



INDIANA ALLIANCE CHURCH

THE
ALLIANCE
CHURCH

**ASPIRING TO *PROCLAIM* THE GOSPEL, TO
BE A *REFUGE* AND TO *RESTORE* OUR
RELATIONSHIPS WITH GOD & OTHERS**

Annual Report 2023

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2023 Indiana Alliance Church Members revised October 18, 2023

- 1 ALLENDER, Ed
- 2 AUGUSTINE, Sue
- 3 BAKER, John
- 4 BAKER, LuAnne
- 5 BECK, Lois
- 6 BENNINGHOFF, Sherre
- 7 BORING, Stephen
- 8 BORING, Becky
- 9 BRANCA, Gerry
- 10 BRANCA, Lou
- 11 CASTLE, Josh
- 12 CASTLE, Julie
- 13 CAVILL, Dave
- 14 CESSNA, Rick
- 15 CESSNA, Stacy
- 16 CINGOTA, Donna
- 17 COCHRAN, Robyn
- 18 CUDDY, Jim
- 19 CUDDY, Debbie
- 20 DARR, Lynda
- 21 DEEMER, Candy
- 22 DOSPOY, Kristina
- 23 DUMAN, Mary
- 24 FARESTER, Brian
- 25 FARESTER, Erika
- 26 FISHER, Tom
- 27 FISHER, Linda
- 28 FLECKENSTEIN, Neil
- 29 FLEMING, DJ
- 30 FLEMING, Shirley
- 31 FRICK, Chad
- 32 FRICK, Jill
- 33 FRICK, David
- 34 FRICK, Alicia
- 35 GILLENWATER, George
- 36 GILLENWATER, Mary
- 37 GOEHRING, Lee
- 38 GOEHRING, Wanda
- 39 GORNICK, Alissa
- 40 GRANT, Ken
- 41 GRANT, Donna
- 42 GROOP, Mike
- 43 GROOP, Kate
- 44 HEGLAND, Colleen
- 45 HENCK, Mark
- 46 HENCK, Beth
- 47 HENCK, Brett
- 48 HENCK, Marilyn

- 49 HENIGIN, Matt
- 50 HENIGIN, Daneale
- 51 HIBSMAN, Tim
- 52 HIBSMAN, Tracy
- 53 HINTON, Jeane
- 54 HIPPLE, Brittany
- 55 HIPPLE, Joshua
- 56 HOOVER, Cindy
- 57 JOHNSON, Tim
- 58 JONES, Jann
- 59 KINTER, Lisa
- 60 KUNKLE, Emily
- 61 LEOPOLD, Robert
- 62 MARQUEZ, Mark
- 63 MARQUEZ, Stacy
- 64 MARSHALL, Brittany
- 65 MARSHALL, Seth
- 66 MCCracken, Dan
- 67 MCCracken, Dawn
- 68 MCELDOWNEY, Allan
- 69 MCELDOWNEY, Judy
- 70 MCELWEE, Delbert
- 71 MURPHY, Bill
- 72 MURPHY, Doris
- 73 NELSON, Hilary
- 74 NELSON, Marv
- 75 PLYLER, Janet
- 76 REPINE, Flora
- 77 RHEA, Vivian
- 78 SEXTON, Darlene
- 79 SMITH, Bill
- 80 SMITH, Rosella
- 81 SNYDER, Joe
- 82 SNYDER, Karen
- 83 STAHLMAN, Tom
- 84 STAHLMAN, Diane
- 85 STUART, Dee
- 86 VIVIAN, Sharon
- 87 VIVIER, Frank
- 88 VIVIER, Carol
- 89 WEAVER, Ken
- 90 WEAVER, Shirley
- 91 WEAVER, Phil
- 92 WEAVER, Ruth
- 93 WRIGHT, Sandy

Inactive Members

- 1 GILLENWATER, Bryan
2023, 08, 01
- 2 GILLENWATER, Angie
2023, 08, 01
- 3 IANDIORIO, Ed
2023, 09, 01
- 4 KINTER, Ralph
2023, 01, 01
- 5 KINTER, Ginnalee
2023, 01, 01
- 6 TRINKLEY, Benjamin
2022, 10, 11
- 7 YACKUBOSKEY, Lauren
2023, 09, 01

Deceased

- 1 RISINGER, Ressie
2023, 06, 23
- 2 STUART, Bob

Honorary Members

- 1 MURPHY, Kitiya
- 2 MURPHY, Mark

**Indiana Alliance Church
Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 9, 2022
7:00 PM**

Pastor Marv Nelson called the meeting to order.

Dave Cavill, Elder, opened the meeting with a welcome and prayer & the Word.

Pastor Marv Nelson, shared the purpose & layout of the meeting.

Two tellers were appointed: David Frick and Beth Henck.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the minutes from November 10, 2021.

Informational

2022, 11, 09 IN1: Financial Picture as shared by Tom Fisher: As of today 297,937 in operating fund, is 10,448; however we are under budget. We've spent 270,285 as of 10/31/2022.

2022, 11, 09 IN2: 2022 Operating Budget Proposal. Last year we preposed 338,653.12. This year we are looking at 347,387.44. We are looking to keep our mission a priority which is why you see the increase. Our children's ministry is growing; we are up 2.58%. God is good.

2022, 11, 09 IN3: Year in Review:

Sadly, we lost 3 people this year due to death, also due to a choice to leave our fellowship. We have also gained many new families.

Bryan Gillanwater has stepped down from being the youth director. However, Rick Cessna has stepped into the position and it has been a smooth transition.

A team went down to the Dominican Republic this past February and had great success. The trustees have switched all the lighting in the sanctuary to LED, to help with the fees from REA from the peaks the building hits in the warmer months.

Community engagement; working with IASD school superintendent to pass anti-bullying legislation. These people are coming to the church for help because they do not know what to do anymore.

Sharing our facility space to community: Narcotics Anonymous, Basketball practices by Indiana School District, Seeds of Faith Academy, and Chevy Chase, the Homeschool Co-Op, and Elections, we are now known as a friendly/ generous with our space.

Awana numbers are up 50 kids.

Our Children's Ministry average is up to 30 Sunday morning.

EKKO Youth saw 40+ different kids walk through the doors.

An average of 35 college students attends the CCO.

NEW women's ministry is starting to form.

Outreach is doing great.

New Business

2022, 11, 09 NB1: Verbal Additional Highlight Information shared by Ministry Leaders:

Mike Groop, Pastor of Worship and College Outreach. Mike shared: we had a great year in college ministry. 3 students went to the DR on the missions trip, Tuesday night missional community has grown 75% in weekly attendance. More encouraging is the students are stepping up to help lead. Last spring, he began an on campus lunch for guys that would not go to church. In partnership with CCO they have seen 50% increase since the spring. Worship: they have introduced many new songs, there is a lot of behind the scenes and he is thankful for those who put in the time to work with the technology enhancements. He is working to connect the team more by scheduling events.

Lauren Yackuboskey outreach children's director: Lauren says they launched Awana in January 2022 K-5th, volunteers take a lot of time to lead. We want to keep this free as an outreach for the church. CEO (Children's Education Outreach) is launching in 2023.

2022, 11, 09 NB2: **Reports – Consideration and Adoption**

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to adopt all reports:

Lead Pastors Report

Worship & College Pastor Report

Ekko Youth/Mid Ministries

Thrive IAC Children's Ministry

Disciple Making Ministry – IAC Adult Ministries

Deaconess Report

Deacon's Report

Alliance Women's Report

Mission Ministry (verbal as shared by Pastor Marv)

Trustee Report

A motion was made, seconded, and carried.

2022, 11, 09 NB3: The congregation elected the following to the 2023 Nominating Committee:

Brittany Marshall

Tom Fisher

The Governing Board had previously nominated two members:

Tom Stahlman

Chad Frick

2022, 11, 09 NB4: Election of Officers and Committee Members

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to wave counting the ballot of all officers and committee members and accept the ballot as written.

Elders – No new elders were elected. Presently serving: Tom Stahlman, Seth Marshall, Josh Castle, Frank Vivier, Dave Cavill

Deacons – Tim Johnson and Ed Allender for 2 year term

Deaconesses – Karen Snyder, Diane Stahlman, Kate Groop for 2-year term

Treasurer – Tom Fisher

Assistant Treasurer – Sandy Wright

Secretary (Executive) – Stacy Cessna

Disciplemaking Coordinator – Tracy Hibsman

Business Board Members at large – Matt Henigin and Lee Goehring

Trustees – Mark Henck and Joe Snyder for 2 year term

Alliance Women President – Kristina Dospoy

2022, 11, 09 NB5: A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the 2022 Budget as proposed.

2021, 11, 10 NB6: Motion made to approve bringing our bylaw and policy concerning alcohol into alignment with National and District offices. Motion was approved.

Look Ahead by Pastor Marv: Pray for our church as we step into new ministries like CEO, and as we serve our community in places like IASD. May God give us boldness.

The meeting adjourned in prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Stacy Cessna

**Lead Pastor's Annual Report
November 2023**

"...According to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood: May grace and peace be multiplied to you... Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct..." (1 Peter 1:2; 13-15, ESV).

ASPIRING to PROCLAIM the Gospel, to be a REFUGE and to RESTORE our RELATIONSHIPS with God and others.

A Look Back

This past year we have seen significant church growth. On Easter, we saw **300+** people come to church and hear the Good News of Christ's resurrection; from Jan.-May, we were averaging close to **250** people counting our regular online attendance. We've seen several de-churched and un-churched families step into our doors. Our community efforts in our outreaches and our AWANA program have also brought families into our church. In August, we tested out a Family Service, which many appreciated, and it was helpful to give our volunteers a much-needed break. It has been requested that we make this an annual month set aside for families. Despite the rising increase in inflation and the tough spot many are in financially, our giving has been the best it has been in years; thank you so much church for your faithful giving to the Kingdom of God in our little corner of the Kingdom! We also saw **2** young men baptized, **several kids** give their lives to Jesus at our VBS and AWANA has been going strong all year long! We saw many families come to our outreach events; most recently our Harvest Festival saw a little over **200** people! We also began efforts to develop *Unleash Academy* with Crown College, which will be in full swing starting August 2024. Partnering with our C&MA Universities I, and the elders believe is key to seeing a Kingdom multiplication and impact. We've also seen a significant growth in our college student's engagement with both the Tuesday Night Bible study, as well as help in leading worship AND AWANA!

None of this would be possible without the hard work of Alissa, Candy, Mike, Rick and our stout and amazing volunteers. You are all seen and are greatly appreciated. Ministry without staff and/or volunteers simply does not happen on this scale. YOU are all making a significant impact on our community, our church, and the Kingdom of God. THANK YOU!

Looking Ahead

As we look toward 2024 there is a lot to be hopeful for, but also a lot to remain prayerful about. We will be entering another contentious election cycle and the economic pain in the USA is poised to continue in a downward trend with increasing inflation. Yet, we know our hope is not in earthly kingdoms, our money, our jobs or even a nation's economy. Our hope is in Jesus and the power of His name! I know the Lord is at work at IAC. We've seen this over the last several years, especially in 2023 where God has shown up again and again. Despite the

spiritual haze that Indiana County has been experiencing, I have hope for 2024. Where the enemy is attacking, we can know with certainty that is where God is working.

The elders, business board, staff and I have been praying over the future of Indiana Alliance Church. We are seeking the Lord's guidance and direction for us as a body. We've been praying and fasting for the Lord to use us in a mighty way to impact this community for the name of Jesus. As we've been doing this, we've seen Women's Ministry regain momentum with a reinvigorated team of women praying and planning new and exciting things for our ladies. We've seen a growth in spiritual depth as well as new un-saved people coming to Jesus and finding their home at IAC. We are reimagining what Christian community should look like here in our church. We have been asking the Lord to bring more volunteers into our ministries to help sustain the current growth and be prepped for new growth. We are seeking to be a more prayerful, disciple-making church and the future is bright!

Challenge

These new ventures and invigorated dedication to our mission and vision cannot be done by staff or church leaders alone. We have seen a drastic dip in volunteerism in 2023. It has been difficult for elected positions to be filled. We've struggled in Children's ministry all year long. We've been functioning at a 10/90% rule where we've seen 10% of the church engage in volunteering and doing 90% of the work. Church, this must change. We need more people to volunteer, more people to step up and into areas of ministry. Our children are the future of the church, and we need to invest in them now. Whether you are retired, have grown children or are a young family, we need you to enter volunteering, especially with our kids. Many families are coming to our church. They are drawn to a strong and healthy children's ministry. AWANA is seeing numerous kids from multiple backgrounds who need the good news of Jesus and to do this effectively with the greatest impact possible, we *need* YOU.

Our church is amazing at giving of their treasure, but we need faithful stewards of their time and talent as well. We are fasting and praying for volunteers. My challenge is to you who have not volunteered at all or in a long time. You have time and talent that are needed. When we volunteer, we offer the Lord a sacrifice of praise and we join HIM in His great work of developing disciples and seeing lost souls saved. Please prayerfully consider sacrificing your time, talent, and treasure here at Indiana Alliance Church. I know that when you do, you and our church will be blessed!

May God continue to do His work in and through us in 2024!

Respectfully Submitted,



Rev. Dr. Marv Nelson
Lead Pastor

Worship and College Pastor's Annual Report
Rev. Michael Groop
November 2023

This past year has been a blessing for Kate and me. We have loved being parents and seeing Michael grow. Kate went back to work after maternity leave last fall. I've continued to take courses at Crown College towards a Master of Divinity. Kate and I are both thankful to serve the Lord at IAC. We are also very thankful for the many ways this church has supported the worship and college ministries, served alongside us, and has kept us in prayer.

College Ministry

We had a great year with college ministry. Our Tuesday night college missional community has seen **5 new students** get involved this fall. Several students have led our Bible study time. They have put a lot of time into preparation and have done a great job inviting friends as well. One of the goals of our college ministry is to help students develop into leaders that can serve and lead in the church after they graduate.

This fall we moved the missional community from our house on Warren Road to Matt Frank's apartment on the edge of the IUP campus. This has made it easier for students to come. There is some anxiety of students to visit new groups for the first time and not needing a ride across town has lowered that barrier. In January we started a meal train for Tuesday nights, and we are very thankful to the many individuals at IAC that have blessed the students with delicious meals.

We have seen many of our students get involved with ministries in our church as well. This is one of the goals of our college ministry and even our work with the CCO: getting students involved in the life of the church while in college. Alissa has become our Children's Ministry Director. Four other students serve with our Awana program. Two more students serve regularly on our worship team.

Five IUP students served on the mission team to the Dominican Republic in August. They were all hard-working and a blessing to the people they encountered. A couple students shared their testimonies for the first time. There is enthusiasm to serve on mission teams in the future.

In our partnership with the Coalition for Christian Outreach, this fall we have seen a **50% increase** in our Wednesday large-group gatherings, since the Spring. A high percentage of this growth has been incoming freshman, several with no church background. Several of the new students have gotten involved in leadership, three on the worship team that I oversee at large-group on Wednesday evening.

Worship Ministry

Over the past year our IAC worship team has introduced many new songs. Behind the scenes the teams have worked very hard in preparation to lead on Sundays. On Sundays that I have preached, been in the Dominican Republic, led college retreats, or gone on vacation, other team members stepped up and led worship with passion and excellence. While the worship team continues to utilize technology, we have also implemented more variety in our worship music, opting to use a lighter acoustic feel some Sundays.

We are planning to have a Christmas choir sing for our Christmas Eve-Eve service on December 23rd. In addition, we will be having a brass ensemble play during the Christmas season. Both were blessings to the church last Christmas season. These are both things that we would like to continue to offer, and I would love to see those of you with a passion to sing or play a brass or woodwind instrument participate.

I want to especially thank the amazing worship and tech teams I get to work with: Lauren Yackuboskey, Julie Castle, and Brittany Hipple for the times they have blessed the church leading worship; Kristina Dospoy, Alissa Gornick, Sharon Rank, Michele Peterson, Mark Marquez, and Jeane Hinton have blessed us with their voices; Bob Leopold, Noah Predko, Matt Frank, and Madison Kuhn have blessed us with their instrumental abilities. Behind the scenes, Lee and Wanda Goehring and Landon Bailey have done amazing work overseeing all the technology used for our services and livestreaming. Zaliyah Covey and Kate Groop have served running ProPresenter in the sound booth for services.

It has been a privilege to serve at IAC this past year. I look forward to serving the Lord together, making His name known! Thank you all for your continued support and prayers for these ministries, our college students and our worship and tech teams.

In Christ,
Pastor Mike

EKKO YOUTH/MID ANNUAL REPORT

It has been an honor and a privilege to be able to share the Gospel with our teens here at IAC. Last year had its challenges, and rewards and We have seen teens come and go but we also have a great core that is present most Wednesdays and Sundays. These teens are a blast to hang out with and I can see their growth in Christ as we deal with issues they deal with in today's world. Some days it feels like I'm not getting through but those are the days I get a message from a teen, or they stay after and talk about issues they are dealing with. Its my hope and prayer that they will grow up and become men and women of God who will go out and make a difference. If it wasn't for my youth pastor and other Christian leaders in my life who knows where I would be today. I hope I can be that for them as they embark on their spiritual walk. So far this year we have had a series on what we believe and a series on Mental health. Please keep us in your prayer as we continue to minister these amazing teens.

Big shout out to Lee and Wanda Goehring who have been there almost every youth meeting and event. They have helped in so many ways and I am eternally grateful for them. If anyone is willing to help out, we can always use you.

EKKO MID - last year we averaged about 5 guys every Wednesday. This year started out the opposite with 5 girls on the first day. Since then, we have been averaging 5 girls and 5 guys every Wednesday evening.

EKKO YOUTH – We are also h averaging about 10 per week on Sunday evenings. We had 4 Graduates that moved out of youth. Eddie Lee, Addison Sexton, Ryan Shaw, and Ana VanWieren.

2023 events

February 24th Winterjam - We took a group of teens to Winterjam in State College. Winterjam is an evening filled with Christian Bands and speakers. It's a good time for teens and adults. There is something for everyone.

April 2nd - we took a trip to ITH Church out Sixth St to see Penn View Bible Institute perform their Choir and Orchestra. They did very well and shared the Gospel through song.

June 24th – Cookout at the Cessnas went well. We had a giant slipnslide, fire, hotdogs, smores, dead batteries, lots of grass clippings, and a lot of fun.

July 23rd - Trip to Mahaffey camp was awesome for those that came. We got to sit in on the youth service and the speaker brought the word of God!! Milkshakes were going to be bought but we ended up having to go to Sheetz since they didn't serve milkshakes that day.

August 6th – Destination Unknown is supposed to be a time where the teens come and have no idea where we are going. This time we went to Har tees Driving range and putt putt. The teens enjoyed whacking golf balls then we went back to the church for ice cream!

August 20th – this was our Big Scavenger hunt that we did where they had to go and find, take pictures of multiple things throughout town of Indiana. Some things where easy where others had to search hard. Some things where never found. It was a close battle but Candy and Josh Castles' team that included Nathaniel Castle and Collin Chelgren won the big \$100 cash prize!!

We are looking forward to what God has planned for this group and trust that God will use them in big ways!! Thank you for all that have helped out, donated food, brought their kids, and have prayed for us.

Annual Ministry Report 2023

Alissa Gornick – Children's Director

10/20/2023

INREACH

Sunday School:

We are using the Simply Loved Group curriculum and the kids have continued to love it! We average 26-30 kids per week. In August we updated the kids' registration information and halted the children's ministry for the month. We hoped to see a rise in volunteerism in this period, and luckily we gained a few new people! Unfortunately we're seeing more people leave than we see people willing to volunteer. This is hard as our church continues to grow. We need volunteers!

OUTREACH

Awana:

We made a couple structural changes this year. Sparks no longer has large group because it's hard to focus for such a young age, and it allows the teachers more in-class time. This has proven beneficial for the kids, as they seem to be responding well to the new structure. With their small groups they have an extended amount of time spent learning, playing games, doing a craft, etc. We're also trying monthly meetings for volunteers. It was rocky at first trying to find a flow for a meeting-style, but now it seems like there's an outlet for new ideas and issues for our leaders and helpers. It has been such a blessing getting to provide the volunteers ways to express their creativity with teaching.

All in all, there seems to be a new life to Awana! We were able to have lots of young leaders this year who offer new and exciting approaches to ministry. I will say, the Awana curriculum has gone way down hill. To compensate we purchased the Alliance *One Page* curriculum for Sparks and the leaders seem to like it. I still worry about T&T because their curriculum is equally as poor this year. Pastor Marv and I have discussed changing the program by next year because the Awana curriculum continually gets worse every year that we purchase it. Everything is watered down, there's minimal mention of Jesus, and it primarily follows a poorly-designed comic book story. Not to mention, the teacher and student books do not match! I purchased them accordingly, I believe Awana was changing out the books as I ordered (they were updating the website around the time I purchased the books.)

VBS:

This was a smashing success! Our theme was Keepers of the Kingdom and the kids had a great time going from station to station each day. We averaged 50+ kids/day. They learned to love the chicken dance.

Summer Bash:

This was my first time planning an event like this and it went pretty well! I learned to coordinate volunteers and make interesting games for the children to play. I believe we saw

about 60-70 people at this event (registrations are a little hard to keep track of with events like these!)

Harvest Festival:

After experiencing the Summer Bash I had a better understanding of how to handle this event. Social media was helpful in spreading the word. At least 12 people that responded said that they heard about the HF from facebook. We saw about 200 people at this event, praise God!

OVERALL:

Volunteers:

We need more of them! People aren't feeling the need to volunteer for some reason. It's been discouraging for the whole team, and our regular volunteers. I fear a church-wide burnout.

The Special Needs room is especially in need – I think this is a program that our church is completely missing out on. Families with special needs kids feel like they can't come to church because there's nowhere for their kids to go without being disruptive. If we could implement some kind of volunteer training I think we would see more success in this area. Those I have talked to about interest in the special needs program feel afraid to volunteer because they think they are incapable of providing the correct needs. This is far from the truth! I think we need to send home the message that this program is crucial, and anyone is capable of ministering to special needs students. My heart goes out to special needs families, because my family always faced the same issues with my older brother. I'm passionate that this program does not get overlooked, but I need help in sending the message and finding that proper training.

Staff:

I love everyone! Go team! I appreciate that we've started implementing team building activities in our weekly staff meetings. I'm excited to see how we grow as a unit to better serve Him!

Blessings,

Alissa (almost) Frank (but legally still) Gornick
Children's Director *LAC*

Disciple Making Ministries

2023 Annual Report

2023 was a year of organizing and planning for Disciple Making Ministries (DMM). We started by defining the ministry, ministry-wide processes, and related roles. We also developed the Women's Ministry. All our efforts were covered with prayer, and based on scripture and the vision/mission of IAC. One major goal of sub-ministry development is to remove ministry silos so that each area of DMM is a vital, integrated part of the church. Ministry specifics are below:

General DMM:

- Created a ministry definition document that will be updated as the sub-ministry are developed.
- Defined processes, such as budgeting, that will be used by all sub-ministries.
- Defined roles and responsibilities for the DMM Lead and sub-ministry leads.
- Clarified the scope DMM by sub-ministry to include: Women's Ministry, Men's Ministry, Adult Education (Sunday and Wednesday Bible Studies), Small Groups (includes Young Marrieds and existing small groups), Teacher Training, Church Membership Classes, SALT, Support to missions and other areas of the church.

Women's Ministry:

- Completed a development process that included:
 - Listening to Marv's sermon series on the IAC Vision/Mission and relating it to women's ministry
 - Reviewing demographic information for women in Indiana and our church by age and generation including the characteristics of each generation
 - Defining the characteristics, goals, and mission of women's ministry at IAC
 - Identified the necessary roles and processes
 - Identified activities that will be included in the ministry.
- Developed a ministry definition and roadmap for continued development and operation of the ministry,
- Defined the roles and ministry processes,
- Maintained two women's Bible study classes,
- Beth Henck is the lead for our Women's Ministry.

Adult Education:

- Documented teachers who have been approved by the Elders,
- Maintained the two Sunday classes and one Wednesday class.

SALT & Men's Ministry were maintained until further development can be completed. Alliance Women was moved to the Missions Ministry as their activities are more closely aligned. We will continue to support missions and other areas of ministry in the church.

Looking Ahead:

Next year we will continue the development efforts in the following areas:

- Membership Classes will focus on prospective members, living the Christian life, and serving in the church. The goal is to communicate the importance of church membership, describe and reinforce the elements of Christ-like living, and integrate members into service within the church context and beyond.
- Teacher Training will be available for adults who wish to participate in leading an Adult Education class. Once developed, training will be offered for teaching with video curriculum, teaching with a Bible study book, and expository teaching.
- Men's Ministry will be developed using the same process applied to Women's Ministry. Men...pray about leading the ministry. Our desire is to grow the ministry beyond a Bible study and we will need someone other than Marv to administer the ministry.
- Small Groups will be developed using a process like the one used for Women's Ministry to define who they will serve, how they will function, and how they will support the vision/mission of IAC. This will be a large project that will include the definition and implementation of small groups.

2024 will be an exciting year for the development of a DMM that has disciple-making at its heart. We strive to provide opportunities for each of us to be a Timothy (disciple) and a Paul (discipler). It's been my honor to serve as the DMM lead and facilitate the development of ministry to bring participants closer to Jesus.

Blessings,

Tracy Hibsman
DMM Lead

2023 Deaconess Report

The following women faithfully served as deaconesses at the Indiana Alliance Church in 2023:

Mary Gillenwater	Stacy Marquez	Alicia Frick	Sherre Benninghoff
Shirley Fleming	Diane Stahlman	Kate Groop	Sue Augustine

Visits were made and cards were sent to our church shut-ins. Cards were also sent to others to let them know we were praying for them.

The Deaconesses assisted in a baptismal service on Sunday, April 16, 2023.

We assisted with one funeral dinner this year for the family of Ressie Risinger on Thursday June 29, 2023 and we served four church potluck luncheons on the following Sundays: January 22, April 23 also helped by the Dominican Republic participants, July 9, and October 22 as a Pastor Appreciation Luncheon.

It has been a blessing to serve our church family and our Lord in this way.

In His Name,
Mary Gillenwater
For Indiana Alliance Church Deaconesses

ALLIANCE WOMEN (AW) MINISTRIES

Throughout 2022-2023, the Alliance Women (AW) meet the second Tuesday of each month in the Common Grounds Area, except during January-March because of winter weather break. Our ladies met at 11:00 a.m. for fellowship, and began the meeting time at 11:30 a.m. In June, we changed our meeting time to 10:00 a.m. From November 2022 – October 2023, we held 9 regular meetings with an average attendance of 7 **members**, and the ladies donated an **average of \$366** each month in offerings. Our group goals are to disburse most of the offerings we receive each month.

Our ladies studied AW-recommended National Project Theme lesson materials and contributed to the 2022 and 2023 themes and national project “**SET FREE**” for a “deeper life spiritual emphasis” about ways to fulfill the Great Commission and to explore Jesus’ invitation to be set free (**So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed!**). We also introduced the new 2023 theme “**belong!**” Our “ministry prayer group” interceded on behalf of the missionaries we studied, their prayers requests, and the needs of our members and church families and friends. The new “**RISE UP**” theme for 2023 - 2024 was shared at Mahaffey Camp.

We praise God that the group contributed **\$4,393.80** this past year; and disbursed a total of **\$4,257.80** (**97 percent** of offerings received) to the following ministries:

- Great Commission Fund (GCF): God blessed our giving of **\$900** to the GCF Missionary Pledge. Our monthly GCF Pledge was \$75.
- National Project Themes: Collected and submitted a total of **\$1,162.35** towards National Project Themes of “**SET FREE, live free**” about ways to fulfill the Great Commission for a “deeper life spiritual emphasis” and “**GO BEYOND**” which focused on the Philippines, Kosovo, New York City, and Latin America.
- C&MA Missions Outreach: Donated **\$1,953.00** to support approved outreach projects and workers:

\$ 680.00	GCW of Western PA Missionary Wheels project (Somerset Alliance Church) (Vehicle Fund)
\$ 588.00	Towards \$1,600 donations from Indiana Alliance Church to 16 international workers attending MAHAFFEY GROVE in August 2023.
\$ 205.00	Mark & Kitiya Murphy, Guest Missions Speakers (Thailand IW’s) in September 2023
\$ 175.00	Mexico Project 5/5/2025
\$ 305.00	International Workers who spoke at October Missions (Rick Romano and Dave & Teresa Bill).

- Miscellaneous Administrative Expenses: Paid **\$32.45** for postage to mail 8.5 pounds of stamps.
- GCW Western Pennsylvania District: Paid **\$210.00** to six required outfit calls/district/national dues.

We enjoyed two special *times of fellowship* celebrating Jesus’ birthday at a party in December 2022 at our church, and in September 2023 with ladies from Homer City Alliance Church at Hoss’s Steak and Sea Restaurant. We contributed in May and July 2023 to the Stamp Ministry at Shell Point Retirement Community in Florida which reported contributions of cut postage stamps from Western Pennsylvania that earned **\$17,000**. We also did limited outreach to visit those who are ill and shut-ins, making phone calls/visits to those in nursing facilities, providing transportation, sending cards to encourage, and supporting church family members in need. *Our condolences to the families of our precious former leader, Ressie Risinger, who entered heaven on June 23, 2023, at the age of 100.*

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Dospoy

Director, Alliance Women Ministry
23 October 2023

Trustee Annual Report 2023

Many thanks to our volunteers for the upkeep and improvement of the facilities God has entrusted to us.

Highlights of this year's projects

Power Consumption Project: Our power company, REA, has been financially penalizing the Church \$400-\$500 per month because of the high demand for electricity we have when the air conditioning is running and the lights are on. To address this, the Trustees and several other volunteers have undertaken the conversion of the approximate 300 light fixtures that are in the Church to low power LED. We have also converted the standard thermostats to smart thermostats which allows for better control of the air conditioning and the heating. As a result of the energy savings, we have been able to be free from the high demand penalty since the spring of this year, which has cut our electric bill significantly.

Unfortunately, the Church violated the high electrical demand this September. REA will levy the penalty again if we violate the peak demand threshold once more in the next 12 months. We have found that we violate the peak demand threshold if too many air conditioner units run simultaneously. As such, it is important that if a room is uncomfortable the Trustees should be contacted so that the air conditioner units can be phased in slowly.

Shingle Replacement: The shingles of the East side of the Educational Wing have been replaced this year due to their level of deterioration. The remainder of the shingles of the roof of the buildings are in good shape at this time.

Gutter Replacement: The gutters have been replaced on the Educational Wing and the Gym due to deterioration and failure.

Rake Edge Replacement: The rake edge trim has been replaced on the East face of the Educational wing and Gym and the West face of the Gym due to visual deterioration.

Automobile Damage Repair: The inadvertent damage to the West entrance region of the Educational wing has been largely repaired thanks to Doug King Construction. The final brickwork has yet to be completed as of this writing as the needed bricks are backordered and unable to be obtained.

Stage Lighting Upgrade: Digitally controlled lighting for the stage in the sanctuary has been installed and has made a tremendous improvement.

Parking Lot Line Repaint: The striping of the parking lot has been repainted due to fading.

Automatic Defibrillator (AED): A Phillips AED has been placed in the GYM. The location was chosen because of instances when the doors between the Gym and the Lobby are locked, limiting travel from the Gym to the Lobby but not the other direction. Remember, if someone collapses, CALL 911, RETRIEVE the AED (it is fully automated and when it is opened the device will give audible directions on how to use the AED), and START CPR.

Insulation Project: Approximately 600 square feet of attic and wall space has been identified as being uninsulated with about 500 square feet being installed to remedy this situation. There are about 100 square feet left to insulate.

There are many other projects which have been completed this year which have not been highlighted.

Substantial Projects in the Coming Years:

Sanctuary Carpet: The carpet in the sanctuary and foyer has developed areas of bubbling (at least one individual has caught a toe on a bubble) due to a separation of the backing from the carpet itself. This separation has resulted in the carpet expanding which, according to experts, makes the problem unable to be repaired satisfactorily. Gluing down the carpet would still result in bubbles and ripples because of its expansion. Eventual replacement seems to be the only solution. This will be expensive.

Removal of the Chimney in the Gym: The chimney of the fireplace in the Gym has deteriorated such that there are several substantial cracks in the brickwork and loosening of bricks and mortar. The fireplace is generally unused and an investment in repointing the large chimney would have limited return making removal of the exterior chimney prudent at some point.

Replace the shingles on the Parsonage: The roofing on the parsonage is near its end of useful life and needs to be replaced.

The Trustees always have long list of maintenance and improvement projects so if you would like to volunteer with your hands, please let us know.

Deacon's Report

During the past year the deacons distributed a total of \$8550 to six different organizations and a total of \$2850 to three different individuals. This comes to a total of \$11,400 from your generous giving to the benevolence fund to meet the needs of our community as we aspire to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Note: A number of phone calls and emails were made as follow up on requests for funds that didn't meet the guidelines of the benevolence fund.

Respectfully submitted,
The IAC Deacons