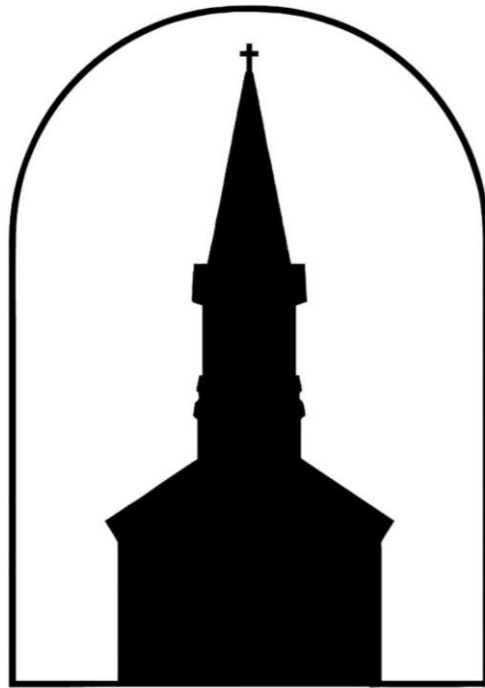


ST. PAULS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
N89 W16856 Appleton Avenue
Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin 53051



ST PAULS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
MENOMONEE FALLS

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
JANUARY 26, 2025
10:45 A.M.
Church Sanctuary

THIS BOOKLET CONTAINS THE 2024 ANNUAL REPORTS

Please bring this booklet with you.

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2025 - 10:45 A.M.**

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**PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING THESE REPORTS TO THE
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ON JANUARY 26, 2025. THE MEETING WILL
BEGIN ABOUT 10:45 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY.**

Agenda
Annual Meeting, January 26, 2025
St Pauls UCC, Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin

- | | | |
|-------|--|-----------------|
| I. | CALL TO ORDER | Chris Sparrow |
| | a. Declaration of Quorum | |
| | b. Appointment of Parliamentarian | |
| | c. Adoption of Agenda | |
| II. | OPENING PRAYER | Rev. Jim Gorman |
| III. | APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY 28, 2024 | Mike Bauman |
| IV. | PASTOR'S REPORT | Printed |
| V. | OFFICER'S REPORTS | |
| | a. President's Report | Chris Sparrow |
| | b. Treasurer's Report | Katrina |
| | c. Clerk's Report | Mike Bauman |
| VI. | BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS | |
| | a. Christian Education | Julie Loth |
| | b. Trustees | Mike Gresen |
| | c. Deacons | Kate Tracy |
| VII. | ADDITIONAL REPORTS | |
| | a. Budget Report | |
| | b. Cemetery Report | |
| | c. Foundation Report | |
| VIII. | OLD BUSINESS | |
| | a. Continuation of Suspension of Stewardship Board, Missions has become a task force | |
| IX. | NEW BUSINESS | |
| | a. Adoption of 2025 Budget | |
| | b. Elections | |
| | c. Discussion of future directions | |
| X. | OTHER BUSINESS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CONGREGATION | |
| XI. | ADJOURNMENT | |

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 29, 2023

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2024

- I. CALL TO ORDER: at 10:48 a.m. by President Jeff Jegl
 - A. Declaration of quorum made by Jeff Jegl
 - B. Appointment of Andy Toebe as Parliamentarian
 - C. Adoption of Agenda motion made by Chris Sparrow, seconded by Tom Lindow. All in favor.
- II. OPENING PRAYER offered by Rev. Steve Davidson
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY 29, 2023
 - A. Chris Sparrow made a motion to approve with the following corrections:
 - 1. Spelling of Sue Schuelke's last name in 2023 annual meeting minutes
 - B. Jayne Gardebrecht and Mike Nooyen seconded the motion. All in favor.
- IV. PASTOR'S REPORT, OFFICER REPORTS, BOARD REPORTS: Jeff called for a motion to approve all reports.
 - A. Chris Sparrow made a motion to approved all reports with the following corrections:
 - 1. Page 10 - Sharon Moody has also left membership.
 - 2. Page 14 - Deacon's report should show four new members, not three
 - B. Mike Dethloff seconded the motion. All in favor.
 - C. Jeff Jegl called for a motion to continue to suspend the missions and stewardship
 - Only continuing with the missions task force.
 - 1. Mike Nooyen moved and Mike Maury seconded the motion. All in favor.
- V. BUDGET, CEMETERY AND FOUNDATION REPORTS
 - A. Mike Maury moved to approve the budget for 2024, Tom Lindow seconded.
 - 1. Discussion: Pastor Steve asked about changes in the budget from 2023 to 2024. Tom answered questions about changes in giving, noting the departure of some members and highlighting the rally around the roof repair. Tom clarified questions about Main Street dance rent being prepaid in January, Christian Ed not having a budget due to currently having enough supplies, loan interest under the office category being from 2021 when we had a loan and that it is no longer applicable to 2023 or 2024. It was noted that the monies left in the Dillard fund are \$11,000.68 as of 12/31/23 and those funds are for Christian Education. Tom has worked to make all church funds transparent to the congregation and that is why the Women's Fellowship grants and cookie walk income are listed. We have a balanced budget despite the changes we have been through this past year. All were in favor of passing the budget.
- VI. NOMINATIONS
 - A. VP position remains open.
 - 1. Julie Loth nominated Mike Nooyen for vp. Mike accepted.
 - B. TREASURER
 - 1. Tom will volunteer for the books, but will not fill the treasurer/officer role. Jeff called for a nomination for treasurer. No volunteers.
 - C. CPR - Julie Loth nominated herself for a two-year role.
 - Steve Hoagland motioned and Christ Sparrow seconded to approve the nominations. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- VII. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Food Pantry - Jayne Gardebrecht shared details of a new policy at the pantry that all volunteers, except for those that only date check donations, must complete background checks and training. See her for more information.
- B. St. Ben's - Jayne also shared details of our ministry there and the need for two more servers on Monday evenings. See her for more information.
- C. Pastor Steve noted that the discussion of how to grow the church was started under Jeff's leadership during cabinet meetings and would continue into 2024, potentially pausing until our new part time pastor starts in mid-May 2024. Pastor Steve thanked St. Pauls for the privilege of serving as our part time pastor and will continue through April.
- D. Jeff shared his final thoughts on the past year, thanking everyone who served on a board or committee, encouraging us to grow and accept change in the coming year. Pastor Steve encouraged a round of applause in thanking Jeff for his leadership.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Mike Maury and seconded by Sue Schuelke and Jayne Gardebrecht simultaneously. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie M. H. Loth
Acting Secretary

PASTOR EMMA SANCOMB (PASTOR'S) 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Pastor Emma Sancomb
Pastor's Annual Report 2024
St. Pauls UCC
Menomonee Falls, WI

I was called as your pastor in January of 2024 and I began my ministry with you after completing maternity leave mid-May. I jumped in, eager to be a part of this beautiful community and excited for all we might do together.

In addition to regular Sunday services, I baptized two little ones and confirmed 8 of our youth.

I had the pleasure of stepping into a confirmation class that had been previously working with the then Interim Pastor, Steven Davidson, as well as, Confirmation Advisors, Amy Dethloff and Andy Toebe. I came in with the understanding that this group had been meeting for a year and had the intentions of becoming confirmed in the fall of 2024.

During my summer with the confirmation class, I brought in several guest speakers from different denominational and religious backgrounds as an educational opportunity and to expose our youth to different cultures and backgrounds.

Beginning after Rally Day, I started weekly Bible Study where a group of 3-6 members reflected on the scripture that we would share in worship together the following Sunday.

I also spent time visiting our homebound members and connecting with other members and friends of the church/community via phone, email, text and hosting "office hours" at local coffee shops. Thank you to Julie Loth for being so diligent in visiting our homebound members as well. Another area we explored building community (within and outside of St Pauls) was through organizing a couple of bonfires/potlucks throughout the summer and fall. I am particularly grateful to Chris Sparrow and Jayne Gardebrecht for building relationships with the Downtown BID.

Through the process of reimagining who this church is and how we want to be viewed by the community, the foundation approved for Chris Sparrow, myself and several others to contract with a web designer to help St. Pauls better articulate to the world who it is. We are mid-project and they anticipate completing the project early January 2025.

Despite loving this community and the work I am doing here; I had to make the very difficult decision not to stay. As I have shared before, this is nothing personal, you are a beautiful congregation. This also is not about money, so please know that. It is about my own mental health and the well-being of my whole family. I just don't have the capacity to be a stay-at-home mom and be fully present here. I needed to answer the call to make a change.

It is my deepest prayer that this community might learn to honor and sit with the grief of all that it has been through throughout the years and recognize that you are all capable of doing incredible things and you have done incredible things when you trust in yourself. I am sorry that I cannot continue on this journey with you and hope that you know I want nothing but the best for you.

Nick, Cora and I express our deepest gratitude to all of the love and support you have offered in both my coming and going. We pray for the best for this community and trust that the Holy One will guide you in the days ahead.

Submitted by,
Rev. Emma Sancomb

PRESIDENT'S 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

President's annual report

Who is St Pauls? We are a community of diverse people. We exist within a local community. We are in community with others. The message that we want to share is that God's Love abounds and is for all of us. The year began full of promise with a new minister starting in May. The loss of musician Abbey was filled with 4 talented substitutes for about 5 months followed by the hiring of Kelly, an exceptional organist, to play for services. Immediately there was energy to expand and offer more. St Pauls, as part of the downtown, became involved in the Menomonee Falls Downtown Improvement District (BID). Through monthly meetings with all other downtown organizations it became evident that community connections and visibility could be achieved through sponsoring community events (Friday Movie nights, Picnic in the Plaza), offering the parking lot for community wide parking access i.e. Lavender Fest, hosting the Easter Community event in the fellowship hall due to inclement weather, as well as participating in attending events and offering our services like the Halloween trick or treat night and Bell Choir playing in the small business Saturday event. We could share who St Pauls is through flyers passed out during Memorial Day Parade, selling lavender cookies while people chose to use the parking lot, being highlighted on the Menomonee Falls Facebook while collaborating with individuals working in the Village.

In addition to our ongoing mission work, the special Mental Health Task Force took a large step in offering strategies for individual self-growth both for the church community/congregation as well as the local community beyond the church. Two evening workshops were offered which were in part funded through a catalyst grant from the SE Association of UCC. A third event included a Social Worker presenting on strategies to manage anxiety and stress moving into the holiday season. St Pauls will continue to show God's love of all through community mental health directives going into 2025

An energy was evident in the Sunday morning worship services with new faces attending and several faces returning after prolonged absence. Adult Bible study started and Firepit potlucks enhanced community. The old website is in an update process which will more effectively share who St Pauls is and share our message of God's love.

This year however turned into a tale of two halves. With interfering life challenges, we lost our administrative secretary, Mickey, at the end of August. Though we have been able to hire and train a new individual, Stephanie, with the huge assistance of Interim secretary, Tara, we then learned of the resignation of our pastor, Emma, due to personal choices, and moving to a full time position. The final blow was the decision of the organist, Kelly, to decline a renewal of a contract for the next year. We end 2024 with people showing their resilience amid fatigue and sadness by stepping up to interview interim candidates, arranging pulpit supply, agreeing to sit on a new search committee, exploring music options and fill in musicians. I highly value the critical work of all three boards Trustees (leading a roof campaign) Deacons (consistent worship activity) and Christian Education (classes and pageant of few but mighty). People are participating in the pictorial directory project, boards have many returning members, and we all were excited to be part of a successful Cookie Walk. I have to say that I especially value the community and fellowship I saw evident in cookie baking and selling. Let us pause to consider the meaning of Christmas. God's love expressed through community will continue to support us and direct St Pauls into the future.

Submitted by: Christine Sparrow

TREASURER'S 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

In 2024 our largest project was phase two of the roof replacement. Thanks to the generosity of our congregation and the foundation we were able to cover all expenses for this last part of the project.

Also, in 2024 we had a change in secretary adding Stephenie Osuji to our team. Our interim secretary was Tara Nooyen who did a fantastic job helping to clean up some straggling issues to ensure a smoother start for Stephenie. This was no easy task and took many hours which is conveyed in the increase in secretary salary for the last quarter of the year.

Our giving remains steady. It is always heartwarming to see the generosity of the congregation. We truly are a family that takes care of each other and our church home.

Submitted by: Katrina Worthan

ST. PAULS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 2023 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Deaths:

Dorothy Riesch 1/2/2024

Dale Wendlandt 3/5/2024

Denise "Deni" Serio 3/25/2024

Nancy Laguna 4/7/2024

New Members (8/11/2024):

David Brill

Becca Olson

Drew Olson

Cody Schulteis

Sara Schulteis

Katrina Worthan

Baptisms:

Adelia Jo Vogds 5/19/2024

Mia Rose Rubatt 9/15/2024

Confirmations (10/17/2024):

Taylor Frank

Lucian Hoagland

Eli Holzman

Lauren Holzman

Charles Lindow

Natalie Lunde

Calvin Prochazka

Sophia Prochazka

Left Membership

Linda Naidl

New Members/Confirmands: 14

Member Deaths: 4

Losses: 1

Active Members 12/31/24: 163 - Per PowerChurch (Number will likely change

ST. PAULS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 2025 NOMINATIONS

OFFICERS (one year term)
PRESIDENT
VICE PRESIDENT
TREASURER
SECRETARY/CLERK
PAST PRESIDENT
Term Expires 1/26/2025
Chris Sparrow
Mike Nooyen
Jeff Jegl
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Term expires 1/26/2025
Blaine Harris
Lynn Bauman
Open
Term Expires 1/25/2026
Mike Maury
Mike Gresen
Paul Martin
BOARD OF DEACONS
Term expires 1/26/2025
Steve Hoagland.
Jayne Gardebrecht
Open
(fulfilling Abbey Harkin's vacated spot)
Term Expires 1/25/2026
Kate Tracy
Mike Dethloff
Open
BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
Term expires 1/26/2025
Gladys Hoagland.
Open
Open
Term Expires 1/25/2026
Kam Lindow
Julie Loth
Jenna Jegl
BOARD OF MISSIONS AND STEWARDSHIP Temporarily Suspended

Congregational Pastoral Relations (CPR)
Term expires 1/26/2025
Amy Krohn.
Sue Schuelke
Open
Term Expires 1/25/2026
Terry Tracy
Mike Dethloff
Julie Loth
Budget Committee (one year term)
Tom Lindow
Nominating Committee (one year term)
Jeff Jegl
Cemetery Committee
Paul Martin, Chairperson and Cemetery Sexton
Bill Gibowski, Treasurer
Jayne Gardebrecht, Secretary

**BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

“All your children shall be taught of the Lord”. Isaiah 54:13

The board of Christian Education continues to be small, but mighty. We purchased a new Sunday School curriculum and decided to continue offering Sunday School twice a month. Thank you to our dedicated teachers and substitutes - we could not do this without you. For the children’s Christmas program, the play, Christmas Store Window, was presented to the congregation on December 15. The kids continue to create items to be mailed to our members who are unable to join us on Sunday morning. We welcome your participation on the board, assistance with teaching Sunday School or help with various projects such as the Christmas program.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Loth
Christian Education

**CONFIRMATION CLASS
2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

8 youth were involved in a 2-year program culminating in service led by the confirmation class and the subsequent confirmation on November 17th.

Taylor Frank
Lucian Hoagland
Eli Holzman
Lauren Holzman

Charlie Lindow
Natalie Lunde
Cal Prochazka
Sophia Prochazka

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

St Pauls UCC - Board of Trustees
Annual Report - 2024

The Board of Trustees had a busy year. All Board members worked diligently on a full slate of projects and activities throughout 2024. A huge ‘Thank You’ to all Board members who worked hard to meet our goals and obligations that resulted in our accomplishments for the good of the church.

The following are some of the projects that were performed in 2024:

** Roof Repair Project Phase 2 Has Been Completed - Trustee Paul Martin spearheaded the project. Due to winter ice damage and leaking water in the Bell Room area, it was determined to proceed with the 2nd Phase repair. The Trustee Board entered into negotiations and contracted with local Menomonee Falls companies, Baumer Roofing and Tarantino Construction for a cost of \$11,550.00. These two companies performed the work on Phase One. A significant savings over the bids from the other contractors. Again, we reached out to Church Members for donations on this project which enabled us to cover the entire cost. Thank you to all Church Members who made this happen.

** Women’s Upstairs Bathroom Drywall Repairs - Due to previous water damage, ceiling drywall repairs were completed at a cost of \$620. A thorough job was performed with no need

to repaint the ceiling area. Cost for this repair was included in the Roof Project.

** Education Wing 1st Floor Drinking Fountain was found to be inoperative. Trustee Mike Gresen along with Jason Jegl made attempts to fix the problem. The result was not successful due to what appears to be a blockage in the outlet pipe. Trustees agreed to remove the drinking fountain and render it inoperative.

** Bell Room Painting & Staining - Trustee Blaine Harris repainted the drywall area walls. Existing paint from the supply room was used. Shampooing of the carpet was done by Trustee Mike Gresen. Trustee Paul Martin sanded and restrained the beam and window areas.

** Elevator Alarm System Inspection was performed by Guetzke & Associates due to smoke alarm not working properly and allowing the elevator to return automatically to the 1st floor. The inspection resulted in a technical issue with the control board. This issue was resolved.

** Sanctuary Candle Stand was repaired by Trustee Mike Maury.

** Rent Increases were approved for the Renters of various rooms in the church and education wing. Masonic Lodge will now pay \$575 per month, Main Street Song & Dance will pay \$700 per month and Liederkranze Choral will pay \$325 per month. These are one-year leases

effective July 1st, 2024. Scheduled increases for all groups for lease term beginning July 1, 2025 have been put on notice.

** Masonic Lodge Renovations to their leased space for carpet installation, in-room air conditioner installation, painting of lodge room and installation of a combination lock were approved by the Trustees. There will be no cost to St Pauls. All costs will be the responsibility of the Masonic Lodge.

** Electrical Outlet in Guild Hall was repaired by Trustee Mike Gresen.

** Moved Desks for Pastor Emma and Music Director Kelly Kazik were down by Trustees Paul Martin and Mike Gresen.

** Install Wall Air Conditioner in the Music Room. This work was performed by Trustee Paul Martin. The air conditioner was found in another room by Trustee Mike Gresen. There was no additional costs involved.

** Kitchen Door Entry & Hallway Drywall Repairs - The cost to perform this repair was \$225 and was performed by the Drywall Contractor that did the work on the 2nd floor women's bathroom. Additional painting costs were less than \$30 and were paid through the Roof Repair funds. The painting was done by Trustee Mike Gresen.

** Boiler Repairs were needed to provide a properly heated and safe environment throughout the church, guild hall, church offices and rooms in the school area. A water leak and pressure settings in the Boiler Room were fixed by Butters Fetting in January. A new air compressor has been temporarily placed so we may investigate further air leak repairs. This repair is currently being looked at by Butters Fetting.

** Little Lambs Room Wired Speakers - The speaker system was not working. Trustee Bob Trapp along with Mike Nooyen found a suitable replacement and then was installed.

** Empower Software Purchase was approved by the Trustees for an annual cost of \$454.

Implementation should take place the early part of 2025.

** Continued to conduct Spring and Fall Cleanup of the outside grounds. General maintenance. Was performed by a great group of church members and the Boy Scouts in the Spring. Shrubs were pruned and cut and invasive weeds were removed. The Fall Cleanup was not finished due to the leaves still clinging to the trees, but big winds helped blow most of the leaves away (sorry to the neighbors to the North who were the beneficiary of our leaves). A big 'Thank You' to all who helped out.

** Worked with Otis Elevator on updates and maintenance plans including monitoring the oil reservoir and viscosity of the oil. This was conducted throughout the year and our internal checks indicated oil levels were proper. The annual inspection from Otis is still to be performed,

a Trustee will be present when this occurs and at that time a determination of the oil viscosity will be known.

** Bathroom Towel Dispensers were fixed in a few locations due to improper dispense of the towels.

** Working with the Menomonee Falls Downtown District Website to procure additional

tenants for the building.

** Working with Pastor Emma to review the existing Wedding Contract in order to clarify the services that the church provides.

**A new Toshiba Color Copier Lease was entered into at a cost of \$267 per month for the next 63 months. The contract is with James Imaging. Performance and minimal maintenance with the previous Toshiba Black/White Copier was one of the reasons to remain with the Toshiba brand. Other machines costs were less but the extra charge for paper usage made the comparisons fairly equal.

** Annual Fire Extinguisher Inspection was performed by the General Fire Extinguisher Co.

** Negotiated our Church Mutual Liability & Property Insurance resulting in a minimal increase to our annual premium costs by \$2,900.00 but at the same time getting additional coverages that were not in the previous insurance coverage such as extended water damage. As we all know, insurance costs have risen significantly during the past year.

** Entered into a contract with Dorshak Snow Service for the plowing of snow and salt control. Even as vendor costs have escalated, the Church was able to maintain our costs of previous years.

** Lawn & Grounds Maintenance were performed by current and previous Trustee members. Result was an estimated savings of over \$4000.

** Preliminary discussions on Digital Sign costs and design are being looked into. This is a future project and designated as part of the Marketing plan of the Church. There is no immediate need and discussions are purely explorative at this stage.

** Approved any requests for the building usage throughout the year.

Again, thank you to all the talented Trustee Board members and their efforts to complete the many projects set forth in 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Gresen - Trustee Chairperson

MEMORIAL FUND 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Donations were made to the fund in 2024 in memory of Dorthy Reisch and Denise Serio.

Beginning balance:	\$ 12,535.89
Deposits - Donations:	\$ 3,465.00
Subtotal:	\$ 16,014.09
Withdrawals	
(Designation Main. of Roof)	\$4,400.00
 Balance as of 11-30-2024:	 \$ 11,614.09

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Martin

St Pauls Memorial Fund Chairperson

BOARD OF DEACONS 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

2024 Deacons Annual Report

The Board of Deacons met monthly during 2024. Members included Mike Dethloff, Pam Gibowski, Steve Hoagland, Jayne Gardebrecht and Kate Tracy. Additional attendees included Pastors Steve Davidson & Emma Sancomb, and Chris Sparrow, when their schedules allowed. We continue to livestream the worship service and think about ways to enhance the viewership using this technology.

We offered an Anniversary Sunday worship in January. During Lenten season we held Ash Wednesday service, weekly Bible Study, Maundy Thursday, Palm Sunday and two Easter services. We held a special Mother's Day Service, Graduation Sunday, Rally Day and Totenfest Services. Rally Day was again held on church grounds with positive response. The meal was held inside, along with entertainment from the Men-O-Harmonie and the German Liederchor.

New member classes were handled as individual discussions. Six new members joined this year. An additional eight youth gained membership through confirmation. A pictorial directory is in the works, with photos being taken December 2024. An online and paper director is planned in 2025 after a software update. Care packages are planned for college students and military members in Q1 2025.

A Missions subgroup has been meeting most of the year. Three mental health workshops have been offered to the congregation and our community. Additionally, we have participated with/donated to St. Bens, Mr. Bob's Under the Bridge, Waukesha County Christmas Clearing House and the Menomonee Falls Food Pantry.

BOARD OF MISSIONS AND STEWARDSHIP 2024 REPORT

The Board of Missions and Stewardship continues to be wrapped into The Board of Deacons and The Cabinet for 2024. There was a Mental Health Task Force established in 2023 that continued to work into 2024.

The Mental Health Task Force members are (Pastor Steve Davidson), Pastor Emma Sancomb, Jayne Gardebrecht, Chris Sparrow, Jane Martin, and Sue Schuelke.

Mental Health is a community health priority with initiatives being taken on the local, state, and national levels. It continues to be appropriate for this task force to support the cause and focus its efforts on mental health.

The Task Force Was able to offer three programs in April, October and November and these were attended by the community as well as St. Paul Church members. A catalyst report was awarded to St. Paul to support these programs.

Respectfully submitted by,
Christine Sparrow

BOB'S UNDER THE BRIDGE ANNUAL 2024 REPORT

Bobs under the bridge fosters a community of compassion and friendship by providing basic needs such as clothing and hygiene products to the homeless, those who need support, and the surrounding Milwaukee community.

Here at St. Pauls, we collect slightly used or new clothing for men, women and children. We do this by delivering the donated clothing to their Grafton site, as well as a clothing drive in May - Undie 500.

You can visit their website to see what is the current need for this community.

If you have any question, please see Julie Loth or Jayne Gardebrecht

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN THIS MUCH NEEDED MISSION.

ST. BEN'S MISSION 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

We are a truly Blessed congregation with many members willing to volunteer to help those in need. We have 14 dedicated people who cook the Chili Mac 4 times a year and 9 people to help serve at St. Ben's. Without these valuable members this mission would not take place. Currently we have been serving about 140 people at St. Ben's, these numbers have been increasing during this past year. If you are interested in knowing more about this program, please let me know.

Jayne Gardebrecht (2024)

FALLS FOOD PANTRY MISSION 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

As it is said in Matthew 25: 35 - 40 "when I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me a drink.....I tell you, whenever you did this for one of the least important followers you did it for me".

St. Pauls is one of 12 churches that help serve those in need for the Menomonee Falls Food Pantry. St. Pauls does this in many ways, when we collect food during our reverse advent calendar collection, the souper bowl Sunday soup collection and any given Sunday donations during the year. We are a generous congregation who wishes to help others. As of 2020 the food pantry switched from in-person shopping to drive thru. Starting Nov.2023 the food pantry will continue to offer drive thru pick up on Tuesdays but has opened for in-person shopping on Thursdays. This will mean more volunteers will be needed. *Please consider this opportunity to help.* St. Pauls works once every 12 weeks. More help is needed on Thursday for in-person shopping. Thank you for supporting this mission.

If you have questions or other ideas how to continue to help this program, please let me know.

Jayne Gardebrecht

**PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY
2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

“Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving” Colossians 4:2.

We give thanks to God that he has listened to our prayers this past year. The prayer chain ministry lifted up 25 people in prayer. We ask that you join us. Contact Julie Loth with questions at jmhlloth@gmail.com or (262)422-0267.

“What we see depends mainly on what we look for.” John Lubbock

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY
2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

The members of the Prayer Shawl ministry have used their love of yarn to create and donated eight prayer shawls to those dealing with a health issue or grieving a loved one in our congregation. We also knitted or crocheted eight lapghans for the confirmation students who were confirmed on November 17, 2024 to remind them that their church family wraps them in our love and care. Additionally, we made XXX 7 x 9-inch sections for Warm Up America which creates blankets from these sections for people in need. Thanks to the generosity of not only our knitters and crocheters, but our whole church congregation, we were able to donate -x- hats, XX scarves, XX pairs of mittens/ gloves to the people at St. Ben’s with the annual mitten tree. Anyone is welcome to join us on the second Sunday after church and the third Thursday at 6:30 p.m. to learn how to knit or crochet. Contact Julie Loth with any questions: (262) 422 - 0267 or jmhlloth@gmail.com.

“What we see depends mainly on what we look for.” John Lubbock

Submitted by: Julie Loth
Annual report - Prayer Chain

**ST. PAULS CEMETERY
2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

This year there were no burials.

P & K Lawnscape Inc. provided their services to cut and trim the grass at our cemetery this last season.

I would like to thank the members who made donations to the cemetery fund this year. Your continued support is very much needed and appreciated by the cemetery committee. St. Pauls Cemetery committee members are Jayne Gardebrecht, Bill Gibowski, and Paul Martin.

Respectfully Submitted,
Paul Martin
Cemetery Sexton

<p style="text-align: center;">ST. PAULS CEMETERY TREASURER'S REPORT 2024 ANNUAL REPORT</p>

Summary 2023

General Fund (Assoc Bank) (12/27/23)	\$ 4,870.28
Perpetual Invested (Edward Jones) (12/27)	\$18,669.01
Total (12/29/22)	\$23,539.29

2024 Income

Interest (Assoc Bank)	\$.35
Special Offering/Donations (to Assoc)	\$ 4,343.55
Investment Interest (Edward Jones)	\$ 879.19
Total	\$ 5223.09

Disbursements

Lawn Care (P.K. Landscape)	\$ 1,100.00
Invested into Edward Jones	\$ 7,000.00
Total	\$ 8,100.00

Summary 2023

General Fund (Assoc Bank) (12/15/24)	\$ 2,393.37
Perpetual Invested (Edward Jones)	\$27,487.50
Total	\$29,880.87

William Gibowski, Treasurer

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

St.Pauls UCC Women's Fellowship is currently lead by Jayne Gardebrecht - President, Jane Martin - Vice President, Kam Lindow - Secretary, Sarah Welke - Treasurer, Jean Lipenski - Kitchen coordinator, Sarah Welke and Sue Harris - cookie walk coordinators, Sue Schuelke - Past President. We welcome all women of the congregation to join us for our monthly meetings on the third Sunday of the month at 10:45 am.

We started out our year with the election of new officers at our January meeting. Some of the events that happened in 2024

- We attended many outings this year such as the Patio Players production of Church basement Ladies and a LakeShore Chinooks game.
- We will continue to have the Ice Cream Sundae Sunday on Father's Day to help raise money for the Campership funds.
- For Mother's Day we planted flowers in coffee cups to give to the women of the church.
- On Easter, we made Easter Baskets for our homebound members. Those who receive these baskets are very grateful.
- We sponsored the 8 confirmands to attend a retreat at Daycholah at Green Lake.
- We started a community knitting / crocheting event that meets every 3rd Monday evening. Many attend this event including non-members.
- We purchased crosses for the confirmation class.
- Gift cards were purchased for the graduates.
- We helped sponsor the renovation of the Little Lambs Room. This was a Girl Scout Gold award that Jenna Jegl was in charge of.
- The Women's Fellowship office was purged and reorganized.
- We made a donation to help with the roof repairs.
- We continue to support the cookie walk fundraiser

The Women's Fellowship continues to sponsor a variety of local programs such as Cedar Community, The Guest House, United Church Camps, Hope Network, Friends Inc. of Washington County, The Women's Center of Waukesha, Lakeland College, and Sojourner Family Peace Center.

The Cookie walk was a success again this year with the help of many church members. We look forward to another exciting and eventful year, with everyone's help this can happen.

Jayne Gardebrecht

BILL DILLARD 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

The Dillard fund, which was established in 2012 by a member in his will, has a remaining balance of \$11,001 which has not been touched again in 2024. This remaining balance is primarily for Christian Education.

ST. PAULS FOUNDATION 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

The 2024 St. Paul's Foundation Report

St. Paul's Foundation was founded in 1985 with an initial donation of \$4,600. Since then, it has grown substantially to a balance of approximately \$424,000 as of December 31, 2024 (the balance changes slightly due to our investments. It is important to note that our investments are properly managed and a bit conservative). Annually, the Foundation will distribute 5% of our balance to eligible charities. The Charter of the Foundation states that it will support the mission of St. Paul's religious, charitable and educational programs supported by the church.

In 2024, our disbursements were:

- 2023 Roof Project \$13,000
- Microphones for Church \$1,059
- Website \$3,000
- Poinsettia's * \$375
- Little Lamb's Room \$371
- Christmas Trees – Sanctuary \$995
- Church Directory \$1,000

*These were purchased to fill out the Christmas Tree, as there were not enough purchases by membership.

In 2024, \$20,186 was available for distribution in which \$13,385 remains to be distributed.

The Foundation will receive specific donations and memorials, no donations were made in 2024.

The Foundation historically would provide funding to viable charities that many times were outside of St. Paul's. We did not receive any requests of this type in 2024. Our distributions in 2024 were mainly in support of the operations of St. Paul's. The Committee is considering whether this is the intention of the Foundation. Is this what the people who donated to the Foundation intended? This discussion is ongoing.

John Rubatt, Foundation Chairman

PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET

	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 proposed budget
Income				
Current Income	\$132,176	\$108,321	114,698.14	138,000.000
Building Income			400.00	
Rental (Main St Dance) Income	\$6,500	\$9,750	8,150.00	8,580.00
Liederkrantz (German Men's Choir)	\$3,450	\$4,875	4,150.00	4,050.00
Rental (Mason) Income	\$5,100	\$5,100	6,950.00	7,500.00
Other Income	<u>\$13,735</u>	<u>\$39,570</u>	<u>6,194.460</u>	
Total Income	\$160,961	\$167,616	140,542.60	158,130.00
Expenses				
Pastor Salary & Benefits	\$35,660	\$50,616	51,911.62	52,000.00
Organist Salary	\$17,417	\$20,567	6,600.00	11,000.00
Secretary/Bookkeeper's Salary	\$11,716	\$14,450	17,475.35	15,600.00
Staff/Pastoral/music substitutes	\$2,250	\$600	5,100.00	2,400.00
Social Security	\$-826	\$3,298	2,135.42	2,200.00
Christian Ed	\$1,168	\$20	0	0.00
Worship Supplies	\$2,480	\$1,042	390.51	245..00
Stewardship Supplies	\$0	\$0	625.00	0.0
Music Cleaning/Tuning/Supplies	\$2,232	\$928	2,817.92	1,500.00
Utilities	\$17,160	\$17,952	18,119.87	20,000.00
Building Maintenance	\$15,957	\$23,468	20,274.16	21,740.00
Insurance	\$12,390	\$8,738	19,291.07	19,000.00
Office	\$7,617	\$5,627	5,882.40	7,200.00
Designated Giving	\$8,677	\$325	518.00	
Conference Support - OCWM	\$0	\$2,500	2,500.00	2,500.00
SE Association Dues	<u>\$1,500</u>	<u>\$1,500</u>	<u>954.00</u>	954.00
Total Expenses	\$135,397	\$156,161	153,227.32	157,498.00
Net Operating Income (Loss)	\$25,564	\$11,455	(12,684.72)	632.00

WI CONFERENCE UCC MINISTER 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Wisconsin Conference UCC Year 2024 in Review

“Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice.” Isaiah 60: 1 and 5

I write this year-end Wisconsin Conference UCC summary on Epiphany Day and send it with prayers of light and love to you and your congregation. This day happens to coincide with the certification of Electoral College votes and the formal election of the next president of the United States. Four years ago, our Capitol was under siege by people seeking to undermine a free and fair election. This year we pray that the peace of Epiphany will abide. Inauguration Day, Jan. 20, this year coincides with the holiday commemorating the life and work of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. In true UCC spirit, I invite you to pray for the dignity, equality and basic human rights of all who are marginalized or poor or feel unwelcome in this country.

The Epiphany season is about Christ’s incarnation through the way we embody the teachings of Jesus. The role of the wider United Church of Christ is to resource, equip and support local churches in this vital ministry of incarnation. We do this in myriad ways, from guiding the Search and Call process and facilitating pastoral authorization, care and oversight; to our Damascus Project coursework and the training we offer on “best practices” for the church; to faith formation retreats and the many justice working groups that are eager to support your church’s local efforts.

Sixteen months ago, the Conference Board of Directors and staff met in a retreat setting to begin conversations about the restructuring of our Conference life. Those discussions were an acknowledgment of the challenges inherent in maintaining two midlevel judicatories – the associations and Conference – in a Conference less than half the size of our founding membership in 1962. We wondered if unburdening ourselves of the many committee slots in the current structure might allow us to redeploy volunteer time and talent according to people’s passions.

Throughout our conversations with stakeholders two ideas stood out like bright epiphanies – first, our desire to nurture UCC relationships beyond the local church, and second, our desire to collaborate in the sharing of ministry ideas and resources. This reframed the question about structural change from What are we letting go of? to What are we living into? Last fall, after several listening sessions and in consultation with Association leaders, the Board and staff recommended that we dissolve our four Associations at the Wisconsin Conference Annual Meeting in June. We have scheduled additional conversations in each Association in late February and early March for the purpose of sharing more details and illustrating the ways in which we might connect and support one another for greater ministry impact.

So far, we have nearly completed the proposal for a unified Committee on Ministry with regional representation. We appreciated the generous mission and scholarship support provided by the Associations and have made provisions for continuing them. We have drafted a new framework for membership dues and are preparing to streamline Association finance ledgers. And we have created a graphic that explains the Conference-wide resource web by showing the connections among our many resource hubs and active working groups. Imagine all the innovative ideas that will surface!

I feel the heart of this beloved Conference rejoicing at the advances we made in 2024:

We launched a new website. Check it out at wcucc.org.

*We offered several marketing resources around the theme “Where God Is Still Speaking.”
We made progress on the Leadership Forward campaign, with more than \$1.1 million pledged.*

We expanded Damascus Project course offerings and added an online Confirmation program.

We created a volunteer Legacy Team that will accompany churches in closing decisions.

We challenged our congregations to surface 20 new potential pastors over two years.

We continued to strengthen our partnership with United Church Camps Inc.

We advanced our anti-racism training through a course taken by Board and staff in the fall.

Joyfully submitted,

The Rev. Franz Rigert

Conference Minister