



Alpharetta Presbyterian Church

Celebrating 33 years in ministry.

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2020 Annual Report

Our Mission: *We are called to be a Christ-centered family of believers committed to growing spiritually, worshipping joyfully, and sharing God's love daily.*

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PASTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Oliver Wagner

The year 2020 will long be remembered for many things—but in the life of the church, I think with all of its hardship and trouble, the year will mark a time of newness and rebirth. While none of us welcomed the virus nor its negative impacts upon health, lives and financial hardship, one positive effect it had on us is that it forced us to discard old methods and embrace new ways of sharing faith. This was the year that—like it or not—cameras entered Presbyterian sanctuaries across the country. Most of us believe they will remain there so that the church can share the good news with those not physically present. APC fully entered the digital age in 2020.

While much was lost, and our grief remains deep, I believe in this crisis we found our creativity, unleashed our imagination and courageously explored new ways of doing and being church. Faith is more resilient than we realized! Meetings happened by Zoom, youth found new ways to fellowship, meetings and bible studies and worship services went virtual. All of this happened by necessity when the building was closed due to the public health pandemic, but I note how the ministry and mission of the church never closed (or even slowed). Our witness, by God's grace, remained bright. Carry on, we did.

I give great thanks to God who “finds a way when there is no way.” I am thankful for the staff, many of whom labored harder than ever for the church. I am thankful for the Session, Deacons and presbytery, the public health team and ministry colleagues, whose wisdom and service guided and supported us through the unknown. Mostly, I'm grateful to God for you, the members and friends of the church, who continued prayerfully, faithfully, generously and compassionately as a family of faith.

In a tumultuous year you have exhibited grace under pressure and pursued peace and harmony in a culture that seems obsessed with divisiveness, even as we longed for and worked for a more just and peaceful world. As I write, the vaccine is slowly making its way into our arms and “the light at the end of the tunnel” draws ever closer. 2021 holds great promise for us all...so keep safe, stand firm in faith, let mercy prevail and live with hope. By God's grace, we will get there.

I look ahead with great excitement and anticipation to the year before us. It won't be long before I can be with you in person...in the sanctuary for worship, in the fellowship hall for a meal, by the hospital bedside or visiting at home, in the classroom for sharing and learning, or in the community for service in Christ's name.

The Tennyson poem sums up well for us our hopes and prayers for 2021.

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light:
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true....

Ring out old shapes of foul disease;
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT

Rev. Anne Fyffe, Associate Pastor for Youth and Young Adults

While 2020 did not look remotely as we had envisioned, there was still much to be grateful for as the staff and congregation of APC prayerfully and intentionally adapted to the everchanging COVID situation. Whether we were gathering in person or virtually, we continued to live into our call to be the church, knowing that this call is not limited to our beloved sanctuary, but is reflected in our commitment to God, each other, and the wider community. In getting to preach and lead worship on YouTube and in the parking lot, participate in Sunday School classes and book discussions over the summer, work with youth and young adults, and connect with members through various means, I have been encouraged and inspired by this community of faith and the ways God is active here.

My call to serve as a pastor at APC continues to bring me joy and offer opportunities for growth and learning. From worship to youth group to mission committee meetings and everything in between, I get to cultivate meaningful relationships, engage in purposeful ministry, and witness the transformative power of God at work. I am hopeful about what lies ahead in 2021, believing that God will continue to call us to the work of love, peace, and justice and that we will seek to respond faithfully.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT

Rev. Beverly Markham

It's a familiar feeling to encounter a task at the church for which seminary did not prepare me. My seminary did not offer classes on sound boards or heating/cooling systems or adjusting lighting. Early in this millennium when I was a seminary student, no one was teaching classes on how to do a quality at-home video. So, in many ways, this year left me feeling blindsided and totally unprepared to meet the new tasks of ministry during a global health pandemic, total isolation, worship in our homes, communion among a scattered congregation, and the list goes on.

However, at the center of my faith is the belief that God created us to be in community. We are individually members of the Body of Christ, but more importantly, we are joined together in that body as one. This community has lived together through this year with so much love for one another, so much creativity, so much grace, and we continue to examine our life together for ways we can keep learning how to be the body of Christ in a continually changing time. This bedrock of our faith – community – has continued to sustain me throughout this year.

The Deacons focused on contacting members of APC throughout the year. Each Deacon was assigned a list of members to call, email, send a card periodically. They have provided small gifts to teachers several times during this year and have supported our Open Arms families with a devotional book and pizza gift card. The Deacons' meetings moved onto Zoom and two Deacons even hosted a family game night on Zoom for APC church members.

I look forward to continuing to work with this community as we live into our mission of sharing God's love daily.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT

Rev. Erin Noh

The year 2020 was a time of flexibility - pivoting and adapting to new realities. As the COVID quarantine physically closed church doors, it quickly became evident that the church ministries required new perspectives. Within a few months, I was amazed at how energetic and how creative APC committees and ministries moved to a digital format. As people longed for a deeper spiritual connection with God, we found ways to minister despite the restrictions imposed by the quarantine. I am grateful for the many ways APC members became connected with God and with one another, and I am thankful for the Session, staff, committees and members who were supportive, allowing me to embrace my role as a contract call associate pastor.

In my part-time position, 25 hours per week, I provided staff support to Membership and Spiritual Growth, which included working with visitors to become members of the church and planning adult education programs, such as Dr. Yoder's seminar, couples' retreat, and the Matthew 25 summer series. I led Bible study for the Book of Galatians, and I led the 100-Day Old Testament Reading Challenge and the 40-Day New Testament Reading Challenge. Also, my participation in the online worship and Drive-In worship services were important to my call at APC. Furthermore, I enjoyed serving on the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta's New Church Development Council, and in their First Call Pastors Group.

In 2021, I hope to find more ways of reaching out to new people and building meaningful relationship with members. I pray APC will continue to grow spiritually with hope and promise in God.

CLERK OF SESSION

Elder Susan Burkett

In 2020, a total of 23 Elders and the installed pastors of APC comprised the APC Session, serving as the council for the APC congregation. Two members of the Session resigned. The Session, through its activities and the Elders' leadership of APC committees, seeks to support the congregation as a community of faith, hope, love, and witness.

Of particular importance was Session's decision to close the facility and church grounds in March due to the pandemic. Session formed a Public Health Advisory Team (PHAT) to provide advice and guidance in this matter. Those who have served on PHAT: Susan McBreairty, Salpi Adrouny, Steve Wardrup, Lynn Reiman, Mike Bray and Tom Cunningham. Since that time, Session has gradually re-opened the facility/grounds to APC Dayschool, worship filming and youth group with appropriate safety protocols.

The Session's activities in 2020 included the following: a one-day Session retreat in January 2020, two in-person Stated Meetings (scheduled monthly meetings); one in-person Called Meeting (meetings for a special purpose, such as receiving new members); electronic meetings beginning in March 2020 due to the COVID pandemic; 18 Called electronic meetings; one in-person Meeting of the Corporation and Congregation of APC and one virtual Congregational meeting (for all APC members); serving as commissioners to five meetings of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta; providing annual review to APC's Manual of Administrative Operations.

The Elders of the 2020 Session were Walt Baxley, Julius Bobbert, Ken Bogle, Kira Brinson, Susan Burkett, Ann Cooley, Rich D'Alberto, Martha Frutchey, Lisa Gould, Gordon Hagler, Pam Heydinger, Lee Jones, Phil Jones, Cindy Laubenstein, Susan McBreairty, Brian Moore, David Neal, Vito Perri, Shannon Pickerel, Lynn Reiman, Keith Still, Elliot Temple, and Mike Womack.

DIACONATE REPORT

The Diaconate at APC leads in ministries of sympathy, compassion, service and witness. The primary concerns are for the sick, the needy and the friendless. In 2020, we had 35 Deacons, including three youth Deacons. Our 2020 service was severely impacted by the risk and severity of COVID. Rev. Beverly Markham provides leadership and support to our team.

The work of the Diaconate is segmented into four care teams, each of which focuses on a specific area of service the Deacons deliver to the congregation and community.

The Compassion and Care team consisted of nine Deacons and was led by Mary Nelson and Jean Williams. The goal of the Companion Care team is to extend friendship and support to individuals in the church family who are in need or cannot regularly come to church. Our team was “COVID limited” beginning March 2020. Prior to COVID, our team made visits, took treats, sent cards, made phone calls, and delivered flowers. After COVID, the team made telephone calls, and sent holiday cards on appropriate occasions. The team also delivered reading material and small gifts for nursing home residents, although they were not allowed to visit. For the year, the team coordinated sending approximately 252 cards.

The Connection and Support team consisted of nine Deacons and was led by Amy Hewitt. This team works to support the Open Arms Ministry and reaches out to make connections with the outside support groups that use APC’s facilities. As APC facilities were closed for the majority of 2020, the support of this team was severely limited. This team did send an additional 77 cards and six meals. We are hopeful that this service and these functions will be resumed in 2021.

The Service team consisted of eight Deacons and was led by Tim Hathy. Members of this care team normally organize and support memorial services and receptions, but activities were restricted for 2020 as a result of COVID.

The Witness and Outreach team consisted of nine Deacons and was led by Tami Drotleff. This team sends cards for life events. They support families of APC who may be mourning a loss or celebrating an important event. Typical celebrations may include births, baptisms, confirmations, graduations and weddings. The team sent out approximately 100+ cards to our members.

The Deacons met nine times in 2020. Three of our meetings were in person; six of our meetings were conducted as Zoom meetings. The Zoom meetings proved to be somewhat more effective than normal voice-only conference calls, but are not nearly as positive as in-person meetings. We hope it will be appropriate in 2021 to again hold in-person meetings.

Woodrow Cannon was the Deacon representative on the Nominating Committee.

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY

Elder Cindy Laubenstein, Elder Mike Womack

APC Staff: Kristin Hicks, Director of Children’s Ministry, Kari Minnich, Administrative Assistant to Children and Youth, Karen Cornell, Director of Cherub Choir, Mary Busman, Assistant Music Director

Committee Members: Sheryl Wentworth, Kate McChesney, Katherine Heyen, Allison Liu

Sunday school: Sunday school 2020 began regularly with classes each Sunday during the 9:30 am hour. Classes were divided by age group from ages three through 5th grade. We utilized 45 teachers throughout the school year with eight teachers teaching each week. We did not have Sunday school from March 15 for six weeks of 2020 due to the pandemic.

From May until September, the Director of Children's Ministry, Kristin Hicks, delivered Sunday school virtually through pre-recorded lessons. In September and continuing through December, Sunday school was held through Zoom at 9:00 am. Each week, two Sunday school teachers and the Director of Children's Ministry held Sunday school for all ages. All Sunday school teacher volunteers were approved by Session. Youth/Child Safety Training, taught by the Children's Ministry Director, was held prior to the start of weekly Sunday school classes and again as needed. This training is required every three years and is held several times a year to ensure compliance.

KinderWorship: KinderWorship is a weekly educational time based on Storypath books that coincide with lectionary offered to preschoolers through 1st grade during the 11 am worship service after the children's sermon. Attendance varies from six to fifteen children. We utilize two staff members and one volunteer each week. KinderWorship was held from January – March 13. In the fall, our church began having drive-in worship. Children's Ministry put together special worship bags including fun activities and crafts for children to use in the cars of those families that attend each week. Activities are based on the lectionary reading for the week.

Worship and Sacraments class: In January, a Worship and Sacraments Class was held for 2nd graders and their parents to introduce and help children understand the elements of worship and the sacraments of Baptism and Communion. This class is conducted for four weeks with a Parent Child Workshop focused on Baptism and Communion held on the last Saturday of January. Children celebrate this learning milestone by displaying banners and bringing the bread in at the beginning of worship on the first Communion Sunday following the class.

Bible Class: We did not hold a Bible class for 3rd graders this year due to COVID. We plan to hold a class for both 3rd and 4th graders next year.

Nursery: The use of an outside agency for staffing continues to be successful. We continue to have eight to fifteen children in the nursery at the 9:30 am hour. And three to five during the 11:00 am hour. Nursery staff was not used after pandemic began.

Children's Choir: This group continues to meet from 10:25-10:55 am (between Sunday school & 11:00 worship). Attendance varies from ten to twenty children per week. After COVID, we utilized the outside grounds to hold music classes after the drive-in worship services resumed in the fall of 2020. Instrument buckets were assembled and children were socially distanced and masked. Children were filmed several times for virtual worship services. Music was also used during the Zoom Sunday school hour.

Cherub Choir: This is a preschool choir for three to five year-old children. The children meet from 10:25-10:55 am. Attendance varies from eight to sixteen children a week. Cherubs have sung several times in worship. Since COVID, we utilized the outside grounds to hold music classes after the drive-in-worship services began in the fall of 2020. Instrument buckets were assembled and children were socially distanced and masked. Classes were held until it was too cold during the month of December.

Vacation Bible School: It was a very different year for VBS in 2020. VBS was virtual with parents picking up already prepped VBS supplies and children participating using video and social media. Our theme was "Knights of North Castle" by Cokesbury. Ages ranged from 3-year-olds to 5th grade. We had 24 participants. One bonus of the format--some of our members' grandchildren were able to participate from New York and North Carolina.

Club 45: This is a bi-monthly youth group for children in 4th and 5th grades meeting during the school year. This has been well attended with 12-25 students per week with a variety of "tween" topics and activities. This year we had Club 45 activities only until the end of the school year. We decided after a couple of online activities that virtual Club 45 was not a good format and will be waiting until we can meet again in person.

Youth Auction Fundraiser: The Children’s Ministry committee donated one basket for the 2020 youth fundraiser with many of our favorite Christian children’s books that we use in our Children’s Ministry library. The event was well attended by adults, youth and families of young children of the church.

Special Events and Family Centered Worship:

Ash Wednesday Service for Families: This event began with a pancake dinner to introduce Shrove Tuesday and then moved into a time of worship that explored four interactive stations (Baptism, anointing of oil, lighting of candles, burying the Alleluia) and ended with the imposition of ashes.

Easter Egg Hunt: This year, due to the pandemic, we delivered the Easter eggs to each of our 50 Children’s Ministry families. Twelve eggs were hidden for each family and with a special note taped on the door to let them know that one egg was empty to remind them of the surprise of the empty tomb.

Holy Week Fair – We did not have a holy week fair this year.

Blessing of the Backpacks: This year we held a Drive-thru Blessing of the Backpacks because we could not meet in person. Families were able to drive through the church parking lot and participate in a mission station, labyrinth prayer station, gift station where we handed out backpack tags and device stickers as well as fall Sunday school supplies, and a blessing station where a prayer handbook was given out. Each station was attended by a Pastor or the Director of Children’s Ministry.

Advent and Epiphany Bags: Bags with weekly activities and a book from Traci Smith, “Faithful Families for Advent and Christmas,” were delivered to each of our 50 Children’s Ministry families. Each bag had six activities that went with a lesson in the book. One for each week of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany.

Children’s Christmas Pageant: On December 13, our pageant was virtual. We were able to use a member’s farm to film the pageant including children and parents, a few at a time, in a safe, socially distanced way. We used an Illustrated Ministries Pageant written for this purpose.

DAYSCHOOL

Advisory Board: Wendy Curl (Dayschool Director), Susan Burkett (President, Elder), Molly Hathy (Vice-President), Mary Shevlin (Treasurer), Nancy Hardwick (Secretary, Administrative Assistant), Kristin Ropp (PTO Liaison), Ellen Adolph, and Ollie Wagner.

APC Dayschool completed a successful, yet unprecedented, school year in May 2020 that posed new challenges in March. The Dayschool closed for face-to-face learning and began virtual learning following statewide school closures caused by the COVID pandemic.

Due to safety reasons amid the pandemic, the Dayschool did not hold the two planned summer camps. The Dayschool reopened the doors in September 2020 following all new Health and Safety Policies and Procedures.

Achievements for the Year:

- Total staff members: 14
- New Virtual Learning opportunities were implemented in March 2020 due to statewide school closures.
- The teachers were able to learn and apply new virtual learning tools to engage and continue learning throughout the spring.

- A virtual graduation ceremony was shared with students, staff, and families.
- In order to move forward with the 2020/2021 school year, new Health and Safety Policies and Procedures were developed with the guidance of APC's Public Health Advisory Team.
- The Dayschool opened for face-to-face learning in September, 2020.
- The teachers and staff are working diligently to ensure the highest level of safety for all.
- Virtual Chapel is a weekly offering for students.
- A Virtual Christmas Program was created by the staff and students and shared with the families.
- Staff appreciation events (back to school, Christmas breakfast, secret Santa, birthday celebrations).
- PTO continues to have high interest and participation.

Current Status:

Overall morale of staff and families seems high despite current circumstances. We have been flooded with enrollment interest for the next school year and for 2021 summer camps. The Dayschool has maintained the quality of the loving, nurturing, Christian learning environment we are known for in the community.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Elder Julius Bobbert, Elder Lynn Reiman

Quarterly meetings, Sunday at 12:15 pm in the Garden Room until March; via Zoom the rest of the year.

Fellowship Committee Members: Barbara Bacarella, Greg Helfrich, Diane King-Helfrich, Deb D'Alberto, Jan Hughey, Jess Mizenko, Ted Lynam, Dot Van Dyke, Barbara Jones, Pat and Wes Connelly.

Staff Support: Erin Noh

Groups which are part of the Fellowship Committee, and their leaders:

ACT1 – Melody Cookson

APC Book Club – Katie Millican

Men's Softball – Richard Boston

Presbyterian Women – Mary Curtis Pizzano

STARS Leadership Team: John and Judi McPherson, June Menne, Wes and Pat Connelly, and Charles and Cissy Moriarty
Sunday Breakfast/Kitchen Coordinator – Ted Lynam - Chef Douglas Pruett (retired summer 2020)

Events:

The **Fellowship Committee** members, their families and other members of the church all pitched in to staff the set-up, restock/replenish, and clean-up activities for the two events we were able to hold in 2020: January concert with Oral Moses and Portia Hawkins with reception and January reception for new Elder and Deacon ordination and installation. Fellowship members supported APC's hosting of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta meeting in February. All other planned events were canceled due to the pandemic.

However, in April, June, August, and October, Fellowship cleaned the kitchen and donated perishable and non-perishable foods to the following groups: NFCC, Family Promise, Family Haven and Centro Familiar. The kitchen was cleaned and both freezers and walk-in refrigerator were emptied and disinfected. Fellowship committee members supported Deacons' efforts to send cards and contact APC members who needed encouragement and conversation during Advent.

Chef Doug Pruett retired in the summer of 2020. APC hopes to establish a new chef in 2021.

Men's softball didn't meet due to the pandemic.

APC Book Club

APC Book Club successfully made the transition to monthly Zoom meetings after the church building closed in March and was thus able to complete the 2020 reading list as scheduled. Members were very grateful for the technology which allowed continued fellowship, intellectual discussion and laughter during times of isolation. Monthly attendance averaged 10-14 participants. The group held a virtual Christmas Party in December complete with a book swap made possible by special delivery elves. 2020 marks 12 years for APC Book Club and 132 books read together.

Presbyterian Women

In June 2020 we installed the 2020/2021 Coordinating Team with Mary Curtis Pizzano as Moderator, Mary Rogovin as Moderator Advisor, Sue Nelson as Vice-Moderator (note: Sue Nelson resigned her position and as of 12/31/2020 this position remains open), Wendy Cory as Treasurer and Janice Yoder as Secretary. PW continues our four circles – Esther, Lydia, Martha and Ruth. The Circles meet monthly from September through May for study, mission, and fellowship. Due to COVID restrictions, all circles have been meeting virtually since April 2020. Membership for the year ended June 2020 was 80 members; membership for the year that began in July 2020 is 65. We continue to use the Horizons Bible Study published by PW of PCUSA. The 2020/2021 Horizons bible study is “Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament.”

Additional activities in 2020 included:

March: celebrated the Women’s Day of Service with women of the church and women pastors participating in and leading worship.

October: PW sponsored a virtual presentation open to all APC members, entitled “The Holy Land, Then and Now.” The presenters for this program were Deanna Womack and Augustine Mulia and we had 30 people in attendance. We sent an honorary donation in the names of Deanna and Augustine to Churches for Middle East Peace.

Shawl Ministry provided 13 prayer shawls to the Confirmands in July, donated knitted items to Beacon of Hope, and provided knitted items and shawls to members in need throughout the year.

Bibles: presented First Bibles at Baptisms throughout the year.

We collected donations to support Family Haven, Dress for Success, and offerings to support the worldwide mission efforts of PW (as part of PCUSA). Typically in December we collect items for the Santa Express Christmas gift program for the residents of Presbyterian Homes. However, this year they requested monetary donations for their Caring Hands program in lieu of the Santa Claus Express. We donated money from our mission budget to this cause.

ACT1

In February, we produced the romantic comedy “Jerry Finnegan’s Sister” at the Alpharetta Arts Center in partnership with the City of Alpharetta Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services. We put on four shows over two weekends; each show was a near sell-out and reviews were complimentary.

In March, we produced “Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner,” which saw one performance before lockdown. Such a powerful and well-directed show; we certainly would have been nominated for several Metropolitan Atlanta Theater Awards if the year had been normal.

We managed to put together a Shakespeare in the Park show, compiled, and directed by Jim Gray. Due to weather, we only got in one weekend, but we had over 100 attendees over two days. The City of Alpharetta was grateful to be able to have a planned performance.

The City was kind to host our rehearsals for “It’s a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play.” We managed to rehearse with a small cast and with COVID procedures, and film the show for Broadway on Demand viewing over three weekends. On Demand is still new enough a concept for folks that our audience numbers weren’t what we hoped, but we managed to break even on the show and learn lessons on how to better optimize streamed shows.

STARS - Seniors, Travel, Arts, Recreation, Social

STARS is an APC organization for members age 55 and over. They meet the 2nd Wednesday, September through May, except for their Christmas Dinner held on a Friday. They have about 80 people on their email list, but approximately 35 active members. In January, STARS hosted RISE, an organization that advises seniors on tax readiness and senior living. The speakers joined STARS members for a potluck lunch. In February, STARS took a day trip to visit three historic homes in Roswell. That was followed by lunch at The Mill, a lovely restaurant near Bulloch Hall. In March, the pandemic required us to stay mostly at home and APC buildings were closed to visitors. Wes Connelly sent an email containing a list of virtual tours that members could access. That was well-received. Wes sent out Christmas greetings and encouragement to members.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Elder Lee Jones, Elder Susan McBreairty

Committee members: Margy Culver, Sabine Genet, Dot Van Dyke, Kevin Isom, Ray Appen

Staff support: Erin Noh

Overview: In 2020, the APC Membership Committee focused on three areas: 1) connecting with the community around us, 2) helping members engage with APC and 3) seeking and supporting new members. These areas often overlap with activities of other APC committees and with the work of the APC Growth Task Force. In order to understand our connection with Alpharetta, we identified what differentiates APC from nearby churches. What we found is the same as we found last year: our desire to welcome and accept others without opinions or prejudice is the difference. This committee continued to work and plan with this in mind in 2020.

Scheduled Events either sponsored or attended by the committee:

- Joining Sunday: We remained flexible due to COVID and offered several joining Sundays this year, including Youth Confirmation Sunday.
- APC joined Alpharetta’s fall celebration by entering a scarecrow: our theme was Matthew 25.
- Bring a Friend to Church Sunday: The March event was canceled due to COVID. For the September event members were encouraged to share the virtual worship link. Emails were sent to visitors to encourage signing up for the Good News and tuning into online worship
- New Member Christmas Gift Bag in lieu of our dinner: Delivered to each new member unit that joined in 2020, filled with beautiful artisan chocolates, homemade cookies from Ollie Wagner, a glass ornament of the APC rose window and a letter from our committee. Members that joined in 2019 were mailed a Christmas greeting card with a message from the membership committee tucked inside.

Membership number as of December 3, 2020: 1008 (832 adults, 176 baptized children).

MISSION COMMITTEE

Elder Pam Heydinger, Elder Martha Frutchey

Committee Members: Dale Carter, Yvonne Chrimes, Walter Dean, Judy Donnahoo, Randy Schiltz, Sydney Schneider, Leslie Stevens, Eva Wardrup, Jan Bernhardt, Shannon Pickerele

Staff Support: Rev. Anne Fyffe

APC Mission Partners: Centro Familiar Cristiano (Spanish-speaking congregation), Christmas Angel Tree, The Drake House, Family Promise of North Fulton, General Assembly of the PCUSA, Habitat Aid Initiative (Kenya), Haiti's La Gonave Partnership, North Fulton Community Charities, LifeSouth (Blood Drive), The Place at Forsyth, Presbyterian Disaster Relief, Presbyterian peacemaking ministries, The Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, Whiz Kids tutoring program.

2020 Activities by Mission Area:

Advocacy: In January, Anne Fyffe and members of the committee attended an advocacy training event hosted by Presbyterians for a Better Georgia. The Mission Committee started laying the groundwork for becoming a Matthew 25 church.

Angel Tree: Angels were distributed after drive-in worship and via Signup Genius. Five charities were helped; NFCC, The Place of Forsyth, The Drake House, Thornwell and Family Haven. Over \$5000 in cash/gift card donations were collected as well as hundreds of donated gifts.

Centro Familiar Cristiano: The committee maintained contact with Claudia, Centro Familiar Cristiano's pastor and gave \$1000 to this ministry for families in immediate financial need in the form of housing, bills and gift cards for groceries. We continue to host CFC on our property.

Drake House: APC's Drake House apartment was painted, sheet rock repaired, ceilings scraped and repainted. Money for these projects came from funds left in the 2019 budget. Alpharetta Rotary was awarded a grant to help the Drake House remove carpeting from the second floor and replace with wood laminate flooring in five to six apartments. APC's apartment was the first one completed. New carpet was installed on the stairs. APC had a family graduate into Drake Village. The committee donated \$1000 to Miss Mary's Ice Cream fundraiser this year.

Family Promise: The Missions Committee assisted with meals and an overnight volunteer during APC's scheduled host week while the families were housed at St. Luke's Presbyterian Church. Funds were also provided to Family Promise as a budgeted item. Upgrades were made to the small kitchen on APC's first floor to provide a place for guest families to prepare their meals. Mission Committee provided \$1500-\$1900 for these upgrades.

Habitat Aid Initiative: A water point was dedicated in honor of Mary Dantzler. The Mulia family also funded a water point project. Habitat Aid is working with Mercer University to encourage third-year medical students to volunteer to work with the Kenya medical mission. \$593 were sent to Kenya to help with roof repair and ceiling damage at the clinic.

La Gonave Partnership: Travel to Haiti continues to be dangerous. Funding from the Mission Committee has helped them with infrastructure projects, food, and purchase of a dump truck. A member of APC donated 500 face masks to La Gonave. A donation of \$200 was sent for hand washing stations.

Memorial Drive Ministries: The Mission Committee sponsored a drive for sewing machines and hardback children's books which were delivered in the first part of the year. Quarterly payments made to Memorial Drive Ministries were changed in 2020 to monthly payments. Many APC members purchased face masks made by the Amani women at Memorial Drive Ministries.

North Fulton Community Charities: A Mission Committee member assisted in counting the homeless. This number is important because it generates funds based on the numbers of homeless in the community. Mission Committee provided bins for food drives and a coat drive. A disbursement of \$500 from the miscellaneous missions funds was made to NFCC. APC collected \$1000 for backpacks. \$3000 was provided to NFCC at the end of 2020 out of remaining funds in the budget.

The Place of Forsyth: Support was provided for food drives, school supplies and winter clothing. \$300 was donated to The Place from miscellaneous funds in April. \$300 from Day of Service was sent to The Place. \$300 was sent to assist in setting up a new shelter for young homeless women who have transitioned out of foster care. \$2000 was sent to The Place at Forsyth from 2020 remaining funds.

Presbyterian Peacemakers: Due to the COVID pandemic, International Peacemakers was cancelled in 2020.

Whiz Kids: Whiz Kids celebrated over twenty years of ministry at APC in 2020 with a celebration video as part of an online worship service.

YMCA: The YMCA provided childcare for essential workers during the pandemic. APC provided funding for scholarships for this cause.

Other 2020 Activities:

The Committee sponsored a Blood Drive.

\$2000 was sent to NEST, our seminary in Beirut that was damaged by an explosion.

Additional offerings were received for:

One Great Hour of Sharing
Caring Hands
Coins for Caring
Peace and Global Witness Offering
Christmas Joy Offering

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Elder Walt Baxley, Elder Lisa Gould

At-large members: John Hicks, Sheryl Wentworth, Jim Gray, Kate Smithing

Deaconate Representative: Woody Cannon

Staff Support: Dr. Ollie Wagner

The committee was made aware of the need to nominate a candidate to fill the unexpired term of one elder. Due to the pandemic, names were given over email, and seconded. As the pandemic continued throughout the year, the need to fill the position was tabled, since the church was closed.

The committee met online later in the year in preparation for the November 1, 2020, congregational meeting to recommend for election:

- A new class of church officers. The committee was tasked with presenting nominations for eight elders and a minimum of twelve new deacons for the class of 2023.

- Four at-large members to serve on the 2021 Nominating Committee.

The committee nominated and Session approved 8 candidates, including 1 youth candidate, to serve as elders and 17 candidates, including 1 youth candidate, to serve as deacons. All candidates were elected by the congregation.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Elder Rich D'Alberto, Elder Elliot Temple

Committee members: Ted Lyman, Rob Vacko, Nancy Hill, Christina Appen, Beth Hudson, Stu Laubenstein

Staff Support: Dr. Ollie Wagner

Each committee member continued to serve as a liaison to an APC staff member for support, feedback and increased communication through regular contact. This included an annual performance review for each employee conducted in May.

Accomplishments of the past year included:

1. Recommended the annual personnel budget to Session for 2020.
2. Supported ALL staff during the COVID crisis.
3. Implemented the Payroll Protection Program through the Stewardship Committee.
4. Approved staff working from home during the pandemic.
5. Recommended, and Session approved, staff annual increase retroactive to beginning of 2020 and as a lump sum payment.
6. Increased Communications Director position to full time status.
7. Supported staff improvement of phone system for the office.
8. Prepared and submitted annual MAP for 2021.
9. Conducted "Brainstorming Session" to assess programs and staffing for 2021 and beyond (to be continued during 2021).
10. Renewed contracts for Beverly and Erin with presbytery approval.
11. Added elective benefits available to staff through the Board of Pensions.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Elder David Neal

Committee Members: Dick and Sharon Bean, John McPherson, Greg Helfrich, Diane King, Pat Dennis, Ted Lynam, Steve Wardrup, Bob Cookson

Staff support: Gene Casey, Daniel McKemey (resigned in March)

2020 started off just as 2019 ended with APC hosting many congregational and non-congregational groups as we strive to continually provide facilities in support of APC's mission to serve the members of our congregation as well as the community at large. For the first two and half months of 2020, our campus was bustling with activity on a daily basis by groups such as APC Dayschool, Family Promise, ACT1, Centro Familiar, Alpharetta Rotary Club, Whiz Kids, Windward Men's Bible Study, Windward Retired Men's Group, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, AA, APC Circles and Disciple classes, Karate, Toastmasters, Alpharetta Community Chorus, various other music groups, FOCUS, and Open Arms in addition to the daily activities of the worship and support staff. The largest event by far in 2020 was hosting the Greater Atlanta Presbytery meeting on February 8, however on March 14, everything ground to a halt as the facilities were closed in

response to COVID. The church building remained closed by Session to the public for the remainder of 2020 with the exception of the resumption of modified Dayschool activities in mid-September.

Regular Activities

Although the building has been closed since March 14, Gene Casey and members of the Property Committee have continued to maintain and, when appropriate or necessary, upgrade the facility and grounds to keep the property a safe and inviting place for worship and learning once the facilities reopen. Even though the campus has been closed for most of the year, Property Manager Gene Casey has continued his excellent work with facilitating needed repairs, preventive maintenance, and security measures along with other needed requirements of operating a facility for public use while maintaining the safety and security of the facilities. Gene continually monitored the building infrastructure, developed and implemented processes for minimizing our utility usage during the shutdown while also ensuring all systems remained functioning at a high level so the return to normal building activities would be a smooth process once the facilities reopened to the public. Gene has continued to be proactive in negotiating more favorable rates for utilities and maintenance contracts to hold down costs. Normally twice a year the Property Committee organizes Property Work Days to address some of the exterior and interior projects that are not normally able to be addressed by the Property Manager or contracted out, such as spreading fresh mulch and pine straw, removing tree limbs and debris, and general sprucing up of the facility and grounds. With the exception of preparing for the Presbytery meeting in February, these Property Work Days did not occur, and the Property Committee has addressed most of these items on an ad hoc basis during the year. In place of the Sunday morning opening / closing procedures, members of the Property Committee have been conducting security checks of the facilities and property every weekend since the campus has been closed to the public.

Key Accomplishments for 2020

Our campus is over 25 years old and just as a homeowner needs to maintain their home on a regular basis, the same holds true for our APC facilities, even when they are not being used at the same level as a normal year. There was a lot of activity in 2020 in addition to the regular maintenance and facility management that takes place during the year:

The Providence Group (builder of the neighborhood to the west of APC, East of Main). In 2019 procedures were put in place to allow residents and guests of EOM to use the APC parking lot for overflow parking. In 2020 APC contracted the services of a HOA attorney to address any liability concerns and to formalize the agreement with EOM to protect APC in the event of an issue. The Property Committee and the Stewardship Committee worked together to develop the key points of the agreement that would allow APC to remain an open campus while addressing the liability concerns.

Kitchen and Fellowship Hall – The new backsplash and shelf for the griddle were installed in January. In February, Star Services moved the existing thermostat in the kitchen to a more central location. Chef Doug purchased a new warming cabinet in early March and also completed a deep cleaning of the kitchen prior to the closing of the building and in December, the large chest freezer that was no longer needed was removed.

External Painting – In May all of the exterior stucco on the building was repaired where needed, pressure washed, and painted.

Memorial Garden – Plants, flowers and other landscaping items were tended to throughout the year by a committee of volunteers led by Ted Lynam.

Dayschool – When APC closed the buildings on March 14, the Dayschool went to virtual learning for the remainder of the school year. While the buildings were closed, the Dayschool floors were stripped and waxed, carpets shampooed, hallways painted, TV wall brackets and TV's installed, lobby desk painted, large playground inspected with worn parts replaced (chains and seats for all swings), and new playground mulch delivered. Approval to re-open was provided by Session so students returned to the classroom on Sept. 21. Gene coordinated with the Dayschool Director on safety

protocols and included Abernathy Services to address cleaning and sanitizing requirements prior to Dayschool reopening as well as ongoing nightly cleaning and sanitizing procedures of the Dayschool area. In November, Gene worked with the internal APC Tech Team to run new cabling and hardware to upgrade the Wi-Fi signals in all of the Dayschool classrooms to address connectivity issues.

Eagle Scout Projects – Six benches were added to the outdoor Sanctuary as one more Scout completed his Eagle Scout project in early March. This was to have included re-staining of the existing benches but that did not occur due to wet weather and then COVID shut down Scout activities. There is discussion underway for another Eagle Scout project to replace the existing fence around the cottage and if approved would be completed in 2021.

APC Cottage – Lionheart continued to utilize the APC Cottage on a weekly basis for the Lionheart WORKS program until the closure of APC's campus in March.

Parking Lot – Gene pressure washed all sidewalks, gutters, and curbs. He painted the parking lot lines on the east side, front parking, and behind the sanctuary.

Electrical / Lighting – Converted fifteen 100-watt metal Halide lights to 19-watt LED by the west Narthex entrance in January. In April, we replaced all incandescent can light bulbs in Fellowship Hall with LED bulbs.

Design Committee – In January, they ordered six new chairs for the main office downstairs. Shipping and delivery were delayed until April. The new chairs were put in the main office, Ollie's office, Laura's office and upstairs lobby. The older chairs were repurposed throughout the building. The main restrooms across from the office and the office restroom were painted and new cove base installed. The choir bathroom and room 203 were also painted.

Safety and Security – Installed three handicap access doors: east entrance under the awning, west entrance leading from Dayschool, and Dayschool main entrance. The Property Committee has identified several locations on our campus where we should install additional security cameras to provide more comprehensive coverage of our property and facilities and was included as part of the 2021 MAP process. In response to the building shut down due to COVID, Gene created new access card routines to restrict access to the buildings to only essential personnel or by request.

Omega Trailer – In early January, the Omega trailer was demolished and all debris hauled away. To fill in the area it took 15 loads of dirt along with Gene on a Bobcat and Property Committee members with rakes and shovels to smooth out the area so grass could be planted. In the process of removing the electrical service prior to demolition, Georgia Power accidentally disconnected the power to seven overhead lights in the back parking lot. Power to the lights was restored by Georgia Power in January and APC received a month's credit on our power bill.

Roof – In May during the inspection of the roof, it was determined that Phase 1 of the roof (original building) was at the end of its useful life, Phase 2 (Sanctuary) had approximately five years left, and Phase 3 (CE building) had approximately 10 years left. The decision was made to replace the Phase 1 roof which was done in early July. The committee will continue having annual inspections of the roof and will re-evaluate the timing of replacing Phases 2 and 3 in three years. In August the gutters on the east side of the multipurpose room were repaired.

HVAC – In addition to Star Services providing quarterly maintenance on all HVAC units including filter changes, the condenser unit in the theatre HVAC was replaced in September. Although this is one of the older units on the property, the main unit is still running strong and the new condenser unit results in a 30% gain in efficiency.

Sprinkler / Fire Suppression Equipment – At the end of 2019, a potential issue was discovered with the dry pipe sprinkler system. Subsequent testing of three heads in the system came back negative in January so the existing heads are good for another ten years. There were two issues during the year with the internal wet pipe sprinkler system; in February we had an air compressor leak and in August we had three outdated gauges replaced.

Outdoor Worship Services – When Session approved holding outdoor worship services, Gene and members of the Property Committee built an elevated platform (pulpit) in the back parking lot for drive-in worship services. The Property Committee also assisted the Worship Committee in developing a traffic and parking plan for the outdoor services.

Small Kitchen - Gene worked very closely with the APC Family Promise Committee to upgrade the small kitchen in preparation for hosting families beginning the 1st week of January. These upgrades include new paint, new garbage disposal, new dishwasher, new stove, and new tile backsplash above the stove.

Water Heater Replacement – In December, the water heater for Phase 2 of our facility was replaced by Star Services.

Small Playground on the east side of the building – At the request of the Dayschool Director and the Director of Children’s Ministry we began the process of removing all the playground equipment in the small playground and disposing of it. Once the space is cleared, a decision will be made regarding what to put in that space. The committee looked at donating the old equipment to another entity but decided against donating it due to potential liability concerns.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH COMMITTEE

Elder Ann Cooley, Elder Brian Moore

Committee: Dale Carter, Mary Rogovin, Derek Scheidt, Deanna Womack

Staff Support: Rev. Erin Noh

APC’s Spiritual Growth Ministry offered a number of regularly scheduled classes and special events for participants to enhance their Christian growth through knowledge and understanding of the Bible and of issues of faith. This year, the committee’s offerings focused on the PCUSA’s Matthew 25 initiative, particularly social justice and systemic racism.

2020 started as a normal year, with a full slate of classes. However, the pandemic shutdown in March resulted in some classes being discontinued while the rest went virtual. In light of the disconnects caused by the pandemic, the committee expanded the summer offerings to three speaker series. These proved to be very popular and a good way for people to stay connected all summer.

Special Events in 2020:

- **January Speaker Series:** Dr. Christine Roy Yoder, professor at Columbia Seminary, presented three talks on the Creation stories in Genesis 1-2.
- **February Couples’ Retreat:** Rev. Caitlin Phillips led a Saturday evening retreat on Falling in Love Again. The retreat included a gourmet dinner and childcare.
- **June Speaker Series:** Our own Derek Scheidt and Kevin Isom spoke on LGBTQ Welcoming, and Dr. Deanna Womack talked about Seeking Interfaith Friendship and Understanding our Muslim Neighbors. David Roth from Memorial Drive Ministries spoke on Serving Refugees.
- **July Series:** The pastors led us through *Anxious to Talk about It: Helping White Christians Talk Faithfully about Racism* by Carolyn Helsel over four Sundays. To cap off the series, the author and her colleague, Rev. Steve Miller of the HBCU Truth and Reconciliation Oral History Project, spoke and answered questions on August 2.
- **August Series:** Three speakers discussed different aspects of Matthew 25. Rev. Dr. Jane E. Fahey spoke on Criminal Justice in Georgia, Rev. Dr. William Yoo spoke on slavery and the Presbyterian church, and Rev. Rebekah Close LeMon spoke on the Ministry in the Face of Homelessness. As a result of Dr. Fahey’s

presentation, a team from APC is investigating Bail Bond projects and the Love Project. Rev. LeMon's presentation sparked interest in homelessness, with more people volunteering for Family Promise.

We made improvements in managing our meetings and in tracking class offerings. Look for more class information included on the church website. Hosting the classes virtually allowed people from out of town to participate and let us include speakers from out of the area.

Our **regularly scheduled opportunities** included:

Note that all changed to virtual in March unless otherwise noted.

- Several Disciple classes in the spring
- Crossroads on Sunday morning
- Faith in Real Life on Sunday morning
- Courageous Conversations, put on hold in March
- Great Courses Study Group (now called Sunday Afternoon Bible Study)
- Men's Monday Morning Bible Study
- Monday Morning Bible Study (now Wednesday Morning Bible Study)
- Monday Morning Seekers
- Covenant Bible Study (was Disciples IV)
- Thursday Morning Bible Study
- Faith and Modern Life on Friday mornings
- Small neighborhood groups:
 - Alpharetta
 - Village Park, on hold
- Centering Prayer Groups on Tuesday and Friday

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Elder Phil Jones, Elder Gordon Hagler

Committee Members: Phil Jones (Chair), Gordon Hagler (Vice Chair), Rob Vacko (Treasurer), Rev. Ollie Wagner, Dale Carter, Doug Cruickshank, Tim Dietrich, Jan Hughey, Ted Lynam, Patrick Liu (Past Chair), Beth Hudson (Commitment Campaign Chair), Laura Moore (Office/Finance Mgr.)

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times..." the opening lines from A Tale of Two Cities written by Charles Dickens. It could not have better described the Stewardship Year for our church. With the closing of the church due to the pandemic, worship services and all activities using the church facilities were suspended. This impacted APC Dayschool and all church events, along with community group activities normally occurring at the church. This presented the potential for a drastic reduction in the income for APC. Especially critical was the suspension of in-person worship services, potentially impacting the church's vitality with the pledging and the non-pledging of offerings.

To combat the "worst of times" scenario, the Stewardship Committee spent hours in Zoom meetings developing budgets and contingency plans to help protect the financial viability of the church. Through the efforts of the committee and Rob Vacko, Church Treasurer, APC was able to take advantage of the Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) which provided a \$125,000 loan from the SBA through Atlantic Capital Bank which was received in April of 2020. In addition, the church's mortgage payments were deferred for three months through our lender which covered April, May, and June.

During the summer, the accounting firm of Brooks, McGinnis & Company LLC, was engaged to review the internal accounting and controls employed by APC financial management. Laura Moore, the APC Office/Financial Manager, and her staff, along with Rob Vacko and Doug Cruickshank, provided in a timely manner all the requested documentation. The report made recommendations in the areas of cash receipts, cash disbursements, and payroll. These recommendations have been fulfilled with changes to the APC Financial Controls Manual. The report favorably noted that the Church Treasurer, Office/Finance Manager, and staff involved with the financial management of the church, including Rev. Ollie Wagner, are to be commended for their accurate work and developed financial systems which are being followed.

There was also much time spent by the Stewardship Committee on APC risk management and liability due to the use of the church buildings and campus by outside groups and visitors, especially during the times of a pandemic. The law firm of Winter Capriola Zenner, LLC was engaged to provide legal counsel for developing a licensing agreement with the East of Main Homeowners Association's usage of a gate on the west side fence to gain access to the APC property for temporary parking and for dog walking on the church grounds. It was agreed by the East of Main HOA that the gate could be used in an emergency. The East of Main HOA in the signed agreement indemnified and held harmless APC from any loss or injury by their homeowners and their guests while on APC property. Gordon Hagler from the Stewardship Committee worked diligently to negotiate the agreement which was signed in January 2021. The Facilities Use Agreement was also updated during this time.

Through the efforts of Jan Hughey, Chair of the APC Endowment Committee, and his committee members: Phil Jones, Patrick Liu, Greg Raabe, and Susan Smith, the Endowment Fund experienced solid growth in 2020. Beginning the year with a balance of \$63,758, the fund grew to \$81,585 by year end -- a 28% increase. This growth was due to the generosity of the APC congregation combined with some investment gains. Due to the uniqueness of the year, there were no special events sponsored by the Endowment Committee.

Facing a turbulent year with many uncertainties on personnel finances and pledge giving, Beth Hudson led this year's Commitment Campaign with the theme of "Connect to APC." Her committee was comprised of Dale Carter, Tim Dietrich, Scott Doll, Jim Gray, Gordon Hagler, Lynn Reiman, Susan Smith, Alex Taylor, and Rev. Ollie Wagner. The committee is reporting that the Commitment Campaign is now over \$900,000 in pledges, with additional funding anticipated, which will achieve very near the campaign goal of \$1,000,000. They did a great job of reassuring our congregation that the mission of our church has not faltered during this unprecedented time and will continue to do God's work, not only in and for our congregation, but also for the community as well.

It could also be said that these were "the best of times." Once again, APC has ended the year with a budget surplus. Through the dedicated giving of all members of our church, we were able to nearly fully realize all pledges for 2020, despite a terrible pandemic and its impact on all of us. Rev. Ollie Wagner, the staff, and all APC committees are to be commended on their efforts in expense control and in fostering the stewardship of all our church resources. With a budget surplus of over \$50,000, the total operating and designated funds are now over \$1,000,000, providing the church with financial stability, even in the "worst of times." For all of the above, we give our thanks to God and to God's dedicated servants at Alpharetta Presbyterian Church.

STEWARDSHIP: Revenues & Expenses Report

Alpharetta Presbyterian Church
 Income Statement
 Church Operations Only
 For the year ended December 31, 2020

	Actual 2020	Budget 2020
Revenue - CHURCH OPERATIONS		
Pledged receipts	\$ 1,002,562	\$ 1,016,591
Non-pledged receipts	77,026	125,000
Kitchen	1,429	9,100
Special offerings	7,025	13,500
Dayschool benevolence	31,667	52,500
Other income (property use, misc. income, etc.)	26,156	50,440
	\$ 1,145,864	\$ 1,267,131
Expenses - CHURCH OPERATIONS		
Personnel	\$ 673,880	\$ 687,200
General expenses	77,541	82,225
Mortgage interest and principal	35,411	47,865
Deacons and Session	927	3,900
Property - maintenance	84,361	109,376
Property - supplies	2,868	7,050
Property - utilities	65,226	91,600
Children's ministry	15,120	33,715
Youth ministry	5,505	11,900
Spiritual growth	2,926	4,500
Fellowship	1,372	5,200
Kitchen	13,766	30,100
Membership	763	4,500
Presbytery (and per capita)	44,900	44,900
Special offerings	7,025	13,500
Missions	45,810	54,600
Commitment	1,136	3,850
Worship - supplies and security	5,329	13,150
Worship - music	8,897	16,000
Communications	1,937	2,000
	1,094,697	1,267,131
NET INCOME (LOSS): CHURCH OPS	\$ 51,167	\$ 0

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Elder Keith Still, Elder Lisa Gould

The Worship Committee of Alpharetta Presbyterian Church oversees all worship-related activities and functions of the church, including planning and implementation of these activities, and assisting the pastoral and music leadership staff in these processes. These include core weekly worship services with scripture-based pastoral messages, participation in sacred music, communal prayer, as well as scheduled communion, and baptisms. Special worship activities such as weddings, funerals, and memorial services are also overseen by the committee, as well as the planning and implementation of special seasons and times of worship, such as Lenten/Easter services and Advent/Christmas services. The committee also oversees other traditional elements of worship, such as liturgy, sanctuary preparation, acolyte functions, ushering, sound and lighting, flowers, and sanctuary garden planning and maintenance.

For the first three months of 2020, all aspects of worship, as described above, were proceeding very well. The sudden closure of many parts of our community in mid-March — including the APC sanctuary, building, and property in general — forced an equally abrupt examination and re-direction of duties and responsibilities for all church committees. For Worship, this re-direction came at a pivotal point in the church calendar — right in the middle of Lent, with Palm Sunday and Easter just a couple of weeks away.

The following are some special highlights in which the committee and its membership have been involved in concert with other church members and leadership during 2020.

- With the church property closed, worship services went immediately online at the beginning of the pandemic. Pastors, music, communications, and AV/tech staff and volunteers quickly and effectively stepped in to rework APC's regular worship service into an online format that brought scripture, music, message, and prayer into the homes of our congregation and broader community.
- From the beginning, the Worship Committee sought to preserve, and, where necessary, to appropriately modify fundamental aspects of APC's worship services and church sacraments to this new environment.
- To keep live music and singing a part of APC's new online worship services, the Worship Committee and music staff worked to gain Session approval to allow up to six singers and musicians, spaced safely, into the sanctuary to record hymns and anthems.
- At a time when normal funeral services were not possible, the Worship Committee worked to get Session approval for small, family-only outdoor memorial garden interment services.
- To resume the celebration of communion, the committee worked with the pastors to approve and send to Session a plan for shared online communion, in which the congregation and community may gather their own elements at home and partake in communion together as they watch the service online. APC's first online communion was celebrated in July 2020.
- Like communion, baptisms had been halted because of the church's closure and had to be adapted for online worship. Chair Keith Still, Co-chair Lisa Gould, and the committee worked with the pastoral staff to bring to Session the necessary guidelines to allow baptisms to safely resume. Baptisms taped in the sanctuary with only the family members, pastor, and an elder are now included as part of online worship services. The first baptism to be performed in this manner was done in August 2020, and three more followed by the end of 2020.

- In autumn, the Worship Committee began working to re-open the property for public worship outside, including resuming the celebration of communion together in person. Co-chair Lisa Gould, Chair Keith Still, committee members Paul McChesney, Drew Bowers, Sam DeCarlo, and Ollie Wagner, and Property Elder David Neal worked to create a plan for Session that would establish APC's drive-in worship Service in the back parking lot each Sunday at 11 am. The first drive-in worship service was held in October 2020, and has drawn regular crowds each week since then.
- In October, the committee approved and sent to Session Pastor Beverly Markham's proposal to allow individuals or families to reserve small blocks of time to enter the sanctuary for private prayer and reflection. The first reservations for private prayer times opened in early November 2020.
- Throughout the year, the committee prepared for a time when Session would vote to re-open the sanctuary for public worship services. As such, all members of the committee discussed and provided feedback to create a comprehensive set of guidelines for Session's approval that would maintain a safe, sanitized sanctuary and modify aspects of the worship service to protect the safety of worshippers and participants in the service.
- Thanks to the work of committee members Melody Cookson, Dawn Bray, and ACT1, the committee approved the design of two new sets of sanctuary banners, which ACT1 created and donated as part of its 25th anniversary of service at APC. New white banners were completed in time to be unveiled at Easter, had the sanctuary been open in April 2020. New green banners for Ordinary Time were also commissioned. The committee anxiously awaits the time when both sets of banners can be viewed in public worship by the congregation.
- Committee members Drew Bowers, Sam DeCarlo, and Elizabeth Hughey worked to replace the old chancel choir and bell choir robes with dark blue, breathable robes.
- In Spring 2020, the committee and church lost longtime member Mary Dantzler, who had for years been in charge of communion preparation and service at APC. Approached by Presbyterian Women hoping to honor Mary through a gift, the Worship Committee suggested and has commissioned the creation of a new communion set to replace the current pottery pieces on the communion table, which are older and chipped. Members Elizabeth Hughey, Dawn Bray, and Florence White led the design team to hire and work with a local potter to create the new set.
- In transitioning from public worship to online worship, the decision was made to halt the purchase of weekly flowers in the sanctuary. Committee member Mary Nelson contacted everyone who had already reserved a date to purchase flowers throughout 2020 and offered them the option for a refund or to direct their donation to the Pastors' Emergency Relief Fund. In lieu of having the congregation purchase poinsettias for the (closed) sanctuary at Christmas, members were given the opportunity to purchase luminaries for the back parking lot. Between redirected flower funds and the luminaries, APC was able to donate \$1,261.29 to the Pastors' Emergency Relief Fund.
- In normal years, the committee also oversees "special emphasis" Sundays in the sanctuary, such as Dayschool Sunday, Scout Sunday, Youth Sunday, Open Arms Sunday, the Hymn Festival, and other special services. Many of these services were modified in 2020 into an online worship format.

Number of 2020 Baptisms: 4; Weddings: 0

2020 APC Worship Committee Subcommittee Chairpersons:

Ministerial: Ollie Wagner

Liturgists: Kelly Vandever

Ushering: Keith and William Still

Music: Drew Bowers and Sam DeCarlo

Weddings: Dawn Bray

Strategic Planning: Melody Cookson
 Flower Guild: Mary Nelson
 Sound/lighting function: Paul McChesney
 Acolytes: Jerri Temple
 Memorial Garden: Mary Dantzler
 Communion: Mary Dantzler, Lisa Gould, and Keith Still
 Special Worship (Christmas/Easter) Sanctuary prep: Elizabeth Hughey
 Emergency Response Team: Florence White
 AV/Tech liaison: Lisa Gould
 Funerals: Susan Schiltz

YOUTH MINISTRY

Elder Walt Baxley, Elder Shannon Pickerel, Youth Elder Kira Brinson, Youth Elder Vito Perri

Committee members and advisors: Tom and Lisa Gould, Charlene Baxley, Lieben Bogle, John Hicks, Mike Womack, Tom Scarborough, Daniel McKemey, Jerri Temple, Melissa Schmitz, Wendy Seeman and Mike Hadji. Sunday School teachers: Middle School - Dennis Barger, Chuck Ghent, Melissa Schmitz, Tim Deitrich, and Cameron Gaines. High School - Wendy Seeman, Mike Hadji, Mike Womack, Tom and Lisa Gould

Staff support: Rev. Anne Fyffe, Kari Minnich

Youth Group:

- Year started off with a presentation by Molly Welch, who was in an automobile accident heading back to college and was left paralyzed with severe brain damage. She is on a mission urging people, especially youth, against distracted driving.
- In February, the youth took a ski trip to North Carolina.
- Youth Sunday: Due to the COVID pandemic, Youth Sunday was done virtually on May 17, with youth recording prayers, bible reading and singing. Four APC seniors gave sermonettes, Mary Margaret Baxley, Natalie Force, Dasha Scarborough and Elizabeth Kittle.
- Fundraising: The Youth Auction was held on February 29, with a Roaring '20's theme. It was a success, raising approximately \$13,000 for current and future programs and mission. Additionally, the youth-led Souper Bowl of Caring raised \$1,300 for Highland Support Project in Guatemala (where our mission trip would have been) and their clean-air stove building project.
- Members of the congregation again welcomed youth into their homes for FISH (Fellowship in Someone's Home) and the Super Bowl (Smithing Residence).
- Small group discussions included science and scripture, racism, emotions, anger and arguing.
- Since COVID prevented in-person youth group starting in March, the remaining spring youth groups were done via Zoom.
- As a way to reach the youth during the pandemic, a weekly bible study via Zoom was started and in-person small groups on the church campus during summer and fall.
- Other Youth Group activities through the year included: delivered treat bags to youth during summer, a modified Youth Group kickoff event in September, Trunk-or-Treat in October and a lock-out in November, sent cards to every youth in November and December, sent notes and Starbucks gift cards to college students in November.
- For mission work, the youth assembled emergency kits and donated food and supplies to Family Promise and learned about homelessness, poverty and food insecurity,
- Sunday School:
- The High School attendance has been low each week. Several ideas have been used to create a change. The High School youth would meet offsite at local coffee shops on the first Sunday of each month, then either attend the Middle School class or help with the young children's classes, during the remaining Sundays of the month. Due to

COVID and closure of the church, all youth Sunday School classes are currently not meeting.

2020 Mission/Summer Trips:

- Due to the COVID pandemic, both international and domestic mission trips were cancelled. The high school international destination was to be in Guatemala. A return to Charlotte, NC, for CROSS was in the works for the middle school students.

Confirmation Class: Thirteen youth completed the confirmation class, with twelve joining the church as members in July. They began the year with a retreat in January, initially held in-person classes and visited a local nursing home to play games with the residents. The Confirmands wrote faith statements that were emailed to Session members in advance of the Confirmands meeting virtually with the Session to answer questions. They also shared part of their statements in the online worship service where they joined as members.

PC(USA) CHURCH STATISTICAL REPORT 2020

2020 Church Statistical Report

Church	Alpharetta	PIN	11004
Presbytery	Greater Atlanta		
Address	180 Academy St, Alpharetta, GA 30009-1704		
Phone	770-751-0033	Fax	770-751-0873
Email	office@alpharettapres.com		
Web Site	www.alpharettapres.com		

Membership

Prior Active Members	833	-	-	Adjusted membership	833	-	-
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Gains

Certificate	6
Youth Professions	12
Professions & Reaffirmations	9

Total Gains

Total Gains	27
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Total Ending Active Members

Total Ending Active Members	830
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Losses

Certificate	3
Deaths	10
Deleted for any Other Reason	17

Total Losses

Total Losses	30
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Baptisms

Presented by Others	4
At Confirmation	0
All Other	0

Average Weekly Worship Attendance

Average Weekly Worship Attendance	363
Female Members	451
Friends of the Congregation	69
Ruling Elders on Session	24
Do you have Deacons?	Yes

Age Distribution of Active Members

25 & Under	156
26 - 40	134
41 - 55	180
56 - 70	207
Over 70	141

Total Age Distribution

Total Age Distribution	818
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People with Disabilities

Hearing impairment	4
Sight impairment	2
Mobility impairment	2
Other impairment	6

Christian Education

Birth - 3	41	Grade 7	10
Age 4	7	Grade 8	26
Kindergarten	6	Grade 9	24
Grade 1	12	Grade 10	9
Grade 2	11	Grade 11	12
Grade 3	13	Grade 12	32
Grade 4	15	Young Adults	0
Grade 5	13	Over 25	185
Grade 6	13	Teachers/Officers	0

Total Christian Education

Total Christian Education	429
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Racial Ethnic

Asian/Pacific Islander/South Asian	12	Native American/Alaska Native/Indigenous	0
Black/African American/African	18	White	780
Middle Eastern/North African	1	Multiracial	7
Hispanic/Latino-a	12		

Total Racial Ethnic

Total Racial Ethnic	830
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Financial Data

Annual Income	1,138,917	Mission Expenses	97,735
Annual Expenses	1,094,697	Personnel Expenses	637,880
		Facilities Expenses	152,455

