

# Christ Memorial

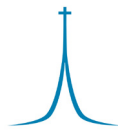
Presbyterian Church

**2020 Annual Report**





# Introduction



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## Our Mission

**Grateful to God for God's constant loving presence and guided by God's Word, we are called to be a people who:**

- Praise God in worship and in our daily lives
- Grow Biblically and spiritually in our life together,
- Reach out as witnesses of Jesus Christ, serving those in need, and
- Share Christ's love with one another and everyone we meet.



## Our Vision

**We believe that God is calling members of Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church to:**

- Live as brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ, strongly bound together in loving relationship and equipped for ministry to one another and to the wider community.
- Engage all ages in uplifting worship that offers a variety of ministry styles to connect with everyone.
- Grow Biblically and spiritually by offering all children, youth, and adults a variety of educational opportunities on Sunday mornings and throughout the week.
- Reach out to the unchurched in our community -- especially younger families and adults, empty-nesters, and believers who have no active church home -- and invite them to participate in ministry with us.
- Emphasize mission by focusing on thriving projects and seeking meaningful opportunities for all members and youth.
- Strengthen our church community through love for one another, providing a variety of fellowship activities and outreach events that extends beyond church walls.
- Update and beautify our building and grounds to create new possibilities for worship and service in Christ's name.



# Clerk of Session

## Membership Changes:

The changes in membership during 2020 are presented in the Table:

Active Members - December 31, 2019	471
Additions through Profession/Reaffirmation	0
Additions through Letter of Transfer	0
Total Gains	0
Losses through Letter of Transfer	0
Deaths	4
Deleted from rolls	0
Total Losses	4
Active Members - December 31, 2020	467

## Baptisms:

No baptisms were held in 2020.

## Worship Attendance:

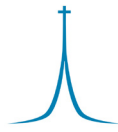
Average worship attendance for all 2020 services was 150.

## Membership Demographics:

On Dec. 31, 2020 church membership consisted of 259 females and 212 males.

Membership as broken down by age group:

**Age 25 and under:** 80  
**Age 26-35:** 65  
**Age 36-55:** 107  
**Age 56-64:** 64  
**Age 65 and older:** 106  
**Non-declared:** 49



# Church Officers

## The Session

**Moderator: the Rev. Scott Hoffman**

**Clerk of Session: Janene Holzberg**

**Treasurer: Bob Ashman**

**Assistant Treasurer: Missy Sullivan/Joyce Danzig**

Class of 2021	Class of 2022	Class of 2023
Bob Clemens: Finance*	Jeff Bloom: Worship and Music	Philip Davies: Mission and Local Outreach*
Rashid Gill: Worship and Music	Gil Burckart: Mission and Local Outreach	Don Mitchell: Personnel*
Ryan Jenkins: Nominating	Janeen Cooke: Finance	Rick Mills: Property*
Jeff Seymour: Nominating*	Don Kyle: Property*	Judy Brown: Nominating
Hyiwot Teshome: Mission and Local Outreach*	Ashlyn Sowell: Stewardship*	Debbie O'Neal: Christian Education*

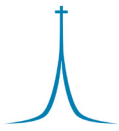
\* Denotes chair or co-chair

Elders who cycled off in the Class of 2020: Heather Barham, Mike Chapasko, Allen Exner, Phil Henderson and Andrea Raid.. We thank them for their service.

## The Board of Deacons

Class of 2021	Class of 2022	Class of 2023
Heather Jackson: Communications	Joyce Danzig: Membership and Hospitality	Rachael Bis: Communications Kris Bloom: Care and Wellness *
Haley Barham: Fellowship	Tom Engle: Care and Wellness	Eleanor Orndorff: Care and Wellness
Fiona Neely: Communications	Peter Gallagher: Fellowship	John Salkeld: Membership and Hospitality
Michael Schreiber: Communications*	Tammy Sandborn: Care and Wellness	Linda Shields: Membership and Hospitality
Linda Dunn: Membership and Hospitality*	Tom Trodden: Fellowship*	

Deacons who cycled off in the Class of 2020: Theresa Akuoko, Chad Board, Arold Chandi, Markita Garner, and Wes Millard. We thank them for their service.



# Nominating Committee of the Congregation

## **Committee Members in 2020**

**Session Representatives: Ryan Jenkins and Jeff Seymour (Chair)**

**Deacon Representative: None**

**Members-at-large elected by the Congregation: Kathleen Hong, Colleen Hughes, Bill Ryder, and Patricia Wilder.**

## **Conduct of Business**

The Nominating Committee generally held virtual meetings on Committee Night (the first Monday of each month). Due to the pandemic, most if not all meetings after the one in March were held virtually. Each meeting was opened and closed in prayer. Much of the work of the committee occurred between meetings via email, text messages, and phone calls.

The committee utilized resources available to assist with the consideration of members for possible service to the church. An important resource for the committee was the CMPC Membership Directory, provided by the CMPC Communications Coordinator, Kathleen Smith. A spreadsheet developed by Nominating Committees in previous years containing previous officers by class was utilized by the committee, as well as one listing the members of each of the church's committees.

## **The Discernment Process**

Relevant sections of the CMPC Bylaws, the PC(USA) Book of Confessions, and the PC(USA) Book of Order were studied by the Nominating Committee's members in preparation for the discernment process. The committee prayerfully sought God's will for our congregation and its leaders. As the members were reviewed, each person's talents, experience, and service were considered along with the needs of the various positions.

The committee strove to obtain balance for the CMPC boards, considering gender, age, and other demographic factors of the church's membership. Many lists were made, prioritizing potential candidates taking these factors into consideration...and then more lists were made. We prayed, discussed, reflected, and discussed some more which thankfully led to consensus among the committee members of which individuals were to be contacted.

A draft list of candidates was shared with Pastor Hoffman prior to his departure for his sabbatical to ensure adjustments were made for any factors of which the committee had no awareness. Following his review and comments, and relying on God's guidance, candidate pools were determined by the committee of those to be called and the offices for which to call them to the church's service.

## **The Call Process**

This year, to avoid mailing expenses as well as to reduce processing time, the committee generated an email to send to candidates requesting they prayerfully consider a call to serve, including some information which may be helpful in their discernment. These messages were followed-up with a personal call or email from one of the committee's members to offer an opportunity for questions to be answered and to seek the candidate's thoughts.



The committee sought those candidates who felt they were guided by the Lord to answer this particular call to service at this particular time. Those candidates who declined a nomination were sent a message thanking them for their consideration and requesting prayers for those yet to be called. The candidates who did accept the call were sent a message with information and guidance for the next steps as a nominee.

### **Conclusion of the Nominating Process**

At the session meeting on October 19, 2020, the elders unanimously approved a motion to schedule a congregational meeting to be held after the worship service on Sunday, November 29th, for the purpose of electing CMPC's officers and the at-large members of the 2021 Nominating Committee.

The Nominating Committee's proposed slate was approved by the membership in the Virtual Congregational Meeting held on Sunday, November 29, 2020. That slate consisted of the following individuals for the positions as indicated:

#### Elders (three year term) Class of 2023

Judy Brown  
Philip Davies  
Rick Mills  
Don Mitchell  
Debbie O'Neal

#### Deacons (three year term) Class of 2023

Rachael Bis  
Kris Bloom  
Eleanor Orndorff  
John Salkeld  
Linda Shields

#### Deacon (two year term) Class of 2022

Peter Gallagher

#### Nominating Committee (one year term) Class of 2021

David Carmean  
Chip Garner  
Carrie Jenkins  
Sandy Rowan

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the 2020 Nominating Committee,  
Jeff Seymour, Chair



# Christian Education

The Christian Education Committee is composed of members-at-large as well as representatives from a number of significant church programs. CE also serves as a liaison for the scouts who meet at CMPC.

The 2020 Christian Education Committee was made up of the following individuals:

Heather Barham (Co-Moderator), Heather Gallagher, Lindsey Kim, Cordelia Lamb, Delores McBirney, Liz Perraud (Co-Moderator), Dave Rose, Aaron Saudager, Jennifer Seinfeld, Kaleigh Thomas, Sarah Trodden, Donna Ueckermann, and Becky Zordan. These people are strongly committed to the ongoing Christian discipleship of the adults, youth, and children of our congregation.

Our committee is charged with:

- Support and oversight of CMCP Preschool
- Support and oversight of Christian Education programs
- Identifying and training teachers and curriculum approval
- Support of adult Bible studies and small groups
- Confirmation class
- Third Grade Bibles, Graduation Sunday and other special milestones
- Support and oversight of CMPC nursery/childcare
- Support and oversight of Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts
- Oversight of volunteer screening policy

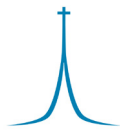
The Christian Education programs, studies, and events are possible because of the many people who volunteer to make them happen and those who participate. Along with everyone else, we faced a challenging year as the pandemic hit in mid-March, the building was closed, and everything screeched to a halt. The committee continued to meet regularly by Zoom, consider safe and creative ways to hold programs, studies, and events, and decide what needed to be postponed entirely. We supported difficult discussions and decisions particularly about LOGOS (no musical), Vacation Bible School (not held), and our CMCP Preschool (shifting to virtual classrooms). We look forward to 2021 as we continue to meet virtually for as long as it takes and plan for when we will joyfully gather in-person again.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Perraud

Heather Barham

Co-Moderators Christian Education Committee



## Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts

Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church (CMPC) sponsors two units of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA): Pack 371 and Troop 75. The BSA has chartered CMPC through the Baltimore Area Council to provide the Scouting program to our youth via these units in order to instill lifetime values, develop ethical character, and to train young people in citizenship, service, and leadership.

We celebrated Scout Sunday in February with excellent participation from our scouts opening the worship service along with visitors from Pack 737 of Clarksville, MD. However, indoor activities for the scouts were cancelled after the church building closure due to COVID-19. The scouts provided volunteer service hours for community organizations such as Scouting for Food for the Howard County Food Bank. Pack 371 also hosted a socially distant Trunk or Treat event in the parking lot in October. Troop 75 helped set up the luminaries path for the Advent walk in December, and also repaired and painted the storage shed to match the church.

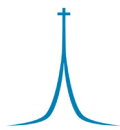
November is when units turn in their charter packages for the following calendar year. Pack 371 and Troop 75 submitted their paperwork for signature to the CMPC Clerk of Session, Janene Holzberg, and the packages were forwarded to the Baltimore Area Council. The pack has 45 youth and 18 adults on its roster, and the troop has 58 youth and 36 adults on its roster.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dave Rose,  
CMPC Chartered Organization Representative for  
Cub Scout Pack 371 and Boy Scout Troop 75



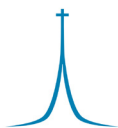
## Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School (VBS) went on hiatus for 2020 because of the pandemic. Sharing the leadership are Heather Gallagher, Julie Nienhuis, and Cordelia Lamb.



## Confirmation

Due to the low number of 8th graders, the decision was made to wait until 2021 to have a combined class of 8th and 9th graders, as we did for 2019.



# Christ Memorial Christian Preschool

The 2019/20 school year was the 43rd year Christ Memorial Christian Preschool has provided a quality preschool education for children in Howard County. We are licensed by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE). Our school mission is to provide a loving Christian educational environment to families in our community. Our School philosophy is from Proverbs 22:6 "Point your children in the right direction ~ when they are old they won't be lost." Our fiscal year begins on July 1 and ends June 30 of each year.

Our staff consists of the following women who possess a love for our Lord and for our preschool children:

Susan Benzing

Kim Brathwaite

Heather Gallagher

Julie Nienhuis

Stefanie Rosti

Jen Scheid

Kathleen Smith

Barbara Stine

Rita Wheelock

We were fortunate enough to have our entire staff return for a second year in a row to serve our preschool community during the 2019/20 school year. The consistency and dedication of the staff is part of what makes Christ Memorial Christian Preschool such a special place.

During the 2019/20 school year our budget for preschool was \$139,020.00. Expenses include salaries for the director, the teachers, and the assistants; as well as supplies and operating costs. The preschool, along with assistance from the Mission and Local Outreach Committee, continues to provide financial assistance. This tradition for the 2019/20 school year supported two families whose children would otherwise not have been able to attend a Christian preschool.

On Friday, March 17, 2020 using the Howard County Public School System as a guide, Christ Memorial Christian Preschool made the decision to close temporarily to protect our staff, children and preschool families regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. Unfortunately, this temporary decision was extended by a unanimous vote of the Preschool Board, in April closing the preschool for the remainder of the 2019/20 school year. Our preschool families were very understanding of this decision although they were certainly disappointed. The preschool staff worked hard to create a Graduation Power Point gift including personalized goodbye messages from Pastor Scott, Director Heather Gallagher and all the teachers to those students that would have graduated at the end of May 2020. This was well-received and greatly appreciated by our out-going preschool families.

During this time, Annette Hinkle worked diligently to obtain a Paycheck Protection Plan loan from the United States Federal Government to continue to support the staff to continue paying salaries through the end of the 2019/20 school year. This was an invaluable resource for the sustainability moving forward for our non-profit preschool.

At the end of the year, it was the hope of the Preschool Board and CMCP staff to reopen in September 2020 for the 44th year of preschool at Christ Memorial. During the summer I worked to create a plan using Maryland State Department Guidelines to provide a safe school environment given COVID-19 concerns. I requested presence at the July 20, 2020 Christ Memorial Session meeting to receive approval for reopening given Pastor Scott Hoffman's absence during his sabbatical.

Prior to this meeting, the Preschool Board and I met to discuss the feasibility of this proposal. The Preschool Board voted at this meeting to suspend the reopening of the 2020/21 Christ Memorial Christian Preschool year until January 2021. This decision was based upon many factors, specifically safety concerns, staff availability given virtual learning for HCPSS and the extended church building closure. I informed the church Session of this decision at the July 20th meeting and the Session shared complete support for this decision.

As a result of this difficult decision, the preschool began to see families make the choice to withdraw from Christ Memorial Christian Preschool and select other schools in the area that were planning to open for the 2020/21 school year. The staff of Christ Memorial Christian Preschool created a plan to engage with registered preschool families in a virtual format. With the support of the Preschool Board and the Christian Education committee, specifically Liz Perraud and Heather Barham, I began the process of seeking Session approval for the staff of the preschool to gain access to their supplies and classrooms to create virtual preschool lessons. A decision was made to call a special meeting of the Session on September 15, 2020 to vote on a decision regarding the proposal. Liz Perraud attended this special meeting with Heather Gallagher to submit the Christian Education Committee proposal. The Session voted in support of the proposal giving all preschool staff access to the preschool portion of the church building during the closure, with appropriate safety measures taken to ensure a reduction in risk regarding Covid-19 exposure.

Staff of Christ Memorial Christian preschool began creating virtual weekly lessons using YouTube as a format for all our registered families beginning October 5, 2020. Liz Perraud and Heather Barham have submitted monthly messages from the Christian Education Committee of CMPC to support our preschool families during this virtual format and strengthen the connection between the preschool and church. Our families have been greatly appreciative of this educational support and engagement for their children. The staff worked hard to reinvent their teaching for this new format and I am grateful for all their dedication to Christ Memorial Christian Preschool and the families that we served to share the love of God within our community.

I would like to thank so many that helped Christ Memorial Christian Preschool make difficult but necessary decisions this year and for the incredible support received by many including the staff of Christ Memorial Christian Preschool, the Preschool Board consisting of Sue Ashman, Kirstin Aquino, Jennifer Neely and Dani Wilder, the Christian Education Committee, specifically Liz Perraud and Heather Barham, Annette Hinkle, Pastor Scott Hoffman and the Session of Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Heather Gallagher  
Director of Christ Memorial Christian Preschool



# GIFT: Generations in Faith Together

Our GIFT gatherings celebrated a sixth full year in 2020. The goal of our GIFT program is to help our participants build a personal relationship with Christ while building relationships with one another of all ages. The program includes an educational component based on exposure to and discussion of scripture and seeks to be intentionally intergenerational. GIFT events usually include a shared meal, fellowship, learning (sometimes all ages together and sometimes “parallel learning” for specific ages and stages) and a worship component. It was an unusual year with the pandemic, but we creatively pursued ways to “gather” together nevertheless.

## **February: Movie Night**

Forty people of all ages gathered in Fellowship Hall to watch the documentary, “Flight of the Butterflies” about the migration experience of generations of butterflies journeying from Canada to Mexico. Pizza and salad were served for dinner. Following the movie, we sat at tables by birthday months and discussed miracles found in the story and about God’s creations (butterflies and otherwise). With watercolor painting supplies, we all then created our own interpretations of the miracle of creation.

## **March: Sight and Sound field trip**

Our planned trip to see “Queen Esther” was cancelled due to the pandemic. We expect to plan another bus trip to Sight & Sound in 2021 or 2022.

## **May: Food Packing**

Our plans to schedule a Rise Against Hunger meal packing event were cancelled due to the pandemic. We expect to hold one again in 2021.

## **June: GIFT at Home and Zoom**

Using GenOn Ministries’ Sunday LIFT (Living In Faith Together) session called “Belonging to God’s Family” we invited folks to first have a meal and do an activity (instructions provided) and then gather with others online via Zoom on a Sunday evening. “Saints Among Us” drawings (one of the activity choices) were shared that showed people in our congregation who demonstrate something of God by what they do for others. The other option was to create “Child of God” greeting cards to send to someone. Following the shared scripture readings (taking turns on screens), we were sent into small group breakout rooms to discuss being part of God’s family and our church family. We closed with the whole group singing, led by Scott.

## **Fall: All-Church Retreat**

To be included in Scott’s sabbatical was an all-church retreat on Sabbath while he was away. Due the pandemic, these plans were postponed, and we hope to hold the retreat in 2021. An outside retreat leader will be brought in for this one-day event.

## **December: Advent Luminary Walk**

What started as a way for the Christian Education committee to connect with Boy Scout Troop 75 during the pandemic, became the start of a new annual CMPC tradition.

Supervised by Dave Rose, the scouts created the pathway of 200 luminaries, hand-cut by the Gallagher family. The Property Committee (Tito Baca, Don Kyle, Mike Chapasko, Jeff Orndorff, Josh Gliptis, and Terry Brown) managed the station table set up and the Fellowship Committee and others were there to greet (Theresa Akuoko, Judy Brown, Joyce Danzig) and usher (Tom Trodden, Jackie Jenkins, Craig Nienhuis, Donna Uecker-mann, Delores McBirney) to keep walkers safely distanced.

Over one hundred (masked) visitors walked the church grounds the evening of Saturday, December 12. Advent stations were creatively imagined by Julie Nienhuis, Chad Board, Liz Perraud, and Carrie Jenkins with instructions to “Read,” “Pray,” and “Do” for the walkers. The Barham family maintained our campfire and Neil Danzig broadcast Christmas music as backdrop for the walkers. Donna Ueckermann provided the glow sticks and Heather Barham the illuminated balloons to help light the way.

Bob and Shelley Clemens created a donation box and sign for the Howard County Food bank, allowing our Local Mission & Outreach Committee to collect \$945 at the event and through the church website. Kathleen Smith created the luminary dedication hand out. The weather was delightful, and all participants practiced safe protocols while being able to see and visit with one another in person.

### **December: Virtual Christmas Pageant**

The “Most Wonderful Time” video was created between Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve. With the help of past pageant photos, individuals and families snapping “freeze frame” pictures of scenes from the Christmas story, customized piano accompaniment by Jennifer Seinfeld, and excellent video editing skills by Allison Miller, we created an original presentation based on our traditional intergenerational in-person pageant to be shown for the Christmas Eve worship service.



LOGOS is made up of four parts:

Bible Study: Studying the Bible as the model for Christ-centered living.

Worship Arts: Learning and practicing ways to serve God through worship.

Recreation: Experiencing great fun at the expense of no one else.

Family Time: Experiencing being part of God’s family over a shared meal.

At Christ Memorial we group our children and youth as:

BUGS (Bringing Up God’s Servants): Preschool

FROG (Fully Rely On God): K-5th Grade

ROCK (Reaching Out for Christ’s Kingdom): Middle School

FISH (Fellowship In Senior High): High School

### Leadership

LOGOS is operated by the LOGOS Leadership Team and is accountable to the Session through the Christian Education Committee. The LOGOS Team meets monthly throughout the entire year.

### 2020-21 Leadership Team

Director: Lindsey Kim

Treasurer: Heather Jackson

FISH Coordinator: John Kim

Bible Time Coordinator: Jennifer Neely

Family Time Coordinator: Heather Gallagher

Worship Arts Coordinator: Liz Perraud

Recreation Coordinator: Heather Barham

BUGS Coordinator: Pam Mitchell

Communications Coordinator: Sarah Trodden

Special Events Coordinator: Kirsten Aquino (2019-20) Carrie Jenkins (present)

Mission Coordinator: Kirsten Aquino

2020 has challenged our CMPC LOGOS program to creatively find ways to virtually build relationships between LOGOS participants and volunteers, and with Jesus. When the shutdown began in mid-March we cancelled our ready-to go Musical, and met for an extra month on-line. ROCK met once over the summer distanced, with masks, in the church parking lot. Starting in September, for the 2020 program year, we are holding virtual LOGOS for PreK-8 weekly at 7:00. We've condensed the evening into family 'table talk' time, and one of the main parts of LOGOS each week in a four week rotation schedule. Each week one group meets in person distanced, with masks, in the church parking lot for 30 minutes. The FISH group is meeting weekly for 1.5 hours in person, with masks, distanced, outside at church. There has been no LOGOS inside the church building since before March 13, 2020.

As of December 2020, our current enrollment is 63 children and youth (Nursery: 0, BUGS: 6, FROG: 28, ROCK: 19, FISH: 9). In spring 2020 we ended the year with 84 children enrolled. We are continuing to grow as participants invite friends and those new to CMPC to give LOGOS a try, especially in the 2019-20 program year. However, due to COVID 19 our enrollment did not include any new families in fall of 2020. There are over 60 adults who volunteer regularly to run the ministry (parents, grandparents, young adults, empty-nesters, retirees, etc.), and since March of 2020, we are using most of them virtually.

We are committed to the process of call (rather than recruiting) to fill the many leadership and volunteer positions and strive to match the volunteers' gifts with the needs of the ministry. Regular training contributes to the strength of the ministry. We hold in-house volunteer training events each January and September. Due to COVID we held one virtual training in fall of 2020. This summer we sent four members of our leadership team people to GenOn Ministries national training event - virtually.

In November, we did not hold our annual LOGOS Sunday worship service, however we did produce a video of art created during worship arts time that was shared during virtual worship. This year we are celebrating 33 years of LOGOS at CMPC. In early March we did hold Youth Sunday and the FISH youth lead CMPC's worship service.

### **Operating Budget**

The LOGOS operating expenses are funded by tuition payments from each participating family and some additional donations from individuals. The operating expenses represent the costs of food, curriculum, music and scripts, postage, administrative supplies, mission projects, recreation supplies, adult training expenses, and special event fees. The tuition rate for 2019-2020 program year is \$150 for all participants. Due to COVID 19, and our inability to hold in-person meals, we reduced the tuition for the 2020-21 year to only \$25 per child and are providing snacks and mission activities.

The Richard Burdis Memorial Fund was established by private donations to support families needing assistance for the LOGOS registration fees, for youth attending the summer conference (GenOn Youth Summit), and other special needs as deemed necessary by the LOGOS Leadership Team. We did not need to utilize these funds in 2020.

### **Commitment to Mission and Service**

Through the LOGOS budget, Christ Memorial contributes to GenOn Ministries above and beyond the resources and training that we purchase to run our program. This financial support goes to support the wider (North American) ministry. Because we did not use our last two nights of budgeted food money in March, CMPC LOGOS made two extra donations: GenOn, as well as the Mission committee which put it towards Grassroots and Cold Weather Shelter to support pandemic needs.



Through our weekly LOGOS gatherings, our young people and volunteers have participated in reaching beyond the walls of our church through various projects and events. These have included providing Christmas gifts to children of prisoners through the Angel Tree program (Nov 2020); collecting non-perishable food items for families in need (early 2020); and making meals to deliver to local Grassroots shelter (early 2020).

### **High School Summer Conference**

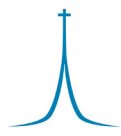
Each July, our rising eighth graders through college students, along with adult leaders, attend the GenOn Youth Summit. This discipleship-building week-long gathering brings together youth from all over for worship, small group Bible study, activities, and meals—a week of LOGOS! The Summit also includes a day of off-site mission work. Congregational-supported fundraisers help provide funds for our church group to attend each summer as well as in supporting an urban church’s attendance (Concordia Lutheran Church, Worcester, MA). CMPC’s annual Musical Treats and Sweets event is one of our primary fundraisers for this cause. This was cancelled during summer 2020 due to COVID 19, but we hope that we will be able to send youth and leaders in the summer of 2021. CMPC’s annual Musical Treats and Sweets event is one of our primary fundraisers for this cause, and we hope that it will return in 2021 also.

### **Congregational Support**

We believe that God has called our congregation to offer this mid-week intergenerational ministry that focuses on providing the conditions for faith formation and spiritual transformation. God has equipped us with capable leaders, committed volunteers, and a supportive pastor and congregation. In our 33 years of operating LOGOS, we have nurtured many children, youth, and adults into a loving relationship with Jesus Christ.

We gratefully acknowledge all of those who support our ministry through prayer, financial contributions, and the sharing of time and talents. Together, we are able to operate a ministry that furthers the mission and vision of Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church – even if it is virtual or masked and distanced.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lindsey Kim  
LOGOS Director  
(2020-21)



## Nursery/Child Care

### **January, February, first half of March**

CE continues to coordinate the nursery for the youngest members of our congregation. Our nursery staff provides care during the 10:30 worship service, LOGOS, Committee meeting nights and many special services and events. Our nursery staff are Laura Holderman and Allison Miller. Danielle Wilder substitutes when needed. Volunteers from the congregation provide additional support during special services and LOGOS nights, as well as for special events. Jim Pierce volunteers regularly for Committee meeting nights. We are grateful to our staff and volunteers for their enthusiasm and cheerfulness in providing a positive experience for the children.

### **Second half of March through the end of December**

Covid-19 prevented any activities happening inside the church for the rest of the year.

Delores McBirney  
Nursery Coordinator



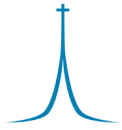
## Sunday Experience

In 2020, Christian Education continued to provide the Sunday Experience program during the 10:30 worship service, for children preschool through 2nd grade. This program allows children to worship with their families for the beginning of the service then move downstairs following “Moments for Children” for age-appropriate lessons and activities. The children meet in two classrooms, one for preschoolers and one for students in Kindergarten through 2nd grade.

From January - to mid-March, we followed the Presbyterian Church curriculum, “Growing in Grace and Gratitude.” This curriculum has weekly lessons for both classes and multiple activities to choose from. Once the pandemic hit, the church building closed and worship moved to online. In September, we purchased materials to build worship boxes which included materials for children through second grade to draw, create using play dough and use stickers of different Bible stories to extend the “Moment for Children” message and/or to entertain themselves during the sermon. Worship journals were provided for students in third through twelfth grade. These materials were distributed in mid-September to the Sunday Experience children and older children and youth.

The following members agreed to teach Sunday Experience for the 2020 year. Whether they had a chance to volunteer or not we are grateful for the following volunteers: Missy Sullivan, Linda Johnson, Sandi Chapasko, Marilyn Mills, Cordelia Lamb, Kathleen Hong, Debbie O’Neal, Heather Gallagher, Becky Bruce, Carrie Jenkins, Liz Perraud, Linda Lange, Jane Preston, Theresa Akuoko, Rachael Bis, Sarah Trodden, Heather Barham, Julie Nienhuis, Kaleigh Thomas, Donna Ueckermann and Becky Zordan. Teachers were assisted by: Fiona Neely, Kylee Hoffman, Kerri Holderman, Russell Hong, Haley Barham, Kevin Holderman, Ben Gallagher, Emma Gallagher, Lucas Wilson and Hannah Hitt.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Ueckermann and Kaleigh Thomas  
Sunday Experience Coordinators



# Adult Bible Study Small Groups

In the spring of 2020, we had planned to study *Christianity and World Religions* by Adam Hamilton, as a continuation of our study of Christian denominations in the fall of 2019. However, due to COVID-19, this was delayed through the year. Current plans are to offer this study starting in January 2021 over Zoom, and we hope to offer another study in the fall.

## **Race & Racism Conversation**

In the fall, approximately 50 people (youth and adults) total met for a series of four online gatherings on race and racism in America. It was a helpful forum for an important discussion on what racism means to us on a personal level and how we might respond individually and as a church. Each week had a sub-theme and was led by Nileena and Chris Woodland for large group and small group conversations. We have begun to plan for next steps to put our faith into action to bring about more positive change. Watch for more to come in 2021.

## **Monday Morning Women's Bible Study**

The Monday Morning Women's Bible Study Group meets every second and fourth Mondays of each month (September to May) from 9:30-11:30 in the Trinity Room of the church and as of the pandemic, in March, on ZOOM. Members engage in prayer time, Bible study, fellowship, and mission projects as well as regular (before the pandemic) lunch outings.

All women of the church, community and beyond are welcome to meet on Zoom at any time during the study. We were blessed that Barbara Petro shared her unlimited time Zoom account so that we did not miss a beat in meeting for the Bible study. There have been twenty women participating in the study with two of the ladies participating from out of state. Bible studies in the last year have included: *Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman* by Beth Moore and *On Bended Knee* by Crickett Keeth.

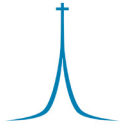
The group is led by Miriam Miller and Barbara Petro.

## **Wednesday Night Women's Bible Study**

The Wednesday night women's Bible study met at Maha Davies' house in the beginning of the year and stopped when the pandemic started. There were a couple of social gatherings in the spring outside in Maha's backyard. They hope and pray that 2021 will be a better year for us all and that they will be able to resume those wonderful studies.

## **Bible Basics**

Bible Basics met each Tuesday in the new committee room (across from Scott's office) for the first two and half months of 2020 and then switched to a Zoom meeting when the stay-at-home orders were issued and the session decided to close the building. The group continued to meet until the end of May when the normal summer hiatus begins. The study did not resume in October as usual due to Scott's sabbatical and will likely resume in the new year.



## Special Projects and Events Sponsored by CE

### **Blessing of the New School Year**

Traditionally, on the Sunday prior to the start of school, CMPC holds a Blessing of the Backpacks in worship for all students and teachers returning to the classroom (or starting for the first time). Due to the pandemic and worshipping online, we made a shift and substitute preacher Rev. Brett Swanson led a different blessing. He shared that we know that God is always with us whether we are in the classroom, home, daycare, or somewhere else we also know that God is a God of new beginnings. He then invited all to hold or touch the electronic device they would be using for the school year and offered a prayer for these new beginnings.

### **Graduation Sunday**

In June we recognized graduates (high school, college, graduate school) in Sunday morning online worship (inviting them to be highlighted through Zoom) and mailed a card and small gift to each.

### **Third Grade Bibles**

Due to the pandemic, we shifted our third grade Bible presentation to outdoors in November at LOGOS (inviting the third graders and their parents to join us for a masked and distanced presentation), delivering to those unable to attend, and recognizing them in worship afterwards (showing pictures of the presentations). They received an NRSV Children's Bible and parents were given the book "100 Things Your Child Should Know Before Confirmation."



# Finance

The Finance Committee is charged “To be effective stewards of assets, provided by God, contributed by the congregation, and committed to God’s work; and to safeguard the resources of CMPC.”

Committee members in 2020 were Bob Clemens (Chair), Bob Ashman (Treasurer), Annette Hinkle (Bookkeeper), Janene Cooke, and Dick McBirney. Joyce Danzig and Missy Sullivan share the duties of Assistant Treasurer.

As we closed out activities in December, CMPC had cash and investments of \$758,000, which includes an operating reserve of \$120,000, capital project funds of \$412,000 (net of loan proceeds), and a debt service reserve fund of \$77,000.

Total revenue for the year was \$518,000 and total expenses were \$479,000 for a surplus of \$39,000 which offsets 2019’s deficit of \$31,000 as planned. Session has designated the remaining surplus of \$8,000 to the 2021 budget. Operating revenue was down \$11,000 from budget while operating expenses were down \$50,000. While there were variances throughout, reduced janitorial services needed during the building closure represented almost half of the expense savings.

Ministry Expansion capital campaign gifts made during the year total \$279,000 for a total of \$3,340,000 since the beginning of the campaign (receipt of pledged campaign gifts will continue through 2021.) Initial reserves were \$394,000. We have spent \$6,070,000 on costs of the project thus far (excluding interest on the construction loan). A third campaign to further reduce debt on the project will be planning for 2022.

To-date CMPC has borrowed \$2,860,000 from the Presbyterian Investment Loan Program (PILP). Capital campaign funds of \$112,000 have been used to pay interest only on this construction loan. Additional loan proceeds of \$46,000 are anticipated to cover the last remaining project costs and the construction loan will convert to a mortgage sometime in 2021 once the remaining project costs are paid. The current interest rate on the construction loan is 3.899%. This rate includes a 1% reduction because we collectively have investments with PILP in excess of the required \$300,000. CMPC has invested \$100,000, members of CMPC have invested \$242,000, and Catonsville Presbyterian Church has allowed us to use \$33,000 of their investments toward our requirement.

In response to the Christ Memorial Christian Preschool closing because of the COVID-19 pandemic, CMPC applied for a Paycheck Protection Program loan for \$61,900 which has been properly utilized and the loan has been forgiven. This amount was provided to the Preschool to continue paying salaries through the end of the school year and partial salaries through the current school year (CMPC is self-insured for unemployment).

Financial Position as of December 31, 2020

Cash and investments \$758,000  
 Other assets \$22,000  
 Total assets \$780,000

Accounts payable \$26,000  
 Designated funds \$145,000  
 Reserve funds, net \$609,000  
 Total liabilities \$780,000

The Operating Budget tracks pledges and other giving against Session approved operating expenditures.

Following is a summary of the last three years.

**Operating Income/Expense history 2018 – 2020**

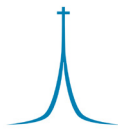
	2018	2019	2020
<b>Revenue</b>	526,121	478,608	518,311
<b>Christian Education</b>	3,454	4,092	1,502
<b>Mission</b>	46,133	42,637	34,637
<b>Mission Special Offerings*</b>	13,853	8,393	47,737
<b>Worship</b>	10,489	11,344	4,317
<b>Finance/Admin</b>	27,225	26,840	33,789
<b>Debt service**</b>	20,000	41,965	-
<b>Stewardship</b>	57	646	363
<b>Communications</b>	16,049	16,231	14,831
<b>Personnel</b>	251,773	256,818	257,695
<b>Fellowship</b>	2,219	1,704	499
<b>Care &amp; Wellness</b>	917	509	634
<b>Membership &amp; Hospitality</b>	50	401	199
<b>Property</b>	111,619	95,160	82,983
<b>Total Expenses</b>	503,838	506,740	479,186
<b>Net surplus (deficit)</b>	22,283	(28,132)	39,125

\*Special offerings such as 5th Sunday, Crisis Intervention Fund, etc. are tracked as part of the operating budget to better reflect the total amount of mission support from the congregation. Gifts made to these special offerings are also included in revenue.

\*\*The operating budget did not support the debt service in 2020; \$111,590 of capital campaign funds were used to pay interest on the construction loan in 2020.

Detailed financial statements are available for anyone who would like a copy.  
 Respectfully submitted by Bob Clemens

January 2021



## Mission & Local Outreach

In a very trying year, our committee rose up to the challenge and prayerfully continued to do God's work while remaining good stewards of CMPC's resources.

In 2020 we successfully continued our relationship with Angel Tree, a program of Prison Fellowship, that pairs churches with children of incarcerated local men and women. We doubled the number of children we were able to serve, from four to eight, and collaborated with our Logos program to provide gifts to the eight children on behalf of their incarcerated parents. We have plans to introduce all eight children to CMPC's Logos ministry and have them participate in all its activities.

This year we expanded our funding of Bridge of Hope by seeding a matching fund for our November 5th Sunday offering. CMPC's giving has helped start the Maryland chapter of BoH and that branch has now adopted a CMPC family as its first mission.

Even though we weren't able to hold the Rise Against Hunger event nor the Mars Hill mission trip, our committee decided to donate monies to both entities to show our continued support to them. And, as we have done for years now, we also helped fund the efforts of Rebuilding-Together

We are happy to share that we were able to reestablish our relationship with the West Gambella Bethel Synod in Ethiopia and the mission effort started by the Reverend Michael Weller and Mrs. Rachel Weller, Community Health Evangelism and Trauma Healing. Our committee hopes to continue working with WGBS and expand its efforts in the coming years.

In recognition of the challenging times we are facing and to help stabilize the church's finances, we have decided to return \$3000 to the church coffers.

Below is a list of entities and efforts that have funded this year.

1. Pastor's Emergency Fund
2. Dustin Garner's ministry
3. Howard County Food Bank
4. Grassroots and Cold Weather Shelter
5. Laurel Advocacy and Referral Services (LARS)
6. Howard County General Hospital (COVID-19 Fund)
7. Community Housing Coalition (CHC Madison County, NC)
8. AFEDJ – American Friends Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem
9. Columbia Community Care
10. Friends of PEB
11. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (West Coast Fire Emergency Need)
12. ANERA
13. Shared Giving (Presbytery of Baltimore)
14. CMPC Pre-School
15. Prison Ministry (Angel Tree)

We thank the congregation for its continued support of all the above missions. We pray that we will be able to do even more in 2021 and for many years to come.

In His Service,  
Hyiwot Teshome  
Co-Chair, Mission & Local Outreach



# Personnel

2020 was a year full of challenges imposed by the worst pandemic in a century and the adjustments that were necessary to accommodate a much-needed and well-deserved sabbatical for Pastor Hoffman. The staff and volunteers of CMPC rose to the occasion with their talents, hard work, and sense of commitment to CMPC. Our congregation is truly blessed by the dedication of its staff and volunteers.

Kathleen Smith was able to put to good use her considerable skills in online communications in facilitating church functions even when access to the Church was necessarily restricted.

Kathleen, Joy and Allen Exner, Lorri Yawney, and Annette Hinkle deserve special mention for ensuring that Pulpit supply and music for Sunday services continued seamlessly throughout Pastor Hoffman's scheduled leave. Pastor Hoffman spent many hours planning the calendar of visiting Pastors before he departed on sabbatical.

Special thanks also to Reverend Matthew Glasgow of First Presbyterian Church of Westminster, Maryland for graciously stepping in as Moderator of the Session and giving freely of his time and wisdom in guiding our meetings and for offering his much appreciated advice and guidance throughout Pastor Hoffman's sabbatical.

Facing numerous challenges presented by the final stages of the Ministry Expansion Project, Tito Baca, our Facilities and Property Manager, continued to do an outstanding job overseeing the care of our Church building and grounds. And as Tito recently noted, Don Kyle and Mike Chapasko of the Property Committee went beyond the call of duty by assisting with landscaping, Church repairs, painting, cleaning, and custodial duties that saved CMPC significant funds.

As mentioned before, CMPC is blessed by an excellent music program thanks to our Music Director, Joy Exner, our accompanist, Lorri Yawney, and our many soloists during our online Sunday services. Allen Exner deserves special mention too, his many contributions in the absence of our choir. January and February seem distant now, but we well remember how the year began with such promise with the beautiful music that we have come to expect at CMPC. But thanks also to all of the members who have served as soloists during our online services.

We are also so very proud of Heather Gallagher, Christ Memorial Presbyterian Preschool director, and her fabulous staff of teachers and aides who tend to their students with such love and grace. The pandemic cut short our preschool year, but we look forward to getting back to a near-normal existence after the vaccine is widely distributed.

The personnel committee and Session wish to offer our thanks, once again, to The Christian Theological Seminary for awarding CMPC a Clergy Renewal Grant to support Pastor Hoffman's Sabbatical Leave by providing funding for Honoria for Pulpit support and pastoral care, and congregational renewal activities-- including a well-attended outside welcome-back gathering for Pastor Hoffman and his family. Funding for the Clergy Renewal Grant was graciously provided by the Lilly Endowment.

The Clergy Renewal Grant's express purpose "is to enable the grantee to participate in the 'Clergy Renewal Program'--a program designed to strengthen Christian congregations by providing opportunities for Pastors to step away briefly from the persistent obligations of daily parish life and to engage in a period of renewal and reflection." From our perspective, the grant was a major success in bringing together CMPC's leadership and members during this trying year.

The Personnel Committee encourages all CMPC members to share their appreciation with all our staff members and volunteers as often as possible.





# Property

At the beginning of 2020, CMPC was fortunate to be entering the final stages of our expansion and remodeling project, which took about 2 years. This was the culmination of years of planning and strategizing and involved dozens of church members who worked tirelessly to help us realize this mission. But in early spring we were forced to close the building due to the health crisis brought on by COVID-19. The building would remain closed for the rest of the year, except to essential staff and volunteers but the punch list, many items not included in the expansion project, and routine maintenance work would keep us busy throughout the year.

The Property Committee (P.C.) continued to remain engaged with the General Contractor to ensure those punch list items were completed. This included issues with flooring, lighting, roofing, electrical, landscaping, and HVAC to name a few. We also helped identify other issues that needed attention as they arose. In addition, items on our “wish list” that could not be included in the construction project due to cost constraints were assumed by the P.C. and still continue at year’s end. Completion of many of these projects simply would not have been possible had the building remained open this year. Not only would budget constraints have directly limited potential for some of these projects, but it would have been quite challenging to undertake this work while the building was in use. Reduced utility and cleaning costs were a partial silver lining to the hardships of 2020 and brought opportunity for reinvestment and a renewed commitment to complete the expansion project to its fullest.

Projects undertaken by the P.C. in support of the expansion project were not always budgeted in advance, as they were nearly impossible to predict, as was the health crisis. For example, some of the new flooring was installed but not sealed or waxed. Further, some items initially recommended and included in the expansion project but were removed due to cost overruns. This was the case with things like painting some doors and storage areas among others. We also investigated repairs costs associated with steeple removal and restoration and we expect that restoration work will be done early in 2021 to insure against water damage to the roof and the steeple itself.

The aforementioned funds that were saved were used for many of these tasks and those listed below, which were not included in the expansion project and / or were necessary due to the health crisis. The following tasks were either completed in-house or by one of our contractors:

- Clean, seal and wax the new ceramic tile in the kitchen.
- Clean, seal and wax the ceramic tile in the new bathrooms.
- Clean and wax the new floor tiles in classrooms.
- Repair and paint 3 storage areas including walls, doors, and floors. (PC)
- Assemble furniture in the Work Room and in classrooms as needed. (PC)
- Hand sanitizers were purchased and installed throughout the building. (PC)
- Storm water run-off drainage issues were resolved on all sides of the church. (PC)
- The shed was moved back into place on a new pad and restoration expense was shared with the Boy Scouts to ensure it was ready for use. (PC and shed mover)
- The basketball post / goal was reinstalled in a new location.
- The lower-level corridor floor was thoroughly cleaned and waxed.
- Aeration and reseeding in construction areas where seeding did not take hold (1/2 of project completed and the other half will take place in 2021).
- Carpet cleaning in the preschool, Sanctuary, and FH. (Sanctuary had to be redone due to roof leaks).

- Tree work (3 trees were removed, 2 due to the expansion project / 1 due to decline).
- Preschool exterior door locks / handles installed (not included in expansion; hardware bought by the P.C. saved several hundred dollars & installation costs were reduced). (PC)
- New traffic signage was placed outside. (PC)
- Minor electrical improvements (light switch covers, 3 new timers – {PC} and new outlet for water dispenser in the lobby).
- Coat racks hung throughout the building (new and old racks were used). (PC)
- Grading/ seeding around shed (PC)
- New Rip-rap installed near drain areas off of the parking lot. (PC)
- HVAC sensors were installed in two locations in the Sanctuary to ensure a uniform temperature reading. (PC)

We also took steps to streamline some ongoing operating costs. New costs associated with sprinkler inspections were combined with fire detection / suppression / monitoring under one new vendor. We removed one sub-contractor who performed fertilizer service and added this service to our current arborist contract. In addition, we were able to take advantage of a discount offer with Otis Elevators to extend our contract for an additional 3 years but at a reduced rate.

Of course, routine maintenance is still the norm, even in a new building. I am happy to report that the P.C. remained active, albeit from a distance at times, to complete those tasks as well. The routine projects that were done in-house included the following:

- Bush / tree trimming across the property.
- Weed control along sidewalks /curbs / parking lots.
- Trash and recycle pick up / removal (these are usually done by the cleaning crew).
- New trees were fertilized, and new landscape edging was installed to protect them.
- Minor spot carpet cleaning throughout.
- Minor paint touch-ups throughout.
- Acquisition, repurpose, and reorganization of furniture throughout the building.
- Minor cleaning over the summer months until weekly cleaning began in November
- Minor wall repairs throughout.
- HVAC filter cleanings as needed.
- Garden hose reels were installed. (3)
- Refurbishment of the cross (half done)
- The curbs were repainted.
- Outside area of the dumpster enclosure was stained (inside to be done in 2021)
- New handrail for elevator ordered and scheduled for installation.

While we do not have an exact amount, it is estimated that the work that was done in-house, either from our normal scope of work or that which was assumed because of construction, saved the church in excess of \$15,000 over the course of the year. In addition, it is estimated that about \$14,000 was repurposed from cleaning and utilities to complete some of work using outside contractors as appropriate or in combination for supplies to get this done ourselves.

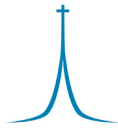
Although some of the aforementioned expenses were unexpected due to construction, some were expected and within our normal charge. One such ongoing responsibility is to budget and plan for tree pruning and removal, but it can be difficult to predict how the weather may alter our plans or when some trees may suddenly exhaust their lifespan. We continue to do what we can in-house to deal with treefall when possible, but we also must rely on our contractors for bigger jobs.

In fact, two trees that we had not planned to remove did require removal because of the construction work. We also had some tree damage as a result of storms as is the case almost every year; one tree needed significant pruning for high hanging limbs, and another was removed. Apart from tree fall clean up, all this work required outside help.

Another unexpected challenge was a minor mold issue that resulted from reduced AC use over the summer and areas that were closed up for extended periods of time. While this type of mold was not a significant health issue, we promptly engaged our new cleaning vendor to mitigate issues wherever they were found. The choir robes stored in one area were taken to be dry cleaned. While this was an ongoing challenge for several months, we continued to clean or remove items as needed, and this now seems to have been fully resolved. We will continue to monitor the entire building for evidence of new or missed problem areas and take prudent steps in 2021 to avoid a repeat.

The past year presented unique challenges and opportunities. We were able to accomplish numerous tasks that were not on our radar back in December of 2019. We constantly rearranged our priority list to deal with the health crisis, mold, and punch list issues as they came about. We will surely have additional important work to do in the coming year such as work on the steeple, patch work in the parking lot, and ongoing cosmetic work inside and outside. We will also wrap up ongoing minor projects around the church as needed and meet new challenges as they arise.

On behalf of the Property Committee,  
Tito Baca - Property and Facility Manager



## Stewardship

Members:

Ashlyn Sowell (Chair), Andrea Raid, Linda Shields, Jennifer Weinel

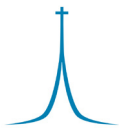
Our committee met monthly (mostly via Zoom) in 2020. Our charge is the following:

*The Stewardship Committee organizes the annual stewardship campaign and identifies ways to encourage planned giving. This committee tracks the financial pledges throughout the year and educates the congregation on the importance of stewardship. The Stewardship Committee will also collaborate with other committees to match members' generosity with church needs.*

- We worked with Bob Ashman and the Finance Committee to make improvements to the CMPC website and electronic giving via VANCO. The goal was to enable church members to make their contributions more easily. While this was already in the works, it proved especially helpful during the COVID-19 outbreak.
- We planned stewardship communications throughout the year sharing the positive impact of our giving on God's work, including a special thank you letter during the early stages of the pandemic.
- We launched the first virtual stewardship campaign in the fall based on Matthew 6:21:

*"For your heart will always be where your riches are."*

- As a part of the campaign, we surveyed the congregation and created a word cloud showing what we treasured most about CMPC. That visual representation was very helpful and uplifting in the church service, the Friday e-news, and other communications.
- The campaign included Stewardship Minutes from Ashlyn Sowell, Bob Clemens and Jennifer Weinel. The Children's message incorporated the theme each week, in coordination with members of the Worship and Music Committee. Pastor Scott Hoffman preached on the theme. We also hosted a special Zoom Fellowship hour with a virtual treasure hunt for church members of all ages.
- We sent a follow-up mailing to the campaign and are tracking the pledges in order to plan for the budget in 2021.
- We prayed regularly for the church, our pastor during his sabbatical, and our plans as a committee that they be pleasing to the Lord.



## Worship and Music

To say that 2020 has been a difficult year would be an understatement. But in the face of that difficulty, our God has been faithful to help us in every way possible so that we can continue to offer our prayers and praises. Last year, 2019, may have been the year of the "adventure continues"; but in 2020 while we still growing into our expanded space, the pandemic necessitated the closing of our building, but not our desire or the ability to gather together each week for a live worship experience. When restrictions made it not possible for even a small worship team to meet in our sanctuary to webcast our services on Facebook Live, it was necessary to find an alternative so that we could continue in a way that glorified God and brought hope to our people in a time when all of us needed (and continue to need) hope - the kind of hope that only our God can provide. We were determined to find a way to make that happen. After all, if Paul and Silas could worship God, sing his praises, and proclaim his word from a prison cell, how could we do any less?

From mid-March to the present, a worship team gathers each week in a Zoom call 45 minutes before our service begins each Sunday morning. We review each person's role in the service, make sure that they can be muted and un-muted and we pray for God's blessing. Then at 10:15 we start the webcast of the worship team meeting to Facebook Live, and the members of CMPC, our friends and family, people near Columbia and those far away, come together to worship. And a new ministry was born. This new ministry, not even considered during our ministry expansion brain storming, brought us together week after week for live preaching and proclaiming the word, for live music and singing, and a time each week to lift each other up in prayer. We may have had some technical difficulties along the way, but we always managed to make a joyful noise.

During 2020 CMPC also experienced our first pastoral sabbatical. The Worship and Music committee is deeply indebted to Pastor Hoffman for the prayerful time he spent to arrange such a wonderful array of friends and colleagues in ministry to occupy our virtual pulpit each week. Their leadership in worship by proclaiming God's word, leading us in virtual communion and prayer maintained an amazing continuity and richness to our worship experience. We are especially indebted to two of our own congregation, Liz Perraud and Hyiwot Teshome for the blessings of their preaching on numerous occasions from our virtual pulpit.

It has been difficult for most of this year to worship without our choirs; but thanks to the commitment and dedication of our staff and many volunteers, we have all benefited from live music (much of it from my living room), online bulletins, sacred dance, special videos and photo montages, and the voices of young and not so young. There were so many new things to research to ensure that everything we webcast was done with proper permission and the required licensing for each piece of music played or sung. Many thanks to Joy for the countless hours of checking and verifying each piece of music. Many thanks as well to Joy and Lorri for providing their musical gifts for all. Thank you as well to Kathleen for our bulletins and the slide presentations that make up our weekly announcements.

While we all hope and pray to be able to return to in-person worship in our sanctuary when it is safe to do so, we have taken steps to be able to continue presenting online worship as a new ministry even when we resume in-person gatherings. Thanks to a fund setup many years ago, we were able to purchase some new audio and video equipment for the sanctuary that will allow us to continue webcasting without interfering with in-person worship. Installation of that equipment is slated for the week of January 11th.

Thanks to another generous gift, we had enough funds this year to provide for a much-needed refurbishing of our bells for the Bells of Joy choir. We are very much looking forward to hearing our bell choir again. Many thanks to Sally Berlowitz and her crew of volunteers who packed up the bells and took them to Schulmerich Bells in Hatfield, Pennsylvania to have the work done.

I especially want to thank our 'producer', Neil Danzig, for his tireless effort behind the scenes each week, which has made and continues to make our virtual worship services possible each week. Neil, thank you for everything you do for our congregation!

It is truly wonderful to have Pastor Scott back and leading us in worship. Even though he left us in excellent hands during the sabbatical, we missed him very much. I think we all have a much greater appreciation of the many things he does that we tend to take for granted. His commitment to our congregation cannot easily be measured. We are indeed blessed to have him and his family with us.

While I am rotating off the session this year, I have every intention of continuing my support of the Worship and Music committee, our pastor, and our staff. It is an honor and privilege to serve our Lord through the work of this congregation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allen Exner

Chair of Worship and Music Committee



# Care and Wellness

The Care and Wellness Committee has completed its eighteenth year of ministry as part of the Board of Deacons. Members of the committee and Deacons for 2020 were Tom Engle, Tammy Sandborn, and Markita Garner (Chair). The following were our At-Large members: Kris Bloom, Maha Davies, Laura Frantz, Elise Jordan, Jan Keister, Gail Marinelli, Eleanor Orndorff, Sandy Rowen, Barb Schmehl, Hyiwot Teshome, Nancy Walworth, and Yeketenesh Woldegiorgis.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry, a sub-committee of Care and Wellness, provided shawls and prayer squares which were knitted or crocheted by church members, to be given to friends or family members experiencing illness, birth, joys, or difficult times in their lives.

The Card Ministry, an essential responsibility of the Care and Wellness, sends handmade and donated cards to church members or any others in our thoughts, who were ill, requested prayers, bereaved families, shut-ins, as well as missing you, congratulations, and thank you cards. Kris Bloom sent Valentines and Halloween cards to CMPC college students. Barb Schmehl sent birthday cards to all members throughout the year. Jan Keister sent all other cards. In view of the difficult year 2020 has been, a special Christmas card was created and sent to all members. A large portion of our budget goes towards postage for the card ministry. This year, many of our cards have been donated and many were handmade from the EC Stampers as a thank you for use of CMPC facilities. Thank you to Nancy Walworth, Sue Ashman, and the EC Stampers for the beautiful donated cards.

The Prayer Chain is maintained by Hyiwot Teshome. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the annual Prayer Chain Luncheon and Red Cross blood drive were not held this year.

The Meal Train Ministry, with the assistance of Kris Bloom, continued with meals and/or gift cards provided for members and their families who have had illnesses, births, deaths in the family, or are going through a difficult time.

The Care & Wellness Committee continued to be available for occasional transportation requests by church members for doctors' appointments, rides to church, and other needs.

Respectfully submitted,  
Markita Garner, Committee Chair



# Communications

## MEMBERS

Michael Schreiber (Chair), Neil Danzig, Chip Garner, Heather Jackson, Fiona Neely

## GENERAL SUMMARY

The Communications Committee focused on maintaining infrastructure and provision of capabilities to other committees throughout 2020. Communications were primarily met via email, phone, and video conferencing.

The first few months of 2020 focused on completion of upgrades to infrastructure remaining from 2019 and the ministry expansion project, including 7 new access points two switches, and more than 1000ft of additional CAT6 Ethernet cable being added by our committee.

The latter two thirds of 2020 focused primarily on maintaining existing capabilities and enhancing remote communication capabilities between church members and the community, including Zoom setup (HUGE thanks to all the work Neil and Allen did on this, as well as all others involved!)

## TECHNICAL ENHANCEMENTS

The first part of 2020 included migration of the Accounting, Property Manager, Assistant Property Manager, and Communications Manager computers to small form-factor computers with increased computational resources and larger screens to enhance user efficiency.

Additional network switches were added in the fellowship hall storage closet and in the Trinity Room. Seven new access points (APs) were added in various locations around the building enhancing wireless coverage for both individuals as well as infrastructure.

New cameras were purchased late in 2020 and will be installed in early 2021.

Several website upgrades and migrations were performed on the webserver, and a new theme was installed just prior to 2021.

## LOOKING AHEAD

The Communications Committee is looking forward to an even more inclusive 2021, with continued infrastructure enhancements for security, including cameras. We also are looking forward to our new copier provider, Xerox, to replace Konica Minolta, at a reduced cost from our prior contract.



# Fellowship

The Fellowship Committee connects CMPC members with one another by planning and organizing events and activities which focuses on fellowship and relationship building within our church family. The Committee's events are always fun and opened to all ages.

The year 2020 begun as a normal year and as part of its routine activities, the Fellowship Committee hosted regular Fellowship Hour in the Fellowship Hall each Sunday following worship, until Mid-March 2020 when the Church building closed because of the Covid-19 Pandemic. The Committee also successfully hosted a combined birthday celebrations and Potluck on Sunday February 16th. It was the first CMPC fellowship event to be held after the church expansion project. About 120 people participated and had a great time in the renovated Fellowship Hall.

Following the church building closure, the Committee endeavored to reach CMPC members through fellowship, and began hosting virtual Fellowship Time. The first Fellowship time was hosted on Sunday May 24th ,2020 in collaboration with the Membership and Hospitality Committee. The Fellowship Committee continued to host the Fellowship time every other Sunday following worship and have been excited to note that these virtual fellowship time attracts some key members who always look forward to this time. We successfully hosted 17 virtual Fellowship time and counting, including a special Fellowship time for the Stewardship Committee to celebrate the end of the 2020 Pledge Sunday. We also played Bible Bingo twice during Fellowship time and provided \$10.00 Dunkin Donuts gift cards as prizes. The Committee also hosted the Kona Ice Truck and Food drive for the Howard County Food Bank on August 15th. The event was held at the CMPC parking lot, and about 100 people participated and over 300 pounds in food donation was collected for the Howard County Food Bank. The Fellowship Committee also supported the Christian Education Committee to successfully host the Advent Luminary Walk held on December 12th, 2020.

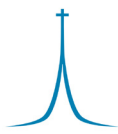
In collaboration with the Board of Deacons led by Joyce Danzig, we hosted a few new outdoor events this year. On June 28th, we held a car parade to wish the Hoffman Family well on their sabbatical. On Sunday, September 6th, we hosted a back-to-school gathering attended by a few families. On September 19th, we hosted a Blessing of the Animals and Pet Parade. The Rev. Dr. Howard Newman offered the blessing and Tom Engle and Allen Exner provided special music. We also hosted a Blessing of the Costumes and Costume Parade on October 17th. Finally, on November 1st, we held a Welcome Back party for the Hoffman Family. The tailgate party was held in the church parking lot and two food trucks provided the meals

It should be noted that with the unprecedented challenges that the year 2020 presented, the Fellowship Committee was unable to perform its planned in person traditional activities such as Easter Egg Hunt; Mother's Day Carnations; Father's Day Chocolate Bars; Strawberry Festival; Men's Breakfast; Jazz Festival; and Church Picnic, among others.

I am however grateful to all the 2020 Fellowship Committee members – Debbie O'Neal, Wes Millard, Tom Trodden, Judy Brown, Jane Preston, Miriam Millar, Jackie Jenkins, Hailey Barham and Barb Stine for their support and hard work to bring fellowship to our CMPC family, despite the challenges. I also want to express my appreciation to Joyce Danzig, Moderator of Deacons for all her support. I pray that the year 2021 will be a brighter and better year.

Respectfully submitted by  
Theresa Akuoko





# Membership and Hospitality

The Membership and Hospitality Committee strives to make CMPC a welcoming place of worship for all who attend service and special events - with a focus on new and prospective members. Prior to the building closure, the committee continued to manage greeting responsibilities before each worship service and organized Name Tag Sundays during the third Sunday of each month. The committee also managed and performed all usher related tasks. These tasks included preparing the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall before service, ensuring everyone is seated, collecting the offering, and cleaning up after service.

M&H also continued to support the CARE Group program in 2020. The CARE Group connects church households with a caring church officer or lay person who serves as a liaison between members and the pastor. Due to the building closure, M&H was unable to complete some of our planned 2020 projects. Projects that can resume once the building reopens include but are not limited to:

- Recruitment of additional ushers and greeters
- Creating and posting signs throughout the building that direct visitors from the first-floor entrance to the narthex
- Member Rolls clean up
- End of Service Greeters: Create a plan for placing greeters at each of the exits after service to greet the congregation as they leave the sanctuary

The committee members who faithfully served in 2020 were:

Sandi Chapasko

Julie Charping

Joyce Danzig

Linda Dunn

Leta Loring

Cindy Pettit

Steve Pettit

Nancy Whitelock

I sincerely thank each member for the significant work they perform in making CMPC a welcoming place of worship for both members and visitors.

Respectfully submitted by

Chad Board, committee chair