



Montreat Presbyterian Church

2020 Annual Report

SESSION

CLASS OF 2021
MASON BLAKE
BETH FOUNTAIN

CLASS OF 2022
JIM HENDERSON
ANN DUPRE ROGERS

CLASS OF 2023
WILLIAM BROWN
ELLEN DEAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Pastor's Report	1
2021 Omnibus Motion	2
2021 Approved Budget	4
Christian Education	7
Congregational Care	9
Evangelism & Membership	10
Fellowship	12
Mission & Outreach	13
Stewardship & Finance	16
Worship & Music	17



Montreat Presbyterian Church 2020 Annual Report

Pastor's Annual Report



Unprecedented. Masks. Zoom. Pandemic. Social distance. Quarantine. These strange times. 2020 elevated and brought to the forefront a whole host of vocabulary words and phrases that before February had been quietly hanging around in the “occasional use” category of our language. Suddenly, they are ubiquitous. Almost as ubiquitous as the presence and love of God, the activity of the Spirit in the Church and the world, the saving touch of Jesus. Last year, I closed this report by saying, “God is doing wonderful, powerful, encouraging things with our church, and I am excited to see all that is in store for us as we continue on our journey together.” Buckle up, preacher.

What has 2020 brought forth? Together, we have all been through a bit of a crucible. Each in our own ways, we have wrestled at midnight with challengingly urgent perspectives on our complicated racial history and the necessary articulation, even if “for internal use only,” of where we locate ourselves politically, and how and why we find ourselves there, and what faith compels us to do with our beliefs—truthfully, sensitively, and only in ways that glorify God and build up one another. It has been quite a year. And here we are. And here God is.

Congregational Care leaped to the cause of making sure no one was left out and providing for the suddenly precious resource of human connection. Worship reached further than ever before through the strange and (trust me) maddening gift of previously untapped technologies. Evangelism brought a year of astonishing growth that would have been remarkable under any conditions, not to mention a worldwide congregation on six continents who follow our weekly services, prayers, and communications. Christian Education found bold new ways to engage us; Stewardship saw this congregation’s most urgent missions maintain sound footing through the unflagging faithfulness and commitment of our members and supporters. Mission itself stepped up to give life and muscle to local ministries meeting the most urgent human need. Fellowship held us together and readied to welcome us back together in person when the time is right. Personnel stewarded our human resources with grace and encouragement. In a year of trials and new joys, tragedies and consolations, God brought forth breathtaking beauty and staggering dedication.

On we go, following Jesus into the world with more hope than fear, more excitement than anxiety, with our eyes, ears, minds, and hearts open to God, our neighbors and each other.

Keith Grogg

Montreat Presbyterian Church 2020 Annual Report

Montreat Presbyterian Church 2021 Omnibus Motion

Approved by Session on January 3, 2021

Holy Communion/Special Worship Services, 2021

(HC) = session approves celebration of communion

The assumption is that January-May will be online services only.

There is no automatic assumption that in-person worship will resume in May or August or 2021.

January 3	First Sunday/Epiphany/Ordination & Installation (HC) (Approved Jan. 2020)
February 7	First Sunday (HC)
February 17	7:00 P.M. Ash Wednesday service
March 7	First Sunday (HC)
April 1	by 8:00 P.M. Maundy Thursday (HC) online service distributed
April 2	by 12:00 P.M. Good Friday online service distributed
April 4	Easter Sunday (HC)
April 27?	Presbytery Worship Service hosted by PWNC/MPC/MRA (pending)
May 2	First Sunday (HC)
May 23	Pentecost/Last service before Summer Worship Series
May 30	Kirkin' o' the Tartan – Anderson Auditorium (pending health conditions)
June 6-Aug. 8	MRA/MPC Summer Worship Series
June-August	Pending conditions: three Saturday Morning Worship in Swannanoa Room (all HC)
August 15	MPC worship (in Upper Anderson, pending health conditions)
September 5/12	HC, OR Joint service w/Central PC, Anderson Auditorium (pending)
September 12	(HC, if Moved to 2nd Sunday due to Sept. 5 location)
October 3	World Communion Sunday/First Sunday (HC)
October 31	Reformation Sunday/Stewardship Dedication
November 7	First Sunday (HC) – Daylight Saving Time ends
November 25	11:00 A.M. Thanksgiving Day service – Upper Anderson
November 28	Hanging of the Greens (Advent 1 – no communion)
December 5	Service of Hope and Remembrance (HC)
December 19	Service of Lessons & Carols
December 24	(Friday) 5:00 P.M. Christmas Eve Service (HC)
December 26	First Sunday after Christmas Day
Jan. 2, 2022	First Sunday/Ordination & Installation (HC)

ALSO:

- Online midweek pastoral prayer services (no communion), as and when appropriate and feasible
- In-person Taize services (possible HC) as frequently as 6 times/year, TBD

Montreat Presbyterian Church 2020 Annual Report

Presbytery Delegates 2021

<u>Date</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Delegate</u>	<u>Alternate</u>
Sat., 1/30	online	Beth	Mason
Tues., 4/27	online	Jim	Ellen
Sat., 7/31	TBD	Ann DuPre	Beth
Tues., 10/26	TBD	William	Mason
Sat., 1/29/22	TBD	Jim	Ellen

Special Offerings, 2021

Jan. 3	Nickel-a-Meal	(Monthly; Presbytery offering)
Jan. 31	Nickel-a-Meal	(Monthly; Presbytery offering)
Feb. 7	Souper Bowl Offering	(to Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry) For local food pantries, soup kitchens etc.
March 7	Nickel-a-Meal	(Monthly; Presbytery offering)
March 28	Nickel-a-Meal	(Monthly; Presbytery offering)
April 4	One Great Hour of Sharing	(Denominational Offering—Easter Sunday) For Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
May 2	Nickel-a-Meal	(Monthly; Presbytery offering)
May 23	Pentecost Offering	(Denominational/ 40% Collins Center) At-risk children, youth/young adult ministries
Sept. 5	Nickel-a-Meal	(Monthly; Presbytery offering)
Sept. 26	Peace & Global Witness	(Denominational/ 25% to Helpmate) For peacemaking programs and initiatives
Oct. 3	Nickel-a-Meal	(Monthly; Presbytery offering)
Nov. 7	Nickel-a-Meal	(Monthly; Presbytery offering)
Nov. 25 (Thurs.)	Thanksgiving Offering	(Synod: Barium Springs/Grandfather Home)
Dec. 5	Nickel-a-Meal	(Monthly; Presbytery offering)
Dec. 12	Christmas Joy Offering	(Denominational Offering) 50% PCUSA minority-population colleges 50% retired PCUSA professionals/spouses
Jan. 2, 2022	Nickel-a-Meal	(Monthly; Presbytery offering)

ALSO: Alternative Gifts opportunities at Christmastime

Stated Session Meeting Dates 2021

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

Exceptions: no July stated meeting; **Dec. 7** (for Christmas).

Dates: Jan. 19; Feb. 16; March 16; April 20; May 18; June 15; Aug. 17; Sept. 21; Oct. 19; Nov. 16; Dec. 7 and Sunday, January 2 or 9, 2022, 11:40 A.M.-3:15 P.M. (Session Retreat)

Other Dates for 2021 Calendar

Jan. 24 1:00 P.M.	Committee Chairs & Session Liaisons Meeting
Jan. 31	Annual Congregational Meeting (subject to reschedule based on health conditions)
Aug. 18 or 24	Wed. evening: Covered Dish Dinner, UA (E&M committee)
9/29 or Oct. 6	Wed. evening: Covered Dish Dinner, UA (Stewardship kickoff)
Oct. 10	Hunger Walk for SVCM
Oct. 31	Sunday evening: Catered Dinner, UA (Stewardship Celebration)
Nov. 10 or 17	Wed. evening: Covered Dish Dinner, UA
Dec. 12 (Sun)5:30 P.M.	Meet at Montreat Gate for Christmas Caroling

Montreat Presbyterian Church 2020 Annual Report

2021 Budget

Accounts	Amount	% increase
Revenues		
004101 - Pledges	\$318,517	113.9%
004201 - Plate Offering	\$1,700	
004202 - Unpledged Contributions	\$20,000	
004208 - Interest Income from CD	\$0	
Total Revenues	\$340,217	112.8%
Expenses		
Mission & Outreach Committee		
Benevolences		
005100 - Presbytery - Unified Benev. Budget	\$14,000	
005102 - Camp Grier	\$4,500	
005103 - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance	\$4,000	
005107 - FEH (OFCB) Bethesda Clinic	\$4,500	
005108 - Intl Mission Initiative	\$2,000	
005109 - Nkhoma Hospital Malawi E051772	\$4,500	
005116 - Friends Empowering Haiti (OFCB)	\$4,500	
005117 - Parker Mission - D507569	\$4,500	
005119 - Makari Mission D507586	\$4,500	
005120 - Montreat Conf Center	\$7,000	
005125 - Presbyterian Heritage Center	\$4,500	
005135 - Warren Wilson College-Intl student	\$4,500	
005150 - Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry	\$4,500	
005151 - Bounty and Soul	\$4,500	
005161 - Special Focus Ministry	\$1,500	
005162 - Hand in Hand of the SV	\$4,500	
005170 - Ministry of Hope - SCCW Chaplaincy	\$4,500	
005171 - Black Mountain Counseling	\$4,500	
005172 - Resources Resilience	\$4,500	
005180 - Discretionary Fund	\$1,500	
005190 - Children and Friends	\$4,500	
Total Benevolences	\$97,500	121.9%
Total Mission & Outreach Committee	\$97,500	121.9%
Administration		
ACS		
005003 - ACS On- Demand Service (Software)	\$1,490	
505000 - ACS Supplies	\$300	
505010 - ACS Training	\$200	
Total ACS	\$1,990	102.6%
General Administrative Expense		
Supplies		
505100 - General Office Supplies	\$450	
505200 - Insurance	\$2,268	
505310 - Memberships	\$270	
505328 - P.O. Box Rental	\$140	
505330 - Postage	\$130	
505351 - Printing Copy Machine	\$1,800	Change in Copy machine
505352 - Copy Paper	\$600	
505353 - Ink - local Printers	\$500	

Montreat Presbyterian Church 2020 Annual Report

505360 - Publicity	\$270	
505380 - Session Expense	\$540	
505381 - Session Directed Gifts	\$700	
505390 - Stationery	\$330	
505450 - Gen. Administrative Miscellaneous	\$50	
560500 - Communications	\$1,000	added \$900 for equip
560800 - WEB Site Maintenance	\$530	for IT Internet subscriptions
580320 - Office & Pastor Telephone	\$2,050	
Total General Administrative Expense	\$11,628	120.3%
Human Resources Committee		
505512 - HR Miscellaneous	\$100	
505600 - Hiring expense	\$50	
505602 - Pastoral Visitor	\$400	
505603 - Pastor Visitor Honoraria	\$3,750	
505605 - Administrative Assistant	\$22,500	2% increase
505606 - Admin Prof. Dev. Reimbursement	\$400	
505660 - Pastor Salary	\$73,000	5% increase
505661 - Pastor Discretionary Reimbursement	\$1,200	
505662 - Pastor BOP Benefits	\$25,100	
505663 - Pastor Travel reimbursement	\$4,200	
505664 - Pastor Prof. Dev. Reimbursement	\$5,800	
505800 - Director of Music	\$20,450	5% increase
505801 - Director of Music BOP Benefits	\$2,615	
505802 - Director of Music FICA/MED	\$2,100	
505803 - Director of Music Retirement Saving	\$6,996	
560025 - Nursery Staff	\$900	
560018 - CE IT support	\$3,500	Support for CE presentations
Total Human Resources Committee	\$173,061	102.7%
Property/Finance Committee		
505710 - Stewardship Materials	\$110	
505720 - Stewardship Dinner	\$800	
505730 - Treasurer Miscellaneous	\$300	
505731 - Vanco processing cost	\$1	
580001 - Gift to MCC appreciation of service	\$6,000	
580060 - Office/Mtg Allen Lease	\$13,200	
580110 - Piano Tuning (2 x per year)	\$200	
580310 - Computer & software	\$900	
580900 - Miscellaneous - Property	\$700	
Total Property/Finance Committee	\$22,211	
Total Administration	\$208,890	103.3%
Worship Committee		
510001 - Music Copying License	\$200	
510002 - Prof. Dev. - PAM	\$100	
510003 - Prof. Dev - for Worship/Music	\$400	
510010 - Flowers and Ferns	\$200	
510020 - Music Library	\$1,600	
510025 - Honoraria	\$1,375	
510040 - Worship Supplies	\$1,075	
510080 - Choir & Guest Musicians	\$400	
Total Worship Committee	\$5,350	100.0%
Congregational Care Committee		
550101 - Card ministry/postage and cards	\$50	

Montreat Presbyterian Church 2020 Annual Report

550102 - Prayer Initiative	\$50	
550103 - Meals for those in hard times	\$400	
550104 - February Program/	\$150	
550105 - Library Books	\$100	
Total Congregational Care Committee	\$750	100.0%
Fellowship Committee		
550000 - Beverages	\$50	
550060 - Paper Goods	\$200	
550080 - Special Events	\$400	
550090 - Sunday Fellowship	\$200	
Total Fellowship Committee	\$850	100.0%
Christian Education Committee		
005200 - Earth Care Ministry	\$500	
560012 - Adult Minisrty Materials	\$750	
560013 - Adult Ministry Mileage/Meals	\$100	
560014 - Adult Ministry PHC	\$50	
560015 - Adult Ministry Circle	\$150	
560016 - Adult Ministry College	\$120	
560017 - Adult Ministry Honoraria	\$1,000	
560019 - Adult Ministry Production	\$350	for zoom/ recording help
560021 - Children and Nursery	\$330	
560022 - Children Table	\$50	
560023 - Children's Materials	\$200	
Total Christian Education Committee	\$3,600	89.2%
Evangelism/Membership Committee		
505160 - Church Directory	\$1,800	Distribution via mail/ online directory
570000 - Evangelism & Membership Committee	\$100	
570510 - Membership Dinners	\$200	
570520 - Books for New Members	\$100	
570530 - Name Boards, Badges & Sign-in Pads	\$100	
Total Evangelism/Membership Committee	\$2,300	92.0%
Total Expenses	\$319,240	107.9%
	Net Total	\$20,977
Percent reserve	6.6%	

Montreat Presbyterian Church 2020 Annual Report

Christian Education Committee

Chair and Session Liaison: Mason Blake

Committee Members: Jane Alexander, Mason Blake, Martha Campbell, Hal Demarest, Priscilla Durkin, Vivian Hare, Anne Seaman, Julie Simpson, Peggy Williamson, Sally Woodard

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

Montreat Wednesdays: Montreat Wednesday programs were held through March 11th, when they were suspended due to the pandemic. A special summer virtual Montreat Wednesday, entitled A Conversation on Race, was “broadcast” on August 12th utilizing YouTube. Virtual Montreat Wednesdays were continued on a twice monthly basis after the end of the summer. The programs that were held during 2020 were as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>
January 22	Mary Brueggemann	Book of <i>Amos</i>
January 28	Mary Brueggemann	Book of <i>Obadiah</i>
February 5	Don King	Study of <i>Mere Christianity</i>
February 12	Sam Thielman	Using the Language of <i>Psalms</i> in Crisis and Resilience Training
February 19	Sam Thielman	Using the Language of <i>Psalms</i> in Crisis and Resilience Training
March 4	Deke Arndt of NOAA	Climate Change
March 11	Mark Achtemeier	The Trinity
August 12	Ann DuPre Rogers and Heath Rada	A Conversation on Race
September 16	Anne and Danny Sharpe	Camino de Santiago
September 30	Bill Seaman	Kindness and the Company it Keeps
October 14	William Pender	On the Road with Paul: Are Judaism and Jesus Going in the Same Direction?
October 28	B&S, BMCC and Buncombe Co. Health Dept.	The Covid Crisis and Local Community Organizations Part I
November 11	SVCM, CELC and Buncombe Co. Comm’n.	The Covid Crisis and Local Community Organizations Part II
November 13	Byron Wade and Keith Grogg	A Fireside Chat with our New General Presbyter
December 9	Vivian Hare and John Rogers	The Hymns of Christmas 2020

Montreat Presbyterian Church 2020 Annual Report

Anne Seaman joined the committee and was instrumental in enabling the committee to produce high quality virtual Montreat Wednesday programs. A special working group including Peggy Williamson, Priscilla Durkin, Anne Seaman, Vivian Hare and Keith Grogg envisioned and produced the special Montreat Wednesday entitled A Conversation on Race held on August 12th. A new “Book Bin” was established and stocked to distribute books for reading as background for this special Montreat Wednesday program

Women’s Circle: Coordinators Jane Alexander and Ellen Dean led this program, with Sally Woodard also playing a leadership role. This successful series of Bible study meetings, luncheons and various programs was forced to terminate in March due to the pandemic. However, programs resumed in the fall on a virtual basis with great attendance and success.

Earth Care: Subcommittee chairman Hal Demarest participated in the formation of a WNC Presbytery Earth Care Committee that is now meeting monthly. This committee produced virtual programs entitled “A Talk in the Woods” on various subjects of interest which began in the summer. Links to these meetings were published periodically in the Montreat Memo.

College, Seminary, and Young Adults: Coordinator Martha Campbell sent care packages to college students for Valentine’s Day. In September, a poster was produced and placed at locations around campus and Montreat inviting students to participate in MPC’s virtual worship services and other virtual events This group was otherwise inactive due to the covid crisis

Children’s Ministry: After the advent of the pandemic, Vivian Hare continued the children’s ministry with a virtual children’s program that met on both a weekly and bi-weekly basis at various times during the year. A special subcommittee comprised of Vivian, Jane Alexander and Mason Blake continued work on the church’s child protection policies and procedures. Updated policies and procedures are ready to be finalized.

Nursery: Vivian Hare and Jane Alexander worked as a task force to continue planning for improved nursery and child-care programs, giving parents and children more and/or better options where possible. Unfortunately, the pandemic has delayed the completion of this work. The nursery ceased to operate when services were suspended.

Women in the Bible: A new adult bible study program entitled Women of the Bible began this year led by Julie Simpson. Priscilla Durkin assisted Julie in leading the class. Women of the Bible was scheduled to be held on the third Thursday of every month at 2:00 pm in the Swannanoa Room of the Allen Building. Unfortunately, the classes were suspended beginning in March due to the pandemic. Julie and several members of the group continued to communicate and worked on several projects (such as making decorative table mats for use at church dinners) during the remainder of the year.

Mason Blake

Congregational Care

Chair and Session Liaison: Beth Fountain

Committee Members: Amanda Demarest, Kat Achtemeier, Dora and John Hinkle, Linda Hobson, Sheri Pender, Cameron Roberts, Mary Nell Todd, Peggy Williamson

Committee Purpose: This committee oversees and coordinates care efforts for the church family.

General: This year there was gratitude that 2019 was a formative year and we were in full action for the 2020 year. This year was a time where we faced a pandemic with a significant number of losses, racial unrest, social isolation, economic, political divisiveness, and various degrees of hardships of some form for virtually all members of the MPC family and in our community. The committee began the year deciding that the ministries selected in 2019 would continue and that we would simply continue to grow these endeavors. They were as follows:

1. Home Communion – Linda Hobson
2. Greeting Card Ministry – Mary Nell Todd
3. A Group Prayer Initiative – John and Dora Hinkle
4. The Carpenters (a home assistance program) - Kat Achtemeier
5. Food Ministry – Amanda Demarest and Cameron Roberts

As the pandemic unfolded in March, home communion, the carpenters, and the in-person prayer group were suspended. A way to keep the MPC family connected was a vital need. Two new ministries were formed.

1. Phone tree – Volunteers were obtained in March, and each volunteer was asked to connect with 4 to 10 individuals in the church to ensure that these individuals were managing during the pandemic. The phone tree callers checked in as a group via zoom one to two times a month. Many pastoral needs were surfaced and addressed through the connections made.
2. Church Chat – A 45-minute zoom meeting on each Sunday morning, for a time of light social connection, was scheduled. One to two “greeters” volunteered each week to welcome people as they logged in to Church Chat. Individuals were invited to share with each other and see each other’s faces unmasked. Often a topic was proposed for the group to reflect upon if they were inclined. The group has continued to grow reaching over 30 in attendance.

Specific Activities

- The food committee provided many meals for those who have gone through difficult times.
- Mary Nell Todd sent approximately 30 cards to those going through difficult times.
- Various volunteers delivered advent calendars to 46 members.

Beth Fountain

Evangelism & Membership

Chair: Judy Shuford

Liaison: Ann DuPre Rogers

Members: Martha Campbell, Bob Shaw, Jean Skidmore, Amanda Demarest, Joan Deifell, Carol Eckard, Ellen Dean, Jane Alexander.

Temporary members: Peggy Williamson, Kat Achtemeier.

Covid 19 Effect: The pandemic has altered the 2020 activities usually provided by the E & M Committee. The committee has not been able to extend a hand of hospitality in person, but the committee continued to work hard. There have been numerous opportunities for outreach offered by the pandemic. The excellent worship services, devotionals, prayer services, Montreat Wednesdays, Church Chat, and special activities have given visitors and new members wonderful opportunities to get to know each other and to experience MPC. People from other churches and those looking for a church home have participated in MPC programs and appreciated the uplifting music, programs and worship offering connections not usually present. MPC has continued to receive new members all during the pandemic.

New 2020 MPC Church Family Directory: A new and improved directory was completed in 2020 despite various technical difficulties that required the resourcefulness and patience of the E & M Committee. MPC has a church family that is unlike most congregations since MPC is the church home for many who live in other states and communities but come to Montreat regularly and sometime rarely. Our committee welcomes them with name tags on the board when they arrive and inclusion in our church family directory if they wish. MPC also has people locally who feel comfortable and welcomed when they participate in various programming MPC offers, some of whom which to be included in our directory. Our membership includes residents of Black Mountain/Givens Highland Farms, Swannanoa, Fairview, Lake Lure and Asheville, as well as Montreat.

Drive through Distribution: Since directories could not be given out after a worship service, the committee had to be creative in distributing them. The one drive-through we scheduled was not only very successful in getting out the directories, but in physically connecting people who had not seen others in the church family in nine months. It was a joyous occasion for fellowship and celebration. Some people in the congregation, including visitors or new members to our church, helped distribute the directories to Black Mountain/Givens Highland Farms, and Swannanoa, as well as to seasonal residents when they are in Montreat.

Continuing Activities and Responsibilities in January-March 2020:

- 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.

Montreat Presbyterian Church 2020 Annual Report

- Distribute fellowship registration pads with follow up removal of forms after the service.
- Call, email, or write to visitors if contact information was 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 and new 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' 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 considers ways to increase the visibility of MPC in Montreat and Black Mountain/Swannanoa/Asheville.
- The directory will be updated periodically and handled by the E & M Committee, and a new online directory in the future will keep updated contact information. Updates to the directory will also be distributed regularly.
- The committee works with other committees and within the community in outreach, such as the annual Montreat College Church Fair.

Judy Shuford

Fellowship Committee

Chair: Grace Nichols

Liaison: Beth Fountain

Committee members: Amy Blake, Peggy Ann Frank, Beth Casper, Dora Hinkle, Joan Deifel, Grace Nichols, Carol Eckard, Genie Sullivan, Trisha Eddington

Purpose: To lead, develop, and promote church events, which are designed to enrich the spirit of fellowship in the congregation.

Activities: The traditional committee activities were curtailed significantly by Covid-19.

- Three members of the Fellowship Committee combined with the Congregational Care Committee to assist in preparing suppers for the Betsy Neville family. Dora Hinkle (and John), Peggy Ann Frank, and Grace Nichols delivered dinners on May 14, 16, and 18.
- With the help and artistic talents of Anne Seaman, a cotton apron was designed to be worn by committee folks while serving at church covered dish dinners, Lenten luncheons, and the annual Presbytery meeting held in Anderson Auditorium. The embroidery on the aprons has the PCUSA logo and an inscription “Predestined to be Delicious.” Precision Graphics in Black Mountain assisted in the set-up and embroidering of the aprons. The aprons were available at a cost of \$16.00. Congregational Care Committee will also be offered the opportunity to purchase or use the aprons when delivering food to families, when care and the need is scheduled.
- In November, the committee made a request to the congregation in the Weekly Memo, inviting all to share their favorite holiday recipes and the story behind them. The recipes were sent out four times a week by Patty Smith in the church office. Very favorable feedback has been received from church members. To date, 16 recipes have been shared.

Grace Nichols

Mission and Outreach Committee

Committee Chair: Eric Nichols

Session Liaison: Jim Henderson

Members who served during 2020: Judy Shillinglaw, John Hinkle, Olson Huff, Ann DuPre Rogers, Clara Hare, Linda Hobson, Nancy Midgette, Beth Fountain, Jan McRae, Priscilla Durkin,

The Mission and Outreach Committee shares a clear, concise mission directive, which states:

- We are to lead our congregation as it seeks to be faithful to Christ's Greatest Commandments and to plan practical ways to be obedient to those charges.
- "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with your entire mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." (Matthew 22: 37-39)

Mission Involvement is at the heart of Montreat Presbyterian Church's faith walk. Congregational time and talents are contributed to many of the organizations and ministries, which the Mission budget supports. The total list of all who volunteer is testimony to our calling as witnesses of Jesus. Our focus on the needs within our local communities and valley remained at the forefront of our giving and volunteering. Here are just a few of the many givers of their time:

- In 2020 Linda Hobson and Corise Gambrell were instrumental in development and operation of the new Don Collins Early Learning Center (formerly Children and Friends).
- Priscilla Durkin provided counseling and encouragement to folks at Swannanoa Correctional Center for Women.
- Dick Ray provided board leadership and counsel to the Presbyterian Heritage Center.
- Dynamic expansion of the local and state-wide programs of Resources for Resilience occurred under the creative leadership of Director Ann DuPre Rogers and Board Member Beth Fountain.
- Vivian Hare served on the Board of Directors of Black Mountain Counseling Center to raise awareness of and funding for their counseling services.
- Twelve church members volunteered with a valley non-profit Compa Community Support, which aided a family from Mexico seeking asylum in the U.S. Compa

Montreat Presbyterian Church 2020 Annual Report

provided financial, housing, educational, logistical, food, translation, and health services.

- At the heart of our international missions was OFCB Ministries in Bayonnais, Haiti; the health clinic Bethesda Centre de Sante in Bayonnais; Nkhoma Hospital in Malawi; and our PCUSA Mission Co-workers: Elmarie and Scott Parker in Iran and Lebanon, as well as Victor and Sara Makari in the Middle East.
- Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministries is a focal point of congregational volunteers. Among those are Jean Gettys, Steve Hansel, Bob Wynne, John Hinkle, and Everett Culpepper.
- A highlight of the committee's year was the Mission Fair held on Zoom in October. Eight of the ministries that we support made presentations. Included among the presenters were Beth Fountain—Resources for Resilience, Corise Gambrell—Don Collins Early Learning Center, Priscilla Durkin—Ministry of Hope at Swannanoa Correctional Center for Women, and Vivian Hare—Black Mountain Counseling Center. Four others presented for their organizations: Bayonnais Medical Clinic—Judy Nichols, Hand in Hand of the Swannanoa Valley—Lois Nix, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance-Presbyterian Mission Agency—Sy Hughes, OFCB Ministries, Haiti—Actionnel Fleurisma.

Financials: The 2020 budget was set at \$80,000 for carrying out the work of the committee and for distribution to the organizations which are listed on the following page. In addition, a total of \$10,000 of non-budgeted funds was distributed as one-time gifts to four organizations, primarily for food insecurity relief during the very difficult COVID times that have been upon us in 2020.

In November, the Mission Committee proposed a 2021 budget to the Finance Committee. It was for \$97,500, an increase of 21.9%. The Mission Committee budget was approved by Finance and by Session.

The congregation responded to four annual special offerings of PCUSA by raising \$3,205. The offerings were: One Great Hour of Sharing—a portion of which went to SVCM for hunger; Pentecost—a portion of which went to Helpmate in Asheville for children and adults at risk; Christ Joy Offering—for church leaders past, present, and future; also Peace and Global Witness—for peacemaking and reconciliation.

The congregation raised \$3,469 in monthly Nickel-a-Meal contributions for food-insecurity programs. In addition, the Souper Bowl of Caring raised \$812.

Nancy Midgette has graciously assumed responsibilities as Chair for 2021.

Montreat Presbyterian Church 2020 Annual Report

MISSION and OUTREACH COMMITTEE 2020 DISTRIBUTIONS			
	From Budget	Non-Budget	Total \$
Presbytery Unified Benevolence Budget	13,000		13,000
Camp Grier	3,200		3,200
OFCB Bethesda Medical Clinic	2,500		2,500
Nkhoma Hospital Malawi	3,200		3,200
Friends of OFCB - Haiti	4,000	2,500	6,500
Mission Co-workers, Scott/Elmarie Parker-Lebanon/Syria	3,200		3,200
Mission Co-workers, Victor/Sara Makari- Middle East	3,200		3,200
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)	0	500	500
Hand in Hand of the Swannanoa Valley - school backpack food	4,700		4,700
Montreat Conference Center	6,000		6,000
Presbyterian Heritage Center	2,500		2,500
Warren Wilson College - International Students	4,000		4,000
Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry	8,000	2,500	10,500
Bounty and Soul	6,200	2,500	8,700
Ministry of Hope - Swannanoa Valley Correctional Ctr. Women	4,000		4,000
Black Mountain Counseling	3,600	2,500	6,100
Compa Community Support - asylum family	1,500		1,500
Resources for Resilience	3,200		3,200
Don Collins Early Learning Ctr., (formerly Children and Friends)	4,000		4,000
Totals	80,000	10,500	90,500

Eric Nichols

Montreat Presbyterian Church 2020 Annual Report

Stewardship & Finance Committee

Chair: Everett Culpepper

Session Liaison: Everett Culpepper

Members: Gill Campbell, Jean Gettys, Hugh Alexander, Jim Henderson, Mary Jo Wright, Margaret Neale, Jack Sadler, Bob Shaw, Robin Tutterow

We all know this year has been one for the books and I must say with the help of.

The entire committee has turned out very good.

We had a very successful stewardship season thanks to the leadership of Eric Nichols.

Jim Henderson and his committee gave us an endowment plan that will insure the financial future of the church.

Our church budget showed an increase.

Gill Campbell guided us in these difficult times with up to date budget information and encouraged us that we would be able to meet all our financial obligations, which we did!

Our congregation has responded in a most generous manner to meet the needs of the 2021 budget despite the stressful environment of the pandemic.

Everett Culpepper

Worship and Music Committee

Chair: Linda Hobson

Session Liaison: Jane Alexander

Committee Members: Betsy Kirschner, Jane Alexander, Paulette Heck, Christina Tutterow, Vivian Hare

Worship and Music was presented with new challenges in providing worship during the 2020 pandemic. Early into the pandemic, and most of the year, the committee met weekly to process, reflect, plan, and determine new ways for the MPC to worship. During this process, the committee was intentional in serving as a sounding board and a support for our church staff, Rev. Keith Grogg and Vivian Hare, Director of Music.

Virtual worship services and evening prayers provided the church with a ministry not only locally, but it also reached far beyond the Swannanoa Valley. Worshippers could join us from wherever they might be. Many shared their joy of being able to join MPC for worship. All liturgical worship services were observed. These included Ash Wednesday, Holy Week, Pentecost, and Advent services.

Not only were worship services virtual, but our choir recorded themselves singing at home with their voices stitched together electronically. Our choir blessed us with many stirring anthems and songs. Children Choir activities continued with weekly Zoom meetings. were leaders in many worship services this year. A big thank you to our choirs for their willingness to sing virtually.

The committee determined the importance of keeping MPC connected. Many people shared their skills and talents in the spiritual life of the church during 2020. Worship readers, sharing pictures and musical solos to be used worship services and programs, as well as those who wrote Advent Devotionals were meaningful connections for everyone.

The Christmas Tapestry, a retelling of the Christmas story, was a highlight of Advent with many people portraying angels, shepherds, wise men, as well as Mary and Joseph with much imagination and creativity.

A new brass Advent wreath stand was purchased and used this Advent. This was made possible by a generous anonymous donation. This wreath stand will be a part of many Advents to come.

It is with much appreciation that the Worship and Music Committee thanks Rev. Keith Grogg and Vivian Hare for their outstanding leadership and excellence in worship and music. They wore many new hats that were not part of the religious studies ministers and musicians receive. In the midst of trying on new hats, Keith and Vivian continued to deliver God's words to us. Countless hours were required to prepare the weekly worship services and they walked in grace and faith. Thank you, Keith and Vivian.

Linda Hobson