



PHILADELPHIA
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT

2019

EDITION

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MISSION STATEMENT

Growing the Kingdom of God by spreading the Good News,
serving the least among us, working for justice and teaching
future generations.



VISION STATEMENT

God calls us to **BLESS** others as we have been blessed.

Believe – Love – Evangelize – Share – Serve

OFFICERS & STAFF

THE SESSION

Class of 2019

Mike Barkley
Beth Barnes
David Houck
Cindi Hoffner (clerk)
Dick Lamb
Marc McClure
Andrew Starnes

Class of 2020

Matt Corrigan
Bill Crowder
Barry Long
Caroline McGahey
John Nofsinger
Ashley Ponscheck
Jason Williams

Class of 2021

Karen Davidson
Connie Ensley
Matt Hall
Allen Hardy
Pam Jack
Bill Johnston
Richard Newton

Incoming Class 2022 – Beth Barnes, David Houck, Tim Rosmon,
Rolf Jaeger, Debbe King, David Gallagher, Emily Davis

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2019

Carolee Jaeger
Amy Kafitz
Sonya Kelley
Carla Lohrer
Dale Mayberry
Patti Nofsinger
Ann Pearce
Lewana Ratliff
Judy Turnage (moderator)
Angela Watts

Class of 2020

James Blanchard
Linda Davenport
Hillary Hall
Mike Hastings
Laura King
Jane Long
Lisa Nance
Jillian Rosmon
Kristina Simmons

Class of 2021

Tam Babulski
Julia Clark
Vicki Crossman
Tommy Flowe
Marge Gledhill
Ann Hutton
Melissa Johnson
Doris Miller
Carolyn Pence
Alana White

Incoming Class of 2022 – Amy Kafitz, Sonja Kelly, Lewanna Ratliff,
Angela Watts, Dale Mayberry, Becky Szymanski

STAFF

Rev. Danny Trapp – Interim Senior Pastor
Katie Sloan – Associate Pastor, CLP
Shane Sledd – Minister of Youth and Families
Judy Clinton – Office Manager
Cynthia Stokes – Secretary
Linda Cummins – Web Administrative Assistant
Jane Mendlik - Interim Director of Music
Dr. Leslie Anderson – Organist
Melinda Johnston – Children’s Choir Director
Marnie Gallagher – Youth Choir Director
Becky Brown – Weekday Preschool-Pre -K Director
Dave Gore – Maintenance
Gary Knighton – Maintenance
Brandon Woodcock – Maintenance

From Our Interim Pastor Danny Trapp

I've long felt that the term "annual report" just doesn't sound right when trying to share the highlights of a year in the life of a congregation. It's so corporate. Of course, we are in fact a corporation and we are, in many respects, a business but we are so much more. We are a family of families who choose to be with each other in praise and worship of God. We are Kingdom Kids and Presbyterian Women and Wonderful Wednesday's and Backpacks of Love and all that those names imply. We are children, middle and high school youth, young adults, adults, maturing adults and senior adults – in ministry together in one of the few places on earth where such a cross-generational gathering can occur; the church.



This year we have revised the format of this report to try and portray the previous year in the life of Philadelphia Presbyterian Church in a less corporate style. We are more than numbers, more than words on a page and more than a collection of individual committees – we are the people of God. As we celebrate the 250th year of ministry in this place let us continue to look to the future together, loving God, loving each other, loving our neighbor as Christ commanded.

We are a family of families who choose to be with each other in praise and worship of God.

Let us know what you think. And what else we might call it. The Congregational Narrative? The Year in the Life? The Philaport? (No! just kidding...really).

Blessings and peace,

Rev. Danny Trapp

From Our Associate Pastor Katie Sloan

In addition to my daily prayers of gratefulness for PPC, our annual report is another way I can offer a prayer of gratitude for each of you who faithfully and with grace, bring help to those in need, ensure that our sick and shut-in are cared for with love, the campus is maintained, that the places that break God's heart receive an extra portion of love, and that the business of the church is handled in a way that honors God.

Each time we joined hands together to pray or prepared meals for Room in the Inn, God was there. Each time we faithfully listened and responded to the call to share of our time, talent and treasures, God was there. Each time we experienced change and transition we experienced the living God.

For over 250 years, generations of ancestors have encountered the living God at PPC. While traditions remain, countless siblings in Christ fought for change so that we could still be here today ministering in new and exciting ways.



2020 begins with high hopes and expectations, yet with no diminished need for our attention, hard work, dependence upon God, and commitment to continuing on this pathway to the place God longs to find us. With each step into the future we must renew our faith as well as our energy, so that we might live more fully into faithful discipleship to Jesus Christ. As we celebrate all the possibilities that the next year and even 250 years hold, we can trust that the living God will be there filling us with new life and even carrying us when necessary.

"If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is 'Thank you,' that will be sufficient." -Meister Eckhart

As your Associate Pastor, I learn from you how to better serve as Christ's disciple in this world, and in our church. For that, I am truly grateful. We are the hands and feet of Christ in the world, experiencing the living God together.

With you, in ministry, together,

Katie

building & grounds



Building and grounds oversees the maintenance of the church's physical property and usage of the church's physical assets, including technology. The care of God's church ensures that PPC is a safe and enjoyable space for worship, study and play.

Highlights:

- Implemented project tracking document to streamline workflow
- Replaced cover for well house
- Sinkhole repaired in courtyard
- Developed updated contract with Mecklenburg county DSS Hot Meals program
- Approval of build site and materials for Columbarium project
- Lights in Sanctuary and Kerr building replaced
- Fire extinguisher repaired in Kerr building kitchen
- Worked with Rocky River High School to establish PPC as a Tier II evacuation zone
- Kerr building parking lot striping repainted
- Chapel brick sealed after water seepage detected
- Chapel gutters repaired
- Chapel window and wall repaired due to water damage
- Downed tree removed at Manse property
- Driveway reflectors installed at church entrances
- Kerr building roof hatch repaired
- Kerr building parking lot potholes filled in
- Roof leak repaired on church van
- General maintenance completed on vehicles
- Lights in the Courtyard/Annex area repaired
- Liability policy updated for building usage
- Campus-wide evaluation completed to determine complete list of deferred maintenance items and estimate to repair

The Why...

Why do you love the PPC campus?

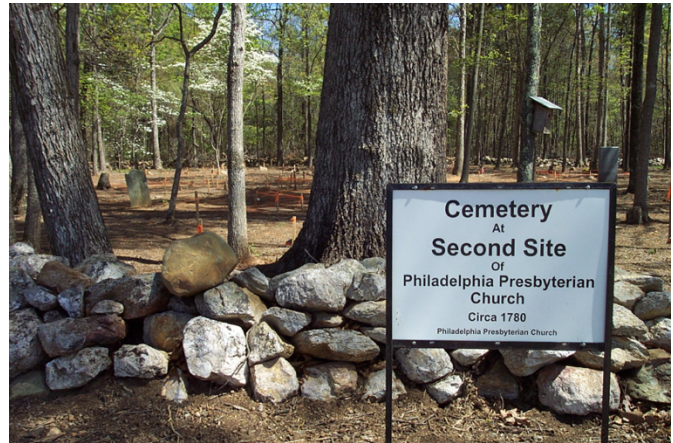
I love the warmth and feeling of "home" it gives me because of the people and experiences I've had on the campus.

cemetery committee

The Cemetery Committee administers the upkeep, preservation and plot management of the church's five cemeteries. The duties include: arranging for the marking of gravesites, giving aid to families as needed and helping to dispose of unused gravesites.

Highlights:

- 11 graves located and staked
- Several headstones approved and placed
- Boy Scout Eagle Project completed, documenting several of the headstones



historical cemeteries

Historical Cemeteries Subcommittee is to care for the original two cemeteries at Rocky Spring Meeting House Burial Ground at 8851 Brief Road and at 6400 Matthews-Mint Hill Road at Phyllis Lane.

Highlights:

- Ongoing work includes -clearing of brush, applying Round-up as needed, tree work
- searching for and restoring monuments at both sites
- Boy Scout Troop 65 Volunteered a total 196 hours in 2019 at our historical cemeteries

"and the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the breath returns to God who gave it." - Ecclesiastes 12:7

christian education

To enable children, youth, adults, singles, couples, and families to know the living God through exploration of our Christian heritage in the Bible, church history, theology, and the Christian life, and to live the Good News in response to God's love.



Highlights:

- 7 Adult Sunday School Classes met each Sunday morning at 10:00 am with a total average of 106 adults attending each week
- Kingdom Kids:
 - Creative quarterly curriculum included *Camp Character*, *Fishing for Men*, *The Nativity Story* and *The Advent Workshop*
 - There is a consist focus on giving back through missions. The biggest project being Heifer International (this project is on-going)
 - Several activities helped strengthen the relationships between the teachers, kingdom kids and parents including – Parents Night Out, Fishing at Crowder's Pond, and a Promotion Sunday Picnic
 - 14 kingdom kids participated in Worship Readiness
- Student Ministries:
 - Each month small groups met for Bible studies and fun met-up activities
 - Students attended Winter WKND Retreat which included skiing, snow boarding, worship, devotion, and fellowship
 - Middle School Students attended Great Escape
 - High School Students participated a Mission trip to GA and continued on to BigStuf
 - Student Ministry Fall Retreat included peanut butter, clothes pins, praise, worship and Bible Study
 - 7 students successfully completed confirmation classes and were confirmed on Easter Sunday
 - Students participated in several missions: Hope Vibes, Samaritans Feet, Bright Blessings, MedShare, Open Hands, and Atlanta Community Food Bank

The Why...

Why do you value the Christian Education Ministry at PPC?

I love that my Sunday School class, Pairs and Spares enjoys studying together as well as socializing at various planned events such as parties and trips. We participate in service projects from monthly Bright Blessing workshops, to supporting RITI, and landscaping part of the church's campus. We are a diverse group in our philosophy and that makes for very spirited discussions.

- Wonderful Wednesdays continued. Offerings included something for all ages including adults, as well as free dinner and choir with Ms. Melinda. Fall included a partnership with E&O for 2 well received mission projects
- The community was invited to the traditional Easter Eggstravaganza and Vacation Bible School. These successful events hosted 400 and 250 participants respectively
- The Library was re-organized and future aspirations include new books and a computer
- Infant and toddler nursery is available at The Journey, during Sunday school and the Sanctuary service. Volunteers are needed
- Children's Church begins immediately following the children's sermon at the Sanctuary service. It has proved to be a meaningful experience for children ages 3-Kindergarten



weekday preschool transitional kindergarten

The Preschool and Transitional Kindergarten is subject to the authority of the Session and under the direct supervision of the Preschool Committee. Classes begin the day after Labor Day and end the Wednesday before Memorial Day. The same academic calendar is observed as the Charlotte Mecklenburg School System.

Highlights:

- Enrollment for 2019-2020 is 56 students
- Classes are Christian based and students are exposed to Social Studies, Science, Math, and Language Arts through a variety of means
- Mrs. Melinda Johnston leads the children in weekly music classes that emphasize Christian principals
- A Librarian from the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library visits monthly
- Pastor Katie leads chapel 2 times a week which consists of a Bible lesson, music and prayer
- Guest speaker are invited in to share with the students throughout the year. A favorite of the students is always the Mint Hill Fire Dept

Staff 2019-2020

Mrs. Becky Brown, Director
 Mrs. Erin Owens, Teacher of 5 year olds – T-Kindergarten
 Mrs. Cathy Armstrong , Teacher of 4 year olds
 Mrs. Amy York, Teacher 4 year olds
 Mrs. Andrea Shultz , Teacher of 3 year olds
 Mrs. Melinda Johnston , Music

The Why...

Why did you choose PPC's Preschool?

PPC Preschool came highly recommended through a friend and online, but you never really know. Then we checked it out. The teachers are so loving. Both of our children have thrived and they can't wait for chapel! Everyone from the church is just so helpful too.

deacon board

The office of deacon as prescribed by the Presbyterian Church, USA, is one of sympathy, witness, and service after the example of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Deacons are called to minister to those in need or sick. The Board of Deacons is under the direct supervision of the Session.



Highlights:

- Congregational Shepherding - 1275 personal contacts, 742 cards sent, 197 phone calls, and 159 email and digital contacts totaling 2373 contacts.
- Congregational Visitation – in addition to regular shepherding, visits were made as needed to those hospitalized, home-bound and in care facilities by members of a visitation team sub-committee
- Congregational Life provided opportunities for our church family to come together in Christian fellowship. Key activities included:
 - Women's Retreat
 - Choir Sunday Philafeast
 - Homecoming Philafeast
 - Family Feud BBQ

The Why...

Why do you love being a deacon?

A few years ago was struggling to even come to church after a death in my family. A PPC deacon reached out to me when I wasn't very easy to love. This is my chance to serve the Lord and show someone else that same kind of love I was shown.



endowment council

The Philadelphia Church Endowment Council promotes stewardship through receiving and investing financial gifts and other property and distributing the income to ministries within and outside our church. In each fiscal year, gifts made to the PPC Endowment Fund support a variety of enhancements across key areas of mission and purpose at PPC.

Highlights:

- Wes Sugg of Laurel Wealth Management provided a report each quarter for the council. Melinda Johnston, Treasurer, presented a report each quarter to the Finance Ministry Team. The total Endowment fund is now in excess of \$1,900,000, returning to the church more than \$50,000 in earnings this year to support the operations and mission of Philadelphia Church
- Endowment monies enhanced the church budget this year by providing: \$3,000 for summer youth trips, contributing over \$2,000 to the cemetery mowing, (for cemeteries surrounding the church and for the historic cemeteries)
- Provided over \$15,000 for college scholarships
- The Birthday Endowment grew as the result of members honoring their loved ones on their birthday. (Supports Building & Grounds projects)
- Sold property on Albemarle Road that was donated by Norman Junker to benefit the Elizabeth Caldwell Junker Scholarship. Approximately \$30,000 was realized after paying years of property taxes
- The children of James H. Black, Sr. donated \$20,000 to PPC in memory of their father in December 2017 to establish a Speaker Fund to encourage special educational and inspirational opportunities at PPC. An additional \$5,000 was added to the fund in December 2018. The designated money was transferred to the Endowment General Fund in 2019 at the request of the family and in keeping with the Endowment By-Laws of PPC. The fund is not to be endowed

The Why...

Why should you consider making a gift to endowments?

Endowment gifts are theological statements which demonstrate one's belief that we are never ultimately proprietors, owners, but only stewards, lifetime guardians entrusted by God to use wisely what God has placed in our hands. We have each drawn water from the wells we have not dug; we have sat under shades trees we did not plant and we each have a wonderful opportunity to provide the means for the church to have a strong and empowering ministry for generations to come.

Additional Funds made available through the Endowment Council include:

The Lloyd Sloan Fund: funds are administered to people in the Mint Hill area, in need of a hand up during difficult periods in their life. Due to privacy the recipients are not disclosed.

Love Your Neighbor Fund- Each year earned income is transferred to the Board of Deacons for distribution to needy church members according the agreement. Money may be accumulated from year to year.

evangelism & outreach

The purpose of Evangelism and Outreach is to share Christ's love by giving freely of ourselves and to be a visible reflection of God's love in the community and world.



Highlights:

- Rise Against Hunger – intergenerational event, members packed over 10,000 meals to be delivered around the world
- Book Drive for Habitat for Humanity of Charlotte – Julia’s Café & Bookstore- Collected over 500 books that are converted to cash to help build affordable homes for low-income families
- Blood Drive -switched blood drive vendors in 2019 from American Red Cross to Blood One. Over twenty units of blood were collected. 2020 vision includes partnering with Claire’s Army
- Hot Meals- In 2019 the senior nutrition program served over 60 adults daily, Monday thru Friday
- Room in the Inn - Sunday School Classes, Stephen Ministers, Men of the Church, and Church Officers served as host for our 12 homeless neighbors every Wednesday night from December to March. We also began accepting donations for 10 ride bus passes for neighbors as well
- Bright Blessings -John Nofsinger our “PPC Driver Coordinator” recruited drivers for the weekly deliveries for the school year. E & O continues to provide donation opportunities with shelves located in Administration Building for donations of the “Bless a Baby” program, as well as additional mission giving opportunities during the year
- New Member - We continued our program for visitors who have expressed an interest in joining PPC as members. We had 24 new members to join PPC in 2019 by either by transfer or reaffirmation and members by confirmation
- Backpacks of Love -We partnered with Clear Creek Elementary School to provide children that would go hungry over the weekend with a backpack filled with food for 6 meals. On the weekly basis during the school year, teams pack 50 backpacks. The summer Backpacks program served 8 families from June - August
- Operation Christmas Child - We began collecting donations to pack shoe boxes with the mission tied to Vacation Bible School in 2019. We collected items through October and set a family pack night where we packed over 75 shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child

The Why...

Why are mission projects important to you?

We live in a world that is focused on us and me. I want to teach my children it's about we. I want my children to understand what Jesus meant when he talked about the least of these. Missions are important because people are important. ALL PEOPLE.

- Community Christmas Party - A Christmas party for children in the community was held December 14, 2019, in the Kerr Building. Backpack children from Clear Creek School, children from clients of Servant's Heart, and children from PPC pre-school program were invited as guests to the party. Approximately 85 children and their families enjoyed making a craft, hearing the Christmas Story, singing songs, and lunch
- Christmas Tree Santas – We partnered with CTS to provide 240 families with a live tree, lights, stand and ornaments. Families were matched with the help of Servants Heart, Veterans Bridge Home, HopeMatch, and Unzial
- Flood Bucket Relief – In partnership with Charlotte Presbytery's Disaster Response we repacked over 100 flood buckets with the help of several members of the community
- Thanksgiving Dinner Delivery – 30 families received a Thanksgiving meal box that included handmade crafts, food, a gift card for a turkey and handwritten prayers. Meals were delivered to families by PPC members. Families were identified with the help of Hopematch and the school system
- Youth Sports- In 2019 we had (3) total basketball teams with 27 total players. Two teams are U18 and 1 was U12. Teams are part of the Playbook for Life Ministries and play churches all over Charlotte. In addition, we hold open gym on Thursdays and typically have 30 kids on any given night
- Additional Mission Programs: Charlotte Presbytery General Mission, Crisis Assistance, Presbyterian Samaritan Counseling Center, Servants Heart, Claire's Army

advertising & communication

ACC works closely with the Resource Team to facilitate communication. It is responsible for designing banners, posters, social media posts, videos, etc. By shouldering the advertising portion of each project, ACC frees up the individual ministries to concentrate on the other logistics of their event.

Highlights:

- Reformatted the Philagram
- Developed a more consistent presence on social media
- Continued development of template-based materials for advertising
- Continued to work with ministries and committees to develop effective advertising of schedule for events



ACC 2020 GOALS:

- In depth review of website
- Develop a brochure
- Research Church Management Programs
- Gain a larger presence in the community
- Develop a welcome kit for visitors and neighbors
- Add team members
- Develop a branding kit to be used on everything representing PPC

finance ministry

Finance is charged with oversight or monitoring of all financial affairs of the church. It is a critical conduit of the information and financial data between session, ministry teams, committees, the church office, and the congregation, as well as third party entities.

Highlights:

- Early in the year we expanded the giving options for our Journey service to include the ability to give with a credit or debit card onsite through the use of point of service technology
- Thanks to generous giving of our congregation in 2019 PPC ended the year with a moderate surplus



pledge campaign

- The theme of the 2019 Pledge Campaign was WHO WHAT WHEN WHERE WHY and HOW.
- Through a congregational mailing, bulletin boards, bulletin inserts, and separate emails targeted to adults, youth and children, the ad hoc committee spent five weeks helping the congregation examine their place in God's kingdom
- The congregation was encouraged and guided to consider WHO we are as individuals and PPC in relation to God's plan for the world, WHAT God has called us to do, WHEN and WHERE God is calling us to do his work, WHY we do what we do, and HOW we do it
- Emphasis was placed on sharing both time and financial resources
- The campaign culminated in Dedication Sunday where the congregation brought pledge cards and time and talent cards to place in the offering plate during the service

The Why...

Why do you give to PPC?

I give (of course) because God requires it of us, but also because the staff is important and if we don't give, they don't get paid. I give because programs are important and if I don't give, we can't do things like Wonderful Wednesday.

men of the church

The mission of Presbyterian Men is to lead men into a vital relationship with Christ and to assist them in their spiritual, personal and community development.



Highlights:

- The Poor Man's Supper fundraisers held in March and November were successful with the congregation and visitors who attended
- The annual Pancake Breakfast in May was also a success with the support of the congregation
- Monies raised through the fundraisers was used to support the scouting program, boys' basketball program, Rescue Mission with donations to Thanksgiving meals and clothing requests and the Room in the Inn program
- The MOC service projects included serving the Rescue Mission with assistance helping prepare dinners the third Thursday of some months, hosting the Room in the Inn program for twelve homeless men, the Christmas tree giveaway, Christmas party and assisting with other programs and special events at the church

The Why...

Why are the activities of the Presbyterian Men of the Church important to you?

What they do to volunteer at the mission, help with basketball - all causes close to my heart. They are about the community not just inside the church! Honestly, I need to make more time to plug in. Their pancakes are great too!

personnel & administration

Personnel and administration helps to ensure policies, procedures, and processes are in place to support church staff and is responsible for maintaining all state and federal employment laws. P & A is also responsible for monitoring the budget for administrative expenses including but not limited to staff, office equipment, and office supplies.



Highlights:

- Reviewed and approved 2 Interim Pastors contracts
- Prepared and hosted 2 Active Shooter trainings that was open to church and public
- Presented Sexual Misconduct Policy to Session for approval
- Presented Credit Card Policy to Session for approval
- Supported and participated in 2018 annual reviews for all staff members
- Prepared Conflict of Interest Policy to Session for approval
- Prepared and presented Safety Team to Session for approval
- Hosted Katie Sloan's commissioning reception
- Started to review of job descriptions of all church staff members
- Assisted staff as needed
- Staff volunteered at HopeMatch in December

The Why...

Why do you enjoy working at PPC?

We are a team, but it's not just about the staff. It's the congregation too. They are also our family. We are one big family who prays for each other and loves each other, even when it's hard.



presbyterian women

Presbyterian Women's purpose is to nurture the faith of women through prayer and Bible study, to support the mission of the church worldwide, to work for justice and peace, and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.

Highlights:

- 5 different circles met throughout the year for Bible study, fellowship, and mission work
- In March we hosted our Missions Awareness Part 1. We heard from a representative from Servant's Heart and representatives from Alexander Youth Network
- In September we hosted Missions Awareness Part 2. we heard from a representative from Bright Blessings and had a presentation on our 2020 Bible study by Erin Clark
- The PPCPW officers were installed. The Honorary Life Membership for 2019 was presented to Audrey Stamey during the worship service the day of the joint meeting
- Valentine's Tea: Susan Griffin graciously opened her home for the annual Valentine's Tea. Over 75 women and their families who attended the February 10, 2019 tea
- May Celebration Joint Meeting Our joint meeting included a fundraiser for Claire's Army took place on May 18th. Over 200 guests, attended, 27 tables were sponsored and over \$14,500 were raised. The Ratliff family presented the PPC Presbyterian Women with their "I Got You" award which now hangs in the rotunda near the church office
- 2019 missions include: Alexander Children's Network, Angel Tree, Bright Blessings, Servant's Heart, domestic violence safe houses/ministries

The Why...

Why do you enjoy participating in a PW circle?

The sisterhood is important to me and I really enjoy the PCUSA Bible studies for women that come out each year.

Bazaar 2019 Contributions:

The proceeds from the 48th Bazaar 2018, exceeding \$29,000, were distributed as follows: Study books for the circles (partially funded), Bright Blessings, Mint Hill Historical Society, Chapel Annex upkeep, Christmas Tree Santa, Designated funds to go to future campus projects in the Kerr Building, Foreign mission projects, Became a non-profit and continued plans to have a shop in the Annex that would be open on a regular basis, meanwhile holding some small sales of florals, jewelry, glass, and other crafted items.

resource team

The purpose of the Resource Team is to facilitate events and programs requiring cross-ministry support. These events and programs are planned, approved by both the sponsoring ministry and the Session, and funded by the sponsoring ministry; however, the Resource Team provides a means to obtain standardized advertising through the ACC committee as well as cross functional planning and execution.



Highlights:

- Resource met as need to communicate the events and activities of all ministries and committees of the church
- Ministry teams, with the help of ACC organized needed volunteers, advertising and execution of events and mission projects
- The first portion of each meeting included team building exercises that encouraged committee and ministry team members to look through a different lens
- 2020 resource meeting will be held by monthly beginning January

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

1 Peter 4:10



the session

As there were in Old Testament times elders for the government of the people, so the New Testament church provide persons with particular gifts to share in discernment of God's Spirit and governance of God's people. Accordingly, Presbyterian congregations elect persons of wisdom and maturity of faith, who have demonstrated skills in leadership and being compassionate in spirit.

Highlights:

- Three Congregational Meetings were held. The January 27 Annual Congregational meeting, moderated by the Rev Jan Edmiston, was held to review the approved 2019 budget. On September 8, a meeting was held to elect the at-large members of the Congregational Nominating Committee, moderated by Rev. Mark Lee. On November 3, a meeting was held to elect the Pastor Nominating Committee to search for a permanent Senior Pastor, moderated by Pastor Katie Sloan
- The Board of Trustees of The Philadelphia Presbyterian Church Corporation met March 18 to elect new officers for the year. The officers of the Corporation were approved unanimously and are as follows: John Nofsinger, President; Caroline McGahey, Vice President; Cindi Hoffner, Secretary; and Melinda Johnston, Treasurer. Other business conducted during this meeting included a vote to correct the official address of the church with the NC Secretary of State
- The Clerks assisted Pastor Katie Sloan in new officers' training sessions and the Session approved Faith Statements from the incoming class of elders and deacons and the confirmands
- A formal E-Vote process to allow business to be approved between Session meetings was approved
- Establishment/dissolution of two interim Pastor Search Committees
- Updating, approving, and obtaining COM approval for the Mission Study
- Working with COM as necessary work for the establishment of a PNC
- voting to establish a Security Team
- establishment of a task force to study Officer Terms and Ministry structure
- approved construction plans to proceed on a Columbarium to be located in the courtyard between the buildings and voted for the structures to be ordered while the final engineering efforts are being completed
- The Session also voted to dissolve the Vision Committee
- Eleven Stated Session meetings were held
- Two Called Meetings to conduct required business between Stated Session Meetings
- Three Called Session meetings were held for receiving and approving new members
- Eleven E-Vote requests were utilized for urgent business items between Session meetings
- The Session agreed to host the Charlotte Presbytery's February 8, 2020 meeting in association with the church's 250th Anniversary Celebration

The Why...

Why did you say no to being an officer?

I was honored to have been asked, but I do not want to fail the church when I am not able to be there for all the meeting and events.

- The Session also listened to plans for the 250th Anniversary Celebration from the task force on numerous occasions and is working with that committee to make prudent decisions for the year-long celebration
- With assistance from the Moderators and Church Staff, the Clerk completed and submitted the Office of the General Assembly's 2019 Clerk's Annual Questionnaire
- The Clerks and Church Staff assisted in completing the Charlotte Presbytery's Annual Statistical Report

congregational nominating committee

The Why...
Why should you be Presbyterian?

The Presbyterian church structure allows for the voice of the people and the leadership is shared with everyone. That is important to me.

The Congregational Nominating Committee is an elected body that performs the search and selection of church officers for election by the congregation. This committee also selects special search committees such as a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) or Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC). It is chaired by an elder and comprises an elder and deacon representative and members elected from the congregation. Members of the committee should be people who are actively involved in a variety of church ministries and represent as wide and balanced a cross section of the church population as possible.

Highlights:

Following the Book of Order, the CNC nominated, and the Congregation elected the following to serve as the PNC:

- Mike Barkley
- Chris Clark
- Karen Davidson
- Bill Johnston
- Amy Kaminski
- Barry Long
- Patti Nofsinger



With solicited input from the congregation, the 2019 Congregational Nominating Committee developed slates for the Deacons and Elders for the Class period 2021 through 2023 as follows. Before reviewing any names, the committee prayerfully considered and agreed to what experiences and characteristics each of these groups require. Once this was completed, the committee worked to build nomination slates for election.



scholarship committee

The committee is charged with publicizing and soliciting scholarship applications and making decisions based on the applicants' responses. It is also the responsibility of the committee to distribute the scholarship(s) through proper endowments and follow up with recipient(s) to ensure the scholarship(s) awarded is received.

Highlights:

- The committee met numerous times throughout 2019 as it reviewed applicants and began a process of revising the process for reviewing applicants in the future
- Noah Santiago was awarded the Elizabeth Caldwell Junker Scholarship for \$4,000 per year, renewable for 4 years. Noah attends the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill
- The Frances McEwen Hunter Scholarship was not awarded this year
- Receiving the James Lee Miller, Jr. Scholarships this year for \$1000 was Noah Santiago
- Avery West was awarded the first Anne Tweed and Baxter Bigam Scholarship. The scholarship was for \$1,000 per year, renewable for 4 years. Avery is attending University of North Carolina Chapel Hill

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.
2 Timothy 3:14-17

During 2017 -2018 the following students will receive continuing undergraduate scholarships:

Elizabeth Caldwell Junker Scholarship endowment:

2016 Austin Owens- University of South Carolina

2017 Angela Martin-University of North Carolina Charlotte

2018 Carly Szymanski -Appalachian State University

2019 Noah Santiago-University of North Carolina Chapel Hill

Frances Hunter McEwen Scholarship

2018 John Allocco - The Citadel

James Lee Miller, Jr. Scholarship

2019 Noah Santiago -University of North Carolina Chapel Hill

Anne Tweed and Baxter Bigam Scholarship

2019 Avery West University of North Carolina Chapel Hill

stephen ministry

Stephen Ministers are available to our church members and community, to provide the emotional and spiritual care needed when faced with a crisis or difficulty. Stephen Ministers provide a one-on-one confidential relationship to those going through a crisis or difficult time. They meet with that person on an ongoing basis, offering distinctively Christian, confidential care and support.



Highlights:

- On January 1, 2019 there were 11 Stephen Ministers on the list and 3 leaders
- On January 2 the Stephen Ministers, spouses and significant others gathered for fellowship at our annual Epiphany celebration. This was made a more special event by including our neighbors from Room-in-the-Inn
- Stephen Ministers have made follow-up contacts to 14 people in the congregation who have been hospitalized and assisted the Pastors with weekly hospital visitation
- Grief follow-up contacts have been made to over 19 people who have lost a member of their immediate family
- In addition to hospital and grief follow-ups, Stephen Ministers have served in several one-on-one caring relationships for other hardships
- A new training class started in January 2019 with 4 new Stephen Ministers commissioned in June.
- In August Stephen Ministers hosted a Health and Emotional Wellbeing Expo free to the community with over 12 vendors from the health community
- The 11th annual "Breakfast for Supper" was sponsored and hosted by Stephen Ministers for the entire congregation and visitors on November 27th
- We ended 2019 with 13 active Stephen Ministers and 3 active leaders
- This year 130 PRAYER SHAWLS were produced and blessed by Stephen Ministers. Of the 130, 91 went to non-members including shawls, hats for cancer patients and scarves for our homeless neighbors. Additionally, small shawls were given to Bright Blessings for baby baskets. We are now at over 800 total items since the inception in September 2014

The Why...

Why is Stephen Ministry important to you?

Stephen Ministry is important because not everyone is able to ask for help. It allows people a chance to reach out without having to be embarrassed and know they aren't alone.

worship & music

Worship and music is charged to provide (in conjunction with the pastors) for worship of the people of God through the reading of scripture, preaching, observing the Sacraments, music, drama and any and all forms of worship as prescribed in the Presbyterian Directory of Worship. God pours out the gifts of the Holy Spirit upon each Christian in Baptism, and all are called to use these gifts for the glory of God. Worship and music works closely with the congregation to nurturer and encourage members to use their gifts for the glory of God.

Highlights:

- Dr. Leslie Anderson completed his 17th year as organist
- Melinda Johnston directed the children's choirs including the Joyful Noise, Cherub, and Celebration Singers accompanied by Ginny Setzer and Alice Pamplin. Dr. Marnie Gallagher led the Inspirations and the Praise Band.
- Choir Director, Jane Mendlik, lead the Chancel Choir and the Handbell Choir with special music on Easter, Choir Sunday, Graduation Sunday, Mother's Day, and the Christmas Cantana. Melinda fills in for Jane in her absence



The Why...

Why do you love to worship at PPC?

I used to only go to the traditional service, but one Sunday I visited the Journey and now I go to BOTH! I hear the sermon twice and find something different to carry me through the week each time. Each service has something to offer everyone! I love my church and my pastors!

- Pastor Mark Lee requested communion be served monthly, Worship and Music voted and approved the request.
- The celebration singers performed the Musical "Elijah" in March and went Christmas Caroling in December
- Homebound communion is provided for approximately 27 people
- We celebrated 3 baptisms – ALL AT ONCE! A triple baptism
- Communion was also prepared and served at special services: Maundy Thursday, Thanksgiving Eve, and 11:00pm on Christmas Eve
- We had an interactive stations of the cross on Good Friday
- Homecoming was celebrated with the traditional Kirkin' O'the Tartans and a blended service. Chuck Williamson was guest Preacher and the service included an orchestra.
- A beautiful Christmas Cantata with orchestra, "Born a Savior, Born a King," was presented by the Chancel Choir on Sunday, December 15 at the 11:00 Worship service accompanied by five musicians.
- The Journey Service worshipped with a contemporary version of Lessons and Carols on December 15
- Members became more involved in worship, as liturgists and delivering the children's sermon in 2019
- Average attendance: 176 – Sanctuary 107- Journey



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