

KALKASKA CHURCH OF CHRIST 2023

ANNUAL REPORT



1725 W. KALKASKA RD.
KALKASKA, MICHIGAN 49646
WWW.KCCWIRED.COM

JANUARY 21, 2024

2023 NUMBERS

BAPTISMS

29 IN 2023

23 Baptisms in 2022

33 Baptisms in 2021

20 Baptisms in 2020

MEMBERSHIPS TRANSFERED

01 IN 2023

10 in 2022

14 in 2021

8 in 2020

GIVING IN 2023
\$652,629.00

\$645,574.28 in 2022

\$631,861.98 in 2021

\$604,410.21 in 2020

BAPTISMS

Felicia Phelan Lindsey Dougherty

TJ Taylor Emilee Ingersoll

Jack Trumble Charles Bell

Nathan Babich Valerie Marsh

Damian Babich Doris Underwood

Bobby Luark Tony Miller

Parker Mills Emily Swoverland

Connie Bowen Ethan Hewitt

Sara McGraw Heather Olds

Larry Holland Chris Olds

Ryan Groleau Staci Orr

Emylee Johnson Bryan Hawkins

Dee Miller Josh Saxton

Amanda Gilbert Katie John

Ellie Garcia

TRANSFERED MEMBERSHIPS

Jana Taylor

KALKASKA CHURCH OF CHRIST

SUMMARY OF TREASURER'S REPORT 12/31/2023

Beginning Balance (cash & cash equivalents)	\$	462,723
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Contributions

General Fund Contributions	\$652,629	
Cornerstone Contributions	950	
Misc. Contributions & Reimbursements	38,453	
Memorial Fund	1,120	
Restricted Funds misc	41,931	
	<hr/>	
	\$	735,083

Other Income

Interest earned (Solomon)	\$	19,519	
Credit Card Rewards		1,375	
Building Use		750	
		<hr/>	
	\$		21,644

Liabilities

0

Total contributions/income/liabilities	\$	<hr/> 1,219,450
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Expenses

Budgeted Expenses	\$	645,817	
Misc. directed giving		32,807	
Restricted Fund Expenditure		36,217	
Total Expenses	\$		714,841

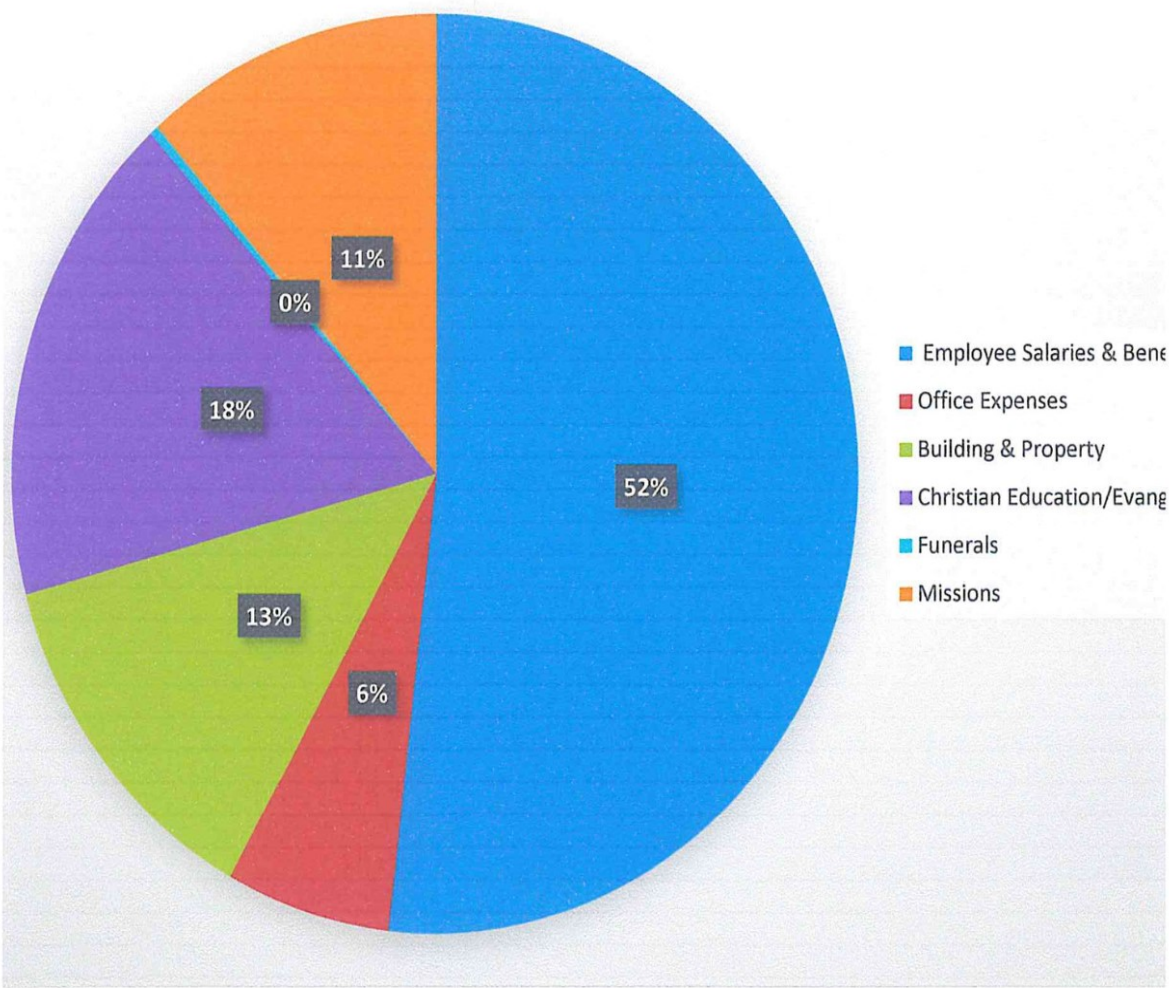
Ending Balance (cash & cash equivalents)	\$	<hr/> <hr/> 504,609
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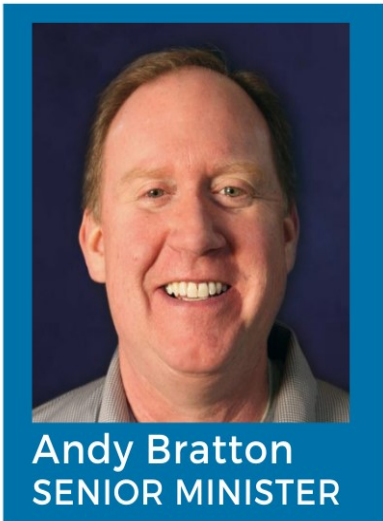
See Mike Babcock or Dick Ickes if you have questions.

2024 Budget Summary

<i>Employee Salaries & Benefits</i>	\$	369,040.00
<i>Office Expenses</i>	\$	44,370.00
<i>Building & Property</i>	\$	91,000.00
<i>Christian Education/Evangelism</i>	\$	124,380.00
<i>Funerals</i>	\$	2,500.00
<i>Missions</i>	\$	81,345.00
Totals	\$	712,635.00

2024 Budget Summary





2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

Each year we, as a church, are faced with the same question..."What's next?" Just as Christians are not called to be stagnant, we, as a church are NOT called to be complacent. Being true to our four vision statements, we challenge ourselves to think in terms of how we can better Seek Scripture, Sharpen and be Sharpened, Show Compassion, and Serve Sacrificially. As leaders, we need to continue to emphasize these areas and perhaps create new ways and environments for them to take place.

I have been very encouraged by the number of people who have been finding their PART to serve at the church. I have had a few conversations and have observed as people check out the display Tim put together highlighting the volunteer needs.

I also have been encouraged by the number of people who read through the Bible in a year and the number of people who have committed to do so in 2024. Our Titus 2 and Basecamp numbers are up, which is a reflection of our Sharpen and Be Sharpened challenge. Along with those programs, Bible Study Fellowship is up and running for men and women.

We continue to work alongside Freedom Builders serving our community. And we are connecting to the community by way of coaching, helping with school supplies, participating in parades, and offering a free concert with a positive gospel-centered message during Trout Festival.

As with anything, however, we have to ask how we can improve what we have going on and what can we do differently before something becomes obsolete. That is the challenge before us constantly.

So pray for the leaders of the church as we continue to ask God for guidance as to what's next. And pray for God to reveal to you where your PART is in it all. My prayer is that we all grow in our relationship with Jesus as we journey with Him.

Here's to a focused and driven 2024. May we be farther along in our relationship with Jesus on 12.31.24!

2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

Happy New Year 2024! The year 2023 was a year of transitions. A year of change. As I get older, I don't care as much for change. Keeping things the way they are is easier. However, change is inevitable and transitions are bound to come. Plus, I have seen God do amazing things through transitions as well.

The Church of Christ that meets in Kalkaska has experienced a transition in the past year. There are many new faces on Sunday mornings. We have made many new friends through the church. Sunday attendance has slowly increased over the year from about 305 in 2022 to 325 at the end of 2023. Members have transitioned from attending Life Groups to larger group discipleship meetings such as Base Camp and Titus 2.

As our church body transitions, we lose people in roles of service. Paul wrote in Ephesians 4:11-13, "...the pastors and teachers, **to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up...**" A larger focus for me has been to create **on-ramps** for members of KCC to find their PART and become part of Christ's body (1 Corinthians 12:12-27). Current avenues to serving include our website, a lobby display, as well as direct contact with a Ministry Team Leader. Assimilating people into various roles involves making the roles more **visible** and enhancing a culture of service. We recently began a campaign called "Volunteer Spotlight" in which we highlight someone serving faithfully at KCC. We plan to continue this practice in 2024. A final piece to assimilation is **appreciating** our volunteers. I hope to spearhead this practice throughout 2024.

Another ministry focus for me includes facilitating the Sunday Livestream worship services on three different platforms: Facebook, YouTube, and CHOP (Church Online Platform). You can find the links to these on <http://www.kccwired.com>. I compile a Virtual Bulletin each week using the [Bible app](#) that accompanies each worship service. We also try to keep people connected to the church via Social Media. Our socials include [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), [Instagram](#), [X](#), and [Threads](#).

Personally, my family has gone through transitions this past year. In January our son, Scott, moved together with his new wife, Gina, up to Houghton, Michigan to begin attending Michigan Tech University. He is studying Bio-medical Engineering. Gina is studying Electrical Engineering. The end of December saw our daughter, Kaylin, also moving up to Michigan Tech to continue her education to ultimately become a Physician's Assistant (PA). Keep my wife, Anita, and myself in prayer as we begin our "empty nest" phase of our marital journey together.

Working with the staff and church in Kalkaska is an honor and a blessing. I'm entering my 22nd year as Associate Minister. Transitions will always be a part of the job and part of life. May God bless KCC members and attendees going into 2024.



Tim Severance
ASSOCIATE MINISTER



Ephraim Costilow
YOUTH MINISTER

KCC WIRED YOUTH

God is doing amazing things in the lives of our area youth. Our group has grown exponentially over the course of 2023; spiritually and in number. At the beginning of the school year I had a youth hilariously exclaim "I think people are taking the 'Bring a friend thing' a little too seriously". Our numbers have grown quite a bit; for most events we've doubled attendance from the year prior. We've had over 100 actively participating youth since our kick-off party this past Fall. It's my goal to remain as intentional as possible,

regardless of the numbers, pointing these youth to God. Anyone can plan fun events and expect people to show up, but I believe our youth keep coming back because they feel the difference in their lives every time they leave. They are curious and are craving more. Jesus is the difference, and He keeps meeting these youth right where they're at. I feel honored to be along for the ride. It's not just me though! I had 10 other adult leaders for 2023: Andria Trumble, Darin Cummings, Jason & Brittany Tracey, Mike & Jill Ponstein, Kaylin Severance, Abigail Apps, Coy Little, and my wife Molly Costilow. These leaders poured their time and love of Jesus directly into this ministry, and I will be forever grateful to each of them. On Wednesday nights we gather for Youth Group. It's my favorite night of the week. We worship together, learn together, and have fun together! One of my favorite parts of youth group is when we split into our smaller discussion groups. We've uncovered a lot together during these discussion times, and always seem to leave closer than we were coming in.



One of the more exciting improvements to this ministry was the addition of Student Leaders! This past Fall 7 of our youth: Que Tracey, Hunter Keasey, Annie Ponstein, Jackson Shetler, Lily Trumble, Josh Saxton, and Jenna Babcock stepped into leadership roles! They individually pray for different youth throughout the week. They help new youth connect and acclimate into the group. They have been true examples of servant leaders. Showing our youth what it looks like to put others before themselves and follow Jesus. They've really sharpened each other and have been paving the way for other youth who might be called to lead. It has been REALLY exciting to watch! Our goal is to grow this initiative. I can't wait to see God move in this.

In 2023 we held 65 youth events, including 3 youth retreats and multiple community service projects. I continued attending weekly lunches at the High School, and was able to start attending the Middle School each week for lunch as well. Our youth group is comprised of youth from multiple school districts and many that are home schooled. They are involved in a

range of activities and I'm always excited to attend as many as I can. It's been an entire year since Mike Ponstein and I launched the Kalkaska Fellowship of Christian Athletes group at the High School. Our numbers are starting to pick up and we are really excited about it! Your prayers have a huge impact on this ministry. Please continue to pray for our youth, as they journey to Christ.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

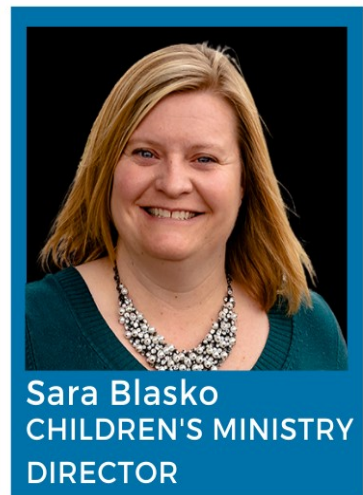
KCC KIDZ (Sundays) Sunday has been a lot more consistent this year. We generally have around 25 kids and I have 9 amazing volunteers that serve once a month. Every Sunday we have free time, worship, a Bible lesson, and the Lord's Supper for our baptized kids.

WASP - We have 48 kids signed up for WASP this year. I have an incredible group of volunteers that make everything go smoothly. This year we are going through the New Testament. Every week they have a lesson, worship time, a snack and game or craft that relates to the lesson.

Octane - We have 35 3rd-5th graders that join us every Thursday. Octane is a great opportunity for our older elementary kids to grow more in their walk with Jesus without all of the little kid stuff. It's so nice that I've had most of these kids since Kindergarten. It really helps that they know what the expectations are and we can focus on our activities for the day. They have a mix of service projects, lessons, and fun. We have a close-knit group of kids and volunteers. We are currently looking ahead to our annual Superstart conference in Detroit.

VBS - My VBS volunteers are like a well-oiled machine. Everything ran smoothly because of them! We had 115 pre-k through 5th graders join us this summer! We celebrated how to shine Jesus' light with a fun space theme. I'm already planning this summer's SCUBA adventure, where we will dive into a stronger friendship with God!

2023 was a good year filled with blessings. I am so grateful and humbled to have the opportunity to have this as my career. I LOVE teaching kids and helping them to have a meaningful and personal relationship with my best friend, Jesus. I love when a "kid" that I've had in the past, that is now a



Sara Blasko
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
DIRECTOR

cool high schooler, comes up to me and shares a fun memory from bible lessons! What an amazing blessing! I'm thankful that KCC sees the importance of children and outreach in our community. I know that is why our numbers continue to grow year after year.



Darrell Boger
WORSHIP MINISTER

KCC WORSHIP

Happy New Year, Church Family!

KCC's praise team has enjoyed leading His congregation in worship again this year. It is a continued privilege that we take very seriously. We've overcome some technical issues and grown as a team - but we continue to look forward to developing spiritually and musically. We were able to bring back "Rock the Flock" and look forward to hosting more worship nights and events in the future.

In the coming year we look forward to some upgrades and pursue opportunities to learn, serve, and grow in Christ. We also expect some much needed technical upgrades that will enhance worship for everyone.

We can't wait to see what
God has in store for 2024!



PRESCHOOL

I would like to start off with the fact that nothing this year would have been possible without parents and grandparents trusting us to watch over their children and teach them about God. Each one of us that gets to work with this group enjoys it so much, Thank you.

This year has been a busy one. I started the Bridge Over Party this year. It is for the 5 year-olds that are going into



Kindergarten. We celebrate them crossing over to Ms. Sara's room. We had pizza, ice cream, did a craft, and played one last time in the Pre-school room. They also got to go with Ms. Sara for a tour of her room and the kids loved it! We had 8 kids that crossed over.

On Sundays, during 2nd service, we range from 8 to 15 children. I love that we have so many parents and grandparents that prioritize bringing their children to church so they can join us downstairs, It fills my heart with joy to have the opportunity to teach the children about Jesus and to plant those seeds of faith.

VBS this year was "Out of this World," and WHAT A BLAST! We had from 15 to 20 children each day. They did lots of crafts, played games, dug for treasure in moon sand, had interesting space themed snacks, sang songs, and danced. They learned to SHINE JESUS' LIGHT. Like I said, IT WAS A BLAST! Without Sara Blasko and her team, as well as mine, VBS would not be possible. Thank you all!

This year I am hoping to start a day camp for the younger children. I'm still working out the details and praying that if it's God's will, this will all come together.

Thank you all for the support you give to the church that makes these children's programs possible. Thank you again to all of you that volunteer with the children. Jesus loves the little ones, and so do we!

PRESCHOOL COORDINATOR: Kina Moore



THE BRIDGE

Reflecting on this past year I find myself amazed at the spiritual growth I've witnessed in the lives of our young adults! Every Sunday morning we gather in the conference room for Faith Training. We've tackled so many important topics together. We continually discuss our call as Christians, and are persistent in our desire to deepen our biblical knowledge. Our group has truly turned into a group of fellow believers that

sharpen each other. For this I am so proud. In general, young adults are in a very informative time of their lives; they are deciding who they are, what they believe, and what they are called to do about it. They are the future of our church, and are a group of people we need to devote our time to. We typically have six to eight in attendance, but have had as many as twelve. I am

passionate about this ministry; whether we have fifteen in attendance or one. God can accomplish astonishing things in the life of one person, and He has!

For the majority of the year, our faith training journey was comprised of topical Christian lesson videos, followed by a time of discussion. This worked great for awhile, but I grew to discern a desire to dig directly into the Word of God. Nothing has been more impactful for us than cracking open our Bibles and reading it for ourselves. Each week we continue our journey through the Bible; dissecting it, discussing it, and striving to apply it to our lives. Going into 2024 we are tackling the book of Acts! Watching this group of adults light up as they discover God's truth has been very rewarding for me, but I believe it has been even more rewarding for them. Together, we've found true joy in Jesus and His Word.

Throughout the year I've been lucky enough to hang with this crew many times outside of the church building. We went on our first young adult retreat, we've gone bowling, we've gone out to movies, we've painted pottery, and we've huddled around several campfires. We've carved pumpkins, tackled putt-putt courses, and shared countless laughs. We've gathered in my home several times for meals and discipleship. I could go on and on, but it boils down to this: We've cultivated a true Christian community.

Continue to pray for this ministry. Pray for the young adults of this church, and the young adults in our community. Pray for internal growth, not just growth in numbers. I can't wait to see what God will accomplish with this group in 2024!



BRIDGE COORDINATOR: Molly Costilow



BENEVOLENCE

At KCC, benevolence goes beyond traditional religious practices; it is a tangible expression of love and compassion shared with those within our congregation, our community and beyond.

Through benevolence, the church acts as a beacon of love and care, providing practical assistance to individuals facing challenges such as financial hardships, health issues, or other life struggles.

This year, assistance has been given in the form of gas cards, grocery store cards, food shopped for and delivered, help with utility bills, short motel stays, assistance with rent, building wheelchair ramps, roof repairs, and interior and exterior home repairs,

KCC, working in conjunction with IDES (International Disaster Emergency Services) and surrounding churches, packed 50,112 meals to be used for hunger relief following disaster situations both in the US and around the world. Over 80 volunteers came together at Wilderness Christian Assembly to take part in packing these emergency food packs. Our generous congregation also collected over \$3,000 in "fish" banks towards the next pack.

Serving together with Freedom Builders, volunteers assisted their neighbors in 11 different ramp builds and home projects in 2023. These projects included roof repair and replacements, replacing windows and exterior door repair. Serving our community in this way assists people in living safer and warmer in their current homes.

Operation Christmas Child, the Christmas shoebox project, in cooperation with Samaritan's Purse, brought in 144 packed boxes from our congregation, 770 from the Kalkaska area, as well as 16,812 from the northern Michigan area.

Many other acts of assistance were done throughout 2023 from groups and individuals in the name of Jesus because of a desire to help others who are/were struggling to get by in these difficult times. Thank you for being the hands, feet and heart of Jesus as we serve those around us.

If you would like to know of opportunities to serve individuals and our community, contact Steve Mathis, KCC's Benevolence Coordinator, or the church office.

LIBRARY

In 2023, the library's inventory increased by 82 new books and several donated books.

The KCC library gladly accepts book donations, but please check that the item is not a duplicate. If we already have it, we will offer the donation to the congregation.



A new Mac Book, was purchased last year and is working great with Atrium, our library software system. It aids us in inventory, organization, and processing the books that are borrowed throughout the year.

Since I have your attention and you are reading this report, we would love your input on additions to the KCC library. What books can we purchase that you would check out and enjoy reading? Please e-mail me your suggestions at gerisuegallagher@charter.net. and I will get them ordered!

Our library is stacked with a wide variety of subjects from grief to love and everything in between, both fiction and non-fiction. We have books for all ages, children to adults. Several junior books were added last year, so bring in your children to pick some out.

We have just started inventory and will be weeding out many books that will be offered to the congregation for free. These books are located on the cart at the entrance to the library.

Thanks to the recruiting volunteer program, we have two new ladies that will be joining the library team this year. We are excited to be growing our volunteer staff.

Happy 2024! Make a new year's resolution to become a bookworm.

LIBRARY COORDINATOR: Geri Sue Gallagher

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

2023 proved to be another year of cup filling for the ladies of our church and community! The women's ministry mission statement over the last couple years has remained the same, as each year we are finding that our Heavenly Father guides us to stay on this course to filling the cups of our sisters in Christ with His extravagant love.

The women's ministry team has been working hard to try to create ways of reaching out to visitors and new members helping them feel welcome and part of the Kalkaska Church of Christ family. We have some very strong programs in place to help our ladies go deeper in His word and to help us fellowship with one another. Between the weekly Bible studies, quarterly events and our monthly Titus 2 program, we are reaching more than 200 ladies.

We continued on the path of quarterly events with a few changes along the way. Our first winter event was our Secret Sisters. We spent the month of February getting to know our sister through loving on them secretly, with the big reveal taking place the first Sunday in March! We are really looking forward to adding to our numbers of participation this year so sign up in the lobby and encourage others to!

In the spring we had the IF Conference where 77 ladies focused on the Lord being our Shepherd. We were brought back to the basics, rallying around the fact that God made us, equipped us, and prepared us for good works. We walked away very clear on our mission to serve God and help disciple those around us.

Summer brought a change to our vision when the general consensus was that families were being spread in too many directions so we came alongside the church as we focused on family time. We decided not to add a summer Bible study but instead encouraged our ladies to find ways to enhance and embrace times with their families. We have hopes of making future summers family focused as well. Please watch for exciting fun family events from all ministry areas in the future!

Our fall event this year was a progressive dinner! We had 28 ladies come out and participate. We were blessed with 3 stops along the way where we served the yummiest food around with such fun and flare, our hosts out did themselves. Along with great food, there was wonderful fellowship and friendship making as well. It's these kinds of events that bring us all closer to each other and to God as we share in our struggles and victories in Jesus!

Our last event for the year was our Annual Christmas Tea where we had 30 beautifully decorated tables and over 280 ladies in attendance. We were entertained by Olivia Lane who is well known for her song "Woman at the Well". Olivia not only blessed us in song but also in her testimony/story of how she once was an atheist but Jesus found her at the well. How sweet it is to hear the testimonies of how we are lost and He finds us! I think we can all relate to some aspect of that. We were also blessed by our own beautiful angels Molly Costilow, Lillian Trumble, Kiera Drys, Kasey Drys and Anita Severance in worship songs to guide us into preparing our hearts for the true reason of Christmas.



We are also still loving the Baby Blessing Basket and Meal train program and boy are we busy with that! We sure do love watching all the new babies coming our way, keep praying, as they are the future church!

Lastly, our College/Military box Program has just begun. Look for information on how you can help bless these loved ones of ours.

In 2024, we hope to continue all of the above and add some outreach events while we continue to focus on filling the cups of our sisters in Christ with His extravagant love! The women's ministry is completely blessed by some amazing organizers, volunteering their time and using their God given gifts to bless those around us. I can't thank you all enough for your driving forces and I truly look forward to seeing what God has in store for 2024!

WOMEN'S MINISTRY COORDINATOR: Lisa Cummings



MEN'S MINISTRY

We saw a revival among some of our annual events in 2023. Both the clay pigeon shoot and the river float had been dwindling in numbers. In 2023, however, both events saw a push and doubled attendance from the previous year.

We added a new event in 2023, as we hosted a cornhole "tournament" for anyone who wanted to join us. We had over 70 people in attendance and gave away a set of boards built for us by one of KCC's very own. We look forward to hosting this a second time.

In 2024 we are offering a seminar on Turkey hunting. It will be held on Saturday, February 10 starting at 4 pm with dinner to follow. We are also planning a picnic for the Village at Rivers Edge apartments this summer. Our goal is to reach out to the families who reside there, share a meal, and build some relationships.

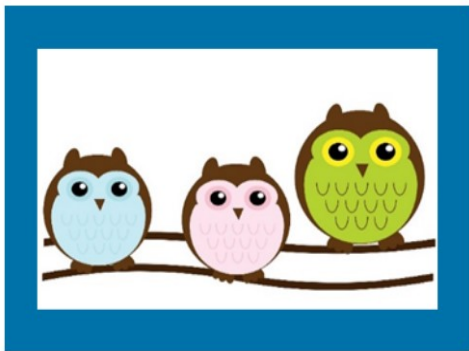
Basecamp continues to be a success. We regularly have over 50 men show up for dinner, large group time, and then small group discipleship. This year we have had guys from the church speak on different topics men are dealing with.

Brett Gallagher, Dale Farrier, Kevin Davis, and Dean Farrier, continue to feed us well, not just on Basecamp nights, but on fifth Sunday prayer breakfast mornings. We have breakfasts four times each year and average roughly 35 guys each time. The goal of that gathering is to pray together for the church staff and each other.

The biggest thing we did In 2023 was to create a Men's Ministry Leadership team. The team is led by John McMichael. We meet the first Thursday of the month at 7 pm for any guys interested in joining us. The leadership team has allowed us to brainstorm some new event ideas as well as to support each of the upcoming events.

For more information on Men's Ministry, join our monthly meeting or watch kccwired.com for upcoming events.

MEN'S MINISTRY TEAM



BABY PANTRY

2023 was an amazing year for the Baby Pantry! We were able to give, serve, and love on a record number of children in our community!

In addition, we had a dream of being able to provide new outerwear to each child in need. Parents were able to sign up their children, each one was individually shopped for, and all items were distributed in October. We were able to provide 63 children with a coat, snow pants, boots, a hat & gloves.

In November each one of our children received a new blanket, and in December each child received 2 brand new pair of PJ's.

The Pantry is open the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 9:30am to 1:00pm. All the above items are given to the families free of charge.

Our space in the basement of KCC allows for quick set-up, better organization, and allows our families to feel as if they are shopping for their children. All of this would not have been possible without our Church Leadership. While the Pantry is a separate entity, we are never treated that way. The leadership continues to think of the Pantry as a part of the Church body and a community outreach resource. Thank you!

Our volunteers are the core of what makes our Pantry so special. They spend countless hours shopping, washing, sorting, organizing, cleaning, packaging diapers, helping families, fundraising, and so much more. Bless each one of you!

To the Kalkaska Church of Christ Family - Thank you for continuing to be our rock! Your donations, financial gifts, and support are a true blessing!

BABY PANTRY PRESIDENT: Kim Stephens

We look forward to serving our community
in 2024!

Kalkaska Baby Pantry Board
Kim Stephens - President
Diane Watson- Vice President
Mickie Castle - Treasurer
Linda Crawford - Secretary

WE SERVED:

HOUSEHOLDS

425

CHILDREN

884

IN 2023 WE SHARED:

DIAPERS &
PULLUPS

24,440

PACKS OF
WIPES

290

BOTTLES OF
BABY WASH
& LOTION

127

**“And He took the children in His arms, placed His hands on them and
blessed them.”**

Mark 10:16

MISSIONS

The KCC Missions Committee exists to facilitate the communication, support, and encouragement between our missionaries and members of the Kalkaska Church of Christ. Here are some updates to the missions we support.

For a full list, visit kccwired.com/missions



KCC sent a group of 20 adults and children on a **short-term mission trip** to Go Ministries in the Dominican Republic for the 2nd year in a row. The team was able to serve through sports ministry as well as church planting during the 5 days they were in-country. They visited with both Dominicans and Haitians in the area working closely with adults and children. Check out the [wrap-up video from the week](#) at YouTube.com/kccwired.

Todd and Ann Ziems visited KCC in October. They gave us an update on the work of Son-International in Tanzania, Africa where they provide water filters, training, and sharing of the gospel. The Ziems hosted the **Taste of Tanzania** fundraiser and auction in the KCC lower level that same weekend highlighting the diverse foods of the Tanzania people including Chicken Mishkaki, Kichambali, and Tanzania Beans. A special offering for Son-International took place in December with over \$3000 given in addition to our monthly giving to the ministry.

Adrienne Stratton Sweat, Director of Community Development of Go Ministries, joined the missions committee on May 17 for dinner and a time of fellowship and mutual encouragement. She was only in Michigan for a short time and took the day to come meet our team. We [shot a short video of Adrienne explaining her work with Go Ministries](#). (YouTube.com/kccwired)

KCC members provided a meal of hot dogs and hamburgers for **Pat Hill of His House Northwestern Michigan College** as they met college students for the annual NMC Welcome Back event on campus. The church also provided cookies and monthly meals for the campus house.

Steve Mathis headed up a fall packing party to benefit the International Disaster Emergency Service (IDES) at **Wilderness Christian Assembly**. The group packed over 50,000 meals to benefit those affected by natural disasters all over the globe.

We continue a close partnership with **Freedom Builders of America** headquartered in Traverse City, Michigan. KCC members have assisted with several local projects in 2024. Skip Brown, Executive Director of Freedom Builders, graciously shared the KCC stage Christmas Eve and unpacked what the ministry is all about. [Watch the interview on our YouTube page.](#)

Operation Christmas Child (OCO) took place in November/December with KCC being a local drop-off location. Thanks to Alison Neihardt for leading this Christmas outreach. We collected over 750 shoeboxes filled with toys and love from the Kalkaska area.

Joe Heins, executive director of **Woodburn Christian Children's Home**, shared about the mission on Sunday, July 9. WCCH celebrated 50 years of ministry this year as well as the grand opening of their Strong and Courageous Learning and Counseling Center in April.

Currently, the **KCC Wired Youth** is planning a [short-term mission trip to Go Ministries](#) in August 2024. A tentative mission trip to Guatemala led by Mitch and Karey Bart is also in the works.

Join our [Facebook Missions Group](#). [Join our missions committee](#). We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 5:00 pm at KCC.

MISSIONS SUPPORTED BY KCC - 2024

KCC Missions 2024

Great Lakes Christian College
10.3%

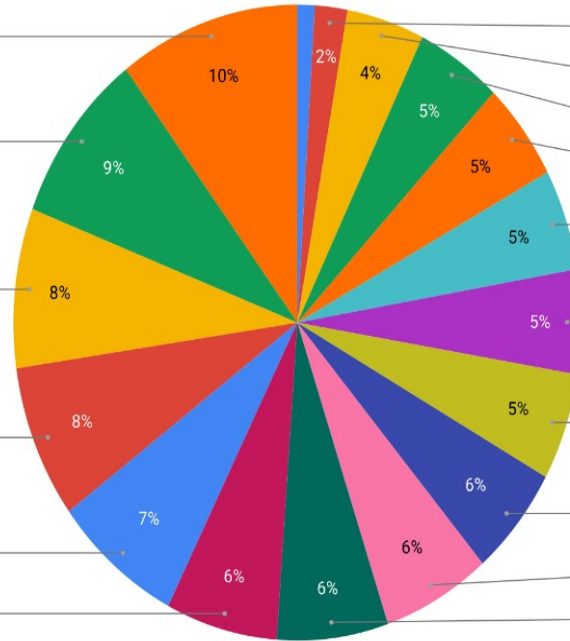
Wilderness Christian Assembly
8.9%

H.O.P.E. Ministries (Helping Others Prepare for Eternity)
8.1%

Sonlight Ministries
7.8%

HIS House Christian Fellowship
7.4%

Son-International
6.3%



Benevolence

1.8%

New Churches of Christ Evangelism (NCCE)

4.4%

HIS House Christian Fellowship - NMC

4.9%

Misc Missions / Short Term

5.0%

School of Christ

5.2%

Woodburn Christian Children's Home

5.3%

K.A.I.R. (Kalkaska Area Interfaith Resources)

5.5%

Go Ministries

5.6%

Community Outreach

6.1%

Asian Gospel Outreach

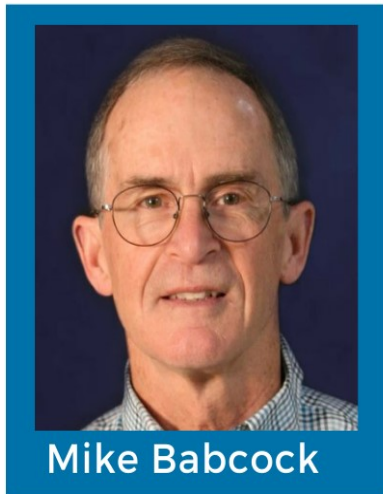
6.3%

Mission Name	Website	Missionaries	Month Highlighted	2024 Year	Monthly Gift	Percent of All
White as Snow	https://wasministries.com	Becky McDermont		\$800.04	\$66.67	1%
Benevolence		Steve Mathis		\$1,500.00	\$125.00	2%
New Churches of Christ Evangelism (NCCE)	https://www.ncce.cc	Matt Schantz	December 2023	\$3,600.00	\$300.00	4%
HIS House Christian Fellowship - NMC	http://nmc.hhcf.org	Pat Hill	August 2023	\$3,960.00	\$330.00	5%
Misc Missions / Short Term		Mission Team		\$4,085.40	\$340.45	5%
School of Christ	https://www.facebook.com/jacquesdi	Jacque Mytel	September 2023	\$4,200.00	\$350.00	5%
Woodburn Christian Children's Home	http://www.wcchonline.org	Joe Heins	July 2023	\$4,320.00	\$360.00	5%
K.A.I.R. (Kalkaska Area Interfaith Resources)	https://kalkaskakairs.com	Kathy Somes	November 2023	\$4,440.00	\$370.00	5%
Go Ministries	https://gomini.org	Adrien Stratton	January, October 2023	\$4,560.00	\$380.00	6%
Community Outreach		KCC		\$5,000.04	\$416.67	6%
Asian Gospel Outreach	Asian Gospel Outreach	Ahtapa Sinlee	February 2023	\$5,160.00	\$430.00	6%
Son-International	SON International	Todd & Ann Ziems	April 2023	\$5,160.00	\$430.00	6%
HIS House Christian Fellowship	His House Christian Fellowship	Scott Austin	August 2023	\$6,000.00	\$500.00	7%
Sonlight Ministries	www.sonlightministries.org	John & Carmen Neihaus	September 2023	\$6,360.00	\$530.00	8%
H.O.P.E. Ministries (Helping Others Prepare for Eternity)	http://badgerosinhaiti.blogspot.com	Jeff & Carol Badgero	June 2023	\$6,600.00	\$550.00	8%
Wilderness Christian Assembly	http://www.wildernesschristianassembly.org	Ted & Heidi Peasley	March 2023	\$7,200.00	\$600.00	9%
Great Lakes Christian College	http://www.glcc.edu	Phil Beavers	May 2023	\$8,400.00	\$700.00	10%
Totals				\$81,345.48	\$6,778.79	100%

KCC ELDERS UP FOR RE-ELECTION

3 YEAR TERM THROUGH 2026

ELDER BIOS:



TESTIMONY - HOW I BECAME A CHRISTIAN

I have been blessed to be part of the Kalkaska Church of Christ family my whole life. I was 9 years old when I was baptized by Paul Stacey, our KCC Minister at the time. I knew I was a sinner and wanted Jesus to be my Lord and Savior and it has been my deepest desire to serve God wherever He'd use me.

FAMILY LIFE I married my boss, Ruben Essary's, youngest daughter, Kim - my high school sweetheart, 48 years ago. This doesn't seem that long ago! Our four children, Andrew, Jill, Megan, and Kaley, are married to wonderful mates, Windy, Mike, Jody, and Michael, that all love God and that we love. The best part...they have given us 11 amazing grandchildren.

HOBBIES In my spare time, I enjoy being a husband, father, and Papa! I run 5K's and bike for fun? I've received and seen countless blessings every year at KCC. I give thanks, honor, and glory to our God in what He has done, and what He has yet to do, at KCC.

OCCUPATION For 30 years, I have owned a small business, Trend Services, here in Kalkaska.

EDUCATION I went to Great Lakes Christian College for a year to gain more Bible knowledge and came back to Kalkaska to serve in the church, and begin a career in the oil and gas business with Ruben Essary.

TESTIMONY - HOW I BECAME A CHRISTIAN

Growing up, my family was not a regular "Church going family"; occasionally we attended the Catholic Church. It wasn't until 1997 when my wife, Debra, and I had our first child and experienced that miracle that I really had a motivating experience to move me to understanding. My wife had been a regular church attendee when she was younger. Over the next few years and the miracle of another child, I really began to see God working in our lives. God was there all along! In 2001 we moved back to Kalkaska and became members of KCC serving with various roles over the years.

FAMILY LIFE I was born in Rogers City, MI and in the Mid 70's my family moved to the Kalkaska Area where I attended and graduated from Kalkaska Public Schools in 1988. My wife Debra (Ball) and I met in high school and married in July 1991. We have two grown children, Alexander and Kelsey, and we are very proud of them and things God is doing in their lives.



OCCUPATION & SEASONS I retired from the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division in 2008. I finished out my career as a Sergeant, Conservation Officer and Field Coordinator of the Hunter Education Program. I began a career in the directional drilling industry of the oil field and worked my way up to be the Director of US Operations and Development for a directional services company which relocated our family to Oklahoma City.

We met some incredible people during that season and had the opportunity to become involved in Life Church and their ministries. With the crash of the oil industry and Covid-19 grasping the world in early 2020, we lost my employment and God showed us his incredible mercy. Within days a new opportunity presented itself back home in Kalkaska, I interviewed, and the process was paused within hours after the interview. We listed our home in Oklahoma and sold it in 42 days. Within 20 minutes of receiving the offer to purchase, I received a call advising the hiring process for the position here in Northern Michigan was restarting and on the day of our house appraisal, in true 2020 fashion, participated in a Zoom Interview with executives from ALRO Steel. Two days later, a negotiation for what has become my third career field began.

We recently, on New Years Day 2021, moved into our new home on property which has been in the family for over 40 years. God brought us back home to Northern Michigan for a new season.

HOBBIES Hiking, cooking, hunting & fishing, and long drives!!!

FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE My favorite verses in the Bible are found in 1 Corinthians 13:13 (Love) and Matthew 22 36-40 (Love your God, Love your neighbor), Hello Neighbor!

CANDIDATE FOR ELDER

3 YEAR TERM THROUGH 2026

CANDIDATE BIO:



James Trumble

TESTIMONY - HOW I BECAME A CHRISTIAN

Having grown up in a Christian household I don't remember not being a believer. The gospel was real to me as long as I can remember and, as a child, I wanted to share it with everyone I met. Having said that, there were long stretches of time where the Lord was very patient with me as I tried to live my live my way. Over the years, He has continued to be gracious to me in his discipline and sharpening. Ultimately, what I have come to realize and focus my life on is there is so much more to being a follower of Christ than simply 'accepting' Him. That is the beginning, not the end. From that moment on, we are being sanctified—set apart for His glory and purpose. Becoming more like Him as we diligently seek first His kingdom. My purpose on this side of eternity is to spread hope in

this fallen world. That hope is Jesus Christ and His kingdom!

FAMILY LIFE

I have been blessed with an amazing family. I am a husband to Andria (since 2005) and a proud father of Lily, Lucy and Jack. We live on a hobby farm in Fife Lake where we homeschool our kids and love spending time together tending to the animals, watching family movies, and sharing a big plate of nachos.

Before moving to Fife Lake, we lived downstate in Bloomfield hills.

HOBBIES

When not with the family, friends, the church or working, I enjoy studying the challenging and controversial corners of scripture, reading fiction, camping, hunting, working on the farm and generally spending time outdoors.

OCCUPATION

I work for a global branding and advertising agency called Organic where I serve as the head of strategy for the firm.

EDUCATION

I went to the College for Creative Studies in Detroit where I earned a bachelors degree in Industrial Design.

FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE

Galatians 2:20 - I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

KCC ELDERS

3 YEAR TERM THROUGH 2024



Darin Cummings



Richard Hodgman



Tim Severance

3 YEAR TERM THROUGH 2025



Andy Bratton



Dean Farrier



Scott Kniss

ELDER EMERITUS



Gene Farrier



Maurice "Fuzzy" Guy



Don Sherman