

2024 Annual Report - Associate Pastor

Joshua Wypij

As I reflect on this past year, one visit stands out in my memory, a visit to Denny and Sharon Ortel, shortly before Denny passed away. Denny was not just a foundational member of our church, he was the embodiment of what it means to be a pioneer in faith.

When he and Sharon bought their home on Clearview Drive back in the '70s, it was more than just a purchase—it was an act of faith. Looking at his vast basement, Denny heard a whisper from the Lord, "Clearview Tabernacle," which sparked the inception of our fellowship right there in the basement of their home.

During my visit, I was tasked with fixing their TV—a task I humorously note was absent from my Bible College training! As I worked in that chilly, time-worn basement, running cables, I felt moved by the pioneering spirit that named our church. This wasn't just about a name, it was about a calling.

Denny and Sharon's home was the cradle of our church before we had a building of our own. It was in that basement where the faith of many was ignited, where worship was not just heard but felt in the raw, unadorned pursuit of the Holy Spirit. They weren't just gathering as a community, they were earnestly seeking and experiencing the move of the Holy Spirit.

Denny's life was a testament to his generosity and trust in God. He not only gave his space but later used his home as collateral for the mortgage on our current property. He was a man who was led by the Holy Spirit to pioneer and step out, but it wasn't just about starting something new; it was about sustaining and nurturing it through personal sacrifice and unwavering faith.

We will miss Denny tremendously, but his legacy continues to inspire us. As we look back on this year, we remember that to be a part of Pioneer Christian Fellowship is to carry forward that same spirit of trust in the Lord, obedience, and pioneering action, no matter the challenges we face.

Below are my responsibilities and highlights from the past year at PCF.

Love y'all,
Pastor Josh

Weekly Sunday Morning Responsibilities:

- Created ProPresenter presentations for services; imported and formatted worship songs and sermon slides.
- Organized and coordinated Sunday morning announcements.
- Scheduled and coordinated with Elders for Sunday morning prayer.
- Managed hardware and software for Audio, Visual, Lighting (AVL).
- Directed the AVL team weekly.

Weekly Duties:

- Managed social media accounts (Facebook, Instagram, & YouTube).
- Updated the pcf.churchcenter.com app with upcoming events.
- Engaged in graphic design for special events, Sunday sermon art, PCF ministries, website, social media, and the digital sign.
- Handled video editing for special events, announcement videos, countdowns, visual aids, sermon videos, VBS, and funerals.

Meetings, Counseling, and Visitations:

- Attended Monday Morning Staff Meetings.
- Participated in Monthly Trustee Meetings and Monthly Elder Meetings.
- Conducted hospital/home visitations as needed.
- Provided counseling services as required (personal, marital, parenting, financial).

Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12):

- January to June: Thursday Nights from 6:30 to 8:30 PM.
- September to Present: Sunday Nights from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

Youth Ministry Special Events:

- Bowling Night
- The Forever Weekend
- End of the Year Cookout
- Camp Judah
- Back 2 The Grind
- Bills Watch Party
- Rooted Game Night
- Rooted Christmas Party

Youth Ministry Team:

- January-June: JD Sentz, Carrie Sentz, Eric Herman, Ashley Ameis, Dawson Gallagher, Makayla Gallagher, Jeremy Campbell, Mac Laird, Tim Bainbridge, Liz & Austin Pierce.
- September-Present: JD Sentz & Carrie Sentz (CO-LEADERS), Eric Herman, Nate Propert, Tim Bainbridge, Ashley Ameis, Isaac Kopp, Jeremy

Campbell, May Steves, Dylan Hutchinson, Teresa Bookmiller, Rose Wagner, Mac Laird, Mike Bookmiller, Judy Leon, Jenn Belz.

Worship Team (Monthly and As Needed):

- Selected songs for weekly services and created song maps.
- Distributed songs digitally to the team and provided printed copies.
- Uploaded songs to ProPresenter.
- Prepared the platform for worship services.
- Led worship alongside Mac Laird, Rose Wagner, and Adalyn Wypij.

Additional Responsibilities:

- Preaching duties on Sunday mornings and at youth ministry events when needed.
- Served on the board of Camp Judah, participating in both online and in-person meetings.
- Part of the planning committee for "The Forever Weekend" youth event, working with Pastor Kevin Ormsby (Love Joy Church) and Pastor Ben Schultz (Family Life Church).

Emergency Leadership:

- Provided leadership to maintain church operations and community support during the Senior Pastor's absence due to health issues.

Summer Internship - Mentoring Mac Laird:

- Mentored Mac Laird, a first-year student at Elim Bible College, who was under my direct leadership for the summer. Mac showed a clear call from God for ministry, specifically in leading worship.
- He was instrumental in graphic design, photography, and significantly contributed to the youth ministry by leading worship weekly from January to July, and now monthly.
- Our time together was marked by spiritual growth, skill development, and collaboration, alongside Pastor Scott, though Mac was primarily under my mentorship.