



2022 Annual Report



WOODLAND
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Maturing God's People to Serve a Hurting World



Woodland Presbyterian Church

Annual Report 2022

Church Staff and Officers

page 1

STAFF REPORTS

Pastor, Matt Miller

page 2

Woodland Presbyterian School, Adam Moore

pages 3,4

Family Ministry, Russell Jung

page 5

Recreation Ministry, Russell Jung

page 6

Music Ministry, Bettye Sue Johnston

page 7

SESSION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative, Tim Balducci

page 8

Christian Education, Cory Barnes

page 9

Congregational Life, Ernie Mellor

page 10

Mission, Kelly Leggett

page 11

Properties, Mike Ogden

page 12

Stewardship & Finance, Cheryl Followell

page 13

Worship, Bettye Sue Johnston

page 14

Statistical Information 2022

page 15



Church Staff and Officers



Rev. Matt Miller, Pastor

DeeDee Brinkman, Office Administrator

Lydia Haworth, Nursery Director

Bettye Sue Johnston, Music Ministry

Russell Jung, Family & Recreation Ministry

Julie Fike, Assistant Recreation Director

Russell Jung, Interim Youth Ministry

Kathryn Miskell, Communications



DEACONS

Class of '22: Jeff Dillon, Mike Ogden

Class of '23: Amy Balducci, Bill Basinger, Kay Clancy, Holly Collins

Class of '24: Paige Dye, Barbara Goff, Terry Trenthem, John Wise

ELDERS

Class of '22: Wendy Dabbous, Ernie Mellor, Lynn Sewell

Class of '23: Cory Barnes, Cheryl Followell, Kelly Leggett, Will Portera

Class of '24: Matt High, Stephen Oseman, Craig Patterson

TRUSTEES

Bill Trusty (2022)

Carol McCarley (2023)

Doug Boggs (2024)

Pastor

Bearing Fruit

"I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5 (ESV)

Each year in the annual report, we take a moment to look back on the previous year to celebrate what God has done in our midst. After a season of abiding, Woodland began to bear fruit in 2022. New members joined our community, ministries resumed or began, and babies were born. And yet, there were hard days and seasons. Several of our cherished members joined the Church Triumphant. Others who had been connected to Woodland at different seasons followed them into the next life. It was a time of sadness yet celebration.

Someone told me the only thing that is permanent is change. And while we know that God never changes, the world we live in and our understanding of him always will. So, while we lamented the loss of our brothers and sisters, we also recognize we need to move forward even if moving on isn't easy.

Here are some of the highlights of 2022 for me:

- A renewed commitment to our Youth Ministry with the resuming of our weekly gatherings for students and the beginning of our partnership with the Center for Youth Ministry Training which eventually led to our hiring Brian Heverly at the end of the year.
- Small gatherings of people were begun and continued. Day Gals, Night Gals, and other small groups for men and women happened on and off campus. Sunday school for children and adults resumed as well. Spaces where people can interact with Scripture together are vital for growth. If you aren't in one, join one!
- I really enjoyed preaching through Romans in the school year of 2021-2022, the Earnest Prayer series in the summer, Jonah in the fall, and Christ's Carols during Advent. I hope you were blessed and challenged by these different sermon series.
- Seeing 26 new members connect into the life of our church was a great encouragement. I'm so thankful the Lord brought us these fantastic new members who are already serving in important ways in our church.
- Finally, we sought to deepen our conversation with God through prayer as we emphasized Earnest Prayer throughout the year. The Staff and Session read a book called Disruptive Prayer and sought to implement both prayers to develop our intimacy with God and prayers to expand God's Kingdom.

My hope is that as you read through this report, you'll be able to celebrate with us and that you'll see the fruit the Lord bore in you as well. May we continue to abide in Christ and to see his Kingdom grow!

Blessings,
Pastor Matt



Sea Isle Elementary Principal Dr. Renee Meeks and teachers with Pastor Matt following Sunday worship.

Woodland Presbyterian School

Mission Statement

Woodland promotes academic excellence, spiritual development, social consciousness, community collaboration, and a positive self-concept.

Woodland Presbyterian School's Educational Philosophy

Woodland values the importance of balancing the many aspects of a child's life and chooses experiences intended to foster the individual growth of the intellectual, spiritual, creative, physical, social, and emotional roots.

Woodland grows the potential of each child through differentiated instruction, small class sizes, and a challenging yet supportive educational curriculum.

Woodland's dedicated faculty believes in building a strong partnership with the child's family and school community to facilitate continuous growth.

Admissions

Woodland enrolled 70 new students for the 2022-2023 school year. As of January 2023, 323 students currently attend Woodland. Woodland continues to receive very high-interest levels in our Little Woodland (2-year-old) program. The Woodland program has been at maximum capacity for the last seven years, turning away numerous prospective families due to the limitation of only one Little Woodland classroom. While great to be at capacity, the need for a second Little Woodland classroom has become clear to consider during the Master Planning conversations in 2023.

Arts at Woodland

The arts at Woodland School are an integral part of a student's academic, personal, and creative growth. During a student's career at Woodland, each student participates in performing arts, beginning in their Early Childhood years. Each grade level features stage performances with opportunities for singing, dancing, speaking, and acting each year. Woodland's middle school thespians highlighted the talents of our students by performing Madagascar Jr in March of 2022. In April of 2022, Woodland School's main entrance and the lobby were transformed into a Candy Shop, displaying art from every Woodland student during the annual Art Show.

Campus Master Plan

In support of Strategic Plan 2027, Woodland School has begun a seven-month process to update our Campus Master Plan with the help of Fleming Architects.

Co-Educational for Over Sixty-Five Years

Since its founding, Woodland has been a co-educational school. The benefits of a co-ed environment are numerous. Still, at its core, co-educational environments are the real-world environment that prepares students to work, solve problems, and communicate with all kinds of people. Our world is co-educational, and for that, Woodland Presbyterian School is thankful for the vision of Woodland Presbyterian Church to create a co-educational school that has served thousands of mid-south families for over sixty-five years.

Middle School Sports Program

Over 90% of Woodland's sixth, seventh, and eighth-grade students participated in at least one sport during the 2022-2023 school year. Woodland offers cross-country, golf, swimming, volleyball, cheerleading, basketball, soccer, and track and field.

Service Learning Project in support of the Unnerstall's Ministry

Woodland School was blessed to have the four Unnerstall children attend Woodland during the 2021-2022 school year. The Unnerstalls are missionaries serving in Lebanon supported by Woodland Presbyterian Church. Woodland School's House program, which involves all Senior Kindergarten through eighth-grade students in service learning, has begun a service learning project to support the Unnerstall's ministry.

STRATEGIC PLAN 2027 Affirmed by Board of Directors

Strategic Plan 2027, including the following goals and initiatives, was unanimously approved by the Board of Directors in March of 2022.



I. ENHANCE THE ACADEMIC AND CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAM

A. Develop programs to engage, support, and challenge each child B. Incorporate programs that foster the social, emotional, and spiritual well-being of each child C. Continue to refine Woodland's curriculum - scope, sequence, and assessments - to ensure student academic progress D. Engage the full school community in service learning that fulfills Woodland's mission and compliments its curriculum E. Ensure faculty and staff access to the best-in-class professional development in support of Woodland's educational philosophy

II. ENHANCE INSTITUTIONAL POSITIONING, ADVANCEMENT, & ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

A. Leverage school-wide communications to meet our community's needs B. Enhance our enrollment management C. Cultivate stronger relationships with our families and the wider Memphis community D. Highlight and communicate the value of Woodland's unique programs and all aspects of the Woodland experience, ensuring that marketing supports the goals and vision of the School

III. OPTIMIZE OUR NON-MONETARY ASSETS - PERSONNEL, TIME, SPACE

A. Prioritize the recruitment and retention of faculty and staff who embody Woodland's mission and priorities B. Create a visionary campus master plan C. Reinforce the social-emotional health of our community

IV. EXPAND OUR LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY

A. Review the bylaws of Woodland Presbyterian School, Inc. to ensure best practice as an independent Christian school B. Expand school reserve funds to ensure financial stability C. Refine and optimize the School's financial assistance policies to attract mission-aligned students D. Determine the feasibility of a capital campaign based on a campus master plan

Spiritual Development through our Chapel Program

The 2022-2023 school year chapel theme is GROW: God's Glory, Rooted, Overcoming Obstacles, and Worship. Our Bible verse of the year is *2 Peter 3: 18, Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.* Students in first through eighth grade attend a student-led chapel with guest speakers from Woodland Church mission teams, local ministers, international missionaries, Memphians involved with different service programs, Woodland faculty, staff, administrators, and Woodland School parents.

Teaching and Learning Excellence confirmed by 2022 Standardized test results

Each year our students do exceptionally well on their fall standardized tests. Our fourth through eighth-grade students outpaced the bell curve in 100% of all subtests on the Comprehensive Testing Program, Series 5, taken in Fall 2022. This means we had more students in the average and above-average category on 100% of CTP V subtests compared to the rest of the students taking the CTP V test nationally. The Class of 2023 was particularly impressive, with 76% of them scoring in the Above Average (7,8,9 Stanine) in Vocabulary and 72% in the Above Average (7,8,9 Stanine) in Verbal Reasoning.

Our Senior Kindergarten students take the MAP Growth test several times a year. This test measures growth compared to other Senior Kindergarten students nationwide. At the end of Senior Kindergarten 2022, our students scored over 12 points higher than the Kindergarten students in public and private schools in the United States in math and reading. This statistic is a fantastic reflection of the preparation our Early Childhood and Senior Kindergarten program provides as our students move on to first grade.

Adam Moore

Woodland Presbyterian Head of School

Family Ministry

The Family Ministry of Woodland Presbyterian Church is passionate about helping children grow in their knowledge and understanding of who God is and how much He loves them. We also seek to empower and equip families with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to provide opportunities for children to grow in the knowledge and understanding of that Gospel. We strive to accomplish these objectives by teaching from the Bible and using Christ-centered curriculum, as well as inviting families into Godly relationships where the gospel can be lived out.

These two scriptures help form our Children's ministry core values:

Luke 18:16 "But Jesus called them to him, saying, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God."

Deuteronomy 6:4-7 ⁴ "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶ And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your children,..."

By God's grace, this year we were able to re-start The Easter Egg Hunt, VBS (now called BFF – Bible Family Fun), and Trunk or Treat. For the Easter Egg Hunt we had lunch, made crafts, heard the Easter Story presented by Russell Jung using The Resurrection Eggs, and had an egg hunt in the church building. Our BFF theme was "God at Work" (Construction Theme) and we met on Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday evenings in June for Bible teaching, skits, crafts, music, meals, and recreation. The new 3 day format including dinner each night was well received.



In the Fall of 2022 we added a new event at the Memphis Botanic Gardens called Pies and Playtime. This family gathering included everyone bringing their favorite pie to share and the ability to enjoy My Big Backyard with family and friends from Woodland. We were blessed with great weather, and the pie was to die for!

During the winter season we enjoyed a gathering during Sunday school where the kids made their own waffles. Before Christmas, the children decorated Christmas ornaments using Scrabble letters to give to our homebound members and participated in our annual cookie exchange.

Our teachers for Sunday school in 2022 have been Kathryn Miskell (2nd – 4th grade), Heather Kubitz (Jk – 1st grade), and J.D. & Angie Sain (Middle School). Our Children's Church teachers have been Heather & Colin Chapell, Paige & Chance Dye, Angela Oseman, Gwen and Bill Basinger, Terry Trenthem, and Russell Jung. The curriculum we used in 2022 for Sunday school was David C. Cook's *Bible In Life* focusing on The Tabernacle and Positive Action Bible Curriculum focused on the stories found in Genesis. The curriculum we used in 2022 for Children's Church is an online curriculum called *Kids Sunday School* combined with online videos from Saddleback Kids. One great thing about all of these curriculums is that they are Christ-centered and Biblically based so the children are learning stories from the Old and New Testaments, and they are learning them in a way that points to Jesus Christ as the ultimate hero of every story.

In 2022 our Nursery Director was Lydia Haworth and our Nursery Assistant was Atlantica Smith. Lydia is a senior at The University of Memphis and she is passionate about the Gospel and children which is a perfect combination for children's ministry. We are very thankful to have her at Woodland.

Russell Jung – Director of Family & Recreation Ministry

Recreation Ministry

The Recreation Ministry seeks to provide an environment that is safe, fun, Christ-centered, developmental, and high quality for children ages 4 to 13. We offer flag football, soccer, basketball, volleyball, T-ball and baseball. In 2022 Julie Fike was hired as a part-time Recreation Assistant.

The values of the Recreation Ministry:

Safety – We put the safety of the children as our top priority.

Fun – We let the kids have fun while they grow as athletes and people.

Christ-Centered – We always want the kids to know that God loves them and wants to have a personal relationship with them. We want them to know the good news of Jesus Christ.

Developmental – We emphasize skill development as well as competing to glorify God. We want the children to succeed as they continue to advance to the next level of athletics and always give God the glory.

Quality – We seek to provide quality facilities and equipment that demonstrate an emphasis on excellence in everything that we do in order to glorify God.



We have an outstanding group of volunteer coaches who dedicate some of their time each week to coach the children and help us live out our core values. In 2021 - 2022 our coaches for **Basketball** were: Clint Cummins (1st & 4th grade boys), Wes Lunsford & John Peebles (1st & 2nd grade girls), Chris Ware (2nd grade boys), Matt Miller & Steve Acree (3rd and 4th grade girls), Eric Whitaker (3rd grade boys), Drew Hinote, Jay Johnson, and John Nollner (Jk/Sk). Thank you to all of our basketball coaches. We had 93 participants for basketball.

Our coaches for 2022 **Spring Soccer** were: Clint Cummins (1st & 4th grade boys), Chuck Marquis & John Nollner (U6 Coed), Drew Hinote (U5 Coed), Erica Martin & Keon Falkner (1st grade girls), Kevin Higdon (2nd grade girls), Paul Reinke (3rd grade boys), Stephen Oseman (3rd & 4th grade girls), and Brandt Sykes & Amber Ware (1st & 2nd grade boys). We are thankful for all of our Spring Soccer coaches. We had 101 participants for this season.

In 2022 our **Baseball and T-Ball** coaches were Patrick O'Hearn (T-ball) as well as Clint Cummins and Will Askew (Coach Pitch and U10 Baseball). We had 40 participants for baseball and t-ball. We are thankful for our t-ball and baseball coaches.

Our Woodland **Spring Volleyball League** celebrated 5 years in 2022! The coaches were Russell Jung & Lydia Haworth (14U division); Sally Nickele, Tracy Tucker, and Jason Collier (12U division). We had 49 participants and our Woodland Spring League had 17 teams. Participants included teams from St. Mary's, Memphis Juniors, Premier Volleyball, Loyalty Volleyball, Christ Church (UM), Lausanne, and 901 Impact. The Woodland 14U team coached by Russell Jung won the championship game for the 2nd year in a row.

Our **Fall Soccer** coaches were: Kevin McCormack (U5 Coed); John Campbell (U6 Coed); Montrea Haynes & Erica Martin (U8 Girls); Malcolm Futhey & John Nollner (U8 Boys); Paul Reinke & Patton Shaw (U10 Boys); John Shikhule (U10 Girls). We had 93 participants for this season. We are thankful for all of our Fall Soccer coaches.

Our **Fall Flag Football** coaches were: Clint Cummins (U8), Eric Whitaker (U10), and Clint Cummins (U13). The number of participants for this season was 31. Thank you to our flag football coaches.

It is truly a blessing to work with such a great group of people. Praise the LORD for blessing Woodland with great coaches and facilities.

Russell Jung – Director of Family & Recreation Ministry

Music Ministry

The Woodland Presbyterian Music Department had a great 2022 with all of our programs back in action! The **Chancel Choir** began having weekly rehearsals again and sang for the Sunday service every other week. We also sang for the annual Tenebrae service, Palm Sunday, Easter, and Lessons and Carols. It was great to have everyone back together. Our wonderful soloist, Maddie Gero, who had been with us for 10 years, got married in May and moved with her new husband to Maryville, TN. We will miss her and her beautiful solos but hope she will come back and visit. We hired a new choir intern in September to sing with us, Emma McClellan. Emma is a sophomore at St. Agnes who enjoys acting, comedy, and performing. We are happy to have her join us.

The **Handbell Choir** has had to reinvent itself because of the pandemic and having fewer members, but it has been a rousing success. We had six outstanding ringers in 2022 and were able to do more difficult pieces than we had previously been able to do since everyone was an experienced and skilled ringer. We played for regular Sunday services, Tenebrae, Palm Sunday, Easter and Lessons and Carols. I'm very grateful to Kathy Young, Emily Mosby, Lynn Purnell, Jerry Purnell, Stephanie Tatum, and Mary Vines. They added beautiful music to our services and were a lot of fun to work with.

After a two year hiatus, **ACTION** (Art Choir Theater In One Night) started back up in August. ACTION is a program for children in kindergarten through 5th grade from both the school and church. We had 10 wonderful children who participated this year. The children presented a Christmas musical entitled "Aaron, the Allergic Shepherd" about a shepherd who was allergic to sheep. He was reluctant to go see the newborn Jesus because he was afraid he would sneeze on Him. But he comes to realize that Jesus loves us just as we are with all our imperfections. It was a sweet musical, and our children did a great job. They knew the songs, had all of their lines memorized, and were fun to be with every week. Thanks to all of the children and to Jan Evans, Anne Farst, Ginny Alter, and Dakota Alter who helped lead.

The **Outreach Choir** began 2022 by once again doing a show written and produced specifically for school children (because we were unable to go to our regular senior facilities). Our Mother Goose show was such a hit in the fall of 2021 that we wrote a sequel "Mother Goose's Trip Around America." In this show, Mother Goose and Mary (who had a little lamb) travel around America visiting Little Boy Blue, Humpty Dumpty, the Three Blind Mice, and other characters from the first show. The Woodland School students were a wonderful audience. We are so appreciative of the opportunity the Woodland administration gave us to perform when we were unable to visit our assisted living friends. But we were thankful to be able to return to several of our favorite places in the fall. We brushed up a show we had done in the past "Judge Jelly" and took it to Germantown Plantation, Ave Maria, and Laurel Glen (formerly Carriage Court). It was so wonderful to see our friends again and get back to what we were created to do: entertain and connect with seniors, particularly ones with memory issues. We dusted off one of our favorite Christmas musicals "The Real Christmas Story" for our December shows. It was great having the author of those two shows, Dottie Todd, with us after she took several years off to care for her husband. We are so glad to have her back and also to welcome new members Linda Barry, Cindy Walker, and Woodland's own Terry Trenthem.

While it was great to have new members and go back to some of our favorite places, it was also a sad year for us. We lost four longtime, dedicated members of the Outreach Choir during 2022. Mary Alma Wilkinson sewed most of the costumes that we use and was a huge help to me getting scripts ready and making copies. I'd see her after every show walking around and hugging the residents of whatever home we were visiting. Joyce Queen and Barbara Harris were best friends and our two glamorous stars; they had a costume, wig, and accessories for every role. And they loved to dance (usually with boas on!). Mac Crouse was a favorite in every show. He always knew his lines and made them much funnier than they were written. And his banjo solos had everyone clapping by the end of the song. We will never be able to replace these four special people.

Betty Sue Johnston – Director of Music Ministry







Administrative

Our Committee began 2022 by expressing our gratitude to our Chair, Wendy Dabbous, who rolled off the committee and into other areas of service for our congregation. Her faithful service and Christ-centered leadership were a blessing to our committee and our church.

Wendy's transition paved the way for a new blessing to our committee in the addition of Barbara Goff. Barbara, who currently serves as a Deacon, agreed to a three-year term through 2024. She has added wisdom, perspective, and discernment to our group as a faithful, committed servant and a steadfast advocate for our church staff. We were likewise blessed by current committee member, Jeff Dillon, extending his term of service through 2024. Jeff's faith, experience, and temperament provide a model of leadership that our entire committee leans into. We are encouraged and energized as we look forward to continuing to serve together in 2023.

In 2022 we added two church **staff members**. First, Julie Fike was hired as a part-time Recreation Assistant. Julie helps organize, schedule, and implement the recreation programs at WPC. Prior to Woodland, Julie spent 23 years working in church recreation. We are thankful for her commitment to join our team. Next, after a thorough search process, the Youth Director Nominating Committee called, and Admin approved, Brian Heverly as our new Director of Youth Ministry. We are excited about Brian's heart for God and his desire to serve our WPC students. Brian was born in Murfreesboro and grew up in Annapolis, Maryland. He attended Towson University and graduated from Lee University. We are proud to add Julie and Brian to our already exceptional church staff.



Mid-year, Pastor Matt conducted detailed **annual reviews of the church staff**, supplemented by individual in-person meetings between the Admin Chair and each staff member. These reviews provided an excellent opportunity for improved communication, encouragement, and positive growth for all who participated.

The Committee also conducted the **annual review of Pastor Matt**. His review included in-depth discussion of the results of the Senior Pastor Evaluation Survey completed by the church staff, Admin committee members, and the Session. It also included a presentation by Pastor Matt of his year-over-year self-evaluation, which included his goals and vision for 2023. There was an open and honest discussion between our committee and Pastor Matt. Overall, Pastor Matt's review was extremely positive and reflected overwhelming agreement that he is performing at a high level in his current role. This type of review and support for the senior pastor and the church staff is an essential function of the Admin Committee.

Another vital responsibility of the Admin Committee is to propose and present to the Session an annual **Salaries and Benefits Budget** for the church staff. Our committee is thankful for the hard work that the Finance Committee performed in collaborating with Admin on this budget, and for the Session's faithful discernment in establishing our annual budget. Decreased church resources limited our budget, yet we praise God that He still provided a way for us to meet the needs of our church staff members. Likewise, we were able to present for the Session's approval, the annual **Terms of Call for our Senior Pastor**.

The Admin Committee remains thankful for our church staff and their faithful service to building God's Kingdom and strengthening WPC. Please thank, encourage, and pray for them whenever you can!

Grace & Peace

Tim Balducci on behalf of the 2022 Admin Committee:

Jeff Dillon, Barbara Goff, Matt Miller, and Tim Balducci

Christian Education

In what was effectively our first year post-Covid, we saw much progress in a return to normalcy. **Sunday School** (across all age groups) began being facilitated weekly. **Small group meetings** increased, with opportunities for men, women, our seniors, couples, and young couples to connect.

The **Children's Ministry** had a revitalization with expanded events and growing participation throughout the year. The annual Easter event and Bible Family Fun saw strong turnout. The year also saw the return of ACTION and Trunk or Treat, with excellent church and neighborhood involvement. There is strong momentum in CM that should continue into 2023.

Ending 2022 also saw the reestablishment of our church **Youth Ministry** meeting regularly. Initially led by Brandy Miller, the church was blessed to have Brian Heverly join the staff to lead the Youth effort. While still in its early stages, we'll look for expanded Youth opportunities and church involvement this year.

While 2022 was a turning point on many fronts, efforts to continue the revitalization of our education offerings to supplement corporate worship remain into 2023 with an emphasis on opportunities to engage, strengthen our faith, and build community/connectivity both within and outside the church.

Cory Barnes – Elder



SUNDAY SCHOOL

PK-1st Grade: Heather Kubitz

2-4 Grade: Kathryn Miskell

Middle School: Angie & JD Sain

FAMILY MATTERS ADULT CLASS: Ginny Alter

ADULT CLASS: Wade Detamore

SUNDAY AFTERNOON/NIGHTS

Women's Group: Kelly Leggett/Kay Clancy

Middle & High School Youth: Brandy Miller

Couples Group: Jennifer & Russell Jung

Men's Group: Craig Patterson

MONDAYS

Joyce Queen Memorial Adult Bible Study

Men's Bible Study/Dinner: Robert Followell

MORE WOMEN'S STUDY GROUPS

See Congregational Life Report on page 10

Congregational Life

The Congregational Life Committee oversees activities in the life of the church; this includes Wednesday Night Dinners, Recreation, Care Committee and Women's Ministry.

In 2022 Woodland offered **First Wednesday Dinners** in the Spring and Fall Semester. Our meals are catered by Hog Wild BBQ (thanks Ernie Mellor!) and are followed by a program for Fellowship, Worship, Mission or Music.

First Wednesday Programs

The highlight of the February Dinner was the return of the Annual Chili Cook-Off after taking a year off. Our First Place winner was Terry Trenthem. Second Place was Robert Mosby and Third Place was Mady Wise. A CHILI CHAMP trophy was presented to the winner and proudly displayed in the church office. The March Dinner was on Ash Wednesday. We had a service in the sanctuary following the meal. In April we welcomed Don Gilbert from Kingdom Community Builders, a local Memphis mission and ministry organization. For our May Dinner we were entertained by the Outreach Choir. They performed Mother's Goose's Trip Across America. The Outreach Choir has resumed their shows at area nursing homes. In September for our Mission Night- we packed food bags for the Neighborhood Christian Center - everyone helped! In October there was a Hymn Sing in the Fellowship Hall. In November we had family Game Night and played BINGO. And we closed out the year with the Kid's ACTION Pageant in December- "Aaron, the Allergic Shepherd." Thank you to the Woodland Deacons for their set-up, clean-up and kitchen help at First Wednesday Dinners. Thank you to David Smith for greeting and collecting money at the meals.

Sunday Mornings In the summer (June and July) we had coffee, donuts and fellowship before church. We had 2 potluck meals in 2022:

Sunday, Sept. 11 we had a potluck lunch after church so members could learn more about our fall Sunday School classes for all ages and other opportunities for kids, youth, families and adults to gather beginning 9/18. Class leaders spoke about their class.

Sunday, November 20th we had a FRIENDSGIVING Potluck lunch, made our 2023 offering pledges, and then a crew stayed to decorate the church for Christmas.

The Care Committee works to help our homebound members keep in touch with their Woodland family. Most have been Woodland members for many years and want to keep up with news and activities. We visit, send cards and notes, and take presents on holidays and birthdays.

Unfortunately, we lost five of our Woodland members and the spouse of a member within 13 weeks during the summer of 2022. The collective wisdom, memories and friendships lost during that summer shocked the Woodland family and especially touched all of us on the Committee. We worked with the families during their time of loss by supplying meals and preparing receptions honoring their family member.

Informally last year, we began offering support and assistance to those members hospitalized or at home due to illness. Hopefully these members will recover and be able to return to worship services and activities, and we are happy to show our support until that time.

We currently have nine homebound members and eight on the Committee:

Vivian Benefield, Kay Clancy, Pam Haley, Bettye Sue Johnson, Pat Sanford, Lil Smith, Terry Trenthem, and Carol McCarley, Chair. If you'd like to know more about our activities, please contact any of us. New faces are always needed and warmly welcomed.

Women's Ministry has 4 Bible study groups open to any of our ladies:

Mom2Mom is led by Paige Dye and Mady Wise and meets Wednesday nights @ 7:30pm in homes. Ladies Bible Study is led by Jan Evans and meets the 2nd Tuesday @ 10:30am @ church. Day Gals is led by Kathryn Miskell and Pam Haley and meets Tuesdays @ 10:30am in the parlor. Night Gals is led by Cheryl Followell and meets the 3rd Monday @ 6:30pm @ church.

We hosted a Ladies Fall Gathering "A Steadfast Faith" at the home of Cheryl Followell in October with 40 women in attendance. Our guest speaker was Dr. Georgia Pointer, author of A Christian Women's Guide to Overcoming Messy Emotions. It was a lovely day of fellowship, worship, prayer and friendship! The women also gathered for a Ladies Christmas Party in December at the home of Kathy Young.

Ernie Mellor

Congregational Life Chair

Carol McCarley

Care Committee Chair

Mission



We have been humbled to see God move in miraculous, profound ways across the globe. We have heard stories from faithful people of how our glorious Lord has provided for the needs of His people and revealed His powerful ways. Praise be to God!

Local Missions

Woodland is always seeking ways to make an impact for Christ in our community. We continued support through: the Angel Tree for The Old Path – A Shelter for Women and Children, Advance Memphis, Global Friends, grocery packing for Kingdom Community Builders, Neighborhood Christian Center, and Sea Isle Elementary School. In August WPC provided prayer, and support for teachers and staff to get classrooms ready for students, hosted a catered lunch from Hog Wild, and nurtured relationships with our neighborhood school during in-service week. WPC also participated in the Neighborhood Christian Center's snack bag program. This program serves the homeless population in our community.

International Missions

Three members of our Honduras Mission Team traveled to Pena Blanca in 2022. The water sites we sponsor were visited and assessed for needs. The team was also able to reconnect with partners in ministry after not being able to travel for several years. In Honduras, WPC supports Living Waters, Salt and Light, and Pan American Health Services prayerfully, relationally, and financially. It is the hope of WPC that a larger team will return in July 2023.

Reaching the "Unreached" People Groups

Woodland continued its support of foreign missionaries in Lebanon, Hungary, and South Sudan. Our field team from Lebanon returned to their work on the field after a year living stateside. It was exciting to see them return to their work with Syrian refugee families in Lebanon. They reported it was a difficult transition, but they have been blessed to be reunited with old friends and making new friends. In South Sudan the work to build churches and support the refugee camps continues. A new project for improving accessibility to clean water has been a major focus, and one that was near to our hearts as well. This past year Woodland became a patron of an EPC church plant in Birmingham, Alabama. The Church of the Cross began meeting in the fall of 2022, and officially began Sunday Worship in January 2023.

Final Thoughts

The Missions Committee prayerfully discerns the best use of the resources that have been given to Woodland. We use scripture, prayer, and discernment. Our praise and thanks to God for all the blessings of peace, wisdom and resources. Looking forward we hope to become better stewards of our other capitals: spiritual, relational, physical, and intellectual.

Kelly Leggett - Mission Committee Co-Chair



Properties



This year for our church and building was a much-needed rest on the finances. We replaced a set of double doors going out to the courtyard. The church steeple had some minor rotting wood replaced. Our sanctuary ceiling for a while was a thorn in my side, but we were able to find the cause of the leaking roof, got it repaired and the ceiling repainted. 2023 has started off quiet. Let's hope it stays that way.

Mike Ogden

Properties Committee Chair

Committee Members, (Chair) Mike Ogden, Rick Leggett, Allen Mitchell and our newest member JD Sain



Stewardship & Finance

As I reviewed giving for 2022, I was pleased and heartened to see that almost all the individuals and families who made 2022 pledges either met that pledge or gave beyond it. We have faithful givers at Woodland who love Christ's church and keep their commitments.

Next, our total expenditures were slightly less than budgeted due to careful spending in some areas and the late hiring of a youth director. The Session had approved a deficit budget for 2022, and you will see that reflected in the summary below. Fortunately, we entered 2022 with the benefit of having enough operating funds to cushion the blow.

As we budgeted for 2023, expenses came in higher than last year. Some of our standing contractors increased their fees, and the staff was voted raises, both as reactions to inflation. So once again, we will run a deficit budget for 2023 with an impact on our operating fund. It was a long, difficult and thoughtful decision by the Session to do this.

As my term ends, the Finance Committee will be chaired by John Wise. John is a CPA and is imminently qualified to hold this position. He has an accountant's eye and a believer's heart. I will remain on the committee. Along with the other Finance Committee members, Brenda Hatmaker, Matt High, and Claire Mosley, we are in competent hands.

I pray that our members will be faithful to their financial commitments again in 2023. I trust that God will provide for us as it fits his will.

In Christ's Love,

Cheryl Followell - 2022 Finance Committee Chairman



	YTD-2022 Actual	Annual-2022 Budget
Income:		
Pledges/Non-pledged	603,770.59	609,203.00
Misc. Income	5,303.35	1,754.00
Total Income	609,073.94	610,957.00
Expenses:		
Presbytery	7,128.12	10,834.00
Salary & Benefits	436,317.62	447,505.00
Admin Expenses	25,330.33	26,722.00
Property Expense	133,969.16	119,043.00
Membership/Missions	55,384.44	58,041.00
Education	7,991.83	6,548.00
Worship & Music	6,350.69	9,160.00
Sabbatical Fund	3,000.00	3,000.00
Total Expense	675,472.19	680,853.00
	(66,398.25)	(69,896.00)

Worship

2022 was a year in which Woodland returned to a somewhat more "normal" worship routine.

- Matt Miller and Russell Jung led us in worship and preached the word each Sunday. On the Sundays when they couldn't be with us, we were blessed to have Dr. Bryan Chapell, Noel Fenderson, Tim Holler, Brett Wynne, Dr. Zac Hicks and Hannah Attaway as guest preachers.
- Several members of the congregation served as liturgy leaders including Kelly Leggett, Wendy Dabbous, Julie Patterson, and Stephen Oseman.
- The Chancel Choir began offering musical anthems during worship every other Sunday as well as providing special music for Lessons and Carols, Tenebrae, and Easter.
- We had praise music each week led by Will Stewart, Ginny Alter, Eric Alter, Fran Mooney, and Jose Flores.
- The Handbell Choir, although smaller in number than in the past, continued to provide beautiful music on a regular basis.
- Our Sunday service was broadcast each week on Facebook Live.

We have learned these last few years that worshipping God together in person is not always possible so we are extremely thankful to be back together each Sunday.



Betty Sue Johnston

Worship Committee



Statistical Information 2020-21

Staff Members 2022

Full Time

Senior Pastor - Rev. Matt Miller
Church Administrator - DeeDee Brinkman
Director of Family & Recreation Ministries- Russell Jung

Part Time

Director of Music Ministries - Bettye Sue Johnston
Director of Communications - Kathryn Miskell
Nursery Director - Lydia Haworth
Recreation Assistant - Julie Fike

Membership 2022

ACTIVE Adult Membership—146

Gains 2022 - 24

Profession of Faith - 2

Bob Hatmaker, Clayton Smith

Reaffirmation of Faith - 13

Larry Barton, Linda Barton, Patrick Fisher, Tracie Fisher,
Hannah Frohs, Wes Frohs, Jessica Gurley, Marc Gurley,
Vanessa Hartman, Zach Landers, Joe Maness,
Marsha Merwin-Munger, Cecile Shoemaker

Transfer - 9

Jean Bright, Tom Bright, Dale Eymann, Terry Eymann,
Audrey Landers, Claire Mosley, Angie Sain, JD Sain, Bitsy Siano



Marriages- 3

JD & Angie Sain - July 28, 2022
Bill & Gwen Basinger - August 6, 2022
Wes & Hannah Frohs- October 29, 2022

Baptisms- 3

Taylor McLay Wise - February 27, 2022
Ethan Keyes Brown Chapell – April 24, 2022
Samuel Chance "CJ" Dye – May 22, 2022

Births- 4

Samuel Chance "CJ" Dye - January 1, 2022
Henry Ryan Landers - June 9, 2022
Leo Titus Portera - September 9, 2022
Gracyn Jane Wise - December 30, 2022

Deaths— 6

Joyce Queen - May 20, 2022
Mary Alma Wilkinson - June 15, 2022
Jack Ivy - June 24, 2022
Barbara Harris - August 24, 2022
Mac Crouse - September 2, 2022
Bert Seaton Sr. - October 31, 2022



Non-WPC Groups Meeting @ Woodland Presbyterian Church

AA	Wednesdays @ 8:30pm
AI Anon	Mondays @ 12:30pm
Sea Isle Park Neighborhood Association Board	Monthly





Authentic WORSHIP

Called to glorify and enjoy God together as His people, and in every area of life.
We value authentic worship because God deserves our highest praise
and false worship is insulting to the King of Kings.

Intentional DISCIPLESHIP

Devoted to Jesus and The Scriptures and committed to encouraging others to grow in Christ.
We value intentional discipleship because in knowing and obeying God's word we deepen
our relationship with Christ and are commissioned to bring others to know Him.

Joyful MISSION

Sent to share the good news and to foster healing among the broken. We value joyful mission
because our love for Jesus compels us to live in service to others and to tell of His good news.

Earnest PRAYER

Cultivating our relationship with the Lord and by faith interceding for His Kingdom.
We value earnest prayer because our Father delights in communing regularly
with us and His Word calls us to pray for his kingdom to be revealed.

Vibrant COMMUNITY

Loving one another as God's family, united by the Holy Spirit.
We value vibrant community because God's love is demonstrated to the world
through a people who live in relationship, caring for one another.



WOODLAND
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5217 Park Avenue Memphis, Tennessee 38119
(901) 682-3349
www.woodlandpres.org