

April 2023



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

## April brings special worship services and a concert

*We invite you to journey with us throughout Holy Week.  
More information on page 2.*

**Palm Sunday, April 2**

9 AM      Worship

**Maundy Thursday, April 6**

6 PM      Soup Supper/Communion Service

**Good Friday, April 7**

7 PM      Worship with First Methodist Church

**Easter Sunday, April 9**

9 AM      Worship

### Enjoy an afternoon of stories and music from David LaMotte

Across more than 3,000 concerts, 13 albums, three books, 50 states and five continents, a Rotary World Peace Fellow David LaMotte has gathered a large and loyal community of enthusiastic listeners. *The Boston Globe* writes that his music “pushes the envelope with challenging lyrics and unusual tunings, but he also pays homage to folk tradition.

Concert at 3 PM, reception following to meet David.





## Holy Week Starts on Sunday

This Lenten season is drawing to a close. We have had the cross in our way, sometimes blocking the view for our online worshippers or entrance to our usual pew. We have been able to look at it up close. This week, the cross will be center stage.

Join us **Palm Sunday, April 2**, as we remember how the people welcomed Jesus to Jerusalem with palms and shouts of Hosannah.

On **Maundy Thursday**, we will have a soup supper at 6 PM. Don't be late! We will be served a light supper of soup and bread, hear the word proclaimed and share table fellowship as Jesus did with his disciples for that Last Supper. The choir will join us before their rehearsal.

**Good Friday**, we will have a service of Tenebrae, or darkness at 7 PM, remembering the void Christ left that day of his death on the cross. Pastor Matt will share his thoughts on what the cross means to him and invite us to do the same.

**Easter Sunday, April 9**, we celebrate the empty tomb and all that means to us. Special music and beautiful spring flowers will provide a backdrop to our joyful worship.

**If you or a loved one is in the hospital or in need of a pastoral visit, please let the church office know.**

**Our pastor, staff, and hospital visitors keep this information confidential. Your church wants to be in touch.**

**Bless be the tie that binds.**



### Flowers for Easter

Spring flowers will decorate the Sanctuary Easter Sunday, April 9.

If you would like to give a monetary donation in honor or memory of someone for the Spring flowers, please note so on your check in the memo line. Please include a note who the flowers are in honor or memory of.



### Know Anyone Graduating?

Do you have a family member graduating this year from high school or college? They don't have to be a member of the church or even live in the area. Please send a photo and a message including where they are graduating from and what their future plans might be to Brandi Lowe [brandiscrapbook@yahoo.com](mailto:brandiscrapbook@yahoo.com) or text 217-369-5844.

Please submit no later than May 14.

## Easter Religion: The Ladies' Annual Bake Sale

BY MATT MATTHEWS  
MATT@FIRSTPRES.CHURCH

The women's group of the first church I served in rural Dardanelle, Arkansas, had their bake sale every spring around Easter. One year, they had it the day before Palm Sunday, a warm and sunny Saturday made to order for a church bake sale. They set out the pies and cakes, cookies and breads that our members and friends had spent so much money and time baking in the hopes that people in town would enjoy them and, not unimportant, that their sale would bring some money into the women's treasury for worthy projects.

Back in those early days of my ministry before our sons were born, Saturday was sermon writing day. I wandered in and out of the fellowship hall all morning, to and from my office computer, to watch and to chat with the ladies, and to smell the melted chocolates and breads still warm from ovens.

Sarah made bagels, a first for her. "Did you know you have to boil them?" "Boil them?" asked Nora. "Why, yeah," Sarah said. "That's what makes 'em chewy."

They were chewy, too, just like the kind that come from New York. They were a bargain at three for a dollar. Sarah reported that her husband, Lee, had to pay a dollar just for one at breakfast that morning.

Sarah is also the church historian. We needed a picture for the scrapbook, she said. So, we hammed it up. They put me in the center, a kind of mascot. I held a bible in one hand and a loaf of banana bread in the

other. We beamed for the camera. In a scrapbook somewhere, there are probably other pictures of other bake sales, of other ladies showing off the bounty of their kitchens, pictures of jelly rolls and pastries, of what even heat and good timing bring to those who wait.

There's a picture of ladies in our lobby, a collection of twenty-three ladies standing in formal pose on someone's regal front steps, taken about 1911. Mrs. Jess Adney stands top left with her daughter, probably 12, Nettie Frances at her side. Mrs. D.A. Love. Mrs. Graham Catlett. Mrs. George Carter. Ladies with names like Stevenson, Davis, and Fowlks standing erect in ankle length dresses that button high and tight around their necks, right up to their chins. Mrs. Max Kaufman, a woman with bulging forearms, stands near the bottom of the photograph with her strong hands lightly upon her daughter Maxine's slender shoulders, and around them, above and to the right, women with names like Ragland, Brown, McCray, Nolen, Barry, Walker. Their names are on some of the church stained glass windows. They stand in that picture ram-rod straight with their hair wound tightly in buns, their dresses starched rigid like sails. In the midst of these somber and some severe faces stands the slight figure of Miss Annie Kimball, head tilted as if her smiling eyes were being forced to a formality against which her lilting spirit railed.

Dinner rolls and fresh loaves and Cinnamon buns covered the tables, delicacies made from the recipes of ladies who, no doubt, were baking

for church bake sales back in 1848. The ladies have changed, but some of the recipes were as unchanged as Dardanelle Rock, having been handed down from generation to generation, from family to family, across every fence in Dardanelle from neighbor to neighbor, from the McCray's to the Boles to the Hunts to the Rogers to the Sissons.

Judy used her grandmother's famous chess pie recipe, concocted from 6 eggs, a whole cup of real butter and three solid cups of sugar; that's all a chess pie is.

"You'll die if you eat two pieces in a row," she said. "Two pieces'll kill you."

Between the trickle of customers, in and out, the ladies talked about the past. Bake sales coax stories out of people. Memories rise like yeast, healed and sweetened by time.

Judy talked about how she and her cousins, when they were young, went through a stage when they tried calling their elders by their first names. "One time I called my grandma 'Pearl,' and she hit me right upside my head."

This led to a general and brief discussion about spanking one's children. Someone said that her mother never spanked, but if looks could kill.

And they rambled on.

Nina, chief and senior storyteller, sat at the center of the room. She sat facing the guests as they entered off the street from out of the bright sun into our lime green fellowship hall which was aglow with a different, though no less divine light. Nina presided at the head of the table.

continued on the next page



There were some coconut cakes with notes attached warning the buyer about where the tooth picks, that held the layers together, were hidden. Coconut dyed green on white cupcakes. A coconut bunny, jelly beaned with eyes and a smile. Cookies spotted with chocolate chips. A giant golden sponge cake made from scratch with 12 egg yolks.

The day was beautiful. Birds, blackening the branches of the budding mimosa tree, sang with Leonard Bernstein fervor and Vivaldi lightness. By mid-morning one could hear the crack of baseball bats at the park down on the river, and the chanting of grade school outfielders as basemen over-threw one another, and the batter stretched a single into an easy home run. The smell of spring and fresh-mown grass was making its way through the open door with the customers, mingling with the inside smells of coffee and dough and ladies' soft perfume.

Meanwhile, we all visited. And laughed. And sometimes looked with fixed eyes out of the door into another dimension. They talked about fruit cakes and the process of fermenting brandy-covered peaches. About the right way to eat corn bread, sweet or unsweet. About college tuition way back when and 18 years hence when Peggy and Lloyd's newest and future grandchild will be a freshman in the entering class.

Talk of college led to Nina's remembrances of Galloway in 1933, her first year there, the rich girl from near Blitheville whose wealthy father would come to campus and take to dinner as many of his daughter's friends as would fit into his long, long car, a generous and down to earth

man who raised a kind, unspoiled daughter. In early Spring Nina's father called and said that the banks had closed. She could stay through the semester, but come summer she'd have to return home, probably for good.

She did.

And it was.

There were long pauses through the morning. There were wistful smiles. There were moments when the ladies could not look one another in the eyes, lest more rise from within them that they could handle. Light from the opened door shined golden on carefully wrapped breads and desserts made sweet with toil and love.

When I think of Jesus as the Bread of Life, I don't think of our Lord as cinnamon bun, dinner roll, or bagel. But I think of that Saturday and those ladies whose love and presence, somehow holy, quickens in me an awareness of his presence. They shared the bounty of kitchen and heart at the annual bake sale, welcoming the community in through a door as wide open as the blue sky. Bread of Life, indeed.

## Sunday May 7 Music Sunday

Mark your church calendar for Sunday, May 7 at 9 AM. This is the annual Music Sunday service.

Music Director Joe Grant has selected a series of pieces on the theme of Joy in the Lord. It will include favorites like Bach's "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring," as well a contemporary work, "Jubilate Deo" accompanied by brass quartet.

Strings will also be part of our service as they accompany several works the highlight of which will be the "Telemann Laudate Jehovam," and a setting of "Psalm 117, O Praise the Lord, All Ye Nations."

# The Heart of Mission

## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Special Offering to be taken Palm Sunday and Easter



In this Season of Lent, we follow Jesus' example; walking alongside the most vulnerable to partner in repairing harms inflicted upon them. We are the Church, Together; and we are there with those who need us.

Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing helps improve the lives of the suffering and the vulnerable.

Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for

the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed.

Mark your check or your envelope with OGHS to direct your contribution.



### Compassion, Peace & Justice Ministry Team

We strive to be disciples of Jesus Christ and to live the word of Matthew 25 focusing on dismantling structural racism. We value DREAAM Opportunity Center as our ministry focus. We also seek opportunities to stand with all people who need a hand up including people of color, recent immigrants, indigenous people, prisoners and our LGBTQIA+ neighbors. Join us on the second and fourth Wednesdays from 6:30-8 PM on Zoom.

Obtain the Zoom link at [marcia@firstpres.church](mailto:marcia@firstpres.church)

### Cuba Needs... Gifts of the Spirit

Fellow Cuba Travelers and Congregation:

Today I heard from **Pastor Daniel Izquierdo** from Luyano with supply requests for our trip April 20-24. It is their 101<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Day for the birthday of the church.

Therefore, our theme is gifts of the Spirit. In that vein, we have some items to "gift" and support the work of the Spirit at Luyano that we will ask you to donate so we can bring to them.

Some items we have been thinking that we will appreciate are here:

Toys for children (toddlers classroom)  
Water layer for rain (2), a large umbrella (for custodians)  
Drill Bits (Tungsten, for masonry, different sizes)  
crazy gum  
elastic for the sewing circle  
some items for newborn babies (we send it to the Hospital)

Some needed medicines:

Children's medicines  
Fever reducer (either chewable tablets or syrup, like Ibuprofen or Paracetamol)  
Vitamin C  
multivitamins

**Cuba Gift List Continued...**

Antihistamines  
 Infant oral hydration salts  
 Insect repellent  
 Ointments for insect bites

For adults:

Alka-Seltzer  
 Cold-hot-pack  
 Disposable syringes with needle  
 Analgesics (Ibuprofen,  
 Acetaminophen, Methocarbamol,  
 Diclofenac-K)  
 Creams for muscle pain. Also  
 patches  
 Vitamins C, E, Omega 3  
 Multivitamins  
 Sanitary Pads (Menstruation)  
 Proctocaine (Hemorrhoids)  
 Triple-antibiotic cream  
 Anti-acids  
 Antidiarrheals  
 Lozenges for sore throats

The list for the Art Project is still being compiled. Art supplies like you would use for VBS.

The people of Cuba continue to suffer from the US embargo. They suffer further from their listing as a State Sponsor of Terrorism joining just North Korea, Syria and Iran there. Recent US visitors to Cuba were asked to bring toilet paper as it is largely unavailable. Also scarce in addition to food are personal hygiene needs and medications.

Our visitors will carry these to our Cuban friends on their upcoming trip. You can also consider a contribution to our Cuba Partners Fund (106729). These resources go to our sister church for their ministries.

Thank you for your generosity. We will have a box for these items in Westminster Hall.

**Please Join Us Tuesday, April 25 at 4:30 PM**

You are invited to hear our mission co-worker from Indonesia, **Farsijana Adeney-Risakotta**, speak Tuesday, April 25, 4:30 PM, on Zoom in Mae Chapin Parlor.

Farsijana and her husband Berney visited us on July 1, 2018 and has had a long relationship with the World Mission Committee. In January of 2021, she zoomed with us and invited us to participate in a Fair Trade evaluation project with her microfinance group that we had helped start The Coop.

Farsijana is very active in the area of micro financing and Muslim-Christian relationships in Indonesia. She will update us on her work at The Coop, an economic/interfaith partnership, and the many other partnerships with Christian and Muslim leaders in Yogyakarta. She is currently at Princeton on Interpretation Assignment with the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

The Zoom address will be given on Matt's Friday mailer the week prior to her speaking.

The zoom will begin at 4:30 PM in our the Parlor.

**Presbyterian Men**

The men of the church meet Tuesdays from 8:00-9:00 am in Mae Chapin Parlor or on Zoom for coffee, bible study and conversation. The men of the church pray together on Fridays at 8:15 AM on Zoom. We pray in turn in our own ways and in the language of our choice. We pray for the world, our nation our community, our congregation and those we love.

Obtain Zoom links from [marcia@firstpres.church](mailto:marcia@firstpres.church)



## Environmental Stewardship ...

### Every Day Is Earth Day!

BY CLEMMIE ACKERMANN

COLLETTA.ACKERMANN@SGMAIL.COM

The Environmental Stewardship Committee reminds us that "Every Day is Earth Day" but April 22 is the official international day of celebration and our community is celebrating with some great environmental activities.

April 14 - Hazardous Waste Collection  
- by appointment only at  
<https://hhwevent.simplybook.me/v2/>

April 22 - Boneyard Creek Community Day - register on-line at:  
<http://www.boneyardcreek.org/>  
by April 17

On-site registration will be held on the 22 at Scott Park or on-line at  
[volunteer@champaignparks.org](mailto:volunteer@champaignparks.org)

April 22, 1- 4 pm - Take a sensory hike with a princess at Meadowbrook Park  
Details at: <https://www.faithinplace.org/event-details/take-a-sensory-hike-with-princess>

April 23 - We are celebrating Earth Sunday and **Cindy Shepherd** will be preaching. **Libby Sternhagen**, our Bell Choir Director, is a research biologist with CERL, researching wildlife conservation on federal lands. She'll be doing a **Faith in the Real World** presentation after the church service.

## Habitat/Salt & Light Collection

On June 3, our Community Mission Deacons are hosting a Collection Event to help you Spring clean and to help others. You will be hearing more about it in the coming months. As you go through items in your closets and home that you are ready to get rid of, we will be working on getting people with trucks and trailers ready to help you get your items to Habitat ReStore and Salt & Light.

Here are a couple of lists to keep in mind of what they will take.

### Habitat ReStore

Things in working order, clean and in good shape.

Appliances, furniture, windows and doors, garden supplies, kitchen and bath cabinets and sinks, electronic equipment, exercise equipment, lighting, hardware and tools, household goods, usable plumbing, new carpet and flooring, and building materials.

They will not accept broken items, used textiles, mattresses, clothes, sleeper sofas, tube televisions, pianos, or large entertainment centers.

For a more complete list of what they will and will not accept please look at <https://cuhabitat.org/items-to-donate/>

### Salt & Light

Things in working order, clean and in good shape.

Clothing and shoes, jewelry, books, purses, household goods, kitchenware, dvds and cds, linens, small electronics, collectibles, health, bath and beauty aids, computers and accessories, furniture, tools, and area rugs.

They will not accept broken items, mattresses, baby cribs, car seats, household items that need to be installed, pianos, entertainment centers, or dining tables with no chairs.

For a more complete list of what they will and will not accept please look at <https://saltandlightministry.org/2021/01/19/donating-goods-what-to-bring-and-why-it-matters/>

If you have large items to give on June 3 and need help transporting or if you have transportation (trucks, trailers) to share in this endeavor, please contact **Jane Alsberg** at [jane.alsberg@gmail.com](mailto:jane.alsberg@gmail.com), **Grace Ashenfelter** at [grace-elyn@comcast.net](mailto:grace-elyn@comcast.net) and/or **Rachel Matthews** at [rachel@firstpres.church](mailto:rachel@firstpres.church)

## Cuba Brunch Was a Big Success!

Thanks to the Kitchen Team, Nurture Committee, Cuba Steering Committee, and many others for our March 12 brunch.



The Cuba Steering Committee decorated tables on Friday while Gary Peterson and Matilde Stone labored in the kitchen to prepare the special Cuban bread pudding.

Behind the scene on Sunday were many kitchen workers. The kitchen requires hair nets or other head cover. Hands must be washed for 20 seconds on entering the kitchen and each time it is entered. Gloves are worn for all food handling.

Joanne Walther, Gary and Linda Peterson, Jan Wittler, Nancy and Marvin Brombaugh and Claudia and Bob Kirby on 8 AM kitchen duty.

Marv Brombaugh and Bob Kirby strike a relaxed pose while coffee brews.







Gary Peterson and Jan Wittler work the 9:00 hour Sunday. Jan is moderator of our Outreach Committee and Gary is king of food.

Note the aprons, covered hands and hair.

Easy English Fellowship members complete English lesson at the table before they go to the buffet. From top clockwise are Rita, Jacqueline, Melanie, Noel, Nadeige, Chimene and Colette .



At the buffet table Dave Bauer searches for the perfect galleta con guayaba.

The galletas, Cuban bread pudding, scrambled eggs and ham, rice with corn, tropical fruit and plantains were all popular.

## English Language Learners News

BY VAL SMITH, DIRECTOR  
VAL@FIRSTPRES.CHURCH

"When Paul had finished speaking, he knelt down with all of them and prayed. 37 They all wept as they embraced him and kissed him." Acts 20: 36



he was thrilled to receive. He asked for prayer for his daughter, Samantha, who had been in our classes and had left earlier for Brazil for her university classes. Your gift matters!

**Linda Sims**, one of our tutors and also a former director, gives a variety of oral opportunities in class for her students. For example, she pairs students together and gives them a speaking activity. While these students meet, Linda supports an individual student on her speaking task. This teaching strategy promotes engagement. Linda also arranged for a group of about ten students to attend a community event. They will read stories to children in their language. The

students were enthusiastic and the organization organizing the activity was appreciative of the students' participation. Your gift multiplies.

Sharing in the lives of the students is one of the privileges of this English outreach. On our last class before break, one of the students brought her husband who is studying at the U of I. He had heard of the warm welcome she has received. It was a joy for us to meet him as this couple will welcome their first child at the end of May. He stayed for **Mark Schoeffmann's** class and while he can't attend classes, he looks forward to attending special events. Your gift warms hearts!

Thank you for your part in this ministry!

One of the most difficult and yet gratifying aspects of the ELL outreach ministry is saying good-bye to students. I could really feel the emotion before spring break when we said good-bye to Alessandro on the last day of classes. He was so grateful for the English instruction but even more for the compassion he experienced at FPCC. One of the tutors, **Donna Reed**, even came by on his last day and gave him a book that







**Daniel 9:3** Then I turned to the Lord God to seek an answer by prayer and supplication with fasting and sackcloth and ashes. **NRSV**

**“When you pray, speak openly to God and examine your attitude. Talk to God with openness, vulnerability and honesty and wait for His reply.”**

**Psalm 25:4,5** Make me know your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for You I wait all day long. **NRSV**

**Psalm 42:1,2** As the deer pants for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I come and behold the face of God? **NRSV**

**1 Peter 1:3** By His great mercy He has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. **NRSV**

## *Jays & Concerns*

●Happy Birthday to **Jo Foley** who celebrated her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 2.

We extend our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of...

●**Sandy Carr** who died March 24, 2023. Sandy has been a member of the church since November 2001. A Memorial Service will be held Saturday, April 29, at 11 AM at the church.

●**Beverly Kelton** who died March 7, 2023. Bev has been a member of the church since February 2001. A Memorial Service will be held at the church on Saturday, April 15, at 11:30 AM.

●**Sophie Van Arsdell** who died March 5, 2023. Sophie has been a member of the church since January 1964. A Memorial Service will be held at the church on Saturday, May 20, at 11 AM.

●Memorial Services for **Leland Andrews** will be held Saturday, April 8, at 11 AM in the Sanctuary.



**Monday Munchers** enjoy weekly get-togethers rotating a selection of restaurants, including Italian, Chinese, Mexican, barbecue, and, of course, **FREE Pie Day** at Perkins.

## Face to Face with Linda Miller



Linda at home in Urbana with one of her cats and one of her paintings. She became a member on June 5, 2022.

### What brought you to First Presbyterian Church?

When we moved from Macomb to Champaign to be nearer to our daughter, we looked for a Presbyterian church. When we attended here, we felt at home. We like the pastors and people seemed committed to do the work and were very welcoming.

### What has been the highlight of your church experience?

I have always been Presbyterian. I converted my husband, Gene. He later became a commissioned lay pastor. I served as moderator of a presbytery in the past. We have a son-in-law who is also a Presbyterian pastor as is one of my three living sisters. I am new to this congregation but have signed on to a

women's circle and am considering a women's bible study and the knitting group.

### Tell me about your family? Your work?

I have three children, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. I owned a business for many years selling fabric, knitting, and sewing supplies as well as folk art, some of which was my own paintings.

### What do you do in your free time?

My life is busy with my painting, fabric piecing, knitting and my three cats.

### What are your favorite Bible characters?

That is a hard one. I think the four fishermen, Andrew, Peter, James and John. They were willing to give up their work and their old lives to follow Jesus.

### What advice can you give on how to be the church? Or how can the church best be the church?

The church is the people so, I say "show up, worship together regularly and be involved."

## Library News

Our adult library is on the west side of Westminster Hall near the hospitality table. Browse our great selection of Christian books and check something out that you like.

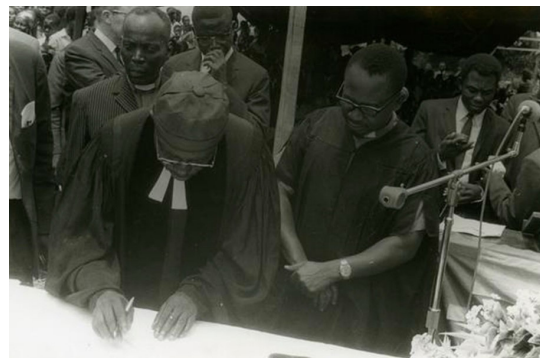
Also browse our book cart next to your Sunday coffee. You may take a book or donate a book. Our focus is on Christian books for children and adults. Other books are welcome as space allows.

## The Presbyterian Church of the Congo

FROM THE PCUSA NATIONAL ARCHIVES

The first Presbyterian mission station in the Congo was established in Luebo in 1891. Other mission stations started popping up during Belgian rule, the first being founded at Mutoto in 1912.

The American Presbyterian Congo Mission (APCM) grew rapidly in the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century so that by 1919, it was the largest Protestant mission in the Congo with 48 missionaries and nearly 20,000 communicants.



The mission continued to grow until 1959, when L'Église Presbytérienne au Congo organized as an independent ecclesiastical body. March 1970 saw the integration of the American Presbyterian Congo Mission and L'Église Presbytérienne au Congo, or The Presbyterian Church of the Congo. Pictured below is the signing of integration papers by Legal Representative Pastor Bakatushipa Pierre and Pastor Nsenda Joseph, Executive Secretary of the Church.

See full original article [here](#).



# Finance

## Financial Update

BY ANN WEBBINK, FINANCE TEAM

ANWEB2@YAHOO.COM

### Contributions

Total February contributions: \$40.9K from plate and pledge plus \$9.3K from prepaid= \$50.2K

This is \$15.6K less than last year and \$19.6 K under budget.

Total contributions YTD: \$139.7K which is \$33.1K less than last year and \$.1K over budget.

At 16.7% of the year, we have 27.2% of the budgeted contributions.

### Expenses

February expenses were \$89.9 K which is \$15.9 K less than last year and \$7.2K over budget.

Expenses YTD were \$150.7K which is \$24.8K less than last year and \$14.7K under budget.

At 16.7% of the year, we have spent 15.2% of the budget.

### Balance YTD

Revenue from all sources exceeds expenses by \$86.6K which is \$17.6K less than last year.

### Summary of Restricted Accounts

\$7958 was donated to various funds in February. This included donations of \$4000 to local missions, \$1845 to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and \$1448 to the Cuba trip.

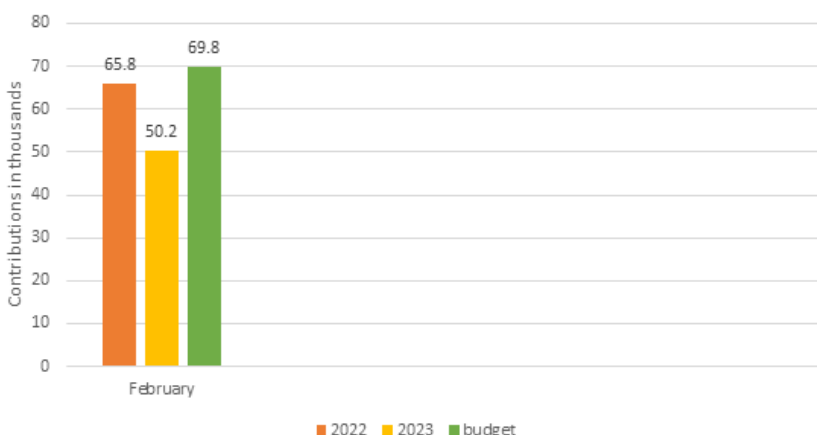
### South Campus Reserves

\$259.4K which is \$5.5K less than last month.

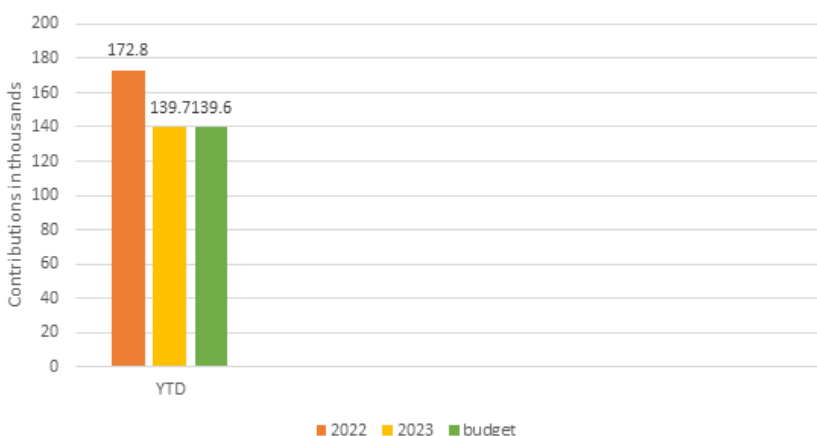
### Session Designated Funds

\$1,791,373 which is \$42,145 less than last month.

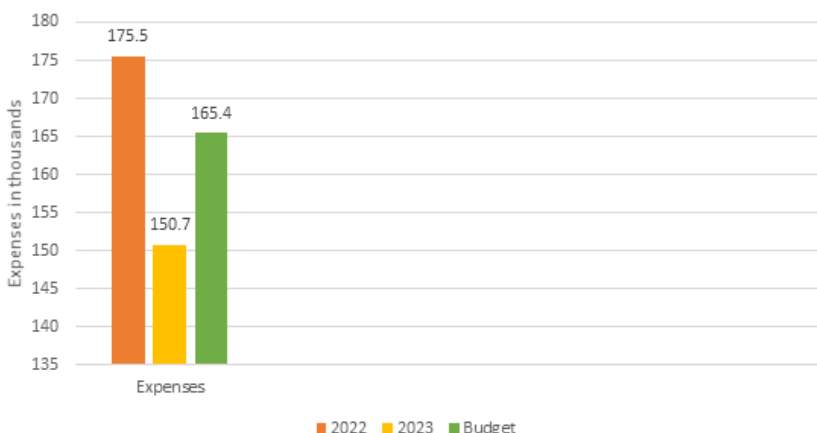
February 2023 Contributions



Contributions YTD



Expenses YTD





**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH** OF CHAMPAIGN

302 West Church Street  
Champaign, IL 61820

Change Service Requested



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH** OF CHAMPAIGN

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**P:** 217.356.7238

**F:** 217.356.7242

**E:** [info@firstpres.church](mailto:info@firstpres.church)

[www.firstpres.church](http://www.firstpres.church)

**Sunday:**

9 AM Worship/Sanctuary

10 AM Sunday School for Children & Youth

10:15 AM Adult Sunday School

Online Worship is also available at 9 AM on Sunday mornings thru  
YouTube, Facebook, and our church website. Go to FirstPres.Live

Contact the church office for more information.

**Pastor:**

Matt Matthews..... Senior Pastor/Head of Staff, Ext. 213

**Staff:**

Martice Chapple..... Facility Assistant  
Ritchie Drennen .....Facility Manager, Ext. 237  
Patty Farthing..... Office Assistant, Ext. 211  
Robert Ferrer .....Audio-visual Technician  
Fred Foster ..... Evening Custodian  
Marcia Franks .....Office Administrator, Ext. 210  
Judi Geistlinger..... Commissioned Lay Pastor  
Joe Grant..... Director of Music  
Rachel Matthews Mission Coordinator/Parish Associate, Ext. 219  
Ann Petry.....Accounting, Ext. 224  
Sora Shepard ..... Organist/Pianist  
Val Smith ..... English Language Learner Director, Ext. 235  
Libby Sternhagen ..... Bell Choir Director

Staff email addresses are the person's first name followed by  
[@firstpres.church](mailto:@firstpres.church) For example, [matt@firstpres.church](mailto:matt@firstpres.church)

The newsletter is published monthly.  
Deadline is the third Monday of the month for the following month's edition.  
Send submissions to [marcia@firstpres.church](mailto:marcia@firstpres.church).