

# First Presbyterian Church of Sebastian

## ANNUAL REPORT 2024~2025





**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SEBASTIAN**  
**2025 SESSION & TEAMS**  
 1405 LOUISIANA AVENUE, SEBASTIAN, FL 32958 772-589-5656  
 WWW.WELOVEFIRST.ORG FACEBOOK.COM/WELOVEFIRSTSEBASTIAN



*"To Know Christ and to Make Christ Known"*



**Jane Capo**  
Chair: Nom. Com Clerk



**Mary Keogh**  
Chair: Worship Christian Ed.



**Sharon Layman**  
Worship



**E. Fred Augenstein**  
Chair: Outreach



**Roger Carey**  
Outreach



**Susan Mann**  
Chair: Stew./Finance Admin., Treasurer, Thrift Shop Dir.



**Richard Grant**  
Chair: Building & Grounds



**Brian Banks**  
Building & Grounds



**Dale Wray**  
Building & Grounds



**Doris Brown**  
Chair: Cong. Life. Nom. Com.



**Joan Kraftchak**  
Cong. Life



**Kathy Landers**  
Cong. Life Choir Asst.

NAME	TEAM	EMAIL	TELEPHONE
E. Fred Augenstein	Chair: Outreach	augy@comcast.net	772-538-3923
Brian Banks	Building & Grounds	brian.banks@sbcglobal.net	860-874-2372
Doris Brown	Chair: Cong. Life	mittmitt764@gmail.com	772-581-9781
Jane Capo	Chair: Nom. Committee Clerk	janiebirdc@aol.com	772-571-3897
Roger Carey	Outreach	wiltonfish@gmail.com	772-208-0158
Richard Grant	Chair: Building & Grounds	beaktrim1947@att.net	772-664-4665
Mary Keogh	Chair: Worship	keogh38@gmail.com	772-332-5205
Joan Kraftchak	Congregational Life	bjlk1@yahoo.com	772-321-7467
Kathy Landers	Cong. Life, Choir Asst.	475kblsono@gmail.com	207-408-8359
Sharon Layman	Worship	sharonbeachgal@aol.com	540-246-4480
Susan Mann	Chair: Steward./Finance Admin., Treasurer, Thrift Shop Director	susannmann@valornet.com	936-661-0992
Dale Wray	Building & Grounds	dal4545@aol.com	314-308-4039

**Note: Outreach oversees Mission, Worship Team oversees Christian Education (CE or Christian Ed.)**

## 2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT

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2	Pastor's Report & Terms of Call *Terms of Call will be distributed at the annual meeting. <b>NOTE:</b> <i>These terms are in a form from the Presbytery, recommended by the session but are the decision of the congregation. The full report will be distributed at the Congregational Meeting on April 6, 2025.</i>
3	Administration (incl. Building & Grounds)
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8	Worship & Christian Education

### PASTOR'S REPORT

Dear First Family and Friends,

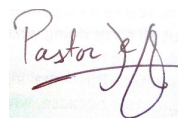
How grateful I am to the Lord for leading us, caring for us, and blessing us this last year. How grateful I am to you and your receptiveness to my ministry. How grateful I am to the session and the staff, always reliable and helpful. I give a "call out" of thanksgiving this year to our Clerk of Session, Jane Capo, and our Treasurer/Thrift Shop Coordinator, Susan Mann.

We have had a special ministry this year in terms of funerals and memorial services. While a natural response to each is a sense of portent and loss, it is a grace to understand the intimacy and privilege of being with individuals and their families as they drift to sleep here so as to awake in heaven. The preciousness of each person really comes home in these times. Doris Brown and her "crew" have been gracious in taking on each reception.

This year has been different for me in that I've dealt with bypass surgery and I've been pressed into more service in the presbytery than at any other time in my ministry. I appreciate that I feel right normal and that I can be supportive of the presbytery that has been so supportive of me (and us).

The session verse for the year sets a good goal for the year ahead. *Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances.* I Thessalonians 5:16

In Christ,



*"Graduating" Class of 2024-2025: Thanks be to God for their Life and Witness*



Patricia Adkins  
Ellie Gregory  
Joan Giltinan  
Mona Young  
James Kemman  
Richard Nafziger

June Atta  
Bebe Rowe  
John Atta  
Lucy Palmatory  
Roxie Hall  
Dale Kuckenbecker

Irv Rose  
Dwight Campbell  
Margaret Hislop  
John Coard  
Dave Pierson

## 2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT

### **Name of Ministry Team: Administration (includes Building and Grounds)**

*Mission of Ministry Team:* Oversees Building and Grounds, insurance, and office. To keep the church and grounds in good condition

*Members of Ministry Team:* Ron Kelly (Chair), Susan Mann, Charlie Costello, Mike Jakubowicz, Richard Grant and Rev. Jeff Wood.

*Our one to three best accomplishments this past year:*

1. Installed signs with lights at Main Street
2. Cleaned and painted Steeple.
3. Ongoing maintenance of Church and grounds.

*Our one to three key goals for the coming year:*

1. Install new emergency exit behind choir.
2. Install handicap door opener on restroom doors.
3. Install vanity partition in Gathering Room.

### **Name of Ministry Team: Congregational Life**

*Mission of Ministry Team:* To over see the activities of the church for the congregation, send to out cards to the ill & prepare and serve refreshments after the memorial services

*Members of Ministry Team:* Linda Banks, Doris Brown, Betty Berry, Gloria Bowen, Irene Harpley, Susan Heitmeyer, Mary Keogh, Joan Kraftchak, Kathy Landers, Sharon Layman, Karen Pike, Michelle Wray

*Our one to three best accomplishments this past year:*

1. Memorial Receptions
2. Church Picnic
3. Advent Dinner

*Our one to three key goals for the coming year:*

1. Plan and carryout a fun trip for those who wish to go
2. Plan & serve at the church picnic
3. Try to formulate a plan to take care of calling those members who are ill or unable to get to church services and events

### **Name of Ministry Team: Music Ministry**

*Mission of Ministry Team:* To Provide the Congregation with singing support for all hymns and responses. To promote Choir/Choral singing for Introits, Anthems and Special Occasions. To create a cohesive group which meets regularly, promoting values and practices of our church and to attract new congregational members.



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*Members of Ministry Team:* Pastor Jeff, Music Director-Rochelle Sallee, Choir, and AV Team

*Our one to three best accomplishments this past year:*

1. 2024 brought some young performers on the piano, a Brass Ensemble for Easter, as well as the Youth Choir .
2. This year we have faced the passing of a choir member, but are delighted to have Kay Block and Kathy Morrison. Many choir members had absences due to health and family issues.



*Our one to three key goals for the coming year:*

1. We all step up, and sing or play with Joy each week.
2. Implement new ideas, such as videos, or CD orchestras are already under way.
3. We hope that an Advent Concert will be possible in late 2025.

***Name of Ministry Team: Nominating Committee***

*Mission of Ministry Team:* With prayer and reflection, select eligible candidates to serve as Elders on the Session as well as serving the church community in all aspects of faith; select candidates from the congregation to serve as Members-At-Large on the Nominating Committee

*Members of Ministry Team:* Jane Capo (Chair), Doris Brown (Vice Chair), Members at Large ML Crawford, Sue Heitmeyer, and Karen Pike; Sally Clark (PW) and Mary Keogh (Choir)

*Our one to three best accomplishments this past year:*

1. The following slate was presented for the Class of 2027 and elected by the Congregation at the Congregational Meeting held on 9/1/2024: Brian Banks, Sally Clark, Mary Keogh, Joan Kraftchak. Sally had to withdraw from service due to health concerns, and the Committee re-convened and presented Dale Wray as a candidate to fill the vacancy (elected 12/22/24).
2. 2025 Nominating Committee Members: Doris Brown, Chair; Mary Keogh, Vice-Chair; Members-at-Large ML Crawford, Sue Heitmeyer, and Karen Pike; Sally Clark (PW) and Choir Representative (to be determined).

*Our one to three key goals for the coming year:*

1. Continue efforts to fulfill mission (above)

***Name of Ministry Team: Outreach/Missions***

*Mission of Ministry Team:* To show the love of Christ to others both in our church and beyond its walls through service and financial support.

*Members of Ministry Team:* E. Fred Augenstein, Roger Carey, Kim Hislop, Greg Plummer, Brian Banks (Car Show), Kathy Landers, Wilma Kaelin



## 2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT

### *Our one to three best accomplishments this past year:*

1. Our Blessing of The Pets Event, Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Campaign, Angel Tree Christmas Gifts, Souper Bowl initiative, Ecumenical Food Pantry, and the 2025 Senior EXPO.
2. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Antique Car, Truck, and Bike Show with over 100 entries and good attendance, many visitors in our Gathering Room & Sanctuary for the first time.
3. The establishment of our Thrift Store as a part of the Mural Trail Program.
4. Ongoing Marketing, Advertising, and Public Relations promoting attendance on Sundays, to our Pastor's Bible Study, Thrift Store, and Special Occasions (Christmas Week and Easter)

### *Our one to three key goals for the coming year:*

1. Continue to concentrate on more events including our Blessing of The Pets, Our Annual Antique Car Show & soon hosting of the Florida Faith Alliance Presentation.
2. Continue Lenten and other Potluck opportunities with other Ministry Teams.
3. Seek to restart our local Mission donations if the funds being generated allow for that.

### **Name of Ministry Team: Session**

**Mission of Ministry Team:** To provide that the Word of God may be truly preached and heard, that the Sacraments may be rightly administered and received, and to nurture the covenant community of disciples of Christ.

### **Members of Ministry Team:**

Class of 2024 Jane Capo, Ron Kelly, Joan Kraftchak, Cornelia Mills

Class of 2025 Roger Carey, Richard Grant, Susan Mann, George Chamberlin/Jane Capo

Class of 2026 Fred Augenstein, Doris Brown, Kathy Landers, Sharon Layman

### *Our one to three best accomplishments this past year:*

1. Facilitated visits from Dr. Cheryl Carson from Presbytery for LEAP Initiative (Listening- Exploring-Acting- Participating) discussions which led to School Backpack project and community outreach through the Mural Trail.
2. Made improvements in the Sanctuary audio system and hearing assistance.
3. Approved the Kindness Rock Garden facilitated by Michelle Wray, now in place in front of the Sanctuary

### *Our one to three key goals for the coming year:*

1. Continue to offer a variety of worship and fellowship opportunities
2. Increase prayer with others, including return to having elders available to pray with individuals after Sunday worship on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month (suspended during COVID).



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<b>Prior Active Members</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>Persons with disabilities:</b>	
		Hearing	5
<b>Gains</b>	<b>6</b>	Sight Impairment	6
Professions & Reaffirmations	5	Mobility Impairment	20
Certificate Gain	1	Other impairment	20
<b>Total Gains</b>	<b>6</b>		
		<b>Racial/Ethnic</b>	
<b>Losses</b>		Asian/Pacific Islander/S. Asian	0
Certificate	0	Black/African American/African	1
Deaths	10	Middle Eastern/North African	0
Deleted for Other Reason	21	Hispanic/Latino	0
<b>Total Losses</b>	<b>31</b>	Native American/Indigenous	0
<b>Total Ending Active Members</b>	<b>135</b>	White	134
		Multi-Racial	0
<b>Baptisms</b>	<b>0</b>		
<b>Confirmations</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Financial Data:</b>	
		Income:	\$246,446
<b>Average Weekly Worship Attendance</b>	<b>95</b>	Budgeted Expenses:	\$316,487
Friends of Congregation	40	<b>Receipts</b>	
Ruling Elders	12	Regular Contributions	\$355,888.00
Do you have Deacons	NO	Capital Building Fund	\$6912.00
		Investment Income	\$185.00
<b>Gender Distribution</b>		Bequests	0
Female Members	90	Other Income	\$60,202.00
Male Members	45	Subsidy or Aid	\$3000.00
		<b>Expenditures</b>	
<b>Age Distribution</b>		Local Program	\$387,205.00
26-40	7	Local Mission	\$21,978.00
41-55	3	Capital Expenditures	\$16,989.00
56-70	40	Investment Expenditures	0
Over 70	85	Per Capita Apprt.	\$3192.00
		Other Mission	\$1000.00



## 2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT

### **Name of Ministry Team: Stewardship and Finance**

*Mission of Ministry Team:* Educate the congregation about stewardship, run a stewardship campaign, and supervise financial procedures and reports.

*Members of Ministry Team:* Susan Mann, Ron Kelly and Sharon Layman.

*Our one to three best accomplishments this past year:*

1. Continued to provide informative Financial Reports to Session, Pastor & Teams.
2. Worked to reduce expenses to make up for the lost revenue.
3. Kept members better informed by publishing monthly financial data in the Bulletin.

*Our one to three key goals for the coming year:*

1. Continue to provide informative Financial Reports to Session, Pastor & Teams.
2. Continue to publish financial information monthly in the Bulletin
3. Increase email communication with Donors regarding financial related matters.

**NOTE: The Balance Sheet and Budget to be handed out at the meeting due to the fiscal end of year timing with the congregational meeting against Palm Sunday and Easter.**

### **Name of Ministry Team: Thrift Shop**

*Mission of Ministry Team:* To Support the community by making available low-cost items for all and especially those who financially need low-cost items. To support the church by positively engaging the public for the church and by raising money for our church mission.



*Members of Ministry Team:* There are approximately 12 volunteers and 4 substitutes, who are members of the church, working together with Pastor Jeff Wood and Susan Mann moderating efforts.

*Our one to three best accomplishments this past year:*

1. Forward donations that we cannot sell to the Mission in Fellsmere or HALO Animal Shelter.
2. Provide information on the Church and its Missions to Shoppers.
3. Maintain Shopper's interest by rotating and purging merchandise.

*Our one to three key goals for the coming year:*

1. Continue to rotate and purge inventory to maintain the interest of customers.
2. Continue to provide information about the Church and its Missions to the Community.
3. Support the community by providing affordable or free merchandise.

## 2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT

### ***Name of Ministry Team: Worship/Christian Education***

***Mission of Ministry Team:*** To facilitate and foster the worship of God through His Son, Jesus Christ, under the direction of the Holy Spirit and to facilitate the understanding of God's word through preaching, Bible Study and educational opportunities.

***Members of Ministry Team:*** Mary Keogh, Chair, Sharon Layman, Co-chair, Cornelia Mills, Carol Wise, Bonnie Merritt, Kathy Landers, Sally Clark, Joyce Anderson, Diane Cooper, Karen Rose, Rev. Wood and Rochelle Sallee

***Our one to three best accomplishments this past year:***

1. New chairs for the Sanctuary
2. Replacing live floral bouquet with silk flowers due to increase in cost
3. Bringing back Greeters on Sunday Morning

***Our one to three key goals for the coming year:***

1. Enhance window treatments in rear of sanctuary
2. A Retreat with a speaker
3. Add new team members



***Vision Statement: To know Christ and to make Christ known***

1405 Louisiana Ave., Sebastian FL 32958  
Email: [Office@WeLoveFirst.org](mailto:Office@WeLoveFirst.org) Phone: 772-589-5656  
[www.WeLoveFirst.org](http://www.WeLoveFirst.org) [Facebook.com/WeLoveFirstSebastian](https://www.facebook.com/WeLoveFirstSebastian)