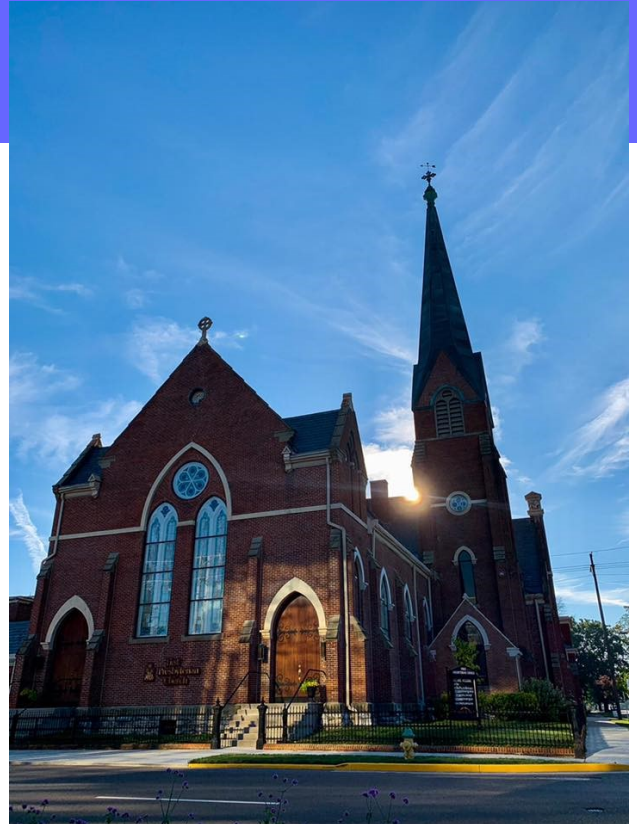




2019 Annual Report



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
512 Seventh Street, Columbus, Indiana 47201
Telephone (812) 372-3783; FAX (812) 372-9533
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

PastorThe 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, Montez Martinez, Erin Booth

First Presbyterian Church
512 Seventh Street
Columbus, Indiana 47201-6293
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Website: www.fpccolumbus.org

A Presbyterian Church (USA) congregation; member of 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 2019*

Active Members as of 12/31/19 442

New Members 17

(Lori Davies, Amy & John McCormick, Sandy Thomas, Kathy Tashjian, Leigh Ann Figg, Stephanie Cunningham, Hanna Hodnett, Jeff Karr, Paul & Joanna Shinn, Tess & Scott Weathers, Rachel & Brayton McCarver, Paul and Nancy Spurgeon)

Confirmation 3

(Jude Sych, William Stenner, Lydia Putney)

Deceased Members 9

(Katie Shores, Jeff Maiani, Pat Peters, Lee Hamlin, Bob Kirk, Suzanne Dunfee, Steve Hollinger, Betty Nead, Imogene Welch)

Weddings 1

(Kate Brown-Henry and Ty Franke)

Baptisms

Children 3

(Eleri Rose Eleanor Davies, Kattleya Elvira Pacheco, Lena Irene Porter)

Adults 2

(Rachel and Brayton McCarver)

OUR STAFF

Pastor's Annual Report, 2019 Rev. Dr. Felipe N. Martínez

I am about to do a new thing... Isaiah 43:19

I am grateful to God for another year of ministry, as together we've been working to put our faith in action in new ways. Thank you for joining in an effort to be attentive to God's amazing work in us and through us.

The Engaging Young Adult (EYA) project is an eighteen-month congregational initiative (2019-2020) with a budget of just over \$60,000 funded with a matching grant from the **Center for Congregations** and our **First Presbyterian Church Foundation**. As the title suggests, the purpose of our work together is to engage young adults in our congregation and in our community, to learn with them and from them, and to explore the ways in which we can genuinely connect our passion in life, our work for an inviting community, and our spiritual connection to God and one another. I am grateful for the leadership of the planning team, especially Leah Jackman-Wheitner, Katie Booth and Marietta Macy.

Our work with the EYA project is giving the church an opportunity to ponder new ways in which we can see our ministry with a new perspective. Mads Benishek spoke about faithful storytelling, DeAmon Harges helped us expand our vision of community, Abby Mohaupt challenged us to deepen our work to care for creation, and Shawna Bowman invited us to see ourselves as co-creators with our Creator. A group of people attended the Wild Goose conference, and Marietta and Heather Reeves traveled to Palestine to help Palestinian farmers harvest olives.

I believe this project has helped our young adults feel more deeply connected to the church. We have been delighted that young adults from the community have participated in the interactive workshops. The ongoing challenge following the project is articulating what we are learning together, and intentionally connecting with the passion of our young adults. It is clear to me that we are called to lean into our strength as an intergenerational church which keeps in mind many folk of many ages. We continue to improve in how to increase the involvement of young adults in ownership, planning, implementation and participation in the church's ministry. My involvement with the EYA project has involved visioning, leadership, and planning. I feel proud of the work we've done together, and I look forward to how we can use the insights we're gaining in the process.

Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary invited our church and 15 other churches nationwide to **participate in the Myrtle Project**, an initiative meant to help congregations explore their sense of call and vocation as individuals and as a congregation. The project is fully funded through a grant by The Lilly Endowment, and our local project's budget is just under \$30,000. Sarah Dismore, Zack Ellison and I have offered primary leadership for the process, which in 2019 focused on preparation for writing the official proposal. We were notified at the end of the year that the proposal was accepted. Now we look

OUR STAFF

Pastor, The Rev. Dr. Felipe Martinez cont.

forward to implementing a number of activities meant to help us to listen to God's call in new ways, and to seek ways in which to live out that call. We captured the project's over all purpose as this: *We will identify God's call for us to turn our faith into action- serving and learning from our neighbors.*

We offered the **Journeys of Faith class** once this year. We were blessed that ten people became new members (and seven children under age 18 who are coming consistently to church with their parents). A family of three is committed to stay involved in the congregation and explore membership in the future. Additionally, seven other adults joined the congregation without going through the class.

I am grateful for the ministry of the session and the board of deacons, with whom I feel a good sense of partnership. I appreciate the way in which we work well together.

While these numbers do not quite include all related activity, they give a sense of **pastoral care I have provided** to our congregation and community: I met one-on-one with 40 church members (5 in the hospital, 1 in hospice, 2 in rehab facility, some multiple times), 8 potential new members, 31 community members (2 in the hospital), conducted 6 premarital counseling sessions and officiated at 2 weddings, celebrated 5 baptisms (2 adults, 3 children), and cared for 9 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

Collaboration is not about *gluing together existing egos. It's about the ideas that never existed until after everyone entered the room.* (seen on Facebook without attribution)

The music area groups (Worship Arts, Teen Impact, Sanctuary Choir, Living By Faith, and the bell choir) as well as soloists who sang or played instruments, and congregational singing have connected us to the Holy One and to each other throughout the year. I would paraphrase the opening quote like this: **Music is not about gluing together random notes and musicians. It's about the sounds that never existed until after everyone made music together.**

The Sanctuary Choir calendar included singing at least two Sundays each month during the academic year. Some highlights included Ash Wednesday at North Christian (with North Christian Church choir), Maundy Thursday, two Easter services, World Communion Sunday (highlighting multicultural hymns), Reformation Sunday, the excerpts from Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, and *Sing Joy to All the World* (December) cantata, and Christmas Eve services. Several people have joined the choir. Several Sundays included a pick-up choir.

The bell choir played in six services through the year.

A new-to-us Kawai Grand Piano is gracing our sanctuary, enhancing our musical life.

Lisa Porter and I work together to plan and coordinate Worship Arts and Teen Impact during the school year. Youth Sunday (April), and the drama about King Josiah/Christ the King (November) were worship services that involved as many children, tweens, and youth as wanted to participate.

Living By Faith led us in several services, including the service at Donner Park. Carola and Danny Clark are leading the preschoolers' music time on Sunday morning.

I attended the Handbell Musicians of American conference in St. Louis; the Augsburg Publishing workshops in Columbus, Ohio; and the Just Worship Conference in Austin, Texas with Lisa Porter and Clare Moore. Ray Hass, Cindy McMillin and I represented First Presbyterian in the Lenten Organ Series. Doug Sprunger and I participated in the Love Chapel fundraising concert at First Methodist. **Music at FPC** hosted the Four Friends Recital in September. I continue to accompany for the Philharmonic Chorus, Descant Choir (Columbus Indiana Children's Choir), and students preparing for contests and recitals, which I note because the church has asked me to be involved in the Columbus community.

OUR STAFF

Dianne Sprunger, Choir Director/Organist

The Worship Planning group continues to meet to brainstorm and plan for worship services.

I am grateful that we join together to make the sounds and the life that wouldn't and couldn't happen in this place and in this time without each and every one of us.

Peace,
Dianne Sprunger

OUR STAFF

Marietta Macy, Director of Children, Youth, and Young Adult Ministries

2019 was another year of growth for us in many ways, including my role expanding to that of Director of Children's, Youth, and Young Adult Ministries. With the growing number of young families attending and our increased attentiveness to younger adults in our community, our church recognized the need to have a staff person focused on making our ministry cohesive across all generations. Looking back on the year, I can safely say we've already been more successful at combining efforts for intergenerational events and planning better for all ages on Sunday mornings.

This year two of our annual events became more intentionally intergenerational as Adult Fellowship and Education (AFE) joined Children's Nurture (CN) to host both our Sunday School kickoff in August and our Advent Workshop in December. The kickoff in the fall was a pirate themed treasure hunt for all ages after worship- complete with treasure maps, a bounce house, and games. This important event offered time to have some fun and fellowship with all ages, but also a chance for everyone to familiarize themselves with our Sunday school program for the year, gave students and parents a chance to meet their teachers, and oriented everyone to some of the most important places in the church (especially those that guests with children might be most curious about). The Advent workshop included a pitch-in meal this year thanks to AFE and gave everyone the chance to make an Advent wreath and other crafts to begin the season together as a church family.

Every Sunday five classes are offered for children and youth as follows: Nursery (birth-3), Preschool (ages 3-5), Elementary (Kindergarten-2nd grade), Tweens (3rd-6th grade), and Youth Sunday School (7-12th grade). We continue to have four hired childcare workers on staff (Brook Brown, Hanna Hodnett, Montez Martinez, and Erin Booth), 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 childcare workers partner with a volunteer/teacher to provide care in the Nursery, Preschool, and Elementary classes; as well as occasionally providing childcare for special events like the Be Event series.

In February, FPC sent Sunny Currier, Brook Brown, Hanna Hodnett, and me to Galveston, Texas to participate in the annual Association of Presbyterian Church Educators Conference as part of our Engaging Young Adults grant. We enjoyed time with our colleagues in educational ministry from across the country; learning and sharing ideas with one another with plenty to bring back home with us.

2019 also held the second half of the Confirmation class with a retreat to Pyoca in the spring and all three confirmands deciding to join the church in April. All the youth shared deeply profound and moving statements of faith with the session as they expressed their interest in officially becoming part of our church. It continues to be an honor to walk with our youth through this particular part of their faith journeys.

OUR STAFF

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

The summer was a flurry of activity as well with multiple trips and Vacation Bible School for our children and youth. We flew to New Mexico for our mission trip with the high schoolers to Ghost Ranch in Abiquiu. 15 youth and 7 adult chaperones (including myself) spent a week at Ghost Ranch enjoying God's incredible creation and doing work projects to help maintain the natural beauty of the area so campers and visitors can continue to enjoy the area without damaging the delicate desert environment. We also took six youth and three chaperones to Harrisonburg, Virginia to attend the annual Massanetta Springs Middle School Conference. This was our church's first time attending the conference and our youth loved the chance to learn more about God, each other, and make new friends their age from all over the country. Our partnership with the United Methodist Church to host Vacation Bible School was also a success. We offered classes for ages 3 through 3rd grade, along with an adult class with over 45 children attending from the community and our two churches.

We closed out the year by hosting our second end-of-the-year fellowship event, 'Eat, Drink, and Be Merry' at 4th Street Bar and Grill on the last Sunday evening of the year. Since it was so well received the previous year the Adult Fellowship & Education Committee has taken over sponsoring the event with the help of a few very generous individual donors. The evening included karaoke, food, and drinks with around 50 people in attendance and another strong turnout from young adults ages 17-25.

In addition to work here, it was another busy year with service to the larger church. In 2019 that included being asked to participate in one of seven global consultations held by the PC(USA) to discuss ideas and suggestions for a new Mission Strategy to respond to the needs of this 21st century. In an effort to collectively read the signs of the times, intentionally diverse groups were invited by PC(USA) World Mission to discuss: where God is calling us to put our energy today, what it means to be partners in God's mission today, what this might look like in practice, and what resources are needed.

That same weekend, I traveled down from Stony Point, New York to Washington DC to join the 5th Annual Palestine Advocacy Day and Training hosted by American Muslims for Palestine (one of our IPMN partners). Particularly following the mission discussion I had just been a part of in New York, it was very uplifting to introduce myself (as one of very few non-Palestinian Muslims in a group of over 500) as a Presbyterian and be met with responses like, "Oh, that's the good church" and "Thank you all for having our back in the US and Palestine."

Additionally in my role as Co-Moderator of the Israel/Palestine Mission Network (IPMN) of the Presbyterian Church (USA), I helped plan and participate in a direct action to protest the racist, Zionist gathering of Christians United for Israel in Washington DC, where John Hagee, Benjamin Netanyahu, and Mike Pence were speaking. I also attended the Next Church conference in Seattle to lead a workshop on our IPMN book, "Why Palestine Matters" and looking at justice with an intersectional lens. The conference was inspiring and thought provoking

OUR STAFF

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

enough that myself and some of our volunteers will be attending in 2020 in place of the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators conference. First Presbyterian Church in Kalamazoo, Michigan invited me to join them one Sunday to preach and teach a class on the current situation in Israel/Palestine as well as explaining our Presbyterian advocacy. Not only was it a joy to spend the day with their congregation, but a moment I will forever remember getting to preach from the same pulpit as both Mr. Rogers and Rev. Margaret Towner, the first woman ordained in the Presbyterian Church.

As the year neared its end, I again led the planning and moderated our annual IPMN conference which was held in Baltimore, MD this year as we wrapped up our restructuring and discernment process. After 6 years on the Steering Committee I made the difficult decision to decline the request to serve another two years as Co-Moderator. While not in official office, I continue to work with IPMN and our partners, which included closing out the year in Palestine representing the PC(USA)/IPMN at the 10th Anniversary Kairos Palestine Conference and the 1st International Sabeel Conference.

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.

Board Members:, Maggie Kamman, Chairperson; Anna DeNoyer, Assistant Chairperson; Grant Hale, Secretary; Stacey Maignan, Scholarship Chairperson; Kevin Lane, Finance; Colleen Herrick, Scholarship Co-chair; Betsie Reed, Volunteer coordinator; Lesli Gordon, Fundraising; Phuong Fay, Marketing; Jennifer Christie, Events Co-chair

This year we had 156 children enrolled in 11 classes. We had 11 scholarship students receiving \$18,485 in funds. Our staff of 30 worked hard to nurture children and adults in our program. This year we worked on Mindfulness as our main theme. We find that children are having anxiety and stress even as 2-year old's, so we decided to work on helping children find ways to relax during their day. We show them how to enjoy quiet time and how to relax their bodies and breathe. This is a skill that must be taught and learning early helps the children in a very stressful world.

We were able to get our STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) area in the future Columbarium space started with the help of the Herschel O'Shaughnessey Memorial. Our children love the area and it will need some additional work this spring. You will notice a musical garden in the lower level that was a senior project of one of our former students.

This year we doubled the amount of Enrichment Classes for our Pre-K students. Parents found the children learning so very much in these classes. Many of our children leave being able to read and can add and subtract.

We have had two new members join our staff this year. Anne Bonnier from France and Burcu Karhan from Turkey. Our diverse staff can connect with so many of our international families. We are so blessed.

We continue to qualify for On My Way Pre-K and Level 3 Paths To QUALITY. There is a lot of work on the part of the staff and the administration to keep us in line. The amount of paperwork is incredible. We do work hard especially with staffing and having degreed teachers.

This past year our Join Our Table event was held at Harrison Lake. We were able to put money into our scholarship fund and are planning to purchase new windows for the preschool business office.

We spent \$15,000 that was not in our budget for air conditioning this year. As we started school in August without any air, we had to rent units to cool the preschool area from August until October at a cost of \$5,000. We also donated \$10,000 to the church to help pay for the new units.

OUR STAFF

Barb Newton, Director of First Presbyterian Preschool continued

With two United Way Days of Caring we have had landscape and indoor projects completed. Doug Sprunger continues to be a great help with these projects.

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 (AFE)

Members: Katie Booth, Leah Jackman-Wheitner, Cara Bywater, Sarah Dismore, Craig Dismore, Dale Nowlin (chair), Felipe Martinez (staff), Marietta Macy (staff)

The goal of the Adult Fellowship and Education (AFE) Committee is to encourage everyday spirituality, reaching out to young adults, and addressing social justice issues through formal and informal sessions and fellowship. In the past year we have hosted 42 sessions during the second hour on Sundays, four all church pitch-ins, seven patio parties, an all church picnic at the Tipton Lakes Marina, Dinners for Seven with Seven groups, and a final dinner for all seven groups.. AFE has coordinated with the Engaging Young Adults Be Events by hosting each guest speaker for a second hour session along with a preparation session the week before and a follow-up session the week following the Be Event weekend to optimize the impact of each event. AFE coordinated with the Social Justice Committee to offer a Sunday morning session on social justice each month. We also coordinated with the Welcoming and Affirming Committee to present the movie *The Gender Revolution*. We have coordinated with the Youth Nurture and Children's Nurture committees on scheduling pitch-ins and inter-generational Sunday morning sessions.

Two new types of sessions were introduced during Sunday mornings second hour. In January and February we presented several sessions titled "Confirmation for Adults" that covered some of the same topics covered in the confirmation class. This fall we introduced a new type of session titled "What? So What? Now What?" in which we take a sneak preview of the scripture for the upcoming worship service, examining the verses in an historical context and applying them to our current context and to our own lives.

One way AFE meets our goal of providing fellowship is by hosting an all-church pitch-in during any month where no other group is sponsoring a fellowship opportunity with a meal. We try to keep them simple enough that we won't get tired of hosting them. That means there is a reason you won't see table cloths and center pieces when AFE hosts a pitch-in. We might get tired of complicated set up and clean up, but we never get tired of food and fellowship.

We had another successful season of patio parties in July and August. Folks from the congregation hosted informal gatherings for fellowship and an informal conversation around questions relating to the prior Sunday's sermon. If you haven't attended a patio party, consider joining one next summer. If you would like to host one next summer, contact an AFE member.

Everyone is welcome to join us for the second hour on Sunday morning. It provides an opportunity to connect with other people, get to know new folks, or get to know people better. Discussion and interaction is always a part of the sessions, and you don't have to be a Bible expert to join in the discussion. In fact, we have learned that often the questions people bring are the most engaging part.

Finally, if you would like to be a part of AFE, we welcome your input and participation. We usually meet on the third Tuesday of the month, 5:15-6:15 PM.

SESSION REPORTS

Engaging Young Adults (EYA)

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. At the end of October 2018, we submitted our grant request which had three main components:

1. An event series we named BE: An Event Series.
2. Funding for young adults to attend three different events/experiences: Wild Goose Festival; the Israel-Palestine Mission trip; the White Privilege Conference.
3. Equipment and furnishings to enhance the options for our space: cocktail tables, bar stools, laptop, sound equipment.

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.

Our grant was approved November 2018, and our FPC Foundation approved matching funds that were part of the Center for Congregations process.

January 2019 we hosted both a Kick Off Event to let the congregation know about the upcoming speakers and conferences/trips and our first workshop in the event series with Mads Benishek as speaker. DeAmon Harges facilitated our second workshop in June 2019, which garnered a great deal of interaction and discussion about community and what we want for our community. Our third speaker, abby mohaupt, presented on climate change and a faithful response to environmental issues in September 2019.

We have had 40-60 people in attendance for these events, including several folks who are new to our congregation and people whose first time here was for one of the events. In 2020 we will continue with our last three speakers. Shawna Bowman was here in January, Shannon Craigo-Snell will be here on February 29th, and Denise Anderson will be here April 4th.

We had a group of ten people attend the Wild Goose Festival in July, stretching our minds about issues of justice and spirituality as we camped in the North Carolina woods. Marietta Macy and Heather Reeves were able to be part of the Olive Harvest and journeys through Israel and Palestine in October. We may have some folks attending the White Privilege Conference this March. We still need to schedule a Celebration Event where we can share what we have learned from this grant project.

Respectfully submitted,
Leah Jackman-Wheitner and Katie Booth, Co-chairs

The core of our EYA committee and team in 2019 has been: Felipe Martinez, Marietta Macy, Sunny Currier, Emily Sharpe, Julie Daiker, Heather Reeves, Jodi Roberts, Brook Brown, Hanna Hodnett, Jen Riddle, Kati Jackman-Wheitner, Karita Alexander

SESSION REPORTS

Children's Nurture (CN) Committee

Co-chairs: Gwen Kresovsky and Erik Anderson (session representative)

Staff: Marietta Macy

Members: Izzy Nowlin, Sunny Currier, Lisa Porter, Sarah Sanders

We have had many new exciting events to report with Children's Nurture this year! For the first time in several years, we held VBS in June. The theme was "Who's Your Neighbor" and we partnered with our neighbors, First United Methodist Church. This was an evening program that included dinner and activities. Ages ranged from 2 years old to Adults and was well attended by kids from both churches.

We were able to purchase a bounce house for the church to use throughout the year and shared this with the Preschool as well. Thanks to session for supporting this purchase.

With a growing group in kids from 3rd-6th grade, Tween Time continued through this year. This was led by Sunny Currier, Terri Glackin, Lori Rowan. The group meets monthly in a "youth group" fashion where they gather for a service project, games, fun, and snacks. Much thanks to Sunny, Terri, and Lori as this has been a favorite activity for these kids!

Thanks in large part to Sunny Currier, we also were able to schedule a play time in our gym with our neighbors at the Islamic Society for our younger children. We hope to continue these play times this year as well.

Our children's programming attendance remains strong and we continued to offer a full program on Sundays with Sunday School for ages pre-k -6th grade, Worship Arts for pre-K - 6th grade, nursery for ages 2 years and under, and childcare for all ages to 12:15pm. We continue to employ 4 child care workers (Brook Brown, Hanna Hodnett, Montez Martinez and Erin Booth) as well as numerous volunteer teachers, adult assistance in the classrooms and teen helpers (special thanks to Elaine Sanders who helps regularly with the nursery!). This army of staff and volunteers is needed to support our program and all our activities and we greatly appreciate them!

We look forward to the next year of supporting our youngest church attendees and helping to develop and strengthen their spiritual beginnings as they grow in our church.

Changes to our committee for 2020 include Gwen Kresovsky stepping down as co-chair, with Erik Anderson continuing as chair and session representative, as well as welcoming some new members to join our committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Gwen Kresovsky, Co-chair Children's Nurture Committee

SESSION REPORTS

Youth Nurture (YN) Committee

Members: Amy Anderson, Brook Brown, Sunny Currier, Julie Daiker, Monta Frazier, Angie Meyer, Lisa Porter, Janet Putney, STAFF – Marietta Macy

Confirmation Classes – Marietta Macy and three confirmands

Sunday School Classes – Sarah Sanders, Jodi Roberts & Danny Sanders

Sent finals week packages and birthday cares to 31 college students with help from Brook Brown, Samantha Harpring & Linda Pierson

Teen Impact led by Lisa Porter and Diane Sprunger

Youth Group leaders are Lisa Porter, Stephanie Cunningham, Sunny Currier, Julie Daiker and Marietta Macy

Youth Sunday

Graduation Sunday

Junior High students went to Massanetta for a retreat – 8 participants; Marietta Macy organized

High School students went to Ghost Ranch for their mission trip – 16 participants; Sarah Sanders organized

Our Whole Lives (OWL): Sunny Currier.

2019 High School Class focusing on Sexual Harassment.

Middle School Class, comprehensive sexuality education, spanning 2019-20 school year.

We appreciate Kerry Norris of Norris Automotive hosting the youth group for education on basic car maintenance & care.

Participated in Heart Tree wrapping and delivering with Brennen Boatwright and Lisa Porter's guidance

FREE library was completed thanks to Doug Sprunger

SESSION REPORTS

Youth Nurture Committee cont.

Youth Group hosted Christmas party for Armory residents with caroling, dessert, & gifts

Local Mission – Served Hot meals, Homeless Care packages, Snowman Lights to Armory, Sent Pentecost Monies to local school programs, participated in Schmidt Halloween Trunk or Treat

Mission Fundraisers – Pancake Breakfast, Bake Sale, Kroger Cards, Sold Got Justice Shirts

Respectfully submitted by Julie Daiker, Youth Nurture Moderator

SESSION REPORTS

Personnel Committee

Committee: Lynne Hyatt, Mary Orben, 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.

Personnel strongly endorsed Safe Church's recommendation of reinstalling the panic buttons in the church and preschool office to connect directly to the police department as they originally did and as CPD has recommended. There would be a stationary panic button located at Brook's desk, one at Barb's desk, and a hand held mobile one that could be shared with Christy and Marietta.

Personnel recommended that the support groups for the professional staff that were developed a few years ago meet at least twice a year to connect and lend support.

Cost of Living Adjustment for all employees was supported at 3% to be effective January 1, 2020. The congregation will vote to approve the same adjustment for Felipe Martinez at the annual meeting which affects both housing and salary. Bonuses in the form of gift cards were given at the end of the year to the professional staff, child care workers, and youth advisors to show appreciation for their good work and dedication.

We have had a good year with many positive interactions and experiences. Job reviews were done with the staff before the end of the year which proved to be helpful. We appreciate the commitment Felipe, Dianne and Marietta make in their worship planning sessions so that we have a cohesive and sometimes surprising Sunday worship service.

We give thanks to God for Felipe Martinez as he continues to guide and encourage us with new ideas and challenges us to stretch ourselves to look at new and different ways to practice our Christianity.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Sharpe, Moderator

SESSION REPORTS

Property Committee

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

Mission: The purpose of the Property Committee is to ensure the church building and grounds are maintained and updated as needed. 2019 was a busy but good year with the Property Committee overseeing the projects listed below.

Projects for 2019:

1. Restroom Renovation.
 - a. Bob Smitherman (Smitherman Construction) supervised the conversion of the women's restroom opposite the kitchen into two handicapped accessible and gender-neutral restrooms.
 - b. The Open & Affirming Committee researched, ordered and paid for appropriate directional/restroom signs for the church which were installed by Zack Ellison.
2. Marshall Mechanical (HVAC vendor)
 - a. Marshall performed their regularly scheduled maintenance.
 - b. Marshall performed a major replacement (\$62,235.00) of the Education Wing AC unit (last of five main AC units to be upgraded to the latest technology and refrigerants). The scope of work was extensive: removed all existing equipment from Preschool, Large Youth Room, and Youth Lounge; two new condensing units were located on a concrete pad at the NW corner of the building; new refrigerant lines, electrical service, and duct work were connected to the outdoor units; two new Heat Pump systems and associated duct work were installed for the Youth areas.
 - c. Zack Ellison constructed a wooden enclosure for the heat exchangers.
 - d. Marshall started work on one of the two boilers in the boiler room which supply heat. This boiler (unfortunately, a new modern unit which replaced one of the old boilers) had a failure in the heat exchanger component just outside the warranty period. This work is ongoing in 2020.
3. Kitchen – One of the refrigerators in the kitchen failed just outside the warranty period. The refrigerator was replaced with a same make refrigerator/freezer unit with ice maker.
4. A new large bulletin board was installed in the Law's Room.
5. Zack Ellison raised and moved Marietta Macy's desk in her office.
6. Danny and Trey Sanders replaced numerous failed fluorescent light bulbs with new energy efficient LED lighting. Danny also performed the necessary Safety Lights check for the annual Preschool Inspection.
7. Cummins Recycling Day – Doug Sprunger made at least two truckload trips with old furniture, spent fluorescent bulbs, and five large, heavy, and obsolete CRT televisions during the Recycling Day which saved having to pay fees for items which can't just be dropped off at the Recycling Center or Landfill.
8. LaForce, Inc. (Electronic Security Systems)
 - a. Replaced the door closer for the Preschool door.
 - b. Installed new locking mechanisms (keyed for our Master Key) on eight doorways which provided access to the Preschool. This helped meet one of the goals of our Safe Church Policy.

SESSION REPORTS

Property Committee

9. Doug Sprunger and Brayton McCarver determined the cause of a mysterious noise which sporadically occurred in the Sanctuary. Brayton was eventually able to replace the failed fan motor which was the cause of the noise.
10. Staublin Technology Service Inc. installed four Wireless Panic Buttons which satisfied one of the goals of our Safe Church Policy.
11. Southern Roofing repaired water leaks around a Large Youth Room window and a Preschool roof.
12. Axsom Plumbing
 - a. Installed the necessary plumbing to supply water to the ice maker in the new refrigerator in the kitchen.
 - b. Replaced the flush valve in a urinal.
 - c. Removed the blockage in a Large Youth Room sink drain.

Submitted by David Tiede, moderator

SESSION REPORTS

Safe Church Committee

Committee Members: Amber Porter, Brook Brown, Mary Ann McCray, Ted Sharpe, Sunny Currier-Chairperson. Dave Kresovsky, Elder. Marietta Macy, Staff.

"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 in providing 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.

The required annual training of church officers in the Safe Church Policy was done in January (Elders) and February (Deacons). Deacons, as head ushers, were also provided with details and a walking tour of classrooms in use by children and youth, to better assist visitors, and in case of emergency. Our insurers reviewed our Safe Church Policy, and indicated that it follows their guidelines. They state that by complying with our policy, we greatly reduce our church liability.

The Committee chairperson attended training on March 14, offered by the Center For Congregations entitled Staying Safe: Effective Security Implementation, led by a consultant expert in church security.

On August 25, during adult education time, we offered Stop The Bleed training, and received a trauma kit for the church. We will buy an additional kit so that a kit will be available next to each of our defibrillator stations. The class was attended by adults as well as several youth, and all learned how to save a life. Without intervention, uncontrolled bleeding accidents can be fatal in 5 minutes.

We have been implementing the building safety recommendations made by Columbus City Police and Bartholomew County Sheriff's Department, and approved by Session in December 2018.

- All church doors were numbered, for ease of reference, communication with visitors, and to assist emergency responders.
- An electronic copy of the building blueprint, with door numbers and room use information was provided to the Office of Emergency Management. Emergency responders can now pull up the documents from their vehicles as they respond to any emergency in our building.
- Per recommendation by both police agencies, door number 1 (7th St. - office) and doors 8 and 9 (preschool, alley) were designated to remain locked on Sunday mornings. These doors offer immediate access to several hallways, stairs going up and down, and no one near doors to direct visitors or monitor where those entering go. Doors 2 (7th St. chapel), 3 and 4 (Franklin - Sanctuary) and 6 (loggia/ramp area below

SESSION REPORTS

Safe Church Committee cont.

gym) are open for entry on Sunday mornings and have ushers attending. Door 6 to be locked when usher departs to Sanctuary at 9:40, at which time there is a doorbell to ring for entrance. Door 2 remains unlocked until 12:15.

- During public use of the building, there have been several instances of people walking through the Preschool while children were there. Door locks were installed to block access to the Preschool area during public events held in the building.
- Our office panic buttons had long ago stopped working. New units were installed in both the church office and the preschool office.
- The 7th Street door camera provided poor visibility of the door area. The video feed was moved to a full size monitor screen, and is now easily seen.
- The Facility Use Agreement was reviewed by the committee, and changes were recommended to be in compliance with safety policies.

Our children's programs continue to grow. 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 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, Chairperson

SESSION REPORTS

Social Justice Committee (SJC)

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

“Two of the greatest hungers in our world today are the hunger for spirituality and the hunger for social change. The connection between the two is the one the world is waiting for, especially the new generation. And the first hunger will empower the second.”

Jim Wallis (2009, *The Great Awakening: Seven Ways to Change the World*)

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 and follow the example of Jesus. 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 Social Justice Committee held a retreat in February to identify our priorities for the current two years – anti-immigration, homelessness/affordable housing, standing up to racism, affordable/accessible healthcare, and climate change. We invited the congregation to review these priorities and contribute action ideas – this session was well attended – thank you!

Anti-Immigration

- Met with Whitney Amuchastegui, Su Casa Executive Director, to discuss opportunities to support their work

Standing Up to Racism

- Attending rallies and advocating for a fully-inclusive Indiana Hate Crimes Bill
- Donated to support the Juneteenth Celebration
- Represented FPC with two tables at the NAACP Annual Freedom Fund banquet
- 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

Homelessness / Affordable Housing

- The Hot Meals service which welcomes and feeds 60-120 people every Friday. We expanded this service to include Thursdays during November and December and Christmas Eve.

SESSION REPORTS

Social Justice cont.

- Providing food, volunteers and financial support to the Ecumenical Assembly which runs Love Chapel and Brighter Days. We provided additional Grants to Brighter Days shelter this year for commercial laundry equipment and bunk beds to increase capacity.
- Supporting Bread for the World and holding a letter writing campaign
- Holding monthly birthday parties with our neighbors at The Armory
- Matching donations to the Horizon House Purse Bingo event and collecting diapers & bedding for Horizon House
- A mission support grant was approved for the Sweet Dreams project which provides beds for children in poverty in our community. The Sweet Dreams team (Janet Sharpe, Luther Pierson, Kerry Norris and Alan Kilbarger) provided beds for over 40 children this year working primarily with DCS.
- Housing Partnerships Inc. (Thrive Alliance) are celebrating their 30th anniversary next year and have plans to build more affordable houses in Columbus. We will be asking for congregational support in prayer and volunteer hours as we move forward.

Climate Change

- Mission Support Grant for the new Dancing C bicycle racks outside the church

Through the Community Mission budget, FPC also provided financial support totaling \$27,453 to a variety of local organizations – The Ecumenical Assembly of Bartholomew County (Love Chapel & Brighter Days), Children Inc, Family Self-Sufficiency, Horizon House, Hot Meals, Turning Point, Just Friends, FPC Pre-School Scholarships, Su Casa, and Sustained Dialogues.

Through Mission Support Grants we provided additional support for:

- Power of Love - working to eradicate pediatric AIDS & HIV in Zambia and their micro-loans program.
- Fresh Start – providing FPC Pre-School scholarships for children of parents entering the Fresh Start home / program
- Sage Tables at the Mill Race Center – quarterly lunches promoting inter-generational conversations about LGBTQ+ topics.

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.

Save the Date! We are pleased to confirm Jim Wallis as our Laws Lecturer on Saturday 18th April at 4pm. Jim Wallis is a theologian, writer, teacher, peace-maker and activist. Jim is founder and editor of Sojourners magazine and was a spiritual advisor to President Barack Obama. Jim has a new book '*Christ in Crisis: Why We Need to Reclaim Jesus*' which is available to buy from Viewpoint Books.

SESSION REPORTS

Social Justice cont.

In 2020, we will continue our focus on our five priorities. Please reach out to me if you are interested in joining the Committee to work on these and other social justice topics, or if you have passion to be involved in advocating on a particular topic.

Thank you for your continued support.

Cara Bywater
Moderator, Social Justice Committee

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.

In 2019, the Open and Affirming Committee ("Committee") pursued a number of programs and initiatives, as summarized below.

- Two all gender restrooms, proposed by the Committee, were installed, replacing the one existing women's restroom across from the kitchen. This provides a restroom for everyone in proximity to the heavily used areas that include the Laws Room and kitchen, as well as a welcoming and safe space for LGBTQIA+ folks. The redesign also allowed for installation of much needed changing tables. The Committee also chose appropriate signage for these restrooms.
- "Gender Revolution" a documentary by National Geographic, was presented during Adult Education on February 24. The 40 folks who attended indicated that they learned a lot about gender identity.
- The Committee and FPC provided financial sponsorship to one Mill Race Center Sage Table.
- The Committee participated in Columbus Pride on April 13, with a table featuring "preferred pronoun" buttons.
- We participated, along with North Christian Church, the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, and First United Methodist Church, in the Cadillac Barbie Indy Pride Parade.
- In cooperation with North Christian Church and the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, an interfaith Pride Service was planned and conducted on November 16, as an alternative to the former Transgender Day of Remembrance service of years past. The service was well attended, and the elements of hope and positivity provided a service more appropriate for younger attendees.
- We give God thanks for Julia Stumpff, who is stepping down as chair after many years of service. Rich Stenner will be chair and session representative starting in 2020.

SESSION REPORTS

Stewardship & Finance Committee

2019 Highlights:

Our Team

- The members who served on the Stewardship and Finance Committee for some or all of 2019 included: Treasurer Vern Jorck, Cindy Frey, Mary Ann McCray, Marilyn Richardson, Rich Stenner, and Lynne Hyatt. 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 October this year.
- 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. Craig Dismore, Emma Edwards, Rich Eynon, Jayne Farber, and Cindy Frey, all provided inspiring "Moments for Stewardship" for the congregation.
- The campaign theme this year revolved around the phrase "Where the Spirit Leads" drawing on an excerpt from Gilbert R. Rendle's *Quietly Courageous*. Rendle encouraged us to shift our thinking about stewardship in terms of protecting what was, and instead look to the future. According to Rendle, "Stewarding potential is aligned with the future, not limited to the present or the past."
- There were two direct mailings to the congregation and numerous reminders and requests in bulletins, emails, and in 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.
- With support from Deacons, we held a catered Celebration Sunday on November 17. 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.

2019 Stewardship Campaign Results (preliminary results, final report forthcoming)

- As of January 22, there are 105 pledges totaling \$478,988. This represents 87% of our goal of \$550,000 to balance our budget.
- There were 103 pledges in all, including 11 new pledges. On average, pledges increased by 3.31 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 2020 programs.
- The Treasurer drafted the Church's budget for 2020, based on input from all the working groups within the Church, which the Session approved on December 18, 2019 – based upon the preliminary good news from the fall campaign.

Year End Financials

- First Presbyterian Church will end 2019 with a net loss of \$13,503. Expenses remained within budget projections, but revenues fell short. While there are cash reserves to cover the loss, it underscores how important it is for our members to indicate a pledge at the beginning of the year to allow church leaders to budget accordingly.
- We are humbled to have received two generous year-end gifts. One was an undesignated gift from the estate of our former Pastor Rob Craig and one from church member Mary Clark to be used for the music program.

2018 Audit

- The Foundation provided the church with a grant to support a full financial audit for both the Church and the Preschool. The audit was conducted this summer by Agresta Storms & O'Leary. There were no negative findings.

SPECIAL OFFERING RESULTS 2019

We are currently in the midst of the Love Chapel Food Pantry Offering. In addition to this offering we conduct four other special Presbyterian denominational offerings each year. Last year these 5 offerings raised \$12,651. The results of all these special offerings over the last 4 years are as follows:

	<i>Special Offerings</i>	2016	2017	2018	2019
1	Love Chapel Food Pantry (Jan)	\$4,221	\$4,014	\$3,746	\$2,055
2	One Great Hour of Sharing (Mar)	\$2,422	\$4,070	\$3,174	\$3,526
3	Pentecost (May)	\$1,725	\$1,289	\$3,032	\$1,955
4	Peace and Global Witness (Oct)	\$2,217	\$1,447	\$2,504	\$1,973
5	Christmas Joy (Dec)	\$2,130	\$1,580	\$2,881	\$3,142
	Total	\$12,715	\$12,400	\$15,337	\$12,651

FPC FINANCIAL SUMMARY AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2019

FUND 01 -- OPERATIONS -- 100% of Year Complete

PRELIMINARY

	2019	2019	Percent of	2020
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>2019 Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>
INCOME				
Pledge and Gift Income	\$498,148 <u>1/</u>	\$516,623 <u>1/</u>	96.4%	\$547,844 <u>2/</u>
Other Income	\$44,147	\$41,791	105.6%	\$44,791
Total Income	\$542,295	\$558,414	97.1%	\$592,635
EXPENSES				
Church Program				
Nurture				
- Children's Nurture	\$9,172	\$7,404	123.9%	\$9,789
- Youth Nurture	\$5,079	\$5,650	89.9%	\$5,650
- Adult Fellowship & Ed	\$1,101	\$2,450	44.9%	\$1,950
Total Nurture	\$15,352	\$15,504	99.0%	\$17,389
General Program Exp.	\$307	\$750	41.0%	\$750
Music	\$3,275	\$4,325	75.7%	\$6,972
Social Justice	\$2,132	\$2,250	94.8%	\$2,400
Worship	\$2,036	\$3,300	61.7%	\$3,300
Stewardship	\$1,432	\$950	150.7%	\$3,450
Deacon Expense	\$1,022	\$1,240	82.4%	\$1,240
Celebration of Life	\$297	\$500	59.3%	\$500
Subtotal Church Program	\$25,852	\$28,819	89.7%	\$36,001
Mission Giving	\$65,198	\$65,198	100.0%	\$71,333
Professional Staff				
Pastor	\$113,483	\$112,416	100.9%	\$115,594
Director of CYYAM	\$65,009	\$64,901	100.2%	\$66,831
Choir Dir/Organist	\$51,129	\$50,771	100.7%	\$52,234
Subtotal Professional Staff	\$229,620	\$228,088	100.7%	\$234,659
Office Expenses	\$80,017	\$80,631	99.2%	\$82,227
Facility Expenses	\$137,743	\$138,877	99.2%	\$151,055
Other Expenses	\$17,367	\$16,800	103.4%	\$17,360
Total Expenses	\$555,798	\$558,414	99.5%	\$592,635
Net Income	-\$13,503	\$0		\$0

Cash Balances

	<u>12/31/18</u>	<u>12/31/19</u>	<u>Change</u>
Operating Fund	\$146,796 <u>1/</u>	\$151,142 <u>2/</u>	\$4,346
All Other Funds	\$307,694 <u>3/</u>	\$171,031 <u>4/</u>	-\$136,663
Cumulative	\$454,490	\$322,173	-\$132,317

1/ Includes \$67,497 in prepaid pledges from 2018. 2/ Includes \$83,899 in prepaid pledges from 2019.

3/ Includes \$162,229 in Capital Campaign Funds. 4/ Includes \$14,759 in Capital Campaign Funds.

SESSION REPORTS

Worship Committee

Committee Members: Anna Denoyer, Glinda Ellison, Eric Erickson, Terri Glackin, Michael Martinez, Angi Meyer, Clare Moore (Moderator), Luther Pierson, Judy Summerville, 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: In consultation with the pastor or others leading worship, utilize create approaches to enhance the worship experience of attendees through integration of visual, auditory, and sensory stimuli, including banners, lights, foliage, movements, spoken word, activities, decorations, and sacraments for Sundays and special liturgical holidays and seasons. Specific duties include preparation and set-up for communion once a month and for special services, recruitment of adult and youth lay liturgists for worship services, as well as for Grammer Presbyterian Church four times a year, and purchase of poinsettias at Christmas and lilies at Easter and delivery of them to members unable to join us for worship. Additionally, we respond to requests from the Celebration of Life committee with preparation of the sanctuary for funeral and memorial services, and otherwise assist and support pastors with special events and services as requested.

Of special note in 2019:

- In order to have a comprehensive and current record of how essential tasks are done, members documented various components of worship committee processes, including recruitment of Lay Liturgists, preparation of communion, updating our catalogue of banners, re-organizing the banners within the closet they reside, and documentation of various special holiday practices.
- After the retirement of about half of committee members the previous year, new members were welcomed and trained.
- When a winter storm necessitated cancelling regular services one February Sunday, Felipe was alternatively able to deliver his sermon live on Facebook, with a strong response of 1000 hits.
- Provided unique worship experiences by having pastors wash the hands of participants on Maundy Thursday (as Jesus washed the feet of disciples on that original night), substituting rice cakes for bread during communion as a reminder that only the Western world eats bread, distributing river rocks from a pool of water on a Sunday celebrating baptism, and conducting a bilingual baptism (Spanish/English) as well as more Spanish language in our singing.
- Supported several guest speakers and programs, including the Hanover President & choir, Rev. Mihee Kim-Kort, BE speakers Mads Benishek, DeAmon Harges and abby mohaupt, Shawna Bowman, and Lisa Porter (Lay Speaker on Reformation Sunday). Marietta Macy and Cal Brand also provided leadership from the pulpit when Felipe was away.

SESSION REPORTS

Worship Committee cont.

- In the summer, a beautiful Kawai grand piano was generously donated to the church by the Porter family. It enriches our sanctuary both musically and aesthetically, and we are most appreciative!
- Clare Moore, Worship Moderator, attended a 3-day conference in Austin, TX called "Just Worship" sponsored by the Presbyterian Association of Musicians, along with Lisa Porter and Dianne Sprunger.
- The Sanctuary Choir continues its long tradition of leading us in worship with spiritually uplifting music in a variety of musical styles.
- The Bell Choirs continue to offer a special element of the music program, and participation among many adults and youth is strong.
- We supported worship partnerships by collaborating with North Christian for Ash Wednesday and Interfaith Pride services, offering a Lenten study with Fairlawn Presbyterian, and providing Lay Liturgists for Grammer Presbyterian Church quarterly.

Special thanks to: Brook Brown for coordinating the Sunday worship flower calendar as well as those who have donated and delivered flowers, poinsettias and lilies. 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. Finally, as she retires at the end of 2019, we extend our most sincere appreciation to Glinda Ellison for her tireless dedication to the committee for more than 2 decades. She will be greatly missed!

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 cared for roughly 15 FPC families. We strived to be a resource for our families and responsive to their needs. FPC is blessed with a very caring congregation. Most FPC family members who are not currently serving as deacons have continued to be very active in calling and caring for one another in multiple ways. We thank each and all of you for the calling and caring you provided throughout the year, bringing healing and hope to our FPC families inside and outside of the walls of FPC.

Events: Instead of focusing much of our time serving food and waiting on our families for our deacon breakfast to provide families served by each deacon to get to know one another, we served donuts and coffee and spent more time visiting and getting to know one another. Have you ever prepared food to feed 150 to 200 people? Fortunately, for our FPC family, we have always had a deacon among us who is able and willing to assume the lead in preparing the main dish for our Easter Brunch. Having been mentored by Marquita Tuck the previous year, Emily Sharpe became the lead chef preparing and baking the main entrée for our Easter Brunch. No one could have expected a severe thunderstorm would prevent Kroger from preparing our fried chicken for our annual picnic in Donner Park. Deacon Gretchen Laemmer stepped in to save the day by purchasing and preparing ham while the rest of us participated in our church service in the park. The food for Celebration Sunday was prepared and served by Catering by Karr owned by FPC member Jeff Karr. Our FPC family enjoyed the delicious meal while our Deacons celebrated this change made possible because our church is growing and thriving. Janet Putney shared her time and artistic talent by taking the lead in designing and decorating for Celebration Sunday. We want to acknowledge all members of the Stewardship and Finance Committee who once again helped set up, serve, and clean up after Celebration Sunday. Finally, we thank all of you who chose to join us at the Deacons and Donuts, Easter brunch, annual picnic at the park, or Celebration Sunday. Your participation made it necessary to prepare to serve more people at each event, another sign that our church 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. Deacons duties changed with our church endeavors to make our church safer during the service by locking more doors. Deacons also assumed responsibility for putting water in the pitcher for the baptismal font before each service. Deacons were reminded how important this responsibility was when Pastor Felipe attempted to pour water from an empty pitcher into the baptismal font during one service. FPC family members have been very willing to usher on Sunday. We need a new system to ensure that we do not lean too heavily on some of our families to usher. We strived to welcome visitors and provided them with a coffee mug and a few additional items as a token gift. We acknowledge our FPC family members for inviting and welcoming guests on Sunday morning.

OTHER REPORTS

Deacons

Acknowledgements: When you get a chance, please thank those who served with me as deacons in 2019: Assistant Moderator Alan Kilbarger, Brennon Boatwright, Judy Bonnell, Katie Booth, Liz Damm, Carolyn Friend, Gretchen Laemmer, Barb Newton, Sherri Norris, Janet Putney, Jodi Roberts, Elaine Sanders, and Emily Sharpe. 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 2019 Annual Report

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

2019 Unrestricted Grant Funds Available **\$103,082.82**

2019 Grants Awarded from Unrestricted Funds

Mission Support (1/3 of available funds)	\$34,360.94
EYA Matching Grant (2019 expenses)	25,840.64
Church/Preschool Audit	10,500.00
Hispanic Scholarship (Year 2 of 4 years)	10,000.00
NAEYC Preschool Training	5,000.00
Laws Room Bathroom Renovation (carryover)	8,370.65
Children's Library Upgrade (Year 2 of 5 years)	1,000.00
2019 Total Grant Disbursements from Unrestricted Funds	<u>\$95,072.23</u>
Remaining Balance	\$8,010.59

2019 Grants Awarded from Restricted Funds

AC repair (paid from the Harrison Youth Fund) **\$18,735.00**

Foundation Balances – Restricted and Unrestricted Funds (as of 11/30/2019 unless otherwise noted)

Vanguard Investment Account (as of 12/31/19)	\$2,739,266.77
Columbarium – New Covenant Investments	24,971.26
Columbarium - First Financial checking	8,392.62
Organ Maintenance – New Covenant Investments	118,156.27
Harrison Youth Fund – New Covenant Investments	11,697.13
Reeves Fund (administered by Heritage Fund)	759,978.24
Foundation Checking Account)	10,776.63

Highlights during 2019

- Clean audit for 2019 conducted by Agresta, Storms & O'Leary
- Legacy Circle event recognized those who have made estate plans to include the Foundation and/or the church with a social event that included some strategic discussion about the long term property needs of the church.
- The Vanguard unrestricted portfolio realized a gain of \$505,050.60 (a rate of return of +21.4%) in 2019, reflecting strong market performance in 2019. All of these funds performed in the top 1/3 of their peer group for the last 3 and 5 years.
- The Foundation disbursed over \$110K from a mix of restricted and unrestricted funds for grants supporting a variety of needs within the local church as well as in the local and world communities.

OTHER REPORTS

Presbyterian Foundation of Columbus, Indiana 2019 Annual Report continued

2019 Foundation Board of Directors and Officers

David Boatwright	Webmaster / Public Relations
Doug Bonnell	Secretary
Kelly Geckler	Mission Support
Colleen Herrick	Treasurer
Joy King	Legacy Circle / Planned Giving
Clare Moore	President
Dan Spurgeon	Vice President / Investment Chair
Warren Ward	Investment Committee (Final Term ending 12/31/2019)

Note: Tim Denoyer will be presented for election to the FPC Foundation Board at the Congregational Annual Meeting. He will begin his term on the board replacing David Boatwright in the Webmaster / PR role, and David will replace Warren Ward on the Investment Committee.

Memorial & Honorarium Gifts

During 2019, the Foundation received the following gifts remembering our loved ones and honoring the wonderful contributions others have made:

Memorial Gifts

The Reverend Dr. Rob Craig
Lee Hamlin
Robert Kirk

Honoring

Jim Farrar
John Sawin
Warren Ward

Gifts Totaled \$1,060

Legacy Circle

Grants

Those interested in applying for a grant are encouraged to contact any Foundation Board members 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://www.fpccolumbus.org/foundation/>

2020 FPC Foundation meeting dates:

February 4, April 7, June 2, August 4, October 4 and December 2 (annual meeting)

OTHER REPORTS

Mission Support Grants for 2019

Many wonderful nonprofit organizations in our community and one international organization were approved 2019 grants through Mission Support funds, which is an annual allocation of the FPC Foundation.

- \$500 Mill Race Center SAGE Tables - Open & Affirming partnered with this national initiative which aims to build community to tackle the program of loneliness that affects many in the LGBTQ+ community, especially elders. Quarterly SAGE table lunches will be hosted at Mill Race Center to bring people from the LGBTQ- community and allies, across all generations together.
- \$5,000 Fresh Start Recovery Preschool Grant - to provide funds for children, 3-5 years old of Fresh Start Recovery program residents to attend the FPC Preschool.
- \$7,500 Power of Love Foundation micro-loan program and business training has enabled women caregivers to take better care of their families, pay for school expenses, and learn to be self-reliant. About 170 families are enrolled in both the pediatric HIV care and micro loans program in Zambia.
- \$10,900 Youth Mission - Trip travel for 13-15 youth participants and 6-7 chaperones for Ghost Ranch, New Mexico and 5-6 youth with 2-3 chaperones for Massanetta, Virginia. Traditionally, funding for youth mission trips is 1/3 participant, 1/3 fundraising, and 1/3 church grant.
- \$3,300 Brighter Days to purchase Commercial Washers & Dryer for use in the 40-bed shelter which provides housing and meals to Bartholomew County residents who experience homelessness. Demand for usage has continued to rise and the laundry generated has increased.
- \$5,000 Horizon House Matching Funds to use in a fundraiser for facility maintenance costs.
- \$1,050 First Presbyterian Church Dancing C's Bicycle Racks encouraging FPC members and preschool families to ride bikes to church/school, thereby getting exercise and reducing their carbon footprint.
- \$2,492.72 Brighter Days for bunk beds, mattresses, and an intercom system.
- \$7,500 First Presbyterian Church Sweet Dreams program for beds, \$250 which includes the frame, mattress, and bedding. The Sweet Dreams team reports the following, "We are welcomed into homes where the needs are great but the need we focus on is providing beds for children who have no beds on which to sleep. The children who receive these beds are able to get a good night's rest and focus better in school. If there are behavioral issues, having a good night's rest can often help with those as well. We get the majority of our referrals from DCS (Department of Child Services) but occasionally we will follow up on another type of referral."

OTHER REPORTS

Mission Support Grants for 2019 continued

The total funding for 2019 Mission Support Funds was \$43,243. We thank the First Presbyterian Church Foundation for providing funding available to support these worthwhile organizations and programs.

Kelly Geckler, Chair,
Gretchen Laemmer
Sherry Norris
Dale Nowlin
Lisa Porter
Pam Robertson
Sarah Sanders
Felipe Martinez

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

Others that have used the church in 2019:

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



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