
ANNUAL REPORT

2020
CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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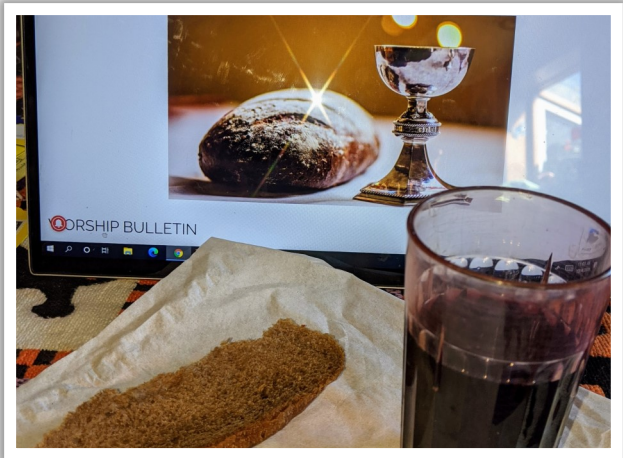
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SENIOR PASTOR

Submitted by Pastor Louise Westfall

I laugh ruefully remembering how fun I thought it would be to riff off a year that reflects perfect vision. 2020 is in the books now, and will certainly go down as one that challenged us as never before. So much of what we took for granted changed: from in-person to online worship; from coffee hour conversations to weekly Zoom gatherings; from caring visits at hospital bedside and nursing home rooms to prayers offered in phone conversations; from serving meals to delivering food supplies; from congregational singing to pre-recorded “virtuous” choir and solo singers; from a building that once buzzed with activity and people to one that created space for New Genesis quarantining and isolation, barred to other groups. Four young people were confirmed in Christian faith and joined Central, and we received just four adult members. We marked the deaths of loved ones with sadness, but had no funerals or memorial services. We celebrated no weddings or baptisms.

It was a year marked by loss; yes. But it also clarified essential elements of Central that did not change: God’s love poured out upon us, uniting us in our separate places; Christ’s mission to serve one another and our most vulnerable neighbors; the Holy Spirit igniting and sustaining the caring, compassion, and connection of this community. We miss each other deeply, yet remain committed to the health and safety of Central and the wider community.

We learned new ways to worship, and I’m deeply grateful to Wil Smith who has been a technical marvel in producing worship services accessible through website and Facebook, and even by phone without Internet access. He’s kept the music playing! Surely the memories and stories shared by Central’s long-time members in worship throughout the fall were highlights of our 160th anniversary celebration! We welcomed guest preachers Evan Amo, Joel Adams, Diane Moffett, Olivia Hudson Smith, Fernando Rodriguez, and our own Sherry Kenney.



Molly Brown and an active Mission Committee responded to increased needs of our neighbors and tapped your immense generosity. The COVID Response fund helped us provide Central families with rent assistance and unemployment support. Individuals and teens volunteered at Metro Caring. The Men’s Group delivered food from “We Don’t Waste” to New Genesis. Contributions to our mission partners increased significantly, as did gifts to special offerings. Along with two other Presbyterian congregations, we initiated a new ministry with migrants. The prayer shawl and Samaritan meal ministries flourished, with tangible expressions of love to members in times of recovery and healing (as the recipient of meals and a lovely prayer shawl following hip replacement surgery, I’m grateful!).

We learned new ways to care for one another through safely-distanced, outdoor social events, parish check-in phone calls, cards and notes, Zoom fellowship time following worship, and in December an all-church candle delivery. We prioritized member care because we don’t want anyone to suffer from isolation or loneliness (but please let us know if you notice someone “gone missing” so we can extend the care of this community). We also discovered the potential of internet for faith formation and education. Tim’s weekly “Thrive” course on spirituality and creativity draws folks coast-to-coast. Bible study is available with Text-plorations. Wil’s weekly “Hymns by Request” is a bright moment of immersion in the songs of faith, hope, and peace. I am proud of your sturdy willingness to engage with long-standing issues of racial justice and the Presbyterian Church (USA)’s Matthew 25 initiative.

Financial support of Central’s mission and ministries stayed steady for the most part. We benefited from a Payroll Protection Program loan (which will convert to a grant), and will apply for a second one in 2021. These loan/grants have allowed us to continue robust work *and* hew to our goal of reducing the unsustainable draw from the restricted endowment to zero within the next few years. With your approval of a loan from the Presbyterian Investment and Loan program (at below market rate), construction will begin on capital projects this spring. Big thanks to Elder Adam Brown and the Budget & Finance Committee for their faithful and care-full work overseeing Central’s finances.

I want to give a special shout-out to Kathleen Eckert, Church Administrator, for her extraordinary work this year. She continued to be a welcoming, helpful presence in the Main Office even as the pandemic took hold.

Continued on page 3

STATISTICAL REPORT

MEMBERS

January 1, 2019 339

GAINS

Certificate of Transfer or Reaffirmation of Faith 4

Confirmation 4

Total Gains 8

LOSSES

Transfer 0

Request 4

Death 6

Total Losses 10

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP

December 31, 2020 337

NEW MEMBERS

John Ferguson Transfer 3/17/2020

Andi Pellicci Reaffirmation 3/17/2020

Pete Davenport Reaffirmation 3/17/2020

Cathy Davenport Reaffirmation 3/17/2020

Grace Malone Confirmation 10/20/2020

Sam Habib Confirmation 10/20/2020

Ian Nyberg Confirmation 10/20/2020

Sean Ghulati Confirmation 10/20/2020

DEATHS

Ardys Anderson November 17, 2020

Richard Lafoon May 14, 2020

Helen Murphy February 25, 2020

Lois Vogelsang June 3, 2020

Sue Wilcox November 6, 2020

Margaret Zier July 3, 2020

Senior Pastor continued

She has fielded innumerable phone calls, helped people figure out how to get into Zoom meetings, created eye-catching written materials and a more dynamic weekly e-newsletter, sorted mail, paid bills, interacted with vendors and repair people, greeted members and visitors warmly, and generally been the oil that has kept the machinery running smoothly. Kathleen is deeply committed to Central's mission and it shows in everything she does.

Recently I asked elders what word or phrase they most associated with Central, and was surprised by one who said "Home." He spoke about changes and transitions in his family's life, in the church and in society, and added that Central is the place he always feels at home. That's such a testimony to the truth that a church is not a building (even though I'm grateful for ours!), but a beloved community of God's people who shine with inclusive acceptance, joyful purpose, and persevering faith. Thank you for being part of Central in this difficult year. With gratitude and trust, let us move into 2021 and welcome one another to the home where we all belong.

With love,



Pastor Louise Westfall

PARISH ASSOCIATE

Submitted by Reverend Tim Mooney

2020 was quite a year! Together we faced many challenges: the COVID-19 pandemic, no in-person worship, George Floyd's death (and many others) and the deeply buried issues of racism and white privilege, and political polarization in our country. And just to make sure there was an appropriate amount of stress in my life, we - my sister Chriss, her husband Marc, and I - realized a long-time dream: we bought the family compound in the mountains in Buena Vista! At times, the two-plus hour commute weekly to and from Denver is sketchy with blowing snow, but the balance of three days in the office and four in the mountains is food for my soul. I am grateful for your flexibility and support.

In the first days of the pandemic, when it became clear in-person worship would put congregants in peril, we had to quickly figure out how to worship and offer classes "virtuously." We all worked hard at this, but a shout-out must go to Wil Smith and Kathleen Eckert for their technical and computer expertise, and for their patience with the rest of us!

When Pastor Louise spent three months in Washington D.C. to care for her first grandchild, Ever - a wonderful opportunity for her! - I took on more responsibility for the live parts of our online worship, and the Wednesday evening *Moment for Meditation*, which we eventually discontinued due to low numbers of viewers. I continued to preach once a month.

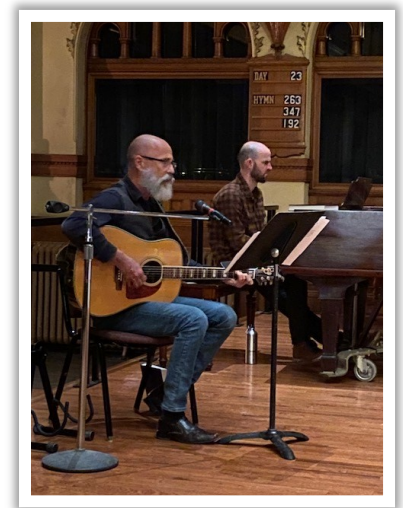
One of my goals for 2020 was to create a class where others could discover, free, and live into their creative soul, made in the image of God. *Thrive: Creating a Thriving Spiritual Life*, met that goal and more. The live-streamed, twelve-week course, offered on Mondays at noon, drew a strong attendance, and reached people from California to Connecticut. After four classes I added a 1pm Zoom Gathering for class participants and it quickly became a community of such care and encouragement, that participants kept meeting weekly after the course ended. They encouraged me to offer the course again, to invite new participants, and to more deeply engage in the practices and tasks offered each week. In early January 2021, *Thrive* finished its 2nd edition and participants encouraged me to offer the 12-week course again to first-timers, and to fine-tune the practices and tasks for the veterans. I am excited to continue *Thrive* in 2021.

Thrive also helped me stretch toward another goal for 2020 although in an unexpected way. In 2014 I started a New Worshipping Community, *Community of One*, at First Avenue Presbyterian Church when I served as their transitional pastor, and four years ago I partnered with Zach Hancock to lead *Pre-n-Pre* here at Central. I hoped to start another New Worshipping Community, but the pandemic delayed those plans. But the community that *Thrive* has created displays much of what I had hoped to achieve with a New Worshipping Community.

I am grateful for the opportunity to work and serve with the Faith Formation Council and the Board of Deacons. The Faith Formation Council grew from two to seven active members in 2020. Many thanks to Elders Michael Hofmann, Gary Ringler, and Alfredo Kemm, Molly Brown, Director of Mission and Faith Formation, Emma Moore, Youth Ministries Assistant, and members Cathy Hawk and Jessica Warren. The Faith Formation Council continues to build up the number of Central's members who deepen their areas of passion and interest and offer classes and experiences for our congregation. Each one of us has a gift to offer to the Beloved Community. Thank you for your willingness to step into a leadership role. This year the Board of Deacons focused more on regular contact with members since there was no after-church fellowship. Many thanks to Board of Deacons Chair Billie Lusk, Elder Rachel Dempsey, Bruce Heagstedt, Marty Jewell, Laurie Hergenrader, Jacque Howard, Charlie and Sara Baldwin, Kristin George, Dave Ramsey, and Elin Towler. For more information please refer to the Faith Formation Council and the Board of Deacons Reports.

Along with attending Zoom Presbytery Assemblies, I continued to serve on the Vision Team for the Presbytery in monthly Zoom meetings, and working on a smaller team writing a vision statement for Presbytery approval. With the onset of the pandemic, the demonstrations around the death of George Floyd and racial injustice, and the changes in transitional leadership at the Presbytery, this work is still unfinished.

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MUSIC AND ARTS

Submitted by Wil Smith, Director of Music

The music program at Central had a very promising beginning in 2020. The Chancel choir collaborated with Peoples Presbyterian for our annual Martin Luther King Day service together. The Central Stage Players, led by associate music director Sarah Eaton and director Rachel Dempsey, were busy rehearsing a new production of James and the Giant Peach with our youth. The handbell ensemble was ringing in our services, including their last on February 9. We hosted concerts in the beginning of the year by the Baroque Chamber Orchestra of Colorado, the Denver Women's Chorus, the Denver Philharmonic, and the Denver Pops Orchestra. Jean Herman curated an outstanding group of artists in the Sturgeon Room Gallery. And the choir sang its most ambitious work to date: Maurice Duruflé's beautiful and haunting Requiem, performed with orchestra in our March 8 service.



And then: pandemic. The Requiem was the last time a concert or service occurred with an audience in our sanctuary.

We had to quickly figure out how to adapt to a socially distant year. While many of our in-person events were suspended, we figured out in the places we could how to adapt to online. While many things were suspended, our choir 'rehearsals' have continued as Zoom sessions on Wednesdays. Our section leaders continue to contribute solos to Sunday

morning Services. Our choir records virtual choir videos 2-3 times per month which are included in our services.

Wil added video editor and producer to his job titles this year. After some experimentation with how the online service works best, we found that a mixture live/pre-recorded service works best. This allows for some elements that don't need to be live—such as musical elements and call to worship readings from congregation members—to be mixed with the live portions, which include the sermon and the prayers. That way, the congregation can watch live and type in prayers requests that are prayed for in real time by the pastors.

We can't wait to sing together, ring together, and attend concerts together at Central very soon!



Parish Associate continued

The amount of phone calls made in 2020 is off the charts compared to 2019. It became the most important way for me to connect with Central members, particularly the elderly, those in assisted living, and those experiencing isolation.

In a crazy, challenging time, we have adapted, experimented, and continue to explore ways to reach out to our members and friends, and to those who might find us online because of the way we live into our own sense of God's call on us as individuals and the beloved community. I am proud to be a part of the staff at Central and grateful for the passion, time, and energy given by Elders, Deacons, and members who find meaning and give hope in serving the mission of Christ here at Central.

As 2020 played out with all its challenges, in the background remained a worry for me. After my brain surgery in May 2019, and the rapid healing and return to life, the question remained – would the lesion grow back? In September of 2020 I went in for an MRI and the results came back negative. There was nothing in my brain! But you knew that already.

I am full of gratitude for the privilege and the opportunity to be your Parish Associate.

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

Submitted by Molly Dowling Brown, Director of Mission and Faith Formation

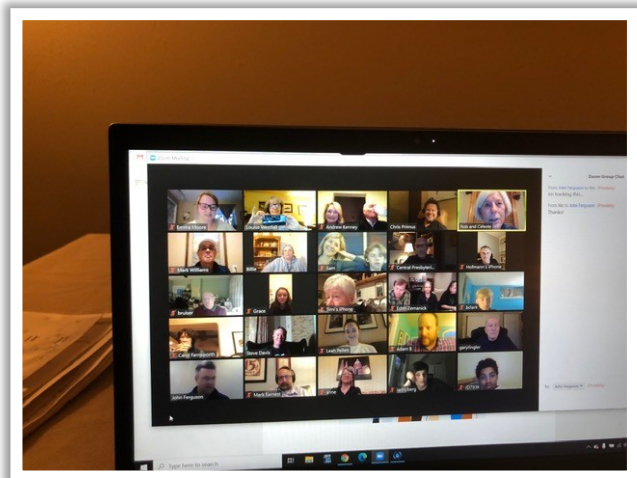
Staff: Molly Brown, Barb Brueggemann, Emma Moore, Rachel Palmiero

January and February 2020 saw our children and youth participating in our **regularly scheduled programming:** playing in the nursery, sharing in Bible Story Chapel, engaging at The Worship Center, contributing to Worship services, practicing for *James and the Giant Peach*, enjoying the Confirmand and Youth Lock in plus in person **Marade**, voicing concerns around environmental degradation, painting bowls for Souper Bowl of Caring, cooking soups for Souper Bowl of Caring, and collecting donations for Metro Caring! At the time, all of this seemed routine and followed along with the carefully crafted calendar of activities for Children, Youth, Family Ministries. Then March arrived and we realized we were no longer operating as planned.

I'm grateful for the adaptability and creativity of Central's children, youth, their families, and the staff here at Central. Throughout the pandemic, we have continued to show who we are as a Matthew 25 church: 1) Catalyze congregational vitality 2) Work towards eradicating systemic poverty 3) Dismantle structural racism. These three tenets of serving as a Matthew 25 Church are vitally needed in our community; the pandemic made these calls to action even more vital.



Middlers and youth faithfully volunteered at Metro Caring throughout 2020 following Metro Caring's stringent volunteer protocols necessitated by COVID-19. Toddlers and children colored a beautiful banner for our church neighborhood to enjoy designed by a Central parent/artist/architect. Families gathered outdoors in distanced ways for fun: karaoke, pottery painting, pumpkin decorating. Families donated to purchase and fill backpacks for La Puente in Alamosa. Teens participated in devotions and mindfulness exercises led by a Central parent specifically trained in this area.



Families recorded themselves passing the peace to share during virtual Worship. Bible stories resumed thanks to virtual Worship and Wil Smith's trustworthy recording. Confirmation classes continued via Zoom culminating in our 6 Confirmands, their dedicated mentors, prayer partners, and families finishing the journey together. Confirmands shared their personal faith statements with Central's Session over Zoom. Central youth were key participants in October's Mission Sunday as they thoughtfully reflected upon and shared the service work they participated in plus what it *truly* meant to them.

Families shared Advent devotions and activities and created their own personal Advent wreaths in December. Christmas cards were mailed to migrants detained at the GEO Facility in Aurora. Children built gingerbread houses as a fundraiser for Habitat Denver. Central families adopted families in need at

Central Visitation Program. As always, New Genesis Socks of Love generated fantastic support. Over 30 families dropped by Central on the fourth Sunday of Advent to deliver their stuffed Socks of Love, wave at staff, and chat with our very own Santa.

We continue forward with work, growth, adaptation, disappointment, perseverance, commitment, kindness, generosity, and love.

FAITH FORMATION COUNCIL

Submitted by Tim Mooney, Parish Associate

The Faith Formation Council continued to explore its Vision Statement adopted in 2019...

Engage the Mind...through Education and Enlightenment

Awaken the Soul...for Purpose and Passion.

Move the Heart and Hands...with Compassion and Service.

...and impacted by the pandemic in 2020. Classes and educational experiences moved to online platforms, and adjustments were made as we worked “virtuously.” Our Zoom Coffee Hour lead directly into Faith Formation Classes, with 15 to 25 screens on average, 30 to 40 participants. As the pandemic waned we offered some in-person, outdoor gatherings, notably Theology on Tap, and when it waxed we returned to online gatherings. Our classes took into account the issues of our day (pandemic, racism, white privilege and supremacy, political and personal polarization), the desire to deepen our individual faith, and to encourage the active practice of our faith in expressions of love and justice.

In January we offered a women’s retreat at Highlands Retreat Center, *Who You May Be*. It was the first women’s retreat in five years at Central, with 30 in attendance. The Men’s Retreat, a Saturday morning event held in late summer or early fall was postponed, with hopes for an overnight retreat in 2021.

Due to the pandemic our Visiting Theologian, and child of Central Presbyterian Church, Rev. Patricia Pearce, was unable to be with us for three weeks in Lent. Plans are in place to bring her back in 2021.

We started a private Central Presbyterian Facebook Group in order to build another platform for communication and connection that usually took place in the narthex after worship. This needs more attention so it becomes a regular part of the ways we check in with each other, share areas of interest in study and service, and care for one another.

With the onset of the pandemic some Life Groups were able to adapt and others became inactive for the time being.

The Racial Healing Initiative, led by Dr. Jacque Howard, formed as a Life Group, but is now an established ministry of Central, actively involved in offering educational classes and activist opportunities to make a difference in our local community and beyond. Through their efforts we helped a good number of people register for the 2020 election.

General Education and Experiential Learning Topics:

Woke Church (2 Classes)

The Clobber Passages (8 Classes)

Speak Up Handbook

Ten Ways to Fight Hate

How to Be an Antiracist (4 Classes)

Those Who Dream (Advent – 4 classes)

Special Guest Presenters:

Phil Weiser, Attorney General of Colorado – Life After the Election

Rev. Dana Hughes, Transitional Presbytery Pastor - Women in Ministry

Wil Smith, Music Director – 4 classes on Hymnody and Church Music.

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DEACONS

Submitted by Tim Mooney, Parish Associate

Due to the pandemic the Deacons were unable to greet worshipers and welcome visitors at church, provide the much loved and labor intensive Coffee Hour Fellowship time, or prepare the occasional Congregational Meals in the narthex. The Care Partners and the Homebound Communion Teams were also limited in their ability to visit and carry out their duties. However the Deacons made up for it with increased contact with their parishes (10-15 individuals and families)

with emails, texts, phone calls, and cards. As the pandemic wore on this proved to be an invaluable way to remain connected to members and friends we would normally see at Church. The Parish System is helping us inch toward our goal of better care and more frequent communication with membership. After delivering a Christmas Eve message and candles to all members of Central, we realized the need to reorganize the Deacon Parishes geographically. Stay tuned for changes in the Parish System in early 2021.

While some Deacon responsibilities fell to the wayside with no in-person worship, other responsibilities picked up. The Good Samaritan ministry, under the leadership of Laurie Hergenrader, has been quite active with providing meals for those who are sick, injured, recovering from surgery, isolated, and in need. Profound thanks goes to the many volunteers who prepared and provided meals.



Faith Formation Council continued

Life Groups:

Central Connections (young adults), lead by Emma Moore, met quarterly on Zoom and included and reached out to non-local relationships. Just one example of how the pandemic has spurred us to think creatively and extend our reach beyond physical proximity to Central to people everywhere.

Men's Night Out did not meet, but under the leadership of Larry Armstrong, many men got involved with "We Don't Waste," gathering food from restaurants and vendors and delivering the food to New Genesis. Efforts to create an online community continue.

Theology on Tap has a faithful following of regular attendees and continues to meet weekly on Zoom on Monday nights at 7pm.

Friday Faith Break morphed into *Text-plorations*, a weekly Bible study with Pastor Louise.

Prayer Shawl Ministry did not meet, but prayer shawls continue to be made and distributed.

Women's Bible Study, *Serendipity Women*, *Cuba Team*, *Dinner Group*, and the *Israel Palestine Study Group*, *Lunchbreak Vinyasa Yoga* did not meet, but hope to resume post pandemic.

BUILDING AND PROPERTY

Submitted by Jon Dreux, Committee Chair

Committee Members: Paul Linton, Rob Habiger, Pam Bartczak, Lynne Brown, Bill Jones, Mark Williams, Hall Skeen, Kathleen Eckert (staff), Anthony Martinez (staff)

Despite the COVID-19 virus, the Building and Property Committee continued to meet regularly and did the diligent work of maintaining this wonderful and amazing Building we call Central Church. We collaborated with most all committees, with the community, and with Central's mission partners, volunteers, and staff utilizing the proper COVID-19 protocols.

Time and strong Colorado winds took a toll on our steeple, which required major repair to replace the copper cladding. Coordinating the street closing, the insurance, and the contractor spread this project out over a year, but we are happy to report that it was completed successfully in 2020.

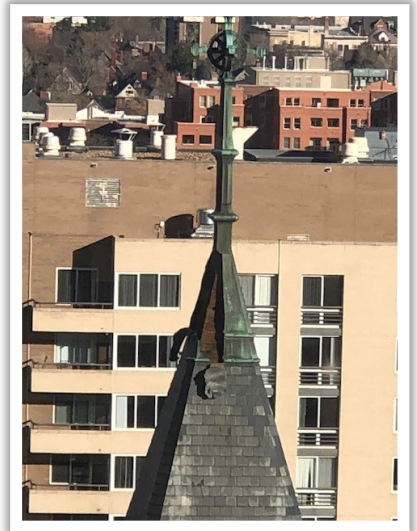
Another major project completed in 2020 was asbestos abatement on the first level of the Church. This work cleared the way to begin the capital improvement construction which is planned for the spring and reported on by the Guidance Team elsewhere.

COVID-19 presented special challenges for the users of our building. We missed not having the non-resident users with us and look forward to their return in 2021. Our resident users, New Genesis and Central Visitation Program, were faced with many challenges to keep on with their business, even if it was not "as usual". New Genesis was given permission to use Cleland Hall and the Shepler Center for isolation and quarantine as they worked out protocols with the City Health Department. With the beginning of construction in 2021, these spaces will not be available and New Genesis is making other arrangements for isolation of their clients if needed, in consultation with the city.

As we do every year, our contractor relations were reviewed, deciding to change some, but continuing with most to ensure proper maintenance is maintained at a reasonable cost. Included in this was a review of our insurance coverage, cost, and provider since this remains a major and growing expense.

Central is blessed with excellent staff support to care of our beloved building. The Committee gives our great appreciation to Kathleen for dealing with contractors, users, and managing all things related to the property, and to Anthony for his skilled craftsmanship, his proactive work ethic, and the tender loving care for the property that he shows every day. Anthony even slept in the church on some nights during the downtown demonstrations to protect our property. In addition to the special effort by Anthony to sanitize the building regularly and to remove graffiti, he also made numerous repairs and improvements, which included painting, plumbing, electrical, and repairing flashing on the roof.

We look forward to construction in 2021 and to the time we can resume the use of this incredible building to worship together in person, and to help fill the heart of central Denver.



Steeple damage



Steeple after repair

PERSONNEL

Submitted by Marcie LaPorte, Committee Chair

Committee Members: Hugh Brown, John Detterick, Steve Davis, Jennifer Gilroy, Marcie LaPorte and Louise Westfall

2020 was quite an eventful year! Early in the year, the staff immediately responded to the need to change their regular day-to-day activities in response to the pandemic and various downtown activities. They exhibited such amazing resilience and flexibility in fulfilling their responsibilities. We are so proud and thankful for their leadership and continued attention to ensure that church activities and worship have flourished with new and improved methods.

We welcomed a new member to the Personnel Committee - Steve Davis. Steve serves as an elder on Session and his business experience has been very valuable to the committee. Steve joined the other committee members - Hugh Brown, John Detterick, Jennifer Gilroy, Marcie LaPorte and Louise Westfall. Each one of the members brings special talents to the committee and they are a joy to work with. Finally, we want to recognize John Detterick for his past contributions to the committee, as health concerns prevent him from continuing as a committee member.

We are blessed that there were few staff changes over the past year. Two staff from last year moved on to other opportunities - Jim Schreffler, Facilities Assistant and Leah Pellett, Children's Ministries Assistant. It continues to be a pleasure to work with **Molly Brown**, Director of Mission and Faith Formation; **Barb Brueggemann**, Nursery Supervisor; **Sarah Eaton**, Associate Director of Music; **Kathleen Eckert**, Church Administrator; **Anthony Martinez**, Building Superintendent; **Emma Moore**, Youth Ministries Assistant; **Rachel Palmiero**, Children's Ministries Assistant; **Wil Smith**, Director of Music, and of course **Louise Westfall**, Pastor and **Tim Mooney**, Parish Associate. Their positive attitudes and willingness to address change have been invaluable. Please be sure to let them know how much you appreciate them!

We continued our work on standardizing procedures and finalized the Employee Handbook; A Guide to Annual Performance Reviews, Annual Employee Report and Professional Development; and a New Employee Orientation and Checklist. We also were able to formally recognize the various unique contributions of the employees with gift cards and spot awards two times over the past year.

Once again, we thank Louise Westfall, Pastor, for her support and valuable contributions to the committee. We look forward to whatever the new year will bring and especially look forward to our continued support of the amazing staff of Central Presbyterian Church.



MISSION COMMITTEE

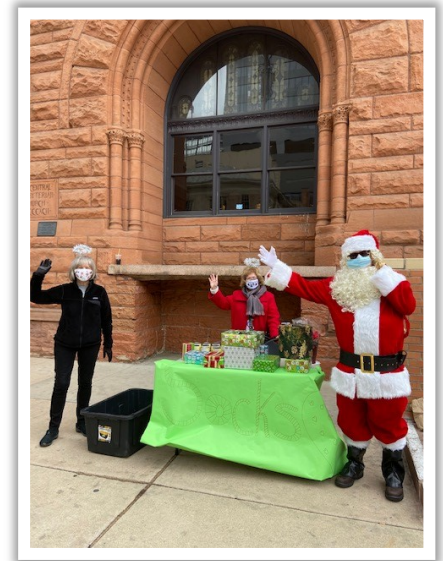
Submitted by Molly Dowling Brown, Director of Mission and Faith Formation

Committee Members: Celeste Habiger (chair), Larry Armstrong, Gina Batali Brooks, Jon Dreux, Judy Jones, Bernie Malson, Chris Primus, Sherwood Shankland, Leslie Williams, Edith Zemanick

The year 2020 tested our commitment to our mission partners as we adapted how to work *together* given the mandates to physically distance. We delivered! Central's Mission Committee led by example in its creative solutions to ensure we met the call of our neighbors in need. Our work as a Matthew 25 church held true in the vast efforts delivered and new partnerships forged. 1) Catalyze congregational vitality. 2) Work towards eradicating systemic poverty. 3) Dismantle structural racism.

Central's Mission Partners: New Genesis, Central Visitation Program, Metro Caring, PCUSA Mission, La Puente, Capitol Hill United Ministries/Women's Homeless Initiative, Making Choices/Restoring Connections (women exiting prison), Mission to Migrants, Presbytery of Havana, Carpenter's Helpers/Habitat Denver, Earth Care Initiative, Rainbow Alley

Our traditional Summer of Service shifted to Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter of Service as members and staff identified continuous ways to support our Mission Partners and community during the pandemic. Central members and friends gave approximately 750 hours of in-person time in 2020. Central members, friends, community organizations, including the Colorado Trust, donated \$116,000+ in financial contributions. A portion of this, via the Jackson Sewell Endowment restricted fund, supported student scholarships at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. The Mission Committee promoted the Alternative Christmas Gift Market encouraging members to donate to Mission Partners instead of giving traditional wrapped gifts to loved ones. Members took this to a new level by making donations in honor of business clients...what a win/win!



Aside from hours and dollars, Central members also provided and delivered the goods:

- Twice/week food deliveries to New Genesis from We Don't Waste (15 Central members rotate duties to transport trunk loads of healthy food from We Don't Waste to New Genesis)
- Hundreds of reusable bags to Metro Caring
- 175 stuffed Socks of Love to New Genesis plus another 150 pairs of socks
- 150 food baskets, some including supplementary rent money, grocery cards, diapers, new baby supplies, towels, blankets to migrant families in metro Denver
- 120 masks to the San Luis Valley
- 85 Christmas Dinner meals for New Genesis
- 75 masks to Metro Caring
- 60 masks to Urban Peak
- 60 masks to Casa de Paz
- 48 filled backpacks for La Puente Children's Program, PALS
- 25 pounds of pinto beans and rice to Denver Inner City Parish
- Dozens of boxes of toiletries, paper products, kitchen supplies, spices, cleaning supplies, sanitizers, masks, toilet paper to New Genesis
- Dozens of bagged lunches to Women's Homeless Initiative
- 10 life packs for women exiting prison (Making Choices)
- 4 boxes of diapers, wipes to Denver Inner City Parish
- Toys, art supplies for Central Visitation Program's Adopt a Family
- Furniture, kitchen wares, bedding for a Central member moving into a new apartment

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CENTRAL VISITATION PROGRAM

Submitted by Bradley A. Wood, Executive Director

In 2020, Central Visitation Program experienced a year unlike any in the past. However, even with all the challenges faced, CVP was able to complete 1,979 in-person visits and 2,058 virtual visits over Zoom. This resulted in CVP helping over 200 families and 335 children.



When COVID-19 hit, CVP had to furlough or layoff many staff members, put a hold on its volunteer and intern programs and close down four of its five locations. This resulted in CVP moving all visits to virtual Zoom and relying only on paid staff to execute visitation, increasing agency costs. Although Central Visitation Program was affected by COVID-19 in many ways, we knew it would affect the families we served as well. CVP decided to continue to offer services regardless of a parent's ability to pay as we understand the importance of a bond between a child and their parent.

At the start of the pandemic, Central Presbyterian Church was CVP's only location that stayed open, seven days a week. With generous help from our donors and several COVID Relief Grants, CVP was able to help many families pay for their visitation and continue to build positive relationships during this tough time. Throughout 2020, CVP reopened its Englewood, Brighton and Northglenn locations and was

able to rehire furloughed staff and bring on several interns and volunteers. With this help we started in-person visits again while having necessary precautions that all families must follow due to the virus.

Central Visitation Program was able to still have its Spring and Fall Fundraisers virtually and raise a significant amount for the families we serve. Throughout the holiday season, CVP partnered with Central Presbyterian Church to provide gifts to many families struggling to afford them.

Since December of 2020, Central Visitation Program now has 8 full-time staff, 12 part-time staff, 4 interns and 8 volunteers. Central Visitation Program appreciates Central Presbyterian Church's willingness to grow with CVP and allow us to have the space necessary to continue to serve children and parents in need.

Mission Committee continued

2020 SPECIAL OFFERINGS TALLY

One Great Hour of Sharing

Total collected: \$1950

PCUSA Hunger Program, Disaster Assistance, Self-Development of People

Pentecost

Total collected: \$1230

PCUSA National Youth at Risk Programs \$648; Rainbow Alley \$582

Peace and Global Witness

Total collected: \$1060

PCUSA Peacemaking at Presbytery and General Assembly Levels \$795; Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network \$265

Christmas Joy

Total collected: \$2360

PCUSA Education at Presbyterian schools equipping communities of color, Assistance Program Board of Pensions

Wow! We are great together. Thanks, Central!

NEW GENESIS TRANSITIONAL COMMUNITY

Submitted by Tammie Carroll, Chief Executive Officer

Happy New Years, Mayor visits New Genesis, Board Retreat, Valentine's Day, Employment resource program success, 1st Academy Award party at Joyce's, 2020 off to a good start!!

So many words come to mind, when trying to summarize the year 2020. What started out as a normal year for New Genesis, turned into a very bumpy roller coaster ride, with many downs followed by a few amazing ups. We entered the year, with enthusiasm for our employment resource program, new friends, new city involvement, and a strong commitment from our Board, staff, and residents. The excitement for the new year changed drastically the last week of March.

Pandemic, Corona Virus, Outbreaks, Highly Contagious, Making Masks out of Anything, Statewide Lockdowns, Hand Sanitizer Recipes, Toilet Paper Shortage, Illness!!

Our first resident, tested positive for COVID-19, hospitalized, struggling to breathe on March 26, 2020. Not even a week later, the second resident was hospitalized. Those two cases led to a visit from the Department of Public Health and Environment, which led to us being informed that two or more cases in a facility is considered an outbreak. Fear and heartbreak; New Genesis was having an outbreak. Our rules, our structure, our way of doing everything immediately had to change. Our main goal became stopping the spread of COVID-19 and keeping our staff and residents safe.

Testing, Lockdowns continue, Unemployment, Emergency Supplies, New Genesis Quarantine Shelter, Illness turns to death, so much Sadness and Unknowns!!

The loss of employment for our residents meant a loss of revenue for New Genesis. There were additional staff costs, an increase in our meal budget and a PPE supply shortage. Our Board President, Joyce Coville and her friends were making masks out of everything they could get their hands on. Distilleries were donating alcohol-based sanitizer made here in Colorado. The health department worked frantically to find a way to test everyone in the facility. After the first six cases at New Genesis, we lost one of our residents to COVID-19. Testing every week begins.

Paper plates, pre-wrapped silverware, masks made of bed pads, 6ft apart but together, amazing staff and board members, Church support, volunteer supply and food drives!!

The love New Genesis received from within our own community during this exceedingly difficult time was overwhelming. I could not have been prouder of our staff. We all chipped in and worked for nearly 4 months without a day off. Some risking their own health to monitor our quarantine shelter and some taking time away from their families to provide for our residents. The residents all contributed to keep everything sanitized and clean. Many churches and businesses reached out to help. We received support from many neighbors in our area, over eight Presbyterian Churches, the Denver Presbytery, the Lutheran community, Catholic and Christian based Churches and so many businesses. We were not alone. Support came in the form of PPE, cleaning supplies, food, and financial contributions.

Overcoming challenges, the struggle was real, New Genesis heroes, a few Back to Work, Vaccination 2021? Hope!!

New Genesis suffered a COVID-19 outbreak for nine long months in 2020. During that time, six staff members and fifty-five residents tested positive. Sadly, two of our residents lost their lives. Mark, who died December 16, 2020 from the virus left words of encouragement to all of us at New Genesis. He wanted us to know we were his only family and made his last months happy. He said, "Do not be sad by my passing but continue to take care of each other and get through this." New Genesis will do just that, in memory of both of our residents that succumbed to this illness.

Our staff will be vaccinated through the Department of Public Health and Environment soon, but we continue to test weekly, to monitor the outbreak and maintain the health of our residents. We survived 2020 and are extremely confident for 2021. It has been an emotional journey. Thank you to all who helped us through it!!

With lots of hope,

Tammie Carroll, CEO

GUIDANCE TEAM—CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Submitted by Chris Wineman

Members: David Daniel, Lynne Brown, Kathleen Eckert, Derek Jones, Andy Kenney, Wil Smith, Pastor Louise Westfall, Chris Wineman

2020 represents the third year of our three-year Capital Campaign, *It's Time To Grow*. We achieved important milestones during a challenging year.

First, we celebrate and appreciate the continuing dedication Central members have shown in following through on their pledge commitments. Of the total pledged amount of \$1,515,000 we have received payments of \$ 1,350,035 as of December 31. Thank you!

Second, we successfully navigated several of the regulatory approvals for the project:

We received approvals for our proposed exterior design from Historic Denver, the holder of our historic easement. We received Denver Zoning approval for the multiple current and proposed uses in the building: the congregation, New Genesis, Central Visitation Program and the proposed coffee operation.

We have submitted our plans for building department approval and have received (and responded to) our first round of review comments. We should have a better idea of when we can expect a building permit by our Jan. 31 Annual Meeting.

Third, we have worked with New Genesis to re-visit their priorities for improvements in their space. As a result of that conversation, we have proceeded to obtain designs for improved ventilation instead of a kitchen project, and look forward to implementing that separate project as soon as possible.

Fourth, we took advantage of the lack of worship and concert activity to abate the asbestos in the first floor of our 1957 building – this was a necessary precursor to construction, and a good task to get out of the way while the building was quiet.

We are currently drafting an outline for construction activities in 2021 that we look forward to sharing with you at the Annual Meeting. We have a lot of moving parts to balance, but we are confident that 2021 will be the year that we finally put your gifts to good use for the future.

If you would like to make a one-time gift to the project, or have any questions, please feel free to send them to Kathleen Eckert: Kathleen@centraldenver.com and she will make sure to forward them to the right Guidance Team members.



Thank you!

BUDGET AND FINANCE

Submitted by Bill Jones

Committee Members: Adam Brown (chair), Milo Tedstrom, Fritz Hill, Bill Jones, Bruce Heagstedt, David Ramsey Kathleen Eckert, Louise Westfall, Kathy Henkelman (accountant)

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused the income and the expenses to be reduced by almost the same amount resulting in the withdrawal from the unrestricted endowment to be \$78,646 to balance the budget which is close to our goal of \$75,000. This withdrawal does not reflect \$80,000 the church received from the Paycheck Protection Plan (PPP) of which the church recognized \$20,000 for 2020. The remaining \$60,000 will be accounted for in 2021.

Expenses were \$50,061 below budget due to not having church in person and lack of in-house activities. Since Anthony, our new Building Superintendent, was hired there has not been the need for the Facilities Assistant which was a saving of his salary. In general, there were savings in all areas including personnel due to the lower level of activity. One area where there were significant savings, \$17,379, was in property expenses. The savings were in the cleaning contract, general maintenance, parking, and the utilities.

Total income was \$54,009 below budget excluding the unrestricted endowment principal withdrawal and the PPP. Pledges were 4.95% below budget or \$21,731 less than budgeted. We received \$82,080 in non-pledge, external pledges, and other income. Property income was \$32,130 below budget because there were only a few music concerts. The sustainable withdrawals of 4% from the restricted and unrestricted endowment funds were \$65,430 and \$38,100 respectively. The withdrawal number does not include the \$15,677 withdrawal for maintenance projects or the anticipated PPP income of \$20,000.

As seen in the table above, our goal of reducing the withdrawal from the unrestricted endowment fund by

CPC ENDOWMENT DRAW 2017-2021

This table does not include the impact of the PPP funds on the withdrawal from the endowment

	2017	2018	2019	2020	Budget 2021
Value of the Unrestricted Endowment Fund	1,093,771	1,079,214	952,357	943,666	1,046,387
TYPE OF DISTRIBUTION	FUNDS WITHDRAWN				
Funds Withdrawn to Balance the Budget	85,330	108,458	100,158	78,646	166,880
Endowment Withdrawal Goal			100,000	75,000	50,000
Sustainable Funds Distributed (4%)	29,071	33,530	37,067	38,100	36,055
Non-Budgeted Building Repair Funds	21,925	23,103	0	15,677	
Total Funds Distributed	136,326	165,091	137,225	132,423	202,935
Funds Withdrawn as a Percent of Fund	12.5%	15.3%	14.4%	14.0%	19.4%

\$25,000 each year was on track for 2019 and 2020 with withdrawals of \$100,158 and \$78,796. However, as is shown for the 2021 budget the withdrawal required to balance the budget is \$166,88 where the goal for the withdrawal is \$50,000. To alleviate the drain on the unrestricted endowment fund in 2021 is the pending \$60,000 from the PPP and the potential of a second round of the PPP which would give us another \$90,000. Taking into account the \$20,000 of PPP in 2020 and the \$60,000 plus the potential \$90,000 the withdrawals from the unrestricted endowment would be \$58,796 for 2020 and \$16,880 in 2021.

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Budget and Finance continued

With our construction plans and a proposed loan for completion of the project it is imperative that we balance our operation budget. The continued withdrawal of funds from the unrestricted endowment to balance the operating budget is unsustainable.

Below is a table which summarizes CPC's income and expenses for 2020

INCOME

Pledge and non-pledge and other income	\$514,094
Unrestricted endowment (4% distribution)	\$ 38,100
Restricted endowment fund (4% distribution)	\$ 65,430
Property use	\$ 24,770
Withdrawal of principle to balance the budget	\$ 78,796
Total Income from all Central Sources	\$721,190
Income from the PPP (anticipated)	\$ 20,000
Total Income from all Sources	\$741,190

EXPENSES

Personnel	\$427,398
Property	\$147,772
Administration	\$ 71,730
Mission	\$ 42,556
Music	\$ 26,214
Education	\$ 3,544
Marketing	\$ 1,363
Worship	\$ 613
Total Expenses	\$721,190

A detailed line item budget and financial statement is available in the church office for anyone who wishes to review.



ENDOWMENT FUND

Submitted by Derek Jones

The Central Presbyterian Church Endowment Fund was established by a group of church leaders in 1975. They recognized the need for financial support of the church beyond the annual stewardship program as well as a desire among members to support the work of the church in perpetuity.

CPC now has two endowment funds – (1) a “restricted” fund that provides a regular source of income for specified activities (e.g., music, mission, scholarships) as well as funds for general operating expenses, and (2) an “unrestricted” fund available to use as determined by Session. The unrestricted fund is commonly used for operating expenses such as staff, worship, music, Christian education, and facilities. In 2020 the church used \$53,065 from the restricted endowment and \$97,201 from the unrestricted endowment for a total of \$150,266 in support of CPC’s mission.



The Session continues to focus on reducing the withdrawal of principal from the endowment’s unrestricted fund. In 2020, the Church budget called for use of \$58,648 in unrestricted principal to fund operations. The goal, as stated in the Session’s ten-year plan, is to reduce the withdrawal of principal for operations to zero.

Though endowment usage was down compared to previous years due to the pandemic, some highlights of the CPC Endowment Funds’ usage in 2020 include: the **Unrestricted Fund’s** use for CPC operations and much needed facility maintenance, the **Women’s Missionary Society’s** support of Central’s mission work, the **Bernice Crouze Memorial Fund’s** support of the deacons, the **Shepler and Ann A. Cockrill Memorial Funds’** contribution to the general operating budget of the church.

The Denver-based BOK Financial (formerly Milestone Group) continued to provide professional investment management of a majority of the endowment funds. Year-end fund values and investment performance are summarized below.

	Market Value	Rates of Return (net of fees)	
	@ 12/31/20	Periods ended 12/31/20	
		1 Year	5 Years*
Unrestricted Fund:	\$1,022,354	5.86%	7.11%
Restricted Fund:	\$1,803,146	6.04%	8.60%

*annualized

For additional information about the CPC Endowment funds or the Covenant Society, please contact any of the Endowment Committee members:

Derek Jones– Chair
Judy Heagstedt

Paul Linton
Fritz Hill

Milo Tedstrom
John Vaughey

Stacy Malone
Louise Westfall

DIRECTORIES

Session, Deacons and Staff

DEACONS

CLASS	TERM
Class of 2020	
Bruce Heagstedt	2-3 yr terms
Marty Jewell	3
Class of 2021	
Billie Lusk, moderator	3
Kristin George	3
Laurie Hergenrader	3
Class of 2022	
Jacqueline Howard	3
Sara and Charlie Baldwin	1 yr extension
Dave and Debbie Ramsey	3
Elin Towler	3
Class of 2023	
Tom Clarke	3
Cathy Hawk	3
Eunice Shankland	3

ELDERS

CLASS	TERM
Class of 2020	
Celeste Habiger	3
Gary Ringler	3
Mark Williams	3
Class of 2021	
Adam Brown	1 yr extension
Mike Hofmann	1 yr extension
Marcie LaPorte	1
Class of 2022	
Chris Primus	3
Steve Davis	3
Rachel Dempsey	3
Alfredo Kemm	3
Class of 2023	
Nick Bode	3
Helen Gibson	3

PASTORAL CARE

Pastor, Louise Westfall
louise@centraldenver.com , 303.567.6281

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MISSION, CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

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Executive Director, Heartbeat Denver, Nileen Hart
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ADMINISTRATION

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Building Superintendent, Anthony Martinez
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