



MOUNT PLEASANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
**2023 ANNUAL REPORT**



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# INTRODUCTION



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

You have in your hands a short reflection of everything Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church could achieve in partnership with people – people like you – who believe that what we do through our ministries is life-changing to many people. We appreciate you and your partnership in ministry!

I often try to calculate how many lives have been changed here at MPPC.

Our church buildings have been on this site for many years. Some of the years were during the Civil War, when it served as a hospital where wounded soldiers were taken care of. There was a time when it served as a school, affirming the hope that was granted to freed slaves. For the longest time, though, this has been a place of worship.

I'm thinking about all the feet entering our doors to worship in the sanctuary space. How many people heard the Good News of God proclaimed; shared in worship with other believers, how many lives in peril found a sanctuary here!

We continue our ministries, as we enter another rough patch of transitions in our history. Thank you that you live your faith here at MPPC. Thank you for remaining non-anxious on the choppy waters!

My prayer is that, holding this report of last year's ministries, we will all hear the voice of Jesus, saying, *"Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?"* (Mark 4:40).

Sincerely,

**Rev. Dr. Danie de Beer**  
*Interim Pastor & Head of Staff*

MPPC Friends and Family,



Overall, 2023 was a great year at MPPC! We formed a Pastor Nominating Committee to officially kick off the search for a new Senior Pastor, we hired a wonderful Youth Director who started in early January 2024 and is already making a huge difference in the life of the MPPC young people, and all of wonderful programs are in full swing after a couple of years of recovering from Covid. The church is on the up trend in almost every category. Just come to any service and you can see a vibrant congregation with all generations being well represented!

On the financial front 2023 marked a turning point in the churches finances where we reversed a several year trend of decreased commitments and decreased giving. Total giving for 2023 came in at \$1,922,125, up from \$1,902,252 in 2022. At the February, meeting the Session approved an Expense Budget of \$2,203,534 based on anticipated overall giving of \$2,050,000 – in order to bridge most of shortfall the remaining \$129,542 of Employee Retention Tax Credit monies will be transferred from the Temporarily Restricted Funds account. There is still a small shortfall, which is not ideal, but every ministry team was asked to keep 2024 proposed expenses at the 2023 actual expenditure level. This was a very difficult discussion, but the session members handled it with grace, tact, prayer, and love!

The future is bright at Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church so thank you for all of your support throughout the years in making this a vibrant, caring, & loving community. As we enter into 2024 please prayerfully consider volunteering your time and/or talents at one of the many activities that are regularly going on at MPPC!

If you haven't provided a financial commitment to the church then please prayerfully consider an official commitment! If you have financial committed to the church then THANK YOU – those commitments are what allow us to plan for all of the wonderful programs, missions, staff and ministries in the coming year!

All the best,

**Trey Lucy**  
*Chair of the Finance & Stewardship Committee,  
2023/2024*



# WORSHIP & MUSIC

As a faith community at MPPC, we come together on Sunday mornings and throughout the year to worship God. We celebrate, praise, and glorify God for all He is and for what He has done for us through preaching, scripture, hymns, and songs. We experience God's presence with us as we are unified in the Body of Jesus Christ. Worship transforms us to a lifestyle of loving God and sharing God's love with others.



Adult, Youth & Children's  
Choirs, Handbell &  
Instrumental Ensembles,  
and Fellowship Band



Organ, 7 Pianos,  
Harpsichord, Fellowship  
Band Instruments &  
Choir Robe Maintenance



Contract Singers, Guest  
Musicians & Guest  
Preachers



Communion  
& Special  
Worship Services



Seasonal  
Decorating  
& Sanctuary  
Flowers



Audio/Visual  
& Livestreaming



Music, Copyright  
Licenses &  
Worship Service  
Supplies

*Worship & Music 2023 Budgeted Expenses: \$76,633*

*Worship & Music 2023 Actual Expenses: \$66,258*

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

We provide many and varied opportunities for members of all ages to know God, grow in their personal relationship to Jesus Christ, live out their faith, and to serve in the world in which they live.



- Sunday School for all ages
- Youth Ministry
- Lenten Kickoff and small groups
- Rally Day
- Teacher/Leader/ Small group curriculum and resources
- Fall Festival
- Advent Workshop and Wreath Making
- Vacation Bible School
- Sunday Night Live programming
- Presbyterian Women and Women's Retreat
- Men's Retreat
- Confirmation



- 2nd/3rd grade Bibles
- 3rd grade worship
- Middle School/ High School retreats, conferences and trips
- Nursey/Childcare
- AV equipment and resources
- Midweek studies and groups
- Youth Prayer breakfasts
- Children in Worship
- Children's Mission Activities



- Wednesday's KIDSROCK Program
- Children, Youth, Adult Faith Formation Ministry Teams
- Kid's Praise
- Children's Fun Faith Fridays
- Children's Movie Night
- Sunday Night Youth Group
- Adult Third Act Meetings
- Theologue Study Group

*Christian Education 2023 Budgeted Expenses: \$79,730*

*(Adults: \$13,145, Youth: \$51,850, Children: \$14,735)*

*Christian Education 2023 Actual Expenses: \$57,752*

*(Adults: \$7,566, Youth: \$39,337, Children: \$10,849)*

# LOCAL MISSIONS

MPPC's Local Mission Partners consist of:

- **CAROLINA YOUTH DEVELOPMENT (CYDC):** Offers residential, educational, and enrichment services to children of at-risk families.
- **EAST COOPER COMMUNITY OUTREACH (ECCO):** Assistance to those in need including food pantry, medical, dental, clothing and financial.
- **DEE NORTON CENTER:** To prevent child abuse, protect children and heal families.
- **EAST COOPER HABITAT FOR HUMANITY:** Build homes with donated funds and volunteer labor for underprivileged families.
- **ONE80 PLACE:** Provides temporary and permanent housing, meals and supportive services to the homeless.
- **EAST COOPER MEALS ON WHEELS:** Deliver meals to local homebound residents. Also in the spring, Rakes on Wheels cleans up yards of elderly or disabled folks.
- **METANOIA:** Help generate economic development, quality housing, and a year round youth leadership program for students in grades 1-12 in a community with one of the highest concentrations of childhood poverty in SC.
- **HANDS OF CHRIST:** Distribute back to school clothing, supplies and Bibles with the love of Christ.
- **EAST COOPER FAITH NETWORK:** A collaboration of faith groups with I-Beam and I-Beam Camp focusing on literacy for school children. Fix It! focuses on essential home repairs for needy homeowners in the Mt. Pleasant area.
- **FLORENCE CRITTENTON HOME:** Residential services for at-risk young mothers.
- **CHARLESTON AREA JUSTICE MINISTRY (CAJM):** Network of local faith based congregations to make the Charleston area a more just place to live, work and do business.
- **RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE:** A home away from home for families of children in the hospital.
- **WINDWOOD FARM:** Residential campus for children with behavioral and psychiatric issues.



Local Missions 2023 Budgeted Expenses: \$92,600

Local Missions 2023 Actual Expenses: \$82,956



# INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

MPPC's International Mission Partners consist of:

- **DAYSTAR UNIVERSITY:** Christian liberal arts university in Nairobi, Kenya. Educating and equipping Kenyans to bring innovations, faith and integrity back to their communities.
- **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY HONDURAS:** Annually, prior to COVID-19, MPPC had a mission team assist in building homes in La Ceiba, Honduras. In a partnership with EC Habitat our church has built 78 homes in this community.
- **THE LAMB INSTITUTE:** Christ-centered, multifaceted ministry in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Residential home for abandoned and abused children, elementary school in Flor del Campo, Youth in Action, micro credit business development for women.
- **KINYAGO-DANDORA SCHOOLS (KDS):** Primary and secondary school outside of Nairobi, Kenya. Holistic education including clean water, food and nutrition.
- **HAITI OUTREACH MINISTRIES (HOM):** Port au Prince, Haiti. Campuses provide an oasis for children. Christian education, nutrition, clean water and medical care.

- **MEDICAL MISSION HONDURAS:**

Trinidad de Copan, Honduras. In a week a medical team will see 1,000 dental patients,

883 people for medical treatment, provide 2,798 prescriptions and 500 pairs of glasses.

- **PALMETTO INTERNATIONAL:** Trinidad de Copan, Honduras. Partners with local people and businesses to build homes, medical clinics and schools. The partnership also teaches the locals building skills that helps them to find employment and help the community.
- **NUEVA VIDA CLINIC:** Ciudad Sandino, Nicaragua. Full health clinic that sees approximately 16,000 patients a year.
- **MISSIONARY SUPPORT:** Greg and Chris Callison serving in the Middle East among the Kurdish refugees and Muslim communities. Suzie McCall serving in Tegucigalpa Honduras.



*International Missions 2023 Budgeted Expenses: \$68,000*

*International Missions 2023 Actual Expenses: \$54,170*

# FELLOWSHIP & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Members of MPPC believe we are called to live in community with each other. We remain committed to the nurturing and support of our congregation through regular fellowship opportunities and the extension of hospitality.



- Weekly all-church breakfast available
- Meals on special planned occasions (Rally Sunday, Trunk-or-Treat, Advent, Chili Cook-off, Shrove Tuesday, End-of-School cookout)
- Pacesetters - monthly dinner and entertainment for older members
- Third Act - monthly covered dish lunch and program for older members
- New Inquirers/Members Class
- Christmas Caroling around Old Village

*Fellowship & Congregational Life 2023 Budgeted Expenses: \$9,980*

*Fellowship & Congregational Life 2023 Actual Expenses: \$5,832*

## PERSONNEL

The staff of MPPC provide day-to-day leadership and support for all the church ministries and their many dedicated volunteers.

- The Pastors
- Director of Music & Assistant/Organist
- Director of Christian Education
- Youth and Children's Ministry Directors
- Communications Director
- Financial Administration
- Office Administration & Technical Support
- Sexton
- Childcare Staff
- Search Team Expenses

*Personnel 2023 Budgeted Expenses: \$1,436,117*

*Personnel 2023 Actual Expenses: \$1,341,144*



# PROPERTY & GROUNDS

The Property & Grounds Ministry keeps our campus running smoothly and looking beautiful. The main projects completed in 2023 were:

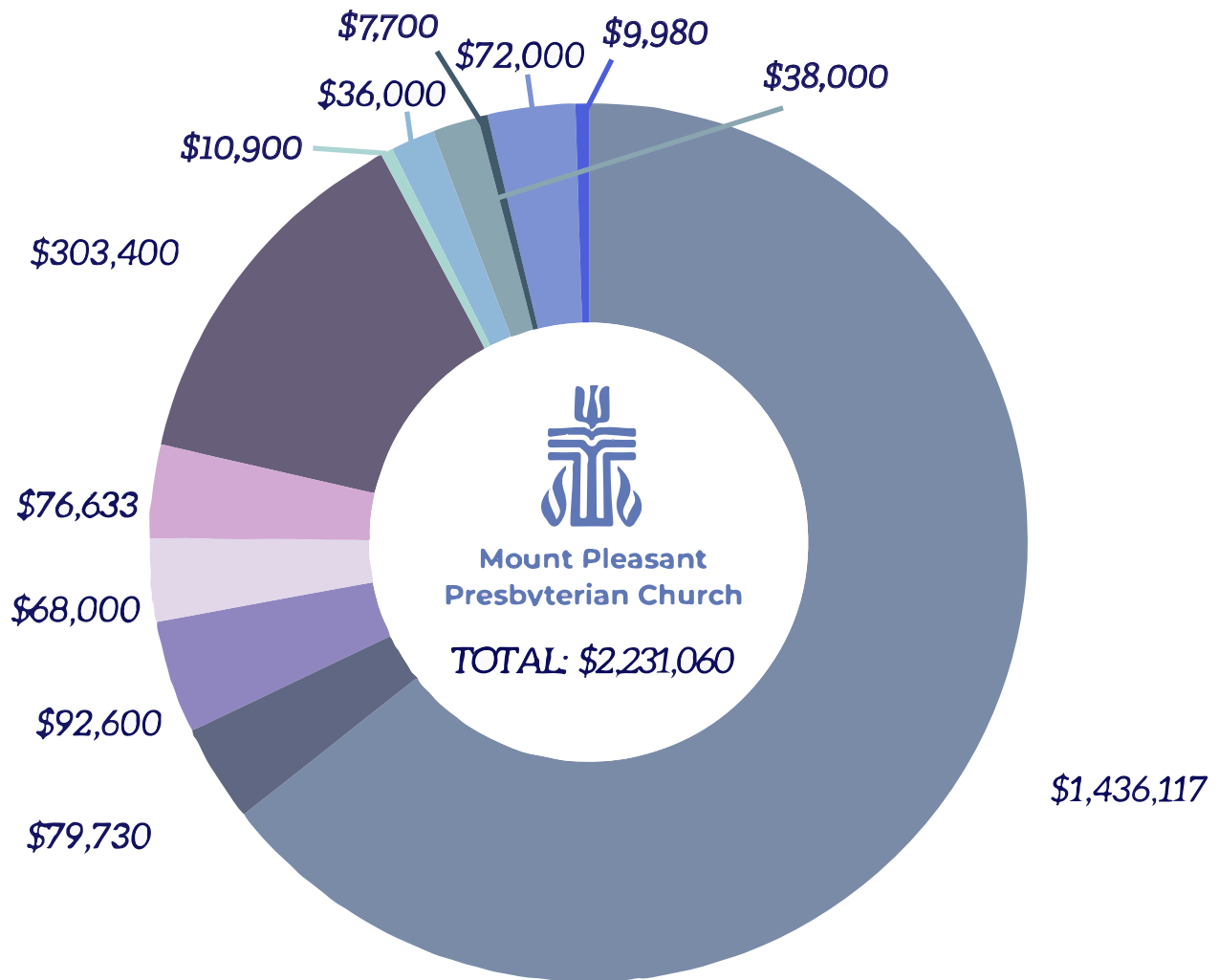
- Updated landscaping in front of Sanctuary
- Improved signage on campus
- Restriped parking lot
- Secured sanctuary after flood and worked to get dry and ready for repairs
- Fixed numerous appliances in the FH kitchen
- Cleaned FH chairs
- Stripped and waxed FH floor and Seabrook hallways
- The entire front of the Sanctuary was repainted and a column was repaired.
- Power washed sidewalk
- Began installing smart locks on doors
- Replaced fire panel in Grace Hall
- Replaced sanctuary attic sprinklers
- Painted the first floor office space.
- Removed tree hanging over the Fellowship Hall
- Trimmed Live Oak beside Sanctuary
- Trimmed other trees and bushes
- Pressure washed white buildings
- Laid new pine straw around campus



*Property & Grounds 2023 Budgeted Expenses: \$303,400*

*Property & Grounds 2023 Actual Expenses: \$277,107*

# 2023 BUDGET



<div></div> WORSHIP & MUSIC \$76,633	<div></div> FELLOWSHIP & CONGREGATIONAL LIFE \$9,980
<div></div> CHRISTIAN EDUCATION \$79,730	<div></div> PERSONNEL \$1,436,117
<div></div> LOCAL MISSIONS \$92,600	<div></div> PROPERTY & GROUNDS \$303,400
<div></div> INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS \$68,000	<div></div> TECHNOLOGY/AUDIO-VISUAL \$38,000
<div></div> DENOMINATIONAL \$36,000	<div></div> MEMBER & PASTORAL CARE \$7,700
<div></div> OFFICE & COMMUNICATIONS \$72,000	<div></div> OFFICER TRAINING, MEMBERSHIP & STEWARDSHIP \$10,900

# MINISTRY AREA CONTACTS



Barry  
Blackburn



Missy  
Westerhold



Theresa Reed



Anna Shaw



Caroline Feller



Ellen Gower



Mac Thigpen



Andrew de  
Holl



Trey Lucy



Tony Sane



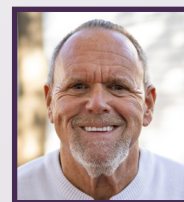
Dan Wiard



Rev. Bart  
Edwards



Rev. Dr. Danie  
de Beer



Glenn Hair

## Worship & Music

Barry Blackburn, *Session Member & Chair*, Tony Sane, *Director of Music Ministry* | [tsane@mppc.net](mailto:tsane@mppc.net)

## Fellowship & Congregational Life

Ellen Gower, *Session Member & Chair*  
Rev. Bart Edwards, *Associate Pastor for Missions* | [bedwards@mppc.net](mailto:bedwards@mppc.net)

## Christian Education

Missy Westerhold, *Session Member & Chair*, Dan Wiard, *Director of Christian Education* | [dwiard@mppc.net](mailto:dwiard@mppc.net)

## Personnel

Mac Thigpen, *Session Member & Chair*  
Rev. Dr. Danie de Beer, *Interim Pastor & Head of Staff* | [ddebeer@mppc.net](mailto:ddebeer@mppc.net)

## Missions

Theresa Reed, *Session Member & Chair*  
Rev. Bart Edwards, *Associate Pastor for Missions* | [bedwards@mppc.net](mailto:bedwards@mppc.net)

## Property & Grounds

Andrew de Holl, *Session Member & Chair*  
Rev. Dr. Danie de Beer, *Interim Pastor & Head of Staff* | [ddebeer@mppc.net](mailto:ddebeer@mppc.net)

## Local Missions

Anna Shaw, *Session Member & Chair*  
Rev. Bart Edwards, *Associate Pastor for Missions* | [bedwards@mppc.net](mailto:bedwards@mppc.net)

## Finance & Stewardship

Trey Lucy, *Session Member & Chair*  
Glenn Hair, *Director of Finance* | [ghair@mppc.net](mailto:ghair@mppc.net)

## International Missions

Caroline Feller, *Session Member & Chair*  
Rev. Bart Edwards, *Associate Pastor for Missions* | [bedwards@mppc.net](mailto:bedwards@mppc.net)

**If you have questions or would like to get involved, please reach out to a staff or session member!**





**Mount Pleasant  
Presbyterian Church**

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