

Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church

Annual Report to the Congregation
for 2014

Presented to the Congregation March 15, 2015



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My dear friends,

As I look back on the year 2014, I am aware of the many ways we have grown together. We have grown in membership and programming, which is measurable, but I daresay we have also grown in faith and been strengthened in our journey together as the Body of Christ, by the presence of the Holy Spirit in our midst, calling us, shaping us, challenging us and inviting us into a holy relationship with God our Creator through Jesus, our teacher, our guide, our Lord and our Savior.

MISSION:

Our congregation focuses its mission on three words: Welcome, Worship, and Witness. As we do ministry together, we continually search for ways we can be inclusive and fully welcoming to all God's children. We ask how our worship informs who we are and what we do in the world. We seek to discern how God would have us witness to the love and light of Christ to the world. In our ministry together, we keep this three-fold mission focus in the forefront of our minds.

STAFF:

I cannot say enough about the quality of the paid staff serving this congregation. Nana Morelli (office manager), Jeremy Nabors (director of music ministry), Mitzi Leshner-Thomas (parish associate), Janet Askew (bookkeeper), Jay Pierson (pianist), Dennis Dallke (custodian), Peaches Smith and Barbara Treyz (nursery). They give so much of themselves to the work they do here at Chapel in the Pines. I am grateful to be a part of such a strong and faithful team of leaders. Thank you for your generosity as a congregation which allows us to have such a talented, faithful, and hard-working team in place.

At the end of 2014, we said goodbye to our pianist of 18 months, Jay Pierson. We were grateful for these months of service and the gifts he brought to our music ministry and we wish him well as he shifts his focus to vocal teaching and conducting. We continue to be grateful to Katherine Brekke and the many volunteer hours she puts into directing the handbell choir and for the overall musical gifts she brings to the worship team as well.

During 2014, we worked with several Duke Divinity School student interns after a break for many years because of financial limitations. From January –April 2014, Libby Boehne continued her year-long internship with us and added her many gifts to our worship and Sunday school leadership. During the summer, Barbara Styers joined us as our intern and in the fall Nick Andersen began his internship, with a focus on pastoral care and worship leadership. For all of these interns, I served as supervisor and met with and mentored them every week.

Chapel in the Pines continues to be a wonderful place for these divinity students to learn and grow and explore the particular vocational calling God has for them. Thank you all for the welcome you have given each one of them and the guidance you have offered them in their journey.

Rosy Robson, UNC senior and youth intern finished out four years with us and graduated from UNC in May. She began her studies at Union Presbyterian Seminary in the fall. Savannah Caccamo, also a UNC student and a member of First

Presbyterian Church in Greensboro, took over where Rosy left off as our new youth intern in August 2014. During the summer, UNC student Katie Edmiston volunteered at the church several hours each day. I am so grateful for all of these students and the gifts they shared with our congregation!

CONGREGATION:

As a worshipping community, Chapel in the Pines is no longer a brand-new congregation. We are becoming seasoned in our work and worship and in our service to the community around us. We have become known in Chatham County and Chapel Hill/Carrboro as a welcoming congregation that cares for those in need. We have continued to support local ministries and programs we have always been a part of, like Habitat for Humanity, Take and Eat Food Pantry, Family Violence and Rape Crisis Center, and the Literacy Council and we have added our support to new ministries and programs, like The Farm at Penny Lane and the Hispanic Liaison.

We also continue to support a school and a health post in Guatemala and to support our mission co-worker Karla Koll, who now teaches at the seminary in Costa Rica. This year we added mission co-worker Amanda Craft in Guatemala in order to continue to have someone directly related to the ministries we support there.

We continue to be intentional about welcoming visitors and new members into this community of faith. God has brought so many wonderful people into our midst and together we all become Chapel in the Pines! We are grateful to be a growing, changing community and we look forward to continued growth in faith, service and ministry together as we welcome others, worship together, and witness to the love of Christ in the world. Thank you for all who offer such a welcome and for all who give of your time and gifts to make Chapel in the Pines a faithful witness to Christ's calling to love and serve others. So many of you volunteer endless hours to serve in these ministry areas and to lead committees that do the work of the church. So many of you volunteer in the office or prepare and serve food for our fellowship time after worship. So many of you lead worship as musicians, readers, or with the children. So many of you teach Sunday school to our children and have embraced the new Workshop Rotation Model, led ably by Karen Adkins and Katherine Brekke.

This year, under the strong leadership of Nathan Kotecki, we began the Strobilus Music Series, with five musical programs presented throughout the fall and more planned for the spring. This series offers us the opportunity to share the acoustical gifts of our beautiful sanctuary with the community around us and to welcome them into our space to enjoy talented local artists.

This congregation continues to be a congregation of faith and love that cares for one another and for those around us. In the prayers you offered up, in the meals you prepared, the cards and notes you wrote, the calls and visits you made, you have shared the care and love of Christ Jesus with those who are sick, or tired, or lonely, or afraid. In the volunteer work you do in the community to bring justice and peace and food and mentoring and clothes and books and assistance to those in need, you are tireless. You have been bearers of light in your lives and have made a difference in the lives of others. I continue to learn from you and I am humbled by the way you all give so freely of yourselves and of the gifts you have been given.

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS:

On a more personal note, this year has been one of celebration and sorrow for me. In September, I married the most amazing man on the planet, Tim O'Brien, and rejoice in his presence in my life every day. He makes me better, stronger, more patient, more loving, kinder and certainly happier than I have been in a very, very long time! My son, Tyler, who started his sophomore year at Carrboro High School in the fall of 2014 also brings me endless joy, laughter, wisdom, and peace, even as we navigate these difficult teenage years together. I have also continued in my Doctor of Ministry program at Duke, attending classes, writing papers and learning and growing in many ways. Thank you for your support in this educational opportunity!

My sorrow comes because I know how many of you face ongoing physical, mental and/or emotional struggles. Such sorrow is deepened when we have had to say goodbye to those who have died over the past year, some too early in their life, as Nana's daughter, Kaitlin Morelli, and others late in life, as Ed Mammen. As a community, we bear that sorrow together and hold one another up in our grief, resting in God's good and strong arms of promised redemption and defeat of death. I am grateful for you all in your ability to celebrate together as well as walk through dark valleys together. This is what the church is all about. Thanks be to God for you all.

FINAL WORDS:

I want to thank our office manager Nana Morelli for the extra time she spent into putting this document together and for all those who shared photos and wrote reports. This document will help the whole congregation know what we do in our church community, in Chatham County and even beyond the county lines.

I know I could say much more, but for now, please know how grateful I am to be a part of this incredible group of God's people and how humbled I am to serve God with you every day.

God is good, friends, and we have been the joyful beneficiaries of God's goodness in more ways than can be expressed in one report. I end my report giving thanks to God for you all and for the opportunity I have to serve with you in ministry as we follow Jesus Christ together.

To God be the glory, now and always.

Your pastor, servant, and friend,
Mindy Douglas

I had to look. As I sat, fingers to keyboard, I had to look at our history together. Has it really been six years? Six years of conversations over coffee, communion shared in homes, fellowship gatherings, potlucks, and of course, meetings – we are Presbyterian after all. Time spent in study and prayer, laughing, learning even struggling at times. We’ve tried new things; like running and walking together, being in silence together, and the lovely chaos of excited children on Christmas Eve. And we’ve treasured the comfort that comes from the familiar; “the body of Christ, given for you...,” and “remember your baptism...”

For each and every one of these opportunities I am grateful; grateful for how they’ve challenged me not to settle but to continue seeking new avenues of ministry and for how they’ve helped us grow in our life of faith and service. And, though growth does not always require change – for me, this past year, they went hand in hand. Recognizing changing needs and changing lives, Stephen Ministry no longer meets regularly though care is still available and provided in unique ways, like the special service before the holidays and providing grief books to those who’ve lost a loved one. And while I’ve taken on a few, more general responsibilities, my greatest joy and the gift for which I give heartfelt thanks, is the opportunity to be a part of your journeys in life and faith. It is no small wonder to me, the many times I am invited to walk with you in hardship, in sorrow, and in joy. Thank you, for these years of journeying together, and may Christ guide our feet as we journey on together.

Deacons/Stephen Ministers

The office of deacon is one of compassion, witness, and service after the example of Jesus Christ. Each deacon is assigned a shepherd group which they get to know and care for through notes, emails, calls or visits. This is their primary role; to maintain contact frequently enough that each member knows their deacon.

Deacons organize memorial receptions coordinating refreshments and volunteers as they care for the family. They strive to acknowledge significant life events such as births, baptisms, and graduations with a special gift on behalf of the congregation.

Deacons extend the care of Chapel in the Pines by assisting with transportation, providing meals, hosting gatherings of their shepherd group, delivering flowers from worship to the sick or homebound, and accompanying the parish associate on homebound communion

Highlights from 2014

“He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two...” Mark 6:7

Deacons have been working in pairs to support one another in their ministry and to pray for one another as they seek to serve the congregation

Deacons, along with members, have helped to provide transportation, meals, and memorial receptions as needed

3 high-school graduates received bibles – 1 was given in worship, two others were delivered by deacons

Third, annual service – *When the Holidays are Hard* was held November 30th new faces from the community expressed their appreciation for that gathering time

Led, with Stephen Ministers a short-course on *Christian Caregiving*

Goals for 2015

Consider 4th annual *When the Holidays are Hard*

Organize, with the Deacons opportunity for members to meet/greet their deacon and others in their shepherd group following worship

Continue to seeking creative ways to build/foster relationships between deacons and their shepherd groups

Pastoral Activities/Responsibilities

Organized & led first (annual?) decorating of the Chrismon tree as part of worship

Planned & implemented *Open Spaces* – an alternative worship opportunity, meeting on Tuesday evening, centered around Taize style song, silence, and weekly celebration of communion

Planned & implemented women's book/bible study – led jointly with the Director of Christian Education from Pittsboro Presbyterian. This study meets weekly on Tuesday morning and has connected an intergenerational group of women through conversation, faith and prayer from four different congregations

Planned and led first 5:00 p.m. child-friendly Christmas Eve Service

Meet bi-monthly with deacons

Goals for 2015

Continue and expand leadership of *Open Spaces*

Continue Women's weekly book/bible study

Friends, I am thrilled to update you on the growth of our music program. 2014 has been a very busy year in the Chapel in the Pines music ministries. The choir continues to be a large part of the worship service as well as a community building activity within the church community. This year we have been able to involve even more people in our music ministry. In 2014 we were blessed by with the musical gifts of our pianist, Dr. Jay Peirson. He was kind enough to bring his keyboard, composition, and harp skills to our worship services. In December of 2014 Jay resigned to take on more musical responsibilities within his community. We started a new search for a pianist, which concluded in January 2015.

Mission:

1. To provide the congregation of CITP with music to enhance the worship service.
2. To engage the members of the church with meaningful expression of faith through the art of music.
3. To allow the members of the choir to participate in this congregational outreach through quality music and quality presentation.

Responsibilities:

1. Oversee the music of the church service
2. Oversee the music staff
3. Lead the choir of CITP
4. Arrange for special music outside of the traditional service music
5. Encourage participation of the congregation in the music making of the church
6. Include congregational music in the worship service

Highlights of 2014:

- Choir met Wednesday nights from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.
- The bell choir as grown to a full choir of 12-14 members under the direction of Katherine Brekke.
- Bell choir met Wednesday nights from 6:15-7:00 p.m.
- We are exploring all of the musical possibilities in our sanctuary by performing all over the space, not just the front.
- The choir has grown to having up to 30 members of the congregation having sung with us at least once.
- The normal choir on Sunday has stayed consistent at 16-22.
- We have kept up congregational participation in service music with several people offering to add their own music to the service.
- The choir has focused on pairing the anthems with the liturgy of the week.
- Members of the choir continue to participate in the Montreat Worship and Music Conference.
- Led an Advent service of music based around a lessons and carols theme
- Grew the music library to incorporate more music for our growing choir

Goals for 2015

- Add a line item to the staff budget for our bell choir director.
- Continue to build a strong bell choir program
- Continue to incorporate the bells into worship
- Continue to increase participation of the congregation in the music program of CITP – through the choir, bell choir, and instrumentalists

Treasurer's Report

Jerry Wehmuller

2014 was another year of financial health for Chapel in the Pines. During the year, we received \$283,887 in operating revenue which was \$8,638 more than our operating expenses of \$275,249. In addition, members and friends continued to pay the pledges they made to the 2013 Building Campaign. This allowed us to pay off in January the remaining portion (\$71,408) of the original loan for the land purchase in January and as well as reduce the principal on the loan by almost \$35,000 by year end thus reducing our debt by over \$100,000.

Several members made special financial gifts in addition to their pledge this year. These gifts allowed us to build a playground and purchase some play equipment. It also allowed us to commission the angel artwork now hanging in the Sanctuary. A storage shed was also given to us this year so that we could store several pieces of lawn maintenance equipment that had also been donated this year.

We continued our strong support of a number mission and outreach programs. In addition to the \$31,023 given to mission and outreach from our operating budget we gave \$13,825 to several mission and outreach projects from funds collected in our current capital campaign. Throughout the year, the congregation also collected \$15,1932 in special offerings and gifts to support a number of worthwhile outreach programs. In total just over \$60,000 was given for this important mission work.

It is a warm and wonderful feeling as the Treasurer to look back on another successful financial year like 2014. We continue to have so many generous members and friends who provide not only funding to carry out the mission of Chapel in the Pines but also give so generously of their time and talent to fulfill that mission.

Many Thanks,
Jerry Wehmuller
Treasurer

The Clerk's Statistical Report to the Presbytery

Active Membership of Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church
As of December 31, 2013: 153

Membership Gains in 2014 by:

Reaffirmation of Faith: 4
Baptism & Profession of Faith: 0
Letter of Transfer: 18
Total Gains: 22

Membership Losses in 2014 by:

Letter of Transfer: 3
Death: 1
All other: 0
Total Losses: 4

Active Membership of Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church
as of December 31, 2014: 185

During 2014, Chapel in the Pines received 18 members by Letter of Transfer and 4 by Reaffirmation of Faith. Three members transferred membership to another church and one member, Edwin (Ed) Mammen, died on July 27, 2014.

The Session met in 12 stated meetings and 5 called meetings at which minutes were received and reports given from all standing committees and the staff. There were 4 congregational meetings: February 23 for the purpose of presenting the 2013 Annual Report, March 9 for the purpose of electing new officers and approving the pastor's terms of call, May 4 for the purpose of electing an elder and the addition of a member to the nominating committee, and on December 14 for the purpose of electing a nominating committee. A roll of members and a file of minutes are maintained in the church office.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia Ladd
Clerk of Session

New Members

Barbara Strange	January 26, 2014
Phyllis Marine	January 26, 2014
Eric Edwards	January 26, 2014
Cara O'Connell- Edwards	January 26, 2014
Cynthia O'Connell	January 26, 2014
Eilean Yates	February 23, 2014
Carl Biddulph	June 15, 2014
Garrett Southerland	June 15, 2014
Gail McCollough	July 20, 2014
Milton McCollough	July 20, 2014
Julie Benbow	July 20, 2014
Kevin O'Dell	July 20, 2014
Angela Walter	July 20, 2014
Gerald Walter	July 20, 2014
Susan Bridgers	November 16, 2014
Michelle Irinyi	November 16, 2014
Gail King	November 16, 2014
Anne Henkels	November 16, 2014
Maurice Henkels	November 16, 2014
John McDowell	December 14, 2014
Madeline Schalk	December 14, 2014
Allen Schalk	December 14, 2014

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Adult Education Committee

Jeff Morehouse

In 2014, Chapel in the Pines continued to offer Sunday morning adult education opportunities as well as some during the week. Attendance dropped off during the summer months but rebounded by the end of the year.

The Sunday morning Café class changed its name to Exploring Together. The class was quite lively and acquired a few new members near the end of the year. It averaged eight in attendance and had as many as 13 during this year's Advent study. The class focused on studies of the Bible, various theologians, and church history.

The Social Justice and Peacemaking Class completed studies of three primary works during 2014. First up was *City of God: Faith in the Streets* by Sara Miles. It is an example of how "the church has left the building" and taken its ministry to the streets of the city. Second, *Food and Faith: A Theology of Eating* by Norman Wirzba (Duke Divinity School) revealed the palpable connection between how we eat and how we worship the triune God. *Journey to the Common Good* by Walter Brueggemann was about our call to journey together to the common good through neighborliness, covenanting, and reconstruction.

The Tuesday Night Bible Study group met twice per month and studied The Gospel of John during most of the year. They also attended Dr. Efrid's lecture series together. As some of the group would rather not drive in the evenings, toward the end of the year it was decided to move meetings to Saturday afternoons and have lunch along with prayer and study together. Regular attendance for the group is five to eight members.

Thirst Quenchers continued to meet on 2nd and 4th Thursday evenings at Merlion restaurant in Southern Village to discuss various topics of interest brought by group members. Topics are widespread including everything from current events to theological issues. While topics typically differ for each meeting, themes often emerge. Attendance varies greatly, and often includes participants from outside the congregation.

Accomplishments for 2014

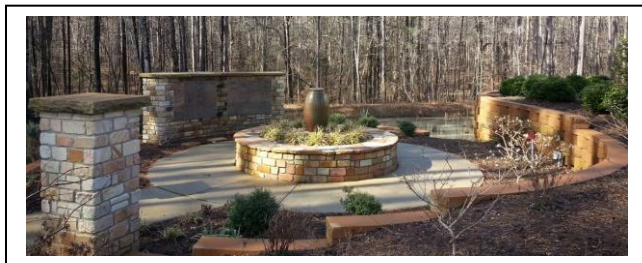
- Playground
- Added two benches to the front of the church
- Finalized the design of the biopond-to-wetland conversion.
- Built the storage shed
- Led and organized a church cleanup day
- Conditioned the floor
- Sealed the flagstone on the front porch
- Put up the sign on Manns Chapel
- Put up a “security camera” to discourage loitering
- Normal building maintenance and upkeep
- Set up a liaison (Dana) between Building and Grounds and the Remembrance Garden Committee



New Playground



Bio Retention Pond



Memorial Garden



Outdoor Storage Building



Surveillance signs



New Sign for Entrance

The Children's, Infants' and Youth (CIY) Committee has accomplished much over 2014. We have worked diligently as a team to move forward with many different projects over the past year.

- In April we held an Easter Egg Hunt for the children of the congregation and surrounding communities.
- With support of multiple interested parties within the congregation and the Building and Grounds Committee work, a playground area was established and a play set was purchased and erected.
- An additional babysitter was hired for the nursery.
- The registration process and volunteers' schedule for babysitters were organized.
- The Workshop Rotational Model for Sunday school was instituted and volunteers were trained to lead and continue the program each month.
- The Children's Church program continued each week with crafts and songs and stories for the very young. Additional teachers are needed in this area to build this program.
- An Early Childhood Education and Parenting Program was introduced this fall for young parents and families.
- The Stewardship Committee focused on the "Children as our Future" during the Fall 2014 Stewardship Campaign.
- We have a Youth Group Intern from UNC-CH, Savannah Caccamo

With God's grace Chapel in the Pines has brought to the forefront the needs of the children and youth to the congregation and has gotten their support in terms of their time and talent and treasure. As a committee, congregation, and community we have done much but there is more to be done. We are very grateful for the blessings to which we have been bestowed.



Advent cookie making



Clay class

Goals for 2015:

Hire a Director of Christian Education to coordinate and lead the multiple programs for the infants, children and youth of the congregation with joy, energy and enthusiasm;

Add new volunteers to the Children's Church and Workshop Rotation Model who have not done so before;

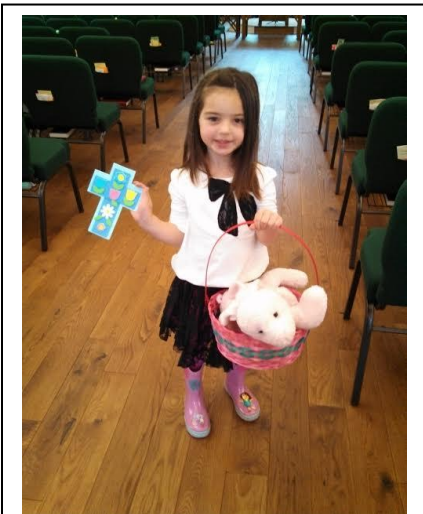
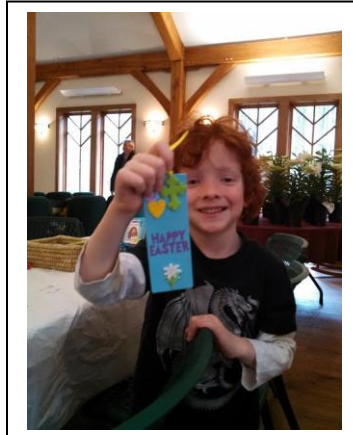
Track attendance to the Children's Church and Workshop Rotation Model to support future planning;

Track volunteers to Children's Church; and Workshop Rotation Model; begin rotation of volunteers to streamline and facilitate scheduling;

Advertise the various Children's programs available at Chapel in the Pines to the community in a variety of ways:

- Flyers or postcards to adjacent neighborhoods: Briar Chapel and Governor's Club
- Electronic messaging via neighborhood listservs

Reinforce and strengthen assets—encourage new membership to join and participate by educating them that the educational programs are already prepared for them. They need only be ready and willing to share their time and talents!



The Communications Committee continued to work to spread the mission and message of Chapel in the Pines to the larger community as well as enhance its reach within the church building. Accomplishments in 2014 include:

Website

The CITP website continues to be ably maintained and updated by Mary Donna Pond. It continues to provide the following:

- podcasts of the sermons
- a link to the weekly worship bulletin
- Deacon "Shepherd" lists and flower duty schedule
- postings for the 2014 stewardship packet materials and video, new approved policies, procedures, and documents, and discussion readings for Thirst Quenchers
- updates to pictorial directories and information on new members (note that the directory file is now password-protected and can be accessed without logging into the website)

New content added in 2013 includes:

- link for online giving
- link to the Strobilus Arts Series information
- link to the 2013 annual report for 2013

Sermon Podcasts

The process for recording, editing, and posting the weekly sermon podcasts has been fully documented and shared on the Google drive. The goal is to enlist a team of members to share in creating the podcasts throughout the year.

Facebook

The church Facebook page continues to be an important means for spreading information about the church's activities. It is regularly updated by Mindy and several members.

Banners

Colorful and durable banners were created to advertise the Holy Week Christmas Eve services, and for the 2014 stewardship campaign. The first two banners were hung on the Mann's Chapel sign; the latter banner is now on the fence around the children's playground. The banners can be re-used from year to year (and can be modified for changes in dates and/or times).

Audio Enhancements

The audio system was enhanced to allow for playing music or other audio content through the main sanctuary speakers. In addition, it is now possible to provide good quality audio out to the garden area should the sanctuary be full. Much planning was done for implementing several new enhancements in 2015: provide a speaker in the narthex for service broadcasts; provide a lavalier microphone for an additional speaker; and provide connectivity for a PC to record the service. Other goals include improving the approach used for amplifying the scripture reading and announcements and perhaps adding one or more microphones to better capture the choir and piano (to improve the sound available in the hearing loop).

Hearing Loop Project

The committee received partial funding from University Presbyterian Church endowment fund to build a "hearing loop" system in the sanctuary. This was installed in early 2014. The hearing loop makes it possible for those with hearing difficulties to better hear and participate more fully in the worship service. Those with activated "telecoil" (T-coil) enabled hearing aids are now able to hear the clear sound provided by the loop. There are also 4 T-coil headsets available for those who do not have hearing aids but would like to have hearing assistance.

Access ACS

The church uses software from Automated Church Systems (ACS) to keep track of member contact information, financial contributions, committee memberships, etc. ACS also provides a web interface and recently a smart phone mobile interface to this data. This could allow access to the member directory, let members make updates to their contact information, provide for easy sending of emails to members of small groups, and eventually provide access to one's giving history and status.

Wireless Network Simplification

Access to the wireless guest networks was simplified by 1) disabling the (largely unused) 5.0 GHz radio in each of the sanctuary and education wing routers; and 2) making the password all lower case for ease of typing.



The Finance Committee had six major activities in 2014:

1. Not one but TWO stewardship campaigns! Under the exceptional leadership of Lynne Hoerter, chair for both campaigns, CITP launched two stewardship programs this year. In the fall of 2013, Session approved trying a new approach to pledged giving, “Consecration Sunday.” To accommodate this new approach and the requisite planning, the 2014 campaign was rescheduled from the fall of 2013 to the spring of 2014. The campaign was successful, bringing \$247,985 in pledges, a 13% increase from the previous year. However, we saw a shortfall in actual pledges received in 2014: we believe the root cause was the delay in the campaign which caused confusion in member monthly giving.

The colorful 2015 campaign theme focused on “God’s Children, Our Future,” and was held at the traditional time in fall 2014. It was, again, quite successful, bringing in \$270,819 in pledges, a 9% increase from the spring campaign. This boost will help to support new enhancements to our youth programming for 2015.

2. Wish list and policy for designated giving. To provide clarity on how members may give to the church for specific purposes, Session approved a policy for designated giving which is posted on the CITP website. To accompany this policy, the Session will also develop and revise annually a “wish list” to help members direct their giving to those uses that will benefit the works of the church in ways deemed important and worthy.

3. New Endowment Committee and Fund. This is a recently formed committee with the purpose of managing our Endowment Funds. Using a gift of \$5,000 to start an endowment fund, this new sub-committee developed by-laws and gifting policies and started an endowment fund with the Presbyterian Foundation in 2014.

4. Online giving. We initiated a new way for members to give online via a link on our CITP website and also through an online giving response code that is found in the weekly bulletin. Our tech-savvy members may now take advantage of this efficient way to give.

5. PC upgrade. Under the category of asset management, new PCs were bought and configured for the accountant and pastor. Microsoft Office software was purchased at a significant discount from TechSoup, an entity that makes software and hardware available to non-profits at very reasonable prices once the non-profit is registered.

6. AmazonSmile. CITP joined the AmazonSmile program! When members select our church as the charity of their choice, Amazon donates a portion (.5%) of eligible purchases the member makes at AmazonSmile to us.



Stewardship Luncheon

In 2014 the Membership Committee:

- Intentional efforts made to warmly greet new visitors and returning non-members.
- Activity bags for children were kept stocked and ready for use on Sundays.
- New visitor note cards, sent to all visitors that provide a mailing address, were updated with revised logo.
- Throughout the year, names and pictures of new members were added to New Member Board in church narthex.
- Reviewed the membership rolls. This process was completed early in the calendar year with recommendations given to the Session.

Our membership for 2014 follows:

- 185 total members.
- The membership rolls at the end of 2013 had a total of 153 members. We received 22 new members in 2014. This represents a total of 14% increase in membership for 2014.

Outreach Committee

Monty Brekke (Session) and Julia Trimmer (Co-chair)

The outreach committee's work reflects the mission of Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church to share the love of God by caring for those in need, locally and globally. Throughout the year we have worked to meet our goals of serving our local and global communities through hands-on involvement, financial support and prayer.

Budgeting and Finances

The 2014 budget for outreach totals \$31,261.00, which is approximately 11% of the overall church budget. Of this amount, \$16,145 was allocated for Salem Presbytery and the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA). The remaining funds were used by the committee to support our local and global missions.

At the beginning of the year, there was \$17,108.35 remaining from the outreach portion of the 2010-2013 capital campaign. A subcommittee was formed to make recommendations to disburse the remaining funds. Early in the year, we heard from Thava Mahadeven of the UNC Center for Excellence in Community Mental Health. The Center would like to start a project called "Wellness on Wheels," which is a mobile health care unit that would enable the Center to offer care to those clients who are unable to travel to a care facility. The subcommittee recommended \$5,000 be donated to this mission. The request was approved by the outreach committee and the session, and the money was donated. The subcommittee continued to work on recommendations for the remaining \$12,108.35 and expects that all funds will be disbursed in early 2015.

The capital campaign subcommittee also recommended that the local portion of the 2013-2015 capital campaign be allocated as follows: 40% to The Farm at Penny Lane, 40% to Chatham County Literacy Council and 20% to Circles Chatham. This request was also approved by the outreach committee and the session. A portion of the local mission funds from this account have been disbursed. Allocation of the global portion of this account is still to be determined. We hope to have that work complete in early 2015 as well.

Global Mission

We continue to support the work of CEDEPCA (Centro Evangélico de Estudios Pastorales en Centro América) through direct financial support and through the work of our mission co-worker, Karla Koll, who is now serving in Costa Rica. You can learn more about Karla's ministry at <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/missionconnections/koll-karla-ann/>.

Also this year we began supporting a second mission co-worker, Amanda Craft. Amanda serves as Regional Liaison for Mexico and Guatemala. Her husband, Omar Chan, is a native of Guatemala and was appointed in January 2014 as Facilitator for Border Ministries with the Presbyterian Border Region Outreach. You can learn more about Amanda and Omar's ministry at <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/missionconnections/craft-amanda/>.

In December, we heard a proposal from church member Will Sibert, who is beginning a new trauma healing ministry in partnership with BEE World (Biblical Education by Extension World). The committee is very excited about his proposal and hopes to find a way to offer continuing financial support for his ministry.

Plans for a mission trip to Guatemala did not yield sufficient interest. We are still exploring opportunities for mission travel.

\$100 of global mission funds was given to NEXT Church. Mindy is on the advisory board of NEXT, and the organization's mission statement is:

The mission of NEXT Church is to foster relationships among God's people: sparking imaginations; connecting congregations; offering a distinctively Presbyterian witness to Jesus Christ.

Trusting in God's sovereignty and grace, NEXT Church will engage the church that is becoming by cultivating vital connections, celebrating emerging leadership and innovation, and working with congregations and leaders to form and reform faith communities.

You can learn more about NEXT at <http://www.nextchurch.net>.

We continue to offer fair trade coffee, tea and chocolate for sale in the narthex each Sunday. These items are purchased through a volume discount from Equal Exchange and are offered to the congregation at no additional charge.

Local Mission

We supported the following local missions in 2014:

- Take and Eat Food Pantry
- Take and Read Book Club
- Take and Wear Clothes Closet
- Chatham Habitat for Humanity
- Chatham County Literacy Council
- Family Violence and Rape Crisis Center
- Chatham County Together
- The Farm at Penny Lane
- The Hispanic Liaison (El Vinculo Hispano)

\$100 of local mission funds was earmarked for scholarships to the Faith Connections on Mental Illness conference. The early registration fee for this conference is \$25, so a total of four scholarships are available to members of the congregation.

We receive a monthly Pennies for Hunger offering, which supports Salem Presbytery's Domestic and International Hunger Grants programs. We applied for a Domestic Hunger grant in the amount of \$3,000 to benefit Take and Eat Food Pantry and received a grant of \$2,000.

An offering of "First Fruits and Vegetables" is received on the first Sunday of each month and donated to the Take and Eat Food Pantry.

Our members continued to work with Chatham Habitat for Humanity, providing labor, materials and lunches for Apostle Build work days.

A Thanksgiving gathering was held again this year for clients and staff of the Farm at Penny Lane.

Diane Birch announced that she would be stepping down from her role as coordinator for the Take and Read book program at the end of this year. Diane has done a tremendous job with this program, and the committee expresses its gratitude for her service. We have assembled a team of volunteers to take over the program and hope to see this ministry continue to grow.

Two special offerings were received this year, as usual. The local portion of the Pentecost offering was given to Communities in Schools of Chatham County (formerly Chatham County Together). The local portion of the Peacemaking offering was given to Family Violence and Rape Crisis Services.

Goals for 2015

Some goals of the committee for 2015 are:

- To improve communications with the congregation so that church members (and visitors to our website) are more aware of what we are doing and where our money is going
- To re-energize our global missions, especially in Guatemala

- To get more people directly involved with our missions
- To improve management of our various accounts so that monies are disbursed in a more timely manner

Committee members

Members of the outreach committee are Monty Brekke, Amanda Briggs, Karen Fisher, Paul Harrell, Jeff Morehouse, Michelle Morehouse, Pat Poret, Beverly Rudolph, Susie Smith, Julia Trimmer and Bob Warren.



Take and Eat Food Pantry



XDS Thanksgiving 12/27/14



Farm at Penny Lane

Session Members

Class of 2015:

Jeff Morehouse
Tina Stark
Bob Warren

Class of 2016:

Monty Brekke
Stephanie Miller
Fred Royal

Class of 2017:

Heather Bogan
Kristin Lavergne
Butch Smith

Board of Deacons

Class of 2015

Ron Greene
Keith Glidewell
Diane Tietz

Class of 2016

Janet Dopler
Brett Dillon
Terry Rudolph

Class of 2017:

Susan Cyr
Josh Ladd
Kenny McIntyre

The personnel committee had several meetings during the year to discuss personnel matters of Chapel in the Pines. Currently, the church has six individuals working as staff or contract employees, but only the pastor and the office manager are considered full time.

The personnel committee has addressed many complex personnel issues since the church was founded. The committee develops, recommends and presents the Pastor's "Terms of Call" to the Session for final approval. The committee reviewed two requests for new positions and forwarded their recommendations to the Session.

During this year, Dr. Jay Pierson left as our pianist and a search committee was developed to select a new pianist.

Currently the committee consists of Forrest Johnson, Charles Rickard and Archie Smith (Butch)

Goals for 2015:

- Provide oversight of the personnel program of the church
- Study criteria to help determine if positions in a church need
- to be paid staff and present findings to the session
- Respond to personnel issues as needed

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Director of Handbell Choir

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Sexton:

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Pianist:

Leigh Denny
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Highlights:

The Worship Committee's network of volunteers helped the community of Chapel in the Pines live out its mission of Welcome, Worship, Witness in 2014.

Each week we make special efforts to provide an inclusive environment that welcomes all who worship with us. Our intention is to make the experience comfortable for long-time Presbyterians as well as first-time visitors.

Our sub-committees include ushers, music, flowers, children's message, communion, liturgical arts and lay readers.

Specific volunteer recruitment and training efforts focused on two areas this year: children's message and lay readers. New materials were purchased for those presenting the children's message.

The Lord's Supper was celebrated the first Sunday of each month and other special days in our liturgical year. To make the experience inclusive for all, we offer gluten-free bread and grape juice. We also added service to the child-care volunteers. We also take great care to provide service to those who are unable to come forward for communion.

Chapel in the Pines received a generous gift of two hand-painted angel banners which were dedicated in December. These banners will be used in the sanctuary as an enhancement during special seasons of the liturgical calendar.

The music program (choir, hand bells and special instrumentalists) continues to be a cornerstone of our worship experience. Music from the new hymnals which were dedicated this year enriches our services, and the congregation has been introduced to many new selections.

An alternative worship service "Open Spaces" led by Mitzi Lesher-Thomas began in the fall and included silence, sacrament and song. On Christmas Eve, we added a second service at 9 p.m. The 5 p.m. service designed for families with children and the 9 p.m. candlelight service each had good attendance.



Mindy leading Children's Sermon



Children's Time



Baptism of the Lord



Pentecost



Advent



Christmas Eve Candle Lighting Service



Open Spaces – Tuesday night services



Ordination and installation of officers

Fellowship Committee

Every Sunday, following worship folks are encouraged to stay for coffee, healthy snacks and a time for fellowship. Volunteers set up, host and cleanup. Phyllis Greene coordinated the volunteers and kept kitchen stocked with supplies.

Goal for 2015:

Barbra Carson volunteered to head up the Fellowship committee going into 2015 with a goal to return to scheduling monthly fellowship events for the congregation.

Building Use

Nana Morelli, Office Manager

Our building use guidelines state Chapel in the Pines recognizes this building is a house of worship entrusted to this congregation for worship and service to God's glory. 2014 found this young church opening its doors and welcoming many people —members, friends and people from the community, for worship, special services, meetings, prayer groups, dinners, choir and handbell rehearsal, retreats, concerts, weddings and memorial services.

In 2014 two weddings were performed at Chapel in the Pines and two memorial services.

On Thanksgiving Day we hosted the UNC XDS Thanksgiving dinner, with member volunteers helping to serve approximately 80 people.

Community groups are welcome to use the church building for approved events when date(s) and space are available. Fees for approved use of the building by non-member or sanctioned groups is reasonable. Church members and sponsored groups may use the building with no charge. Building use policies, fees and an application form can be found on our website at www.citppc.org.

Strobilus Music Series began in 2014 and brought a variety of musicians, vocalists and artists to the church.

In addition to church services and events, during 2014, Chapel in the Pines provided meeting rooms and gathering space for the following organizations or churches:

Chatham Habitat for Humanity Board

Sister's Voices

UNC XDS Center for Excellence in Community Mental Health

Friends of Christ School

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

Westminster Presbyterian Church Staff Retreat

Peace,
Nana Morelli
Office Manager