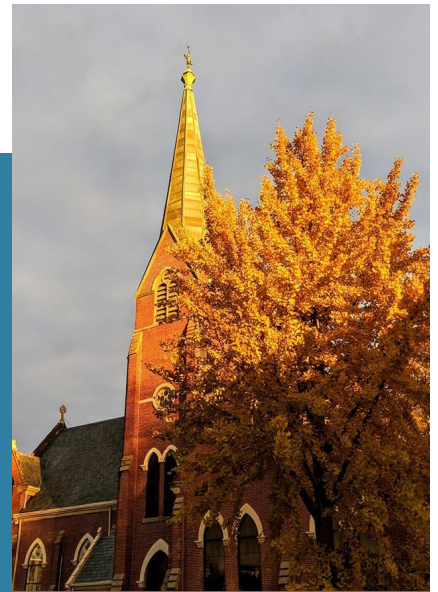


# 2018 Annual Report



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
512 Seventh Street, Columbus, Indiana 47201  
Telephone (812) 372-3783; FAX (812) 372-9533  
[www.fpccolumbus.org](http://www.fpccolumbus.org)



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## **MISSION STATEMENT**

To be an active, growing, inclusive and caring church family that witnesses to God's love and shares the good news of Jesus Christ. Our mission leads us to invite all people to participate fully in our community and worship life as safe, loved, and accepted children of God, including:

- Conventional Christians and questioning skeptics
- Children and adults of all ages
- People of all sexual orientations, gender identities
- People of all races, & cultures
- People of all socioeconomic situations
- People of all mental and physical abilities
- Those who bring hope to the world and those who seek hope

## **STAFF**

Pastor .....The Rev. Dr. Felipe Martinez  
Choir Director/Organist.....Dianne Sprunger  
Director of Children, Youth, and Young Adult Ministries.....Marietta Macy  
Preschool Director.....Barb Newton  
Church Secretary.....Brook Brown  
Financial Secretary.....Christy Jerman  
Sunday Custodian.....Wayne Huff  
Childcare Providers.....Brook Brown, Hanna Hodnett, Olivia Jackson,  
Paige Beales

**First Presbyterian Church**  
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Website: [www.fpccolumbus.org](http://www.fpccolumbus.org)

*Affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA); the Synod of Lincoln Trails;  
the Presbytery of the Ohio Valley; the Ecumenical Assembly of  
Columbus, IN; MoreLight Presbyterians.*

## GENERAL STATISTICS

### **Membership**

*Information provided in this Annual Report covers  
January – December 2018*

Active Members as of 12/31/18      435  
New Members                              22

*(Craig and Sarah Dismore; Amber and Bill Porter; Glenn and Jenny DeJarnette; Tom McKnight and Anthony Merida; Jacob and Amanda Virostko; Karen and Neal Whitson; Dámaris Pacheco and Irene Hernández; Alison Wold; Brook Brown; Grant Hale; Tim and Anna Denoyer; Kelleigh and Alexa Staley; Myra Schilling)*

Confirmation                              0

Deceased Members                      6

*(Howard Graninger; Richard Dunlevy; Nancy Fleetwood; Herschel O'Shaughnessey; Herb Hoover; Jim Martin)*

Weddings                                      5

*(Dana Harrison and Tami Doty; Emily Mahon and Michael Grove; Kaylyn Shinolt and Young Paik; Janessa Reames and Daniel Herrick; Anthony Merida and Tom McKnight)*

Baptisms

Children/Adults                          9

*(Basil and Juniper Truelove; Rosemary Damm; Kate DeJarnette; William Anderson; Alexa Staley; Myra, Penelope and Eleanor Schilling)*

## OUR STAFF

### **Pastor's Annual Report, 2018** **Rev. Dr. Felipe N. Martínez**

*Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.* 1 Thessalonians 5:11

I reached my third anniversary as your pastor in December, and this particular year has brought some exciting possibilities.

**The Engaging Young Adult (EYA)** team has worked to clarify the purpose of the project and lay out its plans for implementation in 2019-2020. The EYA team, headed by Leah Jackman-Wheitner and Katie Booth, brainstormed and implemented a few activities. Along with Katie and Leah, Marietta and I participated in training workshops by the **Center for Congregations in Indianapolis**, who funds this initiative (35 other Indiana churches are participating). As part of this project, we wrote a grant proposal to the Center for Congregations of just over \$60,000 (asking for half of the amount), and it was approved. We will submit a grant proposal to our Foundation for the remaining funds. Our EYA project implementation kicks off January 13, 2019 with an introduction to the whole project, and with our first speaker January 26, 2019.

Our church was approached by **Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary** to be one of 16 congregations nationwide **participating in the Myrtle Project**, funded by the Lilly Endowment, which will help churches explore issues of vocation and call. In the Reformed Tradition, the theological stream to which the Presbyterian Church belongs, it is not just church professionals who have a call to ministry, but truly all believers are called at their baptism to serve God. They are called to be teachers, nurses, stay-at-home parents, engineers... you get the idea. Our participation in this project guarantees us funding of up to \$30,000 (without a need to match it) as we encourage our church to think of their collective and individual call. I will be going with the team leaders, Zack Ellison and Sarah Dismore, to an initial three-day training in Louisville in January 2019. Planning will take place in 2019 and implementation in 2020.

In conversation with staff and worship committee, I transitioned to the **Narrative Lectionary** for deciding on what scriptures to use for Sunday worship. The emphasis on stories, and the mixture of Hebrew Scriptures and New Testament has offered us the chance to reflect on passages not usually shared from the pulpit. It has also helped deepen our biblical literacy as a church.

We offered **Journeys of Faith classes** twice, from which twenty-two people became new members (plus we welcomed sixteen children in their families). Their pictures are on the bulletin board outside the church office.

## OUR STAFF

### *Pastor, The Rev. Dr. Felipe Martinez cont.*

I collaborated with my wife Tracy Heaton de Martinez on an **Advent devotional**, which was well received. We distributed it by email and by Facebook. Tracy wrote the devotional, I found scriptures to connect with the message, and we both contributed pictures.

We contracted with a local provider to create a **new website** for the church, which is live now.

At the prompting of the Youth Nurture committee, and with session and committees support, I worked with key leaders to expand from 30 to 40 hours the position of Director of Children and Youth Ministries, which **Marietta Macy** occupies. It takes effect January 1, 2019 with a revised job description and new title: **Director of Children, Youth and Young Adult Ministries**.

These numbers do not include all related activity, but they give a sense of **pastoral care I have provided**: I met one-on-one with 67 church members (7 in the hospital, 1 in hospice, some multiple times), 19 potential new members, 40 community members, conducted 18 premarital counseling sessions and officiated at 6 weddings, celebrated 9 baptisms (2 adults, 7 children), and cared for 7 families preparing for services of Witness to the Resurrection.

Thank you for your partnership in ministry!

Shalom and Salaam,

Felipe

## OUR STAFF

### *Dianne Sprunger, Choir Director/Organist*

"Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything."

- Plato

The music area groups (Worship Arts, Teen Impact, Adult Choir, Living By Faith, and two bell choirs) as well as soloists who sang or played instruments, and congregational singing have been one of our connections to the holy throughout the year.

- Worship Arts and Teen Impact have been regular leaders during the school year. Youth Sunday (April), Noah's Ark (September), and the "Esther" (December) drama and music were worship services that involved as many children, tweens, and youth as wanted to participate.
- The Adult Choir calendar included singing at least two Sundays each month during the academic year, Ash Wednesday (with North Christian Church choir), Maundy Thursday, two Easter services, the May Music Sunday (settings of several Psalms which paralleled the Lenten Psalm emphasis), World Communion Sunday (highlighting multicultural hymns), and *The Winter Rose* (December) cantata, and Christmas Eve. Several soloists were involved with "Prayers from the Ark" in September. Several long-time members of the choir relocated in the fall of 2018.
- Living By Faith continues to grace several services, including the service at Donner Park. Carola and Danny Clark are leading the preschoolers' music time on Sunday mornings now, too.
- Due to interest, we expanded to two bell choirs for 2018. Their joyful sounds were especially appropriate in December!

We continue to welcome new singers, ringers, and instrumentalists.

During 2018, **Music at FPC** welcomed Dale Rogers, organ, and the Butler University Chorale and Chamber Singers. We hosted a Wednesday Lenten Organ concert with Schuyler Brinson and me playing organ duets.

I attended the Montreat (North Carolina) Music and Worship conference in June with Lisa Porter, Linda Pierson, Luther Pierson, and Terri Glackin. I also attended the Augsburg Publishers conference in Columbus, Ohio.

Lisa Porter, Marietta Macy, Felipe Martinez, Clare Moore (Worship Committee chair), and I meet to brainstorm and plan for worship services, now based on the Narrative Lectionary. The results of the monthly meetings are evident in the interwoven music, texts, liturgy, and prayers in the worship services. Lisa Porter is a creative, fun, people-loving leader in the cradle-to-grave music program.

I am grateful for all of us creating beautiful music, listening to music, praying through music, and joining in the song of Creation with the Creator.

Peace,  
Dianne Sprunger



## OUR STAFF

### **Marietta Macy, Director of Children and Youth Ministries**

I am happy to report that yet again, this has been a year of growth for the world of Children's and Youth Ministry at our church. With the reception of many new adult members this year came a large number of unofficial younger members, so our Nursery, Preschool, and Elementary classes have grown significantly. With that came a need for more adult helpers and I am so grateful for all our volunteers and our amazing childcare staff who are incredible to work with. I know that every Sunday when children are dropped off in class or childcare they are met with caring, smiling faces who always do their best to create a safe, warm, and loving environment for our youngest ones. We now have four hired childcare workers on staff (Paige Beales, Olivia Jackson, Brook Brown, and Hanna Hodnett), which allows three of them to be at church each week and gives us the flexibility to have default coverage if someone is sick or needs the weekend off.

The Nursery room itself has seen some improvements thanks to the Children's Nurture (CN) committee, the Foundation, the Property Committee and the Youth Group. We have almost completed our updating and refitting of the room for our now weekly use. Thanks to the financial support of CN and a grant from the Foundation we were able to purchase the necessities for the room including two rocking chairs, new carpets, a bookshelf, age appropriate toys and books, two Pack n' Plays, curtains, changing table, and wall decoration. The room is staffed each Sunday, but is still open to nursing mothers or caretakers in need of backup diaper supplies, with the worship service audible through a speaker in the room.

Also thanks to a seed grant from the Foundation, I was able to do some exciting things this year that wouldn't have been possible otherwise. In February, myself, Lisa Porter, and Sunny Currier attended the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators Annual Conference. With the opportunity to attend various workshops, worship services, and chat with colleagues from across the country, we are still using knowledge and skills gained at the conference in our planning for everything from Youth Group to the Nursery and beyond. With this grant I was also able to host an end of the year fellowship event, 'Eat, Drink, and Be Merry.' This was a private event for our church friends at 4<sup>th</sup> Street Bar and Grill with almost 50 people in attendance and more than a third of the attendees under 40.

Even though I was personally suffering from shingles at the time, the Youth Mission Trip to New Orleans over Spring Break was a great success. I was especially pleased with how well the work and learning opportunities were integrated into the trip. We all had a great opportunity to learn about current and historical realities of the area that have contributed to the state of things, as well as time to get to know and appreciate the cultural gifts of the region from beignets, to crawdads, to Zydeco music and dancing. The learning opportunities we had to visit the Whitney Plantation (with the tour given from the perspective of the slaves who worked and died there), spending time in the Upper and Lower 9<sup>th</sup> Wards of New Orleans learning about gentrification and flood damage, along

## OUR STAFF

### **Marietta Macy, Director of Children and Youth Ministries, cont.**

with the visit to the Civil Rights district of Birmingham and 16<sup>th</sup> St. Baptist Church, was an experience the youth are still talking about and building on. I'm so grateful our group got the chance to begin learning about just how strongly privilege, poverty, and racism are tied together in our country and what we can do to make a better world for all God's children. You can still read our group blog entries at <https://nola2018.wordpress.com/>.

As always, in addition to work here, I have also been busy with service to the larger church. This year that included the 223<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly of the PC (USA) in St. Louis, MO where I was again working in my capacity with the Israel/Palestine Mission Network (IPMN) of the PC(USA). I also attended the Friends of Sabeel North America and US Campaign for Palestinian Rights Conferences as a representative of IPMN and the PC(USA). Our annual IPMN conference was held in Atlanta, GA this year which was facilitated by our former Co-Moderator of the PC(USA) Rev. Denise Anderson. At the meeting I was elected to the role of Co-Moderator of IPMN and will serve in that role for at least a year as we go through a restructuring and discernment process as a network to determine where and how we are being called to act in this new era of the justice movement.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marietta Macy

## OUR STAFF

### **Barb Newton, Director of First Presbyterian Preschool**

**Mission:** The mission of First Presbyterian Preschool is to provide a safe and nurturing, innovative and inclusive education to all.

**Preschool Director:** Barbara Newton

**Board Members:**, Colleen Herrick, Chairperson; Maggie Kim, Assistant Chairperson; Kimberly Burgess, Secretary Chair; Grant Hale, Scholarship Chairperson; Jake Fedor, Finance; Colleen Herrick, Scholarship Co-chair; Anna DeNoyer, Volunteer coordinator; Lesli Gordon, Fundraising; ,Betsie Reed, Marketing; Bobby Crider, Events Co-chair

This year we had 156 children enrolled in 11 classes. We had 11 scholarship students receiving \$16,575 in funds. Our staff of 30 worked hard to nurture children and adults in our program. This year we worked on Family Engagement as our main theme. Although we spent time with parents daily, our focus was to be intentional in helping make the connections with parents and share daily information about their child. We also were aiming to support families in their parenting of their children since many do not have family close by. We established a family directory and our hopes are that parents will establish friendships within the class and gather outside of school time. We know how very important it is to establish relationships.

Our Young 3 class this year required us to hire an extra staff person to help the children be successful. We had too many children that were unresponsive to their name when called, didn't sit at a table to eat and could not follow a simple direction. The lack of communication is a large problem for children. When they can not communicate, they resort to behaviors that then cause problems in the classroom.

We have been fortunate to receive a grant this year from ASAP to help children in our program who have been affected by opioids. These children are very eager to learn but also very impulsive and don't always respond to touch. We have Denise Cox working with them to help them learn self-control. It is a challenge, but we are blessed to have the support.

Our classrooms look so fresh and bright with the addition of new carpeting. The wonderful Foundation Grant provided new carpeting throughout the entire preschool / Sunday school area! It looks fresh and clean.

We are looking forward to developing the "future Columbarium" space for our preschoolers as a STEM learning area (this area will remain set aside for Columbarium). We will be working with a senior high student in the architecture program. He will design the space and then with monies from the Herschel O'Shaughnessey memorial donations we will be able to purchase some materials. We are hoping to use proceeds from Join Our Table to also pay for the costs of development of the project. We are also hoping to schedule time for the Fresh Start children to utilize our play space and this will give us additional space for the children.

It has been a great year and we are happy to have the wonderful church staff and congregation and their support of our staff, children and their families.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barb Newton, Director of Preschool

# SESSION REPORTS

## Adult Fellowship and Education

**Committee:** Dale Nowlin (chair), Katie Booth, Janet Sharpe, Cara Bywater, Terri Glackin, Leah Jackman-Wheitner

### **Looking Back**

Fellowship is one way that we build community as a church. The Adult Fellowship and Education Committee takes seriously our commitment to providing fellowship opportunities. During the past year we sponsored five all-church pitch-in meals, providing fellowship time after worship service on Sunday.

We have also provided food during coffee and fellowship time when there is no second hour session for adults. We have done this to encourage people to stay longer, have more conversation, make connections, and build relationships. Thanks in a large part to help from Marietta Macy, we have increased communication with the Children's Nurture and Youth Nurture teams so we can schedule fellowship after worship without having a negative impact on other schedules. We also provided special opportunities for fellowship during the summer "Patio Parties." These took place in eight different locations including homes and restaurants. Felipe Martinez provided discussion questions to go along with the informal fellowship. This year we included some Patio Party locations that were more "kid friendly." Additional fellowship opportunities were provided through the Engaging Young Adults initiative.

The education component of our work takes place primarily during the second hour, from 11 o'clock to noon. During 2018 there were 46 different sessions offered for adults. Thanks to Cara Bywater and the Social Justice Committee, we included a session on a social justice topic at least one Sunday per month. These have included sessions on local substances abuse, LGBTQ issues, Love Chapel, being an ally for racial justice, myths about gun control, and others. We also included several sessions that were a follow-up discussion to the verses from the worship service. We had Journeys of Faith series in the spring and fall, for people who wanted to learn more about how their own faith journey fits in with the Presbyterian Church in general and our church in particular. These ran concurrently with other adult education options. We had a four week series during lent on the Book of Mark, a four week series on *The New Copernicans*, a four week series on confirmation topics for adults, and a three week series on Palestine. We had sessions on FPC mission trips, missions in Africa, and a special presentation by Janet Lowry on pilgrimages and her personal pilgrimage on the El Camino de Santiago.

The fellowship and the education components of our committee are not disjoint components. While we are interested in learning and deepening our faith through the second hour sessions, there is an emphasis on discussion, deepening relationships, and building community. While Patio Parties are primarily for fellowship, we grow in faith and understanding as we discuss and share.

## **SESSION REPORTS**

### **Adult Fellowship and Education cont.**

#### **Looking forward**

We hope to offer multiple options for Sunday mornings. Having multiple options has resulted in more people staying for the second hour. It also provides for smaller groups and more chance for small group interactions. We hope to include more options that are directly related to discussions on scripture, whether that is a study of a book or topic or discussions on the scripture from the worship service. We want our discussions during second hour to grow into a culture of more open sharing that will deepen our relationships and our faith. You can help us move forward by participating in fellowship opportunities and in the adult education hour. You can also share with committee members your ideas for a session or series or ideas for alternate times and places. You can volunteer to facilitate or lead a session or series. Finally, you can help us in planning by becoming a part of the Adult Fellowship and Education Committee. We currently meet the third Tuesday of the month from 5:15 to 6:15. You are always welcome!

Respectfully submitted,  
Dale Nowlin, moderator

# SESSION REPORTS

## Engaging Young Adults

In the summer of 2017, FPC applied for a grant from the Center for Congregations to engage young adults. We began the grant process in October 2017, with the first year of the program spent doing research, listening, learning, and brainstorming to determine:

- The needs of young adults in our congregation and community
- The strengths we have as a congregation
- The ways that we can connect and engage

Young adults are drawn to our congregation for a sense of acceptance and belonging, our stances on social justice issues, especially LGBTQ+, and because they are looking for a place to be connected with a faith community.

We tested some pilot activities, like hikes in the woods in Brown County, meals, gathering at a young couple's home, encouraging young adults in the congregation to connect with each other both online and in person, and a trip to an Indianapolis Indians game that was co-sponsored by Men's Group 2.0.

We determined that it was important to increase visibility, form relationships, and deepen connections.

We believed that an event series would be a way:

1. To reach out consistently to the community to increase visibility (we can't serve people if they don't know we're here).
2. To form relationships by giving people an event they could attend and learn something – and in the process we get to know them and they get to know us.
3. To deepen connections both within the congregation and among the people who attend the events.

After this year of work, we submitted our formal grant application in October 2018. This grant was approved in November 2018.

We are planning 6 events. The goal is to engage young adults in our church and community around the topics and themes they have identified as important: spirituality, social justice, and activism. We believe that this will help young adults develop as leaders to live a life of purpose and meaning. Our speakers come from a wide range of fields (activists, theologians, visual artists, etc.) and will engage us in the intersection of their life's passion and our call to work for social justice. The events will invite reflection, conversation, fellowship and action. Our speakers will be: Mads Benishek, Shannon Craigo-Snell, DeAmon Harges, abby mohaupt (name intentionally lower case), Shawna Bowman, and Denise Anderson. We begin January 13, 2019 with our Kick Off Event to share more with people about BE: An Event Series, Wild Goose Festival, White Privilege Conference, and the Israel Palestine trip.

Respectfully submitted,

Leah Jackman-Wheitner and Katie Booth, Co-chairs

People who have been part of the EYA process, attending meetings and providing input: Felipe Martinez, Marietta Macy, Abby Smith, Sunny Currier, Emily Sharpe, Alex Jackman-Wheitner, Clare Moore, Alan Kilbarger, Julie Daiker, Philip Roggow, Amelia Herrick, Dale Nowlin, Heather Reeves, Janna Williams-Pitts, Lizzy Frazier, Gwen Kresovsky, Alexa Staley, Kelleigh Staley, Amanda Virostko, Dave Kresovsky, Kati Jackman-Wheitner, Alexa Lemley, Sam Lemley 14

## Session Reports

### Nominating Committee Annual Report January 28, 2018

#### Nominating Committee Matrix (Class of 2021)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Notes</u>		
<b><u>Session (5 Adults plus 2 Youth)</u></b>			
Cindy Frey	Second Term	Class 2021	
Vern Jorck	Second Term	Class 2021	
Julie Daiker		Class 2021	
Rich Stenner		Class 2021	
Erik Anderson		Class 2021	
Emma Edwards	Youth Elder	Class 2019	
Alex Martin	Youth Elder	Class 2019	
<b><u>Deacons (4 Adults plus up to 2 Youth)</u></b>			
Jodi Roberts	Fill vacancy	Class 2019	
Elaine Sanders	Youth Deacon	Class 2019	
Brennan Boatwright	Youth Deacon	Class 2019	
Janet Putney		Class 2021	
Barb Newton		Class 2021	
Elizabeth (Liz) Damm		Class 2021	
Carolyn Friend		Class 2021	
<b><u>Nominating (6)</u></b>			
Zack Ellison	Elder		
Janet Ward			
Lynne Hyatt			
Sarah Sanders	Elder		
Ted Sharpe			
*Sharon Norris	Deacon	To be elected at Jan 13, 2019 Annual Meeting	

# SESSION REPORTS

## Children's Nurture Committee

**Committee:** Gwen Kresovsky and Warren Ward (co-moderators), Marietta Macy (staff), Colleen Herrick, Terri Glackin, Lisa Porter, Sunny Currier, Nicole Moore, Izzie Nowlin.

The year of 2018 for Children's Nurture was one of growth, improvement, and prosperity. The committee's goals continue to include not just the rewarding responsibility of educating our youngest church goers, but to integrate and include them as a vital part of the life of our church and allow opportunities for other committees and groups in our church help support our children. There are several ways this past year that are part of us continuing to fulfill this goal.

The Nursery underwent a facelift this year, with new paint, furniture, and décor. Thank you to our youth group for helping to paint, to the property committee assisting with ceiling and lighting repairs. Most, importantly, we are grateful to the Foundation who approved a grant to cover the cost of these updates and repairs.

The committee also introduced a new baby ministry this year, where each new baby born in our church receives a blanket and welcome letter from the committee. Thank you to Mary Orben and all who knitted blankets for our babies. We gave away several blankets this year as our church had its own "baby boom"!

We were able to grow this year into 4 age groups of classes- 2's and under, 3-pre-k, K-3, and 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade. Due to our growth, the committee has 4 hired childcare workers now, Brook Brown, Hanna Hodnett, Olivia Jackson, and Paige Beales. Along with our hired childcare workers, we are so fortunate and grateful to have many volunteers who teach and care for our children each Sunday. We continue to use the Sparkhouse Curriculum that integrates books, crafts, and media into education our children in the church. Special thanks to our teachers, Karlene Kurtz, Emily Sharpe, Gwen Kresovsky, Izzy Nowlin, Colleen Herrick, Liz Peterson, Terri Glackin, and Sarah Sanders. Also special thanks to Diane Sprunger and Lisa Porter who do an amazing job with our Worship Arts program.

Our Tweens group (grades 4-6) has experienced new changes too as they now meet about once per month for fun and fellowship. They also work on community projects during these meetings, including making blankets for those in need. Thank you to Sunny Currier who has led this effort on top of the many responsibilities she has in the church!

The Children's Nurture committee looks forward to more growth and exciting changes for 2019! A special thank you to Warren Ward, who was our session representative and co-chair for 2018! Warren's knowledge and experience in many aspects of the church was a valued addition to our committee. Lastly, a special welcome to Erik Anderson, who will be our session representative and co-chair for 2019!

With Gratitude,  
Gwen Kresovsky, Children's Nurture Co-Chair



# SESSION REPORTS

## Youth Nurture Committee

**Committee: Sarah Sanders (moderator), Sunny Currier, Julie Daiker, Sydney Geckler, Lisa Porter, Angi Meyer, Monta Frazier, Dave Kresovsky, and Marietta Macy (staff).**

Youth Nurture committee oversees the work of youth Sunday School, Youth Group, youth mission trips, and also organizes events where the youth can support local mission work and connect with other community groups. Thanks to Julie Daiker's leadership, we also support and stay in touch with the college students of our church. This year Sydney Geckler represented the youth on this committee. YN committee members are actively involved in the youth programming and enjoy their commitment to the education, faith, and fellowship of kids grades seven through college.

In 2018, we had a small confirmation class, which we chose to combine with the high school Sunday School class. Marietta Macy and Felipe Martinez led lessons with this group. Similarly, middle and high school students were combined for Youth Group events this year. Together the kids led one hot meal per month and helped Sydney Geckler with the annual Heart Tree project. The youth also made breakfast items for the homeless shelter and participated in fun events like Spook Night, Road Rally, and an afternoon at Rascal's Fun Zone. As part of their Christmas party, the youth caroled at the Armory, brought dessert to eat with the residents, and made microwavable heating pads for each resident as a Christmas gift. As always, a big thank you to Lisa Porter, Sunny Currier, Marietta Macy, and Julie Daiker for their leadership of the Youth Group and to everyone who prepared a Sunday evening meal for the kids. In addition to Youth Group, the youth participate in TeenImpact and are regularly involved in the music and worship at FPC. They also continue their annual tradition of Youth Sunday by leading the entire service that week. Our Whole Lives (O.W.L) comprehensive sexuality education class was held on March 25th for older youth as they come closer to transitioning out of the home to college/ independent living. Seven youth participated in the 8 hour class.

During the summer of 2018, Marietta led a group of high school students on a spring break mission trip to New Orleans and another group to Montreat Conference Center for the Youth Conference offered over the summer. The youth do a variety of fundraising events to help fund their trips, and we are also grateful to the church for its financial contribution to our mission trip expenses. The committee is currently planning a summer 2019 high school trip to Ghost Ranch in New Mexico and a middle school trip to Massanetta Springs in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Youth Nurture always welcomes more involvement from parents and congregation members. In 2019, Julie Daiker has agreed to lead Youth Nurture; please see Julie or any member of the committee if you have an interest in helping with Sunday night youth group events, local mission work, teaching or helping with Sunday school, or attending committee meetings and helping us reach our goals: • To foster healthy, genuine, relationships with God and with

# SESSION REPORTS

## **Youth Nurture Committee cont.**

others within and beyond our church, • to provide an environment that values everyone's gifts and where we can mentor and support each other in the ways that God calls us, • to create a faith community that nurtures each individual on their faith journey, • to provide multiple opportunities for faith development by having fun, playing games, being creative, and thinking outside the box, • to fulfill our commitment to mission, reaching out in partnership with neighbors near and far.

Respectfully submitted by Sarah Sanders, moderator

# SESSION REPORTS

## Personnel Committee

**Committee: Lynne Hyatt, Mary Orben, Rita Selheim, Pastor Felipe Martinez (staff), and Janet Sharpe (moderator)**

Mission: To oversee and administer personnel-related activities of the church in accordance with the Book of Order and the First Presbyterian Personnel Policies Manual in a manner that supports and furthers the mission of First Presbyterian Church, Columbus Indiana.

Cost of Living Adjustment for all employees was supported at 3% to be effective January 1, 2019. The congregation voted to approve the same adjustment for Felipe Martinez at the annual meeting which affects both housing and salary.

Marietta Macy's position has been increased to 40 hours per week, up from 30 hours, and she will be fairly compensated for that. She staffs both Children's Nurture and Youth Nurture committees as well as Adult Fellowship and Education. She is working with the Safe Church policy and is part of the Engaging Young Adults initiative. With the increase in families with young children, the number of volunteers and paid staff needed has increased in our nursery and preschool class for which she provides leadership.

The Middle School After School Care Program was established this year. This program provides middle school students with a safe, affordable, healthy, educational and fun place to hang out until their parents can get them. It is Monday through Thursday from 3:10 to 5:30. The staff supervisor is Felipe Martinez and the paid program coordinator is Hannah Hodnett. Volunteer partners are Lisa Porter, Terri Glackin, Dianne Sprunger and Sunny Currier. Building coordinator is Brook Brown.

End of year bonuses were given to our employees and gift cards were given to our child care workers to show our support and appreciation of their dedication and work.

We have had a very good year with many positive interactions and experiences. We are honored to have a professional staff who encourages and supports one another to create a productive and successful working environment. We appreciate our entire staff and we are especially appreciative of the innovative and supportive work of Felipe Martinez as he continues to guide and encourage us all with new ideas and new ways to make worship more meaningful.

Respectfully submitted, Janet Sharpe, Moderator

# SESSION REPORTS

## Property Committee

**Committee: David Tiede (moderator), Zack Ellison, Ben Bush, Jeff Crump, Jim Farrar, Terry Molewyk, Danny Sanders, and Bob Smitherman.**

**Mission:** The purpose of the Property Committee is to maintain and update the church building and grounds as needed. 2018 was a busy but very good year with the Property Committee overseeing the projects listed below.

### Projects for 2018:

1. Marshall Mechanical provided numerous HVAC repair and replacement jobs this year. The Property Committee approved the Maintenance Contract with Marshall Mechanical which combined some normal recurring costs and new maintenance prevention services to help reduce overall costs in the future. We are satisfied with Marshall Mechanical's work.
2. Approval has been given to renovate the Women's bathroom across from the kitchen. The revision work will provide two all gender bathrooms and diaper changing tables in the current restroom location. This will allow men to also use those bathrooms. Work will begin late January 2019.
3. Danny Sanders repaired many emergency exit lights (both bulbs and batteries) to meet the requirements of a fire inspection.
4. Danny Sanders and Zack Ellison replaced many lights with LED fixtures including the ones in the Large Youth Room. All lights in the loggia hallway were replaced with LEDs and many fluorescent tubes were replaced with LED lights in the Pre-School classrooms. Our goal is to replace all lights with LEDs as they need replaced.

### Capital Campaign Work Update:

1. North Parking lot was repaved and the base completely rebuilt. A drywell was installed for rain water drainage.
2. A large number of trees were removed and replaced. Sod was used to provide nice green space around the church.
3. Sidewalks and curbs were replaced, where needed.
4. Gutters and downspouts were replaced on the north sanctuary wall over the columbarium.
5. SKA design work for the 60-niche columbarium expansion has been completed, and Taylor Brothers Inc. have begun the construction. Foundation and drainage work have been completed, and the cut limestone to encase the niches will be delivered in late Feb 2019 to enable completion of the project.

Respectfully submitted for Property Committee Moderator David Tiede.

Zack Ellison

## SESSION REPORTS

### Safe Church Committee

**Committee Members: Ted Sharpe, Julia Stumpff, Nicole Moore, Brook Brown, Sunny Currier (Moderator), Mary Ann McCray (Elder), Staff: Marietta Macy, Director of Youth and Children's Ministry**

*"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. "*

*Mark 10:14*

Mission: The mission of the Safe Church Committee is to support and enable First Presbyterian Church to provide a safe environment for children and teens to learn, grow, and experience God's love. Effective ministry for children and teens requires relationships with caring, loving, and mature adults who can demonstrate God's love to them. By setting and supporting appropriate guidelines and boundaries, we can create an environment that is safe for children, teens, and the adults that interact with them.

This year, our committee has been focused on the safety and security of our church building. Our committee, along with church staff, met with Lt. Matt Harris of the Columbus Police Department. Lt. Harris answered our questions regarding church & preschool safety, did a walk-through of the building, covered basic guidelines around building security, and made recommendations specific to our building. On Sept. 25, we invited all Staff, Elders, and Deacons to a presentation from the Indiana Sheriff's Association, which included our church safety, the evolving security of worship buildings, and prevention strategies as well as training for active shooter scenarios. Chief Deputy Chris Lane shared the presentation with us, then walked through the building, and asked specific questions about building use. We were glad to hear that in some areas, we were ahead of the game. We did receive advice for improvements.

Our committee met several times to consider all of the recommendations and information from these law enforcement professionals, viewing them through the lens of maintaining a welcoming church, while still implementing common-sense, proactive steps to prevent incidents. Our recommendations for building security were approved by Session in December. We will now start work with Staff and other church committees on implementation.

We began working on emergency exit plans, and procedures for different types of emergencies including tornado, fire, and active shooter; all of which require different responses. We hope to complete this project and post emergency instructions in strategic locations throughout the church.

We've been happy to see the considerable growth in the children's programs. This necessitated adding more classes to accommodate our growth. Our continuing challenge has been to recruit enough volunteers to have two adults supervising every class/group of children and youth. In addition, we had to actively pursue getting all of the adults through the volunteer screening process.

## **SESSION REPORTS**

### **Safe Church Committee cont.**

Periodic training continues. In January, we conducted training in the Safe Church policy, specific to church officers, at the Deacon and Elder Retreat. In August, we did a refresher training with Sunday School teachers. All felt on more solid ground with the policy, as it becomes more familiar to us with use. In addition, we have utilized social media, weekly bulletins, monthly newsletters, and weekly emails to highlight policies and procedures pertinent to the general congregation.

Families of children continue to express appreciation for the care taken to ensure their children's safety, and the ways in which their personal preferences are included in their child's care. As the church continues to work to attract more young adults, we need to be aware that young parents will be looking carefully at the care and services provided for their children, and we intend to live up to their highest expectations. We welcome new committee members.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sunny Currier, Moderator

# SESSION REPORTS

## Social Justice

**Committee: Vern Jorck, Ann Jones, Sarah Sanders, Gretchen Laemmer, Sherm Franz, Heather Reeves, Abby Smith, Joy King, Amy Hale, Annie Frazier with staff support Felipe Martinez**

“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere...whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.” (Martin Luther King, Jr.)

Like many of our congregation, I was drawn to the church because of its legacy of social justice and the many ways in which our church family stands with, and for, those marginalized locally and globally. While the Social Justice Committee takes responsibility for continuing that legacy, I want to recognize all members of the congregation who give their time, talents and money to live out their faith in action. Everyone positively contributes to the life of our community, builds relationships with people from many different organizations at home and abroad, and brings their witness back to our church to make us all better informed in the ways in which our love and compassion can change the world. The unveiling of the new Social Justice liturgical banner in June, designed and made by Marietta, captured the spirit of our work.

The Social Justice Committee has continued to focus on its four main objectives in 2018 and many of you, in addition to the Committee, contributed to this work.

We have partnered with local ethnically diverse groups to promote diversity and speak out against racism by:

- Hosting and attending different events with the Muslim community members
- Gaining approval for a multi-year Foundation grant (\$40,000 over 4 years) for the Undocumented Latino Students Fund which is matched by private donations
- Co-sponsoring the Polidor 5K which raises funds for literacy programs in Haiti

We have supported those affected by HIV & AIDS and advocated for awareness and prevention locally and globally by:

- Inviting Staci Mullins from the AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) to speak with us at Adult Education and donating 25% of The Peace and Global Witness Offering to AHF's work
- Meeting with Dr. Will Cook to learn about his work in Austin, IN, and understand ways in which we can support people locally
- Attending the Breaking Barriers: AIDS & HIV Conference in Indianapolis
- Continuing to support the Power of Love Foundation in their work to eradicate pediatric AIDS & HIV in Zambia and providing a mission support grant for their micro-loans program.

# SESSION REPORTS

## Social Justice cont.

We continue to support homeless people and promote affordable housing locally through:

- The Hot Meals service which welcomes and feeds 60-100 people every Friday
- Providing food, volunteers and financial support to the Ecumenical Assembly which runs Love Chapel and Brighter Days.
- Supporting Bread for the World and holding a letter writing campaign
- Holding monthly birthday parties with our neighbors at The Armory
- A mission support grant was approved for the Sweet Dreams project which provides beds for children in poverty in our community

We speak out for those affected by political injustice in Palestine and throughout the Middle East:

- We have continued to grow our relationship with the Al-Hamwi family, who we helped to immigrate to the US from Syria as refugees
- We have seen the olive trees we donated planted to protect vulnerable lands in Palestine
- We have sold Palestinian olive oil, farmer's boxes and calendars to support farmers
- We became an HP-free church – committing not to purchase any future equipment from Hewlett-Packard recognizing their profiting from the Israeli Occupation of Palestine

Through the Community Mission budget, FPC also provided financial support totaling \$23,500 to a variety of local organizations – The Ecumenical Assembly of Bartholomew County, Children Inc, Family Self-Sufficiency, Horizon House, Hot Meals, Turning Point, Just Friends, FPC Pre-School Scholarships, Su Casa, Sustained Dialogues, and the animal shelter plus Brighter Days through our purchase of meal vouchers as gifts at Christmas (breakdown on pg. 25).

We have also continued in our support of two mission co-workers – Luta (and Jeremy) Garbat-Welch in Malawi and Doug Dicks in Israel / Palestine. We provide \$2,000 in financial assistance to each mission co-worker and were excited to welcome Luta to the church in July to talk about her work.

The Social Justice Committee starts 2019 with a retreat on 2<sup>nd</sup> February to reflect on the past two years accomplishments and challenges, and to decide on our focus for the next two years. Many of you volunteer and support initiatives / organizations which may be invisible to the Committee, I would like you to make us aware of these involvements and why you are passionate about them, so we can consider them at our retreat. Our Committee has grown in 2018 and by aligning our objectives to advocate for your areas of interest, I hope more of you will join us in 2019.

Cara Bywater  
Moderator, Social Justice Committee



<b>2017 Mission Support (Fund 13)</b>			
<b>Unallocated from 2017</b>		<b>\$2,648.24</b>	
2018 Foundation Contribution		\$33,362.31	
<b>Total Available in 2018</b>		<b><u>\$36,010.55</u></b>	
Allocated 2018			
- Youth Nurture -- 2018 Spring Mission Trip		(\$8,400.00)	Requested by Sarah Sanders/YN
- Power of Love -- Micro Loans Program		(\$8,825.00)	Requested by Ann Jones/SJ
- Sweet Dreams Project		(\$5,000.00)	Requested by Janet Sharpe/YN
- BCSC Middle School After School Pilot Program		(\$6,000.00)	Requested by Lisa Porter/YN
Total Allocated in 2018		(\$28,225.00)	
<b>Remaining to Allocate from 2018</b>		<b>\$7,785.55</b>	

<b>COMMUNITY MISSION ALLOCATION</b>							
<b>Organization</b>			<b>2017</b>		<b>2018</b>		<b>2019</b>
Children Inc	(H)	1/	1,400	2/	1,400	3/	1,400
Ecumenical Assembly	(H)	1/	10,600	2/	10,600	3/	12,000
Family Self Sufficiency	(H)	1/	1,100	2/	1,100	3/	1,100
Horizon House	(H)	1/	1,300	2/	1,300	3/	1,300
Hot Meals		1/	2,300	2/	2,300	3/	2,800
Just Friends	(H)	1/	1,000	2/	1,000	3/	1,000
Presbyterian Preschool Scholarships	(H)	1/	1,800	2/	1,800	3/	2,100
Turning Point	(H)	1/	1,500	2/	1,500	3/	1,500
Su Casa	(H)		500		1,500	3/	3,000
Sustained Dialogues -- food & supplies		1/	1,500	2/	600	4/	600
Meal Tickets to benefit Animal Shelter/ Brighter Days/Horizon House					400	5/	
<b>Total Allocated</b>			<b>23,500</b>		<b>23,500</b>		<b>26,800</b>
<b>Unallocated</b>			<b>0</b>		<b>0</b>		<b>653</b>
<b>Year Total</b>			<b>23,500</b>		<b>23,500</b>		<b>27,453</b>
(H) = Historical Relationship with FPC -- maintain at least token funding.							
1/ Approved at 1/25/17 Social Justice Meeting							
2/ Approved at November Social Justice Meeting							
3/ Per 2/25/18 Social Justice Meeting							
4/ per Merry Carmichael -- December 2017							
5/ Allocated at 12/12/2018 Social Justice Meeting							

## SESSION REPORTS

### *Open & Affirming Sub-Committee of Social Justice*

**Committee:** Julia Stumpff (chair) , Cal Brand, Sunny Currier, Ann Jones, B Watt Jorck, Cara Bywater, Abby Smith, Paul Shinn, and Montez Martinez.

**Mission:** The mission of the Open and Affirming Subcommittee is to nurture a welcoming ministry for all of God's children both in our congregation and in our community, including persons of all sexual orientations or gender identities and their families.

**Summary of 2018:** Along with continuing activities we have pursued in the past (sponsoring More Light Sunday; participating in the June Pride Parade in Indy; writing letters to the editor on relevant activities, events, and issues; submitting articles to the church newsletter; flying the rainbow and Transgender flags outside and inside church often during the year; sponsoring adult education classes; and planning/participating in an annual Transgender Day of Remembrance service--this year hosted at the UUCI church), we did the following:

- Brought the Executive Director of More Light Presbyterians to Columbus for our More Light Sunday celebration in February. He led an Adult Education session and also ate lunch with our church youth.
- Two members and two staff attended some/all of the More Light Presbyterians-sponsored LGBTQ Youth Teach-In Webinars. Our committee split the registration costs with the Youth Nurture committee. As a result of these webinars, our committee recommended that Felipe frequently mention (while pouring the Baptismal waters) something to the effect of: "**God loves us and calls us to love God's children whoever they are called to be and whoever they become.**" so that our youth (and everyone else) hears this regularly during Sunday services. Felipe agreed to do this.
- We had a tent at Columbus's first and very successful Gay Pride Festival in April.
- We began working with the Facilities committee on the design and construction of all-gender bathrooms outside the church kitchen as well as other bathroom signage updates around the church.
- We provided input on the Social Justice banner Marietta designed, made, and unveiled in June.
- Committee member Abby Smith designed, and the committee purchased a new banner for the Pride Parade to match our ecumenical/combined entry in the parade with North Christian Church and the UUCI in Columbus. The banner says "Columbus Indiana Welcoming Congregations: Pride in Community" and is designed using LGBT-inspired rainbow font.
- We recommended adding the following phrase to our Saturday listing in *The Republic*: **ALL are loved and affirmed.** This was implemented in

## **SESSION REPORTS**

### **Open & Affirming Sub-Committee of Social Justice cont.**

the summer and continues.

- In October, we pitched in to help a former committee member with set-up and clean-up of her wedding.
- Before the November election, committee member Cal Brand drafted a letter that was sent to 17-18 local, statewide, and federal candidates asking where they stand on LGBTQ issues and on Hate Crimes Legislation. We had more responses to those letters than we expected, and we published results on Facebook.
- We sponsored the movie "Gender Revolution" which was shown at Mill Race Center in November.
- We began pursuing the possibility of sponsoring a local LGBTQ+ youth group by offering space, adult presence, and potential grant money.

WOW! I had no idea how much we accomplished this year until I wrote this report. Kudos to and admiration for all committee members who tirelessly and thoughtfully contributed all year long!

Respectfully submitted, Julia Stumpff

## SESSION REPORTS

### Stewardship & Finance Committee

#### **2018 Highlights:**

##### **Our Team**

- The members who served on the Stewardship and Finance Committee for some or all of 2018 included: Treasurer Vern Jorck, Cindy Frey, Mary Ann McCray, Marilyn Richardson, Rich Stenner, and Felipe provided staff support to the Committee.

##### **Our Purpose**

- Our Stewardship and Finance Committee is a committee of the Session, and exists to –
  - \* monitor church finances and accounts throughout the year (with the Treasurer),
  - \* provide for monthly and annual financial reports of the church's finances, with year-end audits/reviews/compilations (using staff and volunteers), and
  - \* conduct the annual stewardship campaign securing pledges of support for the next calendar year.

##### **Our Work**

- The Committee began the annual Stewardship Campaign in September this year. A letter was sent to members who work at Cummins, informing them of the ability to build pledges into the company's United Way Campaign which allows them to expand their giving in the community. Cummins matches their gift to the church with a matching gift to United Way.
- We were inspired to hear from members sharing Moments for Stewardship about their passion, how and why they share their time and talents inside and outside of our walls, and why they are generous with their financial support for our FPC family. Warren and Janet Ward, Gwen Kresovsky, Gregg and Judy Summerville, Sydney Geckler, Roger Brinkman, Logan Putney and Dale Nowlin, all provided inspiring "Moments for Stewardship" for the congregation. The campaign theme this year revolved around the phrase "Many Gifts, One Spirit," drawing on 1 Corinthians 12. There were two direct mailings to the congregation and numerous reminders and requests in bulletins, emails, and the newsletters. Visual representations of the theme were painted by an artist on the Franklin Street-facing window and displayed in the Sanctuary and around the Church during the campaign. Additionally, members of the Session sent handwritten notes of appreciation to members of the church who've shared their gifts.
- With support from Deacons, we held a Celebration Sunday on November 18. This was the date by which we hoped to have most of the pledge responses in from the Congregation. This celebration was well attended. Both the food and the fellowship were abundant. While the stewardship campaign is not yet complete as of this writing, FPC members have been very responsive to our requests and have been very generous with their pledges so far.

# SESSION REPORTS

## Stewardship & Finance Committee cont.

### **2018 Stewardship Campaign Results (preliminary results, final report forthcoming)**

- We have not yet completed our Campaign for 2019. Our next step will be to send a follow up letter to FPC family members who pledged in 2018 or 2017 and who have not yet pledged for 2019.
- As of January 7, there are 101 pledges totaling \$455,848. There are eight new pledges and an average pledge increase of 3.9 percent.
- We anticipate that with additional pledges this year, continued membership growth and continued giving from our members that are faithful givers but choose not to pledge, we will be able to successfully fund our 2019 programs.
- The Treasurer drafted the Church's budget for 2019, based on input from all the working groups within the Church, which the Session approved on November 16, 2018 – based upon the preliminary good news from the fall campaign.

### **2019 Next Steps**

- In addition to completing the Stewardship Campaign, we hope to submit a grant to the Foundation to support a financial audit for both the Church and the Preschool. The audit would be conducted in the summer to take advantage of discounts offered by the CPA firm. In the future, the committee will budget for routine audits.



## SESSION REPORTS

### Worship Committee

**Committee Members:** Donna Brand, Glinda Ellison, Eric Erickson, Susan Kell, Mary Ann McCray, Kathy Molewyk, Clare Moore (Moderator), Luther Pierson, Judy Summerville, Sharon Williams, Felipe Martinez (staff), Dianne Sprunger (staff).

**Mission Statement:** To create and nurture a climate that will enable members, friends and visitors of our congregation, both individually and cooperatively, during worship to respond to God's love for us. We strive to do this in a manner that everyone, regardless of age, social, economic or family situation will be personally affirmed in that love.

Committee Responsibilities Provided: Prepare and set up communion. In consultation with the pastor or others leading worship, select appropriate sanctuary banners for Sunday worship; decorate for Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Ash Wednesday, Lent, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Easter, Pentecost, World Communion Sunday, All Saints Sunday, Thanksgiving, and Ordinary Time. Coordinate the ordering of poinsettias at Christmas and lilies at Easter and delivery of them to senior members unable to join us for worship. Respond to requests from the Celebration of Life committee with preparation of the sanctuary for funeral and memorial services. Recruit adult lay liturgists for worship services. Recruit lay liturgists several times a year for Grammer Presbyterian Church.

Of special note in 2018: The Handbell Choir, established last year, expanded in 2018 into two groups to accommodate all those who wanted to participate. A wonderful mix of adults, seniors, and youth have honed their skills and provided music on many Sundays. Special thanks goes to Dianne Sprunger for her enthusiasm and support of this new venture which has been so positively received by participants and the congregation. A Prayer Wall (Grid), constructed by Doug Sprunger, was installed on a wall in the Chapel. People were invited to write their prayer concern on a slip of paper and slip it into a hole in the grid. Anyone, then can come into the Chapel, pull out a prayer concern, and pray over it. Two portable communion sets were purchased (one by the church and one by a member family) and several elders were trained to deliver communion outside of the regular service (typically to home-bound members). By the end of the year, communion was delivered several times in this way, with good success and much appreciation by the recipients. Tracy Heaton de Martinez and Felipe wrote an online Advent devotional and a special 12 Days of Christmas 'bonus' edition – pictures, scripture, reflections centering on 'random acts of kindness'. The responsibility for recruitment of youth into Lay Liturgist volunteer slots twice a month (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays) was transitioned into the Worship Committee from Lisa Porter. The transition has been smooth, as the youth have been well-supported by their parents and eager to serve. Finally, several members of the Committee have transitioned off, leaving openings to be filled by new people. Given this transition, the Committee will

## **SESSION REPORTS**

### **Worship Committee cont.**

be focused on training new members as well as evaluating processes for efficiencies and improvements.

Special thanks to: Glinda Ellison and Mary Ann McCray for weekly leadership in decorating the sanctuary; Brook Brown for coordinating the Sunday worship flower calendar. Thank you to those who donated flowers, poinsettias and lilies in 2018. Thanks to the lay liturgists who helped lead worship at both FPC and Grammer. Special thanks go to the children, youth, their leaders and parents for leadership each month during worship.

Respectfully submitted, Clare Moore (Moderator)



## OTHER REPORTS

### Deacons

**Calling & Caring:** All deacons were committed to our mission of caring for the families of our beloved church. Each of us had about 20 families. We strived to be a resource for our families. Each deacon had a deacon partner who helped with calling and caring. FPC is also blessed by having a very caring congregation. Most FPC family members who were not wearing the hat of a deacon have also been very active in calling and caring for one another organically. We thank you for the calling and caring that you provided throughout the year.

Lee Hamlin was our moderator this past year when she became ill. We strived to support Lee and continue to serve our FPC family. She appreciates the cards she has received from many of you. Lee is a role model for all of us and mentor for me personally. She has been consistently taking action inside and outside of the walls of FPC for decades. I've watched Lee put into practice since 1996 what God through Felipe calls upon each of us to do, bring healing and hope to others.

**Events:** Have you ever prepared food to feed 150 to 200 people? Fortunately, for our FPC family, I have never done so. Thankfully Marquita Tuck loved feeding our flock as a deacon in 2018. She faithfully led our deacons in preparing any main entree intended to serve everyone this past year. And Emily Sharpe was Marquita's right hand each time "we" were preparing a dish to serve multitudes. Katie Booth played a key event planning role, utilizing software technology to support our deacon family in ensuring that all of the items needed for each event were covered. We want to acknowledge all members of the Stewardship and Finance Committee. They helped set up, serve, and clean up your meal for Celebration Sunday. Finally, we thank all of you who chose to join us at the deacon breakfast, Easter brunch, pitch-in picnic at the park, and Celebration Sunday in November. Your participation made it necessary to set up extra tables for several of these events, another sign that our membership is growing and thriving.

**Ushering:** Deacons worked in pairs to share responsibilities for being head usher each month. They were responsible for recruiting ushers for the Sundays they served as head usher. FPC family members have been very willing to say yes to ushering on Sunday. I confess that we have probably leaned on some more than others. It was only half way through the year when Judy Bonnell brought to our attention that no one was keeping track of how many times each of you were being asked to usher. We strived to welcome visitors and provided them with a coffee mug and a few additional items as a token gift.

Lee Hamlin served our beloved FPC family very well as moderator in 2018 for as long as she was able to do so. I also want to acknowledge Alan Kilbarger for graciously stepping into the role of Vice Moderator early and chairing a meeting on my behalf. All deacons have worked hard this past year to support our FPC family. When you get a chance, please thank those who served as deacons in 2018: Moderator Lee Hamlin, Judy Bonnell, Katie Booth, Lizzy Frazier, Alan Kilbarger, Gretchen Laemmer, Sherri Norris, Izzie Nowlin, Sierra Roberts, Emily Frazier, and Marquita Tuck. Finally, on behalf of our deacon family, we thank you for the privilege of serving you and our beloved church in this way.

Submitted by: Keith Weedman

## OTHER REPORTS

### Presbyterian Foundation of Columbus, Indiana 2018 Annual Report

Mission: To Serve the Religious, Educational and Charitable Needs  
of First Presbyterian Church, Columbus, Indiana

**2018 Unrestricted Grant Funds Available** **\$100,086.93**

**2018 Grants Awarded from Unrestricted Funds:**

Next Grant (Balance from 2017)	\$3,517.67
Mission Support	\$33,362.31
Preschool/Dungeon Carpeting	\$14,543.10
Hispanic Scholarship (Year 1 of 4 Years)	\$10,000.00
APCE Conference	\$4,490.00
Church Nursery Remodel	\$1,544.50
Children's Library Upgrade	\$1,000.00
Laws Room Restroom Renovation	\$31,629.35

**Total Granted from Unrestricted Funds** **\$100,086.93**

**Foundation Balances – Restricted and Unrestricted Funds (As of  
09/30/2018 - unless otherwise noted)**

Vanguard Investment Account (12/31)	\$2,303,672.57
Columbarium – New Covenant Investments	\$23,012.40
Columbarium – First Financial Bank checking (11/30)	\$23,762.42
Organ Maintenance – New Covenant Investments	\$111,501.29
Harrison Youth Fund – New Covenant Investments	\$29,212.29
Reeves Fund (administered by Heritage Fund) (06/30)	\$815,414.95
Foundation Checking Account (11/30)	\$90,975.79

**Highlights during 2018**

- Clean Audit for 2017-2018 conducted by Agresta, Storms & O'Leary
- "Legacy Circle" event recognized those with the foundation and/or church in their estate plans
- Adult Nurture hour discussing the foundation
- Over \$900,000 gifted in the past 10 years.
- Distributed over \$100K in grant funds for 2018.
- 5.0% return on investments for 2018 (as of December 31, 2018)
- Despite down year in markets, still performed in top 1/3 of peer group for 1 year

## OTHER REPORTS

### **Presbyterian Foundation of Columbus, Indiana 2016 Annual Report cont.**

#### **2018 Foundation Board of Directors and Officers**

Doug Bonnell Committee)	Secretary (Previously Planned Giving, Mission Support
Kelly Geckler	Web Master and Public Relations
Colleen Herrick	Treasurer (Previously Secretary)
Clare Moore	Planned Giving Chair
Dan Spurgeon	President/Investments
Sherry Stark	Vice President (Final Term ending 2018)
Warren Ward	Investments
Felipe Martinez	Ex officio Advisor
*David Selheim	<i>started the year as Treasurer (Left due to family move)</i>

Note: Joy King and David Boatwright will be presented for election at the Congregational Annual Meeting

During 2018 the foundation received the following gifts remembering our loved ones and honoring the wonderful contributions others have made;

#### **Memorial Gifts**

Howard Graninger  
Richard Dunlevy  
Larry Jackman  
Mary Lou Stenner  
Tom Head  
Herbert Hoover Jr  
Hershel O'Shaughnessey  
Luther Pierson's Mother  
Glinda Ellison's Mother  
Jim Martin

#### **Honoring**

Jayne Farber  
Seth Keele  
Jacquie Franz  
Sherry Stark

Gifts totaled \$1,330.00

#### **Legacy Circle**

Those interested in more information regarding planned giving opportunities and/or our Legacy Circle are encouraged to contact any foundation board members. We now have 29 Legacy Circle individuals/families that have made the Foundation a benefactor in their long term planning. We would like to encourage others able and willing to participate in the long term growth and sustainability of the foundation.

## OTHER REPORTS

### **Presbyterian Foundation of Columbus, Indiana 2016 Annual Report cont.**

#### **Grants**

Those interested in applying for a grant are encouraged to contact any foundation board member or the Rev. Felipe Martinez for guidance. Please remember that grant requests are to be submitted to the Session for review prior to being considered by the foundation.

To learn more about submitting a grant, please visit our website at <http://fpccolumbus.org/foundation/grant-program>.

**2019 Meeting Dates: February 5, April 2, June 4, August 6, October 1, December 3.**

## **OTHER REPORTS**

### **Use of Facility**

#### **Organizations that regularly use the church building:**

- Fogerty Music Therapy Sessions
- Granny Connection
- Historic Downtown Neighborhood Alliance
- Bartholomew County Works
- Peace Fellowship - once a month or more
- Sustained Dialogue Meetings
- Tai Chi
- Violin Lessons/Recitals

#### **Other that have used the church in 2018:**

- Outside Support Groups
- Piano & Vocal Recitals
- Spiritual Direction
- Sports Groups
- Individual Families



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