

2022 Fall Newsletter

# PRINCETON PRESBYTERIANS





# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE CO-DIRECTORS

Dear friends of Princeton Presbyterians of the Westminster Foundation,

Greetings in Christ! At the close of Princeton's fall semester, we are excited to share how our students seek to "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God" (Micah 6:8). Princeton Presbyterians celebrates our students' pursuit of creative and inspiring studies, and we foster a community that affirms their full humanity as God's children. We often encourage one another with a saying from Mister Rogers: "You are special, and I like you just the way you are."

Your support helps us expand programs like The Oasis, a student-led outdoor gathering focused on play and rest during stressful midterm exams. Average weekly worship attendance has increased in the fall semester. Small group leaders like Isabella, Grecia, Grace, and Maggie have explored themes in the Old Testament. Our Thanksgiving Feast welcomed over fifty-five students and friends, and we collected canned goods for the local non-profit Arm in Arm. Amid a mental health crisis on campuses around the country, we offer pastoral care to students and promote engagement with counseling resources at Princeton.

We have ambitious plans in 2023 to host a winter retreat down the Jersey Shore, amplify our service work locally, and make a pilgrimage to the Taizé Community in France. Would you consider helping us grow as the Beloved Community of Jesus with a financial gift to Princeton Presbyterians? We wish you blessings in this Advent season, and we give thanks for your wonderful generosity.

Grace and peace,

Andrew and Len Scales  
Chaplains and Executive Co-Directors





# WHAT PRINCETON PRESBYS MEANS TO ME



Hello! My name is Brooke Redwine and I recently graduated Princeton as part of the Class of 2022. While at Princeton, I was lucky to be part of Princeton Presbyterians, a group that worships God, engages in fellowship, and serves the Princeton community. Currently I am in medical school in St. Louis and thus have been working to find a new Christian community. While doing so, I have been reflecting on just how special and unique Princeton Presbyterians is.

This group is made of loving people who are committed to getting to know God better through fellowship and through asking deep questions. Bible studies were some of my favorite parts of Princeton Presbyterians, as students felt welcome to ask thoughtful questions and explore their faith in new ways. Something I have taken with me after I have graduated and am no longer in the Princeton area is the joy of asking questions. Being thoughtful and pursuing God's Word with intentionality is something that Princeton Presbyterians has instilled in me, and I am thankful to this group for the opportunity of diving deeper into my faith.

In addition to being an open place for questions and learning about God, Princeton Presbyterians is also truly one of the most welcoming faith communities I have experienced. From the Thanksgiving feast to Mr. Rogers' Day, Princeton Presbyterians is a group that has open doors to all people and practices a humble love for others. Opening doors and welcoming people to engage in community with others is a strength of Princeton Presbyterians, and I learned a lot about the impact that a welcoming group can have on its surrounding community from my experiences with this group. I miss Princeton Presbyterians deeply and think about it often, and offer prayers that Princeton Presbyterians continues to thrive as a loving and welcoming group that serves God.



# WHY WE GIVE

Religious Life on college campuses is an invaluable resource during a crucial time of development for young adults. My wife, Lizzie, and I were each involved in campus ministry leadership as undergraduates in Virginia. We found those experiences to be faith affirming, an opportunity to empower others, and an avenue to be involved in positive change in our communities. When we moved to Princeton five years ago, we were immediately impressed by the loving and welcoming community of Princeton Presbyterians.

At first, as newlywed young adults, Breaking Bread Worship was an opportunity to meet new people and take dedicated time for spiritual renewal each week. The unique intersection of undergraduate and graduate students, seminarians, and young professionals strengthens bonds and offers varied perspectives on challenges, privilege, and what it means to love justice in our world. Though our involvement has changed through the pandemic and becoming parents, we continue to support the organization financially and the students through events like Mr. Rogers Day and the Thanksgiving and Easter Feasts.

When I was asked to join the Board of Princeton Presbyterians, I was honored by the opportunity. Len and Andrew are incredibly diligent and organized individuals and I've been excited to work with them to help develop new opportunities for students. Serving as the Treasurer this year has given me a deeper appreciation for the thoughtful consideration Princeton Presbyterians gives to the stewardship of its resources. The leadership structure has cultivated an environment in which gifts, both spiritual and financial, can be employed in effective ways to support students in a welcoming, inclusive way. From an investment point of view, Princeton Presbyterian's endowment is also managed in a manner consistent with the underlying values of the organization.

I am proud to be a part of Princeton Presbyterians and truly appreciate the value it brings to the community they serve.

— Michael Salita



# GIFT IMPACT

As we returned to in-person Reunions in the Spring of 2022, we were able to dedicate a plaque in gratitude to Fred Gerstell '60 across from Niles Chapel in Nassau Presbyterian Church. Fred gave a transformational gift right before the pandemic started. His gift allows us to confidently continue with a full-time and a part-time Chaplain, which increases our direct contact with and support of students.



Consider the impact each gift covers:

**\$10,000** = group pilgrimage to the Taizé Community in France

**\$5,000** = weekend retreat down the Jersey Shore

**\$2,500** = annual Thanksgiving and Easter Feasts

**\$1000** = the "Mister Rogers Day" celebration and service project

**\$500** = monthly meal after Breaking Bread Worship

**\$100** = books for a semester of weekly undergraduate small group

**\$50** = hot chocolate run during finals week with undergrads



Princeton Presbyterians of the Westminster Foundation is grateful for gifts of any amount! Please prayerfully consider how you are able to invest in the lives of undergraduate and graduate students in this season.

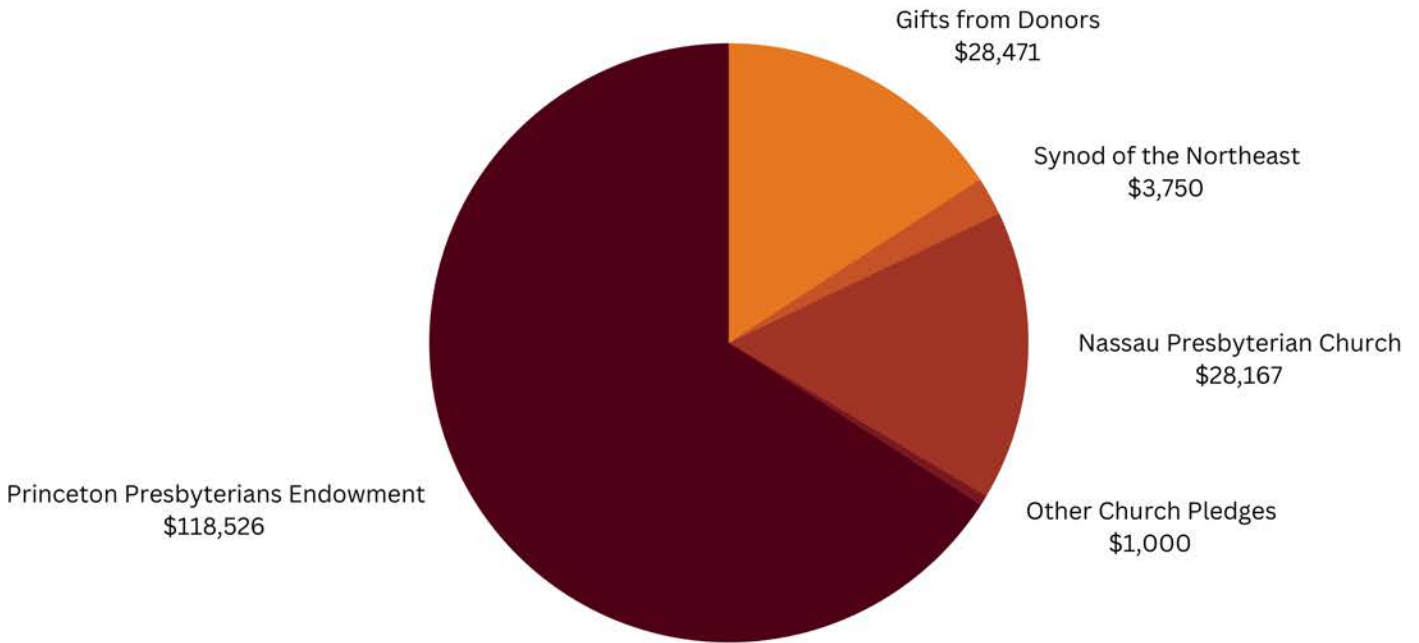


# PARTNERS IN MINISTRY



## Revenues

2021-2022 Fiscal Year



# Individual Donors

Gifts received between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022

## \$1,000-\$5,000

William and Angela Creager  
David and Catherine Davis  
Robert and Cynthia Hendrickson  
Ted and Elizabeth Karns  
Edward Matthews  
Michele Minter Yuan and Jeff Yuan  
Michael and Elizabeth Salita  
Andrew and Lenore Scales  
Richard and Christine Scales  
Jay Thornton and Julie Rufo

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James and Patricia Schroeder  
Lydia Tembo and Michael Lohr  
John and Katharine Van Zanten, III  
Marcia Wood





# THANK YOU!

In response to a photo from the Thanksgiving Feast, a parent wrote the following word of gratitude. We wanted to pass it along to everyone who makes this ministry possible.

*"Thank you for providing a safe, loving space for my daughters to belong. This is a picture filled with hope and promise. I cannot begin to imagine the number of gifts this group has to share with Princeton and beyond." –Talía Rutledge Alvarado*

## MISSION STATEMENT

**Princeton Presbyterians welcomes all students into our beloved community to worship God in joy and hope and equip a new generation of Christian servant leaders.**



## Donate

online at [princetonpresbys.org/donate](https://princetonpresbys.org/donate)

or

by mail

Check payable to "Westminster Foundation"

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