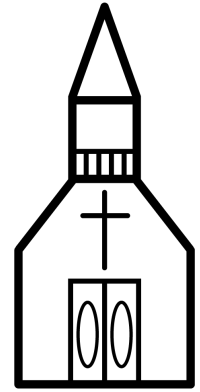


# Portland Congregational Church



## 2023 Annual Report

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# Portland Congregational Church



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## 2023 Annual Report Table Of Contents

### Agenda

### Reports

Pastor's Letter.....	Pastor Joshua Ehmke
Associate Pastor's Letter.....	Pastor Jim Spiller
Clerk's Report.....	Jody Johnston
Trustee's Report.....	Mike Johnston
Spiritual Committee's Report.....	Anita Calcaterra
Sunday School And Fellowship Report.....	Elizabeth Haynes
Youth Group Report.....	Adam Plyler
Financial Secretary's Report.....	Shelly Williamson
Treasurer's Report.....	Elizabeth Haynes

### Addendum

Church Officers And Committee Members
Active Church Members
Inactive Church Members
2024 Election Ballot
2024 Church Budget (Proposed)
Our Church Covenant
Notes

# Portland Congregational Church



## 2024 Annual Meeting

### Agenda

January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024

Opening Prayer.....Pastor Joshua Ehmke

Call To Order.....Thomas Haynes

Presentation Of The 2023 Annual Report

Old Business

New Business

Election Of Officers

Vote On The 2024 Proposed Budget

Adjournment

**Portland  
Congregational  
Church**



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# Reports

## A year in review 2023

Rev. Joshua Jon Ehmke

Portland Congregational Church

As I sit down to write this year end letter, the words that come to mind are “in a flash”. Looking back, it doesn’t seem like 12 months have passed by and we are fastly approaching 2024. This really shouldn’t come at much surprise though, the Bible gives a clear promise about time, “it’s short” 1 Corinthians 7:29, or it appears as a mist and then disappears James 14:4. Even with this in mind, we should do our very best, to make the very best with the little (time) we have. Like commodities that are rare, extreme value is attributed and searched after like treasure. So let this be a reminder moving forward to make the very best investments of time, because if the Lord tarries, 2025 will be sneaking up on us as well.

One of the greatest inventions in the 20th century was the T.V. remote control (ok, that’s a stretch). But what good would a remote be without the rewind button. It gives us the ability to go back to those important moments that we need to rewatch, so we can better understand the story being told. So let’s hit that button and really seek God in the story of life playing out before our eyes.

The beginning of the year, we sought out for a word from the Lord that would help guide our church throughout the year. That word given was “Breakthrough”, which was given to some of the leaders in different ways throughout the end of 2022. So in great enthusiasm we received this word with great expectation and embarked on our journey through the year, excited for different breakthroughs God would bring to our congregation. Looking back, I now know I should have approached this word with wisdom, instead of enthusiasm. When such a greeting (a great word) came to Mary (at Jesus’ birth announcement) she considered what kind of (word) greeting this was.

Blessings within: Our church has seen many moves of God within our congregation, as well as outside it. There have been healings (River, Micah, Pat, Xavier, Jeff, Adam P., Jim, John A.) just to name a few. Our congregation has been blessed with new members and families, as well our established members' continue to grow in unity and relationships. We have had many members step into leadership, fulfilling different roles of ministry. We have rebooted our youth group, continued serving the hurting through Grief Share, meet for midweek bible studies periodically throughout the year (covering marriages, relationships & The Awe of God). Our small groups are continuing through men’s & women’s bible study and prayer group. Young ones are being reached through children’s church & nursery (personal shoutout, to those volunteers!!). Worship team, missions, online presence are other areas where gifts and talents are being used for the Lord. Once again, the “I am Loved” event was hosted at the Portland Community park, and we partnered with other churches & organizations to do our annual outreach to the community. My heart is touched by the commitment and dedication this church body shows to serving the Lord by serving His local body (the church) and those in need. We can easily lose sight of all the accomplishments and acts of service this church has made, which I’ve only mentioned some (there are so many

other acts of service to the body, which go on every week, that each of you do for each other; (Matt 10:42)) it's so good to be part of Christ's body.

With the blessings, and rewards granted to our church, God also brought times of testing. Before the beginning of the year, God was speaking that He would do some shaking within our church. If we are His, there will be times of testing, but as I learned this year, "a faith that can't be tested, can't be trusted". The faith that is placed in Christ will be tested, but will remain, and be strengthened. This is such a wonderful thought, that even as we go through the valleys, it's not random, but with the purpose to achieve something new and wonderful within our faith. I don't have to review the trials, nor do I pretend to know every one, but what I do know is that God will not give us a trial we as His children can't handle. Each trial was filtered through the love and care of our Heavenly Father, and limited so that what the enemy intended to use to destroy, God used to fortify, strengthen and bless His children. This is our birthright as Children of God and we know that as we learn to persevere in our faith, God is preparing us for what is to come. I believe that God has big plans to have His church step into powerful and effective areas of ministries, but just like a good coach, He prepares his team for the next challenge so they will be the most successful.

2024 will be a harvest of fruitfulness, that has been prepared and ripened in the seasons before, be ready for a harvest and don't grow weary, he prepared this work for us. I have been so blessed to be your pastor and friend this past year, and look forward to rejoicing with you this next year (Phil 4:4) as we look for the arrival of the King.

With a grateful heart to our Lord,

Rev. Joshua Jon Ehmke

## ASSOCIATE PASTOR REPORT

I would like to thank Pastor Joshua and Liz Ehmke and the congregation for the privilege of serving this year in 2023 as an associate part-time Pastor. My duties and responsibilities this year included Sunday Worship Service call to worship offertory and closing song and also occasionally filling in to preach for Pastor Joshua on Sunday and at the man's Bible study and midweek classes. In addition my duties throughout the year include doing Hospital visitation, nursing home visitations and home visitations for elderly, shut-ins and those battling illness. I also make weekly text and calls to check on those who are not in church or who are struggling and need prayer for healing or are battling some issues. In addition, I am at the weekly prayer meeting every Tuesday morning and get a weekly copy of the praise and prayer list for those battling any issues. I also do periodic counseling throughout the week for those who are struggling with any issues or concerns that they are battling in their life. Pastor Joshua Ehmke Adam Plyler and myself also meet once a week for 2-3 hours to discuss the people who have been visited or need to be visited or need to be called or texted. During this meeting we pray for those who are battling any emotional, physical or spiritual issues. Included in this meeting we also discuss biblical issues, carefully discuss future sermons and what we think the Lord and the Holy Spirit is speaking to the congregation in this season. The weeks that I preach I spend most of my time preparing for the Sunday sermon however I still try and find some time to text, call or visit those who need. However Pastor Joshua and Liz also fill in with visitations, calls and texts the weeks that I am preaching. Also once a month there is a spiritual committee and council meeting that I attend dealing with any spiritual or business issues of the church. This year Adam Plyler Pastor Joshua and I helped to set the vision for and launch of the youth group. I also participated in occasional teachings at the youth meetings. Throughout the year I help Pastor supervise different projects that he puts me in charge of or needs my help contributing to. I make a good effort to attend the midweek fellowship regularly and the yearly grief share classes that are run by Sharon and Carol. Also Pastor has had me in the past teach some of the midweek classes. If I am not teaching the midweek classes I still make an effort to be there at the midweek classes to learn and grow with the rest of the church.

Since my dad passed away in December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021 it has been my honor to be assisting Pastor Joshua and the church here at Portland Congregational Church. It has been an unbelievable season of blessing for me where I have spiritually emotionally and physically grown stronger by being a part of the church. I am so grateful for the friendships and the relationships that I have built and the powerful congregation that I serve. I hope and pray that people have been blessed by my Ministry here at PCC throughout the year. I look forward to continuing another year of serving Pastor Joshua and Liz Ehmke and the congregation here at PCC.

Pastor James Spiller



# Clerks Report 2023 (Jody Johnston)

## Jan - Members

## Feb - 12 Members

Approved Adam Plyler as member / Single Pane windows installed  
Sunday school - "Names Of God" / Life groups - Marriage/Relatable  
Men's Group - "Be Like Jesus" / Women's Group - "Don't give the enemy a seat at your table"

\*\*3/5 - council meeting (11) – Benevolence distribution

## Mar - 12 Members

Ceiling project completed / Drums fund distribution finalized  
Prepare hearts during "Call to worship" / FICA distribution - Pastor Jim

## Apr – 11 Members

Grief Share program started /lamp Project completed "Bitty's Lot"  
Women's Group - "Overcomer" / "Grow" program curriculum for  
Sunday school approved & purchased  
Courtney & Dylan Gross approved as members / Active & Inactive list updated

## May – 7 Members

Hailey approved as Jr. SS teacher / nursery TV replaced / Youth Group  
Men's Group - "Don't give the enemy a seat at your table"  
Cleanup day / blocks painted / Code enforcement recommendations

\*\*5/21 - council Mtg. (12) lawn mower

## June – 12 Members

Women's group - "Armour Of God" / Women preaching at the pulpit – backed by the constitution

Kevin Cobb removed as trustee (his request)

Wiring completed over the counseling room / Rte 20 property unavailable-discussion of shed purchase

## July – 12 members

Church Picnic – service held at Pastor Josh Home / 10 youth sent to Bethany Camp

Letter to Stalter family regarding their concern of the bells – issue resolved / Sound system purchased

\*\*Aug 13 - special council meeting – (21 members) - approval for shed purchase

## Aug – 12 Members

"I Am Loved" event / SS Blast off series w/ "Grow" curriculum

## Sept – 8 Members

Women's group - "12 Women of the Bible" / CWC fund distribution / Pastor appreciation gifts

Adam Plyler voted in as Trustee / Block windows / Shed / workday

## Oct – 13 members

TV in kitchen installed / Men's group – study on Joshua "men of God"

Shed issued discussed / Paul Mundy removed as trustee (his request)

## Nov – Members – 9

Mission awareness / Benevolence fund finalized for a church family

Youth Thanksgiving/shopping day / Drop off location for Christmas boxes / Community outreach - holiday postcards to community

Committee Nominating – Adam April , P. Jim / Budget – Cathy and Mike  
Flagpole and sign light/sensor replaced / shelving brackets in shed replaced / TV monitors and 2<sup>nd</sup> camera for sound system installed

## Dec – Members – 14

Active/inactive list updated / length to pray over prayer concerns  
Christmas play / one day Grief share - holidays

## Projected for 2024

Carpets, nursery updates, Grief share, Gutters, worship area

## TRUSTEE REPORT – 2023 (MIKE JOHNSTON)

In 2023 the trustees were Pastor Joshua Ehmke, Tom Haynes, Richard Cruz, Paul Mundy (removed 10/23 per his request) Kevin Cobb (removed 6/23 per his request) Mike Johnston (became head trustee in 10/23) and Adam Plyler (voted in as trustee 9/23)

\*\*We had some changes in our trustee positions, but we have been able to handle this with a commitment to serving God and completing the updates as listed below\*\*

### REQUIREMENTS

Code officer meeting - fire extinguishers to be checked monthly and report given to code officer at the end of the year. To begin in 1/2024 as person in charge no longer attending

### BUILDING

Single pane windows, Stained glass windows and Glass block windows installed / Foundational blocks painted black

Ceiling work in Sanctuary completed / Updates to the nursery Confidence monitors installed back of church w/ a 2<sup>nd</sup> camera

TV in nursery replaced and new one in kitchen installed

## OUTSIDE

Purchase of Leaf blower, Weed Wacker, Zero turn riding lawn mower

Purchase of Shed/garage building for the "I Am Loved" event

Purchase of Solar Lights on "Bitty's Parking Lot"

Workdays included Raking, weeding, planting mulch, decorating, hanging shelving in the shed, painting etc.

Flagpole and sign light/sensor replaced / shelving brackets in shed replaced

Plowing – Eric Sprague

## PROPOSED PROJECTS FOR 2024

Finish painting the ceiling above the stage

Install new carpets in the Sanctuary

Spruce up the worship area

## Spiritual Committee Report For The 2023 Calendar Year

The Spiritual Committee Consists Of The Deacons, Deaconesses, And The Pastors. Members Include Larry McFadden, Pastor Josh Ehmke, Liz Ehmke, John Arcadipane, Anita Calcaterra, Tim And Rachel Grant, Cathy Cettell, Pastor Jim Spiller, Denise Spiller, And April Tye.

### Duties Of The Spiritual Committee

Promoting Evangelism And Christian Growth; Ministering To The General Spiritual Growth And Well-Being Of The Church And Community;  
The Eucharistic Preparations Of The Communion Elements; Visitation To The Shut-ins, Hospitals, And Retirement/Extended Care Homes. Review Of Membership Requests And Registrations According To The Church's Constitution.

### Meetings

The Spiritual Committee Meets The Third Monday Of Each Month.  
Observation Of Communion. Our Lord's Supper Is Celebrated During The Worship Service The First Sunday Of Each Month.

### Special Events

#### Membership Classes

Adam Plyler Was Voted In As A New Member In February 2023

Celebration Of Palm Sunday And Easter Sunday

Baptisms At Bear Lake With A Full Submersion Because Of The Symbolism It Represents

Those Baptized This Summer Included:

Donivan St. George, Kelly And Jeff Potter, Mekhi Odebralski

Workdays In The Spring And Fall At The Church

Church And Church Picnic At The Ehmke's Home

I Am Loved At The Community Park In Portland, With A Great Turn Out. School Supplies, Back Packs, Clothing, Food, And Bibles Were Handed Out, And Wonderful Worship Music Throughout The Whole Day.

#### Special Speakers At The Church Included:

The Kennedy Family, Nick Pukalo, The Boys Jim Club, And Kim Buss, Who Shared About Every Child Ministry.

Shoeboxes Were Filled For Christmas And This Year PCC Was A Pick Up Zone For All Participants

Grief Share Was Taught By Carol Hussey And Sharon Post

Six Week Bible-Studies Were Taught By Pastor Josh Ehmke And Pastor Jim Spiller

Christmas Service And A Christmas Eve Service Were Held With A Children's Play Being Presented To The Congregation

Much Prayer For Our Church And Congregation Went Into All Of Our Monthly Meetings As Well As Trying To Reach Out To People In Our Community.

Respectfully Submitted

Anita Calcaterra

# 2023 PCC Sunday School & Fellowship Report

Proverbs 22:6

"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it."

Leaders: Elizabeth Ehmke, Elizabeth Haynes, Kerri Marczynski and Hailey Ehmke

The children continued to stay in the church service for worship and prayer time throughout the year. For the first half of 2023; Sunday school teachers rotated each week and came up with life lessons that were bible based. The lessons or crafts were then taken home by the children. Teachers asked the children to "teach" the lesson back to their families. The second half of 2023 teachers used the Grow Curriculum that was bought for both youth group and Sunday school.

In the month of December Hailey Ehmke and Liz Haynes worked with the Sunday school children and nursery children to put together another successful Christmas Play.

Wild West was the picnic theme for 2023. Church members showed up to the Ehmke home in stylish western attire and hats and bandanas were also supplied to all those who wanted. The picnic was such a success with everyone bringing food to share and fun filled attitudes for fellowshiping with one another. Liz Haynes and many helpers put together fun activities. Children and teens enjoyed swimming in the pond as well. Prizes were also given out.

Operation Christmas Child was again successful in 2023. Many shoeboxes were filled with toys, love and other necessities children may need and want. PCC decided to be a drop off location this year and with the help of many volunteers everything was packed and shipped on time. The name of Jesus Christ was taught to families as the boxes were delivered.

In 2024 PCC would love to see more volunteers added to the rotating schedule for Sunday School and Nursery. If interested see one of the leaders listed above. We'd love to have you!

Thank you, for your generosity in donations toward the Sunday school, operations Christmas Child and other programs throughout the year. Many thanks for all those who have helped in any way through 2023 in programs for the children. The help is very much appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Haynes

## 2023 Youth Group

On Friday March 10th 2023 Portland Congregational Church started Youth Group back since Covid at the Youth center.

With the following Leaders. Pastor Josh and Pastor Jim, Tim and Rachel Grant, Liz Haynes, Cathy Cettell , Kerri, Dylan Gross, Rich Cruz, April Tye and Adam Plyler. We have a small but core group of youth attending. We've had a Blessed year with alot of sharing and caring through each meeting. The Grow teachings are a great asset for us they include Lesson outlines and plans and activities. The Grow taught such things as Mentorship along the Same Time as Pastor was Preaching it which was a great confirmation from God. Other things taught was dealing with doubts and problems and our focus on God and being true friends to our brothers and sisters. We also Had a picnic this summer at Bear Lake which was alot of fun. We had Thanksgiving dinner that was well attended with about 20 to 25 in attendance and had Donny share a message about Living in Thanksgiving that everyone was Blessed by. The plan is to make The Thanksgiving dinner a yearly get together. Were going to the Erie Mall for the youth can gifts for there loved ones for Christmas. Looking forward to what the future holds with God's leading we know it will be a Blessing.

Respectfully Submitted

Adam Plyler

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adam Plyler". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "A".



# 2023 Financial Secretary Report

## Month-By-Month Category Analysis

From January 2023 to December 2023

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Building	40.00	30.00	40.00	30.00	40.00	
General Offerings	17380.31	14891.00	10137.50	12673.00	7628.00	22018.00
Love Offering	200.00	1000.00		25.00		
Memorial Fund			775.00	245.00	25.00	
Miscellaneous	225.00	100.00	21.00	175.00	62.00	
Missions/Camp	1660.00	1508.00	1160.00	1308.05	717.00	3646.30
Youth Ministry	70.00	45.00	45.00	45.00	75.00	40.00
Special events		75.00	130.00		10.00	
Total	19575.31	17649.00	12308.50	14501.05	8557.00	25704.30

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Building			100.00			1160.54
General Offerings	9026.26	9976.00	9541.00	17025.00	6020.50	17422.72
Love Offering	2314.00					1070.00
Memorial Fund		1000.00	525.00	225.00		
Miscellaneous			70.00		14.00	
Missions/Camp	1689.00	1000.00	1093.00	1183.00	907.41	2610.00
Youth Ministry	25.00	20.00	70.73	90.00	15.00	90.00
Special events	20.00	1020.00	560.00			
Total	13074.26	13016.00	11959.73	18523.00	6956.91	22353.26

**Portland Congregational Church**

**Balance Sheet**

As of December 31, 2023

Cash Basis

	Dec 31, 23
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
<b>Checking - Community Bank</b>	
Bank-Bethany Camp	2,930.00
Bank-Youth Group Fund	8,315.31
Bank-General Fund	606,351.19
Bank-Christian Outreach Fund	-100.00
Bank-Coffee Fund	14.00
Bank - Christian Education	1,669.45
Bank-Christmas Child Boxes Fund	935.75
Bank-Memorial Fund	
Pastor Gordon	1,340.00
Bank-Memorial Fund - Other	13,017.00
<b>Total Bank-Memorial Fund</b>	14,357.00
<b>Bank-Capital Improvement Fund</b>	
Bank-Parsonage Ceiling	639.00
Bank-Dinners Fund	3,709.71
Bank-Capital Improvement Fund - Other	11,828.58
<b>Total Bank-Capital Improvement Fund</b>	16,177.29
<b>Bank-Benevolent Fund</b>	20.00
<b>Checking - Community Bank - Other</b>	-549,585.44
<b>Total Checking - Community Bank</b>	101,084.55
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	101,084.55
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	101,084.55
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>101,084.55</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
<b>Accounts Payable</b>	
Accounts Payable	-483.70
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	-483.70
<b>Credit Cards</b>	
Credit Card	-15,025.35
<b>Total Credit Cards</b>	-15,025.35
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	-15,509.05
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	-15,509.05

**Portland Congregational Church**  
**Balance Sheet**

As of December 31, 2023

Cash Basis

	<u>Dec 31, 23</u>
<b>Equity</b>	
Unrestricted Net Assets	26,494.31
Retained Earnings	77,219.89
Net Income	12,879.40
<b>Total Equity</b>	<u>116,593.60</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<u><u>101,084.55</u></u>

# Portland Congregational Church

## Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual

February through December 2023

Cash Basis

	Feb - Dec 23	Budget	\$ Over Budget
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
<b>OFFERINGS</b>			
Special Events	187.01		
Youth Group Fund	535.73		
General Fund Offerings	141,562.32		
Memorial Offerings	2,625.00		
Christian Education	236.00		
Coffee Fund Offerings	14.00		
<b>Capital Improvement Offerings</b>			
Dinners Fund	30.00		
Capital Improvement Offerings - Other	230.00		
<b>Total Capital Improvement Offerings</b>	260.00		
Benevolence Offerings	20.00		
<b>Total OFFERINGS</b>	145,440.06		
<b>Total Income</b>	145,440.06		
<b>Gross Profit</b>	145,440.06		
<b>Expense</b>			
<b>Audio/Video, Music &amp; Tech</b>			
Music Department	1,120.44	750.00	370.44
IT/Sound Equipment	8,795.39	5,000.00	3,795.39
<b>Total Audio/Video, Music &amp; Tech</b>	9,915.83	5,750.00	4,165.83
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>			
<b>PASTORAL MINISTRY</b>			
<b>Pastor Salaries</b>			
Associate Pastor's Salary	7,245.00	9,100.00	(1,855.00)
Senior Pastor's Salary	36,615.24	44,000.00	(7,384.76)
<b>Total Pastor Salaries</b>	43,860.24	53,100.00	(9,239.76)
Mileage Reimbursement	737.95	1,000.00	(262.05)
FICA - Estimated Tax	5,734.09	6,700.00	(965.91)
<b>Total PASTORAL MINISTRY</b>	50,332.28	60,800.00	(10,467.72)
<b>LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE</b>			
<b>Ministerial Outreach</b>			
Cards (B-Day, Get Well, etc.)	55.86		
Welcome Bags (First Timers)	307.63		
Bethany Camp Missions	1,200.00		
Mid-Week Fellowships	398.79		
Coffee Time Fellowship	531.95		
Impact (School)	475.26		
Community	32.00		
<b>Total Ministerial Outreach</b>	3,001.49		
<b>Stipends</b>			
Annual CWC Covering	500.00		
Pulpit Supply	200.00	1,000.00	(800.00)
Cleaning	0.00	500.00	(500.00)
<b>Total Stipends</b>	700.00	1,500.00	(800.00)
<b>Christian Education</b>			
Adult Groups	782.77	1,000.00	(217.23)
Counseling	0.00	200.00	(200.00)
Youth Group Fund	476.71	1,000.00	(523.29)
Sunday School	1,296.36	1,000.00	296.36
Operation Christmas Child	118.58	800.00	(681.42)
<b>Total Christian Education</b>	2,674.42	4,000.00	(1,325.58)

# Portland Congregational Church Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual

February through December 2023

Cash Basis

	Feb - Dec 23	Budget	\$ Over Budget
<b>Media</b>			
Bulletins/Dev. Books/Calendars	628.53	750.00	(121.47)
<b>Total Media</b>	628.53	750.00	(121.47)
<b>Benevolence</b>	5,000.00	4,000.00	1,000.00
<b>Special Events</b>			
Egg & Scavenger Hunts	366.38		
Pinewood Derby	493.20		
Holiday	672.68		
Ceremony (Baptism, Dedication..)	858.56		
Funeral	1,609.63		
Graduation	193.96		
I Am Loved	4,664.24	5,000.00	(335.76)
Church Picnic	1,219.46	1,000.00	219.46
Special Events - Other	0.00	3,000.00	(3,000.00)
<b>Total Special Events</b>	10,078.11	9,000.00	1,078.11
<b>Total LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE</b>	22,082.55	19,250.00	2,832.55
<b>OPERATIONAL EXPENSES</b>			
Altar/Communion Supplies/Flower	958.98	750.00	208.98
<b>Maintenance</b>			
Bldg & Grounds Maint.			
Trash Pickup	634.39		
Bldg & Grounds Maint. - Other	7,316.22	4,500.00	2,816.22
<b>Total Bldg &amp; Grounds Maint.</b>	7,950.61	4,500.00	3,450.61
Equipment Maintenance / Updates	325.00	1,000.00	(675.00)
Cleaning / Kitchen Supplies	603.12	750.00	(146.88)
Maintenance - Other	0.00	4,500.00	(4,500.00)
<b>Total Maintenance</b>	8,878.73	10,750.00	(1,871.27)
<b>Utilities</b>			
Telephone & Internet Expense	880.50	1,200.00	(319.50)
Water	268.83	400.00	(131.17)
<b>Gas</b>			
Gas-Church	1,396.53		
Gas-Parsonage	272.28		
Gas - Other	0.00	3,500.00	(3,500.00)
<b>Total Gas</b>	1,668.81	3,500.00	(1,831.19)
<b>Electric</b>			
Electric-Church	2,828.53		
Electric-Parsonage	505.64		
Electric - Other	0.00	4,000.00	(4,000.00)
<b>Total Electric</b>	3,334.17	4,000.00	(665.83)
<b>Total Utilities</b>	6,152.31	9,100.00	(2,947.69)
<b>Office Expenses</b>			
Office Supplies	999.35	500.00	499.35
Copy Paper	39.99	300.00	(260.01)
<b>Accounting Consulting</b>			
Payroll Expenses	979.29		
Accounting Consulting - Other	0.00	400.00	(400.00)
<b>Total Accounting Consulting</b>	979.29	400.00	579.29
Postage and Delivery	304.99	300.00	4.99
Toner	157.53	450.00	(292.47)
<b>Total Office Expenses</b>	2,481.15	1,950.00	531.15

**Portland Congregational Church**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual**  
February through December 2023

Cash Basis

	Feb - Dec 23	Budget	\$ Over Budget
Insurance and Licenses	5,104.00	3,500.00	1,604.00
<b>Total OPERATIONAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>23,575.17</b>	<b>26,050.00</b>	<b>(2,474.83)</b>
<b>Total GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>95,990.00</b>	<b>106,100.00</b>	<b>(10,110.00)</b>
<b>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND</b>	<b>25,309.83</b>	<b>15,000.00</b>	<b>10,309.83</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>131,215.66</b>	<b>126,850.00</b>	<b>4,365.66</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>14,224.40</b>	<b>(126,850.00)</b>	<b>141,074.40</b>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>			
Other Expense			
Love Offering	1,345.00		
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>1,345.00</b>		
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>(1,345.00)</b>		
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>12,879.40</b>	<b>(126,850.00)</b>	<b>139,729.40</b>

**Portland  
Congregational  
Church**



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# **Addendum**

# Portland Congregational Church



## Officers And Committee Members 2023

**Senior Pastor**  
**Pastor Joshua Ehmke**  
716-397-8816

**Associate Pastor**  
**Pastor Jim Spiller**  
716-680-0728

### Officers

Council President  
Financial Secretary  
Assistant Financial Secretary  
Assistant Financial Secretary  
Assistant Financial Secretary  
Treasurer  
Assistant Treasurer  
Church Clerk  
Children's Church Director  
Sunday School Superintendent  
Head Usher  
Public Relations  
Worship Leader

**(Elected Annually)**  
Thomas Haynes 716-224-0668  
Shelly Williamson 716-401-1406  
Cathy Cettell 716-785-0557  
Shannon Cruz 716-785-7330  
Cathy Mills 716-410-5677  
Elizabeth Haynes 716-224-0669  
Elizabeth Ehmke 716-467-0249  
Jody Johnston 716-365-9432  
Elizabeth Ehmke 716-467-0249  
Elizabeth Haynes 716-224-0669  
John Arcadipane 716-326-2171  
Janice Hipwell 716-792-4587  
Pastor Joshua Ehmke 716-397-8816

### Spiritual Committee

Deaconess (2026)  
Deacon (2026)  
Deacon (2025)  
Deaconess (2024)  
Deaconess (2024)  
Deacon (2025)  
Deaconess (2025)  
Deaconess (2025)  
Deacon (2025)

**(Elected To 3 Year Terms)**  
Elizabeth Ehmke 716-467-0249  
John Arcadipane 716-326-2171  
Larry McFadden 716-792-9219  
Anita Calcaterra 716-410-2664  
Denise Spiller 843-532-7886  
Tim Grant 716-338-2072  
Rachel Grant 716-474-2578  
April Tye 716-467-7606  
Pastor Jim Spiller 716-680-0728

### Trustees

Trustee (2026)  
Trustee (2026)  
Trustee (2025)  
Trustee (2025)

**(Elected To 3 Year Terms)**  
Thomas Haynes 716-224-0668  
Adam Plyler 716-960-0708  
Richard Cruz 716-467-2701  
Mike Johnston 716-640-0226

### Missions Committee

Committee Member (2025)  
Committee Member (2024)  
Committee Member (2024)  
Committee Member (2025)  
Committee Member (2025)

**(Elected To 3 Year Terms)**  
Roxanne McFadden 716-792-9219  
Anita Calcaterra 716-410-2664  
Kerri Marczynski 716-410-4718  
Jody Johnston 716-365-9432  
Tonya Dunlap 716-467-3704



# Portland Congregational Church



Membership  
Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

## Active Members

John Arcadipane  
Andy Calcaterra  
Anita Calcaterra  
Kevin Cobb  
Cathy Cettell  
Richard Cruz  
Shannon Cruz  
Larry Dibble  
Tonya Dunlap  
Elizabeth Ehmke  
Pastor Joshua Ehmke  
Linda Gens  
Rachel Grant  
Tim Grant

Elizabeth Haynes  
Thomas Haynes  
Bill Hipwell  
Janice Hipwell  
Jody Johnston  
Mike Johnston  
Jim Jordan  
Ashley Kirkland  
Diane Lewis  
Kerri Marczynski  
Larry McFadden  
Roxanne McFadden  
Trina Miller  
Cathy Mills  
Robert Patterson

Roberta Patterson  
Cindy Pierce  
John Pierce  
Adam Plyler  
Deb Powell  
Tim Powell  
Michael Post  
Sharon Post  
Denise Spiller  
Pastor James Spiller  
Jason Spiller  
April Tye  
Doug Walter  
Nicole Walter  
Shelly Williamson

## Inactive Members

Bruce Chaffin  
Rick Cranston  
Kate Cranston

Barb Eberly  
Blake Ehmke  
Bill Hussey  
Carol Hussey

Scott McFadden  
Matthew Patterson  
Irving Powell

# Portland Congregational Church



## Election Ballot 2024

Position	Name	Vote
<b>Officers</b> (Elected Annually)		
Council President	Jason Spiller	<input type="checkbox"/>
Financial Secretary	Shelly Williamson	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assistant Financial Secretary	Denise Spiller	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assistant Financial Secretary	Shannon Cruz	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasurer	Cathy Cettell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assistant Treasurer	Elizabeth Ehmke	<input type="checkbox"/>
Church Clerk	Jody Johnston	<input type="checkbox"/>
Children's Church Director	Elizabeth Ehmke	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sunday School Superintendent	Elizabeth Haynes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth Leader	Adam Plyler	<input type="checkbox"/>
Head Usher	John Arcadipane	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Relations	Janice Hipwell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worship Leader	Tim Grant	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Spiritual Committee</b> (Elected To 3 Year Terms)		
Deaconess	Anita Calcaterra	<input type="checkbox"/>
Deacon	Adam Plyler	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Trustees</b> (Elected To 3 Year Terms)		
No New Candidates		<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Missions Committee</b> (Elected To 3 Year Terms)		
Committee Member	Adam Plyler	<input type="checkbox"/>

## 2024 Budget (Proposed)

	2021 Budget	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	2024 Budget
<b>Pastoral Ministry</b>	<b>\$47,500.00</b>	<b>\$47,500.00</b>	<b>\$60,800.00</b>	<b>\$62,800.00</b>
Senior Pastor's Salary:	\$40,000.00	\$42,000.00	\$44,000.00	\$46,000.00
Associate Pastor's Salary	N/A	N/A	\$9,100.00	\$9,100.00
FICA:	\$5,500.00	\$5,500.00	\$6,700.00	\$6,700.00
Mileage Reimbursement:	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
<b>Stipends</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>	<b>\$1,700.00</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>	<b>\$1,800.00</b>
Pulpit Supply:	\$1,000.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,000.00	\$800.00
Cleaning:	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
CWC Covering:	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$500.00
<b>Christian Education</b>	<b>\$3,500.00</b>	<b>\$3,500.00</b>	<b>\$4,000.00</b>	<b>\$4,700.00</b>
Sunday School:	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
Youth Group:	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
Operation Christmas Child:	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$500.00
Adult Education:	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Counseling:	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
<b>Media</b>	<b>\$750.00</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$750.00</b>	<b>\$750.00</b>
Dev. Books/Calendars:	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$750.00
Offering Envelopes:	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Benevolence</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>	<b>\$4,000.00</b>	<b>\$4,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>
<b>Special Events</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>	<b>\$7,500.00</b>	<b>\$9,000.00</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>
Church Picnic:	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
I Am Loved Event:	N/A	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Other:	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,500.00
<b>Ministry Outreach</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>\$3,500.00</b>
<b>Audio/Video, Music, And Tech</b>	<b>\$5,600.00</b>	<b>\$6,500.00</b>	<b>\$5,750.00</b>	<b>\$4,500.00</b>
Music Department	\$2,600.00	\$2,000.00	\$750.00	\$1,000.00
IT/Sound Equipment:	\$3,000.00	\$4,500.00	\$5,000.00	\$3,500.00
<b>Altar, Communion Supplies, &amp; Flowers</b>	<b>\$400.00</b>	<b>\$750.00</b>	<b>\$750.00</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Maintenance</b>	<b>\$6,400.00</b>	<b>\$6,850.00</b>	<b>\$6,250.00</b>	<b>\$6,750.00</b>
Building & Grounds Maintenance:	\$5,500.00	\$5,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$5,000.00
Equipment Maintenance & Updates:	\$500.00	\$750.00	\$1,000.00	\$750.00
Janitorial & Kitchen Supplies:	\$400.00	\$600.00	\$750.00	\$1,000.00
<b>Utilities</b>	<b>\$8,600.00</b>	<b>\$9,950.00</b>	<b>\$9,200.00</b>	<b>\$8,200.00</b>
Telephone & Internet:	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
Water:	\$400.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Gas:	\$3,500.00	\$3,750.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,000.00
Electric:	\$3,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,000.00	\$3,500.00
<b>Office Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,900.00</b>	<b>\$1,450.00</b>	<b>\$1,950.00</b>	<b>\$3,350.00</b>
Payroll & Accounting:	\$500.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,500.00
Postage & Delivery:	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$350.00
Copy Paper:	\$400.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Toner:	\$700.00	\$450.00	\$450.00	\$700.00
Office Supplies:	N/A	N/A	\$500.00	\$500.00
<b>Insurance &amp; Licenses</b>	<b>\$3,500.00</b>	<b>\$3,500.00</b>	<b>\$3,500.00</b>	<b>\$3,500.00</b>
<b>Capital Improvement</b>	<b>\$12,000.00</b>	<b>\$12,000.00</b>	<b>\$15,000.00</b>	<b>\$15,000.00</b>
<b>Total General Fund</b>	<b>\$95,150.00</b>	<b>\$106,200.00</b>	<b>\$122,450.00</b>	<b>\$130,850.00</b>



OUR LORD'S HISTORIC VISION  
FOR  
THE PORTLAND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

(RECEIVED 1811 \ RECOVERED 1999)

TO GATHER TOGETHER And EDIFY "THE LORD'S PEOPLE"  
AND

TO INTRODUCE "THE UNSAVED PEOPLE" IN ...  
Our COMMUNITY,  
Our COUNTY,  
Our COUNTRY,  
And  
Our GLOBAL COMMUNITY

To

THE TRIUNE, LOVING LORD GOD OF THE UNIVERSE;  
And Bring Them Into  
AN INTIMATE, LIFE-GIVING RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM,

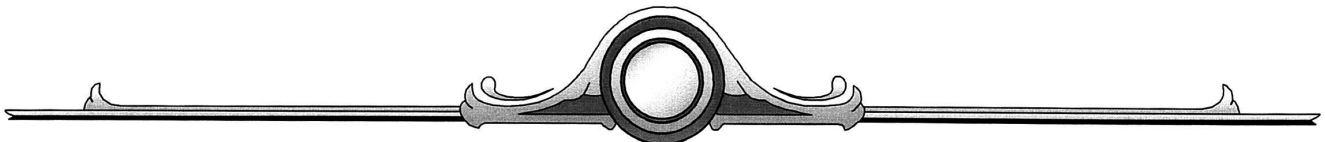
THROUGH

- Meaningful, Spiritual PRAISE And WORSHIP
- The Systematic Preaching And Teaching Of THE WORD
- Holy Spirit Led EVANGELIZING of THE WORLD
- The Heart-Felt Service Of WORKING Together As Believers  
To Build "HIS KINGDOM" On Earth, "AS IT IS IN HEAVEN";

WHILE WE LEARN To Prayerfully WAIT With HOLINESS And INTEGRITY OF HEART,  
For CHRIST'S Glorious And Imminent RETURN!

AND ALSO TO PROMOTE, AS ORDERED BY OUR LORD ...

- SPIRITUAL UNITY – Among All Those Who Love The LORD Christ
- SERVICE – For The Improvement Of Our Community And World
- SAFE HAVEN – For The Hurting, Helpless And Hungry !!!



# SCRIPTURES SUPPORTING THE P. C. C. VISION

1. HEBREWS 10:24, 25 “TO GATHER TOGETHER *THE LORD’S PEOPLE*”

“Let us consider how we may spur on another on toward *LOVE* and *GOOD DEEDS*. Let us NOT give up *MEETING TOGETHER*, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us *ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER* and all the more as you see The Day (*Of The Lord’s Return*) Approaching!”

2. I THESS. 5:11 “TO EDIFY (*BUILD UP, ENCOURAGE, COMFORT*) ONE ANOTHER”

“Wherefore Comfort Yourselves Together And Edify (*Build Up*) One Another!”

ALSO

ROMANS 14:19

“Let Us Therefore Follow After The Things Which Make For Peace, And The Things Wherewith One May Edify Another!”

3. ACTS 1:8 “TO INTRODUCE THE UNSAVED... TO OUR LOVING LORD”

“But you will receive *POWER* when the Holy Ghost (Spirit) comes you and you will be my WITNESSES (Greek - *martos* \ martyrs - laying down your lives) in *JERUSALEM*, and in all *JUDEA* and *SAMARIA*, and to *THE ENDS OF THE EARTH*.”

NOTE: A GEOGRAPHICAL EXPANSIONIST VIEW – It starts for YOU, at your home town (*Jerusalem*), and moves in ever increasing circles outward to your state... (*Judea*), your neighboring states (*Samaria*) and ultimately to other countries and even to the most remote areas of the world (*to the uttermost parts of the earth*) !

4. JOHN 4:23, 24 “THROUGH SPIRITUAL PRAISE AND *WORSHIP*”

“... True Worshipers will *WORSHIP* The Father *IN* (their) *SPIRIT* and *IN TRUTH*, for *THEY* are the kind of worshipers The Father seeks! God is a spirit, and His worshipers must *WORSHIP* Him *IN SPIRIT* and *IN TRUTH*.”

5. ACTS 2:42 “THROUGH SYSTEMATIC PREACHING & TEACHING OF THE WORD”

“And they devoted themselves to THE APOSTLE’S TEACHING...”

6. COL. 3:23, 24 “THROUGH THE HEART-FELT SERVICE OF *WORKING TOGETHER* TO BUILD HIS KINGDOM ON EARTH, AS IT IS IN HEAVEN!”

“Whatever you do, WORK at it with ALL your heart, as WORKING for LORD, NOT for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the LORD as a reward. It Is The LORD CHRIST You Are SERVING!”

7. I THESS. 5:17 “TO LEARN PRAYERFULLY”

“PRAY Without Ceasing!”

8. HEBREWS 12:14 “TO WAIT IN HOLINESS...”

“PURSUE Peace with all men And HOLINESS, WITHOUT WHICH, No One Will See The LORD!”

9. PROVERBS 11:3 “TO WAIT IN INTEGRITY,”

“The INTEGRITY Of THE UPRIGHT Will Guide Them, But The PERVERSITY Of THE UNFAITHFUL Will Destroy Them!”

10. JOHN 17:20, 21 “TO PROMOTE SPIRITUAL UNITY” —  
Among ALL Those Who Love The LORD !

CHRIST’S HIGH PRIESTLY PRAYER

“I pray also for those who WILL believe in me through their message, that all of them (us) may be ONE, Father, just as You are in Me and I am in You... *so that the world may believe that You sent Me !*”

ALSO

- PSALM 133:1-3 “TO PROMOTE SPIRITUAL UNITY” — Cont.

“Behold, how GOOD and how PLEASANT it is for brethren to DWELL TOGETHER In UNITY ! For THERE (*in the place of unity*) The LORD COMMANDED THE BLESSING – Life Evermore !”

11. JER. 29:7 “TO PROMOTE SERVICE —  
For The Improvement Of Our Community And World !

“Seek *THE PEACE (and prosperity)* of the city where I have caused you to be ... and pray to The LORD for it; for *IN ITS PEACE YOU* shall have peace!”

12. LEV. 19:10 “TO PROVIDE A SAFE HAVEN” —  
For The Hurting, Helpless And Hungry !

“You shall NOT glean your vineyard, NOR shall you gather EVERY GRAPE; (*But Instead*) you shall leave them for THE STRANGER among you; for I AM The LORD, Your God!” (Remember – The O. T. Book Of *RUTH* !)

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# OUR CHURCH COVENANT

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**H**aving been led, as we believe, by THE SPIRIT OF GOD, to receive the LORD JESUS CHRIST as our SAVIOR, and on the profession of our faith, and having been baptized in the Name of the FATHER, SON and HOLY SPIRIT, we do now in the presence of GOD, His holy angels, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully ENTER INTO COVENANT with THE LORD and with one another, as ONE in THE BODY OF CHRIST.

*WE ENGAGE, therefore, by the help of the HOLY SPIRIT, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church, in knowledge, holiness and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of its ministry, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel throughout all nations.*

*WE ALSO ENGAGE to maintain family and personal devotions, to give our children a Christian Education and to seek the salvation of our loved ones and friends.*

*WE ENGAGE to be just in all our dealings, exemplary in all of our conduct and to walk discreetly in the world.*

*WE FURTHER ENGAGE to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the rules of our Savior to secure it without delay.*

*WE MOREOVER ENGAGE that when we remove from this place, we will, as soon as possible, unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of this COVENANT and the principles of THE WORD OF GOD."*

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**CHALLENGING AND INSPIRING COMMANDS TO LIVE BY,  
(From Our Church CONSTITUTION And BYLAWS)!**

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