



West End Presbyterian Church

West End | North Carolina



ANNUAL
REPORT

2020

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Staff Reports

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

REV. MAGGIE F. BEAMGUARD

ONE YEAR LATER

This report is being shared with you at our Annual Congregational Meeting which is being held on March 14. It will be one year ago the following day, on March 15, the Ides of March, that we last worshipped together fully in person in our sanctuary. Even as we met that Sunday, we had no idea of what the next weeks and months would bring.

One year later, we pause now to reflect on the challenges and accomplishments of our ministry through the resiliency of our leaders and the faithfulness of the congregation.

One year later, we have a new vocabulary: COVID-19, Corona Virus, Social Distancing, Community Spread, Super Spreader, Contact Tracing, Asymptomatic, Quarantine, Essential Businesses, Flattening the Curve, PPE, Fauci, Herd Immunity, and ZOOMING. The use of the word unprecedented was well, unprecedented.

One year later, we still feel our losses tenderly: the lost rites of passage for our children and youth; the absence of the familiarity of worship in our sanctuary; the classes, programs, and meals where we can gather closely in person; the rhythm and comfort of rituals and traditions, including baptisms, weddings, funerals, and special observances; the personal impact of our tutoring program. Hugs. Singing. Faces. Lives. We've been living in an alternate reality, making substitutions and modifications to get by, but they feel unfamiliar and make us uneasy. We also lost our expectations for the future – the plans we had in mind, the direction we thought we were heading, the dreams we had deferred.

One year later, though, we can look back with satisfaction, seeing clearly that we rose to the challenges we faced with faith, courage, nimbleness, and resiliency: the learning of new technologies; the adaptation of a safe, new worship space (with thanks to Tim Kline); the caring leadership of elders and deacons who have reached out to our members; special memories from creative efforts such as our Palm Sunday Drive-By, our Easter Parade, our Pentecost observance, Second Sunday Events, Christmas Eve in the pouring rain; our prayer flags under the oaks; the resources prepared and shared to worship at home during Advent and Lent; ZOOM Sunday School; Staples for Students; and the hiring of Maddie Beadell to work with our youth. In these and so many other ways, we have persisted.

One year later, we can look back and say with confidence that we took the threat to communal health seriously and did all we could to show our love for one another and our neighbors by making huge sacrifices. One year later, we commit to continuing this care.

One year later, we sense that we are beginning to emerge from this global crisis. As effective vaccines are being approved and distributed, we can see the light at the end of the tunnel. As infection rates decrease and we can imagine the day of returning to full worship in our sanctuary, our safety protocols will likely change, and change again. We will continue to feel tension between being ready to move on and needing to proceed with caution.

One year from now we will be in a very different place, but it is still impossible to know what it will be like, because the world will have changed. And it is an open question regarding how we will change. What lessons will we carry forward from this time? What adjustments will we make to our ministries? What priorities will

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rise to the top? What new dreams will be dreamed? These are the things our congregation and its leaders will be deliberating as we prepare to worship and serve in a post-pandemic world.

We've been wearied, worried, and discouraged this year, but there is cause for hope. When the Hebrew people emerged from 40 years in the wilderness, Joshua was charged with leading the people into the promised land. God's charge to Joshua was this: "Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." They had been through a great ordeal. And there were more challenges ahead. But they knew that God would never leave them nor forsake them. God has been in our midst, shaking our foundations, loosening the restraints of the past, urging our creativity, and leading us into the future. We have every reason to look with confidence and excitement toward this future.

Our elders and deacons have sought to serve you this year with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love, and they will continue to do so. Your church staff has been stellar during this season. Jennifer Thomas and Martha Reeves in particular have taken on new roles and responsibilities and have done so with dedication and devotion to their own callings. It is a privilege to serve alongside them and you as the Pastor of West End Presbyterian Church.

Onward.

Rev. Maggie F. Beamguard

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

JENNIFER THOMAS DANIS

As Director of Music, 2020 started at WEPC with the usual worship services, rehearsals, meetings and the like. Life for everyone changed dramatically – both personally and professionally. This included a temporary hold on all rehearsals and in-person worship due to the pandemic.

As a staff and as a church, we have been very blessed to be able to produce high-quality virtual worship services thanks to the creative talents of the staff and the blessings of technology. With every plan or task I asked myself "Is the congregation being fed and connected?" This was the outstanding criteria for all product created. With the staff working as a team, we rose to the challenge quite successfully.

The first significant change resulting from our newly-found worship planning/production was that my home turned into a recording studio. All musical aspects of each worship video had to be practiced, recorded, edited, credited and uploaded to be included in the final product. Each piece was recorded multiple times if simple mistakes were made. When I hit a wrong note in live worship, there is no control – it's a done deal! For each of the 40+ services, at least three musical selections were included in each service.

Having been blessed with the ability to create videos, I also contributed many videos for our services: children's sermons, Advent/Christmas, guest musician videos and a "Moment for Music" on our YouTube channel among others. It was very fulfilling creatively and artistically.

Other creative highlights of the year included two virtual/live Hymn Sings with Randy Merritt, our new 2nd Sunday events and worship services as well as handbell videos. ZOOM was a big component of the "new normal". Maggie and I continued to meet weekly with our WOW kids via Zoom as well as weekly staff meetings and Music & Worship team meetings. On several occasions I would host musical get-togethers with Chancel and handbell choir members.

2020 was indeed an interesting year filled with challenges musically and otherwise. With our gradual shift to live/hybrid worship last November, things are slowly starting to feel as if our return to "normal" is within

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reach. In the meantime, I feel blessed to continue to contribute in both musical and non-musical ways. I am also grateful that, despite a radical shift in responsibilities, I am still in service to West End Presbyterian Church, helping to feed and connect our congregation.

Soli Deo Gloria.

Jennifer Thomas

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

MARTHA REEVES

In the area of administration, my job has changed in many ways to adapt to the modifications in our community and world. Working from home became a new normal for a while. I am able to carry on the office work of WEPC remotely when necessary. I continue to work with Session, Staff, Building and Grounds, Deacons and other committees to administrate the business and maintenance of the church and to help guide, direct and manage the critical functions to meet the church's daily and long-term goals.

Remotely or in the office, I offer administrative assistance to the Rev. Maggie F. Beamguard, WEPC Senior Pastor. Weekly on Tuesday mornings, staff comes together through out the year, often via Zoom, as we plan for worship, care for each other and the community, manage church business, and figure out new and meaningful ways of communication with you, our church family.

In February, the Annual Statistical Report is filed with the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina. The data used to prepare and manage this report consist of correspondence and maintenance of membership transfers in and out, deaths, baptisms, confirmands and new members. In order to create this report a good database must be maintained. I work daily on keeping this data accurate and up to date.

REALM, a cloud-based church management software, is designed to keep us connected as a church family, and help our staff manage church operations more efficiently. Realm allows members to keep their contact information up to date and has been a useful tool in registering for Worship since returning in November to (limited) in-person in the Crawford Center.

Maintaining daily computer equipment and information technology (hardware, software, server backups) has become more important than ever and I work with IT professionals, Wayne Mims and Tim Kline to keep our system up, running and protected.

I enjoy creating the weekly e-news, available each Friday. This weekly email is sent out through Mailchimp and includes: a note from the Pastor, upcoming events, prayers, birthdays, newsletter link and other links to interesting information or registration forms. Bulletins have not been printed since March 2020, instead I create slides weekly in Canva, a design software, following the WPN – Weekly Production Notes. These slides are projected in worship and used in worship videos. This has been a rewarding opportunity to be creative and a great learning experience.

So many things have changed in my role, but many things have remained the same. In the area of office administration, I:

- Pick up mail from post office and receive deliveries.
- Hold a credit card and sign checks as needed.
- Create forms, invitations, special flyers, booklets and mailings, etc...Graphic design of electronic & print media.

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- Purchase office supplies, equipment, face mask, hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes.
- Coordinate supplies for ministries: curriculum, welcome packets, handbooks, new member packets and gifts, candles, oil, paper goods for the kitchen, etc.
- Maintain the office budget for printing, supplies, postage, information technology and equipment leases.
- Compile, edit, plan, and produce the monthly church newsletter distributing it via email, postal service, and website.
- Clerical duties include filing, copying and communications.
- Update weekly prayer list to share in the e-news.
- Answer the telephone, emails and correspondence in a timely and accurate manner and responded to the needs and requests of the staff and the congregation.
- Recycle paper, copier ink and toner.
- Administer the pastor's discretionary fund to those in-need seeking assistance with clothes, food, housing, medications and utilities. Purchase food vouchers from Food Lion, coordinate payments with electrical companies and public works and maintain data in a spreadsheet to verify who has been helped, when and how they were helped.
- Manage the rental and use of the church facilities (Crawford Center, Hogan Youth Center, sanctuary and Church office wing) for events (weddings, meetings, etc.). Communicate policy to members and non-members, following through the entreaty of the process approval to collection of fees.
- Work with Pete Chase, who oversees the Columbarium as a Church member representative, to coordinate matters concerning the Columbarium.
- Maintain the website, keeping it up to date and user friendly with meaningful and relevant information for WEPC's congregation and community.
- Coordinate with Building & Grounds for facility maintenance and repairs, keeping a working list of vendors with contact information. Greet and direct contractors and others working on church property as needed for access and communication. For example, in November the heating and air company conducted their service agreement which means they are on the church campus most of the day servicing the HVAC systems in all the buildings. In June, the fire extinguisher's were serviced in all three buildings.

I will celebrate four years as the Church Administrator of West End Presbyterian Church on May 15, 2021. I'm blessed daily in my work and appreciate the opportunity to serve this great church community.

FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR

PAULA MONTGOMERY

ACCOUNT RECEIVABLES

Maintained records of all donations and pledges made to WEPC. Deposit weekly collections. Track pledge payments and produce quarterly statements. Track and acknowledge payments to the Memorial Fund.

ACCOUNT PAYABLES

Pay invoices and other request for reimbursements. Pay quarterly Mission obligations to local and Presbytery organizations. Work with heads of committees to verify church expenditures.

PAYROLL

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Process monthly payroll and fulfill state and federal monthly, quarterly and annual requirements.

OTHER DUTIES

Reconcile bank and investment accounts. Process credit card payments. Produce monthly financial statements. Process the semiannual NC Sales Tax Refund. Prepares information for Finance and Stewardship Committees as requested.

YOUTH GROUP

MADDIE BEADELL, INTEREM DIRECTOR OF YOUTH

YOUTH VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP - KELLY WILSON, HARRISON MABRY AND JOANIE JONES

The best description of the Youth Group's year is "Resiliency thru Changes." Our group has lost its normal routines, traditions and had major changes of leadership over the last 12 months. Last year was our first online Youth Sunday. Then, during the spring, we could only meet via ZOOM but since September, we have managed mostly in-person meetings. Lately, we have added a ZOOM option to participate with the in-person groups. We are currently meeting separately by age group on alternating Sundays for an hour in-person with the ZOOM in option. Change has been our constant, along with our desire to have some form of youth group event in whatever capacity we could safely manage.

During our Christmas party, we called several of our members and wished them a Merry Christmas. More recently, we have made a few signs for some of our congregation members reminding them that we miss seeing their faces but we still are thinking about them and praying for their health and happiness.

While things are different, we still are able to have a special time to meet and hear about God's Love. We recently welcomed Maddie Beadell as our Interim Youth Group leader. Under her leadership, we are planning 2021 Youth Sunday that will be held on March 14th and have also started the confirmation process for a total of 8 confirmands who will be confirmed in April 2021. They meet each Sunday before youth group for an hour and a half.

Ministry Teams

Session/Core Values

JAYNE LEE, CLERK

The Session continues to meet monthly to conduct the business of the church during the pandemic we have been meeting by zoom. The session and deacons did have their annual retreat prior to the shut down and discussed ways to focus on our "why" and working together with our church leadership team. Following the shut-down the session turned their focus to ways to keep the church together and how to worship without being in person. Rev. Maggie Beamguard prepared weekly YouTube services until we felt it was safe to return to in person worship. A committee of elders and deacons met along with our technical support from Tim Kline and begin planning how to return to worship safely. We also started special outdoor events on the Second Sundays.

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Each member of the Session continues to lead their respective teams in doing the work and mission of the church. These teams have been very busy and the highlights will be under each team's report. We are thankful and blessed to have a committed and hard-working group of elders to serve our church.

During the pandemic we have been stretched to think of new and creative ways to "be the church" without being at the church building. We have been a strong congregation that has continue to give and to serve and the session is thankful for all of your support.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS TEAM

MAC CLARK, HAROLD JONES, AND SHANNON KITCHEN, CO-CHAIRS

Shannon Kitchen, Harold Jones, and Mac Clark, along with Martha Reeves as staff representative, have shared the responsibilities of overseeing the maintenance and operations of our WEPC campus. These duties span from handling numerous small routine maintenance jobs to scheduling to meet with outside contractors to handle jobs too extensive or difficult for the B&G team to manage. Following are the areas of maintenance, repairs, and improvements for 2020.

LIGHTING: Pope's Electric serviced the can lights, replaced 35 tubes in the sanctuary, and replaced 2 bulbs in the hallway behind the choir loft with LED lighting to prolong their lifetime. This in turn, prolongs the frequency of reaching such heights and minimizes the marks on the walls by the large ladders.

COLUMBARIUM: Biggest project for this year was resolving its drainage issues. Landscape Design Innovation Group, PLLC (LDIG), President Jeremy Rust, got approval from Session for his plans and estimates to upgrade the area. Upon beginning, there were many roadblocks: the septic tank needed an inspection from Marlins Septic. However, it was buried beneath a large tree and shrubbery, which first needed removal. Luckily, the tank showed no cracks and no root invasion, just needed an outlet-T replaced. Also found distribution box was in good condition. Inspection also revealed that 3 of our 4 septic lines run under the Columbarium, and another runs under the Japanese Maple at the concrete sidewalk area and out to the rear of the parking lot. The later one is not deep enough now due to settling and vehicles are parking and driving on this unmarked septic field area. Which now needs to be understood for prevention, especially abating crushing the only line not going under the Columbarium. The great news is that all the septic lines are functional. A big thank you is extended to Harold Jones for being primary contact with Marlins and LDIG (Jeremy Rust). There is a current balance of \$2,427.32 in Columbarium fund. After removal of the trees and shrubs a bare area has been left, which I bet Frank Hayes cannot wait to fill. We just need LDIG to move the large rock that was donated by them as it had to be pushed aside. (I am getting his plaque made soon.)

PLAYGROUND: The playground border extension was done by Mac Clark as representative for the Men's Breakfast Group, and Matt Kitchen. Thank you, Scot Brown for delivering mulch for both playground areas: old and new extended area for play tower and dome climber from the Baxter-Bare Foundation. Mac Clark also assisted Harold Jones in transporting mulch on blacktop to piles in play area, where the McLaughlin's and Kitchen's spread the first load. The second pile remains.

PRESSURE WASHING: On March 16th, Crawford Center porch steps and sidewalks to opposite side of church were cleaned by Gentle Renew (\$550). Held off on areas from construction, across to bathroom entrance doors and office steps.

MOTION SENSOR: Plug in motion lights have been placed from the church offices to the sanctuary hallways, as suggested by Pastor Maggie for safety, especially when the last person leaves the church office in the evenings, etc. *There was an extra one so it was placed in the Crawford Center. Later, it was learned that they cannot be placed in outlets for dimmer lights! Not until November 23rd, did this annoying alarm sound come

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from this plug-in in a dimmer outlet. Be careful, there are very few outlets without dimmers in the CC. The one found was under the kitchen counter. Thankfully, Chisholm Electric was available to replace particular outlet that was alarming with the monitor, as it was burnt out and old.

CARBON MONOXIDE MONITOR was plugged into Crawford Center on 3/23/20 as per advisement from Temp Control, Matt Bailer.

HOGAN YOUTH CENTER CURTAINS were donated for living room, due to bright sunlight, especially on Sunday mornings during Sunday School.

FIRE ALARM: Due to beeping, 8/3/2020, Central Security Systems came out to check, even though WEPC no longer has a contract with them. They reported that it was a bad wire and were unable to easily find the short. AED was also alarming about the same time the fire alarms were sounding. The AED battery was replaced, 12/12/2020.

HEAT PUMP HOGAN HOUSE: Temp Control inspected and insisted that the dehumidifier there MUST stay plugged in 24/7 for heat and a/c units to work!

HEAT PUMP: Per Pete Chase, the third heat pump on the wall beside the old fellowship hall, closest to basement door, was malfunctioning and it was short cycling and needed to be checked out. Therefore, Temp Control assessed.

EVERGREEN LANDSCAPING graded the parking lots, and added gravel to smooth egresses onto Knox Lane, October 29th.

VAN INSPECTION: The van was inspected on October 30th at Carolina Car Care and the registration renewed 10/5/2020. There was a van recall notice in April, but Ford will not have the parts until the first of 2021, to complete the work. Noted was low battery. *Recommended to start the van weekly to biweekly since not being run each week now.

SOLAR LIGHTS were purchased and placed on the steps of the Crawford Center, as a preventative measure for everyone to see steps better in the dark.

PAINTING: Building and Grounds was holding off on major projects since COVID-19 to see how financial situations were going. Then received a call from Virgil Reid stating that he and Charlie Cunningham from finance committee wanted projects completed. So notified painters who started October 30th: First parts were ceilings that were left to be completed and "wainscoting." The painters came across issue of multiple boards being beyond repair, water damage primarily. Number 1 issue was to find hardwood flooring not wainscoting, and those boards were sizes unavailable now. Thankfully, Matt Kitchen ripped and beveled over 80 new ones to fix and match as best possible. *Therefore, recommend when choose to update Bride's room, main church entrance and bull pen to get new actual wainscoting that is easier and cheaper to replace or repaint. Painted both Choir doors. November 31st, painters finished first part of Sanctuary painting with a cost as quoted (\$4500). Next and last phase to be completed for remaining ceilings, choir areas, blue walls and windows was estimated at \$7000; however, it was more timely and more effort required so bill was for \$7600. Goal was to complete the sanctuary while it was empty and thankfully, with Finance Committee approval, was met.

FAN LIGHT: In Crawford Center there was a fan light that was unable to be repaired, so it needed to be replaced; it was the first one closest to counter into kitchen. Thanks to Tim Kline, Mac Clark and Domenick Rondello for completing.

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*Huge thanks to Pete Chase for donating his scaffolding to our church. It has been especially useful this year in Crawford Center for Tim Kline in painting the stage wall for “screen projection.” It was also very helpful in replacing the fan light. Another big thank you to Tim Kline for much needed dusting of the fan lights.

HALOGEN LIGHTS: The halogen lights in the Crawford Center were so noisy that Pastor Maggie asked for change. Upon discussion with John Chisholm, he quoted \$3,000 to retrofit HID fixtures to LED while installing the fan in Crawford Center and upon completion is so much nicer.

FIRE ALARM: The fire alarm was alarming again. The system in the education room displayed DC code for needing new battery. It was replaced, but without success as it continued to alarm. Unable to detect the problem, on December 9th Harold Jones met with Dalton Dunn of Central Security Systems to learn that presently the fire alarm system that “protects the sanctuary and the educational building is antiquated and non-functional. He explained that when the alarm activates for Crawford Center or our main building it only sets off noisemakers to alert those who may be in the building. They do not notify anyone outside the building so that the Fire Department can be alerted. This representative will price for us whatever improvements the Fire Marshall suggests. Also, he was asked to price a communicator for each system to notify the Fire Department when the alarm activates for the main building, the CC, and the HYC. Upon reviewing notes, it seems our contract with Central Security Systems was discontinued in 2016. This will continue to be worked on for resolution in 2021.

So, we started off strong and finished strong with a stagnant period, while being safe with funds, to see how we would be effected by the unknowns of dealing with Covid-19. It has been a busy and interesting 3 years for myself, Shannon to learn so much and work with all the helpers to do my best to make WEPC campus more functional and updated. Thank you for letting me serve.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TEAM

JUDY LAUT, CHAIRMAN

The Christian Education Team meets the second Sunday of each month (as needed). The CE team is given the task of overseeing, promoting, and implementing Christian Education within the church. An abundance of faithful volunteers support the efforts of the CE team. During the months of January through May, each Sunday, Sunday School classes are offered for both children, youth, and adults. A nursery is provided and staffed by a hired nursery caregiver during the Sunday School hour and Worship hour. The WEPC youth group meet Sunday evenings. During the months of June through August, Sunday school classes do not meet. The nursery continues to be staffed during the Worship hour.

Highlights of January through December:

- *Scheduled nursery volunteers until pandemic shut-down
- *Birthday cards sent to the children of the WEPC members
- *Sunday School was provided for youth K-5 each week until the church closed due to the pandemic.
- *Assistance was provided to supply at home worship bags to K-5 youth

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FINANCE TEAM

CHARLIE CUNNINGHAM, CHAIRMAN

In November 2019 and December 2019 during the discussion of various financial scenarios for West End Presbyterian Church (WEPC) 2020 Financial Budget, no one had heard of nor had any idea of the impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic beginning March 2020. Yet during 2020 WEPC more than met the financial and operational challenges and adjustments created by the Coronavirus. WEPC 2020 year-end financial situation was surprisingly positive. The congregation and staff are to be commended,

WEPC 2020 financial figures are encouraging. The WEPC sanctuary and facility were closed during most of 2020 due to the Pandemic. Still the congregation keep pledge payments current and the congregation and staff worked together to keep expenses at a minimum and below budget.

With a final 2020 Revenue of **\$385,738 (85.30%** of budget), and a final 2020 Expense of **\$363,643 (80.71%** of budget) WEPC had a **2020 Year Ending \$22,095 Net**. The final 2020 Revenue included **\$373,133 paid of a pledged total of \$374,000. This 99.77% of paid pledges was excellent and was a very positive statement on the WEPC congregation's commitment.**

Revenue losses occurred primarily in the lack of Sunday worship "plate contributions", interest income, and facility rentals. Fortunately the final 2020 Expense was considerably less than budgeted: five months of Associate Pastor's salary were not used, the final 2020 expense for **all** committees was below their 2020 budget, and significant reductions were made in office expense and building and grounds.

The WEPC Finance Committee is grateful for the coordinated and enthusiastic way the congregation and staff met the uncertainty of the 2020 financial times. With God's grace, careful financial management, and the continued generosity of WEPC's faithful congregation, the financial and operational challenges will continue to be met as we anticipate 2021

MISSIONS TEAM

MAC CLARK AND JOHN WILSON, CO-CHAIRMAN

The Mission Committee budgeted this year to support the following local missions:

Habitat for Humanity	\$1,400
Coalition for Human Care	\$1,400
Family Promise	\$1,400
Food Bank of the Sandhills	\$1,875
Tuesday Tutoring/Pastor discretionary fund	\$ 300
Camp Monroe	\$ 700
Massanetta	\$ 500
Montreat	\$ 700
Friend to Friend	\$ 800
Christmas for Moore	\$ 795
Good Samaritan Fund/Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$1,000

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As well as the following national and international missions:

Presbytery Disaster Assistance	\$2,750
Presbytery Missions	\$2,500
Rise Against Hunger	\$5,500

We participated in Special Offerings in 2020 - The Christmas Joy Offering.

Rise Against Hunger tried, but were fairly unsuccessful in having safe events, their approaches though commendable were not safe enough for the participants of WEPC. After discussions about other options they had made available, we contributed to their:

- 1) Agricultural Giving Campaign - Community Empowerment
- 2) Medical Shipments

We participated in Christmas for Moore again this year with volunteers from our congregation adopting 12 families (33 recipients). Food vouchers were distributed to each family (\$795).

Since the Tuesday Tutoring has not been able to meet in person, the mission team and tutors worked together to provide food as well as some cash to the families of the students. The program was called Staples for Students. The church took in food donations from the congregation and volunteers distributed it on Thursday afternoons.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

SHARON KUETHE, CHAIRMAN

The membership committee has put most activities on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Last spring, a subcommittee met to review the rolls (an annual task in normal times) and compile a list of inactive members to be sent letters to determine their desired status with regards to the church. Unfortunately, many members are currently attending church online making it impossible to determine those who are inactive, so completion of this project continues to be postponed.

The committee looks forward to the return to church and the implementation of ideas for outreach to the community. These include a reunion Sunday, a possible community book club housed in the church, a support group for young moms in the area and more!

The committee is in need of additional members and anyone interested in joining should contact Sharon Kuethe or the church office.

MUSIC & WORSHIP TEAM

LOUISE THOMAS, CHAIRMAN

The Music and Worship Team Members include Tim Kline, Alice Droppers, Donna McCallum, Nancy Cunningham, Jerry Phipps, Linda Dunning, and Catherine Lott, Deacon. The Team usually meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30. However, in-person meetings were suspended since March due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Subsequent meetings were held on Zoom.

The majority of the work by the team is "behind the scenes" work. In January and February the Team prepared and set up communion services. Each week in January and February a member of the Team prepared the

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Childrens Worship Bags and tidied the sanctuary. During this period, additional volunteers, Judy Laut, Mac Clark, Alison McCloskey, Paula Taggart, and Dean Charles, coordinated the Lector Program, ushers for each Sunday, acolytes, and funeral and memorial services.

In March, everything changed in our Church and personal lives. We stayed home. Thanks to the magnificent efforts of Pastor Maggie Beamguard, Associate Pastor Todd Davidson (until his departure in July), Music Director Jennifer Thomas Danis, and Church Administrator Martha Reeves, we were able to worship online every Sunday through mid November.

Once in-person worship returned in the Crawford Center, the responsibilities of the Music and Worship Team adapted to the changes in how and where we worship. In-person worship was possible due to the tireless work of Tim Kline. He, almost single handed, envisioned and set up the video displays for worship and figured out how to live stream the worship services for those who were not comfortable attending in-person worship. I hope all who read this will thank him for his hard work.

The Music and Worship Team hung banners in the Crawford Center to provide a more worshipful atmosphere. Live plants softened the appearance of the stage. The Team decorated the Crawford Center for the Advent and Christmas season with wreaths and poinsettias.

The work of the Music and Worship Team is truly a team effort. Our successes are attributable to a devoted, hardworking group. Thank you Tim, Alice, Donna, Nancy, Jerry, Linda and Catherine.

HUMAN RESOURCES TEAM

MAC JONES AND JOHN WILSON, CO-CHAIRS

The purpose of the Human Resources Ministry Team is to work with the staff of WEPC to support their success in all areas in which they are involved. During the year, the Team is involved in providing guidance and recommending to the Session new policies, new hires, changes in staff functions, handling termination proceedings, and considering employee complaints or suggestions through a process that assures confidentiality if requested.

The Human Resources Ministry Team is responsible for reviewing on an ongoing basis the pay, hours of work, and benefit policies to ensure equitable treatment of all employees of WEPC. The Team is also tasked with maintaining current position descriptions for all staff and a written statement of the Church's personnel policies.

BOARD OF DEACONS

RON SHEPARD, MODERATOR

The year 2020 certainly was not at all what was expected. Our events were limited in scope. The Deacons did participate in a few outdoor Sunday events. The Halloween Trunk or Treat was different from past years and was a distinct success.

The highlight event of the year was the Nativity Trail that was enjoyed by numerous WEPC members as well as visitors. Maggie and Nora displayed their amazing artistic ability.

The Deaconate began the year of 2021 in much the same way as most groups – disappointed that we were unable to meet in person. At our first ZOOM meeting on January 19, it was decided that Ron Shepard and Kim

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Auman would continue in their roles as Moderator and Vice Moderator. Amanda Brown graciously accepted the role of Secretary.

The Valentine craft shop was created by Maddie Beadell and was held on the 14th. The “Worship at Home Lenten Bags” were assembled by Diane Moreton. The bags that were not picked up have been delivered by both the Deacons and Elders.

Volunteers have signed up or have been designated as Deacon of the Month and Ministry Team assignments have been made.

We will be working to create themes for second Sunday events throughout the year. We are eager to resume normal worship where we can great each other warmly and continue our ministry in the service of the Lord.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

NELL JUDGE, CHAIRMAN

Even though we're small in number, we make up for our caring with enthusiasm and purpose. Here we are in our 16th year of knitting, crocheting, and praying for those who are hurting. We also make cancer caps and NECU hats for infants at our local hospital. At our monthly meetings we report on shawls delivered and offer concerns for those in need. As completed shawls are presented we give a blessing of love and caring. Our small group meets the second Wednesday of the month at 10:30am in the Gathering Room where we can social distance.

PRODUCTION TEAM

TIM KLINE, AV DIRECTOR AND JUDY LAUT, AV CO-DIRECTOR

In person worship officially resumed on November 16, 2020. This first service was preceded by months of planning, preparation, modification, and equipment installation to make the Crawford Center into a safe and effective worship space. A new projector was purchased and installed replacing the one original to the Crawford center. The new projector allowed us to eliminate paper bulletins and incorporate various creative media into worship. The stage area was repainted, and the back wall transformed into a new screen wall for the projector. Limited capacity for in person worship also required us to transition from a pre-recorded service produced by Maggie, Jennifer and Martha to a real time recording of the in-person worship service. A PTZ (pan-tilt-zoom) camera and tripod was purchased to video record the live worship service. The upgrades required additional cabling in the Crawford Center and then integrating it all into the existing computer network. A new lap top computer was purchased to run the software that records and processes the video files. Most of the software used for the production process is open source (free) software. The sound system (original to the Crawford Center) required a few adapters that allowed an old analog system to be utilized in a digital environment. Every week we continue to test the limits of our equipment and abilities. It takes two people to provide the projection, sound and recording services for a worship service. That is in addition to Martha creating the slides, Jennifer creating the music and Maggie providing the content for the worship.

Our current production team consists of Judy Laut, David Beamguard, and me. Soon we will be training others who have expressed interest. These folks come early and stay late to complete the production process. I also want to thank several of the men of the church who painted the stage area one Saturday. The Crawford Center cabling could not have been done without the help of Mac Clark. The Music and Worship Committee was also responsible for placing the banners and greenery on the stage. I am blessed to work with such fine and giving people assisting in providing a meaningful worship experience both in person and online.

WEST END PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGNE

JAYNE LEE, REPRESENTATIVE OF STEWARDSHIP TEAM

The Stewardship campaign for 2020 used the theme of “Stay the Course and Be Safe!” Our goal was to maintain our budget for 2021 during this stressful time with many uncertainties. We asked our members to give from the heart and to continue to move our church forward even during a pandemic when we couldn’t be together in person. We followed the lesson in 2 Corinthians 9:7 - Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. Our campaign did come up short of our goal but as we move back to in person worship and move forward with our church programs – we hope the members of the church will step up and feel comfortable giving more support to our church. Our goal in 2021 will be to hire another Associate Pastor and stretch our boundaries as we come out of a very hard and stressful year.

TUESDAY TUTORING MINISTRY

LAURA PITTS, LEADERSHIP TEAM FACILITATOR

From July 2020 until year's end the WEPC Tuesday Tutoring Ministry Team prayed for our students and their families. We supported them by contacting them as often as possible and are indebted to WEPC member Anna Stevens. Anna is newly retired from Moore County Schools where she worked with Hispanic children and their families and built a network to communicate. Through this network we responded to these families as needs arose.

At Christmas with thanks to your generosity over the past year we shared \$100 with 18 families along with books, toys, candy, and a stuffed animal for every child in the home.

Over the coming months we will keep you posted about plans for tutoring to resume. Consider becoming a tutor - it is an enriching and wonderful experience!!

W.O.W. CHILDREN’S AFTERSCHOOL MINISTRY

REV. MAGGIE BEAMGUARD

Our Wednesday Afternoon School Program for elementary aged children has been an integral part of our church’s ministry. Typically, we have anywhere from 22-28 children descend upon our hallways each Wednesday – filling them with joyous noise – as they form a community that learns scripture, sings, plays, creates, and serves together. In the Spring of 2020, our program was suspended due to the pandemic. Over the summer, parents were contacted to see if there would be any interest in their children participating in an online format of WOW. We have had a core group of 6-8 children who have participated in a 45-minute ZOOM WOW since the fall. We began tentatively, unsure of whether we could hold the attention of group of children with a wide age range online after they were already spending so much time learning on screens. We carefully designed our time together to keep things interesting. We decided our main goal would be to create community for these children who were missing friends. To our delight, it has been a hit. When parents were approached in December about continuing in the spring, the response was a unanimous “yes!” Since we were unable to have our normal Christmas Program, with the help of Dudley Crawford and Carol McDonald, Jennifer Thomas and I created our first-ever online Christmas Pageant. It was a huge hit. I feel confident that this program continues to be an essential part of our ministry, and I’m grateful for the opportunity to spend Wednesday afternoons with our children.

WEST END PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Summary of Membership 2020

NEW MEMBERS	1
MEMBERS MOVED/TRANSFERED OUT	2
DEATHS	4
MOVED TO INACTIVE/OTHER	
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP YEAR END 2020	236

WEST END PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Staff Photos

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WEST END PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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