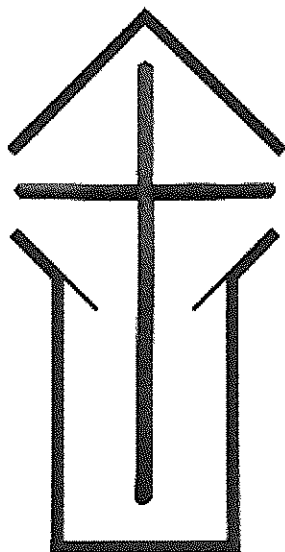


Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church

Annual Report to the Congregation
for 2016

Presented to the Congregation March 12, 2017



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Friends,

This year has been an exciting time of change for Chapel in the Pines. You said goodbye to Mindy Douglas, your founding pastor whose vision for a new Presbyterian church in this area led to the establishment of Chapel in the Pines. Even though she is missed greatly, you are moving forward in faith, continuing your ministries and programs.

A search committee for your interim pastor was selected after Mindy left. We are grateful to the members of the committee, Lynne Hoerter, Chair, Marcia Ladd, Mary Donna Pond, Chuck Rickard, Peggy Wilkerson, Sandy Williams, and Mitzi Leshner-Thomas, staff liaison. Even before your interim pastor was in place, you began a third capital campaign, called Pillars of Faith, to raise money to build the Fellowship Hall. Your successful capital campaign was celebrated just a short time before I joined you as your Interim Pastor on July 17. Then on Sunday, December 11, exactly five years after your first worship service in the sanctuary, we processed outside for a brief dedication service when the CIP children used shovels to break the first ground for the construction of the new Fellowship Hall.

I'm honored to serve with this welcoming congregation and your dedicated, hard-working staff, Mitzi Leshner-Thomas, Parish Associate; Nana Morelli, Office Manager; Jeremy Nabors, Director of Music Ministry; Rob Passow, Pianist and also a new staff member; Katherine Brekke, Director of Handbell Choir; Dennis Dalike, Custodian; Janet Askew, Bookkeeper; and Barbara Treyz, Nursery Attendant. Michael DePue resigned at the end of October after serving as your Director of Christian Education for about a year. Brandon Melton, our Duke Divinity School intern who began on September 25, will be with us through April. Even though Brandon is gaining experience in a variety of pastoral tasks, one of his areas of primary focus has been on how the church can fulfill the promises made when children are baptized.

Earlier in the fall, the Session elected a Transition Team to work with me in this time of reflection, assessment, and preparation. The members of the Transition Team, Heather Bogan, Paul Harrell, Garrett Southerland, Barbara Strange, Haley Terry, and Lee Werley, have been meeting to plan and organize a number of events and tasks during this interim process. Once the information from the membership is compiled into a printed Mission Study and approved by Salem Presbytery, the congregation will elect a Pastor Nominating Committee to begin looking for your next installed pastor.

These last six months with you have passed quickly. Eight new members have joined Chapel in the Pines since my arrival and soon your Nominating Committee will present a strong slate of new elders and deacons to serve for the next three years. This says a lot about the vitality and health of our congregation and its excitement and energy for the future. In the coming months, we'll continue to address some of Chapel in the Pines' challenges, including budgetary and staffing needs as well as how we'll use our new Fellowship Hall to serve our church and the larger community. For now, know that serving with you here has been a joy and a privilege.

In hope, peace, and love,

Lynn Stall, Interim Pastor

Listen. Receive. Enjoy. Let go. These are just a few of the words which make up a devotional resource I recently received. Each week focuses on a single word, each day offers a different perspective on the word for the week. This appeals to my fondness for words themselves, and my need for aid in sifting through the clamoring of beeps, bells, whistles, posts and headlines that make up our days; if only for a few moments. And, in this past year, we've done a lot of listening, receiving, enjoying, and letting go.

I am ever grateful for the opportunities we've shared to listen to voices other than our own, to learn from the wisdom and experience of guest preachers and visiting speakers. More grateful still am I that we've listened to one another. That we've shared hurts and hopes, fears and dreams that we've grieved and celebrated with and for one another. This kind of listening requires vulnerability and trust and I never fail to be awed by the opportunity to join with you in these moments.

And what blessings we have received as a community! What opportunities we have enjoyed! Gifts of leadership and time which filled the sanctuary with the sight and sound of guest musicians, performers, and artists; gifts which transformed gardens, made windows shine, provided opportunities for fellowship, and oh yes, did I mention (as I write) there's a concrete slab, freshly poured just outside. You, the pillars of faith who are Chapel in the Pines, who give of yourselves in countless ways in all manner and measure, your commitment to the mission and ministry of Christ in and through this congregation brings to a joyful end the many conversations which all began "when we have a fellowship hall..." Now again it's time to listen, receive, and enjoy the many and varied hopes and dreams for how this fellowship hall may shape who we are as a community of faith called into being to worship God, serve others and welcome all.

Letting go has also left its imprint on this past year. We've let go of loved ones and friends. Some have let go of hopes and dreams. Others have let go of habits, self-perceptions or expectations that were not life giving. Letting go may be laced with anxiety, fear or sadness but it, too, has its place in the order of things. The writer of Ecclesiastes reminds us that all of life and life itself has its seasons. I was most struck by the author's reminder that sometimes, sometimes we are called "to let go of one good thing so another can come."

I am so grateful and full of joy for the opportunity to continue to serve with and among you and I can't wait to see what good things may come in 2017! May we move into this year with open hearts, open hands, and open minds; ready to listen to one another; ready to listen to our brothers and sisters throughout our community; ready to listen that we might receive God's call and claim upon us with joy for the good work that is before us.

Deacons

The office of Deacon as set forth in scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service. Deacons help extend a ministry of care and compassion to members and friends on behalf of the congregation. Deacons meet every other month for study, prayer and to attend to the caring ministries of CITP. Each deacon is assigned approximately 12 households with whom they develop a relationship and to whom they provide on-going care through emails, phone calls, or cards. They help serve as an officer in the narthex, may help serve communion, deliver flowers following worship, and organize memorial receptions, coordinating refreshments and volunteers as they care for grieving families.

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, and accompanying the parish associate on homebound communion.

Highlights of 2016

Based on the resource *Making Disciples, Making Leaders* by Steve Eason began each meeting with a brief service of worship including song, confession, reflection on the upcoming lectionary texts and communion highlighting the importance of faith formation for church officers.

Deacons care and welcome of others extends from Christ's care and welcome of us all experienced most fully as we break bread with and for one another.

Elected a new moderator, Peggy Wilkerson, who also serves as the deacon representative to the nominating committee

1 high-school graduate received a Bible given by the deacons on behalf of Chapel in the Pines with notes from deacons and elders – this was given by the parish associate to the graduate during worship Sunday morning

Numerous Holding Crosses (www.holdingcross.com) and Stephen Ministry Grief Books have been delivered to members and friends struggling with loss, illness, or other life crisis

Held second Deacon 'Meet & Greet' – following the installation of new officers, on 3 separate Sundays deacons hosted, immediately after worship, a time for members to meet their deacon in person and review and correct directory information

Untold prayers, cards, calls and meals have also been shared as deacons have extended care and fellowship to members, friends and visitors

Goals for 2017

Organize 3rd^d 'Meet and Greet' following installation of new officers – consider ways to enhance benefit of this opportunity. Consider, in addition to inviting review of directory information, 'tech help' for those who need assistance accessing directory information

Continue bi-monthly worship as focus of meetings, consider if scheduling would allow this to be moved to the sanctuary

Continue to seek creative ways to build and foster relationships between deacons and shepherd groups and within the community as a whole

Determine where oversight of AED is best located – deacons, office staff, building and grounds...and provide basic education as to location, use and annual maintenance.

Pastoral Activities/Responsibilities

Highlights of 2016

Provided administrative, pastoral, and worship leadership following change of call of former head of staff

Served as staff liaison to Interim Transition Team as they worked with presbytery in securing an interim pastor

Worked with Director of Music and Personnel to seek, hire, and establish a contract with a new accompanist

Completed week 1 Interim Ministry Training to better serve incoming Interim Pastor and congregation

Leading women's Study based on the book *An Altar In the World: A Geography of Faith* by Barbara Brown Taylor

Supported group in continuing 1/mth volunteer effort at Take & Eat Food Pantry

Helped plan and lead 3rd annual Hanging of the Greens – an opportunity for the whole congregation to learn about the liturgical traditions and symbols of Advent as we prepared the sanctuary for the coming Christ child

Planned and led 3rd family friendly, child oriented Christmas Eve service at 5:00 p.m.

Leading *Open Spaces* - an alternative worship opportunity, meeting on Tuesday evening, centered around Taize style song, silence, and weekly celebration of communion

Invited shared leadership with Beverly Rudolph following her completion of certificate in Spirituality and Leading Contemplative Groups

Meet bi-monthly with deacons

Visitation & homebound communion provided as needed or as requested by member or pastor

Provided Staff leadership to 3rd Silent Retreat held at Avila

Worked with Conversations on Race class to further their effort at connecting with and beginning conversation with a more diverse congregation

Helped lead Community Prayer Service planned and initiated by members participating in Conversations on Race (CORE) in Chatham County

Goals for 2016

Continue Tuesday morning women's study group with focus on service being intentional part of study

Continue *Open Spaces*, while seeking new leaders who can help us explore other forms of spiritual practice and learn more about other alternative worship experiences

Explore opportunities for continuing education, conversation and ministry around race relations, and interfaith relationships

Explore interest or desire for conversation/reflection/action group based on Sunday on worship

Friends, as always, I am thrilled to update you on the growth of our music program. 2016 was a busy year in the Chapel in the Pines Music Ministries. The choir has continued 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. Half way through our year we conducted a search for a new pianist after Leigh Denny moved out of our area. We are blessed to have found Rob Passow to take over at the piano. Rob is a gifted pianist and an experienced worship planner. He is a strong addition to our music ministry. Our bell choir saw a great deal of musical growth during this year.

Mission:

1. To provide the congregation of CIP 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 CIP
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 2016:

- Adult Choir met Wednesday nights from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.
- The bell choir has grown to a full choir of 12-14 members under the direction of Katherine Brekke.
- The bell choir expanded the difficulty of its music as well as its roll in worship.
- 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 is maintaining weekly attendance of 20-25 singers helping to lead worship.
- 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 and bell choir continue to participate in Montreat.
- Grew the music library to incorporate more music for our growing choir

Goals for 2017

- Continue to advocate for 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 CIP – through the Choir, Bell Choir, and Instrumentalists
- Increase the usage of musicians from outside the church as a way to build our community

2016 was another good year financially for Chapel in the Pines. Our operating revenue was \$281,432 versus our operating expenses of \$280,017. The result was a small financial surplus of around \$1,400.

It was a different type of financial year for the church. The budget reflected a plan to provide Mindy with a three-month paid sabbatical leave and to pay Mitzi full-time during those months. After Mindy left to serve another church in the spring Mitzi was called on to "hold the fort" until Lynn came as our Interim Pastor.

Chapel in the Pines continued our history of supporting various outreach programs primarily in our local community. The congregation provided over \$50,000 in funding for programs including Pennies for Hunger, Take & Read, Food Pantry, Take & Wear, and the local Habitat for Humanity. Our congregation can be proud of the generosity of its members in our support of those neighbors who are in need.

We also held a capital campaign mid-year. The main goal was to build a Fellowship Hall. We received pledges of almost \$850,000 to be paid over the next three years. The construction of the Fellowship Hall was begun in December and should be completed in mid to late summer. Funds from this campaign will also be used to pave our parking lot when construction is completed.

All in all, 2016 again demonstrated the commitment and generosity of our members and friends to Chapel in the Pines and local community needs. Our church continues to make me proud to serve as treasurer to such a caring organization.

Jerry WehmueLLer
Treasurer

Active Membership of Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church

As of December 31, 2015: 184

Membership Gains in 2016 by:

Reaffirmation of Faith:	1
Baptism & Profession of Faith:	0
Letter of Transfer:	9
Other:	0

Total Gains: 10

Membership Losses in 2015 by:

Letter of Transfer:	0
Death:	2
All other:	9 (removed from roll)

Total Losses: 11

Active Membership of Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church

as of December 31, 2016: 183

During 2016, Chapel in the Pines received 9 members by Letter of Transfer, 1 by Reaffirmation of Faith. 9 members were removed from roll and two members, Henry Meriwether and Bill Dengler died.

The Session met in 12 stated meetings and 4 called meetings at which minutes were received and reports given from all standing committees and the staff. There were 5 email votes by Session. There was 1 Congregational Meeting on March 13 for the purpose of presenting the 2015 Annual Report. 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 Amago	March 20, 2016
Paul Harrell	March 20, 2016
Wanda Cottongim	July 31, 2016
Edward Van Gombos	July 31, 2016
Nedra Van Gombos	July 31, 2016
Edward Bruce	November 20, 2016
Kent Norgren	November 20, 2016
Mary Norgren	November 20, 2016
Melissa Staples	November 20, 2016
Hazel Quinn	November 20, 2016

Membership losses:

Removed from roll: Stan and Carolyn Southerland, Mike Tipton, Cindy McWilliam, Catherine Trott, Betsey Chapman, Bill Dingwell, Ford Heath, Tina Dickerman

Changed to Affiliate: Marilyn Shugart

Deaths: Henry Meriwether died May 13, 2016; Bill Dengler died May 19, 2016

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Adult Education Committee

Kristin Lavergne

In 2016, Chapel in the Pines continued to offer Sunday morning adult education opportunities as well as some during the week.

Exploring Together Class (formerly named the Café Class) - this Sunday morning meets in the Exploring Together classroom in the Education Wing. In 2016 this class focused on studies of the Bible, various theologians, and church history.

Spirituality and Literature Class meets every 3 or 4th Sunday of the month to discuss spirituality with the help of good books. It is a time of food (small lunch provided), fellowship and discussion.

Faith Study Group – Led by Mitzi Leshner-Thomas this popular women's study group began with 2-3 women. Now in its 4th year the group has grown and continues to meet on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 - 10:00 representing 4 congregations including Chapel in the Pines. Those who wish gather for coffee and fellowship at 9:30 with the study beginning at 10:00.

In 2016 discussion centered around the book *Faith Club*, a journal detailing the 2 year process of building relationships and understanding between a Muslim, Jewish, and Christian woman. As part of this study the group heard from guest speakers representing Orthodox Judaism and Islam as well as traveling to the Institute for Islamic and Turkish Studies in Cary, NC to join the Muslim community there for an evening meal as they broke their Ramadan fast.

As 2016 drew to a close the group discussed Barbara Brown Taylor's book *An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith* taking a broader look at spiritual practices as more a part of our ordinary, daily lives than we often consider.

In 2016 the group also began, as part of its practice, volunteering at the Take and Eat Food Pantry every second Tuesday. This group is on hiatus in the summer months but reconvenes each September and has provided childcare as needed upon interest or request.

Paul Tillich Study – this study of Tillich's book *The Courage to Be*, was led by Bill and Mickey dePrater March 23-April 27, Wednesdays, 6:00-7:15 p.m.

Thirst Quenchers continued to meet on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at local restaurants 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. Average attendance 6-8 people.

Conversations on Race - this class is for those interested in working toward racial reconciliation in our community and world. Folks are challenged through discussion to understand how issues of race affect our communities, schools and churches. All are welcome to join this class for conversation which we hope will spur us on to action. This class meets Wednesday, 10:00 a.m. at the church. Average attendance in 2016, 10-12 people.

The membership of the committee changed in 2016. The committee appreciates the services of Fred Royal as Elder and welcomes Karen Atkins in her new role as our Elder representative. We thank Karen for her past work on the committee, but also welcome Becky Peer to the committee. Activities in 2016 focused on several major projects as well as on general maintenance and improvements.

Parking lot – the potential for paving the existing parking lot as well as adding additional parking space was advanced in 2016. It is hoped that the capital campaign for the Fellowship Hall raised enough money to cover the paving of the current lot. B&G obtained estimates from two paving companies for paving the current parking lot. Progress has been made on acquiring additional land (in the relatively flat area adjacent to the road) for a new parking area. At the end of 2016, Briar Chapel had agreed to donate the land, and B&G was working on the plans required by permitting agencies, and preparing to meet with the county commissioners.

Biopond – a major focus of 2016 was cleaning up the biopond to prepare for inspection and certification. Several workdays were held to weed the pond and the embankment, plant grasses along the edge of the pond, and remove trees from the dam. The biopond was inspected and determined to be functioning correctly. Certification was filed with the county.

Fellowship Hall – B&G has participated in planning for the construction of the Fellowship Hall, including coordinating with the construction firm and working with the architect to find donated materials. By the end of 2016, a refrigerator, interior doors, and track lighting had been collected for the Fellowship Hall.

Work days – B&G held three work days in 2016:

- April 16 – planted over 100 plants, spread mulch, weeded biopond, weeded front lawn
- May 21 – washed windows inside and out, washed sanctuary floor, dusted all rooms
- October 15 – reseeded around biopond and put down matting, added plants near the playground, did maintenance on the trail

Improvements – the committee made the following improvements to church property in 2016:

- improved parking lot by adding wheel stops
- added a ramp to the storage shed
- designed and added plantings (see Work days and Remembrance Garden report)

General Maintenance – B&G provided ongoing maintenance and repairs for the building and grounds, including the following:

- maintained mowing schedule and lawn care at appropriate times
- received a donated riding mower, made repairs to it as needed
- replaced several security lights as well as other light bulbs
- repaired several doors/handles
- repaired several electrical outlets

Remembrance Garden Report

The Remembrance Garden accepted the gift of a concrete Celtic cross last year. It will be permanently placed on a pedestal in the garden bed on the west side of the new fellowship hall when construction is completed.

Mulch was added to the beds in March and annuals were added to the garden for color in the summer. Little else was done to the garden because of the impending disruption of the new building construction. Plants were removed in October to make way for construction, and will be replaced in the beds in 2017.

The Remembrance Garden Committee updated policies, procedures, and forms for the garden and columbarium and made their formats more uniform. Work on that, and a new flyer about the garden and columbarium will continue in 2017.

Members of the committee are : Julie Benbow, Keith Glidewell, Mickey dePrater, Barbara Strange, Zach Terry, Michael DePue, director of Christian Education, Brandon Melton, Duke Divinity Intern, Lynn Stall, IP, ex-officio.

The Children and Youth Program at Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church U.S.A. bases all the programming on the Mission of the Church on the following words: Welcome, Worship, Witness. Our goal is to be a welcoming space where children and youth can feel welcomed, learn to be knowledgeable about worship and education as a disciple of Jesus Christ, and live out their faith in witness and service to the larger community beyond the walls of the Church. This past year has been a year of transition that offered both challenge as well as opportunity to this sub-committee of Christian Education.

On January 10, 2015, this CYE sub-committee was asked by the Session to work with the Logistics Committee headed by Stan Campbell that spearheads plans that will lead to the construction of a new Fellowship Hall on the site. Ground-breaking occurred on December 11, 2016, where the children held shovels to symbolize their important roles in shaping our future and mission through the construction of this new building.

In April, our pastor left to accept another call to a church in Durham, North Carolina. On July 17, 2016, our new Interim Pastor, Lynn Stall, was called to serve Chapel in the Pines and we welcomed her to our committee and the committee's work. She has been such a strong advocate for children's ministry and provides leadership to the program. On September 11, 2016, we were able to hold an installation service to install all teachers in the program for the year as a visible affirmation of the importance of this program to the ongoing life of the Church. This program held a Kick-Off Party in the fall, 2016, for all persons interested in this area of our church's life; 35 persons attended the bar-b-que and sides event held outside with various activities planned for everyone to enjoy together. The event was successful and the weather cooperated.

In the area of education, our curriculum corresponds with the lectionary readings on any given Sunday. The church service readings are based on the lectionary each week so that the sermon as well as Scripture corresponds with activities taught in both Kindergarten (4years-6years) as well as Elementary (Grades 2-5). Modern Faith Sunday School Class meets every Sunday to correspond with the Sunday school classes for children and is available for parents and anyone else who wants to attend the class. In addition to the Whirl Curriculum, the committee recommended that Whirl Bibles be presented to children in 3rd grade. During worship on September 11, 2016, there were 2 recipients of the Bibles, Casey and Johnson Brekke. Another highlight this past year was in the area of fine arts and music. At Easter, bookmarks and bracelets were made and distributed to church members in celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord. At Advent, wreaths were made for ages kindergarten through grade 5 on the first Sunday of Advent; 8 wreaths were made and taken by the children for use in their homes during the season of Advent.

In the area of Music, the children learned to sign "Away in A Manger" and participated in the Christmas Eve children's worship held at 5 pm in the sanctuary.

Children's Church is available and this program was reinstated this year so that children ages 4 through Grade 3 could attend a special class held in the elementary classroom during worship later to return to the sanctuary prior to the end of the church service.

In the area of Witness, the classes were able to engage in various activities and projects this past year. They were asked to make collection containers for the collection of the Pennies for Hunger Offering that is taken on the last Sunday of each month. The children collect this offering each month in the sanctuary.

In addition to the collection that supports Salem Presbytery's Domestic and International Hunger Grants Programs, the classes wrapped gifts for our partner church, Mt. Zion, and those children benefiting from the tutoring program sponsored by the two partner churches.

This past year the classes participated in Make A Friend Sunday held on October 30, 2016. The children decorated gift cards for church members living at Galloway Ridge and the nearby Villas followed by home visits.

In the area of Staffing, Michael DePue was employed as the director of Christian Education and he helped guide the use of lectionary-based Whirl curriculum. In addition, his duties included coordination of volunteers for the Nursery to insure proper adult supervision alongside the paid personnel each week. Upon Michael's resignation (October 30, 2016, was his last Sunday at Chapel in the Pines), Brandon Melton, our Duke Divinity School intern, assumed many of the responsibilities performed previously by Michael DePue. Brandon Melton will remain as our intern through April, 2017.

In the area of Youth, there is no formal program for grades 6-12 due to only three persons in this age category. However, the Youth Development Center receives visits from members of our church on a regular basis; so focus shifted and we are taking our folks to youth outside our church. Presently all youth are encouraged to participate in worship and in scouting- related programs and projects throughout the year.

This year 2016 has been an exciting as well as challenging year for this Sub-Committee of Christian Education and our committee looks forward to new challenges and opportunities to serve our Lord through the coming year, 2017. On January 8, 2017, our first meeting with parents was held from 4pm to 6 pm to engage conversation as to future direction of this ministry in our church.

Respectfully submitted,
Mickey dePrater, chairwoman

Social Media Subcommittee

- CITP Facebook Page

The Chapel in the Pines Facebook page has 517 "likes" and 439 page followers (subscribers). For 28 days, 12/11/16-1/7/17, CITP Facebook posts "reached" 4,876 people (which simply means the posts floated through 4,876 Facebook feeds), "engaged" 1,737 people (meaning those 1,737 'liked' or clicked on the Facebook post). During that time there were 3 new page "likes." In a typical week there will be at least three Facebook posts; the sermon from the previous Sunday, the Weekly News email, and a Sunday morning post welcoming people to church. Other posts are added when there are special events and news items of interest. For future information, this can also be a venue for posting video messages, even sermons, from staff. Currently Karen Fisher does most of the posting, but she welcomes other contributors.

- CITP Instagram Page

The CITP Instagram page was started in July 2015. This is a venue for engagement through visual images. Since taking this over, Karen Fisher has posted 49 photos and the site has 40 followers. Typically, posts are photos from Sunday worship or other church activities during the week. Karen Fisher would welcome other contributors.

Publicity Subcommittee

- Banners

Committee publicity efforts have concentrated on configuring and posting banners at strategic locations on roadways, advertising special worship opportunities, and also designing artful postcards for mailing to residents in nearby neighborhoods. Banners were again this year posted advertising Holy Week and Christmas Eve Services, resulting in significant increases in attendance.

- Postcards

Two special mailings of 10,000 original design postcards were made to neighborhoods within a five mile radius of the church. The mailings occurred to advertise Easter Holy Week and Christmas services and were mailed two weeks prior to each. Attendance was monitored so as to identify those who visited as a result of the mailings. Although monitoring was imperfect, many visitors indicated that they were inspired by the postcards to attend.

Technology Support Subcommittee

- Website

The CITP website continues to be maintained and updated by Mary Donna Pond and provides: information for newcomers and visitors; podcasts of the sermons; links to the weekly worship bulletin and weekly e-newsletter; calendar of events; lists of volunteers for flower duty schedule, communion service helpers, lay readers, etc.; the 2016 stewardship packet materials; Session approved policies, procedures, and documents; discussion readings for Thirst Quenchers; updates to pictorial directories and information about new members (accessible without logging into the website and both password protected); link for online giving; annual reports for this and several previous years; updates on construction and the search for a new pastor; time-sensitive notifications of closures and postponements.

The recommendations from the 2015 Website Redesign Task Force are in place and ready for the design of a new website. Unfortunately, funds were not allocated for this important project.

Audio-Visual Subcommittee

- CITP Office Equipment

Committee efforts, which in the past had included maintenance of CITP office equipment and WiFi capability, were permanently turned over to the Finance and Administration Committee to allow the Office Manager, through a contractor, to personally manage these important functions.

- **Audio Enhancements**

The digital signal processor (DSP), installed in 2015, has the additional capability, with modest wiring and equipment additions, to enhance sound throughout the sanctuary, fellowship hall, and narthex. This project has been held in abeyance pending completion of fellowship hall construction, and additional funding.

Although funding for basic audio enhancements in the Fellowship Hall under construction is currently only minimally available, this important need will in the future continue to be of major importance.

- **Sermon Podcasts**

Sermon podcasts are now automatically recorded and uploaded to Google drive for later processing by a PC located in the sanctuary storage closet. These weekly podcasts are posted to the church website by the Technology Support Subcommittee.

- **Hearing Loop**

The “hearing loop” makes it possible for those with hearing impairments 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. More people are using the hearing loop or expressing interest in doing so but some issues remain with preparing the hearing loop headsets and providing instructions for their use. The installation of an additional hearing loop in the new fellowship hall is desirable, and is actively being pursued by the CIP Construction Committee and this Subcommittee.

Committee Members

- Al Schalk
- Mary Donna Pond
- Bob Warren
- Nathan Kotecki
- Keith Glidewell
- Karen Fisher
- Jeff Morehouse
- Monty Brekke

During 2016, the fellowship teams continued to provide refreshments following Sunday worship. We also have taken over the usher duties prior to and during worship.

We began the year with 11 teams. In September, the number of teams was reduced to 7 with more members assigned to each team.

The teams also assisted with special functions including lunches sponsored by the Capital Campaign in the spring and the Stewardship Committee potluck lunch in the fall.

Some months have included other special fellowship events such as a chili cook-off, Christmas caroling at the church, and a picnic at Talking Trees Park.

We invited members and friends to sign up for fellowship dinners. Some met in homes and rotated between homes in the group; others met at various restaurants.

Strobilus continued for the winter/spring season under the direction of Nathan Koteki. All events were well attended and brought many visitors to Chapel in the Pines.

Committee: Lynne Hoerter (chair), Phyllis Greene, Marcia Ladd, Mary Donna Pond.

The Finance Committee had two major activities in 2016:

- **“Pillars of Faith” capital campaign.** Under the leadership of Stan Campbell, the capital committee raised more than \$850,323k from 90 members and friends to fund a new fellowship hall and paying down the debt, among other things. A ground-breaking ceremony was held in November for the new facility. We are thrilled to see our church grow!
- **Stewardship campaign.** Under the leadership of Paul Isom and Stan Campbell, CITP launched a stewardship campaign this year, focused on “New Beginnings.” The campaign brought 86 pledges from members and friends for a total of \$242,550.

Visitors

In 2016, our committee was intentional about making sure first time visitors and returning visitors were warmly greeted each Sunday as they entered the church. We provided two volunteers to greet visitors, help them make or find a name tag, and find a seat near a member who would continue to welcome them. They also encouraged visitors to fill out the information card located in the folders found in the pockets behind the chairs in the sanctuary so that we could acknowledge their visit and invite them back to worship with us. These new folders were purchased this year to provide information in a more attractive, compact way. They contain information for members and visitors about upcoming events and church programming.

New Members

In 2016, ten new members were added to the church roll. Each new member class was invited to several sessions with the minister and the head of membership to answer questions and provide information about CITP. In November, the new member class attended a luncheon designed to give the new members an opportunity to get to know each other and the minister in a more informal way. Names and pictures of new members were added to the New Member board in the narthex and to the online directories. New members were assigned to fellowship teams and to deacons. Every effort was made to assist the new members in becoming active members at CITP.

Prospective Members

In an effort to tell more people about Chapel in the Pines, 4X6 postcards with the church logo were purchased to be sent to new residents in our surrounding neighborhoods. Volunteers were responsible for locating addresses of new residents in their neighborhood newsletters and sending a short invitation to join us for worship. These cards were also provided in the narthex for members to reach out to each other and to invite friends to church.

Existing Membership

Efforts were made as needed to update the pictorial directory.

Each week a volunteer sent cards to all people expressing prayer requests in the service the previous Sunday.

The membership rolls were reviewed in January and recommendations were given to the Session.

Each week, name tags were replaced into the file boxes by volunteers for use the next Sunday. New name tags were created for lost ones and for visitors.

Activity bags for children were kept stocked and made available for children each Sunday.

Committee Members include Barbara Strange, Judy Kenyon, Polly Williams, Mary Donna Pond, Janet Jones, and Marcia Ladd.

The mission and service 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. The committee meets monthly on the first Sunday of the month following worship. We welcome your presence and suggestions and participation.

Budgeting and Finances

The 2016 budget for outreach totals \$32,320.00, which is approximately 10% of the overall church budget. Of this amount, \$15,170 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.

Capital Campaign

At the beginning of the year, there was \$7,086.41 remaining from the outreach portion of the 2013-2015 capital campaign. In total, 50% of the 2013-2015 funds are given to local mission and 50% to global mission. The local recipients are 40% to The UNC Farm at Penny Lane, 40% to Chatham County Literacy Council and 20% to Circles Chatham (now UPLIFT). In April, the committee recommended that a part of the global portion be allocated to Casa Materna Ana Sayre, which was approved by the session. Other recipients for the global portion include the Francisco Coll School, Pachaj Health Post, and Will Sibert's ministry. We hope to finish dispersing the remaining \$1,763.99 in the beginning of 2017.

At the end of the year, there was \$766.10 in the outreach portion of the 2016 capital campaign. In September, the committee recommended and had approved by the session that \$900 of the initial \$1666.10 be allocated to the Latin American Biblical University to purchase a computer and software license.

The committee will be soliciting proposals from the congregation to help plan for the global and local allocations of the outreach portion of the 2016-2018 capital campaign funds in early 2017.

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 continued to support 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. Her service at World Mission ends on February 2, 2017 as she has accepted a position as Manager for Advocacy in the Office of Immigration and her husband continues to serve until June 30, 2017. You can learn more about Amanda and Omar's ministry at <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/missionconnections/craft-amanda/>.

We continued to support three missions in Guatemala. The Francisco Coll School, located in Guatemala City, provides quality education and nutritious food to more than 300 children in grades 1-6. The health clinic in Pachaj, Quetzaltenango provides basic maternal and child health care and primary care services to residents of a rural area of Guatemala. Casa Materna Ana Sayre is dedicated to supporting mothers and babies in the Cahabon District of Alta Verapaz. These missions each received \$200 from our global mission funds in 2016.

In response to Hurricane Matthew, we gave \$300 to New Hope Presbytery to support rebuilding efforts.

\$250 of global mission funds were given to Chatham Organizing for Racial Equity to hold a workshop by REI (Racial Equity Institute) in March 2017. Several members of the congregation are involved with the organization. The organization's mission statement is:

*To create a county environment that inspires racial equity through building positive relationships with the spread of cultural education, sharing of personal truths, and encouraging a community-wide dedication to inclusion. Our efforts aim to deconstruct systems of unequal and unethical practices that prevent racial justice and increase sensitivity and respect by advocating for a county with an **integrative societal view**. We want to fortify Chatham as a peaceful and inclusive community that has effectively dismantled oppressive community forces*

This year we heard a proposal from church member Barbara Strange to help sponsor a performance by Mike Wiley Jackie Robinson- *A Game Apart*, which took place on Saturday, November 13, 2016. The performance was organized by the class on conversations on race and supported by Mt. Zion, Mt. Sinai, Pittsboro Presbyterian and Chapel in the Pines.

We continued to support Will Sibert in his trauma healing ministry in his partnership with BEE World (Biblical Education by Extension World).

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 2016:

- * 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
- * Communities in Schools of Chatham County
- * UPLIFT, formerly Circles Chatham
- * The UNC Farm at Penny Lane

We continued to participate in a tutoring program with Mount Zion Baptist Church, which was well received by those who attended the programs, and hope to continue this mission in 2017.

We began supporting two units in the Chatham Youth Development Center in Siler City. The committee is excited to support the volunteers in reaching out to the women there. More church members will undergo volunteer training and orientation in 2017.

The "Wellness on Wheels" van, a mobile health care unit, which was in part made possible by Chapel in the Pines' capital campaign funds, continues to operate. Thava Mahadaven, director of the UNC Center for Excellence on Community Mental Health, visited the congregation on October 16, 2016.

\$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. 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. This year the food pantry received grants from Salem Hunger and from Carolina Meadows. With recent budgetary struggles, they are considering joining One Chatham. They continue to receive excellent support from Chapel in the Pines in both cash and food donations.

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 staff, clients and faculty of the NC Center for Excellence in Community Mental Health and the UNC Farm at Penny Lane.

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. The local portion of the Peace and Global Witness offering was given to CORE.

Michelle Morehouse and Beverly Rudolph stepped down from the committee in 2016. We are grateful for their leadership and active and dedicated service not only on the committee but in all of the projects they have developed and supported.

Goals for 2017

Some goals of the committee for 2017 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, both local and global
- * To strengthen our social justice ministries and to build closer working relations with the agencies that we support financially
- * To hear proposals regarding the outreach portion of the 2016-2018 capital campaign and make recommendations to the committee and session

Committee members

Members of the outreach committee are Monty Brekke, Amanda Briggs, Karen Fisher, Paul Harrell, Pat Poret, Maggie Reif, Will Sibert, Susie Smith, and Bob Warren.



Thava Mahadevan visited Chapel in the Pines on 10/16/16 to talk about The UNC Farm at Penny



The "Wellness on Wheels" van was funded in part by Chapel in the Pines and continues to provide mobile health care

Session Members

Thru May 2017:

Heather Bogan
Kristin Laverne
Butch Smith

Thru May 2018:

Lynne Hoerter
Al Schalk
Barbara Strange

Thru May 2019:

Karen Atkins
Maggie Reif
Terry Rudolph

Board of Deacons

Thru May 2017:

Susan Cyr
Josh Ladd
Kenneth McIntyre

Thru May 2018:

Carl Biddulph
Mary Donna Pond
Peggy Wilkerson

Thru May 2019

Elizabeth dePrater
Gail King
Garrett Southerland

Committee members are:

John McDowell, Diane Finnicon, Chuck Rickard, Rachel Stevens and Archie Smith.

Staff changes during the year: The resignation of our pastor, Mindy Douglas, pianist Leigh Denny, and Director of Christian Education, Michael DePue.

Interns serving our church were: Katie Murchison Ross and Brandon Melton

Additions to our staff: Lynn Stall, interim pastor, Rob Passow, pianist and Brandon Melton, Duke Divinity intern.

Archie Smith

Chair Personnel Committee

STAFF

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Bookkeeper:

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Primary: 919-732-2648
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The Worship Committee's network of volunteers continued to facilitate the Chapel in the Pines' mission of Welcome, Worship, Witness in 2016.

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.

The responsibilities within the Worship Committee include music, flowers, children's message, readers, communion, and all internal signage and decoration. In 2016, the committee reviewed and updated the operations manual. With the exciting opening of the Fellowship Hall in 2017, wedding guidelines will be on the agenda for the coming year.

Online sign-ups on the church website for these capacities continue, though we would like to emphasize to anyone interested that this is not the only avenue to volunteer.

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. Efforts have been undertaken to remind the congregation that at Chapel in the Pines all are welcome to serve communion and to invite all church members to participate.

The Worship Committee works closely with the Fellowship Committee in providing support with ushers and monthly fellowship teams as a way to broaden the participation of members to serve in this "front door" expression of Welcome.

As a part of the Children's message, the children's participation has increased as they are now given the opportunity to collect the Pennies for Hunger offering.

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

"Open Spaces", an alternative service on Tuesday evenings led by Mitzi Leshner-Thomas continued. These informal services include silence, sacrament and song. Beverly Rudolph has become a regular leader in these services, introducing other types of spiritual practices utilizing nature, body movement & awareness and icons. Beverly has also begun a semi-annual silent retreat at the Avila Retreat Center in Durham, giving participants a weekend of solitude and contemplation.

Lenten season services were celebrated in partnership with Evergreen United Methodist Church. On Christmas Eve, we continued with 2 services: a 5 p.m. service designed for families with children with music provided by the hand bell choir; and a 7 p.m. candlelight service with music provided by the choir.

Members of the Committee include Terry Rudolph, Chair; Marcia Ladd, Peggy Wilkerson, Sandy Williams, Pat Chappell, Will Sibert, Katherine Brekke, Mitzi Leshner-Thomas, staff; Jeremy Nabors,

The year began with a small committee developing a plan to ask the congregation for funds to build a Fellowship Hall. Chapel in the Pines conducted a capital campaign in mid-year and received pledges of almost \$850,000. There were three goals established: first, build a Fellowship Hall, second, pave the parking lot, and third, create a reserve fund. The final goal would be to make mortgage payments on the original buildings. Then, over the next five or so years, the goal was to gradually incorporate the mortgage into our operating budget.

The architect gave us an estimate for the construction of the Hall early in the planning process. However, when we received bids in June, they were almost \$70,000 over the estimate. The Fellowship Design Team spent the next several months working with the architect and Bold Construction, the contractor, revising some of the original designs to fit the costs into our budget. We received a number of wonderful suggestions from the congregation during the design process, unfortunately, all the suggestions could not be incorporated because of added costs.

We were also able to reduce costs by using the interior doors from an abandoned Baptist church in Chapel Hill. We also will be using light fixtures, water fountains, and exit signs from an Ackland Museum space that is being renovated. Finally, we are looking for good quality but used kitchen appliances that can be used in our kitchen instead of purchasing new ones. We have already received a 48" Subzero refrigerator and a double oven for the kitchen as donations.

Construction started in January and should be completed by mid to late summer weather permitting. The parking lot will be paved in the summer as soon as most or all of the construction is completed.

Although we were not able to include some of the features in the original design and many of the suggestions from our members and friends, the Fellowship Hall will be one that will be both very functional and one in which we can be proud.

The Fellowship Design Team

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. 2016 found the church opening its doors and welcoming many people —members, friends and people from the community, for worship, special services, meetings, prayer groups, dinners, fellowship events, special events for children and youth, Scottish dancing, choir and handbell rehearsal, retreats, concerts, weddings and memorial services.

In 2016 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.

In addition to church services and numerous community events during 2016, Chapel in the Pines provided meeting rooms and gathering space for the following organizations or churches:

UNC Hospice

Circles Chatham

Chatham Habitat for Humanity Board

Sisters' Voices

UNC XDS Center for Excellence in Community Mental Health

Mike Wiley Productions