



MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

OUR VISION

LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD

THROUGH OUR MINISTRY AND MISSION

Session Elders

Class of 2022

Jim Henderson

Anne DuPre Rogers

Class of 2023

William Brown

Ellen Dean

Class of 2024

Lynn Gilliland

Grace Nichols

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Pastor's Report

“Hybrid” is a term that found new relevance during the lockdown of 2020 and even more so in the evolving, less clear public health conditions of 2021. While “hybrid” indicates one thing made from two different lineages or sources, in common parlance, it has come to be used less strictly and more generally. **We are, in even more ways than usual these days, in something of a hybrid time.**

We are sometimes in person, sometimes entirely reliant on technology, and sometimes have both options available. Sunday worship, communion, committee meetings, women's circle and PW events, educational presentations, and other expressions of our congregational life are sometimes done in a hybrid fashion—some participants together in a room; some participating online in real time; some will view the presentation later. Other times, we are *programmatically* hybrid: we'll meet in person when we can, while living as an online community to the best of our ability. (On that latter note: we are online to stay, in one way or another.)

So God adapts our ministry to work its uncompromisingly loving way into a world, and a time, where doubts, questions, misinformation, and our nation's currently trending, self-sabotaging penchant for politicizing everything have us all less sure-footed than we would like to be. As has been faithfully pointed out by many: this is not a circumstance in which the People of God say, “after this is over, we can get back to being about Jesus.” Quite the opposite: **this is exactly the time and world into which God speaks,** in which the Spirit is already actively at work, in which Jesus ministers and for which he died and lives again. We are not just called to share, discuss or recognize good news in this time: we are meant to *be* good news, in all that we are—individually and collectively—and in all we can do and say. We were made for just such a time as this, and are equipped by God to bring light to darkness, meet isolating poverty with relationships and bread, announce to populations being fed a diet of antagonism and fear that peace, justice, love, joy, and hope are real, living, compelling, unfinished, and inviting your enlistment.

Every word, sentence, and financial figure in these pages is the tip of an iceberg. What God is doing here is astonishing. **These reports, thoughtfully submitted by each committee, are not humblebragging about their own work; they are simply delivering the information of what God is doing, and recognizing that we are the recipients of grace upon grace.** On we go, following Jesus into the world with more trust than fear and more excitement than anxiety, with our minds and hearts open to God, our neighbors, and each other.

2022 Omnibus Motion

Montreat Presbyterian Church Session 2022 Omnibus Motion Approved by Session on January 2, 2022

Holy Communion/Special Worship Services, 2022

(HC) = session approves celebration of communion. HC may be online or in person.

January 2	First Sunday/Epiphany/Ordination & Installation (HC) (Approved Jan. 2021)
February 6	First Sunday (HC)
March 2	6:30 or 7:00 P.M. Ash Wednesday service at BMPC
March 6	First Sunday (HC)
April 3	First Sunday (HC)
April 14	by 8:00 P.M. Maundy Thursday (HC)
April 15	by 12:00 P.M. Good Friday
April 17	Easter Sunday (HC)
April 26	Presbytery Worship Service hosted by PWNC/MPC/MRA (HC) (pending)
May 1	First Sunday (HC)
May 8	Last Sunday service before Keith's sabbatical
May 15	Guest Preacher
May 22	Guest Preacher/Last service before Summer Worship Series
May 29	Kirkin' o' the Tartan – Anderson Auditorium (pending health conditions)
June 5-Aug. 7	MRA/MPC Summer Worship Series
August 14	MPC worship (in Upper Anderson, pending health conditions)
September 4	HC, OR Joint service w/Central PC, Anderson Auditorium (pending)
September 11	(HC, if Moved to 2nd Sunday due to Sept. 4 location)
October 2	World Communion Sunday/First Sunday (HC)
October 30	Reformation Sunday/Stewardship Dedication
November 6	First Sunday (HC) – Daylight Saving Time ends
November 24	11:00 A.M. Thanksgiving Day service – Upper Anderson
November 27	Hanging of the Greens (Advent 1 – no communion)
December 4	HC (Advent 2)
December 18	Service of Lessons & Carols
December 24	(Saturday) 5:00 P.M. Christmas Eve Service (HC)
December 25	(Sunday) Christmas Day
Jan. 1, 2023	First Sunday/Christmas 1 (HC)
Jan. 8, 2023	Ordination & Installation (HC)

ALSO:

- Online midweek pastoral prayer services (no communion), as and when appropriate and feasible
- In-person Taize services (possible HC) as frequently as 6 times/year, TBD
- Potentially some Saturday services in Allen Bldg. in the summer (three or fewer)

Montreat Presbyterian Church Session 2022 Omnibus Motion (cont'd)
 Approved by Session on January 2, 2022

Presbytery Delegates 2022

<u>date</u>	<u>host</u>	<u>Delegate</u>	<u>Alternate</u>
Sat., 1/29	via Zoom	Jim	Ellen
Tues., 4/26	Montreat (pending)	William	Gracie
Sat., 7/30	via Zoom	Jim	Gracie
Tues., 10/25	Waldensian PC, Valdese	Lynn	Ann DuPre
Sat., 1/28/23	TBD	Ellen	William

Special Offerings, 2022

Jan. 2	Nickel-a-Meal	Monthly; Presbytery offering
Jan. 30	Nickel-a-Meal	
Feb. 6	Souper Bowl Offering	SVCM (for local food ministries)
March 6	Nickel-a-Meal	
April 3	Nickel-a-Meal	
April 17	One Great Hour of Sharing	Denominational: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
May 1	Nickel-a-Meal	
May 22	Pentecost Offering	Denominational/40% Collins Center (for at-risk children, youth/young adult ministries)
Sept. 4	Nickel-a-Meal	
Oct. 2	Nickel-a-Meal	
Oct. 9	Peace & Global Witness	Denominational/25% to Helpmate (for peacemaking programs and initiatives)
Nov. 6	Nickel-a-Meal	
Nov. 24 (Thurs.)	Thanksgiving Offering	Synod: Barium Springs/Grandfather Home
Dec. 4	Nickel-a-Meal	
Dec. 11	Christmas Joy Offering	Denominational: minority colleges; retired church pros
Jan. 1, 2023	Nickel-a-Meal	ALSO: Alternative Gifts opportunities at Christmastime

Stated Session Meeting Dates 2022

Stated session meetings ordinarily take place the third Tuesday at 6:30 P.M. in the Swannanoa Room.
 Exceptions: no July stated meeting; Dec. 6 (for Christmas).
 Dates: Jan. 18; Feb. 15; March 15; April 19; May 17; June 21; Aug. 16; Sept. 20; Oct. 18; Nov. 15; Dec. 6
 and Sunday, January 8, 2023, 11:40 A.M.-3:15 P.M. (Session Retreat)

Other Dates for 2022 Calendar

Jan. 16	Committee Chairs & Session Liaisons Meeting – TIME TBD
Jan. 30	Annual Congregational Meeting (Last Sunday in Jan. per MAO)
Aug. 17 or 24	Wed. evening: Covered Dish Dinner, UA (E&M committee)
9/28 or 10/5	Wed. evening: Covered Dish Dinner, UA (Stewardship kickoff)
Oct. 9	Hunger Walk for SVCM
Oct. 30	Sunday evening: Catered Dinner, UA (Stewardship Celebration)
Nov. 9 or 16	Wed. evening: Covered Dish Dinner, UA
Dec. 18	(Sunday) 5:00 P.M. Meet at Montreat Gate for Christmas Caroling

Montreat Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)

Approved Budget

Accounts	2022 Budget	2021 Budget
Revenues		
004101 - Pledges	\$349,360	\$318,517.00
004201 - Plate Offering	\$2,000	\$1,700.00
004202 - Unpledged Contributions	\$20,000	\$20,000.00
004210 - Endowment Distributions	\$5,500	\$0.00
Pledge contingency	\$0	
Total Revenues	\$376,860	\$340,217.00
Expenses		
Mission & Outreach Committee		
Benevolences		
005100 - Presbytery - Unified Benev. Budget	15700	\$14,000.00
005102 - Camp Grier	5700	\$4,500.00
005103 - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance	5700	\$4,000.00
005107 - FEH - Bethesda Clinic	5700	\$4,500.00
005108 - Intl Mission Initiative		Funds added to Special Focus \$2,000.00
005109 - Nkhoma Hospital Malawi E051772	5700	\$4,500.00
005116 - Friends Empowering Haiti	5700	\$4,500.00
005117 - Parker Mission - D507569	5700	\$4,500.00
005119 - Makari Mission D507586	5700	\$4,500.00
005120 - Montreat Conf Center	8700	\$7,000.00
005125 - Presbyterian Heritage Center	4700	\$4,500.00
005135 - Warren Wilson College-Intl student	4200	\$4,500.00
005150 - Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry	5700	\$4,500.00
005151 - Bounty and Soul	5700	\$4,500.00
005161 - Special Focus Ministry	7200	\$1,500.00
005162 - Hand in Hand of the SV	4200	\$4,500.00
005170 - Ministry of Hope - SCCW Chaplaincy	4200	\$4,500.00
005171 - Black Mountain Counseling	5700	\$4,500.00
005172 - Resources Resilience	4200	\$4,500.00
005180 - Discretionary Fund		Funds added to Special Focus \$1,500.00
005190 - Collins Early Education Center	5700	\$4,500.00
0051__ -Outreach Found. /Frank Dimmock	6450	
0051__ - Homeless / Resettlement	12,000	
005163 - Budget Augmentation		15000
Total Benevolences		
Total Mission & Outreach Committee	134,250	112,500
Administration		
ACS		
005003 - ACS On- Demand Service (Software)	\$1,500	\$1,490.00
505000 - ACS Supplies	\$300	\$300.00
505010 - ACS Training	\$200	\$200.00
Total ACS	\$2,000	\$1,990.00

2022 Approved Budget

General Administrative Expense

505100 - General Office Supplies	\$400		\$450.00
505310 - Memberships	\$300	zoom (2)	\$270.00
505328 - P.O. Box Rental	\$186		\$140.00
505330 - Postage	\$220		\$130.00
505351 - Printing Copy Machine	\$1,800		\$1,800.00
505352 - Copy Paper	\$800	"Special"+regular	\$600.00
505353 - Ink -/toner local Printers	\$900		\$500.00
505360 - Publicity	\$0	shifted to E&M	\$270.00
505380 - Session Expense	\$600		\$540.00
505381 - Session Directed Gifts	\$700		\$700.00
505390 - Stationery	\$330		\$330.00
505450 - Gen. Administrative Miscellaneous			\$50.00
	\$400	cleaning supplies+misc.	
560500 - Communications	\$200	constant contact	\$1,000.00
560800 - WEB Site Maintenance	\$200		\$530.00
580320 - Office & Pastor Telephone	\$2,400		\$2,050.00
Total General Administrative Expense	\$9,436		\$11,628.00

Human Resources Committee

505512 - HR Miscellaneous	\$100		\$100.00
505600 - Hiring expense	\$50		\$50.00
505602 - Pastoral Visitor			\$400.00
505603 - Pastor Visitor Honoraria			\$3,750.00
505605 - Administrative Assistant	\$20,325	(Sal-FICA/Med)	\$22,500.00
505___ - Administrative Assistant FICA/MED	\$1,685	Broke out of sal	
505___ - Administrative Assistant FICA/MED Chur	\$1,685	Broke out of sal	
505606 - Admin Prof. Dev. Reimbursement	\$400		\$400.00
505660 - Pastor Salary	\$77,100		\$73,000.00
505661 - Pastor Discretionary Reimbursement	\$1,200		\$1,200.00
505662 - Pastor BOP Benefits	\$25,700		\$25,100.00
505663 - Pastor Travel reimbursement	\$4,200		\$4,200.00
505664 - Pastor Prof. Dev. Reimbursement	\$6,800		\$5,800.00
505800 - Director of Music		(Sal-FICA/Med- Retirement)	\$20,450.00
	\$19,700		
505801 - Director of Music BOP Benefits	\$2,800		\$2,615.00
505802 - Director of Music FICA/MED	\$2,220	Broke out of sal	\$2,100.00
505___ - Director of Music FICA/MED - Church ma	\$2,220	Broke out of sal	
505803 - Director of Music Retirement Saving	\$7,000	Broke out of sal	\$6,996.00
560018 - CE - IT support			\$3,500.00
560025 - Nursery Staff			\$900.00
Total Human Resources Committee	\$173,185		\$173,061.00

Property/ Finance Committee

505710 - Stewardship Materials	\$300	postage increase	\$110.00
505720 - Stewardship Dinner	\$800		\$800.00
505730 - Treasurer Miscellaneous	\$300		\$300.00
505731 - Vanco Processing cost	\$700		\$1.00
580001 - Gift to MCC appreciation of service	\$6,000		\$6,000.00
580060 - Office/Mtg Allen Lease	\$13,200		\$13,200.00
580110 - Piano Tuning (2 x per year)	\$100		\$200.00

580310 - Computer & software		to set up live-streaming capability	\$900.00
	\$11,000		
580900 - Miscellaneous - Property	\$500		\$700.00
505200 - Insurance		Workman comp + Gen Liability ins. The aud. (hand bells)	\$2,268.00
	\$2,450		
Accessibilities Task Force			
550 ___ -Hearing devices	\$900	New initiative	
550 ___ -Education Materials	\$1,000		
550 ___ -Large print Bibles & Hymnals	\$250		
550 ___ -Contingency -Assistance,equipment,materi	\$350		
550 ___ -Supplies/expenses - Architectural RFP	\$500		
Task Force Total	\$3,000		
Total Property/ Finance Committee	\$38,350		\$22,211.00
Total Administration	\$222,971		\$208,890.00
Congregational Care Committee			
550101 - Card Ministry	\$100		\$50.00
550102 - Prayer Initiative	\$50		\$50.00
550103 - Meals	\$400		\$400.00
550104 - February Program			\$150.00
550105 - Library Books	\$50		\$100.00
5501__ -Alice K. Smith Fund	\$800		
5501__ -misc	\$200		
Total Congregational Care Committee	\$1,600		\$750.00
Worship Committee			
510001 - Music Copying License	\$200		\$200.00
510002 - Prof. Dev. - PAM	\$100		\$100.00
510003 - Prof. Dev - for Worship/Music	\$400		\$400.00
510010 - Flowers and Ferns	\$800		\$200.00
510020 - Music Library	\$1,600		\$1,600.00
510025 - Honoraria	\$800		\$1,375.00
510040 - Worship Supplies	\$500		\$1,075.00
510080 - Choir & Guest Musicians	\$300		\$400.00
Total Worship Committee	\$4,700		\$5,350.00
Fellowship Committee			
550000 - Beverages	\$300		\$50.00
550060 - Paper Goods	\$200		\$200.00
550080 - Special Events	\$400		\$400.00
550090 - Sunday Fellowship	\$100		\$200.00
Total Fellowship Committee	\$1,000		\$850.00
Christian Education Committee			
005200 - Earth Care Ministry	\$500		\$500.00
560012 - Adult Minisrty Materials	\$750		\$750.00
560013 - Adult Ministry Mileage/Meals	\$100		\$100.00
560014 - Adult Ministry PHC	\$50		\$50.00

560015 - Adult Ministry Circle	\$150		\$150.00
560016 - Adult Ministry College	\$120		\$120.00
560017 - Adult Ministry Honoraria	\$1,000		\$1,000.00
560019 - Adult Ministry Production	\$350		\$350.00
560021 - Children and Nursery	\$330		\$330.00
560022 - Children's worship Supplies	\$50		\$50.00
560023 - Children's Materials	\$200		\$200.00
560026- CE Fellowship	\$500		
560027- Adult training for ch&youth	\$100		
560028 - Adult background ck	\$300		
Total Christian Education Committee	\$4,500		\$3,600.00
Evangelism/Membership Committe			
505___ - online Church Directory	\$220	new	
505160 - Church Directory	\$100		\$1,800.00
570000 - Evangelism & Membership Committee	\$100		\$100.00
570510 - Membership Dinners	\$100		\$200.00
570520 - Books for New Members	\$0		\$100.00
570530 - Name Boards, Badges & Sign-in Pads	\$200		\$100.00
505360 - Publicity		MLK brocure + Chamber of Commerce membership	
	\$370		
Total Evangelism/Membership Committe	\$870		\$2,300.00
Total Expenses	\$369,891		\$319,240.00
Net Total	\$6,969		\$20,977.00

Christian Education 2021 Annual Report

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

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

Montreat Wednesdays: Montreat Wednesday programs continued to be held virtually on a twice monthly basis throughout the winter and spring. The programs were recorded in advance and broadcast on YouTube. Ann Seaman and Keith Grogg were instrumental in our success in producing these programs. We resumed live, in-person programs in the fall. Due to the need for more space for social distancing and the desire for a more accessible facility, the fall programs were held in the Walkup Building. The resumption of live programs and the new location at the Walkup Building were very well received. Attendance was very high throughout the fall.

The Montreat Wednesday programs that were held during 2021 were as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>
January 27th Resilience During the Pandemic – Part 1	Beth Turner and Victor Jones	Practicing and Growing
February 10th Resilience During the Pandemic – Part 2	Beth Turner and Victor Jones	Practicing and Growing
February 24th	Jeannie DuBose	Portals for Landing in Love
March 10th	Mason Blake	Loving Despite Differences
March 24th Resurrection	Dr. Richard A. Ray	The Power of the Passion and
April 14th	Woody Harrelson	<i>Kiss the Ground</i> s (movie)
April 28th Differently-Abled	Christina Tutterow	The Church and the
May 12th	John Casper	The Bible and Space Flight
September 15th doing in the Middle East?	Tom Widmer	What in the World is God

September 22nd	Frank Dimmock Mission Field in East Africa	The Modern Christian
October 13th	Mary Brueggemann Gospel of Matthew	The Parables of Jesus in the
October 20th	Sally Woodard Gospel of Matthew	The Teachings of Jesus in the
October 27th	Nancy Midgette and Ron Vinson Presbyterian Missions and Native Americans' plus a Preview of Upcoming PHC Conferences and Exhibits	Clash of Cultures:
November 3rd	Jim Lowder of Homeward Bound	Homelessness in Asheville
November 10th	Rusty Douglas	Focusing in on Romans
December 8	Vivian Hare and John Rogers (converted to virtual program)	The Hymns of Christmas III

The Walkup Building proved to be an ideal location for Montreat Wednesdays. The committee decided it should become the regular location if the permission of the MRA could be obtained. The MRA did give its permission for most if not all of the 2022 programs to be held in Walkup.

Women's Circle: Women's Circle meetings continued to be held on a virtual basis via Zoom during the winter and spring. Jane Alexander and Ellen Dean continued to lead this successful program. In the fall, Sally Woodard and Corise Gambrell took over leadership of the Women's Circle and in-person meetings resumed. The fall programs focused on women of the Bible in the genealogy of Jesus. The Walkup Building was chosen as the best location for the resumed meetings and proved to be an excellent choice. Ideally, the meetings would also be made available to attend via Zoom. But Wi-Fi is not available at the Walkup Building. The possibility of obtaining Wi-Fi service at the Walkup Building is being explored with the MRA.

Women in the Bible: These classes were suspended throughout the year due to Covid. Members interested in the craft activities planned for the class did work on various projects (such as making decorative table mats for use at church dinners) on an individual basis during the year.

Earth Care: Subcommittee chairman Hal Demarest continued to participate in the WNC Presbytery Earth Care Committee. Earth Care activities in Montreat were largely postponed throughout the year due to Covid.

College, Seminary, and Young Adults: Coordinator Martha Campbell sent care packages to college students for Valentine's Day. This year we sent \$25.00 gift cards due to Covid. This group was otherwise inactive due to the Covid pandemic

Children's Ministry: After the advent of the pandemic, Vivian Hare continued the children's ministry with a virtual children's program that met on both a weekly and bi-weekly basis at various times during the year. Interest in the program waned as the year progressed. A new program incorporating guitar instruction is being planned as a replacement.

A special subcommittee comprised of Vivian, Jane Alexander and Mason Blake completed work on the church's Child and Youth Protection Policy. The finalized Child and Youth Protection Policy was approved by the session in August.

Nursery: Nursery services continued to be suspended throughout the year due to Covid. Plans for reactivating a nursery were initiated in the summer by Vivian Hare. Vivian, Jane Alexander and Mason Blake worked as a task force to plan for an improved nursery program. The nursery will be provided on an as-needed basis in the Swannanoa Room. Volunteers from the congregation will be on call each Sunday on a rotating basis to provide supervision and staff for the nursery. Supplies for the new nursery were ordered and received. In November and December, the volunteers received on-line training and attended an in-person training session as part of qualifying to become "Approved Adults" under the Child and Youth Protection Policy.

New Members: A number of excellent new members of the committee were recruited and joined the committee near the close of the year. These new members include Corise Gambrell, Mari Gramling, Gary Henschen, Sam Maynard and Karen Brown. Towards the end of the year, Priscilla Durkin, Martha Campbell and Jane Alexander resigned from the committee, each for different reasons, after many years of faithful service to the committee.

Congregational Care & Fellowship 2021 Annual Report

Chair and Session Member: Beth Fountain

Committee Members: Karen Brown, Beth Casper (rotated on) Amanda Demarest, Kat Achtemeier, Dora and John Hinkle, Pat McLeod (on a portion of the year), Sheri Pender, Cameron Roberts, Mary Nell Todd, Peggy Williamson

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

General: This year was a time where we faced varying levels of pandemic upheaval. The committee began the year deciding what ministries selected in 2020 would continue in 2021. They were as follows:

1. **The Greeting Card Ministry** was led by Mary Nell Todd (first part of the year) and Linda Hobson (the remainder of the year).
2. **The Carpenters** (a home assistance program) was led by Kat Achtemeier.
3. **Food Ministry** was led by Amanda Demarest and Cameron Roberts (first part of the year).
4. **The Prayer Initiative** was led by John Hinkle.

Ministries that were put on hold during these times of pandemic were **home communion** and the in-person **prayer initiative**. The prayer initiative was redefined as an “as-needed basis” with Keith alerting the prayer committee of any prayer needs.

Church Chat (the 45-minute guided time of social connection via Zoom) was discontinued in May as the congregation was once again able to return to in-person worship with COVID restrictions. Church chat was regularly attended by an average of about 25 to 30 (high of 43 and low of 12), solidifying some relationships, creating new relationships, helping to prevent social isolation for some, and serving as a tool to incorporate new members into the body of the congregation.

For the most part, the **Phone tree endeavor** (a regular call to members in the congregation during the time of the pandemic) was discontinued in March. A few individuals who were still in need of continued connections, got calls from volunteers, checking on their well-being. Any needs that arose were passed onto the ministers.

SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES:

- The **food committee** provided many meals for those who have gone through difficult times. Nine families received a meal or two throughout the year.

- Various volunteers delivered **Advent calendars and Advent letters** to 47 members of the congregation in late November.
- **Valentine's Day cards** were mailed to the same individuals on the advent calendar list.
- The congregational care committee commissioned Anne Stone to create a glass "Yard Art" piece to **honor Margaret Peery** as she resigned from her role as Parish Visitor. This was presented with words of appreciation in worship in December.
- Approximately 30 **cards** have been sent to those going through difficult times.
- **The Carpenters** were asked to assist in small projects about 17 times during the year.

Evangelism & Membership 2021 Annual Report

Members: Judy Shuford, Chair; Ellen Henschen; Marha Campbell; Jean Skidmore; Amanda Demarest; Joan Deifell; Carol Eckard; Ellen Dean; Jane Alexander; Betty Douglas; Sheri Pender; Susan Maffett; Ellen Dean, liaison; Keith Grogg, moderator.

Covid 19 Effect: The pandemic has altered the 2021 activities usually provided by the E & M Committee, but there have been numerous opportunities for outreach offered by the pandemic. The excellent worship services, devotionals, prayer services, Montreat Wednesdays, Church Chat, and special activities have given visitors and new members a chance to get to know each other and to experience MPC. People from other churches and those looking for a church home have participated in MPC programs and appreciated the uplifting music, programs and worship offering connections not usually present. In addition to virtual services, MPC met in person in Upper Anderson, Anderson Auditorium, and in Freeland Hall in response to an elevator repair issue.

New Person Activities:

- In April, while worship was virtual, the E & M Committee sponsored a Zoom Gathering for new people to MPC. The successful event, moderated by Sheri Pender, Ellen Dean, and Peggy Williamson allowed people to meet and greet each other in an informal and friendly setting.
- In May, an in-person, outdoor gathering was held at Montreat's "Monkey Bottom" and included visitors and new members, as well as the members of the E & M Committee and Keith and Vivian. The event attracted 35-40 people who appreciated the opportunity to be together. Some of the new members had joined MPC during Covid and had never attended worship at MPC. In 2020 and 2021, a significant number of people joined MPC, and Judy prepared an article for a church email that introduced new members with a photograph of each family
- No additional activities could be scheduled with Covid limitations but the committee continued to meet to plan outreach to people who were looking for a church home. In the fall, MPC returned to in-person worship which helped connect new people with established members of the congregation.

Online Directory: The committee discussed and collaborated with Patty Smith to initiate an online directory that will allow members of our church family to update their contact information as needed.

Allen Building Outdoor Board: The board outside the church office will be repaired and readied for us by Ann Neel to give visitors a look at MPC activities.

Continuing E & M Activities and Responsibilities:

- Provide and schedule greeters for worship to welcome visitors and to engage members in conversation.
- Move the name tag boards on to chairs for the service.
- Encourage visitors to complete name tags.
- Distribute fellowship registration pads with follow up removal of forms after the service.
- Call, email, or write to visitors if contact information is provided to thank them for worshipping with us.
- Invite prospective members or past visitors to attend particular events, such as fellowship dinners, etc.
- Call on new residents to tell them about our church and to invite them to attend our worship and other activities.
- Meet to review the names of people who should be contacted by committee members to communicate our interest in outreach to them.
- Identify names for large print name tags for people who have attended our church and are likely to attend in the future.
- Including residents who are here only in the summer.
- Contact summer residents to inquire whether they would like to become affiliate members.
- Acquire display boards and name tag holders as needed to accommodate the name tags.
- Purchase name tags, holders, boards, fellowship pads as needed.
- Sponsor programs for a fellowship dinner as needed.
- Plan and implement a brunch or dinner as needed to gather prospective and new members to meet with committee members and to learn more about our congregation.
- Informs the pastor of prospective members that would appreciate a visit from our pastor.
- Arrange for there to be a cloth bag monogrammed with the church's name for new members that includes information about our church including a directory, mission statement, budget, pledge card, time and talent survey form, and a loaf of bread with a welcome note from the church at worship.
- Meet regularly to brainstorm ways that our committee can reach out to people in the community who may want a church home or who may need to hear about Jesus Christ.

- The committee considers ways to increase the visibility of MPC in Montreat and Black Mountain/Swannanoa/Asheville.
- The directory is updated periodically and handled by the E & M Committee, and a new online directory in the future will keep updated contact information.
- The committee works with other committees and within the community in outreach, such as the annual Montreat College Church Fair.

Fellowship Committee 2021 Annual Report

Chair: Grace Nichols

Liaison: Beth Fountain

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

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

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

- The members of the Fellowship committee provided a reception for Jey Deifell's memorial service on July 10, 2021 in the Gaither Fellowship Hall. Approximately 85 people attended. The committee was grateful for the staff of Montreat College and Christ Community Church for help in set up and use of the kitchen facilities. Genie Sullivan, Peggy Ann Frank, Clare Frist, Peggy Williamson, and Grace Nichols prepared and hosted the reception.
- The Fellowship Committee and Congregational Care Committee joined together to provide dinner on November 23 for the family of Arline Taylor, as they gathered the night before Arline's memorial service. Our two committees prepared dinner for 38 family members at the Glen Rock Inn. Beth Fountain organized her committee to prepare the dinner menu. The Fellowship committee provided desserts. Several members made brownies and cookies. Also, cakes were purchased from Hand in Hand's Thanksgiving fundraiser.

Mission & Outreach 2021 Annual Report

Members who served during 2021: Nancy Midgette, chair, Eric Nichols, John Hinkle, Ann DuPre Rogers, Linda Hobson, Olson Huff, Beth Fountain

Members who rotated off in 2021: Jan McRae, Priscilla Durkin

Members who rotated on in 2021: George Sawyer, Martha Campbell

Jim Henderson, Session Liaison

Montreat Presbyterian Church is blessed with people who willingly share their time, talent, and resources to address the needs of others both within our local communities and around the world. Locally, our members support and advocate for the Don Collins Early Learning Center, the Swannanoa Correctional Center for Women, the Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry, Resources for Resilience, Black Mountain Counseling Center, Hand in Hand of the Swannanoa Valley, and many others.

Our budget for the year was \$97,500, plus a one-time augmentation of \$15,000. In special offerings during the year, MPC collected and shared \$1970 for One Great Hour of Sharing, \$505 for Pentecost offering, \$1185 for Peacemaking Offering, \$1633 for Joy Gift Offering, \$1215 for SVCMM Walk for Hunger (plus \$1100 donated from members directly to SVCMM for this event), \$3010 for Nickel-a-Meal, and \$5250 for Alternative Christmas gifts (\$1125 for Camp Grier, \$1925 for SVCMM, and \$2200 for Bethesda Clinic Haiti).

At the heart of our international missions was OFCB Ministries in Bayonnais, Haiti; the health clinic Bethesda Centre de Sante in Bayonnais; Nkhoma Hospital in Malawi; and our PCUSA Mission Co-workers: Elmarie and Scott Parker in Iran and Lebanon, as well as Victor and Sara Makari in the Middle East.

We also responded to two special calls for support from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to support work following natural disasters in Haiti and Kentucky. We responded to the needs of our immediate neighbors in Haywood County following disastrous summer flooding. We offered assistance to Open Table in Black Mountain as it resumed efforts at providing nutritious meals as covid began to recede. We supported the local Martin Luther King, Jr., Foundation Scholarship.

As a result of the generosity of church members, the Mission Committee received a one-time budget augmentation of \$15,000. We used the funds to support William Wilson as he pursues a PhD in preaching at Baylor University, to provide additional funds for Black Mountain Counseling Center, and to provide assistance to Haiti and Haywood County as a result of natural disasters.

In addition to the annual funding that we provide to Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry, we supported that organization in other ways, as well:

- Walk for Your Neighbor – We had a strong contingent of members attend the annual walk in October and provided funding of approximately \$2300 beyond our annual contribution.
- John Hinkle organized Drop in the Box and coordinated a monthly collection of food and personal hygiene items. Over the course of the spring and early summer a total of 94 boxes of items was donated.
- A new mother and her two-year-old child moved into Hope for Tomorrow. We provided immediate needs such as kitchen and bath supplies, a television, and a small table and two chairs for her child. We also provided Christmas gifts.

Our alternative gift program continued under the leadership of Eric Nichols, Linda Hobson, and Martha Campbell. This year people could choose cards from Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry, Camp Grier, and the clinic in Bayonnais. The total donated this year was \$5250.

As we prepared our budget request for 2022, we requested two new line items:

- Support for Frank Dimmock, Africa Partnership Liaison, The Outreach Foundation
- Homelessness/Resettlement efforts in our immediate region

We received a generous budget augmentation. Our budget for 2022 is \$134,250 and includes \$6450 for The Outreach Foundation (Frank Dimmock) and \$12,000 to support efforts to relieve homelessness and settle refugees and evacuees.

Personnel 2021 Annual Report

Serving on the Personnel Committee in 2021 were Ann DuPre Rogers (moderator), Jane Alexander and Jim Henderson.

The committee had regular conversations with the Pastor relative to staff assignments and effectiveness of personnel. The committee took a number of actions, including:

- Approved Pastor's recommendation that the Church Administrator be given a 6% increase for 2022.
- In consultation with the Pastor, approved a 6% increase for the Director of Music for 2022.
- Recommended to Session that the Pastor receive a 6% increase for 2022.
- Recommended to Session approval of a sabbatical leave for the pastor from May 9 – July 31, 2022. Further, recommended that unused balances in Pastor's 2021 travel allowance and professional development allowance be appropriated into a fund to help cover sabbatical expense.
- In response to challenges in the Covid era, awarded the Pastor and Director of Music year-end bonuses of \$2,000 each.
- Approved gift certificates for the Parish Visitor and the Treasurer in recognition of their continuing volunteer service.

Stewardship of Finance & Property 2021 Annual Report

Committee members in 2021 were Hugh Alexander, William Brown, Gill Campbell, Everett Culpepper, Jean Gettys, Keith Grogg, Jim Henderson (moderator), Linda Hobson, Ron Maffett, Ann Neal, Henry Neale, Jack Sadler, and Perrin Wright.

The committee met quarterly to review financial performance against budget and advise the Treasurer on any issues that needed attention. The committee also received reports on the market value of the endowment. Additionally, several specific tasks were accomplished:

- The committee verified that operating reserves met the minimum required by policy.
- A team of Hugh Alexander, William Brown and Jim Henderson conducted a review of financial records and compliance with procedures for 2019 and 2020. No issues were discovered.
- Gill Campbell, Jean Gettys and Ron Maffett did a comprehensive review of insurance coverage. That review revealed that the church handbells were not insured, and that was remedied upon renewal of the policy.
- The committee approved securing a credit card for use by church employees.
- The committee recruited Eric Nichols to lead the fall stewardship campaign.
- The committee advised the Treasurer in preparation of the 2022 budget for recommendation to Session.

The committee noted on several occasions the strong financial health of the church and the exemplary service of Gill Campbell as Treasurer.

Worship & Music 2021 Annual Report

Our worship is always a collaboration of people brought together by God and our own faith: congregants, worship committee, pastor, director of music, ushers, instrumentalists, liturgists, sound & lighting volunteers, readers, choir, greeters, and many more—not to mention our covenant relationship with the Montreat Conference Center, which includes our use of Upper Anderson and other locations.

From January through May, the worship staff continued the home worship series in the form it had taken in August-December, 2020, collaborating on prerecorded worship services distributed on Sunday mornings. Those services can be found on the MPC website at [Home Worship March 2020 – August 2021](#). In June, we joined our Sunday worship with the Montreat Conference Center for the Summer Worship Series. On September 5, we joined with the Montreat Scottish Society for the twice-delayed Kirkin' o' the Tartan.

Upon learning that well over 96% of our worshipping congregation had been fully vaccinated, we were able to resume in-person worship in Upper Anderson on August 15, carefully minding protocols and adjusting our worship habits accordingly. During this time, our worship staff began providing a weekly “Online Chapel” service for those who worship at home or in other locations. An elevator problem moved in-person worship downstairs to the Auditorium; autumn cold then moved us to the heated 3rd Floor of Freeland Hall through early December. When the elevator became functional again, we were finally able to return to Upper Anderson, still masking and distancing, for late December services, including Christmas Eve. We are now fully committed to a permanent online presence. The session made room in the 2022 budget for quality live streaming capability.

Worship is at the core of our congregational life. As the challenge our times and circumstances pose to a spiritually nurturing worship life is more than logistical, we seek to provide meaningful worship in whatever ways are most effective and available to all people. Faithfulness to God and one another is our first consideration—and for us, faithfulness demands that we respect and protect the health and safety of our members, our community, and the world. Each opportunity for corporate or individual worship is meant to be spiritually significant. In 2021, our worship life has included Sunday services, midweek online services, Taizé worship, member-written daily devotionals for Lent and Advent, choral ensembles, worship at Highland Farms, new ways of sharing of communion, and more. As long as we have each other, God will keep giving us ways to worship together.