



Alpharetta Presbyterian Church

180 Academy Street, Alpharetta, GA 30009
770-751-0033 www.alpharettapres.com

2025 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.*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

STAFF AND CHURCH OFFICER REPORTS:

PASTOR, Rev. Dr. Oliver Wagner	Page 2
ASSOCIATE PASTOR, Rev. Dana AbuGhazaleh	Page 2
CLERK OF SESSION, Polly Hyatt	Page 3
DIACONATE	Page 4

SESSION COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY	Page 5
DAYSCHOOL	Page 6
FELLOWSHIP	Page 7
MEMBERSHIP	Page 9
MISSION	Page 10
NOMINATING	Page 11
PERSONNEL	Page 11
PROPERTY	Page 12
SPIRITUAL GROWTH	Page 13
STEWARDSHIP	Page 14
STEWARDSHIP – REVENUES AND EXPENSES	Page 15
STRATEGIC PLANNING	Page 16
WORSHIP	Page 16
YOUTH MINISTRY	Page 18
PC(USA) CHURCH STATISTICAL REPORT	Page 21

PASTOR'S REPORT

Rev. Dr. Oliver Wagner

2025 will forever be a stand-out year for me as it was the year that you sent me on my first-ever sabbatical. What a gift it was that you provided with that time away! I continue to draw energy and inspiration from the memories, learnings and exploration Heather and I had as we traveled and studied in the US and overseas. Returning to see friends in Scotland and being in residence to enjoy the worship, music and history of the Iona Community was a tremendous blessing. Add to those sabbatical travels the joy of becoming a grandparent for the first time, and it truly was a year of great personal joys for me.

Despite challenging times in the nation and world for which we pray, it was a good year in the life and work of the church. I thank you for the privilege of walking and serving with you. The life-changing impact of APC's ministries continues to touch and bless so many in our congregation, community and far beyond. I focus my efforts and time on the ministry basics of "preaching, teaching and pastoral care," which lie at the heart of my call. In addition to many special experiences in worship, memorial services, weddings, and baptisms, I was pleased to help dedicate some wonderful new outdoor spaces--Dayschool's new outdoor classroom and our multi-purpose "Field of Dreams." Both spaces quickly populated with children's activities and hold great promise for future use and enjoyment for all ages.

My shared work with a very dedicated and talented staff makes me thankful. We are blessed to have a great staff team serving in all areas of church life. I was equally pleased to lead and work with a wonderful church session. Their wisdom, compassion, faith and commitment are great gifts to us all. So too, the good work of our Deacons and the eight-year ministry of Rev. Dr. Beverly Markham made lasting impacts in the areas of pastoral care, elder support, visitor welcome, special needs and grief ministry.

In the Alpharetta area, and certainly at APC, nothing is ever stagnant....but always evolving and developing. We are indeed "reformed and always reforming." With each change comes both challenge and opportunity. As a church we don't sit still, but try to stay nimble, responsive, and dynamic as we strive to faithfully follow the lead of God's Spirit. It's exciting to step into 2026 together as we prayerfully discern what God is calling us to be and do as a congregation in all that lies ahead. I especially look forward to continuing to develop, strengthen and grow our efforts in children's, youth and young adult ministries in the year ahead!

Truly, the future is bright for this Christ-centered family of faith as we worship, grow, share and serve by God's good grace.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT

Rev. Dana AbuGhazaleh, Associate Pastor

This past year has been deeply shaped by a growing sense that we are, more and more, becoming a community that truly watches out for one another. Again and again, I have witnessed the ways this congregation pays attention—not only to what is visible or urgent, but to what is tender, emerging, and sometimes unspoken. Care here is not transactional; it is relational. It shows up in listening, checking in, adapting plans, and making room for one another's lives as they actually are.

One of my great personal joys this year was being ordained. Ordination was not simply a milestone, but a moment of profound gratitude—gratitude for this calling, for the people who have shaped and supported me along the way, and for the privilege of serving God in and through this community. To be ordained while serving among you made the experience especially meaningful, as my ministry continues to be formed in relationship with APC.

As we have sought to care for one another, we have learned again that paying attention to the needs of others goes well beyond financial or physical concerns. While those needs matter deeply, they are not the whole story. Spiritual needs—the need to ask questions, to belong, to be known, to wrestle with faith honestly, and to grow—are just as vital. This year, I have been especially grateful for the ways our congregation has listened for those deeper needs and responded with openness and trust. One clear example of this was our response to the expressed desire for a youth Bible study. What began as me developing and delivering a Summer Bible 101 study evolved organically into something much more: a weekly, year-long youth Bible study that meets in a hybrid format and continues to grow in depth and connection. Week after week, a large group of youth gathers to ask difficult questions, laugh together, wonder aloud, wrestle with Scripture and faith, celebrate one another, and affirm each other’s evolving understandings of God. It has become a sacred space where curiosity is welcomed, doubt is not feared, and faith is understood as something living and still forming.

I have also been grateful for time spent with our children and for the sacred privilege of sharing in milestone moments such as Worship and Sacrament Workshop, Children’s Sunday, the Christmas Pageant, and leading the Children’s Christmas Eve service—each one a beautiful reminder that faith is formed across generations.

In addition, this year has also been rich in so many other ways. I had the privilege of teaching a Disciple I class, which offered meaningful time in Scripture with adults eager to learn, question, and grow together. I have loved developing our growing Young Adult Ministry, watching new connections form and faith take root in authentic community. Leading worship—both in the morning service and at EPIC in the evening—and preaching more frequently has been a profound gift. Each opportunity to stand in worship, to open the Word together, and to listen for the Spirit’s movement among us continues to shape and deepen my own faith.

It has also been a joy to walk alongside the Membership Committee, supporting their work not only in caring well for our current members but also in thinking creatively and faithfully about how we reach beyond our walls to welcome new people into the life of this congregation. Likewise, supporting Spiritual Growth—helping select curricula for classes and inviting speakers for our summer and winter spiritual growth series—has been deeply life-giving. Creating spaces where learning, reflection, and conversation flourish is one of the ways we nurture a vibrant and thoughtful faith community, and I am grateful to be part of that work.

Moments like these give me great hope. They reflect a congregation willing to listen carefully, respond faithfully, and trust the Spirit’s work among us. I am deeply thankful for the ways APC continues to be a place where people of all ages are seen, supported, and encouraged to grow—in faith, in love, and in community. It is an honor to serve alongside you.

CLERK OF SESSION

Polly Hyatt

The Session serves as the council for the APC congregation, supporting the congregation as a community of faith, hope, love, and witness through its activities and the elders’ leadership of APC committees.

The 2025 Session comprised twenty-three elders and three installed pastors. We began the year with two installed pastors and added Rev. Dana AbuGhazaleh upon her ordination and installation in March. In October, the Session accepted the resignation of Dr. Beverly Markham, returning the number of installed pastors to two prior to year end.

The Session’s activities in 2025 included eleven Stated Meetings, including one joint meeting with the Diaconate; six Called Meetings (meetings for a special purpose, such as receiving new members); one Annual Meeting of the Corporation and Congregation on March 2; one Congregational Meeting (for all APC members) on March 2; and one Congregational Meeting to elect new church officers on November 2.

Highlights of other Session business during the year include:

- Electing commissioners to four Stated Meetings of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta
- Electing APC Corporate officers and members of several church committees
- Approving curriculum and ACT1 performance content
- Initiating a Strategic Planning process and approving the implementation team
- Adding a new Safety and Security committee to the Session committee roster and approving Elder leadership

The Elders of the 2025 Session were Jennifer Autian, Richard Bogda, Jack Brogan, Woody Cannon, Arthur Colby, Bob Cookson, Candice Davis, Tom Gould, Joe Hellrung, Katherine Heyen, Beth Hudson, Polly Hyatt, Allison Liu, Tyler Moore, John Plocic, Lee Porter, Derek Scheidt, Susan Smith, Jodee Stevens, Russ Thomas, Lynn Tinley, Collin Webb, Lily Womack.

DIACONATE REPORT

Sally Caudle, Moderator

The Diaconate at APC leads in ministries of sympathy, care, compassion, service and witness. The primary mission of the Deacons is to support the members of the congregation, as well as the community, particularly those that are sick, needy, grieving or homebound, as well as to celebrate joys such as births, baptisms, confirmation, marriages and important milestones. In 2025, we had 25 Deacons, including two youth Deacons. Lindsey Bray served as moderator until she resigned the position in April and Sally Caudle served as co-moderator and stepped into the position of moderator in April. Beverly Markham served as Pastoral support to the Diaconate until she resigned as Associate Pastor at APC in October and Ollie stepped in to lead the Deacons through December.

The work of the Diaconate is segmented into four care teams each focusing on different areas of support to the congregation and community.

- The Compassion and Care team was led by Ann Bogda and worked to keep all members of the congregation connected to the church. Each member of this team was assigned two or more homebound members that they visit in person, send cards and make calls to, and support as necessary.
- The Service Team was led by Vickie Hyde and primarily worked with members who lost loved ones and helped to organize memorial receptions. Members of this team also occasionally assist the pastors in hospital or home visits as needed.
- The Witness and Outreach team was led by Katie Swinford. Members of this team send cards each week to members on the prayer concerns list, new members and Christmas cards to select members of the congregation.
- The Connections and Support Team was led by Tracy Norris. This team primarily provides support to the Open Arms Ministry at APC, including support to families of special needs individuals, Open Arms Events (bowling, dances and Sunday school), and Elder Care.

The Diaconate met 10 times in 2025. There was no meeting in June or December and in November the Diaconate met jointly with Session to welcome new Elders and Deacons. Tracy Norris served as the Deacon representative on the nominating committee. She was also selected to be co-moderator with Sally Caudle for 2026.

All Deacons took the child safety training class. Deacons served as worship greeters, delivered the sanctuary flowers each week, visited members in the hospital, homes and senior living facilities, made phone calls, sent cards, delivered meals, and provided rides to church or appointments when needed. The Deacons worked on several mission projects throughout the year including projects benefiting NFCC, Youth Mission trips and the Angel Tree and decided to add several additional mission projects for 2026. The Diaconate supports both the Open Arms Ministry and the Elder Care Support Ministry throughout the year.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Elder Katherine Heyen, Elder Jodee Stevens

Staff:

Director of Children's Ministry: Katee Whitfield

Administrative Assistant to Children and Youth: Susan Baur

Children's Choir Director: Riley Schreer (resigned May 2025), Gillian Graeme (May 2025 – present)

Cherub Choir Director: Gillian Graeme

Committee Members: Katee Whitfield, Katherine Heyen, Jodee Stevens, Susan Baur, Kim Hoey, Dana AbuGhazaleh, Leah Planchard, Jim Cash, Kyndall Smyre, Katie Swinford, Kristina Appen

Sunday School: In 2025 we continued to offer two Sunday school classes plus nursery offered in both spring and fall. Classes were divided by age group from preschool through 5th grade into two classes: K-2 (Pre-K option) and 3-5. We used the Whirl classroom curriculum in the spring of 2025. During summer, we switched Mini Revolutions by Illustrated Ministry and only offered a combined K-5th grade class. Weather permitting, Summer Sunday school ended on the playground often with popsicles. In the Fall of 2025, we transitioned formally to a STEAM based curriculum by Sparkhouse. All students regardless of grade met at the beginning to participate in music, led by Gillian Graeme. Then after a brief discussion with the Children's Ministry Director, Katee Whitfield, the students would separate into two separate classes: PreK – 2nd and 3rd – 5th grade. We resumed offering two separate classes as in the beginning of 2025. We only had 11 Sunday School teachers, but by the fall we had 19 committed teachers and additional fill-in teachers. All Sunday school teachers and volunteers were approved by Session.

Youth/Child Safety Training (taught by the church staff online), and background checks were completed prior to the start of weekly Sunday school classes and again as needed. The training and background checks are required every three years, and the training is held several times a year to ensure compliance.

Kids in Worship: Children's Ministry, in coordination with Lionheart volunteers, provided worship bags that contained crafts and activities for children to use during worship services. In addition, pew puppies and fidget toys were available.

Worship and Sacraments Class: This was held as a single day event (May 3, 2025) that was well received. Five children attended. The students then got to participate in their first communion on May 4. The next class is scheduled for January 31, 2026, and will be held in the same singular day format.

Nursery: The use of an outside agency for staffing continues to be successful. Consistently we have two or more children in the nursery at the 9:30 AM service and three to five during the 11:00am service.

Children's Choir/Cherub Choir: The two are now combined and are a part of the new Sunday School structure. All children who attend Sunday School participate in choir. There is no separate Sunday School session. This allows children to attend the Sunday Hospitality Time between the 9:30am and 11am church services.

Club 45/Club 543: This monthly youth group for children in 3rd-5th grade allows students to participate in a variety of activities including: Ultimate Egg Hunt, downtown Alpharetta scavenger hunt, bread making with Pastor Dana, foam party with the Ignite youth group, a Christmas party, and a service night playing games at Atria Senior Living Center.

Puppetry Workshop: Led by Heather Wagner, kids met on multiple Sunday evenings to create original puppets and then performed a wonderful puppet show during the EPIC worship service on February 23.

Easter Egg Hunt: Our annual Egg Hunt was held on Sunday, April 13, from 3-5pm. The eggs were scattered across the side lawn and playground areas. The hunts were separated by age level.

5th Grade Breakfast: We held a fifth-grade breakfast for students who are bridging from Children's Ministry to Youth Ministry. Special commemorative gifts were given to these children.

Vacation Bible School: We held VBS July 14-18. We limited the number of attendees to 100 and had 30-40 volunteers including youth. Our theme was "Road Trip: On the Go with God" from Cokesbury. Many families from the church, APC Dayschool, and community attended. A nurse was offered to families working at the event and was staffed with a mixture of church volunteers and agency workers.

Blessing of the Backpacks: Blessing of the Backpacks was held during the 9:30 and 11:00am services on August 3. Students (not just children!) and teachers were invited to come forward with their backpacks to receive backpack tags.

Fall Fiesta: This is a family friendly kick-off to the school year event where tacos are served. There are lots of activities for children including bounce houses, face painting, and lawn games.

Children's Sunday service was postponed until January 2026. This was done due to a busy church schedule and to hopefully encourage greater participation.

Christmas Kick Off: On November 30, we held a multigenerational Christmas Kick Off event in Fellowship Hall from 4-6pm. Lots of fun was had with activities, crafts and desserts. There was even a live nativity!

Children's Christmas Pageant: The Children's Christmas Pageant was held during the 9:30am service on December 7. The children sang songs that were practiced during Sunday School. The script was adapted from the book by Glenys Nellist titled "Twas the Evening of Christmas."

Children's Christmas Eve Service: Our family-friendly Christmas Eve service was moved to 3:00pm this year. It has always been a popular choice for our young families. We had members read scripture which told the story of Christ's birth. Members ranged in age from children to young adults. Each year we have many visitors attending, including several from APC Dayschool. Flame-free candles were used during the candlelight song during this service. Afterward, families and children gathered in Fellowship Hall for cupcakes to celebrate the birth of Christ.

DAYSCHOOL

Advisory Board:

Wendy Curl (Dayschool Director), Alison Trizzino, (Assistant Director) Ellen Adolph (President, Elder), Mary Shevlin (Treasurer), Jamie Knopp, Maddy Post and Whitney Swindle (PAC liaison), Jodee Stevens, Senior Pastor Oliver Wagner

The APC Dayschool's 2025 calendar year was marked by continued success and accomplishment. Highlights included the completion of the school year for 196 students and their families, culminating in an End of Year Bash and May 8 graduation ceremonies for PK4 and Transitional Kindergarten students. Additional highlights include:

- Successful 2025-2026 registration in January using the school portal "Our School Hangout." Registration filled 16 classes with a final enrollment of 206 students beginning in August 2025.
- January 2025 and the spring semester saw the first meetings of the parent programming group, "The More You Know." Speakers presented on the topics of *Childhood Behavior* and *Preschool Nutrition*

- May 2025, Ellen Adolph and Beth Hudson completed exit interviews with 5 departing staff members. Overall feedback was very positive.
- Two successful weeks of summer camp took place during June, one the week of 6/2/25 and the other 6/16/25, with a total of 250 campers for both weeks.
- During the calendar year 6 teaching positions were filled.
- The Dayschool completed its fiscal year end on July 31st, allowing for a benevolence contribution of \$96,748.11 to be made to APC.
- The 2025-2026 school year saw a successful kickoff with 206 students and 39 staff members.
- With the growth of the school, administrative positions have grown to 4, with the addition of Sofie Ranshein as Curriculum Administrator.
- Beginning with the fall semester, Pastor Dana Abughazela began a monthly Bible study for Dayschool staff focusing on the role of women in the scriptures.
- Numerous property improvements have been completed or are in process. These projects, paid with Dayschool funds totaling \$42,757.45, are throughout the campus and benefit all who use APC facilities. These include:
 - New cabinets installed in rooms 104, 107, and 114
 - New countertops in 107
 - LVT flooring installed in 107 and in elevator
 - New umbrellas (3) for small picnic tables
 - Outdoor classroom
 - Paint panels and mud kitchen for outdoor classroom
 - Storage sheds for outdoor classroom
 - New tables for rooms 104 and 106
 - New chairs for rooms 104 and 106
 - Nursery rooms carpet protector

The Dayschool parent community (PAC) enjoys strong support across age groups, with PAC-sponsored activities offered throughout the year drawing excellent participation.

The Dayschool at Alpharetta Presbyterian Church continues to distinguish itself with its strong reputation for nurturing care and academic excellence. Firmly established within a supportive Christian environment, the program positively impacts students and their families while upholding standards that reflect the values of the entire Alpharetta Presbyterian Church community.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Elder Beth Hudson, Elder Derek Scheidt

Committee members and advisers: Melody Cookson, Polly Hyatt, Nick Planchard, Colette Rhoades

Staff Support: Katie Millican

Mission Statement

The mission of the Fellowship Committee is to provide opportunities for connection, conversation, and community within the APC church family. This mission is carried out through various events sponsored by the committee, as well as through activities of the affiliated groups that fall under the “umbrella” of the Fellowship Committee.

Affiliated Groups

All-Stars (Jerome Conway, leader)

ACT1 Theater*

APC Book Club (Katie Millican, leader)

Franklin Society/Wine Lovers Education Group (Polly Hyatt, leader)

Freebirds – monthly team trivia off-site (Katie Millican, leader)

Men’s Prayer Breakfast (Ollie Wagner, leader)

Men’s Softball (Eldon Prince, coach)

Prayer Shawl Ministry (Mary Rogovin, leader)

*Note: ACT1 Theater was split off from Arcadia Productions in 2025 and represents APC productions only moving forward.

Summary

In 2025, the Fellowship Committee hosted and/or facilitated several regular events throughout the year along with the weekly Sunday Hospitality Time in between worship services. An ordination reception was held in honor of Rev. Dana AbuGhazaleh in March. The Haiti School Initiative was the highlight of the year and was held off-site at the home of Derek Scheidt and Kevin Isom where over \$42k was raised to help build a school in Ti Cotelette, Haiti. The committee is also responsible for the management of the kitchen and its supplies.

Activities

- **Regular Events**

- **Sunday Morning Hospitality** – Volunteer teams provide food and host a buffet-style brunch between worship services in the Fellowship Hall. Teams are split up by weeks:
 - 1st Sunday – Beth Hudson, team leader
 - 2nd Sunday – Katie Millican, team leader
 - 3rd Sunday – Colette Rhoades, team leader
 - 4th Sunday – Nick Planchard, team leader
 - 5th Sunday – Jodie Barger, team leader

- **Special Events**

- Chili Cookoff / Bingo Night
- Franklin Society Wine Tastings (3 held during the year)
- Mother’s Day Brunch
- Tailgate Kickoff Picnic
- Sabbatical Stories Dinner
- World Communion Soup Luncheon with Centro Familiar
- Goodbye Reception for Rev. Markham
- Christmas Cookie Buffet
- Christmas Reception

Financials

All activities and purchases fell within our assigned budget.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Elder Bob Cookson, Elder Lee Porter

The Membership Committee of Alpharetta Presbyterian Church conducted many activities in 2025 focused on attracting, connecting, and nurturing members. Active in this committee were Elders Bob Cookson and Lee Porter, Pastoral Liaisons Reverend Dr. Beverly Markham/Rev. Dana AbuGhazaleh, and committee members Sabine Genet, Margy Culver, Colin Rosenberger, Susan McBreairty, and Alyssa Darby. The work done by the committee falls into several areas summarized below:

New member attraction and connection

- A visitor follow-up process was continued and improved with committee members calling frequent visitors to engage and make connections within APC; also, they are encouraged to attend new member classes and join APC.
- New member classes were conducted on 1/20, 3/16, 5/18, 8/24, and 10/19
 - These classes resulted in **29** new family units and their associated children
 - All new members are actively engaged with APC
 - This represents 1 additional joining Sunday from 2024
- The committee showed appreciation to 2025 new members with a Christmas Party at Ollie and Heather Wagner's home with over 50 people in attendance.
- Coffee, donuts, and church activity flyers were shared with Dayschool parents at carpool drop-off points once during the year.
- The All Are Welcome banner was developed for display to indicate our church's acceptance of all people.

Congregation engagement and involvement

- In 2023, we began a process to identify and connect with members who have become less active over the past two years in an effort to reconnect them to worship and activities at APC. In 2024, this program was shortened to engage members who are less active after just one year. In 2025, this program continued with the shorter window of one year.
- From 2023 and 2024 years, APC has experienced a net growth of 75 members bringing APC to its highest membership in 15 years (~4% annual growth). In 2025, the committee worked with the staff to remove inactive members from our rolls with a process that included seeking out individuals to ask their desire (e.g. to remain on the rolls or not). The result was an expected reduction of members with a net change for 2025 of **65 adults and 25 children**.

Congregational service/nurturing

- Rainbow pins were placed in several places in our building to foster understanding that truly "All Are Welcome" here.
- A process of engaging inactive members continued. This began with a letter sent by the committee Elders to those members that had not attended in over one year. Follow-up calls by committee members were then made in hopes of getting them to return to active membership (see above).
- Worked with Session and staff to continue to communicate clearly on the APC website and social media that our denomination and congregation accept all people to worship, lead, and be active in the work of the church
- Began research into the best advertising and messaging channels for churches to attract new members, working with staff and committee members, and including a suggestion to form a communications committee to help Katie with some of the digital platforms. This effort will continue into 2026.

MISSION COMMITTEE

Elder Thomas Gould, Elder Lynn Tinley

Mission Committee continued its relationships with its core mission partners in 2025, with a particular emphasis on engaging the congregation further. Following is a summary of APC's relationships and impact.

La Gonave Haiti Partners (LGHP): 2025 was a unique year in this relationship, as LGHP requested of APC to undertake a capital campaign for our sister community of Ticotelette to build a new school as the current one had fallen into severe disrepair. Coincidentally, Fellowship was seeking ways to engage with Mission and other committees. Ultimately, these and other committees and groups in the church (Dayschool, children, worship) worked together for an evening fundraising event, Dayschool education and fundraising, highlights in worship, and other activities, yielding \$42,000 that will both build the school and provide for long-term support. Work has commenced. This effort was additional to APC's longstanding support to pay teacher salaries and provide hot meals, which is critical as APC is the sole partner church to Ticotelette. Contact: Randy Schiltz.

North Fulton Community Charities (NFCC) and The Place of Forsyth (TPoF): APC continued its longstanding relationships with NFCC and TPoF for their thrift shops and food pantries. In addition to its budgeted financial support, APC supported supply drives during the calendar year, including winter clothing for their warm coat drives and food for Thanksgiving food drives. APC again hosted NFCC's Back to School Backpack Drive that provided fully stocked backpacks to over 1,000 school kids in our communities. Members also regularly provide food and HABA items throughout the year as a matter of regular course. Our financial support allows NFCC and TPoF to provide help in obtaining GED certification, financial planning courses, second language courses, and income tax preparation assistance. Contact: Kim Fulkerson (NFCC) and Eva Wardrup (TPoF).

Memorial Drive Ministries (MDM): APC continued to financially support MDM, with past Associate Pastor Beverly Markham serving as the Board of Directors President. With particular challenges faced by immigrants and refugees in this most culturally diverse part of the country, MDM provides and connects these people with services, resources, and support networks. Contact: Dale Carter.

Family Promise: APC hosted up to three families per session across four sessions. APC, in addition to being an important FP partner, is a gathering point for the community coming together for common good, as Alpharetta Rotary, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. James Methodist, UUMAN, and the Young Men's Service League, along with APC members, cooked, slept, decorated, and did laundry during our host weeks. APC's support extended beyond hosting, as contributions supported the broader Family Promise program, which touched over 6,000 individuals in 2025. Contact: Tom Gould.

Habitat Aid Initiative (HAI): HAI completed a donor trip to Kenya again in 2025, and is expected to have APC members join the 2026 trip in May. APC continued to financially support HAI during 2025 with continued assistance of the Munyanza Health Center with overhead funding for salaries, equipment, and pharmaceuticals, food and school supplies for the orphans at Ekolomani Child rescue center, construction of teacher housing at Khwisero Girl's Secondary School, and additional water points. Contact: Walter Dean.

The Drake House (TDH): APC has supported TDH since 2006. This includes helping to maintain one of the apartment units and supporting the mother and children while they live in the unit. Support is given through furnishing and supplying the unit as families transition through the unit. APC reduced support in 2025 as the connection to TDH waned

in recent years. A leadership meeting will be held in early 2026 to strategize how APC and TDH can reignite the relationship. Contact: Christina Appen

Presbytery of Greater Atlanta (PGA): APC fully funded both the Presbytery's per-capita request and an equivalent amount for benevolence. Contact: Ollie Wagner

Other Support: APC supported the AMIS program (Atlanta collegiate students from other countries), the New Church Development Commission, Lionheart, Youth Mission Trips, Centro Familiar Cristiano, and contributions to the Pastor's Emergency Fund to assist point-specific needs.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Elder Polly Hyatt, Elder Susan Smith

The Nominating Committee is charged with selecting and presenting to Session the nominees for church officers (Elders and Deacons) and for other leadership roles requiring Session approval (such as the Crisis Intervention Committee members and the successor Nominating Committee for the upcoming year). The committee is charged with ensuring that the nomination and election of Elders and Deacons "express the rich diversity of the congregation's membership and guarantee participation and inclusiveness" (*Book of Order G-2.0401*). Representation on the committee is detailed in the APC By-Laws.

In 2025 the Nominating Committee nominated one member of the Crisis Intervention Committee (CIC) to replace a member who stepped down at the end of her term. The Committee also nominated the Class of 2028 Ruling Elders and Deacons (including one Elder and one Deacon who are youth representatives and will serve two years each), and the Nominating Committee for 2026.

The members of the 2025 Nominating Committee were:

Polly Hyatt- Elder (Chair)
 Susan Smith- Elder (Vice Chair)
 Tracy Norris- Deacon
 Margy Culver- At-large
 Susan McBreairty- At-large
 David Neal- At-Large
 Ollie Wagner- Ex Officio

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Elder Joe Hellrung, Elder Beth Hudson

Committee members: Salpi Adrouny, Jim Cash, Scott Doll, Valerie Fulkerson, Ted Lynam, Tracy Norris, Rob Vacko

Staff Support: Ollie Wagner

The committee met monthly throughout the year to support church staff and fill vacancies as they emerged. Specifically in 2025, the committee is grateful to have accomplished the following:

1. Worked with the church staff to ensure smooth operations for the church as the senior pastor enjoyed a two-month sabbatical.

2. Celebrated with Reverend Dana AbuGhazaleh as she was ordained into the ministry. Assisted Dana and her family in obtaining an R-1 visa. Extended a contract call for Rev. AbuGhazaleh as Associate Pastor.
3. Worked with Music Ministry leaders to revise job descriptions for Assistant Director of Music and Youth Choir Director. Hired Gillian Graeme as our new Assistant Director of Music.
4. Upon Director of A/V Will Gianini's resignation, hired Nick Bredeson to fill that role.
5. Accepted the resignation of Associate Pastor, Rev. Dr. Beverly Markham. Celebrated her eight-year ministry and formed a search committee to fill that part-time position.
6. Formed a search committee for the Youth Director position early in 2025. This search was put on hold as no qualified candidates applied. Youth Ministry Interns were approved in the interim and later received approval from session to name Youth Ministry Assistants.
7. Conducted annual performance reviews for all staff and assured the awarding of a cost-of-living increase and Christmas bonus to all staff.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Elder Tyler Moore, Elder Woodrow Cannon

Committee Members: Dave Berry, Tim Chisholm, Diane King, Duane DeBruler, David Neal, Eric Dummer, Greg Helfrich, Bob Cookson, Valerie Fulkerson, Ted Lynam, Steve Wardrup, Tim Hathy, Chris Norris

Staff support: Jason Brandt, Ollie Wagner, Laura Moore, Wendy Curl, Katie Millican

Summary:

2025 was a very busy year around the APC property with multiple large projects completed. It took a wide range of talents and resources to achieve all the successes. Appreciation goes out to the entire committee, staff, members, and friends of APC for their dedication and generosity towards getting the job done!

Highlights from the past year include:

- New building fire alarm system – previous system had become outdated with obsolete parts, etc.
- LVT flooring – carpet was replaced in multiple areas of the building
- Cottage Shed – after a lengthy permitting process and lots of hard work the shed was put into service by our Lionheart partners
- Outdoor Classroom – supported Dayschool's efforts to get the beautiful new multi-purpose structure in place
- The Field of Dreams – APC teamwork was on full display as a bare portion of the property was transformed and brought to new life
- Tree and limb cleanup – lots of work went into a "haircut and shave" for the largely wooded property we enjoy at APC

Property expenses exceeded the budget by 2% with Utilities and Grounds Maintenance being the high-runners. Overall, we believe 2025 was a tremendously successful year for Property with plenty of additional activities slated for 2026. Personnel stability continued in 2025 with our outstanding Property Manager, Jason Brandt, as well as excellent support from assistants Tim Chisolm and Tyler Moore.

Regular 2025 Activities:

Monthly review and tracking against 2025 budget
 Monthly Property Committee meetings with minutes
 Opening and closing the property each Sunday
 Review and approve property invoices

Development of 2026 budget
 Review and approve space usage requests from outside groups
 Spring and Fall Property Workdays
 Review and pass all fire and safety inspections

Additional 2025 Accomplishments:

Worked alongside Stewardship with the City of Alpharetta to finalize the city's purchase of a very small amount of APC property along Cumming Street for the purpose of installing a sidewalk.

New HVAC system installed in the Cottage.

New water fountain/bottle fillers installed in the Dayschool hallway and across from the church office.

Major upgrade of APC's security camera system including the installation of two additional cameras.

Improvements made to the main water line at the Cottage.

Refinishing of the Chancel surface in the Sanctuary.

Began the extensive effort to replace fluorescent light bulbs with LED; areas completed in 2025 were Fellowship Hall, hallway outside the church office, and the nursery hallway.

Projects Moved to 2026

Construction/Purchase of a structure to provide covering for Tina, the church mini-bus.

Installation of automatic shut-off valves on the three main water lines into the building; This is being done in order to satisfy requirements for a reasonable insurance deductible in the event of a water damage claim.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH COMMITTEE

Elder Rick Bogda, Elder Russell Thomas

Committee Members: Dale Carter, Polly Hyatt, Lynn Reiman, Mary Rogovin, Deanna Womack

Staff Support: Rev. Dana AbuGhazaleh

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. We offered in-person meetings in classrooms, Zoom meetings and hybrid meetings throughout the week. For 2024-2025, our Bible 101 courses utilized Covenant Curriculum. This year it was decided to change back to Disciple. We are very proud of getting our special event classes live-streamed on YouTube. These courses have been archived on the church's YouTube channel so they can be enjoyed at any time.

Special Classes in 2025

"Visual Arts and the Bible." In January 2025, we hosted Dr. Brendan Breed, professor at Columbia Seminary. The series was very well received with a full audience. This was our first series in several years that we were able to stream live on YouTube. The recorded course is available to view anytime on APC's YouTube channel.

"The Canonization of the Bible." In August 2025, we hosted Dr. Roger Nam, professor at Candler School of Theology. He lectured on how the Bible became organized and how books were chosen. This was also well received with about 60 attendees for each session. This course was also livestreamed on YouTube and is available online.

January 2026 Series

Dr. Christine R. Yoder from Columbia Theological Seminary will lead the Adult Education Series entitled "The Tree of Life: Israel's Sages on the Search for Wisdom." Through the lens of Proverbs, this study explores ancient Israel's concepts of wisdom and the implications of those conceptions for faith today. This will be three Sundays: January 11, 18 and 25.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Elder Arthur Colby, Elder Collin Webb

The Stewardship and Financial Committee of Alpharetta Presbyterian Church met regularly throughout 2025 to provide oversight of financial operations, property matters, and stewardship initiatives. Each meeting began with prayer and focused on reviewing prior minutes, financial reports, and outstanding action items. The committee consistently demonstrated diligence in maintaining fiscal responsibility and advancing strategic priorities.

Financial Management and Oversight

The committee approved monthly financial reports and ensured transparency in all transactions. The 2025 operating budget was finalized and presented to Session early in the year, and preparations for the 2026 budget began in the third quarter. An internal control audit was completed and accepted in September, reinforcing strong governance practices. Endowment and investment policies were updated to include clearer roles for advisors and managers, and multiple investment calls with Schwab were conducted to optimize returns. Endowment grants were awarded in February to support mission and facility needs.

Property and Facilities

Significant progress was made on property matters, including the successful sale of church-owned land, which closed in the fall after congregational and presbytery approval. The committee also authorized funding for organ repairs from Memorial funds and approved major facility expenses, such as the Field of Dreams concrete project and water heater replacement. Plans for playground renovations were initiated in December and will carry forward into 2026.

Personnel and Contracts

The committee addressed contract signing responsibilities and approved key personnel-related expenses, including a visa extension and a contribution to the Pastor's Emergency Fund. Dayschool budget concerns were monitored closely, with adjustments recommended.

Stewardship and Commitment Campaign

The annual stewardship campaign was launched in the fall, with marketing materials, pledge communications, and congregational updates delivered through multiple channels. The committee also explored creative funding opportunities, such as a special offering for school construction in Haiti.

Strategic Initiatives and Governance

Throughout the year, the committee reviewed and refined financial procedures, updated insurance requirements for vendors, and monitored tax law changes affecting charitable giving. Insights from the NOLA Stewardship Conference were shared in December to inform future planning.

Looking Ahead to 2026

Outstanding priorities include final approval of the 2026 operating budget, decisions on playground renovation funding, and continued monitoring of external factors impacting giving. The committee remains committed to prudent financial stewardship and strategic resource management in support of the church's mission.

Alpharetta Presbyterian Church
2025 Results

	YTD Actual 2025	YTD Budget 2025
Revenue		
Pledged receipts	\$ 1,028,857	\$ 1,025,000
Non-pledged receipts	120,567	180,000
Interest and Investment income	54,832	55,000
Dayschool benevolence	93,583	104,000
Special offerings	11,934	10,700
Other income	37,993	35,800
	<hr/>	<hr/>
REVENUE - CHURCH OPERATIONS	\$ 1,347,767	\$ 1,410,500
Expenses		
Personnel	\$ 799,466	\$ 853,200
General expenses	119,604	108,375
Mortgage	48,849	48,850
Deacons and Session	7,323	15,325
Property - maintenance	102,773	106,000
Property - supplies	14,826	12,500
Property - utilities	105,705	100,000
Children's ministry	24,931	25,000
Youth/YA ministry	7,100	11,250
Spiritual growth	2,059	4,000
Fellowship	4,382	4,000
Kitchen	4,869	5,000
Membership	1,075	1,800
Presbytery (and per capita)	48,000	48,000
Special offerings	11,934	10,700
Missions	49,263	50,500
Commitment	4,601	4,000
Worship - supplies	6,819	10,000
Worship - music	12,687	10,000
Security	0	5,000
Communications	1,754	2,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
EXPENSES - CHURCH OPERATIONS	1,378,021	1,435,500
NET INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE OTHER INCOME	\$ (30,254)	\$ (25,000)
Other income	251,758	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>
NET INCOME (LOSS)	\$ 221,504	\$ (25,000)

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE TEAM

Team Members: Rick Bogda, Candice Davis, Derek Scheidt, Russ Thomas

The APC Strategic Plan Update Team developed and conducted a survey that was shared with the congregation in the fall and will be used in conversation in 2026. The survey and upcoming meetings will help determine how we see APC growing and changing during the next five years to meet our Christian, congregational, community and world needs. In other words, you are invited to help us shape our future.

Some key insights from the survey and our ongoing conversation include:

- How important our Sunday worship, sermons, music, Christian education and fellowship are to each of us each week with some highlighting potential ways to make it even more meaningful.
- How our building and grounds support our many efforts and ministries.
- How local and global mission efforts continue to impact others and be important to APC members.
- How we are there to help and care for our members as needs arrive, many thanks to our Deacons.
- That we have both traditional and contemporary music styles and services currently, with opportunities to consider how best to move forward with each.
- That we desire to have continued growth and staffing for our youth program
- That we desire to continue to reach and connect with youth adults.
- Ministering effectively through digital means and staying connected to those who are not able to attend in person.
- Greater use of social media in marketing and church fellowship.

All are invited to join our March 21 morning meeting in Fellowship Hall for continued conversation as we update and refresh our strategic plan for 2026-2030! Help us discern and set a course for the future to which God is calling us.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Elder Jennifer Autian, Elder John Plocic

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 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 is also responsible for other traditional elements of worship, such as liturgy, sanctuary preparation, acolyte functions, ushering, sound and lighting, flowers, and sanctuary garden planning and maintenance.

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 2025.

- The EPIC (Experiential, highly Participatory, Image-rich and Connective) services that began in 2024 with one service a month was extended to two services a month in 2025. EPIC services were held on the second and fourth Sundays at 5pm featuring a casual service with praise music and interactive discussion. Regular attendance was 30-50. Services were 45 minutes followed by light food and fellowship. Communion was served at services near Easter and Christmas.
- The church continues to livestream one service every Sunday, and there is a solid base of worshipers that enjoy the livestream service. Use of the screens in the sanctuary has continued and is well received. Usage increased throughout

the year to enhance the service with pictures or key words through the sermon and other parts of the service. Security presence was increased during church services on Sundays in response to actions of neighboring churches and community.

- Lent was celebrated through March and April starting with Ash Wednesday morning ashes to-go, children's pancake dinner and activities, and evening worship service, then culminating with Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday soup and bread fellowship service, Good Friday noon service, and three Easter services – sunrise, 9:30am, and 11am. Palm Sunday's service included palm fronds for the congregation and a cast of ACT1 actors and adults/children from the congregation who shared a reenactment of Jesus' entry to Jerusalem organized by Children's Ministry.
- Rev. Dana AbuGhazaleh's ordination was held in March and was a beautiful and meaningful service. APC is excited to have her ordained and on staff as an Associate Pastor.
- Gifts of Women service in March: worship committee gave each woman a flower during each service.
- Pentecost was a beautiful service emphasizing the gift of the Holy Spirit with colors, music, and handbells.
- Storage continues to be a challenge for the committee both for music and their highly utilized space and sanctuary décor. We've continued to be creative with the help of Jason Brandt from Property and keep a detailed list of all the scattered locations where items are stored. Twelve burgundy kneeling pads were ordered to be used for ordinations and other special services and clear bins were found to store these above cabinets in Sacristy.
- Pastor Ollie and wife Heather enjoyed his sabbatical during the summer months. Associate ministers filled in along with guest ministers Will Norman from UGA and Rev. Alex Rodgers, Manager of Preparation for Ministry and Exams for the PC(USA).
- The committee gathered thoughts for a strategic plan that kicked off this year with more detailed focus next year. Ideas include purchasing an organ, continuation/growth of EPIC, updating the sound system, building more storage for music ministry and for storage of worship décor for all seasonal uses, ordering new candelabras, ordering or making new banners, and constructing a covered entrance canopy at the main double doors.
- Worship committee supported the summer mission focus, Haiti School Initiative, by including special messages during the regular worship services, using the screens to show the need in Haiti, sharing messages from their pastor, delivering children's messages and collecting a special offering.
- In October, the church celebrated World Communion Sunday with Centro Familiar for the fourth year. The service was held indoors in the sanctuary including music from both congregations. Fellowship continued after the service with a shared lunch. The service and fellowship were well attended and should continue. Moving the service indoors was needed due to changes with the AV process, but it was well received and many thought it was more personal and communal.
- When Associate Pastor Beverly Markham announced her departure, the pastoral schedule was updated and a pastoral search team was created. Will Giannini also provided notice of his departure from Audio/Visual tech support, and an interim/possible replacement was identified, Nick Bredeson.
- The Advent season with a theme of "The Weary World Rejoices" was beautiful and included the Children's Pageant, Christmas Music Service, and four services on Christmas Eve. The four services were a children's service with participation of APC Dayschool, two traditional candlelight services, and the final 11pm candlelight service with communion. All were well attended. The Longest Night service was a shared service held December 7 at Northminster Presbyterian Church for a special time of reflection. Great organization and details for decorating and take down by Sanctuary Prep and Property.

Number of 2025 Baptisms: 6, Weddings Onsite: 0, Memorial Services Onsite: 7

2025 APC Worship Committee Subcommittee Chairpersons:

- Ministerial: Ollie Wagner
- Liturgists and Communion: Kelly Vandever
- Ushering: Jennifer Autian
- Music: Drew Bowers, Sam DeCarlo, Gillian Graeme (new title Assistant Director of Music)
- Weddings: Dawn Bray
- Flower Guild: Laura Vacko (team of Mary Nelson and Mary Busman assist)
- Sound/lighting function: Will Giannini rolled off at year end, now Nick Bredeson
- Acolytes: Carolina Smith rolled off, Katee Whitfield has taken Acolytes as part of Children's Ministry

- ACT1 Liaison: Stu Moring and Virginia Mann
- Memorial Garden: Jan Hughey, Blake Cherrington
- Special Worship (Christmas/Easter) Sanctuary Prep: Valerie Fulkerson and team of volunteers
- Emergency Response Team: Mallory Feazle
- Funerals/Memorials: Martha Frutchey

YOUTH MINISTRY

Elder Allison Liu, Elder Candice Davis

Committee members and advisers: Kari Minnich, Wendy Seeman, Lauren Gerhard, Derek Scheidt, Mike Womack

Sunday School Teachers: Tim Deitrich, Candice Davis, Mallory Feazle, Natalie Force, Lauren Gerhard, Amy Hewitt, Jeffrey Jackson, Allison Liu, Derek Scheidt, Wendy Seeman, Aly Sikora, Katherine Thomas, Russ Thomas, Mike Womack, Kyndall Smyre.

Staff Support: Dana AbuGhazaleh and Susan Baur

Purpose and Committee Focus

Throughout 2025, the Youth Ministry Committee worked to strengthen youth discipleship, community building and engagement for middle school, high school, and young adults. Core priorities included:

- faith formation and weekly programming
- mission and service opportunities
- fundraising to support participation
- volunteer recruitment and training
- communication systems for youth and families
- safe, well-supported ministry practices

1. Faith Formation & Weekly Programming

Bible 101

- Bible 101 launched as a summer initiative and was strongly affirmed by youth. Students asked for it to continue, and the committee approved a fall restart.
- Fall schedule: Tuesdays at 5:30pm, beginning August 13, following a one-week break after the summer session.

Sunday School & Youth Group Rebrand

- The committee voted to refresh ministry identity to better match current curriculum and engagement goals:
- Sunday School renamed "Faith Quest."
- Youth Group renamed "Ignite."
- A new logo and naming rollout were discussed as part of Fall Kickoff planning.

Confirmation Planning

- The committee agreed that new foundations being laid through Bible 101 and Sunday School allowed confirmation to be restructured.
- Discussion throughout the fall pointed toward a retreat-based model, culminating in a formal proposed 2026 process centered on an orientation, weekend retreat, mentoring, faith statements, and reception into membership.

2. Mission & Service

2025 Trips

Montreat (High School, June 8–14)

- Registration was lower than expected but it's the first year to attend in many, many years. 7 Youth and 2 chaperones attended.
- The feedback was unanimous, everyone loved it, learned from it and have been spreading the word. Interest to attend next year is already buzzing.

CROSS Mission Trip (June 22–28)

- Stronger participation with 12 youth and 3 chaperones registered.
- Committee discussed scholarships and reduced chaperone fees to improve affordability.

2026 Direction

- The committee explored consolidating trips to Montreat for both MS and HS, but after reviewing costs and logistics, the committee reached a decision:
- Middle School: CROSS June 21st-26th
- High School: Montreat, June 7th-13th

3. Fundraising & Financial Support

Youth Auction (Spring)

- Net proceeds: \$9,500 after expenses.
- Success factors: earlier communication, clearer mission trip story, and well-defined use of funds.

Ideas for improvement next year: Shift Toward Dinner Theater Fundraiser.

- Discussion moved toward replacing or supplementing the auction with a more youth-led fundraiser.
- Youth Dinner Theater set for Feb 27-28, 2026. Act1 will support production; all proceeds go to APC Youth.
- Committee initiated big-ticket live auction item planning in place of a silent auction due to space.

Souper Bowl of Caring

- Collected approximately \$1,500, reinforcing youth service and generosity.

4. Community Life & Events

Signature Events

- Mystery Outing: 11 youth registered; positive turnout.
- Youth Sunday (May 11): planned for senior participation, slideshow, and Mother's Day integration.
- Welcoming Rising 6th Graders: developed a transition plan ("Cross the Bridge" and Big/Little buddy approach).
- Fall Engagement Additions: multiple fellowship/formation events (Gibbs Garden trip, self-defense class, dodgeball after EPIC).

Trunk or Treat (Oct 26)

- Youth were incorporated into setup and breakdown.
- Two food trucks were contracted with safeguards for minimum sales obligations.

Christmas Fellowship

- Youth Christmas Party (Dec 7): games, dinner with Open Arms, white elephant, and a youth-made ornament project to bless Open Arms participants and congregational seniors.

5. Communication & Family Engagement

WhatsApp Rollout

- Separate groups for High School, Middle School, and Parents.
- QR-based onboarding plan created for sign-ups.

- Families encouraged to add youth into Parent Group for visibility.

Social Media

- Instagram re-established under church communication standards, managed through staff leadership.

Registration Compliance

- Ongoing challenge: incomplete Realm registrations, affecting planning and headcounts.
- Future focus includes clearer communication about why registration matters.

6. Volunteers, Staffing, and Youth Safety

Volunteer Support

- Two-volunteer minimum per Sunday evening emphasized.
- Recruitment strategies: direct asks, clearer Good News descriptions of commitments, mentoring new volunteers.

Volunteer Roster for Approval

- Full slate submitted for Session approval mid-summer.

Staff Recruitment

- Recruiting difficult due to youth ministry openings statewide.
- Committee explored shared full-time possibility with Northminster as a pipeline strategy.

Youth Safety Policy Update

- Session approved amendments to Child and Youth Safety Policies, revising “Reporting and Inquiry Procedures.”
- Clerk tasked with drafting final language for Session review.

7. Facilities and Ministry Environment

Youth Lounge Grant

- Grant pursued in October and confirmed in November.
- Funds arrive January 2026; committee collecting ideas to refresh the space.

Looking Ahead (2026 Trajectory)

Major 2026 priorities include:

- Youth Dinner Theater execution and live auction
- Continued volunteer recruitment
- Launch of new confirmation retreat model
- Improved Realm registration compliance
- Youth lounge redesign
- Finalizing mission trips for CROSS (MS) and Montreat (HS)

Summary (Executive Overview)

In 2025, the Youth Ministry Committee strengthened APC’s youth ministry through expanded faith formation, improved communication systems, successful fundraising, and renewed community engagement. Bible 101 proved highly impactful and will continue into fall programming. Mission trips were supported by strong fundraising results—including a \$9,500 Youth Auction—and planning shifted toward a youth-led Dinner Theater fundraiser for 2026. Communications improved significantly through WhatsApp rollout and clearer social media processes. The committee launched a ministry rebrand (“Faith Quest” and “Ignite”), developed a stronger transition for rising 6th graders, and expanded fall events. Volunteer recruitment and staffing remained challenges, but concrete strategies were adopted. Safe ministry practices were reinforced through Session-approved revisions to Child and Youth Safety Policy procedures. The year ended with strong forward direction for confirmation restructuring, mission planning, and a funded youth lounge refresh.

