

# MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

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### Session Elders

#### Class of 2018

Olson Huff  
Betsy Kirschner

#### Class of 2019

Steve Hansel  
Mary Jo Wright

#### Class of 2020

Jane Alexander  
Everett Culpepper



**10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY YEAR**

## STATE OF THE CHURCH REPORT

JANUARY 28, 2017

*A decade ago, a small band of Presbyterians, feeling called to continue the PCUSA ministry within the gates of Montreat gathered and birthed the beginnings of continuing Montreat Presbyterian Church. Stories have been shared of those early days. Worship services where worshippers bundled in warm blankets, celebrated Holy Communion with well chilled communion elements. Worship materials were stored in the trunks of cars ready for transport to the worship site of the week. A variety of Ministers of the Word and Sacrament preached the good news of the gospel. Many prayers and acts of support for this small church were offered by people across the domination. From the beginning, the continuing church was always mindful that a covenant community worshipped, studied and witnessed to the God's children. A vision for the new church was formed.*

*Fast forward to 2017, a decade later Montreat Presbyterian Church is thriving. In October we celebrated our first decade with a church dinner and program, **"Oh the Places We Have Been"**, celebrated the present, and shared **"Dreaming About the Future."***

The Annual Committee Reports speak to the ministry and witness of our church. It takes many people sharing their God given gifts and talents to do the ministry of our church. God's children have responded to God's call in Montreat Presbyterian Church. As you read these reports please celebrate God's mighty acts working through our church and vision what the future holds.

### **Here are some highlights of 2017:**

**Christian Education:** Programs, Bible Studies, Montreat Wednesdays, Presbyterian Women, Outreach, ministry for children through a Children's Worship Table and Nursery have sought to equip the saints for ministry.

**Communications:** Our web site, Facebook and Instagram have been updated constantly this year.

**Congregational Care & Fellowship:** From Sunday morning coffee to hospitality for church night dinners, receptions, meals taken to people needing food, hosting a Lenten Luncheon, home visits and much more this committee worked to welcome and care for all who entered our doors.

**Evangelism and Membership:** Worked to welcome members and visitors into the fellowship of the church. Our membership grew to 107 with 5 new members. We have 37 with 2 new affiliate members and 21 unofficial “clergy members” with 1 new clergy. In 2017 there two infant baptisms.

**Human Resources/Personnel:** Worked to support and encourage the work of our minister and staff.

**Mission and Outreach:** In 2017 26% of our budget went to support the mission and outreach of our church. In addition, a \$50,000 special donation was made to SVCM to help with the construction of apartments for mothers with children needing temporary housing. To celebrate our church’s 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary a gift of \$10,000 was given to Children and Friends. Be sure to read this committee’s report for a complete account of how our gifts and tithes were used. Through our monetary gifts we were able to impact global mission, local missions, respond to disasters relief needs and maintain a very active, exciting ministry with in the Swannanoa Valley.

**Earth Care:** The Earth Care Ministry Committee continues to encourage and educate us about stewardship of our environment through the viewing of “Before the Flood” a movie showing the effect of global warming, collaborating with various environmental groups in Montreat, the Creation Alliance of WNC, and internationally with our sister church in Ardrishaig Parish Church of Argyll, Scotland. We continue as an Earth Care Congregation of the PCUSA.

**Property:** This committee continued to care for the property of our church through maintenance and constant inspection. A new stair rail and railing was replaced in collaboration with MRS.

**Stewardship and Finance:** Our Stewardship and Finance Committee has been active tending to the monetary gifts we return to God. Their careful management of our resources continues to bless Montreat Presbyterian with strong and healthy finances. Thanks to your generous gifts during the 2017 Stewardship Season, there is an 8% increase in church pledges for 2018.

**Worship:** Under the capable leadership of Rev. Keith Grogg worship was powerful and meaningful. Saturday summer worship was well received. Special worship services included a joint Ash Wednesday Service with Black Mountain Presbyterian Church, a Lenten meditation, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Eve. Visiting churches have participated as worship leaders and assisted with the serving of communion. While on a weekend

choir retreat, the Duke Chapel Choir sing, much to the joy of all who were present that Sunday.

In his **“Dreaming About the Future,”** Jim Henderson asks: What is our dream? What is God’s dream for us in the coming years?

“We will continue to be a congregation that is warm and welcoming to all – conferees, visitors to our valley, college students and others who join our worship and activities. We will provide a worship home for church retreats, choir retreats, and youth groups and encourage them to take an active part in our worship. Paul tells us to be hospitable to strangers for we never know when we might be entertaining angels – messengers from God.

Excellent preaching will challenge us to continuing discernment of God’s call on our lives, and our praise and gratitude will be enhanced through music and prayer. “All things may change, but the WORD of God is forever.”

We will strive to be mission oriented, using our resources to leverage care and support for those in need; internationally in places like Haiti, Africa and the Gobi Desert, and locally in or support for SVCM, Children and Friends and a number of causes. The last commandment: Go into all the world; be a blessing to others.

Our hands will reach out and touch those in need as we volunteer at the homeless shelter, SVCM, Bounty and Soul, 2<sup>nd</sup> Loaf, Children and Friends and other local activities. God has no hands but our hands, no voice but our voice to proclaim the Good News.

We will continue the tradition of meaningful Christian education programs that enhance the spiritual lives of our members and attract persons from the community. Some are called to be teachers; all are called to be students of the Word.

We will take care of one another and share God’s love with those who suffer from health issues and other matters that weigh heavily on them. We are “called” to be Christ’s presence, showing mercy for all his children.”

God does have a dream for us, our pastor and staff, and church leaders. This is a dream we all share. As we enter this new decade, let us work to make these dreams reality.

Linda Hobson, Clerk of Session  
January 28, 2018

## **PASTOR'S REPORT**

Even for someone whose vocation involves putting words together, it is hard for me to express what it means to be called to the pastorate of Montreat Presbyterian Church. Superlatives pile up, and somehow still seem like they are too small; the more I try to pile on, the less articulate I feel. So let me just flat out say it: I live, worship and work in the midst of amazing people.

The members of our worshipping community bring to our services a deeply rooted, resounding faith in God that is still and always actively exploring and searching. The excitement of stepping into this pulpit is to know that preaching in this church is a conversation, one that is both large and intimate. The engagement of our congregation is electric, and the whole time, it is the Spirit who is proclaiming to us all. I can testify to that, in part, by the phenomenon of people sharing with me “Amen” and “Aha!” moments over illuminating ideas that came to them from “my” sermon, which not only were never in the text or the delivery, but hadn’t even occurred to me.

The Montreat community is extraordinarily and inspiringly committed to the welfare of humankind, as servants of Jesus Christ are called to be. Certainly two of Montreat Presbyterian Church’s happiest moments this year have been the ability for the church to make a \$50,000 contribution to SVCM’s Hope for Tomorrow campaign to make housing available for women and children in difficult circumstances, and celebrating the 10th anniversary of our recommitment to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) by giving a fitting \$10,000 contribution to the crucial community ministry of Children & Friends.

I also have the privilege of working with many great neighbors, particularly rejoicing in our symbiotic partnership with the Montreat Conference Center, firmly supporting their mission as faith is ignited and lives are changed when people come here.

As I interact with colleagues in our community, in the region, throughout the country and around the world, I am constantly reminded of how important it is to people that there is a worshipping congregation of the PC(USA) located in Montreat. They remind me that this church and its mission do not belong to us, to them, or to anyone else. In life and in death, we belong to God. May it ever be so!

Keith Grogg  
January 28, 2018

## 2018 OMNIBUS MOTION

### Holy Communion/Special Worship Services, 2018

January 7	First Sunday/Ordination & Installation (HC) (Approved in Jan. 2017)
February 4	First Sunday (HC)
February 14	7:00 P.M. MPC/BMPC Ash Wednesday service at MPC (HC)
March 4	First Sunday (HC)
March 14	Wednesday Noon Lent Worship & Lunch (co-hosted w/MCC)
March 25	Palm Sunday
March 29	7:00 P.M. Maundy Thursday (HC)
March 30	5:00 P.M. Good Friday
April 1	Easter Sunday (HC)
April 24	(Tuesday) Presbytery Worship Service hosted by PWNC/MPC/MCC
April 29	First Sunday – moved from May 6 (HC)
May 20	Pentecost Sunday (Last worship service in UA before summer)
May 27	Kirkin' o' the Tartan – Anderson Auditorium
June 3-Aug. 5	MRA/MPC Summer Worship Series – Anderson Auditorium
June 16-July 28	Saturday Morning Worship – Swannanoa Room
August 12	MPC in Upper Anderson
September 2	Worship in Anderson Auditorium (annual)
September 9	Holy Communion – Moved to 2nd Sunday due to location (HC)
October 7	World Communion Sunday/First Sunday (HC)
October 28	Reformation Sunday/Stewardship Dedication Sunday
November 4	First Sunday (HC)
November 22	11:00 A.M. Thanksgiving Day service – Upper Anderson
November 25	Christ the King Sunday
December 2	Hanging of the Greens (Advent 1 – no communion)
December 9	Service of Hope and Remembrance (HC)
December 16	Service of Lessons & Carols
December 24	(Monday) 5:00 P.M. Christmas Eve Service (HC)
December 30	First Sunday after Christmas Day
Jan. 6, 2019	Epiphany/First Sunday/Ordination & Installation (HC)

### Presbytery Delegates 2018

<u>date</u>	<u>host</u>	<u>Delegate</u>	<u>Alternate</u>
Sat., 1/27	Lowell	Betsy Kirschner	Jane Alexander
Tues., 4/24	MCC/MPC	Olson Huff	
Tues., 7/31	Lees-McRae College, Banner Elk	Mary Jo Wright	Jane Alexander
Tues., 10/27	First Presbyterian Church, Hickory	Everett Culpepper	Steve Hansel
Sat., 1/26	TBA	Steve Hansel	Jane Alexander

**Special Offerings, 2018**

Jan. 7	Nickel-a-Meal	(Monthly; Presbytery offering)
Jan. 28	Nickel-a-Meal	(Monthly; Presbytery offering)
Feb. 4	Souper Bowl Offering	(to Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry)
March 4	Nickel-a-Meal	(Monthly; Presbytery offering)
March 25	One Great Hour of Sharing	(Denominational Offering—Palm Sunday)
April 1	Nickel-a-Meal	(Monthly; Presbytery offering)
May 6	Nickel-a-Meal	(Monthly; Presbytery offering)
May 20	Pentecost Offering	(Denominational/ <b>40% Children &amp; Friends</b> )
Sept. 2	Nickel-a-Meal	(Monthly; Presbytery offering)
Sept. 30	Peace & Global Witness	(Denominational/ <b>25% to Helpmate</b> )
Oct. 7	Nickel-a-Meal	(Monthly; Presbytery offering)
Nov. 4	Nickel-a-Meal	(Monthly; Presbytery offering)
Nov. 22 (Thurs.)	Thanksgiving Offering	(Synod: Barium Springs/Grandfather Home)
Dec. 9	Nickel-a-Meal	(Monthly; Presbytery offering)
Dec. 16	Christmas Joy Offering	(Denominational Offering)
Jan. 6, 2019	Nickel-a-Meal	(Monthly; Presbytery offering)
Feb. 3, 2019	Souper Bowl Offering	(Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry)

**Stated Session Meeting Dates 2018**

**Stated session meetings ordinarily take place the third Tuesday at 6:30 P.M. in the Swannanoa Room.**

**Exceptions: no July** stated meeting; **Nov. 13** (moved up one week to avoid Thanksgiving week);  
**Dec. 11** (moved ahead one week).

**Dates:** Jan. 16; Feb. 20; March 20; April 17; May 15; June 19; Aug. 21; Sept. 18; Oct. 16; Nov. 13;  
Dec. 11

and Sunday, January 6, 2019, 10:30 A.M.-2:30 P.M. (Session Retreat)

**Scheduled Pastoral Absences 2018**

Jan. 8-12	(M-F) D.Min. Course – Columbia Seminary, Decatur, GA
Jan. 25-27	(Th-Sat) Bloomington, IL
Feb. 26-28	(M-W) NEXT Church – Baltimore
June 4-15	(Monday through the next Friday) Family vacation
July 9-20	(M-F/M-F) D.Min. Course – Columbia Seminary, Decatur, GA
Oct. 19-21	Incl. Sunday, Oct. 21 – wedding, Bloomington, IL

**Other Dates for 2018 Calendar**

Jan. 28	Annual Congregational Meeting
Feb. 10(Saturday)	MLK Breakfast, 9:00 A.M. Camp Dorothy Walls
April 11	Wed. evening: UA reserved
May 16	Wed. evening: UA reserved
August 15	Wed. evening: UA reserved
Oct. 3	Wed. evening: UA (Stewardship kickoff)
Oct. 14	Hunger Walk for SVCM
Oct. 28	Sunday evening: UA (Stewardship Celebration)
Nov. 14	Wed. evening: UA reserved
Dec. 12	Wed. afternoon/evening: UA reserved
Dec. 16(Sunday)	5:30 P.M. Meet at Montreat Gate for Christmas Caroling

# APPROVED BUDGET 2018

Accounts	Annual Budget 2018	
<b>Revenues</b>		<b>Notes for 2018 asking Budget current - \$234,776</b>
004101 - Pledges	\$234,800	
004201 - Plate Offering	\$2,000	
004202 - Unpledged Contributions	\$15,639	
004209 - Reserves capital and unexpexted exp	\$1	to cover initial set up cost of live streaming if needed
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$252,440</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>		
<b>Mission &amp; Outreach Committee</b>		
<b>Benevolences</b>		Mission notes
005100 - Presbytery - Unified Benev. Budget	\$12,000	
005102 - Camp Grier	\$2,000	PWNC related camp
005109 - Nkhoma Hospital E051772	\$2,000	PCUSA Mission
005116 - Friends of OFCB - Haiti	\$4,000	
005117 - Parker Mission - D507569	\$2,000	PCUSA Mission
005118 - Congregational Mission Volunteers	\$3,000	Church vounteer reimb 80% up to \$600
005119 - Makari Mission D507586	\$2,000	PCUSA Mission
005120 - Montreat Conf Center	\$6,000	note this was increased \$1000 more that in 2016 at Session request
005125 - Presbyterian Heritage Center	\$1,000	
005135 - Warren Wilson College-Intl student	\$4,000	Intl Student support
005150 - Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry	\$4,000	
005151 - Bounty and Soul	\$1,500	Local Food related
005161 - Special Focus Ministry	\$2,000	Cmte dispersed as needed
005162 - Hand in Hand of the SV	\$2,000	Local Food related / children thru Schools
005170 - Ministry of Hope - SCCW Chaplincy	\$4,000	Prison Chaplain support
005171 - Black Mountain Counseling	\$2,000	Non-profit Counseling
005180 - Discretionary Fund	\$2,500	Cmte dispersed as needed
005190 - Children and Friends	\$4,000	Non-profit Child care
005200 - Earth Care Ministry	\$500	
005110 - International Misson Iniative	\$6,500	Cmte dispersed as needed - international issues
<b>Total Benevolences</b>	<b>\$67,000</b>	
<b>Total Mission &amp; Outreach Committee</b>	<b>\$67,000</b>	
<b>Administration</b>		
<b>ACS</b>		
005003 - ACS On- Demand Service (Software)	\$2,970	
505000 - ACS Supplies	\$200	
505010 - ACS Training	\$200	
<b>Total ACS</b>	<b>\$3,370</b>	
<b>Supplies</b>		
505100 - General Office Supplies	\$750	
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>\$750</b>	
<b>General Administrative Expense</b>		
505150 - Consultants	\$75	
505200 - Insurance	\$1,500	
505310 - Memberships	\$150	
505328 - P.O. Box Rental	\$105	
505330 - Postage	\$200	
505350 - Printing - outside	\$100	
505351 - Printing Copy Machine	\$1,320	
505352 - Copy Paper	\$600	
505353 - Ink - local Printers	\$250	
		General Admin notes
		Telephone / internet changed to Charter at lower ongoing cost
		Phone line item in Property

505360 - Publicity	\$200	
505370 - Service Charges	\$25	
505380 - Session Expense	\$500	
505381 - Session Directed Gifts	\$1,200	
505390 - Stationery	\$200	
505450 - Gen. Administrative Miscellaneous	\$50	
<b>Total General Administrative Expense</b>	<b>\$6,475</b>	
<b>Human Resources</b>		
505512 - HR Miscellaneous	\$100	
505600 - Hiring expense	\$50	
505601 - Summer Intern	\$2,400	
505605 - Administrative Assistant	\$20,500	
505606 - Admin Prof. Dev. Reimbursement	\$400	HR notes
505660 - Pastor Salary	\$67,800	Pastor - 2.4% increase most placed in accountable reimbursement accounts
505661 - Pastor Discretionary Reimbursement	\$1,200.00	
505662 - Pastor BOP Benefits	\$23,690	BOP Dues up %36.5 to 37%
505663 - Pastor Travel reimbursement	\$4,200	
505664 - Pastor Prof. Dev. Reimbursement	\$6,900	Other staff - 2.9-4.5%
510021 - Musician	\$4,900	Patty, Topher - 2.94%
510030 - Sound Equipment Support	\$1,550	Margaret, Darlene - 4.58%
560025 - Nursery Staff	\$2,700	Child care - same as 2017
580901 - Cleaning Staff	\$1,500	
<b>Total Human Resources</b>	<b>\$136,690</b>	
<b>Stewardship/Finance</b>		
505710 - Stewardship Materials	\$400	
505720 - Stewardship Dinner	\$700	
505730 - Treasurer Miscellaneous	\$500	
<b>Total Stewardship/Finance</b>	<b>\$1,600</b>	
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>\$148,885</b>	
<b>Worship Committee</b>		
510010 - Flowers and Ferns	\$200	Worship notes
510020 - Music	\$100	
510025 - Honorarium	\$900	honorarium 100 to 150
510040 - Worship Supplies	\$400	
510080 - Choir & Guest Musicians	\$400	
510024 - Live stream service		live stream service 5250 (125*42wk) + music lisc.
	\$4,100	350 - YR estimates. Budget for begin 2 Q(30
<b>Total Worship Committee</b>	<b>\$6,100</b>	wk*125+350)
<b>Congregational Care/Fellowship</b>		
550000 - Beverages	\$130	
550060 - Paper Goods	\$200	
550080 - Special Events	\$150	
550090 - Sunday Fellowship	\$100	
550100 - Cong. Care Miscellaneous	\$70	
<b>Total Congregational Care/Fellowship</b>	<b>\$650</b>	
<b>Christian Education Committee</b>		
560011 - Adult Ministry Materials	\$55	
560012 - Adult Ministry Mileage/meals	\$400	
560013 - Adult Ministry PHC	\$100	
560014 - Adult Ministry Circle	\$150	
560015 - Adult Ministry College	\$150	
560021 - Children, Nursery	\$100	
560022 - Children, Table	\$100	
560023 - Children, VBS	\$200	
<b>Total Christian Education Committee</b>	<b>\$1,255</b>	
<b>Communications Committee</b>		
560500 - Communications Committee	\$100	
560511 - E-mail Marketing	\$200	
560520 - Marketing Development	\$1,000	

560800 - WEB Site Maintenance	\$1,250	
<b>Total Communications Committee</b>	<b>\$2,550</b>	
<b>Property Committee</b>		<b>Property notes</b>
580001 - Gift to MCC appreciation of service	\$6,000	Contribution to Conf. Center for services provided but not billed (UA use,set-ups
580060 - Office/Mtg Allen Lease	\$12,000	
580110 - Piano Tuning (2 x per year)	\$200	
580310 - Computer & software	\$1,800	
580320 - Office & Pastor Telephone	\$2,000	Phone / internet provider change
580900 - Miscellaneous - Property	\$3,000	Misc. - includes Allen front landscaping - \$1500 -(MRA may assist with this)
<b>Total Property Committee</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>	
<b>Evangelism/Membership Committe</b>		
505160 - Church Directory	\$400	
570000 - Evangelism & Membership Committee	\$300	
570510 - Membership Dinners	\$200	
570530 - Name Boards, Badges & Sign-in Pads	\$100	
<b>Total Evangelism/Membership Committe</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$252,440</b>	
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

**Committee:** Martha Campbell, Charlotte Chesnutt, Bob Eckard, Hal Demerast, Priscila Durkin, Trisha Edington, Dora Hinkle, Betsy Neville, Grace Nichols, Mary Nell Todd, Elizabeth Shaw, Sally Woodard, Keith Grogg, Marylyn Huff:  
Coordinator

**Purpose:** Nurture, teach, grow all ages for discipleship, to “equip the saints for ministry, for building up the body of Christ.” Ephesians 4:12

### 1. Adult CE – Montreat Wednesdays

#### Study of Galatians

January 2017

**4** Dick Ray

**11** Martha Jane Petersen

**18** Mary Brueggemann

**25** Tom Frist

February

**1** Edna Banes – Study of Lamentations, Part I

**8** Cheryl Wilson – SVCCM – Recognition of Volunteers

**15** Edna Banes – Study of Lamentations, Part II

#### Lent

March

**1** Ash Wed Worship

**8** Keith Grogg - What is Lent? Jesus' Temptation in Wilderness

**15** Covered Dish - Film, *Country Remedy*, Simple meal

**22** Carol Steele – *St. John's Bible* – PHC

**29** Perrin Wright – The Requiem as Musical Art

April

**5** Sally Woodard – Reader's Theater of The Last Supper

#### Exploring the Last Frontier – Series on Aging

April

**19** Dr. Margaret Noel – Memory Care, Dementia and Alzheimer's

**26** John Snell – Caregiving, Home Health, Hospice

May

**3** Panel: Fred Connelly - "Don't 'Monkey' with Your Meds!"

Renate Ridders – "Don't Fall!"

Beth Fountain – "The Problem with Hearing Loss"

Genie Sullivan – “How to Approach Downsizing and Moving”

**10** Jack Sadler – *Matters of Life and Death*

**17** Glenn Bannerman “Sit down square dance”, Fellowship Supper

**June Sunday School 9:00 am at PHC for Montreat Conference Center**

**11** Dr. Dick Ray - The Reformation Comes to the New World

**18** Rev. Maggie Lauterer and Rev. Zack Allen - Music in Appalachia, Shape Note Singing

**25** Dr. Mel Bringle, editor of *Glory to God* - Hymns of the Church through History

**Kerygma Study on Romans: Special Reformation Edition**

August

**29** Luther – Dick Ray

September

**6** Paul – Mary Brueggemann

**13** Romans 1:1–17 – John Akers

**20** Romans 1:18- 3:20 – Keith Grogg

**27** Romans 3:21–4:25 – Marylyn Huff

**Romans study, chapters 5–16 was continued at 10:00 on Thursday mornings in Allen Bldg, Swannanoa Room, taught by Keith Grogg, Edna Banes, and Sally Woodard. Reformation**

October

**4** Fellowship supper – 10th Birthday Celebration/500th Reformation Celebration

**11** Music of the Reformation – Rebecca Carpenter

**18** Reformation Drama: Bob Martin—John Knox, Dick Ray—Calvin, Henry Neal—Luther, Rebecca Carpenter—Interviewer

**25** Video - *The Reformation’s Impact on Families and Worship* - Dr. Elsie Ann McKee

**Writers in Our Midst**

November

**1** Olson Huff – *The Window of Childhood: Glimpses of Wonder and Courage, Caring for your Newborn: How to Enjoy the First 60 Days as a New Mom, Why the Clown Wouldn’t Smile*

Jane Garrison – *Living Pine: The Story of Soon W. Moak, I Am Nell, Her Father's Daughter*

**8** Rusty Frank—*On the Road Home: An American Story: A Memoir of Triumph and Tragedy on a Forgotten Frontier* Perrin Wright—*Geographic Place Names in and around Montreat, N.C. with a discussion of history, authenticity and elevations*

**15** “Before the Flood”—Leonardo DiCaprio documentary on climate change. Fellowship Supper.

## **Advent Programs**

November

**29** John Rogers—*The Birth of God*

December

**6** Howard Edington—*The Story We Thought We Knew*

Jesse Tree Advent Devotional available for families and children on church website and on Children's Table at worship.

## **2. Women's Circle – Horizon's Bible Study**

Elizabeth Shaw and Jane Alexander – Coordinators

Robyn Josephs – Communicator

Sally Woodard and Corise Gambrell – Teacher Coordinators

Teachers – Circle Members

## **3. College, Seminary, and Young Adults**

Martha Campbell, Coordinator

Recognize high school and college graduates with a book and card.

Send care packages to college students at Valentines.

David Smith Graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary!

## **4. Children's Ministry**

Nursery – Grace Nichols, Coordinator

Nursery is provided for Infants – Kindergarten with 2 paid, trained, experienced nursery workers. Open Sunday mornings from 8:45–10:15 in Updike.

Two babies were baptized this year and each received two special books.

Children's Table at Worship – Dora Hinkle, Coordinator

Age appropriate books and activities are provided for children to use during worship as they are encouraged to join the congregation in singing and worshipping.

## **COMMUNICATIONS 2017 ANNUAL REPORT**

**Members:** Co-chair Jack Sadler, Co-chair Anne Seaman, Janie Moore, Phyllis Sadler

**Session Liaison:** Linda Hobson

### **Activities/Accomplishments:**

- Communications from the church are now mostly run out of the church office. The Office Administrator, Patty Smith, has done an excellent job of keeping on top of events and activities.

### **Ongoing/Upcoming Projects:**

- The church's website, Facebook page and Instagram presence are updated with current information.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Seaman

## **CONGREGATIONAL CARE & FELLOWSHIP 2017 ANNUAL REPORT**

**CHAIR:** Susanne McCaskill

**CO-CHAIR:** Pat Connelly

**MEMBERS:** Betty Henderson, Ginny Porter, Genie Sullivan, Elizabeth Shaw, Peggy Ann Frank, Dora Hinkle, Joan Deifell, Robyn Joseph, Betsy Neville, Trish Edington and Phyllis Sadler.

Session Liaison: Linda Hobson

### **ACTIVITIES:**

- Served Coffee and refreshments each Sunday after the church service.
- Supplied and served beverages for monthly dinners.
- Assisted Membership and Evangelism Committee for annual congregational meeting to welcome new members.
- Meals taken to Linda and Jim Weyman after her wrist surgery.
- Assisted Membership and Evangelism Committee with soup and cornbread supper.
- Christian Education Committee supplied Subway sandwiches for the movie *"Country Remedy"*. Marylyn Huff and Martha Campbell were in charge.
- Provided 10 crock pots of potato based soups, plus 2 vegetable soups and 1 vegan soup following the Lenten Service. 120 attended. MPC coordinated with the MRA.
- Provided punch and donut holes following a Baptism after Sunday Church Service.
- Provided a covered dish supper to welcome everyone's return after the summer season.
- This was followed by a hymn sing.

- Delivered meals to Genie Sullivan following recovery from an illness. Also provided meals for Bill Goodwin following his recovery from a severe accident.
- In October, we supported a 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party for the church and celebration of the opening of the Stewardship Season. The meal was catered by Okie Dokey BBQ.
- Provided a reception following the funeral for Pete Petersen at the Black Mountain Presbyterian Church.
- Held a covered dish supper with the movie “*Before the Flood*” given by the Earth Care Committee.
- Served brunch to Beth fountain’s family before the funeral of her father, Maynard Fountain.
- Held a dessert occasion at Christmas after which many carols and hymns were sung.

The committee does not have a regular scheduled meeting day as the committee members like the idea of exchanging e-mails instead of actual in-house meetings. We will do the same in 2018. If an event cannot be adequately arranged, then an in-house meeting will be held!

RESPECTABLY SUBMITTED,

Susanne McCaskill, Chair

January 4, 2018

## **EVANGELISM & MEMBERSHIP 2017 ANNUAL REPORT**

Members: Judy Shuford (chair), Martha Campbell, Bob Shaw, Jean Skidmore, Steve Sewell, Genie Sullivan, Amanda Demarest, Joan & Jey Deifell, Lucile Jackson, Susan Holcomb, Carol Eckard, and Mary Jo Wright (Session liaison)

### **Continuing Activities and Responsibilities:**

- Provide and schedule greeters for worship to welcome visitors and to engage members in conversation.
- Move the name tag boards on to chairs for the service.
- Encourage visitors to complete name tags.
- Distribute fellowship registration pads with follow up removal of forms after the service.
- Call, email, or write to visitors if contact information is provided to thank them for worshiping with us.
- Invite prospective members or past visitors to attend particular events, such as fellowship dinners, etc.
- Call on new residents to tell them about our church and to invite them to attend our worship and other activities.
- Meet to review the names of people who should be contacted by committee members to communicate our interest in outreach to them.
- Identify names for large print name tags for people who have attended our church and are likely to attend in the future, including residents who are here only in the summer.
- Contact summer residents to inquire whether they would like to become affiliate members.
- Acquire display boards and name tag holders as needed to accommodate the name tags.
- Purchase name tags, holders, boards, fellowship pads as needed. Sponsor programs for a fellowship dinner as needed.
- Plan and implement a brunch or dinner as needed to gather prospective members to meet with committee members and to learn more about our congregation.
- Inform the pastor of prospective members that would appreciate a visit from our pastor.

- Arrange for there to be a cloth bag monogrammed with the church's name for new members that includes information about our church including a directory, mission statement, budget, pledge card, time and talent survey form, and a loaf of bread with a welcome note from the church to be presented when the person is welcomed to the church at worship.
- Meet regularly to brainstorm ways that our committee can reach out to people in the community who may want a church home or who may need to hear about Jesus Christ.
- The committee will consider ways to increase the visibility of MPC in Montreat and Black Mountain.
- The directory will be updated periodically and handled by the E & M Committee. Updates to the directory will be distributed regularly.
- Transportation for members will be discussed as needed.
- The committee works with other committees and within the community in outreach, such as the annual Montreat College Church Fair.

**2017 Activates:**

- Soup Supper/Fun Night with games
- Valentine Packages to College Students
- Visitor/New Member Brunch
- Fellowship Supper with a singalong to welcome people back to worship after services in Anderson
- Montreat College Church Fair
- Christmas Caroling at Highland Farms

Submitted by Judy Shuford, Chair

## **HUMAN RESOURCES 2017 ANNUAL REPORT**

**Members:** Lynn Gilliland, Linda Hobson, Mary Jo Wright, chair, Keith Grogg (ex-officio).

- The Committee meets as needed to evaluate the performance of staff members, to recommend to Session compensation for the staff, to provide support for our staff and to handle other matters.
- Keith Grogg reported to the committee that Patty Smith is doing an outstanding job in handling the duties of Administrative Assistant.
- During the fall the committee met several times to review the compensation for staff. Each staff person received an increase in hourly wage, based on the living wage recommendations of the Asheville non-profit, Just Economics. Keith Grogg received a 2.4% increase. This is slightly higher than the recommended cost of living raise by the Presbytery of Western North Carolina. The Session approved the staff compensations for 2018 at the December meeting. The congregation will vote on the Terms of Call for Keith Grogg at the congregational meeting on January 28, 2018.
- Linda supports our pastor and administrator with gifts and cards on special occasions, and as Clerk of Session also meets regularly with Keith.
- Our Committee approved Christmas bonuses for our staff and gift cards for MRA support staff.

As Personnel Committee chair, I am grateful to the members of the committee and Gill Campbell for their dedication in support of staff, professionalism, expertise in finances, and pastoral concerns for our staff.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jo Wright

## **MISSION & OUTREACH 2017 ANNUAL REPORT**

**Committee members:** Anne DuPre Rogers, Beth Fountain, Judy Shillinglaw, Kay Layman, Olson Huff, Jane Hansel, Sally Woodward, Clara Hare, Nancy Midget, Jan McRae and John Hinkle

2017 has been a year for increasing mission involvement. Montreat Presbyterian Church's commitment to mission is strong and growing. This committee has been called to lead our congregation as it seeks to be faithful to Christ's greatest commandment and to develop ways to be good stewards and obedient to His call.

Not only is our church committed financially to support both foreign and local mission projects, but more importantly our members have devoted their time and talents to volunteer in many of these projects.

In 2017, 26% of our budget went to support our mission and outreach programs. Not included in the budgeted amount were our monthly 5 cents a Meal Offering which raised \$2,380 and five special offerings approved by the Session and taken up throughout the church year from which we received a percentage towards our local mission projects. This year's Christmas alternative gift cards raised an additional \$1,580 for mission projects. In addition to our mission budget the session approved a gift of \$50,000 towards the SVCN Hope Campaign to help with the construction of housing units for mothers with children who are in need housing assistance until they can get back on their feet. To celebrate our churches 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, a gift of \$10,000 was made to Children and Friends.

This past year we saw devastating disasters hit our neighbors along the gulf coast and in Puerto Rico. We responded financially to these through the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Agency and to the Iglesia Presbitiana in P.R. In total, almost \$7,000 from budgeted and contributions went to assist in disaster relief. Our focus on the needs within our community and valley remain at the forefront of our giving and volunteering. This past year we were involved with the SVCN and the annual Walk for Hunger, the Emergency Shelter meal program, Children and Friends, Room in the Inn, MLK Scholarship Fund, Chaplaincy Ministry, Black Mountain Pastoral Care, Hand in Hand, Camp Grier, Bounty and Soul and the Buncombe County Summer Feeding Program. Through Presbytery we are also giving to the Unified Benevolent Budget.

Our commitment to the OFCB ministry in Bayannais, Haiti and other international ministries are at the heart of our mission focus. In April we assisted Don and Charlene Woods with their ministry mission in the Gobi Desert in Mongolia. Our outreach ministry also included the Nkhoma Hospital in Malawi Ministry of Hope in Lesotho, co-mission partners Elmarie and Scott Parker in Iran & Lebanon and Victor and Sara Makari in Palestine. We also supported the Guatemala Mission Initiative with PWNC.

We were also committed to support those institutions within our area which include the Montreat Conference Center, Montreat College Friends of the Library Presbyterian Heritage Center and Warren Wilson College.

The Earth Care Ministry Committee continues to provide leadership to the congregation and the larger community concerning stewardship of the natural environment. This was through a variety of efforts aimed at building awareness of our responsibilities for care of Creation and also reducing our “footprint” on the earth. We are engaged with the larger community of faith whether through the Creation Care Alliance of Western North Carolina, Montreat Land-care Committee or having an Earth focused “statement of cooperation” with the Ardrishaig Parish Church of Argyll, Scotland. Our church continues their re-certification as an Earth Care Congregation in the PCUSA.

Our congregation is very proud of David Smith, a member of our congregation who received his MDiv. this year from Princeton Seminary and has received a call from the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church.

In 2017 we elected not to add or delete any of our mission projects, but instead have redirected some of our focus on some that we felt needed our help. The Mission *I* Outreach team would like to know about the many projects in which MPC members are involved, so that when a need becomes apparent, we might be able to find solutions quickly and effectively.

## **EARTH CARE COMMITTEE 2017 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Earth Care Ministry committee provided leadership and education to the congregation concerning stewardship of the natural environment, both inside the gate and into the world.

Our major program was hosting the movie, "Before the Flood" at a Wednesday Night Dinner. The movie highlighted the dangers of global warming in terms of rising sea levels worldwide.

We are engaged with the larger Montreat community through the Landcare Committee, the Trail Club and the Cottagers' Wilderness and Open Space Committee.

We are also engaged with organizations outside the gate through the Creation Care Alliance of Western North Carolina, and worldwide through an earth focused "statement of cooperation" with the Ardrishaig Parish Church of Argyll, Scotland.

Our church continues its re-certification as an Earth Care Congregation in the PCUSA.

## **PROPERTY COMMITTEE 2017 ANNUAL REPORT**

**Members:** Co-chair Steve Hansel, Co-chair Anne Seaman, Gordon Neville, Genie Sullivan

**Session Liaison:** Gill Campbell

### **Activities/Accomplishments:**

- Purchase of projection equipment for use in both Upper Anderson & the Swannanoa Room.
- Maintaining a contract for a copier/printer to lessen the cost of producing bulletins and incidental printing. Most printing now takes place in-house.

### **Ongoing/Upcoming Projects:**

The property committee has responsibility for the leasing arrangements with the conference center and any physical plant issues that arise under that agreement. In 2016 a couple of items were identified and brought to the attention of the conference center.

- Upgrading of the railings surrounding the walkways at the Allen Building has occurred with Conference Center assistance.
- Progress has been reported on replacing the kitchen faucet in Upper Anderson.
- In 2017 improvements were recommended for enhancement of the entrance to Allen Building which should occur in 2018.

The upkeep of the technical equipment for the church is also the responsibility of the committee. The following are items that have been identified as necessary to the mission of church and are identified in the budget request for 2018.

- Purchase of upgraded software for pastor, administrative assistant, treasurer and clerk
- Purchase of equipment necessary for Live Streaming Video of Church Services & other activities held in upper Anderson should session & other collaborating committees decide to move forward with this activity

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Hansel

Anne Seaman

## **STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE 2017 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Finance & Stewardship Committee is responsible for obtaining, allocating and managing the church's funds to enable the various committees to carry out the work of God as approved by the Session in our community and the world through our numerous programs.

In 2017, our actual revenues were \$308,062 which was 127.4 % of what we had budgeted. Of the total amount of revenues, \$64,020 was from prepaid contributions for 2018. Our actual expenses were \$228,923, which was 94.6 % of the \$241,800 we had projected to spend. This required close attention of the Finance Committee when periodically reviewing our finances during 2017. As it was last year, we owe many thanks to Gill Campbell, Treasurer, who did a terrific job of overseeing the church's finances on a daily basis during the year.

In 2018, we have budgeted revenues of \$253,750 and budgeted expenses of \$253,750.

Our Stewardship Campaign for 2018 carried out in October showed slightly positive results. We received pledges showing a net gain of financial support over 2017 of 8.7% or \$18,800 for the 2018 church year. We currently have 80 family responses with a total of slightly over \$234,800 for 2018. This compares to \$216,000 for the same time frame last year. Special thanks should go to Jim Henderson for chairing the Stewardship Committee, and many other members who lent their time and talent to the endeavor!

Respectfully submitted.

Bill McCaskill - Chair, Jean Gettys, Jim Henderson, Gill Campbell, Henry Neale, Jack Sadler, Bob Shaw, Hugh Alexander, Perrin Wright, Everett Culpepper and Keith Grogg.

## **WORSHIP & MUSIC 2017 ANNUAL REPORT**

**Pastor:** Keith Grogg

**Chair:** Betsy Kirschner

**Musician:** Margaret Neale

**Members:** Linda Hobson, Betsy Kirschner, Margaret Neal, MaryJo Wright, Kayte Sabo (through September/October, 2017)

**Worship** was the responsibility of our pastor, Rev. Keith Grogg. Rev. Grogg planned all worship services. Rev. Grogg and the Office Administer, Patty Smith, prepared service bulletins for each Sunday's worship service.

**Worship Services** were held in Upper Anderson and Anderson Auditorium during the year of 2017. This summer, we continued Summer Saturdays, a weekly worship service and fellowship event held in the Swannanoa Room of the Allen Building between MRA conference weeks.

Worship was enhanced during Easter and Advent/Christmas by the donation of Easter Lilies and Poinsettias.

It came to the Music and Worship Committees' attention that it may be possible for late comers to service on Sundays not feel welcome with the door to Upper Anderson closed. We've chosen to leave the door open during service.

**Communion** was generally held on the first Sunday of each month, as well as two Services of Healing and Wholeness, Maudy Thursday, Easter, and Christmas Eve.

**Music** was also the responsibility of the Rev. Grogg in collaboration with church musician Margaret Neale. Under the staff's capable musical direction a variety of vocalists and instrumentalists enriched our worship experiences. Kayte Sabo was married in October and the vocals that she provided will be missed.