

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

215 5TH AVENUE SOUTH
LEWISTOWN, MT 59457

February 28, 2021



2020 REPORT

(please bring this report with you to the meeting)

2020 Church Staff

Moderator of Session Pastor Diane White & Pastor Dan Triller
Clerk of Session Carol Brown
Treasurer Jan Waltenbaugh
Administrative Assistant Lisa Sanders
Custodian Linda Peterson
Chancel Choir Director Donna Byerly & Kathleen Schaeffer
Pianists Donna Byerly and Kathy Jenni
Organist Brian Priest
Harmony Bell Director Mary Kepler
Nursery Seena Pond

Session

Feb. 2019 through Feb. 2022

Nancy Barber
Marla Phillips
Charlie Brown
Dave Byerly

Feb. 2020 through Feb. 2023

Lisa Ash
Neva Crane
Deb Slagel
Sandy Mikeson

Support Committee

Buildings & Grounds Charlie Brown, Chair; Kory Nielsen, Gary Slagel, & Don Jenni
Personnel Lisa Ash, Chair
Mission / Outreach Nancy Barber, Chair; Mary Kepler
Stewardship/Financial/Budget Dave Byerly, Chair; Jim Phillips, Linda Mitchell, Don Jenni & Jan Waltenbaugh
Nominating Sandy Mikeson, Chair; Carol Brown, Nancy Barber

Christian Education Committee

..... Marla Phillips, Sandy Mikeson, Co-Chairs; Linda Bradley & Jordan Stilson
Sunday school Deb Slagel, & Sandy Mikeson
Wednesday school Linda Anderson, & Sandy Mikeson

Congregational Life Committee

Worship Committee Neva Crane, Chair; Donna Byerly, Debra Slagel, Lisa Sanders, Carol Brown & Kathleen Schaeffer
Fellowship Committee Debra Slagel, Chair

Deacons-2020

Kathy Ault Mickey Dunlap Sherry Cramer Liz Sawyer Linda Anderson Gloria Taylor/Shelby Hill
Megan Garoutte Jean Raw

**Docket for Annual Meeting
First Presbyterian Church
215 5th Avenue South
Lewistown, MT
February 28, 2021**

Call to Order and Prayer

Approval of Minutes

A word from your Pastor

Moment of Remembrance

Annual meeting of the Corporation

1. Call to Order
2. Business of the Corporation
 - a. Corporate Officers
 1. Chair:
 2. Secretary:
 3. Treasurer:
3. Motion to adjourn (Annual meeting of the Corporation)

Election of:

Board of Elders:

1. Don Jenni

Board of Deacons:

1. Mary Kepler

Presentation of 2021 Budget

Motion to adjourn and Closing Prayer

2020 Actual
12/27/2020

RECEIPTS:

	2020 Budget		2021 Budget
Offering	147,048.00	135,928.51	140,400.00
Carryover from previous year	17,861.00	0.00	34,148.00
Restricted Contributions	5,000.00	29,293.78	5,000.00
Per Capita	1,500.00	970.00	1,000.00
Building Rent	250.00	460.00	250.00
Grant		20,000.00	0.00
Sale of Van	0.00		0.00
Interest Income	25.00	14.27	15.00
TOTAL	171,684.00	186,666.56	180,813.00

EXPENSES:

Automobile- Insurance	250.00	198.00	198.00
Automobile- Fuel	75.00	69.18	75.00
Automobile- License Plates	60.00	59.67	60.00
Automobile- Maintenance	100.00	207.95	150.00
Building - Purchased Assets	0.00	2,995.00	1,500.00
Building - Custodial Expense	750.00	271.79	750.00
Building - Groundskeeping	50.00	0.00	50.00
Building - Garbage Disposal	620.00	662.00	650.00
Building - Insurance	9,500.00	10,956.29	11,785.00
Building - Maintaince & Repair	2,500.00	1,213.30	2,500.00
Building - Taxes	1,350.00	1,296.23	1,300.00
Building - Utilities	9,400.00	7,460.42	9,000.00
Building - Water	750.00	683.29	750.00
Building - Elevator	4,000.00	5,572.12	4,000.00
Kitchen Expenses	100.00		100.00
Christian Education & Youth Group	200.00	969.49	2,000.00
Missions - Deacons	3,000.00	3,678.67	1,200.00
Missions - Love, Inc			1,600.00
Missions - Misc			1,200.00
Fellowship			300.00
Office - Copier	500.00	86.83	200.00
Office - Postage & Delivery	250.00	369.58	350.00
Office - Publications & Subscriptions	300.00	183.00	120.00
Office - Supplies	1,300.00	991.36	1,000.00
Office - Telephone/Internet	1,800.00	2,521.39	2,500.00

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Office - Licenses & Permits	400.00	68.53	100.00
Office Equipment	100.00	195.99	150.00
Bank Charges	30.00	185.11	200.00
Payroll - Choir Director - FICA Mat.	300.00	0.00	0.00
Payroll - Choir Director -Salary	4,000.00	0.00	0.00
Payroll - Handbell Director	0.00	0.00	0.00
Payroll - Pianist	0.00	0.00	0.00
Payroll - Organist - FICA Mat.	0.00	0.00	0.00
Payroll - Organist - Salary	0.00	0.00	0.00
Payroll - Pastor - Continuing Ed	600.00	600.00	600.00
Payroll - Pastor - Housing	25,000.00	16,666.64	27,000.00
payroll - Pastor - Medical & Pension	19,000.00	6,691.22	20,000.00
Payroll - Pastor - Salary	26,000.00	17,473.15	28,000.00
Payroll - Pastor - Fica Mat	2,000.00	678.01	2,000.00
Payroll - Pastor - Mileage Reimburse			400.00
Payroll - Secretary - FICA Mat.	1,008.00	619.60	1,200.00
Payroll - Secretary - Medical & Pen	18,490.00	18,979.67	18,000.00
Payroll - Secretary - Salary	13,170.00	18,104.67	15,000.00
Payroll - Treasurer - FICA Mat.	316.00	184.52	330.00
Payroll - Treasurer - Salary	4,134.00	4,134.00	4,344.00
Substitute Staff	750.00	3,147.75	3,000.00
Nursery Staff	1,500.00	345.00	250.00
Nursery matching FICA	115.00	20.66	20.00
Unemployment Tax	15.00		15.00
Custodian Salary	7,279.00	7,278.96	7,279.00
Custodian matching FICA	557.00	139.23	557.00
Custodian Assistant	250.00	0.00	50.00
Workers' Comp	800.00	540.39	600.00
Per Capita	6,215.00	6,215.00	5,580.00
Pastor Search	2,000.00	920.29	2,000.00
Presbytery Meeting Local	0.00	0.00	
Music Expense	250.00	950.00	250.00
Worship Expense	500.00	337.69	500.00
Advertising	50.00	0.00	50.00
TOTAL	171,684.00		180,813.00
SHORT/ Income	0.00		0.00

A word from Elder Charlie Brown

“And God is able to bless you abundantly so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work” 2 Corinthians 9:8

“His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness” 2 Peter 1:3

It has been an amazing year. It has been very difficult at times but at others we have felt truly blessed and have enjoyed an abundant outpouring of loving kindness from friends of First Presbyterian.

In February we said goodbye to our friend and pastor, Diane who was called to a Presbyterian church in Pine Top, Arizona. While Diane will be missed, we feel truly blessed to have been able to welcome our new pastor, Kimmy Brigs and her husband, Will. We look forward to a long and fruitful ministry with this amazing couple and give thanks to God for his provision. With them we begin a new chapter in the life of our church. With over 100 years of God's gracious care, we look forward with hope that God will continue to bless our congregation as our new pastor leads us into new and exciting ministries.

I want to devote a line or two to thank the people who have provided leadership and helped us to remain strong during this difficult time of the COVID pandemic. I cannot name everyone for fear of leaving someone out. Knowing that we value all who come and participate in worship, there are those who accepted additional responsibilities because we were without a pastor. Therefore, I offer thanks on behalf of all of our members to the following:

- The Worship Committee led by Neva Crane
- All those who provided pulpit supply
- All the wonderful musicians led by Donna Byerly
- The many worship leaders and readers
- The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) chaired by Kevin Kepler
- Lisa Sanders, our worship camera lady who also wrote newsletters and kept our office open and kept us connected.
- Our Homebound team
- The world's greatest kid sermon presenter, Sandy Mikeson
- Linda P and the Sanitizers (a new rock group) for keeping our sanctuary safe and clean
- Lisa Ash, our medical consultant and Covid response coordinator
- The Fellowship Committee, led by Deb Slagel, who provided treats and welcoming gifts at our services.
- The Mission Committee led by Nancy Barber for providing Covid Care Gifts to front line workers (nurses, police and firemen) and school district teaching staff.
- All the Bible Study teachers led by Marla Phillips
- The Smith Family and volunteers for providing a community Christmas dinner.
- Brian Ash and his work crew for the fabulous kitchen remodel
- Jason Terronez for running the sound system every Sunday

- The Session members for their steady leadership
- The Deacons for their caring ministry
- Richard Battrick for securing our building every day
- Dan Triller, pastor of Dillon Presbyterian church, for moderating our Session meetings
- George and Kathy Goodrich, co-presbyters of the Yellowstone Presbytery, for all their assistance to the PNC.

And finally, but most importantly, I give thanks to God for each and every one of you for your faithfulness, support, and encouragement during this time. It's so very easy to trust God when all is going well. It's times like we have had this past year, however, that truly define who we are and test our faith. It is so encouraging to write this letter and think about the wonderful people of First Presbyterian Church who have hung in there with us and as a result, I believe, have been a blessing to each other and to this community. We are stronger now than ever and ready to accept the challenges the future holds with our new pastor Kimmy. We "move toward God, forward in faith and outward as disciples of Jesus Christ."

Praise God, Hallelujah

Charlie B

A word from Pastor Kimmy Briggs

With great joy I write as the new Pastor of FPC Lewistown! I am grateful for the good and faithful work of the PNC and for the care and support of the Yellowstone Presbytery throughout my discernment process. And now, I am grateful for you, the members of FPC Lewistown, for your warm welcome and the hospitality shown to Will and me upon our arrival.

We are excited to now have our feet on the ground, to invest ourselves in this church and the Lewistown community, and above all, to get to know each of you, and your families, in the next days and weeks.

When I first visited Lewistown, I used two words to describe FPC, joy and potential. I continue to use and to see those words at work in this place. The joy comes from you, the people. Your energy and excitement are contagious and for that I am grateful. Even in these strange times, I hope you continue to find joy in one another, in worship, and above all in your faith in God.

The potential also comes from you, from the building itself, and from this community. There are exciting things coming, some known and some unknown, but, I believe, if we walk by faith, there are good days ahead for us. I look forward to dreaming about the potential for this church, for the new ways we will move toward God, forward in faith, and outward as Disciples of Christ.

As we begin this journey together, I would ask this: be open. Be open to the ways the Spirit will be at work in and through us. Be open to new ideas and new opportunities. Be open to growing in community and in faith. And be open to new relationships.

We are in this journey together, and it will take all of us joining together to discover the future God has for us. And know, as we journey, I am here as your pastor. My door is open and my ears ready to listen as we faithfully step into the future.

Grace and peace,

Kimmy Briggs

Memorials

A total of \$1845.00 was given in memory of our dearly departed friends and family members: Doyle Helm, Ann Carter, Thomas Mane, Floyd & Peggy Jenni, Don Knox, Maurice Shammel, Jeff Crane, Maxine Burton, Callie Ernst, Earl & Louise Eck and Austin Wilson. These memorials will help with our future repairs on our building and grounds. We thank all those people who honored these men and women by sharing in their beliefs, hopes and ideas for our church family.

Submitted by Jan Waltenbaugh, Treasurer

2021 Per Capita

Presbytery	\$43.27
Synod	3.00
GA	8.98
Total:	\$55.25 per member of the church

Deacon Financial Report

Deposits

Coffee Hour	\$113.50
Donation gifts	\$260.00
Checking Interest	\$1.57
Elders-donation	\$2,750.00
Gun raffle	\$2,040.00
<u>Chili cookoff</u>	<u>\$452.00</u>
Total	\$5,617.07

Expenses

Rindals (food coupons)	\$119.92
Flowers	\$114.00
Fundraiser expenses	\$93.94
HRDC	\$800.00
Love INC	\$800.00
Church supplies	\$69.95
Postage	\$231.34
Outreach gifts	\$2,102.97
<u>Graduation gifts</u>	<u>\$175.00</u>
Total	\$4,507.12

Respectfully prepared and submitted by,
Linda Anderson, Deacon Treasurer

Financial Committee Annual Meeting Report

Needless to say, 2020 was a year filled with challenges for each of us, our community, our country and our church.

Many churches are struggling financially during the Covid pandemic, but our church came through 2020 in the black and in solid financial shape as we move into a new year.

There are many reasons for that, including the fact that we didn't have the expense of a full-time pastor for one third of the year, but the main reason was the incredible support all of you gave to our church.

You made our job - as your finance committee - so much easier and less stressful than it might have been. We are grateful for both God's provision and your support.

We certainly face in 2021 continuing financial challenges with the excitement of bringing our new pastor on board and completing much-needed improvements to our building.

We look forward to sharing with you at our annual congregational meeting our final 2020 financials and proposed 2021 budget. We hope you will approve our 2021 budget, which we believe is conservative, thorough and reflects having a full-time pastor and more active committees doing the ministries of our church.

A few highlights from 2020:

- Our income actually was up, but this was primarily due to a Covid-related grant which our treasurer secured for us.
- Tithing was down a little, but we had generous donations of more than \$29,000 to help complete special projects, especially the kitchen and fellowship hall, well above what we had budgeted for 2020.
- Expenses were in line with the budget, with one exception being the needed purchase of a video/security system in our education wing.
- First Presbyterian Church has finished each year in the black since 2013, reversing a trend that has existed prior to 2013. For this, we thank you and the Lord's provision and blessing of you and our church.

Looking ahead to 2021, we propose a budget which reflects a slight increase in tithing support and also the compensation package we offered our new pastor. We will gladly answer any questions you have about the 2021 proposed budget, at the annual meeting or at any time.

Throughout 2020, we tried to keep you informed about our church finances. It is awkward for us to talk about money and bottom line when our purpose here is God's work in our lives, in our congregation and in our community.

But you are the stakeholders in this organization. Our church is open and transparent in its finances, and you are always welcome to ask any questions, express any concerns or see our monthly financial reports.

We are grateful to Lisa Sanders for her work in our church office, to Dale Huffine for his financial review of our 2019 books, and to Treasurer Jan Waltenbaugh for her continuing outstanding work on behalf of the church.

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact any member of the Finance Committee: Dave Byerly, Don Jenni, Linda Mitchell, Jim Phillips and Jan Waltenbaugh.

Thank you!!!!

Submitted by,
Dave Byerly

Fellowship Committee

Diane White prompted the addition of a “Fellowship Committee” to our session in the fall of 2019. The purpose of its existence is to plan and coordinate various events that encouraged social fellowship. Initially the goal was to plan something every 2-3 months. The impact of COVID 19 has required that our efforts be adjusted.

Following is a calendar list of the efforts by the Fellowship Committee. Members of this committee included Sandy Mikeson, Donna Byerly, Carol Brown, Nancy Jenni and Linda Mitchell. Due to the nature of the fellowship efforts, there were many events that required assistance from others not included above.

January 21, 2020 - During our coffee hour, a **BABY SHOWER** was hosted in support of Linda Peterson and the **Inspire Pregnancy Outreach Center**. It was hosted during coffee hour and needed items for the center were gifted.

August 22 – A **WOMEN’S COFFEE** (socially distanced) was co-hosted with Helen Hutcheson at the home of Deb Slagel.

September 16 - **75 SPECIAL GIFT BAGS** that included a 1st Presbyterian Church traveling rock, treats, popcorn and other donated items were collected and prepared. These special gifts were handed out during Sunday service on September 20th. The remaining were hand delivered to congregants.

September 23 & October 1, 2020 - **MANDALA ROCK PAINTING** – 2 craft nights were organized for budding artists to join us in painting our 1st Presbyterian Travelling Rocks.

Starting September 27th, we began to hand out our **COFFEE HOUR TREAT BAGS** and have done so every Sunday since thanks to the many congregants who donated items to help this happen.

November 19 – **1ST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FRIENDSGIVING SOUP** work crew gathered to prepare and label 74 pint sized jars of a special lentil soup. Soup was handed out during the service on November 22nd. Remaining soups were delivered to those in need.

December 16 - **PINE CONE CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS** craft session was hosted.

Respectfully submitted by,
Debra Slagel

Buildings and Grounds

We have a long range plan for maintenance and remodel in the church that we put together last year.

Our *first* priority at that time, was the elevator. Since that time, repairs have been made that our elevator guy believes should give us 5 to maybe 7 years. He also gave us the option of a lift to replace what we have that is considerably less than installation of the same kind of elevator that we have now - \$30,000 + . That figure is over \$30,000 less than the original quotes. While this is not a current priority, it certainly needs to be on our list for fundraising. I'm leaving it at the top because we need to have a plan for its replacement.

The *second* priority is the kitchen. We are very close to finishing half and we have sufficient funds to complete it. The virus has held us up but we should be able to complete the work in the near future (it could be done by the time of the annual meeting). We poured a floor, rebuilt walls, replaced cabinets, flooring and the sink. We owe a tremendous thank you to Brian Ash for all the work and expertise that he provided. An enormous amount of work was also put in by Kory Nielsen, Jon Byerly and Jim Mitchell. The other half of the kitchen needs to be done, as well. If we replace the appliances I am fairly certain we could exceed the amount we currently have for the project. We currently have \$13,108.62 remaining in the kitchen fund. The work would include sink, cabinets, floor, ceiling and other water damage repair. This will be completed whenever we can inconvenience our skilled labor and make sure they have the time. To contract the work could get very expensive.

Fourth, the fellowship hall. There is \$22,629.01 available but that is not sufficient. We received an estimate on the floor that was \$12,000 for commercial carpet squares that would handle traffic and food. It really isn't the preferred material. To put down a floor that will be highly durable and easy to clean will most likely run more in the 15 to 17,000 dollar range. The floor needs to be torn up in places to repair rot....I don't know the extent of that or the cost. Walls (Paneling) need to be replaced as well as the ceiling. I received a bid of \$4,000 to sheetrock, tape, texture and paint the walls. We would daylight windows (there is some plumbing and electrical that needs to be done in order to accomplish that). All ceiling tiles need to be replaced. I would think that if we had \$20,000 more we could probably get most if not all done. One of the unknowns is the roof and drainage where the Ed. wing meets the sanctuary. Water is leaking there and rotting the floor in the corner where the choir robes are. If we have to dig up the yard, put in tile, etc. it could get expensive. My best estimate would be that we need \$10,000 more dollars to complete the room remodel.

Fifth, we are considering flooring in the education classroom. This is fifth on the list but we are trying to move fairly quickly to get this done. We are having more classes than ever in that room and we would like to upgrade as soon as possible. The carpet in that room is original to the building. That wing has had quite a bit of work done on it over the past years and is in reasonably good shape compared to other areas. The carpet in that one room, however, should be replaced. The estimate that we have for that room is around \$5400 if we do tear out and preparation. We currently have

\$2000 in a designated fund and will need to raise \$3400. We believe this funding may be available from our education budget.

Sixth is graveling the 5th street parking lot. We have a bid to replace gravel and grade for proper drainage (which would be the best way to go) for \$5,000. We already have \$5,000 in anonymous donations. This work will be completed in the spring.

Seventh, is to get Creed Zibel to remove the tree stumps. I have a bid for stump removal at \$900. Things like this aren't high on the list because it's primarily an aesthetic issue. The sidewalks there are a bit of a safety issue but don't seem to be that big of a problem. Our plan was to put in handicapped parking in front and redo all that sidewalk and curb. The city will do some of the work (tear out, forms, etc. but we pay for the concrete. The cost seems far too high. We purchased parking signs that designate spaces for people with disabilities. They're not the greatest but they help if someone remembers to put them out. If we did everything to fix it right, we would be in the \$10,000 range. With everything else we are doing, \$200 worth of handicapped parking signs seemed like the better alternative.

We received money to purchase video equipment. We are now able to produce and broadcast live to Facebook, YouTube and through live internet streaming. We have made some significant improvements in our system that will increase our capabilities immensely. This system was purchased through grant and anonymous, personal donation.

We have other projects for future consideration - this will be enough to think and pray about. My one recommendation would be that we continue fundraising and move down the list as we get the funds. My best estimate is that we can accomplish most of this list with an additional \$10,000 to \$12,000. Please keep in mind that these are all very rough estimates and subject to major changes as we tear into the 100 year old building.

Finally, thank you all for your generosity. None of this could ever be accomplished without a gracious and loving God and our wonderful church family.

Blessings, Charlie Brown

Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) Report to the Congregation

Members: Kevin Kepler – Chair; Marla Phillips- Co-Chair/Secretary; Jordan Stilson – Internet Communicator; Deb Slagel – Member; Curtis Cauffman – Member; Dave Byerly - Alternate

The PNC started its work in March 2020 with a training session completed by the Yellowstone Presbytery. Our direct liaison for the Presbytery was Debbie Blackburn and Kathy Goodrich, Executive Presbyter, as senior advisor to our committee. The first meetings enabled us to fully understand the dynamics of committee work and the stages that each committee works through. Our intent was and remains to first seek God's guidance in the process. We set regular meeting times (most every week from late March through the finish). These times included time for prayer and scripture. We kept in mind during our meetings a covenant agreement of confidentiality, self-awareness, respect for others, and to freely speak yet focused on God's will. (We did not want "group think" to prevail – but to move as God willed in His direction.)

Mission Information Form (MIF): This document becomes the church's resume and advertisement on who we are and the characteristics in a Pastor our Church was seeking. This document took almost two months to fully complete. We utilized FPC Mission and Vision Statement and the Mission Study completed by you the congregation and a committee of three.

Church Leadership Connection (CLC) - Pastor Information Form (PIF) matching: Jordan Stilson – as our internet communicator - input our MIF into the CLC for matching purposes. Electronically generated "matches" were provided to the PNC after a match was requested. This matching process compared values and similarities between the Pastor and our church. Items such as common theological traits, leadership, experience and location. We completed 22 matching requests, reviewed 161 CLC-referred, self-referred and forwarded PIFs over the period of seven months. We contacted 65 different pastors, conducted numerous reference checks, conducted 6 in-person "get to know" zoom sessions followed by 6 formal interviews.

Presbytery Partnership: As this is a three-way partnership throughout the pastoral call process, with the presbytery having the primary responsibility for oversight of the process, together with the congregation and the Pastor candidate. The Presbytery's Pastor Ministry Team conducted 5 examinations for theology, membership into the Presbytery and "fit" for our church. *Visits:* We offered 4 visits with 2 actual pastor visits to our community. During the pastor visits, the candidates were able to visit in small groups with the PNC members in social environments, explore and tour our community, tour the sanctuary and church property. We were extremely blessed to be able to worship with both pastors and spouses and ended each visit with a PNC/Pastor roundtable discussion.

Financial: Financially we were and are very blessed by congregation members named and anonymous who supported travel, car, and hospitality expenses. The congregation approved \$2,000 for the search process to occur, with gifted money of an addition \$4,000 if needed. Costs incurred including travel of pastor candidates to Lewistown, lodging, per diem, and car rental. Our total expenditure covering the entire search process to date is \$1,820. Through gifts of travel miles for two sets of round trip tickets, use of personal vehicle and lodging (all anonymous) – the church realized \$4,480 savings. Total cost of search in monetary dollars and gifted values equaled \$6,300. These costs and values do not include

welcome baskets and personal hospitality of pot luck and miscellaneous other meals by all members of the PNC.

Extend of Call On January 11, 2021: After prayerful discernment, we as a PNC – unanimous and without reservation - believed the Holy Spirit was leading us to Kimberly Briggs. On this date we extended an invitation for Kimmy to be presented to you, the FPC congregation, as our nominee for our next installed pastor. On the evening of January 13, 2021 Kimmy accepted our invitation. After visiting this community, discernment, prayer, and worshipping in this sanctuary with the PNC, Kimmy also believes, without reservation, the Holy Spirit is calling her to FPC. *Next Steps:* January 24, 2021 – the session had called a congregational meeting to make two motions - 1st for Kimmy Briggs to be nominated and voted on as the Next Installed Pastor and 2nd – to approve the Terms of Call. Pending the outcome of our actions at the Congregational meeting, Kimmy will be examined and voted on by Yellowstone Presbytery at a specially called zoom meeting on Feb 11. Finally, Atlanta Presbytery must vote to dismiss her to Yellowstone Presbytery for the process to be complete. Pending the outcome of these steps - Kimberly Stokesbary Briggs will start her Call on February 15, 2021.

Submitted by,
Kevin Kepler

Mission/Outreach Committee

The goal for Mission/Outreach for 2020 was to continue meeting the needs of the Community Cupboard. Each month a need was brought to the congregation to fulfill. In February we started with cans of soup for "Souper Sunday". I was able to take 63.8 lbs. of soup to the cupboard. In March our theme was "Soft Sunday" with 42.6 lbs. of toilet paper, paper towels and Kleenex delivered. In April our theme was "Sudsy Sunday" with 83 lbs. of soap, shampoo and conditioner going to the cupboard. Thank you all for your generosity each month. It was then Covid hit us and the Community Cupboard began receiving federal assistance.

We began looking at essential workers in the community and how to show our support for them. We put together baskets of treats for the police department, sheriff's office, firemen and the ER staff and CMMC. The next month we gave the CMMC housekeeping staff coffee cards from the Coffee Cup. The CMMC nursing staff was given individual cheesecakes from the Montana Cheesecake Co.

Pastor Diane White's grandson was diagnosed with a brain tumor and \$1200 was raised for his family to help cover traveling expenses while receiving treatment. Again thank you for your generosity.

A call was sent out to the community for financial assistance concerning the Council on Aging. \$100 was given to them to assist with their needs.

The Salvation Army has a house to meet the needs of housing for emergency care. \$100 was given to support the house and \$100 was given to the Salvation Army Red Kettle.

I feel blessed to be a part of this ministry supporting and meeting the needs of those in our community.

Respectfully submitted by,
Nancy Barber

Home Visitation Report

Our home visits were cut extremely short this year due to the Covid outbreak. We continued visits until the end of February. Some of the facilities continued to let us visit outside as long as we were 6 feet from our homebound person. We continued with this program as long as the facilities would let us.

Call the office if you would like to be placed on the homebound visit list or if you know of someone who would benefit from a visit.

I pray that we will be able to return to a normal schedule soon so that our ministry continues.

Submitted by,
Linda Bradley

Children's Ministry

During the 2020 year, we were able to hold Wednesday School from October to April. Linda Anderson and Sandy Mikeson collaborated on Wednesday afternoons, teaching about our God and His love, to approximately 14 students, ages 5-11. Bible stories were shared, prayer time was held, mini vignette video series were shown, and crafts were completed.

In February we delivered special Valentine baskets to many of the elderly in town. We focused on the residents of the Eagles Manor and were as blessed by the event as the elderly were!

During our Wednesday School we also enjoyed music with Kathleen Schaeffer and we were preparing to do an Easter program when Covid restrictions “hit” Lewistown and school was shut down. When this occurred, we ended Wednesday school and our normal children’s ministry for the year.

During the next couple of months, special packages were delivered to our children. They included a craft, a sweet treat, a short bible lesson and some fun activities such as word searches and crossword puzzles. We received positive feedback and a few wonderful thank you notes from the kids. It was a difficult way to end our year and we felt we needed this to let them know we were thinking of them and to share God’s love with them.

Vacation Bible School was held “virtually” with Sandy Mikeson sharing the video responsibilities with the Zion Lutheran Church representative, Falen Aanenson. Falen did the main lesson and Sandy recorded the science experiments that told Bible truths. It was definitely a different approach but was available on Facebook and YouTube.

During the church services, Sandy has done children’s messages. Many of them were shared on Facebook for others to view.

We look forward to a new year in the fall and anticipate increased numbers of children to attend.

Thank you, Jesus, for our children and their faithful attendance. We lift up our coming year as God goes before us with His plans.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandy Mikeson

Adult Education

The Adult Christian Education Committee consists of Linda Bradley, Jordan Stilson and Marla Phillips as Chair. We are pleased to inform FPC Congregation that in 2020, the following Bible studies were offered to our Church and community.

<u>Time-frame</u>	<u>Title of Program</u>	<u>Facilitated By</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Jan-Feb 2020	Sunday Studies "Good & Evil"	Jordan Stilson	10
Jan-Feb 2020	"12 Women of the Bible"	Diane White/Lisa Sanders Katie's House	12 congregants 5
Feb-Mar 2020	"Heaven" R. Alcorn	Kathleen Schaeffer	2 sessions 15 each afternoon and evening
Mar-Apr 2020	"12 Disciples" Rose Publishing	Jordan Stilson Marla Phillips	10-15
Aug-Sep	"12 Women of The Bible"	Lisa Sanders Marla Phillips	10
Oct-Jan	"12 MORE Women Of the Bible	Lisa Sanders	10
Sep-Oct	"Grace" Max Lucado	Linda Bradley Monica Clinton	10
Oct-Nov	"Discerning the Voice Of God"; Priscilla Shirer	Nancy Barber	10
Oct-Jan	"Angels Standing Guard" Douglas Connelly	Jordan Stilson	10-15
Jan-Mar	"Living Beyond Yourself"	Linda Bradley & Monica Clinton	10
Jan 31 st	Transition Sunday School Potluck & "I Can Only Imagine" movie w/discussion	Social Setting	
Feb-Apr	"The Acts" John MacArthur	Nancy Barber	10

Apr-May	Evening Study "Battle Plan for Prayer" Stephen & Alex Kendrix	Jordan Stilson 1 ½ hr
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Additional Bible Studies for 2021 might include: "Elijah" by Priscilla Shirer; "Jesus' Final Week", "Meeting the Spirit", "Spiritual Warfare", "Miracles of Jesus", "Parables" of Jesus, "When God's Spirit Moves" (6 weeks), and "Daniel's Prayer".

The Adult Christian Education Team (ADET) will announce these studies as these courses become available.

On behalf of our team, we encourage suggestions for topics and/or specific Bible Studies. We would also like to know if any of you would like to conduct a study. You can contact any of us on the Team or leave a message with the Office.

Yours Respectfully,
Marla Phillips
Adult Christian Education Team

Music Report

*“My heart, O God, is steadfast,
my heart is steadfast;
I will sing and make music.”
- Psalm 57:7*

First, the music team wants to give a heartfelt welcome to Kimmy and Will. We look forward to working closely with Kimmy to enhance and complement our worship services!

Second, an equally heartfelt thank you to everyone who has helped with music this challenging year of 2020. Our praise group and many individuals have offered their talents for our services. We are so grateful to each one of them.

We know many of you are frustrated that we aren't singing in church these days. We are, too. We are mindful of the most vulnerable in our congregation, but we look forward to resuming our congregational singing as soon as it is safe to do so.

Before Covid impacted our church services, we tried to provide a blend of contemporary and traditional worship music. We expect to continue that as we work our way out of virus protocols, taking advantage of our projector for lyrics and occasional videos.

As we look ahead to post-virus 2021, we hope to again offer special music for our church holidays and to host the 19th annual Christmas Cantata. And we continue to search for a music director.

In the meantime, working with Kimmy and our worship committee, we will continue to do our best to provide meaningful music for our Sunday services. Please feel free to reach out to the worship committee or me any time with your suggestions and feedback.

Again, thanks to all of you who helped with the music ministry during 2020!

Respectfully submitted by,
Donna Byerly

Harmony Bells

The Harmony Bell choir is temporarily on hiatus due to COVID. We hope to be able to start practicing again in late spring.

Mary Kepler

Worship Committee

The worship committee consists of Neva Crane; Lisa Sanders; Donna Byerly and Carol Brown. While the year began routinely, with the start of Covid-19 restrictions in March, we changed the way we did worship. We moved to an online platform where folks could use the internet to join together for worship. While it was not the same as in-person, we made it work. We were able to resume in-person worship services when restrictions were lifted following the recommendations of the local health district regarding masking, social distancing and cleaning.

Since the departure of Pastor Diane in August our duty has been to make sure worship services continue through planning music, special themed services, contacting and assigning worship leaders and pulpit supply for each Sunday. We planned services that would keep folks during these “covid times” by continued masking and social distancing as well as continued online worship services. We kept in contact with the local health district and followed their guidelines which unfortunately, recommended we discontinue singing. Our committee chose to offer instrumental music; spoken creeds and doxology in lieu of congregational singing. We were able to schedule special music up front with the recommended social distance guidelines. During the Advent season and Christmas we chose the theme “Unwrapping the names of Jesus” and offered 2 Christmas Eve services in order to keep folks safe with the social distancing.

We had some excellent folks fill the pulpit during the interim and I am proud to say, many of those folks are members of First Presbyterian church in Lewistown. I would like to thank the members of the worship committee for all the effort and prayers they put into each Sunday service. I would also like to thank every person who volunteered their time to supply us with music, the reading of the word of God and sharing their faith with our congregation. We couldn't have done it without you!

Many Blessings!

Neva Crane

Presbyterian Women

Our Presbyterian Women's group started the year with a gathering at Jean Raw's in celebration of Epiphany. At that gathering we made plans for future gatherings which unfortunately didn't happen due to the threat of covid and recommendations to discontinue group gatherings.

This year our group gave monetary gifts to three graduating high school seniors. With the need of food in our community we donated to the local community cupboard and Council on Aging monetary gifts of \$100 each. We also gave \$100 to the mission committee for the Samaritan Purse shoebox project.

We look forward to better days ahead when we will gather together once again!

Neva Crane

Presbyterian Women financial report

Checking account:

Beginning balance January 2020	\$3454.70
Check #334 Walmart coffee hr supplies	-90.31
Check #335 Ace Hardware-pavers (baby shower)	-22.35
Check #336 Council on Aging	-100.00
Check #337 Community Cupboard	-100.00
Check #338 Grayden Sanders (HS grad)	-25.00
Check #339 Nicole Prindle (HS grad)	-25.00
Check #340 Jane Rooney (HS grad)	-25.00
Check #341 Missions (Samaritan's Purse)	-100.00
Ending Balance 2020	\$2967.04

Savings Account Balance:	\$1538.24
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Christmas Dinner

We are told in scripture to feed God's sheep: The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep. (NIV)

Christmas Dinner this year was exactly the same as previous years...except for the parts that were different! Ha Ha! Really about the only thing that was the same was the menu!

We considered not having the dinner at all due to covid and the remodeling of our church kitchen but then, after Thanksgiving was a big hit in the community, we felt that there was a great need to be filled by filling plates and tummies. Logan really wanted to move it forward so we decided to do just that.

We followed the lead of the community Thanksgiving dinner, organized by the Episcopal Church, and we got lots of guidance from Dean Martin and Jean Collins as to how they set things up which was great. Because they served over 300 dinners, we felt that we should plan for about 400 dinners - which is twice what we usually prep for!

We rented the trade center at the fairgrounds to prepare the meal. It is a great space to use as there are several ovens, with warming ovens and refrigerator space to hold the amount of food that was to be served. The only downside is that we had to haul all the cookware and food supplies out there which wasn't so bad before hand but when the dinner was over and we had to haul it all back and put it away at the church - well, that was not so much fun:)

How many potatoes do you peel for that many people? We just basically doubled what we had done in the past so that answer was 130 pounds.

The need for food was great in our community but so was the need to volunteer and donate. We were well supplied with pies, rolls, turkey cookers, volunteers and finances. We had about 30 people help on the day we prepped and more than 60 people came out on Christmas Day to prep, serve and deliver meals! We served about 340 meals.

One great benefit is that we have some money left over. In previous years, we have donated that money to the senior center and the community cupboard but this year it is set aside and we are hoping to have it available to organizations and churches to provide meals to those in need - if we can get enough help to do that. If not, we will once again make a donation to our local community cupboard and senior center in the name of the First Presbyterian Church.

We want to thank the church for supporting us each year. We have been spearheading it for over 20 years (we did take one year off in there somewhere). We will see what the state of the world is in 11 months and see where God calls us. For now, we are recovering:) Ha Ha!

Again, many, many thanks to all of those who volunteered or donated! We absolutely could not have carried this project forward without your support!

Logan, Mike and Margee Smith

2020 Statistics

Member Deaths:

Floyd Jenni	January 27, 2020
Evelyn Chadwick	May 11, 2020
Don Knox	September 17, 2020
Don Rindal	December 3, 2020

Funerals:

Bob Eckhardt	January 8, 2020
Brian Pearce	March 6, 2020
Marguerite "Meg" Richard	July 15, 2020

Friends of the congregation deaths:

Sherie Winters-Cripps	September 12, 2020
Ann Carter	October 6, 2020
Maurice Shammel	October 16, 2020
Tom Mane	November 11, 2020

New Members:

Phil Ault
Kathy Ault
Lisa Sanders
Jordan Stilson

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2020 Annual Report