



2023

# SJU Individual Ministry Reports

**St. John United Church  
2023 Year-End Ministry Team Report  
Anti-Racism Team**

**Instructions:**

1. It is recommended that you complete this MS Word form on your computer and submit it by email following instructions 2-5 below.
2. Save the blank form on your computer.
3. Complete the yellow-shaded areas of the form on your computer.
4. Save the completed form on your computer.
5. Attach the completed form to an email addressed to: Debbie Parker at [rparker-temp@comcast.net](mailto:rparker-temp@comcast.net)
6. If necessary, you can print and complete the form by hand, and give it to Debbie Parker or drop it off in the church office addressed to Debbie Parker, c/o SJU Church Administrator.
7. **All completed 2023 Year-End Ministry Team Reports are due no later than January 4, 2024.**

If you have any questions, contact Debbie Parker at [rparker-temp@comcast.net](mailto:rparker-temp@comcast.net).

<b>Ministry Year:</b>	January 2023 - December 2023
<b>Name of Ministry Leader(s)/Coordinator(s):</b>	Debra Snow/ Patsy Nwagbaraocha
<b>Ministry Leadership Email Address:</b>	debrasnow@sbcglobal.net/p.nwagbaraocha@gmail.com

**1. List the names of the members of your team:**

Guy Moody Susan Moody Jean Weller Mary Lou Shippe
--

2. List your team's accomplishments over the past year for your planned actions for the 2023 goals as applicable. Briefly describe the impact of your accomplishments by providing information on the measures of success defined by your team in your plan.

a. **CONGREGATION ENGAGEMENT** – Increased congregation engagement:

- Worship
- Spiritual Formation
- Service
- Generosity
- Prayer

<b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b>
<b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>
<b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b>

b. **EVERYONE IS WELCOMED** – Everyone who interacts with us feels welcomed and valued

<b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b>
<b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>
<b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b>

c. **COMMUNICATION** - Use various communication mechanisms to highlight our core values and connect with our target populations

<b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b>
<b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>
<b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b>

**d. DOERS OF GOD’S WORK – Our community recognizes us as doers of God’s work and agents of change confronting racism and social injustice.**

**PLANNED ACTIONS:**

Maintain involvement in PATH events, especially as they relate to housing, education, employment, etc. as all of these things promote the disparities that can be found in the African American community.

Continue to offer resources, educational and motivational, i.e. docuseries, documentaries, books etc. that will assist in the ongoing knowledge of the existence of racism, discrimination and prejudice.

Offerings of book studies, information about any conferences, seminars and webinars presented by experts in the field of racism, as well as those things presented by the Baltimore/Washington Conference.

Coordinate a Black History Month celebration to be held in the month of February.

Continue to highlight black businesses in the community and encourage those to participate in those businesses and to share any knowledge that others may have of them.

Invite speakers from organizations and/or churches to speak about items that may impact black and brown communities, such as health issues, finances, employment, voting issues, incarceration etc.

**MEASURES OF SUCCESS: Success was determined by completion of five of the six planned actions**

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:**

- Communicated Howard County and statewide events via FLASH (Howard County Minority owned business, PBS documentary on Zora Neale Huston - “Claiming a space,” the address of the Howard County Culture center for folks to visit, info about the PBS special “Let the Little Shine” - A high-achieving elementary school near downtown Chicago is a lifeline for low-income and Black students, until gentrification threatens its closure as a school for wealthy families tries to move into the area, info on Stopping the school-to-prison-pipeline: Tools to protect black neuro divergent students - workshop offered by the United Women in Faith Office of Racial Justice)
- Attended several advocacy days (Debbie Snow attended 2 advocacy days, 1 with the MOMS and other gun violence prevention groups attended by Jean Weller, Mary Lou Shippe and Debbie Snow and the BWC group advocacy day on issues, race, immigration and housing was attended by Debbie Snow. Patsy Nwagbaraocha attend 1 MOMS gun Violence advocacy Day.)
- Patsy Nwagbaraocha and Susan Moody began 9 month Anti-Racism Training sponsored by Baltimore Presbytery.
- Sponsored Black History Month Worship Service February 2023.
- Sponsored Afternoon at Movies for Congregation
- Path involvement included Climate and Housing initiatives (Debra Snow and Karen Hopkins)

- e. **BWES RELATIONSHIP – Continue to grow our partner relationship with BWES students, parents, and staff**

<b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b>
<b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>
<b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b>

3. List any other accomplishments not mentioned above which may apply to multiple or all 2023 initiatives, or are ongoing responsibilities of your team which support the mission of the church:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li></ul>
---

**St. John United Church  
2023 Year-End Ministry Team Report  
Communications & Technology**

**Instructions:**

1. It is recommended that you complete this MS Word form on your computer and submit it by email following instructions 2-5 below.
2. Save the blank form on your computer.
3. Complete the yellow-shaded areas of the form on your computer.
4. Save the completed form on your computer.
5. Attach the completed form to an email addressed to: Debbie Parker at [rparker-temp@comcast.net](mailto:rparker-temp@comcast.net)
6. If necessary, you can print and complete the form by hand, and give it to Debbie Parker or drop it off in the church office addressed to Debbie Parker, c/o SJU Church Administrator.
7. **All completed 2023 Year-End Ministry Team Reports are due no later than January 4, 2024.**

If you have any questions, contact Debbie Parker at [rparker-temp@comcast.net](mailto:rparker-temp@comcast.net).

<b>Ministry Year:</b>	January 2023 - December 2023
<b>Name of Ministry Leader(s)/Coordinator(s):</b>	Communications and Technology
<b>Ministry Leadership Email Address:</b>	Powelltony1@gmail.com

**1. List the names of the members of your team:**

Communications: Tony Powell, Guy Moody, Yvonne Barner  
Communications and Technology: Chris Robinson, Nigel Green, Alvin Thompson  
Tech only: CJ Buche, Roy Ferguson, Rich Parker

2. List your team’s accomplishments over the past year for your planned actions for the 2023 goals as applicable. Briefly describe the impact of your accomplishments by providing information on the measures of success defined by your team in your plan.

a. **CONGREGATION ENGAGEMENT – Increased congregation engagement:**

- Worship
- Spiritual Formation
- Service
- Generosity
- Prayer

<b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b>
<b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>
<b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b>

b. **EVERYONE IS WELCOMED – Everyone who interacts with us feels welcomed and valued**

<b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b>
<b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>
<b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b>

c. **COMMUNICATION - Use various communication mechanisms to highlight our core values and connect with our target populations**

<p><b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b></p> <p>Website will be operational by 1/1/2023</p> <p>We already have a brand, the blue color, the speared fish and the tag line United In Love United For Service. We'll review if there's a need to consolidate and utilize this brand more efficiently</p> <p>Write proposal for PT social media position</p> <p>Review Flash, and social media applications for changes and protocols for updates from ministry teams</p>
<p><b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b></p> <p>Website up and running Consistent use of the brand Social Media position approved and operational Flash has evolutionary changes and ministry teams are executing on protocol for content submissions</p>

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:**

Website operational and well received.

We utilized the social media budget in a marketing effort to boost our online exposure through our new website. With our partner, MISSIO Inc, we leveraged funding available through Google Ads for non profits, to develop search engine keywords that brought more online users to our website. MISSIO has also provided suggestions for future tweaks to make our site and potentially our church, more popular.

We reviewed our platforms and sunset X (formerly Twitter), as it didn't seem to be a fit for us and will pursue launching Instagram in 2024.

**d. DOERS OF GOD'S WORK – Our community recognizes us as doers of God's work and agents of change confronting racism and social injustice.**

**PLANNED ACTIONS:**

**MEASURES OF SUCCESS:**

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:**

**e. BWES RELATIONSHIP – Continue to grow our partner relationship with BWES students, parents, and staff**

**PLANNED ACTIONS:**

**MEASURES OF SUCCESS:**

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:**

**3. List any other accomplishments not mentioned above which may apply to multiple or all 2023 goals, or are ongoing responsibilities of your team which support the mission of the church:**

- Roy Ferguson joined the Technology team to assist with streaming services.
- CJ Buche represented the Technology team's interests to WLICB to provide input on the new streaming equipment and platform scheduled to be installed in 2024.



**St. John United Church  
2023 Year-End Ministry Team Report  
Congregational Care**

**Instructions:**

1. It is recommended that you complete this MS Word form on your computer and submit it by email following instructions 2-5 below.
2. Save the blank form on your computer.
3. Complete the yellow-shaded areas of the form on your computer.
4. Save the completed form on your computer.
5. Attach the completed form to an email addressed to: Debbie Parker at [rparker-temp@comcast.net](mailto:rparker-temp@comcast.net)
6. If necessary, you can print and complete the form by hand, and give it to Debbie Parker or drop it off in the church office addressed to Debbie Parker, c/o SJU Church Administrator.

**7. All completed 2023 Year-End Ministry Team Reports are due no later than January 4, 2024.**  
If you have any questions, contact Debbie Parker at [rparker-temp@comcast.net](mailto:rparker-temp@comcast.net).

<b>Ministry Year:</b>	January 2023 - December 2023
<b>Name of Ministry Leader(s)/Coordinator(s):</b>	Andrea Barnes
<b>Ministry Leadership Email Address:</b>	Awbarnes00@aol.com

**1. List the names of the members of your team:**

Andrea Barnes	Caroline Evana	Pamela Love	Joy Buckingham
Robin Dietzway	Harriet Tootle	Evann Ridgeway	Evelyn Chestnutt
Mary Lou Shippe	Lynne Pakulla		

2. List your team’s accomplishments over the past year for your planned actions for the 2023 goals as applicable. Briefly describe the impact of your accomplishments by providing information on the measures of success defined by your team in your plan.

a. **CONGREGATION ENGAGEMENT – Increased congregation engagement:**

- Worship
- Spiritual Formation
- Service
- Generosity
- Prayer

<p><b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b>          continue to encourage CCC members to interact with all SJU attendees</p>
<p><b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>          Number of person-to-person conversations/ interactions</p>
<p><b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b>          Appreciation expressed by members and attendees for having received cards and/or phone calls</p>

b. **EVERYONE IS WELCOMED – Everyone who interacts with us feels welcomed and valued**

<p><b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b></p> <p>Speak to new faces that you see at service. Follow up at the next service.</p> <p>Continue to encourage Congregational Care members to keep in touch with church members through the use of existing PHONE TREE.[is divided among the current members of CCC; each member is given the task of calling 8-10 people on their assigned list]; in addition members are assigned a calendar month and a list of birthdays in that month. Not all SJU members wish to be on this list, Also members utilize the birthday list to send ‘thinking of you’ cards. Members frequently send at least 7-10 cards A MONTH. Cards are provided to members if requested. Postage is generally paid by the members sending the cards.</p> <p>Speak to members/ non-members before and after the service.</p> <p>Continue to encourage the updating of the emergency cards by having blank cards available following the service for those who wish/ need to update their information, CCC has collected 29 updated cards. Other updated cards have been updated and turned in to Yvonne Barner.</p>
<p><b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b></p> <p>Increased numbers of attendees at worship services, both in person and on Zoom.          Increased SJU membership.          Membership records will be more complete and/or up to date.</p>
<p><b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b></p> <p>Appreciation expressed by members and attendees for having received cards and/or phone calls,</p>

**c. COMMUNICATION - Use various communication mechanisms to highlight our core values and connect with our target populations**

<p><b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b></p> <p>Make certain that communications, including <i>Flash</i>, <i>website</i>, and other sources are clear and understandable to users.</p> <p>CCC monthly meetings will include identifying/ forwarding pertinent information to the above sources.</p> <p>Make certain that the information we have is given to the respective editors of the various communication platforms in a timely fashion.</p>
<p><b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b></p> <p>An increase will be observed on these platforms.</p> <p>Committee will review <i>Flash</i> in order to insure what is occurring in CCC is being accurately reflected in the <i>Flash</i>. We will review recent <i>Flash</i> publications to identify possible actions for CCC.</p>
<p><b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b></p> <p>Chair receives information regarding SJU members; contact SJU members as necessary to determine how the committee can best meet their needs: by way of cards, calls, transportation to and from medical visits, home/ hospital visits,</p>

**d. DOERS OF GOD’S WORK – Our community recognizes us as doers of God’s work and agents of change confronting racism and social injustice.**

<p><b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b></p> <p>CCC will continue the efforts of the mission of SJU by interacting with all members, Encourage all members of CCC to participate as able in these activities.</p>
<p><b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS: Numbers of participants from CCC in these activities.</b></p>
<p><b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b></p> <p>Observations of increased participation in SJU mission activities.</p>

- e. **BWES RELATIONSHIP – Continue to grow our partner relationship with BWES students, parents, and staff**

**PLANNED ACTIONS:**

**Welcome BWES visitors: students, parents, and/or staff; inclusion of BWES in SJU activities as well as inclusion of SJU in BWES activities. Continue mitten and hat tree and school supplies for students as well as teacher requests.**

**MEASURES OF SUCCESS:**

**Numbers of items collected**

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:**

3. List any other accomplishments not mentioned above which may apply to multiple or all 2023 initiatives, or are ongoing responsibilities of your team which support the mission of the church:

- 14 Christmas bags [ poinsettias and individually wrapped cookies] delivered to the elderly/ shut-ins
- Set up for 7 funerals and memorial services as a support for family and friends of the deceased
- Organize repast according to the wishes of the family.
- Continue to be adaptive for those in attendance at church service.

**St. John United Church  
2023 Year-End Ministry Team Report  
Council**

**Instructions:**

1. It is recommended that you complete this MS Word form on your computer and submit it by email following instructions 2-5 below.
2. Save the blank form on your computer.
3. Complete the yellow-shaded areas of the form on your computer.
4. Save the completed form on your computer.
5. Attach the completed form to an email addressed to: Debbie Parker at [rparker-temp@comcast.net](mailto:rparker-temp@comcast.net)
6. If necessary, you can print and complete the form by hand, and give it to Debbie Parker or drop it off in the church office addressed to Debbie Parker, c/o SJU Church Administrator.
7. **All completed 2023 Year-End Ministry Team Reports are due no later than January 4, 2024.**

If you have any questions, contact Debbie Parker at [rparker-temp@comcast.net](mailto:rparker-temp@comcast.net).

<b>Ministry Year:</b>	January 2023 - December 2023
<b>Name of Ministry Leader(s)/Coordinator(s):</b>	Debbie Parker
<b>Ministry Leadership Email Address:</b>	rparker-temp@comcast.net

**1. List the names of the members of your team:**

Mary Ka Kanahan, Pastor Meredith Phillips, Clerk Lisa Cooper Green Jen McClurg Guy Moody Patsy Nwagbaraocha Tony Powell Alvin Thompson Bruce Worley
---

2. List your team's accomplishments over the past year for your planned actions for the 2023 goals as applicable. Briefly describe the impact of your accomplishments by providing information on the measures of success defined by your team in your plan.

a. **CONGREGATION ENGAGEMENT – Increased congregation engagement:**

- Worship
- Spiritual Formation
- Service
- Generosity
- Prayer

<b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Conduct a comprehensive assessment of SJU worshippers to define ministry needs, areas of interest, opportunities for engagement</li><li>• Launch &amp; participate in small group / spiritual formation events</li></ul>
<b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>
<b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b> <p>In April and May, the Council surveyed the congregation using the Congregation Assessment Tool (CAT) from HolyCow! Consulting to get a picture of who we are as a church and what directions are most important for our future. The assessment provided key indicators of our congregational health as well as areas of challenge and potential growth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Out of 116 persons invited to participate, 89 responded – an admirable 77% response rate.</li><li>• Respondent demographics were generally representative of the congregation as a whole.</li><li>• Key survey findings were communicated to the congregation during worship and in a Brunch Discussion on September 9 which was attended by 20 congregants.</li><li>• The CAT leadership group worked over the summer to discern the takeaways from the assessment and ultimately recommended 3 top priorities which helped shape 3 of Council's goals for SJU beginning in 2024:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Make necessary changes to attract and involve young adults and families with children/youth.</li><li>○ Increase connection, engagement, and spiritual growth of congregants.</li><li>○ Provide opportunities for meaningful relationships by working together with the community.</li></ul></li></ul> <p>Work on small groups and spiritual formation events was deferred.</p>

**b. EVERYONE IS WELCOMED – Everyone who interacts with us feels welcomed and valued**

<b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b> Resume use of name tags in worship and events Re-establish hospitality time after worship Re-establish a follow-up process for new visitors
<b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>
<b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT</b> Name tags were prepared in late 2023 for use beginning in 2024.  After-worship hospitality was offered on 12/17 following reception of new members and baptism, and was well-received. Plans are in process to continue providing hospitality periodically after worship in 2024.  Work is still needed to re-establish a follow-up process for new visitors.

**c. COMMUNICATION - Use various communication mechanisms to highlight our core values and connect with our target populations**

<b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b> Provide input/updates on Council activities, plans, etc. to SJU media platforms
<b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>
<b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b> More work is needed in this area.

**d. DOERS OF GOD’S WORK – Our community recognizes us as doers of God’s work and agents of change confronting racism and social injustice.**

<b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b>
<b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>
<b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Council adopted the Equity Prime Questions and Process promoted by Presbytery. The Equity Prime Questions concern the timing of the decision and help ensure that an appropriate type and amount of information is considered to make an equitable/inclusive decision. The process requires that the Equity Prime Questions will be considered whenever important decisions concerning the life of the church and/or the greater community at large will be impacted by the decision.</li><li>• Council accepted an invitation from Kittamaqundi Community Church to enter into partnership with them to provide the afternoon meal on the first Wednesday of each month starting in December 2023 to the Leola Dorsey Community Resource Center in Jessup. The center’s meal program is run under the guidance of Grassroots and service 100-150 individuals.</li></ul>

**e. BWES RELATIONSHIP – Continue to grow our partner relationship with BWES students, parents, and staff**

<b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b>
<b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>
<b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b>

3. List any other accomplishments not mentioned above which may apply to multiple or all 2023 goals, or are ongoing responsibilities of your team which support the mission of the church:

- Council voted to research and discern the possibility of adopting the Simplified Accountable Leadership Structure suggested by the Baltimore Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church. The structure is designed to remove decision-making bottlenecks, make more people available for ministry, improve leader accountability, and promote missional focus, priority, and alignment.
- Council established the following goals for SJU for 2024 to address the congregation assessment findings, our pastor’s departure, and requests and requirements from our parent denominations:
  - Make necessary changes to attract and involve young adults and families with children/youth.
  - Increase connection, engagement, and spiritual growth of congregants.
  - Provide opportunities for meaningful relationships by working together with the community.
  - Install a new pastor.
  - Address Presbytery requirements regarding anti-racism and harassment policies, boundary training, and rules for electronic meetings, as well as support and compliance with pending BWCUMC structure changes.
  - Discern and, if approved, begin adoption of the Simplified Accountable Leadership Structure (SAS).



**St. John United Church  
2023 Year-End Ministry Team Report  
Finance Ministry Team**

**Instructions:**

1. It is recommended that you complete this MS Word form on your computer and submit it by email following instructions 2-5 below.
2. Save the blank form on your computer.
3. Complete the yellow-shaded areas of the form on your computer.
4. Save the completed form on your computer.
5. Attach the completed form to an email addressed to: Debbie Parker at [rparker-temp@comcast.net](mailto:rparker-temp@comcast.net)
6. If necessary, you can print and complete the form by hand, and give it to Debbie Parker or drop it off in the church office addressed to Debbie Parker, c/o SJU Church Administrator.
7. **All completed 2023 Year-End Ministry Team Reports are due no later than January 4, 2024.**

If you have any questions, contact Debbie Parker at [rparker-temp@comcast.net](mailto:rparker-temp@comcast.net).

<b>Ministry Year:</b>	January 2023 - December 2023
<b>Name of Ministry Leader(s)/Coordinator(s):</b>	Susan Moody
<b>Ministry Leadership Email Address:</b>	<a href="mailto:susanmoody822@gmail.com">susanmoody822@gmail.com</a> , <a href="mailto:sjufinanceteam@gmail.com">sjufinanceteam@gmail.com</a>

**1. List the names of the members of your team:**

<p>Roy Ferguson, Treasurer</p> <p>Caroline Evans, Secretary of Finance team</p> <p>Debbie Parker, Investment Trustee liaison/representative &amp; Chair of Council</p> <p>Alvin Thompson, Stewardship Team</p> <p>Mary Ka Kanahan, Pastor</p> <p>Yvonne Barner, Church Administrator &amp; Financial Secretary</p> <p>Kathy Jascewsky, Bookkeeper</p>
---

2. List your team’s accomplishments over the past year for your planned actions for the 2023 goals as applicable. Briefly describe the impact of your accomplishments by providing information on the measures of success defined by your team in your plan.

a. **CONGREGATION ENGAGEMENT – Increased congregation engagement:**

- Worship
- Spiritual Formation
- Service
- Generosity
- Prayer

<b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b>
<b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>
<b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Team participated in the Financial Leadership Academy to help us with encouraging generosity.</li> <li>• Encouraged in memory of and in appreciation of gifts on All Saints Day.</li> </ul>

b. **EVERYONE IS WELCOMED – Everyone who interacts with us feels welcomed and valued**

<b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b>
<b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>
<b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b> Identified grant opportunities to fund the Young Adult Ministry

c. **COMMUNICATION - Use various communication mechanisms to highlight our core values and connect with our target populations**

<b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b>
<b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>
<b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b> Developed standard call to generosity message for worship. Including QR Code on worship slides and bulletin, and in the Flash.

- d. **DOERS OF GOD’S WORK – Our community recognizes us as doers of God’s work and agents of change confronting racism and social injustice.**

<b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b>
<b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>
<b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b> Encouraged in memory of and in appreciation of gifts on All Saints Day.

- e. **BWES RELATIONSHIP – Continue to grow our partner relationship with BWES students, parents, and staff**

<b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b>
<b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>
<b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b>

3. List any other accomplishments not mentioned above which may apply to multiple or all 2023 goals, or are ongoing responsibilities of your team which support the mission of the church:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continued the Finance Team’s spiritual practice of starting each meeting with a devotion</li><li>• Financial Review completed for 2021 and 2022</li><li>• Ended the year without a deficit</li><li>• Negotiated FY23-24 WLIFC rent payments</li><li>• Assessed cash flow to allow us to use CDs to earn some interest on funds</li></ul>
--

**St. John United Church  
2023 Year-End Ministry Team Report  
Vacation Bible School (VBS)**

**Instructions:**

1. It is recommended that you complete this MS Word form on your computer and submit it by email following instructions 2-5 below.
2. Save the blank form on your computer.
3. Complete the yellow-shaded areas of the form on your computer.
4. Save the completed form on your computer.
5. Attach the completed form to an email addressed to: Debbie Parker at [rparker-temp@comcast.net](mailto:rparker-temp@comcast.net)
6. If necessary, you can print and complete the form by hand, and give it to Debbie Parker or drop it off in the church office addressed to Debbie Parker, c/o SJU Church Administrator.
7. **All completed 2023 Year-End Ministry Team Reports are due no later than January 4, 2024.**

If you have any questions, contact Debbie Parker at [rparker-temp@comcast.net](mailto:rparker-temp@comcast.net).

<b>Ministry Year:</b>	January 2023 - December 2023
<b>Name of Ministry Leader(s)/Coordinator(s):</b>	Jen McClurg & CJ Buche
<b>Ministry Leadership Email Address:</b>	jenmcclurg@gmail.com

**1. List the names of the members of your team:**

Mary Ka Kanahan, Guy & Susan Moody, Patsy Nwagbaraocha, Rich Parker, Meredith & Ella Phillips, Mary Lou Shippe, Karen Randall, Karen Hopkins, Pamela Love, Pamila Brown, Joy Buckingham, Rayna Woodford

2. List your team’s accomplishments over the past year for your planned actions for the 2023 goals as applicable. Briefly describe the impact of your accomplishments by providing information on the measures of success defined by your team in your plan.

a. **CONGREGATION ENGAGEMENT – Increased congregation engagement:**

- Worship
- Spiritual Formation
- Service
- Generosity
- Prayer

<p><b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b>          Invite LOTS of folks to join us in making VBS happen this year!</p>
<p><b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>          We have enough volunteers for 50+ VBS participants!</p>
<p><b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b> We had several new volunteers this year and while we didn’t hit 50 VBS campers, we did have an increase from last year!          Seventeen (17) volunteers on site daily - Six (6) were new (Meredith Phillips, Ella Phillips, Katie Shippe, Deb Cathcart, Rich Parker, Rayna Woodford)          Three (3) additional volunteers – Two (2) new - provided Transportation, A/V, and set up support (Alvin Thompson, Chris Robinson, Dean Randall)</p>

b. **EVERYONE IS WELCOMED – Everyone who interacts with us feels welcomed and valued**

<p><b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b>          We will remind all VBS participants that God loves them just the way they are.           We will review all VBS materials and edit anything that is not completely inclusive.</p>
<p><b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>          We will ask parents for feedback to see if this is a lesson that was imparted on our participants          We will discuss and peer review in VBS meetings to address any concerns</p>
<p><b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b>          Twenty-two (22) kids registered; Eighteen(18) attended daily; Two (2) “Pre-VBS” kids (Nia and Kamila) joined on some days          Eleven (11) families – Four (4) were new          Five (5) families who are part of other faith communities chose to participate in SJU VBS          Feedback from parents indicates VBS was relevant and meaningful to children; parents were very satisfied with various aspects including the theme, registration, activities, and parent communications; and children especially like the music and science experiments.</p>

**c. COMMUNICATION - Use various communication mechanisms to highlight our core values and connect with our target populations**

**PLANNED ACTIONS:**

Use social media posts leading up to registration and VBS participation in order to share pictures and stories of previous years and what to look forward to this year

**MEASURES OF SUCCESS:**

New registrants indicate "Social Media" as how they heard about VBS

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:** We did not quite accomplish this goal of using Social Media, we will prioritize it for next year to see if it helps. We need to focus on partnering with our Communications team to make this happen instead of trying to take it upon ourselves – let's use the folks we have!

One family indicated they found us via Google

**d. DOERS OF GOD'S WORK – Our community recognizes us as doers of God's work and agents of change confronting racism and social injustice.**

**PLANNED ACTIONS:**

We will do outreach to BWES and the community for VBS registration

We will look at doing some sort of service project for VBS that lets our young participants be active in social justice in our community

**MEASURES OF SUCCESS:**

Participation of community and BWES students in VBS  
Completing the service project

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:**

Three (3) families came to us because a friend from SJU invited them

One additional family came to us because the parent works with SJERC at WLIFC

For our service project, we assembled twenty (20) "Welcome/Comfort" boxes for Hopeworks Shelter (<https://hopeworksofhc.org>) which will hand them out to children who have fled domestic violence in their homes and found their way to the Hopeworks Shelter.

**e. BWES RELATIONSHIP – Continue to grow our partner relationship with BWES students, parents, and staff**

**PLANNED ACTIONS:**

We will reach out to BWES students to join us at VBS

We will look into the possibility of doing a service project to connect SJU with BWES

**MEASURES OF SUCCESS:**

We will report the number of BWES students who join us

Completing our service project

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:**

One BWES student who attended last year, Laila, registered online but never showed up.

Unable to contact parent on multiple tries.

Unfortunately, our efforts to reach out to BWES were constrained by Howard County Schools policies regarding outside advertising.

3. List any other accomplishments not mentioned above which may apply to multiple or all 2023 goals, or are ongoing responsibilities of your team which support the mission of the church:

- While it may seem like a small thing, the fact that we had several new adult volunteers is a great accomplishment for us, especially as we look to next summer and knowing that we will not have Pastor Mary Ka to help us run our activity station.

**St. John United Church  
2023 Year-End Ministry Team Report  
Worship Ministry – Audio/Visual Team**

**Instructions:**

1. It is recommended that you complete this MS Word form on your computer and submit it by email following instructions 2-5 below.
2. Save the blank form on your computer.
3. Complete the yellow-shaded areas of the form on your computer.
4. Save the completed form on your computer.
5. Attach the completed form to an email addressed to: Debbie Parker at [rparker-temp@comcast.net](mailto:rparker-temp@comcast.net)
6. If necessary, you can print and complete the form by hand, and give it to Debbie Parker or drop it off in the church office addressed to Debbie Parker, c/o SJU Church Administrator.
7. **All completed 2023 Year-End Ministry Team Reports are due no later than January 4, 2024.**

If you have any questions, contact Debbie Parker at [rparker-temp@comcast.net](mailto:rparker-temp@comcast.net).

<b>Ministry Year:</b>	January 2023 - December 2023
<b>Name of Ministry Leader(s)/Coordinator(s):</b>	Mary Ka Kanahan, Worship Ingrid Sampson, Music CJ Buche, A/V (NOTE: CJ is Coordinator, not leader)
<b>Ministry Leadership Email Address:</b>	

**1. List the names of the members of your team:**

A/V - CJ Buche, Roy Ferguson, Nigel Green, Rich Parker, Chris Robinson, Alvin Thompson



**2. List your team’s accomplishments over the past year for your planned actions for the 2023 goals as applicable. Briefly describe the impact of your accomplishments by providing information on the measures of success defined by your team in your plan.**

**a. CONGREGATION ENGAGEMENT – Increased congregation engagement:**

- Worship
- Spiritual Formation
- Service
- Generosity
- Prayer

<b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b>
<b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>
<p><b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- One new person joined the A/V team as a result of outreach through E-news flash, announcements during worship, and conversations with members.</li> <li>- A/V team coordinates and rehearses regularly with the pastor, liturgists, music director, and other event organizers before weekly Sunday worship services, memorial services, and other special events. This ensures that services/events proceed smoothly and provide a reverent environment for in-person and online attendees.</li> <li>- AV team utilizes an online sign-up program (sign-up Genius) that allows team members to schedule themselves months in advance of services, for efficient planning purposes.</li> </ul>

**b. EVERYONE IS WELCOMED – Everyone who interacts with us feels welcomed and valued**

<b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b>
<b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>
<p><b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A/V team helped SJU demonstrate our caring for our members and those affiliated with SJU by providing in-room and broadcast support for seven funeral/memorial services in 2023 including three in the month of March.</li> <li>- A/V team support helped provide reverent and meaningful commemorations and allowed family and friends who were not able to attend in person to be a part of the service.</li> <li>- Six of these services were staffed broadcasts via LiveStream on the internet, YouTube, and Facebook with A/V team members operating cameras and projecting videos and graphics. Per the family’s request, we provided in-room-only A/V support for one additional service.</li> <li>- These services were not limited to SJU members. We honored long-term worshipers as well as the family member of an SJU member. (Betsy Hudson, Andy Snope, Pat Gordon, Bill Becker, Paul Broady, Angelo Farmer, and Max Balter)</li> <li>- On request, the AV team provided individual copies of memorial services to family members as keepsake items for the future.</li> </ul>

**c. COMMUNICATION - Use various communication mechanisms to highlight our core values and connect with our target populations**

<b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b>
<b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:**

- A/V team provided in-room and broadcast support to worship services weekly providing outreach and connection with our members, regular worshippers, and those who were visiting.
- Most services were staffed broadcasts with A/V team members operating cameras and projecting videos and graphics in Room 4 and via LiveStream on the internet, YouTube, and Facebook.
- Several worship services were supported using the Automatic Broadcast function. These unstaffed events provided similar LiveStream of the service to the various platforms using only a single camera view.
- When technical difficulties arise, A/V team edits and re-posts services on all platforms. This includes regular editing of online services outside of Streamspot.
- A/V team maintains an archive of ALL SJU worship and memorial services while administering the online Streamspot archives to maintain harmony with other church services within the WLIFC.
- A/V team regularly converts and edits media to allow projection using the Room 4 A/V system. This media allows the pastor, music director, and other worship leaders to present diverse, multicultural music which is interesting and enjoyable for our worship attendees. Addition of the SJU anti-racism banner and our CCLI license information to the media during editing highlight our commitment to social justice and document our authorization to use the media.
- A/V team also supported special events and services with video, music, graphics, and/or LiveStream or Zoom broadcast including the SJU Annual Meeting, Valentine Craft Activity, Vacation Bible School, and Christmas Eve Service.

**d. DOERS OF GOD’S WORK – Our community recognizes us as doers of God’s work and agents of change confronting racism and social injustice.**

**PLANNED ACTIONS:**

**MEASURES OF SUCCESS:**

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:**

- A/V team includes the SJU Anti-Racism banner as a “trailer” when we project music videos.

**e. BWES RELATIONSHIP – Continue to grow our partner relationship with BWES students, parents, and staff**

<b>PLANNED ACTIONS:</b>
<b>MEASURES OF SUCCESS:</b>
<b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS / RESULTS / IMPACT:</b>

**3. List any other accomplishments not mentioned above which may apply to multiple or all 2023 goals, or are ongoing responsibilities of your team which support the mission of the church:**

- A/V team continued to learn how to best use the current A/V system. Internet searches, consultation with SJERC A/V team members, and some trial-and-error discovery learning all contributed to our ability to address various challenges with the current system’s capabilities and limitations so that we could provide the highest quality support to SJU.
- A/V team communicates regularly with other Room 4 equipment users to discern when automatic broadcasts are scheduled and manual broadcasts are staffed.
- Members of the A/V team coordinated with the SJERC A/V team, WLIFC Bldg Manager, and WLIFC Board to identify required capabilities, solicit bids, and select a vendor to provide a new, more capable A/V system. The new system is expected to be installed sometime in early 2024.

**St. John United Church  
2023 Year-End Ministry Team Report  
Worship Music Ministry**

<b>Ministry Year:</b>	January 2023 - December 2023
<b>Name of Ministry Leader(s)/Coordinator(s):</b>	Mary Ka Kanahan, Worship Ingrid Sampson, Music

The highlight for the SJU Chancel Choir during 2023 was the preparation and singing of the Advent Cantata, "I Hear the Prophet Callin". This cantata is an engaging work utilizing a range of American musical styles and it was the focus of our rehearsal time through the fall. We all enjoyed the music and the challenge of digging into a large work with the goal in mind of presenting it to the congregation in December.

One of our new anthems this year is a setting of Mark Miller's "Draw the Circle Wide", a song whose theme is right in line with SJU's ministry of welcome and inclusion. This song was sung by choir at first, then expanded to congregational singing.

SJU was proud to welcome Destini Nyorkor back from college to sing as part of summertime special music.

A few times during the year, Ingrid shared a song as part of Time with Children and Youth during Sunday worship.

**St. John United Church  
2023 Year-End Ministry Team Report  
Young Adult Ministry Group**

Prepared by: Trena Perez

January 4, 2024

**SJU Young Adult Ministry Group:**

The young adult ministry group is comprised of adults from the ages of 21 to 35 years old. This group was formed to provide young adults with an opportunity to fellowship and develop activities based on their interests.

**Vision Board Party – February 25th**

Our first activity was a Vision Board Party. We had 11 participants, Pastor Mary Ka, Tony Powell, and Trena Perez served as hosts. Everyone wrote three things that they felt were holding them back from accomplishing their goals and released them in the fire as part of a burning ceremony. Pastor Mary Ka explained that the smoke represented prayers to God. After this was completed, the participants created their vision boards for 2023. The pictures of the vision boards were displayed on the welcome monitor at the WLIFC.

**SJU CAT Survey – Completed by May 16th**

5 members of the young adult group took the CAT survey. Their input contributed to developing the top priorities for SJU.

**Church Picnic – June 4th**

We had 8 of the young adults help with setting up the picnic and providing entertainment. The entertainment that they provided were the following: an African dance, a dance choreographed using a hula hoop, and help to demonstrate line dancing.

### **Saving Grace Financial Workshop – September 24<sup>th</sup> – October 29<sup>th</sup>**

Pastor Mary Ka along with Trena Perez facilitated a financial workshop over an eight-week period. Six participated in the workshop and then discussed what they learned during our church service on October 29<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Mary Ka had a celebratory lunch for the participants.

### **Trunk or Treat (partnership with Bryant Woods Elementary School) - October 27<sup>th</sup>**

Four young adults participated in the Trunk or Treat event. Two assisted with helping to decorate their family vehicles and distributing candy. Two other young adults brought children to enjoy the festivities.

### **Scholarship Presentation – November 19<sup>th</sup>**

Two members of the young adult group were awarded scholars from the Johnson Center of Community Excellence based on community service and academic achievement. The scholarship awards were presented to them during our church service on November 19<sup>th</sup>.

### **2024 - Leadership**

In 2024, Jordan Randall and Gayelle Sama will be the leaders for the Young Adult Ministry Group supported by SJU Council Member Trena Perez.