



# 2024 Medina Presbyterian Church Annual Report

This annual report shares the wonderful work being done at Medina Presbyterian Church as they seek to serve and worship the Lord.

## **Contents**

A Message from Pastor Pearce .....	3
Christian Education .....	5
Worship and Music .....	6
Fellowship and Hospitality .....	8
Membership .....	9
Property (Buildings & Grounds) .....	10
Mission .....	11
Stewardship .....	14
2025 Budget.....	15
Endowment Fund.....	16
Nominating Committee .....	17
Presbyterian Women .....	19
Board of Deacons.....	20

## **A Message from Pastor Pearce**

Sisters and Brothers in Jesus,

Each year at this time, when I'm called upon to draft the pastor's letter for the annual report, I find myself thinking back over the year that has just passed and asking myself how best to summarize the life of the church in that year.

Certainly 2024 was a year with its share of sadness and difficulties. We said goodbye to two of the pillars of the church, Lloyd Wiles and Rosemary Balsinger. In my time in Medina, almost nothing happened in the life of the church in which one of the two of them did not participate. A number of other faithful members passed away, moved away, or removed their names from our membership rolls after years of absence. A teen program begun optimistically in the spring with a confirmation class petered out later in the year for lack of interest. Our building required substantial and expensive work on its heating and air conditioning system as three of our 7 units required replacement.

But in spite of the sadness and frustrations of 2024, it's hard not to think of the year as one in which great things happened at Medina Presbyterian Church. Such great things happened, in fact, that it seems appropriate to ask whether we might legitimately be considered 'a growing church.'

Judging simply by the membership rolls, we would no doubt answer 'no.' But judging by other important criteria, we might answer differently. Our financial giving was up by around 15% as we approached the end of the year. Our outreach to the needy, with the leadership of our Board of Deacons, increased substantially. We funded and delivered more food baskets to needy neighbors than at any time since I came to Medina. The congregation contributed enough funds to allow the deacons to donate 160 pairs of shoes to needy kids at the beginning of the school year.

We raised enough money to pack a record 25,000 meals for starving people around the world. At year's end, we conducted our most successful candy fundraiser ever, producing over 500 pounds of homemade pecan clusters. Our Head Start shoe boxes and gift bags for Early Head Start kids were the highest quality we have created in seven years of the program. Our partnership with the Medina Personal Care Pantry thrived and grew.

When we are increasing so many important mission programs, allowing ourselves to be a conduit of God's blessing in the lives of so many of our neighbors, doesn't it seem reasonable to ask whether we should in fact be considered a growing congregation? As we face the new year and prayerfully consider what God is calling us to do and to be, it seems clear that we have work to do in the areas of evangelism and sharing faith.

Personally, I believe the Presbyterian way following Jesus has more to offer to people in our world – and especially to young people – than any other part of the Christian tradition. The

question is, will we become vigorous and successful in sharing our faith with unchurched others so they become disciples of Jesus as we are? Since our ministries are growing in so many ways, and since people around us are so eager to be involved in helping the needy, don't we have an obligation to make them aware of the opportunities for growth and service through Medina Presbyterian Church?

We are truly blessed with quality leaders, both on our Session and on our Board of Deacons. With God's help and the enthusiastic leadership of these officers, I'm confident that we can find effective ways to reach out into the community with the good news of the gospel. 2025 will be a year in which we determine together whether that confidence is well placed.

On behalf of all the leaders of the church and those who have been blessed by God through our efforts in the past year, thanks for all you do in supporting our mission and ministries. May God richly bless you as he blesses so many through you.

It's a great joy to participate in the rich adventure that is the life of Medina Presbyterian Church. Thanks for letting me take part in it all.

Your friend in Jesus,  
Henry

## **Christian Education**

2024 was a good year for CE. We continue to try and find new ways to reach our children and adults to teach and experience God's love. I am very honored and privileged to serve alongside the other members of Session and my dedicated team of Christian Education volunteers.

**Kid's Own Worship** (grades PreK-8): We have an average attendance 1 to 3 children most Sundays.

**Little Kid's Own Worship** (grade preschool-Kindergarten): Suspended

**Kids for Christ Youth Group** (grades 1-5): Suspended

### **Adult Ministries:**

- **Friday 12 Noon Study Group** held on Zoom
- *"The Chosen"* TV series discussion group after the 10:15 a.m. worship services on many Sundays
- **Esther Circle** on the 2nd Thursday morning of many months
- **Book Club** on the 3rd Tuesday evening of most months.
- **Men's Breakfast** on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of most months

**Youth Sunday School:** Suspended

**Vacation Bible School:** VBS went really well! We are very blessed with all the support from the congregation. We had 9 children participate from the ages of 5-9 and 20 volunteers between all 3 evenings. Everyone seemed to really enjoy the evening format with dinner before the activities which were singing, craft, Bible Lesson, and games. I believe we will use the evening format again. The theme was the life of Daniel, learning about his Captivity, the Furnace, and the Lion's Den using a program from *ShareFaith*.

**Teen Mission Project during VBS:** 3 Teens participated in a Mission Project with the Personal Care Pantry lead by Andrew Lynden and Dave Thompson. They helped pack 28 bags for Creative Housing and rolled up several hundred trash bags for future use by the Pantry.

**Children's Message:** In-person (given even when no kids were in church) We have started using a multi-teacher approach occasionally when 1 person does the children's sermon upfront during the service and then another teacher will take the kids back to the kid's own worship room to further the lesson with a craft, snack, and story.

Many thanks to Linda Dodds, Susan Vlcek, Dave Thompson, Henry Pearce, Donna Gray, Andrew Lynden, Susan Lynden and Shannon Skilskyj for their dedication to Christian Education. We miss our dear Rosemary Balsinger immensely (dec August 1, 2024).

Respectfully submitted,  
Elder Shannon Skilskyj Chair MPC Christian Education Committee

## **Worship and Music**

**W&M COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** *Shari Cartwright (Chair); Connie Baxter (Choir Director-Chancel and Bells of Faith); Donna Gray (Membership Chair; W&M Assist; Attendance Assist), Diane Thomas (Clerk of Session; Church Communication; W&M Assist), Jennifer Hiteshue (Attendance; Church-Entry Decorations on behalf of Presbyterian Women; W&M Assist); Pastor Henry Pearce*

**PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY:** Assist the Pastor by coordinating liturgists, changing the paraments according to the liturgical calendar, decorating the sanctuary, preparing, and setting up communion, and other duties to enrich worship. The music is selected and organized by the Pastor, Choir Director, and Organist.

### **DUTIES:**

- Prepared for weekly worship services. Thank you to Doug Skilskyj for creating the worship slides projected on the front wall of the sanctuary.
- All services were live-streamed and posted on the church website (via YouTube) following the service. Thank you to Jack Howell for his role in this effort.
- Traditional Communion elements (including gluten-free) were prepared for in-person services. Pre-packaged communion elements are available for in-person worship. Those participating in online worship provided their own elements for the celebration of The Lord's Supper.
- The celebration of the Lord's Supper occurs on the first Sunday of each month (unless rescheduled per calendar conflicts) and on Easter and Christmas Eve.
- Organized liturgists for worship.
- Organized the set up and decoration of the Sanctuary prior to the Advent season; as well as the removal in January. Organized seasonal windowsill decorations.
- Jennifer Hiteshue organized & maintained Church-entry decorations throughout the year.
- Changed paraments based on the PCUSA Liturgical calendar.
- Jack Howell, Chair of Building & Grounds, coordinated building sanitation.

### **SERVICES HELD:**

- Sundays: One service begins at 10:15 a.m.
- Ash Wednesday service
- Maundy Thursday service of worship
- Thanksgiving Eve service of worship
- Lessons & Carols, the Sunday before Christmas
- Christmas Eve, including Communion.

### **WORSHIP AND MUSIC CONTRIBUTORS:**

- The in-person and online worship services ran smoothly at Medina Presbyterian due to the efforts of many people whose contributions are exemplary and a blessing to us all:

- Pastor Henry Pearce for his daily morning prayers, Bible reflections, weekly Sunday sermons; Friday Book study, moderator of Session and Board of Deacons; moderator of The Chosen group study; and all the other ministries he leads.
- Elder Shari Cartwright for delivering Pastor Henry's sermon on April 14 and May 19
- Elder Diane Thomas for delivering Pastor Henry's sermon on September 8
- Deacon Kathy Janini for delivering Pastor Henry's sermon on November 10
- Diane Thomas for her email communications throughout each week to the congregation
- Doug Skilskyj for preparing the slides and running the in-person worship service display screen. Thanks to others who assisted in Doug's absence.
- John Burke for sharing his musical talents throughout the year.
- Beth McDevitt for sharing her musical talents in John Burke's absence.
- Connie Baxter for leading the Chancel Choir, Bells of Faith Bell Choir, our various musicians, and all involved in music ministry.
- Bells of Faith for their faithful practice and for bringing music to our worship
- Chancel Choir for their faithful practice and bringing music to our worship.
- To congregants who brought us special music during the year
- Jennifer Hiteshue for taking weekly attendance and maintaining sanctuary pews.
- Donna Gray for taking attendance in Jennifer's absence and maintaining sanctuary pews.
- John and Connie Baxter for maintaining the sound system and ensuring all equipment was set up correctly and in working order for worship services.
- Rosemary Balsinger (until her passing on August 1), Linda Dodds, Connie Baxter, Dave Thompson, Susan Vlcek, Shannon Skilskyj, Susan Lynden, Pastor Henry, and any others who prepared and presented the children's message, and/or provided leadership of Kids Own Worship.
- Jennifer Hiteshue and Donna Gray for maintaining communion table candles.
- Donna Gray and the Membership Committee for taking weekly in-person worship attendance.
- Dave Foltz for ensuring all substitutes receive pay, and time sheets signed in his role as church treasurer.
- Donna Gray and Diane Thomas for assisting with communion clean up, helping change the paraments and being willing to assist wherever needed during in-person worship.
- The members of the Finance Committee for collecting and counting our financial offerings. Thank you for your contributions and cooperation throughout the year.

Blessings to all for a healthy, happy, and blessed 2025.

Elder Shari Cartwright  
Worship and Music Chair

## **Fellowship and Hospitality**

During 2024, we held 3 potlucks. We held a potluck after each of the Congregational meetings in January and October as well as after our meal packing event for *Rise Against Hunger* in July. At each one, we had good turnouts and plenty of food for everyone.

The potlucks are enjoyable as it's fun and enjoyable to break bread together with fellow congregation members. It's also an excellent opportunity to include guests and visitors.

Our small committee comprises Pat Slaman and Diane Thomas. We welcome anyone who wishes to help plan future gatherings to let us know and join us. Thank you to everyone who brings in dishes and food items to share for each potluck and for everyone who jumps in to clean up at the end.

We wish peace and good health to all of our Medina Presbyterian friends, families and community.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Thomas  
Chair, Hospitality



## **Membership**

### ***Membership Committee Members***

- Donna Gray (chair) and Jennifer Hiteshue
- Sherry Bair~ Card Ministry

### ***Weekly Pew Duty***

- After each worship service, clean up leftover papers and items in the pews, restock giving envelopes including seasonal giving envelopes.
- Replaced all hand sanitizers, restocked pens and placed Bibles back in the pews in December.

### ***Social***

- Meet, greet and welcome new members, and visitors. Be available to direct visitors to the narthex, sanctuary, restrooms, etc. Invite to stay for coffee and snacks after service.
- Contact shut-ins and folks we have not seen for a while. Occasionally provide rides as necessary to and from church.
- Routinely contact members on the prayer chain, if appropriate
- Work in conjunction with Sherry Bair to suggest names of people who would appreciate a card. (get well, congratulations, support, etc.)
- Welcome new members by taking their photo and posting it in the Narthex along with a brief bio.
- Welcome cards sent to new members and the Communicants Class.

### ***Attendance Count***

- Attendance is taken weekly and for special services for both adults and children.
- Jack Howell includes the attendance count from the online streaming services.

### ***Weekly Pew Duty***

- After each worship service, clean up leftover papers and items in the pews, restock giving envelopes, and clean up special offering envelopes.
- Replace hand sanitizers and pens in the pew pockets.

### ***Advertising***

- Special occasion services are advertised in the newspaper for Easter, Christmas season, and for our annual Rise Against Hunger meal packing event in July.

### ***Directory***

- A new updated church directory was made. It was distributed to members and friends of MPC. There are extra in the Narthex if you have not picked yours up.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Gray, Chair

## **Property (Buildings & Grounds)**

**Session Representative and Committee Chair: Jack Howell**

The 2024 Buildings and Grounds maintenance was conducted per the previously agreed to commitments from and to our regular contractors. The yearly fire and sprinkler, elevator lift, back flow and water inspections were all passed with minimal to no issues.

To provide an inviting and clean atmosphere, Marks Cleaning of Medina was contracted for a once weekly custodial cleaning of the interior of the church.

Our outside lawn care has been handled by a local landscaper who lives in the adjacent neighborhood in exchange for 2 parking spaces he utilizes to store landscaping trailers.

The ODOT road improvements on HWY 18 Medina Road were completed mid-year and all exterior landscapes were groomed by ODOT.

Our biggest challenge this year was in the HVAC area. Several failures occurred requiring replacement units in the Sanctuary and upper balcony areas. Grants were applied for and approved, however grant funding has yet to be seen. That issue should hopefully be resolved by March/April.

Several members have stepped up and assisted in grounds keeping and repairs.

The committee meets on an as needed basis. Many lingering issues especially to outside areas have been addressed and resolved. Anyone who wishes to serve on the Property Committee are invited to contact Chair Jack Howell.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jack Howell, Chair

## **Mission**

**MLT Members:** *Rebecca Coste (term has ended), Beth McDevitt (term has ended), Pastor Henry Pearce, Pamela Stec (Committee Chair), Jennifer McKelvy, Nan Steinmetz, Diane Thomas and Susan Vlcek. Note the diminished membership for 2025 to this leadership team and please consider adding your support and join us; no experience necessary.*

In **2024**, our Mission Leadership Team, along with Pastor Henry and the Deacons, continued to spearhead and navigate the direction for the MPC congregation in local hands-on and in-kind mission activities. Your support is invaluable and has allowed us to steward the financial support of various local, national and international missions.

This committee completed their financial promise to support Joyce, a **Compassion International** child, when she aged out of the program in February. With Session's blessing, we made a similar financial commitment to **Rosa** from **Ibarra, Ecuador**. Rosa celebrated her 13th birthday in August. MPC continues to support of ten year old **Ronald** from **Guatemala**. Writing to these children about God's blessings in your lives, your family, your church family, even the weather is encouraged and appreciated. Translation is possible and provided through their website.

For St Patrick's Day, MPC volunteers prepared delicious food, desserts, and provided beverages to serve to the membership of **North Presbyterian Church**. Throughout its history, North Church was focused on mission and in 2012 joined forces with Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries, a social justice and advocacy ministry. Our volunteers also worshipped with these friends in Christ. In April other churches from The Presbytery joined in on a ZOOM meeting to discern what God might be calling us to do, what the next vision might be. Charlie Hurst, long time pastor of North Church along with his dedicated worship leader and wife, Maria, are retiring in 2025. The first project was to provide Christmas bags for the congregants filled with much needed personal care items, warm winter socks, underwear and gloves and even battery-less flashlights. To help in the rotation of providing meals, we at MPC will be preparing and serving meals on three different Sundays: January 12th (soon, so please mark your calendars), We will share the meal prep and serving with Rocky River Church on June 15th and fly solo again on August 17th. Note that the June 15th date may change to one where there are no other churches to cover.

Continuing with the expanded (since 2021) program to include **Community Action's Head Start Children** from both Wayne and Medina Counties, we collected socks, hats, small toys, candy, books, personal care items and adorable stuffed animals (donated by the patrons of PetSmart) to fill **275 Christmas Shoeboxes**. Additionally, **85 Christmas Gift Bags** were provided to their younger siblings. We gratefully acknowledge that **100** of the boxes were packed by the Student Council of Highland High School. An enormous amount of gratitude to all who provided the contents, who assembled and/or wrapped these boxes. The bounty of stuffed animals was so generous from the Medina community through PetSmart, we were able to share the cuddly

comfort creatures with several other community organizations beyond the Head Start children and siblings. These included Catholic Charities, The Salvation Army, Children’s Rehabilitation Center, Heartland Church’s Young Moms Project, Hope and Healing Survivor Resource Center (formerly, the Battered Women’s Shelter), Cooperative Community Services of Lodi and The Domestic Violence Project.

Post Thanksgiving, while the Christmas Shoe Box 2024 mission was “wrapping” up, many volunteers over the four Saturdays of Advent helped to produce **545 pounds** (a new MPC record) of luscious chocolate covered pecan candy. Our profits from these sales currently sit at \$6,676, which is over half our goal (if costs do not increase again over our 2024 supply expenses) to fund our summer (**July 13, 2025**) project, ***Rise Against Hunger***. On July 21st, 2024, 61 volunteers joyously gathered to weigh and pack 25,056 meals (also a new MPC record), which were shipped to International Care Ministries in Burkina Faso, a small landlocked country in Western Africa that battles serious starvation issues. Again, thank you for your time and your commitment and don’t forget to mark your calendars for next July.

We have, for several years, participated in **The Medina Personal Care Pantry** collecting and contributing cleaning and personal care items for **300 families** or approximately **600 people in Medina County** each month. In addition to the drive-through distribution each month, deliveries are made to those home-bound or with limited transportation, These items cannot be purchased with food stamps nor are they provided by the Medina County Food Bank. In 2022, we worked with them to bring this valuable mission under our umbrella and transitioned the administrative responsibilities. This mission is so important to the welfare of our community, this year it was recognized by many neighborhood charitable groups, most notably the **100+ Women Who Care** and awarded the Personal Care Pantry with a check for **\$12,320**. Just when resources were looking tenuous, God provided.

While you continue to help provide the products (or funds to purchase them), you may also contribute your time in packing the bags or soliciting additional products from the greater Medina community. The first pantry date is set for January 11th because of the holidays, but usually runs the first Saturday of each month, with the previous Thursday set as “packing day”. Simply contact any member of this committee or visit the **Medina Personal Care Pantry** at <https://medinapersonalcarepantry.org> to discover how you can make a difference.

**Jesus said, “Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me” (Matthew 25:40).**

Every year we participate in **3 PCUSA “Special Offerings.”** Each is connected to a season of the church, established by our General Assembly to help the whole church join together in response to God’s grace. They represent a collective way Presbyterians can come together to work for a better world. **One Great Hour of Sharing (\$2,375.70), Peace & Global Witness**

**(\$1,450)** and the **Christmas Joy (\$707)** offerings allow us to engage in ministries of compassion, justice, education, peacemaking and global witness.

When we combine all the special offerings throughout the year, the donations to our Presbytery and local charities, all the mission works for which we supply food, clothing and/or care items, the hours of labor expended to accomplish these missions, gas cards, food cards given to people in need, emergency housing (short term hotel stays) for homeless persons, the percent of MPC's modest budget speaks of our priorities as a church. It is our privilege to be part of such an active, generous and mission-oriented church body dedicated to the service of others in the name of our Lord Jesus, the Christ. We are so blessed.

*Pamela Stec, MLT Chair*

***"Our love of Jesus compels us to help others in need."***

### **FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS:**

- The Medina County Home
- Compassion International
- Cups Café of Medina - a local mission for mid-day meals
- International Institute of Akron (assists with the assimilation of immigrants in the Akron Community)
- Medina Community Services
- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, National
- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, International
- Presbytery of the Western Reserve
- Dougbe River School, Liberia (affiliate of our sister church in Cleveland Heights)
- Rise Against Hunger 2024 Meal Packing Event
- 2024 Christmas Shoe Box Program
- Head Start-Community Action
- Medina Personal Care Pantry

### **HANDS-ON PARTICIPATION:**

- Medina Personal Care Pantry, solicitation of goods and distribution
- Preparation and serving of meals for North Church (our sister church in Cleveland)
- Rise Against Hunger 2024 Meal Packing Event
- Lenten candy production to finance RAH 2024
- Advent candy production to finance RAH 2025
- 2024 Christmas Shoebox Program
- Personal Care Pantry

### **PCUSA SPECIAL OFFERING PARTICIPATION:**

- One Great Hour of Sharing (Lent)
- Peace and Global Witness (World Communion Sunday)
- Christmas Joy (Advent)

## **Stewardship**

Committee: Dave Foltz, Ed Hiteshue, KC Howell, Doug Skilskyj, Ron Vlcek

### **End of Year Balances**

General Fund Checking Account	\$20,917
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Money Market Account	\$162,935
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Online Giving Holding Account (transferred regularly to General Fund Checking)	\$474
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Total Cash Balances	<u>\$184,326</u>
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Submitted by Dave Foltz  
Chair, Finance Committee

## **2025 Budget**

**Total Contributions            \$205,000**

### **Expenses**

Personnel	\$143,171
Administrative	\$4,220
Worship & Music	\$1,360
Mission	\$10,500
Christian Education	\$700
Evangelism & Fellowship	\$1,920
Building & Grounds	\$47,805
Stewardship	\$6,000

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**Total Expense Budget            \$215,676**

## **Endowment Fund**

The Endowment Fund currently has an undesignated fund and a fund designated for Christian Education.

All monies are invested in the New Covenant Balanced Growth Fund, a mutual fund which makes investment decisions consistent with the social-witness principles of the General Assembly, PC(USA).

As of September 30, the date of latest statement received, the fund has 149.5 shares and is valued at \$19,203.28. On September 30, the fund balances were:

Undesignated Fund \$9,335.62

Christian education Fund \$9,867.66

Contributions to MPC's Endowment Fund are welcome at any time.

Please direct any questions about the Endowment Fund, how it operates or how you might participate, to me or any member of the committee. Members are Chris Day and Melissa Pearce.

Respectfully submitted,  
KC Howell



## **Nominating Committee**

Each year, the Nominating Committee meets to find the new members of Session, Deacons, and Members-At- Large. Session and Deacon Representatives to the committee are selected each January by their respective bodies. At-Large Members are selected by the committee and elected by the Congregation. Those serving in this group cannot be currently serving in another leadership role and the elected At-Large Members must outnumber the active Session and Deacon Members.

Session Members and Deacons may serve for 2 consecutive, 3-year terms for a total of 6 years. They can be chosen for the same leadership position, if called, after a year off.

Nominating Committee members:

Donna Gray, Chair,

Shari Cartwright, Session Representative

Barbara Steinmetz, Deacon Representative

Members-At-Large: Sandy Cullen, Jennifer Hiteshue, KC Howell and Becky Jeppe.

We had a lot of turnover this year in both groups.

Thank you to the following Elders who have completed their terms: Shari Cartwright, Dave Foltz, and Ron Vlcek.

A sad farewell to our sister in Christ, Rosemary Balsinger, who passed away August 1<sup>st</sup>.

A thank you goes to our Deacons who have completed their terms: Kathy Janini, Beth McDevitt and Cindy Pallini.

Bruce Gamin resigned in September.

The new slate of officers for Session and the Board of Deacons were presented to the Congregation on Sunday, October 27th. They were accepted by the Congregation and installed for the offices. The Members-At-Large were also accepted.

### **Elder Class of 2026, 2-year term**

Pamela Stec

### **Elder Class of 2027**

Ed Hiteshue

Stan Hughes

Susan Vlcek

### **Deacon Class of 2025, 1-year term**

Nan Steinmetz

**Deacon Class of 2027**

Jon Edinger  
Rebecca Jeppe  
Ryan Jeppe

**Members-at-Large for 2025**

Shari Cartwright  
Sandy Cullen  
Jennifer Hiteshue  
KC Howell

Respectfully Submitted,  
Elder Donna Gray  
Committee Chair

## **Presbyterian Women**

The Presbyterian Women meet on the 4th Thursday of most months in the evening, with a hiatus during the summer months. Our routine is to have devotions, book discussion, and a business meeting. This year we used a Women of Faith series for our discussion book, *“Understanding Purpose”*. Devotions and chapter discussion are led by PW members on a volunteer, rotating basis. Monthly refreshments and the “least coin” collection is a part of each meeting as well.

We have discussion/learning time, fellowship time, and provide support for our sisters in Christ. We welcome all women who would like to join us. If you can't make it in the evening, the Esther Circle meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m. They use a discussion book. Contact Linda Dodds if you have questions.

During the year several events and activities were coordinated with the support of our members:

- Feb. 19: An outing to Monarca Cantina on the Square.
- Coordinated garden clean up and weeding in the spring. Many members continued to help Building and Grounds with weeding and bush trimming throughout the summer and fall.
- Provided summer ferns and flowers for the church.
- Seasonal wreaths are provided on all the church doors throughout the year.
- Fall décor was put on the front porch and in the courtyard by Fellowship Hall.
- Annual Ladies Night Out on June 27<sup>th</sup> was held at The Brown Derby.
- Ice Cream Social, August 29<sup>th</sup>. All women of the church and friends were invited to join us. Our program was John Burke doing his 1<sup>st</sup> person portrayal of Captain Wolfe, a Native American from Medina County. He was in full regalia and brought many artifacts.

Special Donations and support activities have included:

- MPC Deacons to assist in Christmas Shoebox donations. Money went directly toward the books for the boxes.
- Holiday decorations for outside of building.
- Garden cleanup.
- Presbyterian Women's Least Coin Offering.
- Spent an evening wrapping shoeboxes for our Christmas Shoeboxes for HeadStart.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Barb Conrad and Jennifer Hiteshue, Co-Chairs

Cindy Pallini, Treasurer and Donna Gray, Secretary

## **Board of Deacons**

The Board of Deacons held regularly scheduled meetings on the second Thursday of each month, except for July and August. It was a blessing for the group to meet in person with Pastor Henry, share a time of devotion, learn together, and prayerfully consider how best to meet the church's needs and those of others who turn to MPC for help.

Empowered by the generosity and faithful giving of the MPC congregation, the Deacon Fund made a significant impact. It supplemented the Pastor's Benevolence Fund and provided gas and food cards, lodging, rent assistance, and utility support to individuals in need. A new check request process and form were implemented to enhance efficiency.

The Deacons continued previously established initiatives, including the Valentine's Day care box initiative for military, college, and homebound church members, Easter and Thanksgiving Food delivery, and the Head Start shoe drive. The Deacons made a one-time donation of \$1,000 and carried forward a monthly donation of \$200 to help the Personal Care Pantry meet the community's needs.

As a result of the congregation's generous support, the number of families touched with meals at Easter and Thanksgiving increased to 80 and the number of children reached by the Head Start shoe drive increased to 150. Furthermore, the generous donations of produce for the Thanksgiving cornucopia were delivered to the Medina County Home.

The Deacons helped to plan, coordinate and serve at several funeral memorial luncheons throughout the year, including the memorial luncheon for Rosemary Balsinger.

The Deacons are deeply appreciative of the opportunity to serve. We are grateful for the generous support of the MPC congregation, which has made our work possible. We look forward to faithfully continuing with the ministry of compassion and service on behalf of MPC.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Janini, Secretary  
Mary Lou Swartz, Moderator

Medina Presbyterian Church - Medina OH				
Deacon's Treasurer Report				
2024				
				<i>Designated</i>
	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Funds</i>
	<i>12/31/2024</i>	<i>YTD</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>2023</i>
<b>Income</b>				
Contributions	\$ -	\$ 7,573.00	\$ 10,446.00	
Valentine Packages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Easter Baskets	\$ -	\$ 4,350.00	\$ 2,555.00	
Shoes for Head Start	\$ -	\$ 1,795.00	\$ 1,430.00	113.78
Thanksgiving Baskets	\$ -	\$ 5,376.00	\$ 3,200.00	
Outreach - Lodging	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 19,094.00</b>	<b>\$ 17,631.00</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>				
Medina Personal Care Pantry	\$ 200.00	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 2,400.00	
Valentine Care Packages	\$ -	\$ 446.87	\$ 364.43	
Easter Baskets	\$ -	\$ 3,962.38	\$ 3,711.90	
Shoes for Head Start	\$ -	\$ 2,078.52	\$ 1,316.22	
Thanksgiving Baskets	\$ -	\$ 5,103.86	\$ 3,720.06	
Congregation Benevolence	\$ -	\$ 612.91	\$ 156.66	
Hospitality	\$ -	\$ 113.78	\$ -	
Outreach - Lodging	\$ 130.00	\$ 3,214.82	\$ 4,726.10	
Outreach - Utilities	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 200.00	
Outreach - Food Gift Cards	\$ 75.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 100.00	
Outreach - Gas Gift Cards	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Admin - Bank Checks/stamps	\$ -	\$ 171.49	\$ -	
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$ 405.00</b>	<b>\$ 19,829.63</b>	<b>\$ 16,695.37</b>	
<b>Cash Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$ 5,501.09</b>	<b>\$ 5,831.72</b>	<b>\$ 4,896.09</b>	
<b>Cash Ending Balance 2024</b>	<b>\$ 5,096.09</b>	<b>\$ 5,096.09</b>	<b>\$ 5,831.72</b>	
	<b>12/31/2023</b>	<b>\$ 5,831.72</b>		
<b>Increase/(Decrease) vs 2023</b>	<b>\$ (735.63)</b>			