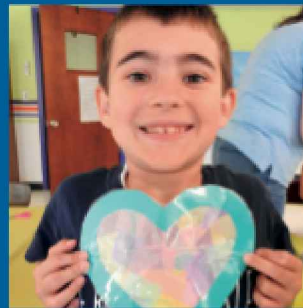


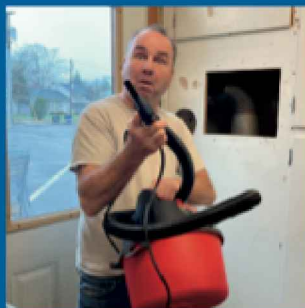


WORSHIP



LOVE

SERVE



2022 Annual Report

From Your Pastor

It's amazing to think that Tamera and I reached our 20th year of ministry at Ashland Church. God's mercy and grace has been so evident to us over these years we have been with you. Our time has been a mixture of many blessings and has also included different challenges as well. As I think through this past year, two words seem to come to mind, Transformation and Renewal, both of which describe a work of the Holy Spirit which he accomplishes in the life of believers and the church. I have seen His work in our church family this year, for which I am very thankful.



One big transformation we have seen this year is the uniting of Ashland and Park Avenue Churches. Our two congregations had already experienced a wonderfully sweet connection as our ministries seem to be intertwined. We had already celebrated much fellowship, outreach, and special times of worship, as well as shared a common vision and mission. This union has strengthened both our churches, and I am thankful for the many new members of Ashland and also for the presence of “retired” Pastor Glenn Marshall, who has been, and continues to be, an immeasurable encouragement to me over these past 20 years.

This was also a year of re-engagement of ministry and fellowship as the hindrances of pandemic began to lift. Both starts and re-starts are always a challenge, and through the efforts of so many of you, God is restoring fellowship in our church as well as bringing new people into our family. I pray that you will be encouraged as you look through this report and see all that God has accomplished through our church.

This blessing was also met with mourning as we saw some of our dear saints depart this world, and yet we always remember the joy set before us which they now experience. There was also the realization that some had not returned to our family, and they are truly missed. This is a story that I hear from many of my pastor friends, and we pray for a day to welcome them back into our fellowship. To borrow a phrase, “we’ll leave the light on for you.” Ashland church has open doors to God’s people, and we pray that all his Children will experience His love.

I’m writing this as my sabbatical is about to begin, and you will probably not receive this until I am away. First, I want to thank the church for allowing me this time of renewal and repurposing. Also, I want you to know that you are in my heart, I love Ashland Church, and you are so much a part of me. I know that I will miss you as I engage in other activities and ministries while I am not with you, and I will pray for you and the continued growth and work of the Church. I ask that you also pray for me and my family that God would restore, guide, and protect us. May we all know his power and loving presence through these days, and I eagerly await the day when we will be together again.

It's Great to be your Pastor,

Jamie

Worship Arts

“Praise the Lord. Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of his faithful people.” – Psalm 149:1.

This verse from Psalms is one of many that speak of the importance of corporate worship; singing, playing musical instruments, dance... During this past year, I have been grateful to experience renewed excitement and enthusiasm for the privilege of worshiping God in this building. We have been inspired by hearing the voices of those around us: our brothers and sisters in Christ, as we have gathered in worship. Praise be to God!

For the first time in several years, children have been meeting regularly to sing, draw, dance... Many thanks to those who give of their talents for our children: Deb Ford, Linda Tait, Corinne Grady, and also those who assist volunteer leaders.

Musicians! It is such a privilege and joy to play music and sing every week with a group of extremely gifted and skilled instrumentalists and vocalists, who worship, and thereby lead us in worship. During the season of advent and Christmas, we were blessed by a vocal quartet/ quintet, who skillfully lead us in the singing of advent and Christmas carols.

There is always room and hope for expansion in music/ arts ministry, as well as the ministry of operating sound and visual equipment. Thankfully, our audio and visual tech volunteer base has recently expanded, with the addition of those already skilled, as well as those who are willing to be mentored. I wish to thank those upon whom we have depended each week for song lyrics and sound. These volunteers (including Ian Pasquale, who has been known to serve immediately after working a night shift) devote many hours each week to the enhancement and facilitation of corporate worship.

I also wish to thank all of the folks and leaders of Ashland Church who have allowed me to serve. Looking forward to coming months and years, my hope is that new volunteers would be welcomed, and that existing volunteers would be further equipped with not only technical skill, but also with ever-increasing knowledge of our Lord and Savior, whom we serve.



Respectfully submitted by

Carol Holmes, Director of Worship Arts

Children & Youth Ministries - 2022 in Pictures



Trustees

In June 2022, I was elected to serve as the Interim President of the Trustees. A great big “Thank You” to Dave Cesare, my predecessor. And I look forward to voting in a new President as I step down in 2023. Thanks to Dave’s initiative, we signed up with PSE&G for their Energy Efficient Program. Many upgrades and systems were installed because of this program, such as the Emergency Lighting system, Hallway lighting and an upgrade to the Air Conditioning System for the Eastern part of the Church property.

And have you noticed the new lighting system which illuminates our Sanctuary platform and stage? 2022 saw the formation of the R.E.P.S. (Retired and/or Enterprising Persons in Service). Another great big “Thank You” to these guys for all their work and tenacity.

We worked on finalizing the merger with Park Avenue and we look forward to the celebration to come. We switched our insurance coverage to Church Mutual, (saving us money in the process) which will cover both the Ashland and PACC properties, including Tender Hearts School and all the grounds. Our Boiler limped along into 2023. We are going to finalize the contract with PSE&G for the Energy Savings Program and we will have a new Boiler installed. We will also have the Air conditioning upgraded for the Western Part of the Church.

Grace Ministries has been making improvements to Horner Hall and continue to cooperate with AEPC on upgrades and modifications. There are Work Order Forms in the Financial Office Door. If you see a problem or need something fixed, please bring it to the attention of the Trustees by filing out the form and put it in the Trustees Mail Slot.

Thank you for allowing me to serve and I look forward to the year ahead!

-Debbie Ford

Care and Counsel

The Ashland Care and Counsel ministry began in September 2021 after two years of research and preparation as we sought the Lord’s will for our church. We are thankful for how we have been able to “Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way fulfill the law of Christ.” (Galatians 6:2)

Our trained and certified Christian Mental Health Coaches have been able to come alongside people from within our church family as well as from outside our congregation. As first responders, our team can help folks navigate life’s journey. Stress, anxiety, depressed mood, loss/grief, relationships and growing in faith are some of the concerns that surface. We continue to ask for your prayer support and encouragement.

Should you like more information for yourself or someone else (all inquiries will be kept confidential) please email care@ashlandchurch.org



-Dennis Cesare, LPC, BCCMHC
On behalf of the Care and Counsel team

Missions

God has blessed us to be able involved in His work both locally, nationally and around the world. In 2022 were able to share some special missionary moments and host some very special people that we serve and support. As a committee, we welcome Lynn Brogren who joined us last fall. Join me in thanking Lynn and our other members for their contributions to the committee this past year: Erin Fleming, Jamie Cupschalk, Rebecca Colacot, Stephen Cupschalk and Dennis Cesare. Our main priorities continue as follows: 1. To build relationships with each of our ministries or individual missionaries and 2. Communicate the vision, needs and prayer requests to the congregation. 3. Support them financially to the best of our abilities. Each of our members has chosen several ministries to build relationships with and then share with the congregation monthly during the worship service. The committee also recommends and works with our session to complete the annual budget. Ashland missions continues to be funded by taking 12% of your regular giving and setting it aside before any other expenses are paid. Last year we were able to give over \$40,000 to our 20 ministries.

Did you know? Dave and Penelope Pickens, Wycliffe Bible Translation Columbia completed translation of the NT in two languages see the attached picture, Lauren Herman, also raised in Ashland, is discipling college students right across the river with Intervarsity Christian Fellowship

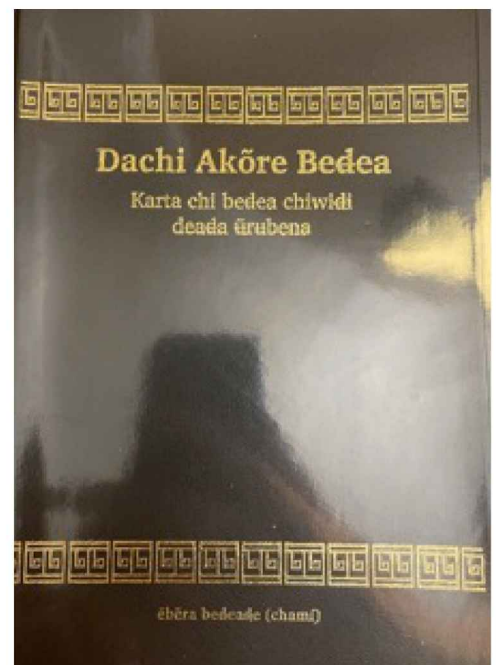
We are also getting involved in a few special projects including coming along side of a local Afghan family and assisting Bonnie Gatchell with Route 1 ministries

If you have any interest in either getting to know and praying more specifically for one of our ministries, please let us know and we would certainly welcome more members to our committee. Please reach out to Darrell Proctor or any of our members.

-Darrell Proctor

Our current list that we support:

African Book Challenge - ABC Ghana
Boys and Girls Christian Home - India
Christian Ministries Camden
ENTRUST - Thailand Al and Mary Ginter
EPC World Outreach - Phil Thrash
EPC General Assembly - Robert Hamd
EPC General Assembly - Bruce Anderson
EPC General Assembly - Dave & Debbie Walker
Mantua Creek Church Plant Greg and Pam Austen
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship - Lauren Herman
Mission to the World - Missions - Peter Boling
Park Ave. Community Church - Food Bank
POTE - Engage 2025 Missions Andre and Albina
Urban Promise - Camden NJ Bruce Main
ServingLeaders Ministries Carl/Caroline Kishbaugh
Wycliff Bible Translators - Dave/Penelope Pickens
Wycliffe Bible Translators – Bill/Faith Foust



R.E.P.S.

The R.E.P.S. (Retired and/or Enterprising Persons in Service) welcome anyone who may be interested and can help with general cleaning, yard work, painting and more. Join us as we come together occasionally to serve, enjoy some fellowship and have fun.

Some of the projects completed 2022 were:

- Playground/Playset repair and staining
- Painting of accent wall, kids rooms, Janine's office, kitchen, door trim(s)
- PACC/Tender Hearts, side entrance vinyl tiling
- Window screens – replaced (30)
- Basketball portable standard erected – near playground
- Gutters/downspouts – cleaned and realigned
- Yard – bushes, weeds trimmed/removed

-Dennis Cesare

Park Avenue Merger Committee

The merger of Park Avenue Community into Ashland Evangelical Church was completed on December 31, 2022. Though the merger took longer than expected due to legal matters (18 months), the merger committee members agreed that God's hand was in the timing, allowing Ashland and Park Avenue people to get to know each other and their ministries.

We are especially grateful for everyone who participated in the many Merger Committee meetings that took place over about a year and a half. Members of the committee included:

- Ashland (Barb Cesare, Pastor Cupschalk, Randy Buckley, Janine Fleming, John Tait, Trustee Presidents David Cesare and Deb Ford)
- Jeannine Schippnick, Joe and Jacqueline Rivera, Frank Davidson, BJ Marshall, Pastor Marshall, Edgar Winchester Jr., Nancy Simpkins
- Guest Sheila Wilson (Assistant Director of Tender Hearts).

Though the merger was completed at the end of December, 2022, we have been blessed with the following fruit along the way:

- The Tender Hearts ministry at Park Avenue continues to flourish, consistently nurturing 20-25 toddlers and sharing Jesus. Some of the Tender Hearts children have participated in activities at Ashland!
- The Food Pantry at Park Avenue continues to serve families in need (open every Thursday for distribution). When people were most in need during the Pandemic, the Food Pantry was able to stay open for every week but one!
- Park Avenue members were a wonderful addition to the Ashland congregation, on most weeks making up about 25% of worshippers.
- Park Avenue has two properties, and two buildings that are transferring to Ashland (title work is still in progress).
- Park Avenue had positive bank balances – and is transferring over \$50,000 to Ashland. These funds are being held in separate accounts at Ashland, and will be partially used to update the Park Avenue sanctuary (for multipurpose use) and strengthen both the Tender Hearts and Food Pantry ministries.

GOD IS GOOD ALL THE TIME!!!

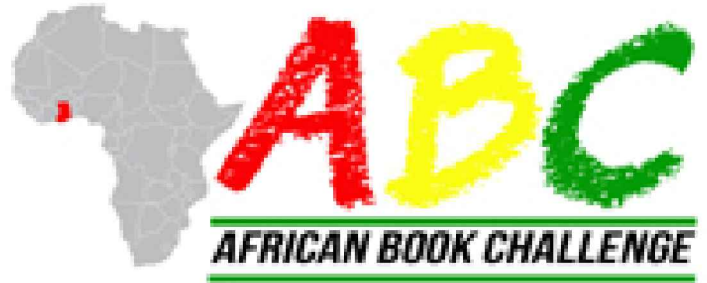
-Randy Buckley

ABC Update

African Book Challenge (ABC), the great Outreach Ministry of our Ashland Church to the children at Kwabeng, a rural community in Ghana, continued to make a big difference in the life of the kids and students in the town. Some of the major events during the year were:

Material Donations - Fred and Esther went back home in July and distributed to all the schools in the town large quantities of donated items. They included used computers, laptops, soccer balls and sneakers. Others were books, school supplies, Bibles, Sunday School materials, children's clothes and toys. The beneficiaries were Anglican, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, Islamic and Zion Elementary, five Junior High Schools and one Senior High School.

ABC Library – The well-stocked ABC Library, which was opened in 2013, continues to serve very well the students of the township. The public library is the first and only one in the town and also within 25 miles radius from the town!



ABC Scholarship Program – As of December 31st, ABC was sponsoring five scholars with full scholarships in various institutions. Two of the students are attending Teacher Training Colleges, two others are in Nursing Training Colleges and one at a university. The ABC Committee is very grateful to all who have so faithfully and lovingly supported this great program. Your financial gifts are certainly helping to give those needy kids the opportunity for a brighter future. In order to continue with the program, ABC needs you to either sponsor a student or donate to the Scholarship Fund.

Appeal for Calvary Presbyterian Church Roofing Fund – ABC appealed to our congregation for financial assistance to the Calvary Presbyterian Church at Kwabeng to enable them put a roof on their new chapel which they started in 2008. A total of forty dollars (\$40.00) was donated during the Thanksgiving Dinner.

The ABC Committee would like to thank the following people and companies for their support during the year: Barry Campbell, Source One Systems Solutions, Gallagher Business Development

ABC cannot accomplish its mission without you. Thank you for your prayers and invaluable support of the Outreach Ministry, and thank you for making a big difference!

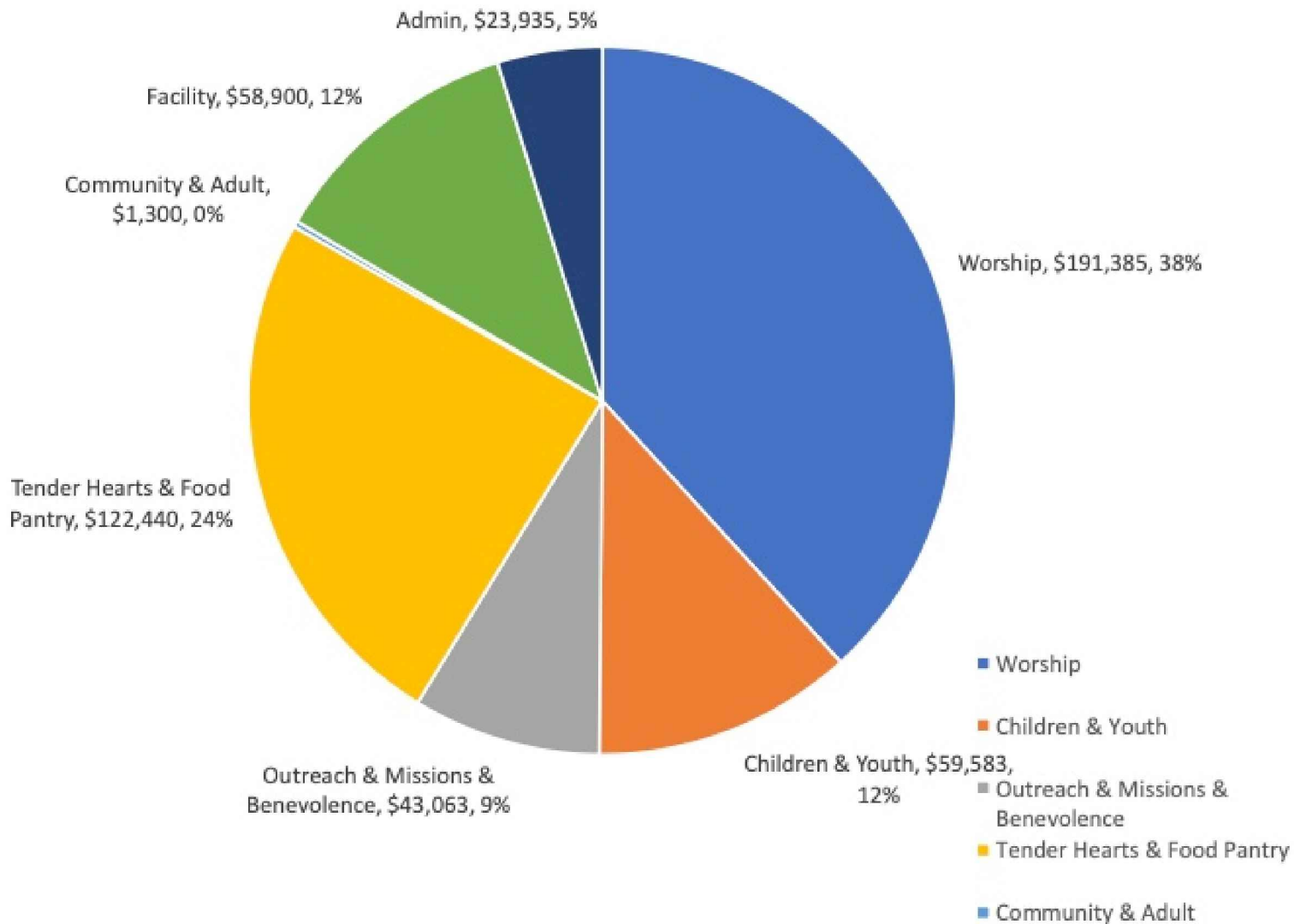
Please contact Fred Acheampong at Blackstar932@Gmail.com or call him at 856-534-9565, if you are interested in either sponsoring a student or you want him to come over and pick up any items you wish to donate.

-Fred Twum-Acheampong

Special Thanks

A big thanks to Tamera Cupschalk, who provided the majority of the photos in this report!

2023 Total Budget



Category

Worship	\$191,385	38%
Children & Youth	\$59,583	12%
Outreach & Missions & Benevolence	\$43,063	9%
Tender Hearts & Food Pantry	\$122,440	24%
Community & Adult	\$1300	0%
Facility	\$58,900	12%
Admin	\$23,935	5%
Overall Budget	\$500,607	100%

2022 Year End

- Income surplus of approximately 1.65%
- Giving was under budget by 2.5%
- Other contributions exceeded budget
- Expenses were under budget
- Expenses in some categories were lower than budgeted
- Expenses in other categories were reduced
- Final budget surplus of approximately 4%

2023 Budget

- Overall budget \$335,904 is 5.8% higher than 2022
- Adjustments (+/-) made in many areas of the budget
- 5% staff salary increases this year
- Tender Hearts budget of \$116,500
- Food Pantry budget of \$5,940

Ashland Church Staff

Jamie Cupschalk - **Pastor**
Carol Holmes - **Worship Arts Director**
Janine Fleming - **Children and Youth Ministries Director**

Ashland Office Team

Rosa Chowning, Rachel Crain, Karen Davidge, Renee Lieb,
Chris Slone

Elders

2023: Randy Buckley, Barb Cesare, Kevin Gallagher

2024: Mike Greco, Chris Slone, Dave Witt

2025: Janine Fleming

Deacons

2023: Peg Buckley, Nancy Cominsky, Stephanie Wiley

2024: Jen Bello

2025: Joe Rivera, Elia N. Rosario, Jeannine Schippnick

Trustees

2023: Dave Cesare, Liam Fleming, Deb Ford

2024: Rob Favuzzi, Kelvin Satterfield

2025: Bill Buzard, Dennis Cesare, Tom Seitzinger, Ed Winchester

Treasurer

Corinne Beyer

Financial Secretary

Rebecca Emmel, Nancy Simpkins

Assistant Financial Secretary

Donna Blizzard

Auditing Committee

Dave Witt: Chair, Melissa Gallagher, Robin Kerth, Taral Shah-Oware

Nominating Committee

Kevin Gallagher: Chair, Randy Buckley: Vice-Chair, Kim Boland, Tamera Cupschalk, Becky Henszey, Earnita Nadeem, Jacqui Rivera

Our Mission

To seek the lost and grow disciples who worship and enjoy our Lord.

Our Vision

To be a Covenant family in our community which is transformed by the Gospel, empowered by the Spirit, and focused by our Mission.

Ashland Church

33 E. Evesham Road, Voorhees, NJ 08043
856-429-8844 AshlandChurch.org