



2020 Annual Report

THE CHEVY CHASE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The logo for The Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church is a central graphic consisting of a white cross superimposed on a colorful, abstract shape made of overlapping geometric patterns in shades of purple, blue, green, and pink. The text "2020 Annual Report" is arched over the top, and "THE CHEVY CHASE" and "PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH" are arched around the sides of the logo.

2020 CCPC Annual Report

Table of Contents

<u>3</u>	Senior Pastor's 2020 Annual Report
<u>5</u>	Session Clerks
<u>8</u>	Board of Deacons
<u>10</u>	Administration and Finance
<u>14</u>	Personnel Committee
<u>15</u>	Christian Education
<u>19</u>	Mission Advisory Council
<u>22</u>	Associate Pastor's Report
<u>25</u>	Connections
<u>26</u>	Worship and Music
<u>28</u>	Stewardship

2020 Annual Report of the Senior Pastor

**The Rev. Molly Blythe Teichert
Senior Pastor**

2020 may have been the most challenging year for our nation in the past 50 years. The deadly novel corona virus-19 was detected in Wuhan, China in January and soon swept across the globe. In March it had come to DC. For the safety of our congregation we closed the physical plant and pivoted quickly to virtual worship on March 15, 2020. We came to know the truth of the old song “the church is not a building, the church is a people.”

Although the building closed for a time, the church did not. Most of our ministries went online and we have been able to continue virtually. We all learned how to “zoom”. God refused to allow the virus to stop us from being the church. The Holy Spirit has gathered us every Sunday. Scripture, sermons, music, prayers have sustained us. Even as people from other parts of the nation and world are worshipping with us, the church has never felt so close, the community so strong.

With much guidance from Rev. Eric Peltz, we made the decision to worship “live” online. This enables us all to see each other and to participate in real time. We have ordained and installed new officers, celebrated the Lord’s supper, confirmed confirmands, and celebrated the lives of those who are with God in life beyond death. The challenges of “zoom” worship are many. Over the months the worship staff and volunteer team has taken these challenges as opportunities to learn new skills and innovate.



Under the leadership of Director of Music Julie Vidrick Evans, psalm singing, hearing the choir sing the hymns, seeing our soloists and children and members offer their gifts has been a great joy.



Even as we stayed inside and practiced social distancing, we could not stay distant from events in our nation. Along with the raging pandemic, we all watched as a police officer murdered an unarmed black man, George Floyd. A black off-duty police officer was shot and killed as she slept in her bed and we learned the name Brianna Taylor. It was as if scales fell from our eyes and we saw racial violence, inequities, injustice, and white supremacy more clearly and vividly than ever before. All the time White Nationalism continued to increase. God called us to rise up and tell the world Black Lives Matter.

2020 Annual Report of the Senior Pastor

Continued



We initiated a Pandemic Fund to support DC Central Kitchen and the Brooks Family Shelter.

God also called us to sit down and learn all we could about racism, its history, and impact on our nation.



In the fall, our Weekday Nursery School and After School Programs opened in accordance with the guidance and restrictions imposed by the District of Columbia and the CDC. It has been a tremendous undertaking for the staff of each school and our facilities staff. It has been a great gift to the families in our community who have so desperately needed places for their children to play and learn with others.

As Christmas approached, the Transition Assistance Program found a way to serve their clients online. And, it became clear that worship would remain virtual. So we broadcast the sermons from the sanctuary. The flower committee went into overdrive and decorated not only the sanctuary, but made a display of three Christmas trees on the front lawn as well. The Children's Christmas Pageant was the most watched service of the entire year. Nothing could keep Christ from being born among us.



Now in mid-February of 2021, more than 2.5 million people have died from the corona virus. Our nation has lost more than 500,000 lives to COVID. Jesus ministered to people who were suffering. His words found fertile ground in the hearts of those who were sick, or poor, or hurting. The words of the Gospel have found new fertile ground in our hearts. The scriptures are the same as we have read in years past, but our ears have been opened to hear them in new ways. We have heard God speak to us of empire, resistance, and the liberation of the oppressed.

God's Spirit has sustained us in this time of suffering. Even though we have been physically apart, God has drawn us closer together in many ways. In twenty-nine years of ministry, I believe I have felt closer to God this year than all others. It is a gift to be the church with all of you.

God's Blessings,
The Reverend Molly Blythe Teichert

2020 Annual Report of The Session

**Erik Woodworth
Tom Lutte
Clerks of Session**

Before there was one, now there are three!

Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church used to have one Clerk of Session, now it has three! While Elder Norm Stant may have had visions of sugar-plums dancing in his head as his “retirement” approached last year after twenty-five years as Clerk of Session, little did he know that his hopes of cruising the high seas in his newfound free time would soon be dashed against the rocks of COVID-19. As Clerk of Session Emeritus, his retirement has been anything but, as he has continued to valiantly maintain the membership rolls and most importantly has served as an invaluable resource to Session and the two new Clerks, Tom Lutte and Erik Woodworth, who have found that their four feet still need to grow a bit to fill his two shoes!

The Session

The session shall have responsibility for governing the congregation and guiding its witness to the sovereign activity of God in the world, so that the congregation is and becomes a community of faith, hope, love, and witness. (BO G-3.0201)

As the Clerks multiplied, the **Session** size shrank by four last year, reaching its new more manageable size of twelve ruling Elders and one Youth Elder, moderated by Senior Pastor Molly Blythe Teichert. This deliberative body strives to ascertain God’s will for our Congregation as we focus on questions regarding vision, mission, strategy and goals for the church. If you have questions or issues that you believe the Session should consider, please don’t hesitate to bring these to the attention of Pastor Molly, the Clerks or any of the ruling Elders.

While much of the business of the church continued to be governed through essential and previously established committees such as A&F, Nominating, Stewardship and Personnel, following changes implemented in 2019 the Session as a whole considered matters related to Mission (see separate Mission report) and various task forces and teams were created throughout the year to address specific needs.

Year of the Pandemic

Many of the Session’s decisions in 2020 related to the COVID-19 pandemic. After Pastor Molly took the initiative to shut the church facilities before other churches did, one of the most important decisions we had to make was whether or not to allow the **Weekday Nursery School** and the **After School Program** to return to the church building in the Fall of 2020. Placing trust in the school staff’s ability to implement rigorous protocols to help mitigate risk and being mindful of the benefits to parents and children of returning to in-person classes, we voted in favor of reopening. We are thankful for the school staff and the custodians for making this not only possible but a great success.

2020 Annual Report of The Session

Continued



We also authorized creation of the **Pandemic Relief Fund** and allocation of some of our budgeted mission moneys to help the homeless and the hungry by supporting the Capital Area Food Bank and The Brooks.

Social distancing measures even raised questions like whether or not the Presbyterian Church allowed for virtual communion (it does) and whether or not our governing documents allowed for meetings via videoconference. With regards to the later, “Zoom meeting” has not made it into the Book of Order or CCPC’s Bylaws yet, so our first order of business after we can safely convene in person may be to approve a change to our bylaws to allow for virtual meetings and to retroactively approve all decisions made during online meetings over last few months!

Year of Black Lives Matter

The death of George Floyd under the knee of a Minneapolis policeman was a brutal reminder of racial inequities in our society. Under the leadership of Pastor Molly, the Session approved an official statement about his murder and police brutality, and decided to display a Black Lives Matter banner on the church fence facing Connecticut Ave. This has been a visible expression of our solidarity with those fighting the racism endemic to our society, a solidarity that has infused much of our spiritual focus over the past year.

Governance Committee

The “Governance Committee”, which includes the Clerks and the Pastors, is responsible for helping to organize one or more Session retreats throughout the year. These retreats help us delve into a short list of topics in greater depth to help guide the strategic direction of the church. Our last retreat elevated our desire to leverage our virtual service format by expanding our visibility and reach via social media and sought ideas for reenergizing our Sunday School and Youth programs. Future retreats may focus on exploring our focus on the church’s Mission efforts.

2020 Membership Information

Finally, a note on membership statistics, summarized below. This is all quite self-explanatory though we do want to comment on the large number (60) of membership losses in the “Inactivity/Deletion” category.

Each year we report statistical information on our membership as summarized on page 6. We are very thankful for the members who joined us by reaffirmation of faith last year and for a wonderful group of confirmands. Hearing their stories and faith journeys was a highlight of the year for the Session.

We mourn the loss of several long-time cherished members of the church who are and will be missed.



2020 Annual Report of The Session

Continued

2020 Membership

GAINS		Age Group	
Prof/Reaf of Faith (18 & over)	3	25 & Under	49
Confirmands (17 & under)	7	26 – 40	54
Certificate of Transfer	0	41 – 55	115
Other	2	56 – 70	118
2020 Total Gains	12	Over 70	160
LOSSES		Ethnicity	
Death	6	Asian	19
Certificate of Transfer	5	African American	12
Inactivity/Deletion	60	Hispanic	10
2020 Total Losses	71	Middle Eastern	12
Ending Membership		Native American	1
Female Members	295	White	442
Male Members	201		

As for the sixty ‘Inactivity/Deletion’ losses, please note that those were due to a thorough review of the rolls to determine who was still really connected to the church or not and we proactively removed several people from active status who had moved out of town or who simply had not participated for a long time. This figure is not a reflection of unhappiness with the church and quite the contrary we have seen sustained engagement and even renewed enthusiasm for the online services, virtual coffee hour, Open Forums and book discussions that have helped us through a difficult year.

Finally, we remind everyone that the church is you and us. There are so many ways to be an active participant in the life of the congregation, from writing a card to someone on the Prayers and Concerns list, to chairing a committee. So please give us the gift of your time and your talents as we will all be richer for it. And please invite others to join our community, as we strive to build a more just, peaceful, and caring world.

Board of Deacons 2020 Report

Sarah Smith, Moderator
Scott Corkran,
Asst. Moderator

The Board of Deacons, led by current moderator Sarah Smith and assistant moderator Scott Corkran, under the guidance of Associate Pastor Reverend Eric Peltz, serves the church in many ways, but focuses on congregational care and outreach. Its mission includes providing care and compassion within the congregation, organizing meal delivery for those in temporary need, keeping contact with members no longer able to participate fully in the life of the church, and arranging logistics for key congregational events.

The COVID-19 pandemic presented the Board of Deacons with new and significant challenges to serving the church community during the 2020-2021 term, but we rose to the challenge with a vibrant and successful year.

Deacon activity in 2020:

Sarah Smith continued to provide leadership as the Board's Moderator. Dana Hedgepeth, Jim Moorhead, Stephanie Rust, Melody Soopper, Peggy Hawkins, Sigrid Lade, Penny and Bob Garman, and Brad Hunter joined the Board as new members, and Scott Corkran (Assistant Moderator) agreed to extend his term for an additional three year.

Congregational Care:

The world health crisis forced the Deacons to adapt to the unexpected challenges of serving the congregation during a pandemic. With in-person services on hold, rides to and from church were not necessary. Similarly, the need to eliminate face-to-face contact precluded personal visits. The Deacons responded in April with the initiative to contact every member of the congregation. Simply put, we wanted everyone in our community to feel loved and cared for in this period of extended uncertainty.

Working in 3 rotating teams, the Deacons accomplished this goal with a consistent flurry of phone calls, emails, texts, and yes, even letters. With that accomplishment reached, Deacons continued their traditional mission of congregational care by calling and corresponding with church members weekly. Those selected for outreach included our Church Neighbors along with other members selected by the pastors. Church Neighbors are congregants who may be homebound or otherwise unable to fully engage with our church community. Overall, the Deacons were able to communicate with a much larger segment of the congregation in 2020 than in years past.



Board of Deacons 2020 Report Continued

Church Events:

Perhaps the Deacons' greatest triumph was the service of celebration for 50-Year Members. The Deacons planned, produced, and performed a service honoring the experiences and contributions of our longest-tenured members through their own words. The Board of Deacons is pleased to report that not only was the service well received, but an absolute joy to undertake. In addition, the Deacons prepared and delivered (in a socially distant manner) small gifts to each of the 50-Year Members.

Goals for 2021:

The Board of Deacons is eager to continue its service to CCPC, its congregation, and its wider community in 2021. In addition to its current missions, the Board is actively considering how it might better serve and support our children and youth membership in the coming year. Many of our children and youth congregants have found it difficult to maintain ties to the church without weekly services, children and youth group gatherings, and other events bringing them together. The Deacons are committed to exploring how we might keep this younger constituency connected and cared for in the coming year.

In addition, the Board looks forward to welcoming nine new Deacons and extending the terms for six current Deacons the 2021-2022 term, a testament to the hard work of the Church's nominating committee and the vibrancy of this ministry even in the most challenging of years.

"Overall, the Deacons were able to communicate with a much larger segment of the congregation in 2020 than in years past."



Administration and Finance Committee

Kenneth M. Beam
Chair

The Administration and Finance Committee and its sub-committees are charged with oversight of the financial operations of the church, the maintenance and safety of the building and grounds, and the overall support of the other committees charged with carrying out CCPC's mission in the community and the world. In 2020, our intention was to continue to streamline our business management practices, concentrating on building operations capital improvements, security concerns, and maintaining our re-invigorated endowment and investment holdings. (See also accompanying 'Investment' and 'Capital Fund' reports).

However, 2020 proved to be a year like no other. The Covid-19 pandemic brought changes – beginning with the shutdown of the church facilities and offices in the early spring of 2020. The CCPC leadership quickly decided that all staff would be paid their approved wages throughout this crisis. Our wonderful and talented staff – led by our two pastors – completely restructured our church activities to this new virtual environment. Not only did we keep our attendance strong but we also have extended our church attendees (i.e., viewers) beyond our normal level of attendance to new worshippers outside of our membership and outside of our normal geographic range.

We also adjusted to the new demands of our schools in order for them to continue to serve our youngest clients. Due to the new pandemic demands, the class size had to be reduced. This meant the hiring of additional teachers and the schools given more classroom space in our facility. These demands – including sanitation/new cleaning routines for staff, new entry/exit rules, Covid testing regulations – all were met by our church and school staff.

When you look at the budget versus actual figures for fy2020 you will see two big effects that the pandemic had on our finances. On the expense side, the costs of our Support Services line item – made up mostly of facilities costs (utilities, supplies, office expenses like copier usage) – were fifty thousand dollars under budget. But, the real surprise came in Undesignated Giving in fy2020. We had budgeted for a continuing reduction in this our most important income stream – member pledges and other donations like plate offerings. However, due to a large influx of funds in December, we not only exceeded our budget projections for fy2020 but also exceeded our actual amounts for fy2019.

The Final Operating Budget for fy2021 has been approved by Session. We have projected a reduction in Undesignated Giving for this next year, and this reduction in income is offset by the appropriate reduction in facilities costs due to our continuing closure for part of the 2021 year. This budget also includes a two percent salary increase pool.

As you can see from the annual UNAUDITED 2020 financial information that follows, actual overall expenses covered all obligations and matched overall income realized.



Administration and Finance Committee

Continued

Annual Operating Budget Summary (Unaudited data)

	2020 Budget	2020 Actual
Income		
Undesignated Giving	1,066,000	1,101,196
Investment Income	70,753	70,753
Use of Facilities	20,000	1,240
Other Income	116,857	85,823
TOTAL INCOME	1,273,610	1,259,012
Expense		
Connections	4,750	687
Christian Education	8,425	4,734
Youth Ministries	2,000	1,486
Worship and Music	28,000	18,870
Mission	60,000	61,606
Stewardship	3,500	0
Support Services	282,000	233,728
Administration and Finance	95,000	103,659
Personnel	767,474	774,753
Deacons	1,000	442
Y-E to Reserves	21,461	59,047
TOTAL EXPENSE	1,273,610	1,259,012

Administration and Finance Committee

Continued



Investment Sub-Committee

The Investment Sub-Committee of the A&F meets at least annually with our investment advisor to review performance reports, market trends/forecasts, asset allocations (adjusting as prudent), and to set the annual 'earnings draw' for the next budget year. (The committee meets at other times during the year as necessary.)

CCPC holds its investable funds in three specifically focused accounts managed by Vanguard Institutional Advisory Services (VIAS) for the following purposes –

- To provide better synergies, flexibility and transparency of our endowment, memorial and other investment funds.
- To provide a predictable annual earnings stream to help underwrite the continuing costs of church program outreach, on-going routine facility maintenance, and longer-term facility capital needs.
- To provide a specific and visible framework for the Planned Giving Committee to better channel bequests and large-scale special gifts.

The majority of the church funds are invested for the long-term. We do not attempt to 'chase' or 'time' the markets when making our investment decisions; quarterly earnings withdrawals are taken on set dates while any "new" monies are transferred into the Vanguard funds within seven business days of receipt.

The majority of the church funds are invested for the long-term. We do not attempt to 'chase' or 'time' the markets when making our investment decisions; quarterly earnings withdrawals are taken on set dates while any "new" monies are transferred into the Vanguard funds within seven business days of receipt.

Fund Descriptions

- **Vanguard Endowment Fund** – Investment holdings in this fund are postured for the long-term. Earnings are used to
 - » Help underwrite the annual program outreach budgets
 - » Provide a perpetual pipe organ maintenance fund
 - » Off-set costs of routine and large-scale facility and equipment repair and/or replacement
 - » **Balance as of 12/31/20 = \$3,045,542**



Administration and Finance Committee

Continued

Investment Sub-Committee (Continued):

- ***Vanguard Short/Intermediate Term Fund***
 - » This fund of near-liquid assets is maintained as a 'safety net' should daily cash on hand fall below needed levels, while still providing a reasonable rate of return.
 - » ***Balance as of 12/31/20 = \$481,444***
- ***Vanguard Restricted/Governments Fund***
 - » This fund's sole asset consists of the more liquid portion of the Columbarium maintenance
 - » ***Balance as of 12/31/20 = \$5,901***

For additional information and/or a copy of the Session-approved Investment Policy Statement, please see the Business Manager.

Living Stones Legacy Funds

A portion of CCPC's investable assets have been designated the Kecker Family Fund. This fund provides a perpetuating source of monies to underwrite the costs of anticipated and unanticipated failure/breakdown of major structural and mechanical/plumbing/electrical systems totally separate from the daily "Operating Fund." In 2020, we deposited nearly \$44K of the total investment earnings for the year into this fund.

Columbarium Sub-Committee

The active working group works on projects on our facilities to-do list to insure the safety and attractiveness of our Columbarium area. In addition to needed capital improvements, the Columbarium Sub-Committee works with CCPC facilities staff and volunteers to keep the area clean and well-maintained as well as reviewing the rules and regulations that guide the activities of this important service to our community.

Audit Sub-Committee

Our Audit Committee meets with our outside auditor and CCPC Business Manager each year to supervise the accounts and records of the CCPC Business Office. In addition to this supervisory role, members of this committee conduct quarterly internal audits of selected CCPC accounting records following a very detailed list of procedures that have been outlined and approved by Session and our external auditor.

Personnel Committee 2020 Report

**Jean Bedenbaugh
Chair**

The Personnel Committee consists of: Jean Bedenbaugh, Chair; John Cox, Tamera Luzzatto, Christy Schmidt, Erik Woodworth, Bob Vieth and the Rev. Molly Blythe Teichert, Senior Pastor.

The committee meets monthly to address issues that affect the church personnel. The committee also conducts annual performance evaluations of all staff, including our two clergy and Music Director. The review process includes an interactive assessment of their performance during the current year, based on written goals aligned with the CCPC Vision and Strategic Plan. The assessment is a collegial consideration of the member's performance and results in written goals for the ensuing year.

It is gratifying to report that in 2020, the year of the pandemic, there were no staff changes. Even more gratifying and commendatory was to see how everyone worked together to meet the challenges and limitations imposed by the pandemic. Many had to work from home; and the clergy and the Director of Music drew on much creativity and ingenuity to provide meaningful, stimulating worship services every Sunday morning via Zoom. They also used Zoom to offer other programs throughout the week, such as Open Forum, Faith Trek, Bible Study, Committee meetings, CCPC U, and "Coffee with Molly". So successful were they, that CCPC captivated the spirit and enthusiasm of three new members who joined in May 2020, plus the confirmands, as well as four new members who recently joined in 2021.

The WNS under the leadership of Noni Lindahl and the ASP under the co-directorship of Kelly Abernathy, Ami Bawa, and Kim Kasprzak, continued to offer nurturing onsite programs in spite of the pandemic. Our fine custodial staff, under the guidance of Facilities Supervisor Marlon Chacon, maintained the building and grounds, in spite of their limited use.

The clergy and staff at CCPC are indeed an outstanding group of individuals, to be commended for their loyalty and dedication to our congregation. They are worthy of our utmost respect. To show our gratitude, the Personnel Committee treated the entire group to a delicious holiday lunch in mid-December, all via Zoom and catered by Grubhub. Fun all around for a great bunch of people!

Jean Bedenbaugh, Chair

Christian Education 2020 Report

It was an unprecedented year for Christian Education in 2020. Beginning on January 19th and intended to go through March, the Sunday School introduced “Big Room” Sunday School for 3’s through 5th grade in Chadsey Hall for a collaborative winter project. The 2020 theme was “Jesus Family Tree” and included the bible stories of Adam & Eve, Abraham, Ruth, David, Solomon, Josiah and ends with Mary & Joseph. We developed this new format as these are typically the lower attendance months; we hoped to increase engagement and attendance. Attendance was between 14-21 students, with the older children actively helping the younger ones. The last in person Sunday School was March 8th. Mark Fernandez started Zoom Sunday School on April 5th for our Middle School and High School members and met over twenty weeks until November 22nd. On Sun Aug 31 we had a Blessing of the Devices (formerly known as the Blessing of the Backpacks). We delivered dozens of “Blessed to Be a Blessing” stickers to students in our congregation. Dr Bobb Robinson blessed us all by working with our youth and producing an amazing virtual Children’s Christmas Pageant on December 20th. Session is convening a task force on Future Faith Formation to reinvent the way we share the faith when the pandemic is over, as while as finding ways to serve our students mental health needs right now.



Christian Education 2020 Report Continued



Weekday Nursery School

Never has CCPC's longstanding ministry to our neighbors been more crucial than now. The Weekday Nursery School opened as planned, fulltime and in-person, on September 14. We were able to honor commitments to all enrolled families and offered priority placement for the 2021-22 school year to those who chose to stay home due to health concerns. Currently 92 children (ages 18 months to PreK five year olds) attend each week and are allowed the important opportunity to learn through play with teachers and peers, and to do so safely with many, many enhanced health protocols in place.

After closing our doors on March 13 and offering virtual learning through the end of the planned school year, we made the hard decision to cancel summer camp. Through the payroll protection program, teachers were paid throughout these times. The WNS administrative staff then worked intensively with the Office of the State Superintendent for Education and the DC Department of Health throughout the summer to create a newly envisioned school environment in compliance with new guidance for Covid-19. Teachers stepped up to the many complex challenges created by the pandemic. All staff have been nimble, creative and energetic in this work. By the end of March 2021, all teachers who wish to be vaccinated (an overwhelming majority) will have received both doses of either the Pfizer or Moderna shots.

Heartfelt thanks to the Session for allowing our program to expand to new classroom spaces throughout the Education Wing to accommodate mandated reduced group sizes and for their belief in the importance of offering in-person school to early learners.

The long-awaited capital improvement project to fully renovate the playground was completed after many Covid-related delays in the spring. The newly envisioned space features a track for biking and scootering, an expansive playing field, lots of upgraded new play equipment, along with 22 new flowering trees and abundant plantings. This beautiful, nature-inspired space is a real joy for our children and sets us apart from the many other nursery schools in our neighborhood.

Our families have proven to be incredibly vigilant on the health front, and express immense gratitude for the normalcy we have provided in this most challenging year. Finances have been a challenge, but our community has never been stronger. We look forward to 2 fun-filled summer camp sessions and a robust start for the 2021-22 school year.

Interest in CCPC Nursery School is stronger than ever. To learn more about our program, please visit our website www.ccpcwns.com.



Christian Education 2020 Report

Continued

After School Program- Ami Bawa, Kim Kasprzak, Kelley Abernathy- Directors

Never has CCPC's longstanding ministry to our neighbors been more crucial than now. The After School Program opened as planned, fulltime and in-person, on August 31. We were able to honor commitments to all enrolled families, have maintained a robust waiting list, and will offer priority placement for the 2021-22 school year to those who chose to stay home due to health concerns. Currently 40 children (grades Pre-K to 5) attend each week and are allowed the important opportunity to socialize with peers and teachers, and to do so safely with many, many enhanced health protocols in place. Families continue to relay their deep gratitude for the one "happy place" in their children's lives during this difficult time.

After closing our doors on March 13 and offering virtual meetups for many weeks, we were forced to end our year without coming back together as originally planned. With the support of our generous and grateful parent community, ASP was able to pay our staff through the end of the school year without interruption or pay cuts. The administrative staff then worked intensively with the Nursery School, the Office of the State Superintendent for Education and the DC Department of Health throughout the summer to create a newly envisioned after-school environment in compliance with new guidance for COVID-19. This included the hiring of 2 new staff members to meet our reduced group size, and a newly envisioned rotation of outdoor spaces to enable us to operate an almost fully outdoor program. Teachers stepped up to the many complex challenges created by the pandemic. All staff have been nimble, creative and energetic in this work.

Until now, children have come to CCPC from home each day after virtual or pod learning. With DCPS now open in a modified schedule, we are gearing up to resume pick-up at Lafayette Elementary School for students who have chosen the in-person learning option. By the end of March 2021, all teachers who wish to be vaccinated (an overwhelming majority) will have received both doses of either the Pfizer or Moderna shot.

Heartfelt thanks to the Session for allowing our program to expand to a new classroom space in Clavin Hall to accommodate mandated reduced group sizes and for their belief in the importance of offering in-person after-school programming.

Our families have proven to be incredibly vigilant on the health front, and express immense gratitude for the normalcy we have provided in this most challenging year. Finances have been a challenge, but our community has never been stronger. We look forward to a robust start for the 2021-22 school year. Interest in CCPC After School Program is stronger than ever. To learn more about our program, please visit our website www.ccpccasp.com.

Christian Education

2020 Report

Continued



Faith Trek

Thanks to Zoom, our Sunday morning gathering after church has not only continued but grown in number of participants. Sarah Toppins provides our weekly reminder and link, and as many as 14 attend for lively discussion of books that deal with contemporary and theological concerns. Readings have included David Brooks's *Second Mountain*, Karen Armstrong's *The Lost Art of Scripture*, Martin Luther King's *Why We Can't Wait* and currently Jack Miles's *Christ: A Crisis In the Life of God*. We share our thoughts on the day's news and find relevance and context in the insights of writers, but most of all we enjoy defying the isolation alongside CCPC friends near and far (even Lena in Burnaul, Siberia). Others are welcome to join us at any time. (Contact margaret.chan@cbp.dhs.gov)

Friday Morning Men's Group By Pat Strauss

Friday Morning Men's Group - Our men's group stepped it up during Covid, meeting twice a week on Zoom Wednesday and Friday mornings thanks to a member's Zoom link. Books we read were - Isaiah, Genesis, Richard Rohr-*Universal Christ*, Exodus (which took on a new meaning after reading *The Universal Christ*), and Marcus Borg-*Getting to Know Jesus Again for the First Time*.

We are so incredibly blessed to have had one another in a group that in addition to the varied readings, discussed, argued and joked about anything and everything which kept us going during these crazy times. We are so grateful for our CCPC community!

The Men's Spiritual Journey Group

The Men's Spiritual Journey Group meets on Sunday evenings, generally the first and third Sunday of the month. It is open to any men at CCPC, and this year has typically had a 6-8 men in attendance. Our meetings were disrupted by the pandemic in March, like the rest of life. Up until then, we had met in member's homes. After March, we moved onto Zoom. A benefit was that we could include in our meetings Ed White (a founder of the group) first from his self-isolating DC nursing home and then from his son's home in South Carolina. The group's meetings always included a discussion of either a book of the Bible (recently, Mark and Acts) which is first read out loud, or a secondary source (recently, Fr. Richard Rohr's *The Universal Christ*), followed by each member's checking in with the group on personal and family activities, status, etc. The Zoom format has continued the personal closeness of the group, although we look forward to herd immunity to the COVID-19 virus and a return to in-person meetings sometime in 2021. We would be happy to include further men in the group, and also look forward to restarting our periodic dinners with spouses included.

Mission Advisory Council 2020 Report

In 2019 Session abolished the Mission Committee and took on that leadership role as a “Committee of the Whole” with an Advisory Council. Members of this year’s Mission Advisory Council are Elders Christy Schmidt (Chair), Ken Beam and Erik Woodworth, under the guidance and oversight of Pastor Eric Peltz. They will be working to develop meaningful mission projects from our community to energize the Congregation’s passion for justice. In particular they want to identify service opportunities for our youth in conjunction with other groups within the Congregation and are looking for good project ideas. Session is committed to placing our resources behind efforts that demonstrate the congregation’s core Christian vision that Justice Is Our Passion. Certain mission activities described below are financed as part of the CCPC mission budget, while others are funded by donations and grants outside the Session’s budget process. In total CCPC provided almost \$125,000 to mission work:

\$61,606 from the budget and another \$62,603 donated to Gifts of Hope, the Refugee Task Force, the Hunger Offering, and Shikokho.

In 2020 \$20,000 of your pledge dollars went to the National Capital Presbytery for denominational mission outreach activities. These included a wide variety of missions, including disaster relief, immigrant ministries, church development, leadership training and coaching, the PCUSA’s Office of Public Witness, church planting, global mission, the Washington Interfaith Network, scholarships and education grants for individuals and churches, and earth stewardship.

The Session is also responsible for managing the church’s four special offerings each year, which depend on individual donations. The 2018 Pentecost Offering, the Peace the One Great Hour of Sharing and the Christmas Joy Offering. In addition, CCPC collects a special Hunger Offering each month. Funds are divided equally to support three hunger ministries: The Transition Assistance Program (TAP), Shepherd’s Table, and the Shitoli Solid Rock Orphan Feeding Program in Shikokho.

Our congregation also generously supported the Gifts of Hope Alternative Christmas gifts market. The Gifts of Hope Market allows members to honor friends or family at Christmas.

We also created a Pandemic Relief fund late in the spring to provide even more assistance to families during this very difficult time. Dollar donations to the fund were split evenly between the Capital Area FoodBank and the Brooks a family shelter run by Friendship Place. As part of the Pandemic Fund, CCPC joined with a local business, Child’s Play, so everyone but especially the children of our congregation, could select toys and school supplies to give to the children in the family shelter.

Below are specific update reports from our major mission projects.

Mission Advisory Council

Continued



Shikokho

CCPC continues in our 25 year plus partnership with the people of Shikokho, Kenya. The current CCPC collaborations are focused on education in the village. In 2020, this focus included support for 4 Shikokho Primary School teachers supplementing those employed by the school in order to keep the class size as small as possible. In addition, we have supported a feeding program to provide a hot lunch each school day for 160 preschool and primary school children deemed at risk. During much of this past year when the schools were shut down due to Covid-19 concerns, teachers and staff at the feeding program delivered food to the families of 70 of the students deemed at greatest risk. Finally, CCPC funds have supported partial tuition scholarships for up to 60 Shikokho Secondary School needy students. Funding for these programs has come from the Gifts of Hope program, the hunger offering and from directed donations.

Transition Assistance Program (TAP)

TAP celebrate its 40th year in 2020 as the main outreach mission of CCPC. In that time, TAP has helped many thousands of people on the road to self-sufficiency. Unfortunately, TAP had to close March 11 due to the pandemic, and remained closed for the rest of the year. In the 10 weeks TAP was open, 187 clients were served. During the closed months, TAP donated all of its non-perishable food and most of its winter clothing to nonprofit agencies that were still open.

Gifts of Hope

Due to the pandemic, the 2020 Gifts of Hope Alternative Gift was conducted online this year. The number of "gifts" was reduced to four and the focus was on hunger. Despite the change, it was a huge success, thanks to CCPC members. The total was just a few dollars shy of \$27,000. That beat the 2019 GOH market by 27 percent. We will be sending \$10,582 to the Shikokho feeding program; \$5,837 each to Bread for the City and Interfaith Works for grocery gift cards; and \$4,730 to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

Earth Stewards

Due to COVID concerns in 2020, the CCPC Earth Stewards reluctantly suspended several events, including the annual E-waste (old electronics) collection drive and a first-ever toothbrush/toothpaste tube recycling campaign. But, the Earth Stewards remained active: weekly tips in "News and Notes" including a series based on the book Drawdown, an Open Forum session focused on the impacts of single-use plastics and plastics in general, a discussion of summer environmental books and films, and a study of renewable power providers and their offerings. For 2021, in addition to continuing to inform the congregation on important environmental concerns and practical, beneficial actions the congregation can take, the Earth Stewards are considering restoring last year's suspended events, a "News and Notes" series about the Green New Deal, tree-planting, outdoor clean-up projects, and collaborating with other local churches on efforts to protect the planet.



Mission Advisory Council

Continued

Refugee Resettlement Task Force

In 2020 CCPC RRTF continued to support the Guatemalan father and son who arrived in Maryland in 2019 and are here in the US seeking asylum. The pair were separated at the US Mexico Border in November 2018, the son was placed in a home for boys in New York and the father was in a Texas detention center until being sponsored by a CCPC host family. CCPC continues to work with members of Westmoreland Congregational United Church in support of the family. A family from CCPC continues to host the father and son in their home indefinitely and father and son continue to receive excellent legal support through the former firm of a member of Westmoreland UCC. At the beginning of 2020 he received permission to work and immediately began working for Wray Brothers Landscaping and at La Ferme restaurant. The pandemic resulted in loss of the La Ferme job, and a reduction in landscaping hours. The son is currently in 6th grade and has excelled in school, making the honor roll in the Fall of 2020. He is also an excellent soccer player and was playing on a local team. He is also still being tutored remotely by a member of Westmoreland UCC. CCPC Refugee Resettlement Task Force (RRTF) members continue a strong friendship with the Syrian refugee family who arrived March 21, 2016. In accordance with the financial plan the RRTF created before the family's arrival, CCPC's planned financial support of the family through rent subsidies and payment of other regular costs ended in July 2017. The CCPC RRTF did not provide any financial support to the family in 2020. Husband continued to be employed by a local construction contractor, a job he has held since 2017. The wife continued her employment as a Certified Nursing Assistant and Office Administrator through May 2020, when she decided to take a leave of absence due to COVID precautions and her pregnancy with the family's third child. CCPC members held a virtual baby shower and celebrated the new baby boy with gifts and cards remotely. She is currently at home, helping the kids with remote learning, taking care of the baby and attending remote courses toward completing her GED. The family also purchased their first home and moved to Glen Burnie in April 2020. In 2021 the family will apply for citizenship and will be assisted by CCPC members and Solutions in Hometown Connections in preparing those applications.

Through CCPC member connections, both the Syrian and Guatemalan families continue to receive donated dental and endodontic services worth over more than \$40,000. Since its inception in 2015, funds for the expenses of the RRTF have been donated over time by CCPC members and are not from CCPC's mission budget. Both families continue to do remarkably well and receive moral support and mentorship from the wider CCPC community. CCPC members have also stayed in touch to reach out to the Afghan family that CCPC prepared an apartment for in 2017. The father is celebrating his third year employed in a civil engineering firm which was through the help of CCPC members. The mother has learned English and is starting a 'cottage industry' preparing Afghan food for sale. To enhance shared information and activity, CCPC remains a founding member of the National Capital Presbytery Refugee Ministry Network (RMN). Merritt Groeschel and Bill Hoffman are CCPC's liaison to the Network.

Associate Pastor's 2020 Report

The Rev. Eric Peltz
Associate Pastor

As I'm writing, we're seeing some of our first sunny days in weeks. The number of neighborhood walkers making a guest appearance through the frame of my window is increasing. The noise of my children is less ear-drum-pounding close and more stifled by the grass and my house's insulation. In the words of one popular song out of a 1969 album, "Here Comes the Sun." Just like 1969, when we've been unable to understand what's happening on Earth, we're looking to the stars. Millions upon millions have now watched the Perseverance rover landing on Mars. While my family didn't watch it live like the families hovered around the CRT-TVs of the 60s, we did pull up the clips on YouTube as soon as they were available- and yes, our family gathered 'round.

That image, the family gathered 'round to drench themselves in a compelling story, is the driving force of my ministry. How do we at CCPC create moments of wonder that, driven by familial bonds, community ties, compassion for the world, get us talking with those we love about the One we love? Before the program church of the 1900s, faith formation was done in front of the rocking chair where the patriarch/matriarch did most of the heavy lifting. The 20th century saw the proliferation of the professionalized clergy, bigger and bigger church buildings, and church staff paid to "manage" our faith development. As car ownership increased, some faith formation happened on the drive home as pavement produced time for conversation.

Yet we are in the middle of a brand new shift. John Roberto of the Lifelong Faith Institute talks about a "hybrid" model that combines in-person engagement with digital learning. We know too well from the pandemic that it is really, really hard to build relationships over a Zoom call (although it can maintain them to a degree). However, we now know the blessings of being able to hear from and learn from voices once separated by geography. Distance no longer confines our desire for knowledge, and we will continue to create content that helps our saints learn more about the God of love whether they are sitting on the soccer bleachers, in the pews, or in their homes.

We also know that faith is more caught than taught, and the need to exponentially increase the web of our relationships at CCPC has never been clearer. For new members, this has meant wrapping them up in the love of 3-5 existing members via phone calls and cards. We now look to a future where all members of the church have at least 5 people who know details about their lives. This is urgent, not just because of the research that compels us to make this true, but because we know deep in our hearts that the last few decades of increasing loneliness in our society is a pandemic that we can and must address, for the sake of our church and that intracommunity trust that is the building block of healthy communities. This new world is scary, but our amazing leaders have heard God's calling and said "Here I am, Lord!" The Deacons, under the incredible leadership of Sarah Smith, deserve accolades for reaching out to every member of the church. Their work, along with Mary Frances Pearson's every member contact, ensured that everyone connected to CCPC knew that we care about them and are praying for them. Using the information from these two endeavors, we are actively attempting to build webs of relationship around those who claim affiliation to our faith body but feel disconnected.



Associate Pastor's Report

Continued

If you know someone who feels disconnected, don't hesitate to call me so that we can, as some Christians like to say, "love on them" until they feel fully included in this branch of the Body of Christ.

I look forward to journeying into this brave new world alongside you saints, knowing that God has given us more than enough to face the challenges we tremble before. We pray that God would grant us courage for the facing of these hours, strength for today, and bright hope for tomorrow as we now seize this time to participate in the Spirit's work of renewal. Our God is making all things new – let us sojourn into this new world with the Wind on our back, our hearts warmed by the heat of the sun, and our souls reaching up to the heavens.

Gratefully,

Pastor Eric

Adult Faith Formation

While in-person classes ended, our small groups thrived. **Faith Trek** and our **Men's Spirituality** groups have their own reports here, but I highly commend them for their adaptability and willingness to keep striving for Christ together over Zoom.

Wednesday Bible Study spent the year studying the books of Revelation, Romans, and now Mark. The group went from meeting bi-monthly for two hours to weekly for one hour. The group has grown, and Pastor Molly and I continue to enjoy it as a highlight of our week.

This year also saw the addition of Online Faith Formation resources. These curated tools live on our website and are accessible to anyone at chevychasepc.org. We highlight specific tools for different parts of the liturgical year (Advent has its own page, for example, as does Lent). We highly encourage people of all ages to take advantage of these resources that we trust. In an internet of... many voices, it's good to know that your pastors trust the tools these resources provide.

Confirmation

Eligible students for 2020-2021 opted to punt until the 2021-2022 cycle. We expect a large crew and a renewed interest in the faith that sustains us.

Associate Pastor's Report

Continued



Anti-Racism Efforts

Following the murder of George Floyd, we convened an Open Forum where CCPC's saints decided on how to focus their energies on the problem they knew needed confronting. Pastor Molly and I began leading book discussion groups around *How to Be an Antiracist* and *Raising White Kids*.

From that, a new Friday Anti-Racism Book Study Group has formed. Pastor Molly is currently leading the reading of *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*.

Several members of these groups felt convicted that CCPC needed to confront its own racialized history, and a review team has been formed and will begin meeting just days before the Congregational Meeting. We pray for God's guidance and the congregation's patience as we begin to explore this difficult work.

Youth

Mark Fernandez valiantly led (and Pastor Eric attended) Sunday School for grades 6-12 from March to November. We also held a Youth Ropes Course Night in November at Sandy Spring Adventure Park, which brought out 15 of our youth and families. We're actively looking for a chance to go ice-skating at the Downtown Silver Spring ice rink when the COVID-19 positivity rate reaches acceptable levels. The mission trip and Montreat trips were sadly cancelled for 2020, and plans for the summer of 2021 are still in flux. But speaking of Youth, make sure to read the Season of Justice report!

Season of Justice

Season of Justice: Children our Leaders in January/February 2020 focused on how children aren't simply our blessings but may very well lead us into the salvation of the world as they remind us of what matters most. We heard from PC(USA) Young Adult Volunteers Sara Babcock and Jacob Lentz, and we were even more impressed by the preaching of our own Youth Elder Nolan Wick and the activism-minded Karla Stephan. After a pause for a celebration of Pastor Molly's 25th Ordination Celebration, we enjoyed the guest preaching of General Presbyter John Molina-Moore.

2021's Season of Justice: Theologies of Liberation featured Jeanelle Austin of the George Floyd Global Memorial, Irene Cho, and Chauncey Handy. Through preaching and Open Forums these guests opened our eyes to the direct correlation between the growing awareness of white supremacy and the biblical call to address racial inequity.

Connections 2020 Report

Chris White
Chair

The primary focus of connections committee 2020 activities was to maintain connections even when we cannot physically gather. The traditional activities were all suspended this year. New online activities moved in to keep us connected. A series of trivia nights on Zoom was one of the main features. These online gatherings were filled with laughter, trivia, and digital fellowship. The other digital activities included Coffee with Molly on Thursdays. Other activities included:

- Further implementation of the Breeze church database, an invaluable tool when we cannot gather physically.
- New Members were received through a new Membership process in which new members are required to attend several CCPC University classes and meet with the Senior Pastor. Pastors Molly and Eric are running this.

As we imagine emerging from this time of isolation, the single-focused teams are excited to support and plan exciting new activities. These teams are created to prepare, staff, and carry out a specific member-driven event or opportunities to increase fellowship and connection in the church. This charge is in keeping with the guidance from the session on Goals and Strategies.

In Christ,

Chris White, Chair



Worship and Music 2020 Report

Julie Vidrick Evans
Director of Music

2020 began much like other years. Early in the year we observed the Feast of Epiphany and the Baptism of Christ. In January Chevy Chase Concerts hosted a concert by Apollo Orchestra and in February by violinist Leah Meredith, and her pianist husband. In February we observed a Season of Justice with the theme “Children Our Leaders.” Our Lenten weeks followed, and we gathered around the sermon series **Stand by Me** - Stand by Me: In Church / When I’m Thirsty / In the Night / When I Am Discouraged / Always.

Due to the threat and ultimate reality of the Covid-19 pandemic, online worship began March 15 and continues as of this writing. We came up to speed quite rapidly (many thanks to Pastor Eric for his technical assistance in the early stages) and we continue to hone the online Zoom™ worship experience with audio recordings, musician videos, popular video during sermon time, breakout rooms for “coffee hour” and online forums.

A “Worship Beyond Covid” task force was formed in the Fall and staffed by Eric Peltz, Molly Blythe Teichert, and Julie Evans along with Ron Wick, Linda Ertz, Priscilla Huff and Shawn Woodyard. This committee met (masked) in the sanctuary to experiment and rehearse with equipment and lighting to determine what the online experience could be as we considered reopening the physical space. The task force considered the options and advantages of Zoom™ (wherein the live participation experience is the same for all) or live streaming exclusively. We learned that a combination of the Zoom™ and live stream curtailed the ability for members to interact with each other. There seemed to be overwhelming congregational support for continuing to be able to engage with each other in real time on Sunday mornings. Discussions with colleagues about their live-stream experiences and equipment needs led to a conversation with a remote live-stream company with whom we will work when a date is known for all to return to in-person worship.

The Chevy Chase 50th Anniversary Concert Series also ended abruptly in 2020. Our May concert was to be a grand event with the National Philharmonic Singers. Arrangements are being made to hold a virtual Bach Marathon March 21. While the **Chancel Choir** and **First Service Singers** and other singing groups could not meet in-person, in October and November a socially distanced **Handbell Choir** rehearsed and, thanks to the technical assistance of Chris Hersman, created several videos for Fall worship and Christmas Eve services. Weekly video “rehearsals” of the Chancel Choir continue on Thursday nights. In the Fall, some members of The Chancel Choir and First Service Singers learned how to contribute their individual voice recordings to the hymns and **Assistant Director of Music, Dr. Bobb Robinson** has been the principal lead in preparing the hymns with choir voices layered with the organ recording using the software program *GarageBand*. **Chris Hersman** volunteered to produce the choir anthems and he uses the program *Audacity* to do so. Many thanks for their expertise that continues to create a robust online experience.



Worship and Music

Continued

2020 began with the **Carol and Junior Choirs** continuing to prepare worship music to be offered in services on a regular rotating schedule. The regularity of the schedule not only provided the singers with achievable goals, but also gave more opportunities for the older youth to fully participate as worship leaders.

The youth had begun preparations for the annual spring musical when the pandemic forced them into virtual worship, the postponement of the musical, and the loss of a regular weekly meeting for the youth choirs. In addition to being sensitive to the possibility of the youth becoming “zoomed out”, the limitations of available technology make true synchronous ensemble singing an impossibility. The youth remained engaged by contributing to virtual collaborations throughout the year. The first was a recording of Roger Miller’s “I Am But A Small Voice”, a piece that the Junior Choir had sung before. The resulting collaboration premiered on May 10 (Mother’s Day) and is still available to view on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/3U2RBVpQlvQ>

In December, the collaboration continued with CCPC’s first virtual Nativity Pageant. Retaining the traditional script and format, the Pageant took advantage of some expanded virtual possibilities, including a virtual “art show” of children’s drawings, and incorporating foreign languages into the angel’s declaration “Glory to God in the highest Heaven, and on Earth peace to those God favors.” The 2020 Nativity Pageant also remains available on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/Yg4xuDGiKKc>.



We are very grateful to our youth and their families for their willingness to adapt to our “temporary normal”!

We were grateful to the Flower Committee for beautifully decorating the church for Advent and Christmas. During this time Pastor Molly broadcasted from the sanctuary and all were able to enjoy the splendor of their creative work. Many thanks to musicians, zoom usher Chris Hersman, the WorshipBeyondCovid Task Force, and the Flower Committee for their energy and thoughtful contributions to worship and to Pastors Molly and Eric for challenging us all to think and approach worship in new ways.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Vidrick Evans
Director of Music

Stewardship 2020 Report

**Mary Frances Pearson
Chairwoman**

Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength. Nehemiah 8:10

When anxiety was great within me, your consolation brought me joy. Psalm 94:19

Give Until You Feel Joy: The Success of the 2020 Pledge Fulfillment Campaign

The pandemic has brought much grief to the world and to many of us individually. Although I have wondered, at times, if CCPC makes a difference to our spiritual community, it took this pandemic to answer my question with a resounding YES. We are closer as a community, we are stronger spiritually, we are more justice oriented and yes, we have embraced joy from hearing God's word.

As I often remind the congregation, one key indicator of the strength of a congregation is their level of giving. Since we know that CCPC matters, we can unite, now and in the future, in our commitment to pay our pastors and staff, and maintain our building. We can commit to the importance of a place that is (and will be) there for us to lean on when times are hard. We can commit to a place that teaches us to walk in the footsteps of Jesus. We can commit to CCPC.

And commit we did!

We received a total of \$1,077,000 for pledge fulfillment from 242 members for 2020. Let's look back and rejoice and give thanks to our *luminous members of grace*.

- Our financial situation in the summer looked very bleak. Several of our members were struggling financially and we were looking at a \$60,000 shortfall for the 2020 budget, meaning a cut to our operations and borrowing from our savings. Pastor Molly called on upon our members to step up and give more because others could not. She urged us to give until we felt joy.
- Our members did not hesitate to fulfill their pledges but, in a miracle of sacrificial giving, 60 of our members, made additional gifts to share the burden of those who could not pledge. Over 20 members decided to pledge for the first time, and several visitors made generous gifts.
- Our 2020 budget was met. Our staff will be paid, we won't have to dip into our savings; a financial problem diverted.



Stewardship

Continued

Grateful X 2: Auto Renewing one's pledge for 2021

This year, because of the pandemic, we tried something new regarding how our member's pledge. We instituted an automatic renewal of the 2020 pledge for 2021 unless the business manager was notified by a member of a desire to change. It worked well (with a few glitches noted below) and the membership in general welcomed the freedom of not having to fill in a card to submit to CCPC. This left the Stewardship Committee time to focus on soliciting non-pledgers and insuring pledge fulfillment.

We have recorded \$984,000 in pledges from 239 members for the 2021 budget.

Room for Improvement and Goals for 2021 Pledge commitments and fulfillment

- Twenty-five members did not fulfil their pledge commitment for 2020. I believe that several of these members are not even aware that they did not fulfil their pledge. For 2021, we will make direct calls to members in mid-December 2021 to help aid in pledge fulfillment. We will also make a few calls to members if the auto renew pledge for 2021 did not make sense in their particular case.
- Some members have difficulty with our digital portal and many times they do not open the email reminders from the church. The Business Manager is reviewing our digital platform to improve the identification of check, wires, and online deposits to make sure they are recorded in the proper accounts.
- Members can help make the stewardship campaign less of a forensic accounting nightmare if they:
 - » Notify the business manager, in advance, of a stock or IRA transfer and
 - » for members who write checks, consider setting up "auto pay" with an electronic bank payment.

For 2021 we need to have a minimum of one million dollars from our members to meet the budget. I have no doubt that with the changes above, and our renewed commitment to CCPC, we can reach this goal for 2021.

I would like to note with joy and gratitude the special gift of time from:

- Thomas Batties, our business manager, who is indefatigable in his commitment to the stewardship campaign
- Norm Stant, who made over 70 calls with me to "reach out" to non-pledgers.
- Susan Price and Linda Ernst who lovingly shared why the church is a priority in their lives.

Special Thanks also to our Stewardship Team: Tom Lutte, Nancy Gwinn, Aimee Ranaivoarijaon, Stephanie Hydral and Senior Pastor Molly Blythe Teichert.



Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church

1 Chevy Chase Cir, Washington, DC 20015