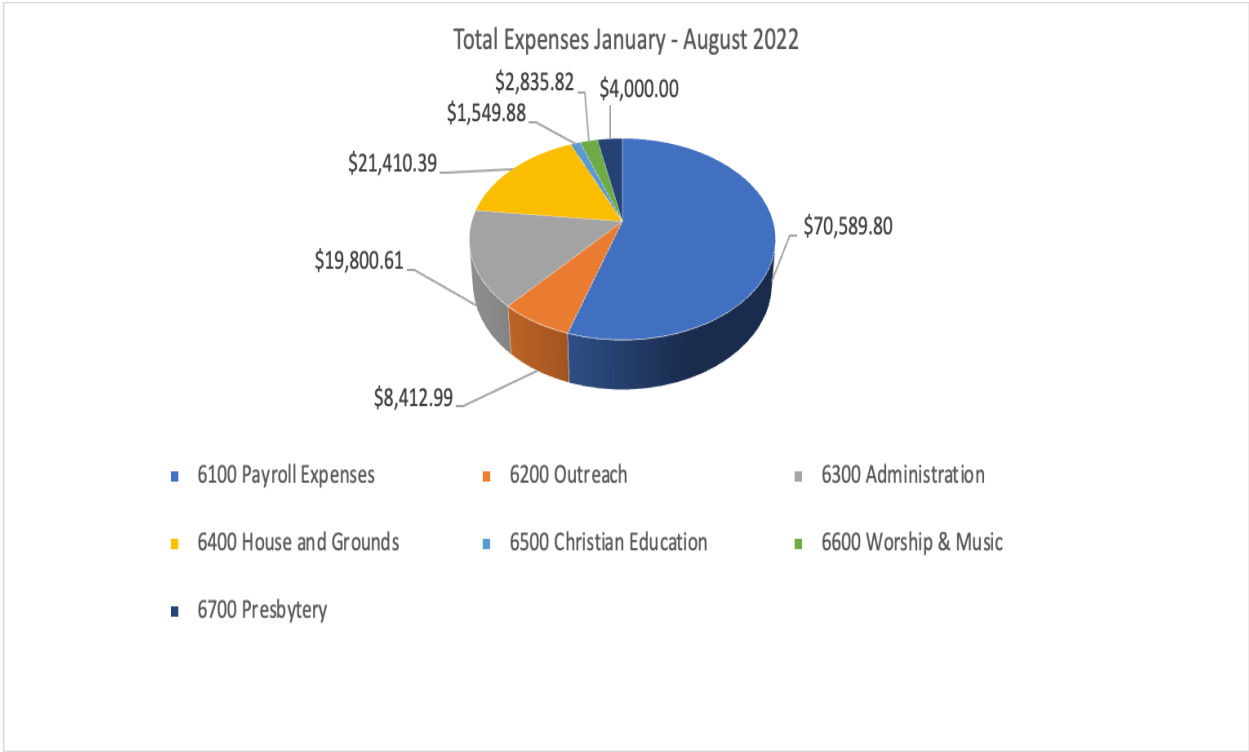
- A quick snapshot of this year's financial reports
- A call for stewardship
- A celebration of the work of Christ pouring out of a community of believers

THANK YOU

for supporting our church as we seek to fulfill our mission:

Inspired by faith, hope, and love in Jesus Christ, the community of First Presbyterian Church welcomes all God's children, helps them to grow in faith, and proclaims the gospel through worship, education, prayer, fellowship, nurture, service, and mission. As Christians, we seek to be faithful stewards of all God's gifts and to build a community that reflects God's love, justice, mercy, and peace continually trusting the Holy Spirit to lead us to discover God's will.





"We are surrounded by God's benefits. The best use of these benefits is an unceasing expression of gratitude."

. John Calvin

This month, we ask that you prayerfully consider how you can be a good steward of the many benefits God bestows on us. It is our prayer that the small amount we return of the abundance God provides might grow the Kingdom of God and help us continue the good work of our church family.

Seek God, Praying...

- How can I give of my time?
- How can I give of my energy?
- How can I give of my talents?
- How can I give of my material goods?
- How can I give of my finances?

"In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work, we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: is more blessed to give than to receive."

-Acts 20:35

'It



Notes from Session

These are the main highlights from October's Session. If you ever have more questions about what's going on behind the scenes, feel free to talk to any session member: Scott Thatcher, Brenda Martin, Jeanne North, Samantha Shirk, Ginger Nolker, Greg Marshall, Kate Sandefur, or Krissy Giovannini.

- The Deacons met, talking about the Fall Festival on October 23 (11:00-1:00 p.m.), and our church's contribution. Thanks to the Deacons for coordinating the day.
- We have chosen a musical "Waiting for Jesus" for the White Gift Service on December 11. Because it is in the middle of Advent, the topic seems very appropriate.
- Curriculum has been chosen for advent, including the "Illustrated Ministry" curriculum for the children's class and "Advent in Narnia" for the youth.
- Stewardship season will be starting soon—watch for announcements in church!
- House and Grounds has been working to fix our refrigerator, that's been running too warm, and our van's catalytic converter has also been replaced.
- From Worship and Sacraments, All Saint's Day will feature white carnations in the back of the church for all to take and place at the front of the church. Also, a decision was made to discontinue Children's Time for the rest of this calendar year.
- The church service time survey indicated a majority who preferred the current service time of 9:30 a.m. We'll continue the conversation about ways to make the church more welcoming in a town hall on January 8—watch for more information as the date gets closer.
- The Session discussed use of the church building by Prairie Song Academy, and passed a motion to clarify building use rules for the school. Prairie Song is thankful for the clarification and asks that any issues be brought to their attention as soon as possible, so that any conflicts can be resolved quickly.



The Clothes Closet started the month of October off with our sixth annual trip to Community Connect where we gave away socks. We made some good connections with other organizations in our community and came home with coats donated by the Moose Lodge! Laundry Day went very well with 9 families signing in for laundry assistance. We are still looking for volunteers to help Saturday, November 19 from 1:00-3:00 at Scrubby Duds.

Our Blanket Saturday went very well again this year and we gave blankets to 33 families. We welcomed some new volunteers. Thank you Kate, Mason, Maya, Teresa and Kenton for manning the blanket tables at the church so Brenda, Lynn and Pam could welcome 36 families at the Clothes Closet. It was a very busy morning!

The community Take One/Leave One coat rack is back at Community Mission. A big thank you to Deb and Ron Fischer and their church family for collecting coats to help keep it stocked through the winter.

November will be a month of recovery as we greeted over 260 families to the Clothes Closet in October (an estimated 1020 individuals came looking for clothing). We are in desperate need of men's clothing this winter. We have already gone through most of what we have received and winter hasn't even begun.

Christmas is around the corner and plans have begun for this year's Christmas Shoppe to be held Saturday, December 17. Volunteers will be needed for this event as well, so mark your calendar now to save us a space.

Brenda Martin



Presbyterian Women will be addressing lesson three, Sabbath and Sunday, in November. The key idea: Over the centuries, Christians began to celebrate the Sabbath on Sunday, but we still haven't come to an agreement on quite what that means. This uncertainty may be an opportunity.

Justice and Peace Calendar

Native American Heritage Month
Nov 13 --World Kindness Day
Nov 13--Hunger and Homelessness Sunday
Nov 20--World Children's Day
Nov 24--Thanksgiving
Nov 25--International Day for the
Elimination of Violence Against Women
Nov 25-Dec 16--Days of Activism against
Gender-Based Violence

Update on Fall Gathering:

Kings' Daughters was thrilled with all of the donations, including \$176.25 in quarters. Bingo is covered for some time!

The book/Christian literature was also successful. We donated 14 boxes! Our church donated four boxes of Bibles (old pew bibles) as well as well as donations.

Thank all of you once again.



PERRY G. EASLEY MEMORIAL (1936-2022)

The Perry G. Easley Memorial was dedicated on October 23, 2022, during the church morning worship service. Perry was born on December 16, 1936, in Novelty, MO, and graduated from the Novelty School District in 1954. At the age of 12, his father put him on a tractor and for the next 40 years he farmed the family farm. He served in the United States Army Reserves from 1959 to 1965. In 1991 he owned the Osage Orange Woodworking and Welding Company in Kirksville. His talent was well known in several states for his artistic name logs. He was a member of Post #29, American Legion in Anchorage, AK and a member of First Presbyterian Church of Kirksville. Perry always helped the church with many projects behind the scenes. He was united in marriage to Laura Scobee in 1963 and they were the parents of two sons, Mark (Kim) Easley of Liberty, MO and Matthew (Kimberly) of Troy, MO and four grandchildren. He passed away on September 6, 2020.

The two north church entrance lanterns and the two east building exterior lights were in bad repair and needed to be replaced. The Perry Easley Memorial has made it possible to replace all four lights with new dusk to dawn illumination. These dark areas are now brightly lit for building and public security. We honor this wonderful gift to the church in Perry's memory with reverence and gratitude. We thank our Lord for his life and dedicate this gift to the Glory of God.

Linda Hudnall
Memorial Committee Chair





Birthdays and Anniversaries

November Birthdays

Brenda Martin – 11/2
Charles Giovannini – 11/3
Anastasia McKenna - 11/3
Diane Baer – 11/4
Robert Baer – 11/8
Elliott Sandefur – 11/8
Lynn Van Dolah – 11/12
Mason Krebs – 11/19
Ian Sandefur – 11/22

December Birthdays

J. Biehl – 12/2
Courtney Hamilton – 12/2
Laura Easley – 12/5
Chad Mohler – 12/7
Sandy Elliott – 12/10
Ron Shepherd – 12/11
Meradith Summers - 12/11
Shane (Sam) Martinson – 12/17
Daniel Marshall – 12/18
Michele Yoder – 12/21
Victor Barrios - 12/28
Jason Gran - 12/31

December Anniversaries

Victor Barrios & Adriana Gonzalez – 12/18
Garrett & Mary Elam – 12/31



Youth Fun



