

**Community of St. Ninian**  
**Annual Report**  
**November 18, 2022**

The Community of St. Ninian entered our 4<sup>th</sup> decade as a community this year.

Since our last annual meeting we have continued to adapt to the vagaries of COVID-19. We have been meeting in person when possible and moving to virtual meetings when circumstances indicate the prudence of doing so. When returning to in-person we have continued to have a virtual option, so most of our meetings have been hybrid with some joining in person and some by Zoom. This has worked out well and has allowed those who have not been able to attend in person to remain connected with the community. After a few crowded meetings at the Shalom House, we arranged to move our meetings to the “main” building at Church of the Savior. This has proved advantageous for several reasons, and we are grateful to have been able to make this change.

We have continued to make our charitable donations to groups early in the year so that the recipients can make their plans and have the funds available to use as needed during the year. We made donations to Family Promise, Strength for the Journey, the Volunteer Ministry Center, the Interfaith Clinic, Positively Living, the Tennessee Equality Project Foundation, and A Place at the Table for a total of \$1,800. We have also designated \$1,000 for the MCCK Deacon Assistance Fund for them to request when needed. We gave an additional gift to Family Promise to help cover the cost of housing their guests and purchased a refrigerator for Bryant’s Bridge. Bryant’s Bridge is a new organization in Knoxville, providing affordable housing and a safe place for LGBTQ+ youth and young adults to prevent homelessness. They also provide support and services to help their guests navigate the transition from youth to adulthood. Additionally, we will be sharing a joint Thanksgiving dinner with them. This new collaboration seems to be a natural fit for us.

We continued our association with Family Promise as a support congregation, providing meals several times during the year, and are looking forward to their planned return to “in person” accommodations and meals in April.

We resumed our ice cream social this year for the first time since 2019. It was again held at Victor Ashe Park and approximately fifty people attended. It seemed that everyone had a good time and was glad for its return. Many thanks to Randy and Rick for the many flavors of ice cream and for everyone else who helped make it a success.

We currently have nine covenanting members. A total of fifteen persons (thirteen adults and two children) have participated regularly throughout the year, with occasional visitors.

God’s grace and endless mercy are what empower us to remain faithful and hopeful. May we be salt and light.

*Jan Thomas*  
Prior