



PUMC IN MISSION

“We’re glad this church needs YOU! We’re in mission together!”

Stewardship 2023 “...on earth as it is in heaven...”

By Dick Stadel

As you may remember, last fall the PUMC Finance Committee chose a portion of the Lord’s Prayer as the theme for our Stewardship 2023 Campaign. We felt that “...on earth as it is in heaven...” reflects what we are striving for here at PUMC through our various mission and outreach activities.

Our campaign ended on November 6, 2022. Since then, we have received a few more Estimate of Giving cards and we wanted to

give you an update on the results of the campaign.

As of January 24, 2023, 104 family units plan to donate to the Operating Fund a combined total of \$252,816.

For comparison, last year 92 family units planned to donate a combined total of \$228,648.

Also, as of that date, 76 family units plan to donate to the Building Fund a combined total of \$65,524.

For comparison, last year 64 family units planned to donate a combined total of \$54,714.

The PUMC Finance Committee thanks everyone who has submitted an Estimate of Giving card, letting us know that you plan to help make life here on earth more like it is in heaven.

You can still submit an estimate of giving for the rest for this year by contacting the church office or financial secretary.

Baked Goods to Fund Youth Activities

Be sure to pick up an order form (or two!) for homemade scones and English muffin bread, and at the same time help out the youth of our church.

The bakery fundraiser is the brainchild of Abby Walker, bakery chef extraordinaire, who is lending her talents to the cause.

Order forms are in the circle room (or see Margie Walker, Christian education and youth director).

Scones include classic, blueberry-lemon, chocolate chip, and cranberry-orange. They are \$2 each, six for \$10, or a dozen for \$15, and a loaf

of English muffin bread is \$5. Please make checks payable to PUMC, with “scones,” or “bread” in the memo line, and return to Margie.



Painesville U.M.C. Youth Group
Homemade English Muffin Bread Fundraiser

Orders are due by Sunday, March 19, at noon. Pick up your order on Sunday, April 2, between 8:00 and 11:30 a.m.

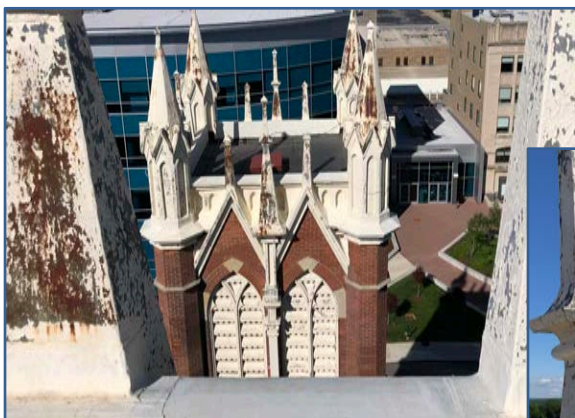
You may pay with your order or at pick-up. Deliciousness awaits!

Trustee Update

By Josh Strickland

With winter fully upon us, the trustees have been busy laying the groundwork to solidify contractors and plans to begin work on the church tower pinnacles/spires as well as the louvers and the west tower stained glass windows. All are in need of substantial repair.

The pinnacle/louver work will be undertaken by Gabor, the same contractor that did the cleaning, repair, and sealing of the exterior brick on the church from 2017 to 2019. We are confident in their ability to do this work and restore the pinnacles and louvers to good condition. That work will begin when the weather breaks.

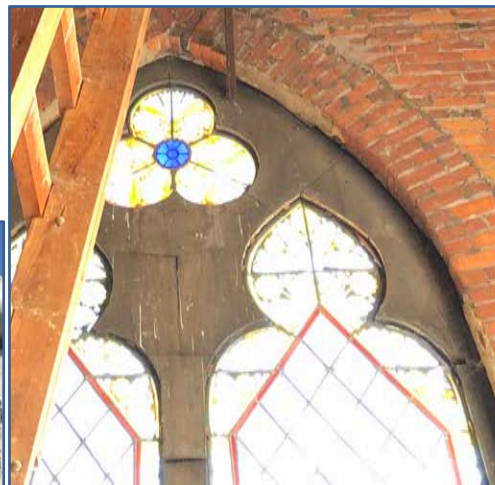


As is clear in the photos above and right, the pinnacles on the towers are in sorry condition and in need of some repair and painting.



As I reported to the congregation in the fall, the west tower stained glass windows are also in need of significant repair. The trustees have selected Whitney Stained Glass out of Cleveland to undertake this work. They will completely remove both tower windows and repair them to better than their original condition. This work should begin in the spring.

Both projects should be completed by the sesquicentennial celebration in October 2023. The trustees continue to work on maintenance issues as they come up. Let any of us know if you see anything that needs some help!



The photo above shows the stained glass in the west tower, which will be removed, repaired, and replaced this spring.

White Gift Gifting

A little over \$1,000 was raised during White Gift celebration on January 8, the first event in the Sesquicentennial Year Celebration events. These monetary donations were distributed evenly to the food pantry, Hope Chest, and the pastor's discretionary fund. Lots of items for the food pantry and for Hope Chest were also given.

In addition, many people indicated their willingness to serve in volunteer capacities at the church, ranging from singing in the choir to teaching Sunday school to praying for others.

If you have talents you would like to share with your church family, pick up and fill out a form in the circle room on the volunteer sign-up table, or let the office know. There are so many ways to give, and in giving you also receive.

2022: All's Well That Ends Well . . . but . . .

By Stacey Rodgers

As PUMC kicks off 2023, now is a really good time to reflect on the past year and set goals for the new year.

When comparing 12/31/2022 to 12/31/2021, note in the Operating Fund chart (below, left) that, while we brought in more income throughout the year, our expenses exceeded our income; thus we show an operating loss for 2022.

A big component of the increase in income from 2022 to 2023 has been additional funds received in 2022 through a year-end, unrestricted estate gift (one-time gift) by a former member of the church, Phyllis Bailley. Because of this estate gift we were able to then pay our annual apportion-

ments to the conference in full—something we've not been able to do for several years.

While grateful for that gift, we cannot rely on that type of contribution going forward into 2023 and beyond.

The Building Fund (see the chart below, right) also brought in more income in 2022 than 2021. This was in large part due to the balance of the Bailey estate gift, after apportionments had been paid from it. You will also note the increase in expenses in 2022 as the trustees continued to tackle some major repairs, maintenance, and replacements.

This congregation has been blessed with unique one-time

influxes of additional funds (Payroll Protection Plan monies for two years, estate gifts, and generous building fund gifts). We are so grateful to have received all of these!

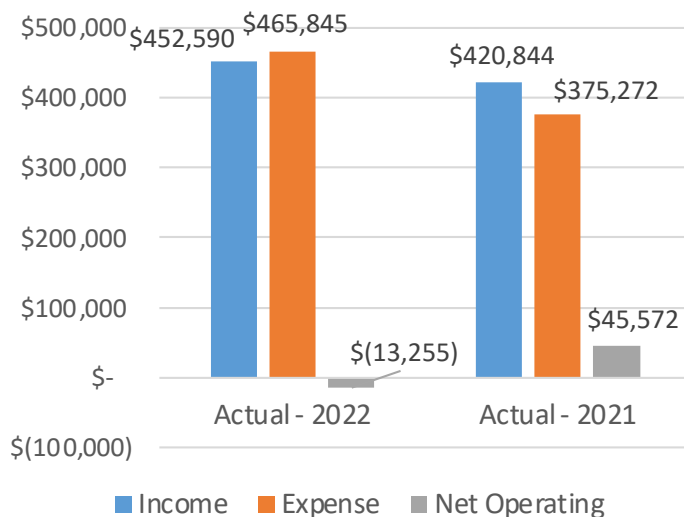
But, while these type of gifts might continue to flow in, we also want to ensure we are fiscally responsible and not reliant on occasional gifts to fund our day-to-day operations.

In 2023, the finance committee continues to be committed to ensuring we operate in a balanced and transparent way.

We continue to strive to minimize operating losses and focus on the stability we have been able to achieve in the last few years.

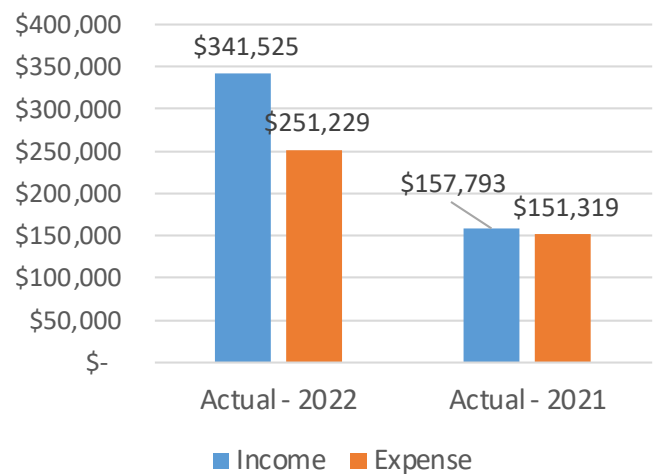
Operating Fund

Year-to-Date Comparison as of 12/31/22



Building Fund

Year-to-Date Comparison as of 12/31/22



PUMC Celebrates 150 Years in Our Building

By Kris Firth

Sesquicentennial activities have begun for 2023! In January we experienced the reoccurrence of the White Gift service during Epiphany (see page 2), and during February love and marriage has been celebrated.

In March, the church will focus on baptism and will celebrate baptisms with a service of renewal during worship on March 12. If you have not been baptized and would like to take this opportunity to do so during this time, please contact the church office by February 26 so we can include you in the program.

April will feature confirmation. The current class of confirmands will be introduced to the congregation April 2, and the confirmation ceremony will be April 30.

May is always a busy month, and the Sesquicentennial Committee has exciting plans for two historical reenactments at the church. A Suffragist Parlor Talk reenactment (6 p.m.) and dinner (7:30 p.m.) will be held Friday, May 12 in conjunction with the Downtown Painesville Organization (DPO) and the Lake County History Center.

Tickets (\$25 per person or \$20 for student/youth) will soon be available at the DPO website or from the church. Reservations



Above: Dalene and Van Kelly, married 51 years, cut the wedding cake after the 8:30 service February 12.

Below: One of the Sesquicentennial banners hung around the Painesville square.



are due by April 21, but space is limited to 120.

A reenactment of Rev. Olympia Brown will then be held on Sunday, May 14. Brown was a suffragist who lectured at the Methodist Episcopal Church, as our church was originally known, in May 1885.



The Rev. Olympia Brown (photo: Wikipedia)

June 11 is Music Sunday, when you can enjoy performances by some of the choral and instrumental groups at the church.

On July 9, the church will celebrate the legacy families of PUMC—the successive generations who have called PUMC their worship home.

In August, missions will be the focus, particularly on August 13, when the church will celebrate Mission Sunday. It is also the date of the annual church picnic.

More details will follow as these events approach.