

UNIVERSITY



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHAPEL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CONGREGATION FOR 2015

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University Presbyterian Church

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Pastor



From my vantage point, 2015 was a remarkably healthy and productive year in the life of University Presbyterian Church. Thanks to excellent leadership from the church's officers and the thoughtful work of my colleagues on the church staff, we were able to see growing depth in our program ministries as well as extending the reach of the congregation in the larger community and among our global partners. My colleagues and the committee chairs will chronicle some of those accomplishments in their reports—and I will not repeat them here—but I do want to say that the congregation can both be proud of the work we have done in the last year and feel hope in the midst of the challenges before us.

The world and culture in which we live in many ways are not conducive to the work that binds us together. We read regularly of churches and other religious institutions in decline in our nation. We have certainly seen religious faith employed for shameful and unscrupulous political ends. Yet University Church remains strong. Its campus ministry program is a model that other churches seek to emulate. I would put our

youth and children's ministries up against any in the Presbyterian Church (USA). We continue to add new members of all ages and life stages. Your strong stewardship continues to open opportunities for us to lend strength both inside and outside our walls. Community agencies speak of our church as a key leader in dealing with the persistent issues of homelessness and affordable housing. We have had a good year together.

I also want to say a word of thanks to the congregation for its steadfast patience through the multiple delays in the second phase of our construction project. The Building Committee has worked diligently with neighbors, town planners, and various agencies to move the project forward. We have all been frustrated by the delays that have put us months behind schedule. I do hope and pray that by the time I write the next annual report we will be able to point to a wonderful new addition, but for now we press on step-by-step.

As your pastor I am deeply blessed to work with a thoughtful congregation that is wonderfully supportive of the church and its staff, with a richly talented group of colleagues who make it fun to come to work each day, and with a worshiping community that gathers with great vitality week after week. It is a privilege I never take for granted.

~ Bob Dunham, *Pastor*

Associate Pastor



If (as I wrote in last year's report) 2014 was a year of determined hope, 2015 was a year of welcome thanksgiving. I typically end my report each year with thanking you for the privilege of being one of your pastors, but this year I want to lead with it. You are a blessing. Thank you.

Much of my work remains consistent from year to year in terms of my primary responsibility: pastoral care. While this includes care in times of challenge, crisis, and celebration; hospitals, funerals, and baptisms, it also includes times when we touch base for a faith check-in. Where are you feeling challenged in your discipleship of Jesus Christ? How are you growing in your faith? How do your doubts shape your beliefs (or is it the other way around for you?). Sometimes the richest conversations arise when you ask to meet with me not because there is an issue, but because it is good and important to talk about our faith. If you are interested in one of these conversations, I'd love to take you out for a

cup of coffee or go for a walk. Just get in touch with me and we'll set up a time.

For those times when the need to speak to or see one of the UPC pastors arises suddenly or unexpectedly, new this year is the pastor-on-call. The pastor-on-call can be reached 24/7 by calling the church. Extension 133 forwards your call to the cell phone of either Bob, Kate, John, or myself. If you need it, I hope you will use it.

The deacons continue to balance (beautifully) being simultaneously consistent and flexible in managing memorial receptions, neighborhoods, continuing care retirement communities, and folks who are aging in place. How are we helping people to stay connected? The deacons reach out to each member (or family) several times a year, but no longer can the phone be the only form of connection. The deacons email, text, call home phones, call cell phones, and visit. They do their very best to figure out which form of communication works for which member. The best way for you to help is by responding when they reach out.

Stephen Ministry is at its lowest number in years in terms of Stephen Ministers but it is also at its highest percentage of ministers who are partnered with church members for their particular ministry of caring. We are moving along with our ministry as well as meeting for continuing education each month, but we know that a day might arrive when we have to re-evaluate whether or not this program is still needed at University Presbyterian Church. We are ALWAYS looking for folks who are called to be Stephen Ministers, so if you think that might be you, please visit <http://upcch.org/upc-family/stephen-ministry/> to learn more about it.

And, the amazing Stewardship Committee—they bring such enthusiasm and willingness to do the real, faithful work of stewardship education, built upon the fundamental belief that giving is a way in which God invites us to grow in faith. If you would like to deepen the roots of your faith and learn more about that, please be in touch.

These are some of the highlights from this year, but there's much more: worship, construction, building, and technology.... I'd be delighted to talk with you if you have questions.

Finally, while visiting Old Salem last year I was struck by learning that the Moravian community would give each child a Bible verse as a Christmas present. It was a verse they would carry with them throughout the next 365 days until they would be invited to recite their verse the next Christmas. Last year my verse was, Philippians 4:4 "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice." This year, I am looking to Psalm 86:11 "Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere Your name." I'm looking forward to seeing where this verse takes me.

~ Anna Pinckney Straight, *Associate Pastor*

Associate Pastor for Campus Ministry and Presbyterian Campus Ministry Report



As you can see from the highlights below it has been a full 2015 for Presbyterian Campus Ministry. We have had an active group of about 55 students with many stopping by from time-to-time. Many of our students are with us for all four years, others go away for a little while and return and some find us later in their Carolina experience. However and whenever they arrive, I am grateful for their being a part of our community. I do not doubt that all of us at UPC see this ministry as a crucial place in the gap between childhood and young adulthood.

Here are the highlights from 2015:

- ◇ This year our students had two retreats to Montreat, one in January and the other in September, and our annual beach retreat to Fort Caswell.
- ◇ We had over 26 program nights and dinners for students including our annual Thanksgiving dinner for over 75 students.
- ◇ We continued to dedicate time to developing key student leaders for our ministry, by which more than ten students commit to developing a vision for carrying out our student ministry as members of our student leadership team.
- ◇ We had five strong small groups that met weekly, in which five young adults from UPC and Duke Divinity School created reflective and prayerful space for more than 40 of our active students. When I started in 2008 small groups were not a part of the PCM ministry, but now, after seven years, nearly all our students are involved in our small group ministry.
- ◇ PCM led worship at UPC as well as at each of our partner churches.
- ◇ PCM traveled to Denver, CO, for our annual spring break cultural immersion mission trip. We partnered with DOOR (Discovering Opportunities for Outreach and Reflection) where we volunteered at various service providers in the Denver area. A group of 14 spent a week together that was meaningful for all.
- ◇ PCM had its first capstone trip as a part of our Lilly Foundation “Guide My Feet” program for theological exploration of vocation. A group of 14 traveled to Washington state, where we sailed for six days aboard the historic schooner, *The Adventuress*, hiked in the Olympic Peninsula, and had plenty of time for rich conversation, study, and reflection.
- ◇ Also as a part of our Lilly-funded program, we had six student interns serving in our partner churches.
- ◇ In regard to UPC Outreach Committees, it was a great year to work alongside Susan Ross, Carolyn Karpinos, and Bart Phillips. Their chairing these committees, along with their committee members, made 2015 an incredible year for giving and partnership.
- ◇ And, almost in 2015, Trina and I welcomed James Walter Rogers to our family on January 1, 2016. What a special time this is, and although there are a lot of other ways to get UPC members in our home, having a child sure gets folks over quickly!

~ John Rogers, *Associate Pastor for Campus Ministry*

Associate Pastor for Adult Ministries



As I sit at my desk, drafting this report, my heart is full. The afternoon was busy in the education wing. The sound of the youth choir practicing their songs for the musical shifted to the harmonies of PCM students practicing praise songs. The smell of freshly baked cookies has overtaken the hall, and I had the distinct pleasure of enjoying a warm chocolate chip cookie, right out of the oven. I've had impromptu meetings with colleagues and church members throughout the day, as I tried to respond to my ever-populating inbox and check off my to-do list.

This is the gift of my calling—being a part of an incredible, thoughtful family of faith that is vibrant and full of activity. Day by day, week in and week out, I have the privilege of playing a supporting role with the children's, youth, and college ministries, while welcoming new members, finalizing adult education classes, and preparing to worship a loving God. After my first fifteen months as the Associate Pastor for Adult Ministries, I still pinch myself with giddiness, filled with gratitude that my days are so richly filled with laughter and service, good food and Bible studies, thoughtful conversations and extemporaneous prayers, committee meetings and emails—all in the hopes of building up God's beloved commonwealth as best we can.

I'm grateful for the work and warm hospitality of the Membership Committee and the Session members who have graciously welcomed 70 new members in 2015. This committee worked with the Session and staff to produce and print the first version of a welcome brochure, found in each worship register. It has been a busy and excellent year!

Fried chicken, cookies, and coffee were graciously provided by the worker bees of the Congregational Life Committee. They hosted seven Second Sunday Lunches, two brunches during the high Holy seasons, and Punch on the Porch each Sunday through the summer. More than 300 people were served dinner and enjoyed a fabulous production of "The Cotton Patch Gospel" in February. Their faithful commitment to the fellowship of this church is inspiring. Thank you!

The Adult Education offerings have been diverse in scope and deep in theological reflection. (The list of the courses offered can be found in that committee's report.) Beyond the class descriptions and various speakers, we have reflected on God's grace as experienced through Mary Oliver's poetry, the history of the Holy Lands, college basketball and race, dementia, the Psalms, and *The Blessings of a B Minus*.

Twenty-five members broke bread with our Muslim neighbors in Cary during Ramadan; over 400 books were collected for the Book Harvest for children in our community in the spring, and twenty-six women enjoyed a weekend beach retreat around the table of our Lord. The energy, intelligence, and love shared by the many Sunday School teachers, facilitators, and the committee are impressive! Thank you, thank you to the many folks who have supported the Adult Education program!

2015 offered several unique opportunities: the chance to speak at the Presbyterian Women's dinner in the Spring and Fall; the chance to accompany ten high school youth, Kim McNeill, and Bob Dunham to Montreat for a week to delve into God's story; the chance to work with Mary Bozyski as we co-led the 4th and 5th grade VBS cast of characters; the chance to keynote a conference at Massanetta; and the chance to lean into my preaching voice (five times!) while learning from colleagues who are the best in the business. 2015 has been a full year; and I'm deeply grateful.

~ Kate Fiedler Boswell, *Associate Pastor for Adult Ministries*

Staff Associate for Youth Ministries



The Children's and Youth Ministry Committee (CYM) provides incredible program leadership for the members of this congregation. Now with a full staff, I am deeply grateful for their leadership and support over this last year as we explore new programs and ideas.

Presbyterian Youth Connection (PYC) continues to be a safe and encouraging space for our youth to ask tough questions and wrestle with answers as they move along in their faith journey. This year, we continued to start our evening programming in the Fellowship Hall to allow for enough space for all of the youth to eat dinner. We continued to split our youth into separate middle and high school groups most Sunday nights. Allowing youth to experience our program in two age groups means that each can enjoy a more focused lesson that is designed with their particular needs in mind. This commitment to having two separate age groups has resulted in our high schoolers showing better attendance and enjoying deeper con-

versation and our middle schoolers feeling like they are being heard each week while also having space to be energetic. Our PYC volunteer advisors continued to support and challenge our youth in their faith development. I am grateful each day for the wonderful and willing adults who are part of the PYC program each week. We wouldn't be able to support our youth adequately without them.

This fall, PYC and the Mental Health Task Force teamed up to offer two programs for parents of youth on Mental Health and Teens. We have seen a dramatic increase in the number of our youth who are facing mental illness, mainly depression and anxiety. We continue to look for ways to remove stigma and offer our families support as they seek treatment.

A few changes were made to the structure of our confirmation class that help us better attend to the learning styles of our 8th graders. Our teachers implemented a "pair, square, share" technique for discussions and created ways for our youth to have more voice in our subject matter. This has been a positive change that has resulted in more robust class discussions. I'm grateful for the huge commitment our confirmation teachers have made to this class and to creating an environment where our young people feel comfortable asking tough questions of faith.

The organization, planning and oversight of youth summer trips continue to be a large part of my year, as well as one of the greatest joys of this call. The trips with youth include a high school beach retreat in the spring, our All Youth Retreat in the fall, a Middle School service trip to Washington DC, the Appalachia Service Project, the Montreat Youth Conference and the Montreat Worship and Music Conference. We continue to work to get registration and payment for these trips online to help trim our parents' to-do lists.

This fall the UPC program staff began the first stages of planning for UPC's first Congregational Retreat. We are excited to offer this event for all church members in September, 2016, in Montreat, NC.

Once again this year, my service to the larger church included serving as Recreation Leader for Montreat Youth Conference for weeks 1 and 2. It was over a year in the planning and is always a joy to lead 1500 youth in recreation and re-creation. I'm grateful for these opportunities to serve the church nationally in a way that I am passionate about.

Additionally, this year, I shared the responsibility with my colleagues for leading worship, pastoral care of our youth and families, keeping a finger on the pulse of the construction project, and various other duties. I am constantly grateful for the energy and enthusiasm this congregation has for its work in the church and the world. I am equally grateful for my colleagues at UPC. It is truly a blessing to serve in our shared ministry!

~ Kim McNeill, *Staff Associate for Youth Ministries*

Staff Associate for Children's Ministries



“There is always, always, ALWAYS something to be thankful for.” (Author unknown)

This quote is one I think of often, and I am reminded that we are named and claimed as God's children. We are called to share the love and grace of God with those around us through all we do at UPC. There are numerous highlights as I look back on 2015:

- ◇ We welcomed many (many!) new babies into our church family. We have a nurturing, dependable staff in our nursery to welcome them on Sunday mornings. Each new baby is given a copy of *The Jesus Storybook Bible* by the Children's and Youth Ministries Committee. A meal train program was started and is facilitated by Lou Pons so families with new babies can focus on caring for the newest member of the family without having to worry about what to eat.
- ◇ Sunday School classes took place each Sunday, with dedicated, loving teachers to meet and greet our children and youth, encouraging them to ask the tough questions about faith.
- ◇ Kindergarteners and four-year-olds engaged in the *Godly Play* Children and Worship program each Sunday following the Time with Children. They listened to the story of the day and then spent time responding through art activities.
- ◇ Almost 100 children and over 75 volunteers gathered at New Hope Camp and Conference Center in June for Vacation Bible School, where together we explored the theme *Message Received: Hearing God's Call* and talked about God's call on each of our lives.
- ◇ Kirk Club, a new program for 4th and 5th graders, helps young people learn how to approach their faith in new ways as they engage in thought-provoking discussions, wrestle with deeper questions and grow in community with one another through fellowship and recreation.
- ◇ Parents of Young Presbyterians (PYPs) had monthly events including blueberry picking, a pool party, a playground play-date, a Sexuality and Faith event, and a Parents' Night Out.
- ◇ The Advent Craft Festival was again hugely successful, thanks to the efforts of many, many volunteers and the leadership of Tracy Lovelady and Amie Lindquist. New this year was an outreach station, where participants packed over 100 bags of non-perishable food to be donated to TABLE's Weekend Meal Backpack Program.
- ◇ At the Family Christmas Eve service, we told the story, sang the carols, and rang the bells. A “real live baby Jesus” added some excitement to the worship experience again this year.
- ◇ The voices and laughter of children and teachers in University Presbyterian Preschool continue to fill the downstairs halls each weekday morning. UPPS, under the guidance of Ellen Parker (Director) and Caroline Jones (Assistant to the Director), has been flexible with changes in space and logistics due to construction. Ellen, with the support of Debbie Bevin (Chair) and the UPPS Committee, has worked hard to explore options for putting scholarship money to use in the hopes that more children in Chapel Hill have the opportunity for a preschool education.
- ◇ In November of 2015, I received word that I passed my exam and am now a Certified Christian Educator in the PC(USA). I am grateful to the staff, officers, and members of UPC who have provided support and encouragement during this last leg of the journey.

None of this would be possible without the help of the multitude of volunteers who share their gifts with this church family. Special thanks to the hardworking and diligent CYM Committee and especially to May Bryan who has chaired the group with grace. It is a joy and a privilege to serve alongside intelligent, energetic, and creative colleagues in this wonderful congregation. In 2016, I am going to aim to keep gratitude at the front of my mind and I encourage you to do the same. We do indeed have much for which to be thankful. I look forward to seeing what God has in store for the year ahead for each one of us and for UPC.

~ Nancy Myer, *Staff Associate for Children's Ministries*

Minister of Music



The Music Department of University Church continued to fulfill its charge to enhance our Worship in 2015. Four Choirs (Chancel, Youth, Junior and Children's) rehearsed regularly and offered a wide variety of music in our worship from January through May and September through December. The Choirs numbered one hundred forty-two adults and children in 2015.

The Chancel Choir is the centerpiece of University Church's choral program and consisted of thirty-four members in 2015. It provided musical leadership for thirty-nine services in 2015, from January through May and September through December. It rehearsed regularly on Wednesday evenings and at occasional additional rehearsals for special music. The commitment required from each member is extraordinary: during the past year, each person gave approximately 170 hours of service in rehearsal and leading worship on Sunday mornings, for a total of 5,440 combined hours

or 266 24-hour days in volunteer time! A highlight of the choral year is always the beloved Festival of Christmas Lessons and Carols in December. Due to the construction of our new building and lack of reliable evening parking, the Chancel Choir rehearsed off-site on Wednesday evenings for the fall semester. We are very grateful to the Church of Reconciliation for their gracious welcome in allowing the choir to rehearse in their Sanctuary.

The Youth Choir (grades 6-12) continued to flourish in 2015. In addition to leading worship during the year, they presented three performances of *Cotton Patch Gospel* in our annual dinner-theatre format, in spectacular style. Members of the Junior and Children's Choirs presented *The Sailor's Bible* in two performances in April. Fifty-five adults and young people from University Church attended the Worship and Music Conference at Montreat last summer, and members of the Junior Choir performed a vignette from *The Sailor's Bible* to great effect. Beth Visser led the music for the all-Youth Retreat there in November. Residents of the Carol Woods Health Center and the DuBose Center at The Cedars, and at other individual homes, enjoyed Christmas carols sung by our young people in December, to the delight of listener and caroler alike. We were sorry to say goodbye to Elva Small, our regular accompanist to the Youth, Junior and Children's Choirs, as she retired from her work here in June. Thank you for your long and faithful service, Elva! In September, we welcomed Valerie Elvers as the Choirs' new accompanist. Many thanks to Beth Auman Visser, Director of Children's and Youth Choirs, for her continued good and gracious work with our youth.

On two evenings in August, I recorded 24 pieces for a new CD entitled *Favorite Organ Music from The Liturgical Year*, which has been well-received. In September, I performed my annual piano recital in the Sanctuary, featuring works by Mozart, Ravel, Bach (as transcribed by Myra Hess), Beethoven, Saint-Saëns (as transcribed by Leopold Godowsky) and Chopin. It attracted a large and appreciative audience.

As I type this report in the early days of January, 2016, I find myself half-way through my fourteenth year as Minister of Music at University Church. I continue to feel blessed to work with my wonderful colleagues and to make music in this gracious and faithful community.

~ Thomas Brown, *Minister of Music*

2015 Annual Report of the Clerk of Session

In 2015 the Session was active in UPC's commitment to helping others. The Session was able to restore funding from a previous year's budget surplus to Outreach for their local and global initiatives, after a decrease in the Outreach budget in recent years. In addition, the Session approved the Endowment Fund dispersals in May and November to both local and global causes; decisions were made to use Capital Campaign tithe funds for Wings of Hope in Haiti, and the congregation participated in many hands-on projects, such as dropping off coats and blankets for Syrian refugees, mission trips, and serving meals at the Inter-Faith Council.

Eleven Stated Session Meetings were held during 2015. Here are some additional highlights:

The Session approved replacing the chiller and the boiler—not glamorous, but much needed. A new hearing loop was installed in the Sanctuary, and a new UPC Website was launched. We now have a Security Task Force addressing how to keep UPC welcoming and secure—both during and following our new expansion. The Session followed the progress of the expansion via the Building Committee reports, obtaining the proper permits, the demolition of 212 E. Rosemary, and underground work with water and sewer pipes. Our program staff continues to support the congregation with personal care, wonderful youth programs, including the new Kirk Club, and thought-provoking adult education offerings. We congratulated Nancy Myer as she became a Certified Christian Educator and approved the ordination of Nancy and Kim McNeill as Elders so they can more fully participate in worship services and at the Presbytery level. The Session endorsed UPC member Kristen Levens as an inquirer in the ordination process and will support her progress. UPC became a WISE congregation (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) under the direction of our Mental Health Task Force. Elder commissioners were elected to represent our congregation at Stated Meetings of the New Hope Presbytery in February, July and October. Sunday School teachers, youth advisors and preschool teachers were approved and the Session had the joyful experience of examining 17 confirmands in May, as well as the new officers in December. Throughout the year, the Session approved 13 baptisms, eight weddings and ten membership transfers.

In addition to the Stated Meetings, fourteen Called Meetings were held for the purpose of receiving new members or examining Confirmands. There were 34 new members by letter of transfer, 17 new members by reaffirmation of faith and 20 new members by profession of faith (of which 17 were confirmands). Including three reactivated members with these groups brings a total gain of 70 members. Our congregation welcomed seven new babies during the year but also mourned the deaths of 24 church members. In a special membership project, Kaitlin Dunn, our Administrative Assistant, and I reconciled written membership records with our online database. Along with a list of inactive members compiled by Anna Pinckney Straight, this resulted in a much more accurate listing of current active members. As a result, our active membership as of December 31, 2015 was 1236.

The Session called two Congregational Meetings in 2015—on March 22 and August 30. The first meeting was for the purpose of receiving the *Annual Report to the Congregation* and to hear a report on the state of the church. The second meeting was held for the purpose of electing officers and members of the Nominating Committee.

It was a very busy year, as usual, and we would like to thank our Ruling Elders, Class of 2015 for their service to the Session. Those Elders are Porter Alexander, Patty Baum, Nancy Benjamin, Jeffrey Hart, Mary Ann Klompmaker, Kelly Moore, Ruth Moose, Chip Sudderth and John Wilson.

You are all already aware of our wonderful program staff. As Clerk, I also have an opportunity to work with the Administrative Staff of the church: Jeanette Schmidt, Office Manager; Kaitlin Dunn, Administrative Assistant; Jennifer Johnson, Publications Coordinator; and Katharine Yager, Controller. They are all so helpful and good at what they do—it makes the job of Clerk very easy! If you ever have the opportunity to stop by the church on a weekday, it is a bustling place, with lots of positive energy and good will—always uplifting!

~ Mary Ellen Olson, *Clerk of Session*

Session Committee Reports Administration Committee

The members of the Administration Committee for 2015 were Jeffrey Hart (Chair), Al Field (Treasurer), Scott Buck, Elizabeth Moshier, Jim Miller and Bob Dunham (ex officio).

The Administration Committee is responsible for the preparation and oversight of the church's annual budget. The committee monitors the financial status of the church on a monthly basis. It considers and deliberates any administrative matters and makes recommendations to the Session. It coordinates planning long-term administrative changes, including coordination with

other committees, and brings these matters forth to the Session. The committee also acts as the Session liaison to the Trustees and the Garden Committee.

In 2014, the church had net income of \$52,318.16. For 2015, the committee recommended a budget that included, among other changes, (1) an increase of approximately \$58,000 in anticipated congregational pledges over the amounts actually collected in 2014, and (2) an increase of approximately \$124,000 in personnel expenses from 2014, most of which was attributable to the payment of salary and benefits for new personnel hired in 2014. The Session voted to adopt this budget recommendation.

For 2015, revenues and expenses were approximately 109 percent and 108 percent, respectively, of the budgeted amounts. The primary reason for these high revenue and expense percentages was the use of approximately \$132,000 from reserves to fund certain repairs to the church's facilities. Ultimately, the church recognized a net surplus of approximately \$30,800.

~ Jeffrey Hart, *Chair, Administration Committee*

Children's and Youth Ministries Committee

Members: The 2014-15 members of the Children's and Youth Ministries Committee (CYM) included May Bryan, Megan Crunkleton, Day McLaughlin, Colleen Minton, Lou Pons, Jackie Soderling, and Kristen Stewart, Susan Jackson, Tracy Lovelady, and Kelli Smith. Meg Powell and Amie Lindquist joined the committee in 2015. (Membership terms on CYM usually mirror the school year as many of our programs follow that schedule.) Kim McNeill and Nancy Myer staffed this committee.

Kim and Nancy are an amazing team—full of ideas, energy, knowledge, resources, and love for UPC. This year, Nancy became a Certified Christian Educator. She worked very hard to pass this strenuous course of study, and CYM and the entire UPC community are so proud of her.

CYM has several subcommittees: Day McLaughlin and Kristen Stewart: Sunday School; Amie Lindquist and Tracy Lovelady: Advent Craft Festival; Stephanie Duncan and Meg Powell: Godly Play; Susan Jackson and Jackie Soderling: Youth Ministry; and Tracy Lovelady and Megan Crunkleton: Vacation Bible School.

This year, a new program was implemented: Kirk Club. Kelli Smith and Day McLaughlin helped with this program. Additionally in 2015, PYPs (Parents of Young Presbyterians) was moved from Congregational Life to CYM.

Because CYM is responsible for hosting several major events and programs during the year, other members of the congregation (including youth) assist the subcommittees for major events.

Sunday School: Kristen Stewart, with the help of other volunteers, worked throughout the spring and summer to successfully fill all the Sunday School teaching slots.

Sunday School classes are available for children ages three years through high school. Close to 150 children and youth attend on any given Sunday, and over 50 UPC members volunteer as Sunday School teachers. CYM appreciates the dedication of those individuals who give their time, talent, and energy each week to teach our children and youth about our faith through scripture passages, related activities, and discussion.

As part of the Advent Craft Festival this year, Sunday School classes collected non-perishable food items. These items were used to pack over 100 bags that were donated to TABLE's Weekend Meal Backpack Program.

Sunday School classes are in the fifth year of using the "Feasting on the Word" curriculum, which connects Sunday School lessons to the lectionary readings for the same Sunday. Even though the lessons for all grades are based on the lectionary, the outline and activities for the lessons are age-appropriate. The curriculum materials are available digitally, which continues to provide considerable savings as teachers can download only what they need. The specific Bible passages used are noted in Sunday's bulletin in an effort to encourage family discussion of the passages.

The kindergarten class uses a curriculum called "Dwell: Play" and the 3-4 year-old class uses "Walk with Me." Faith Alive Christian Resources publishes both curriculums. The teachers are very pleased with the age-appropriate nature of the curriculum and the ease with which the curriculum is designed.

Nancy Myer and Day McLaughlin organized curriculum material (formerly housed in classrooms) into four huge binders to stay in Nancy's office.

New this year was the implementation by Nancy and Kim of Kirk Club, a group open to 4th and 5th graders. This group meets

twice a month in the youth center for games, a snack, and a program. Kirk Club provides developmentally appropriate programs for these children as they begin to explore faith with a more mature and complex take on the world. This group will help our 4th and 5th graders begin to understand the value in their own church community and will help set the tone for when they join Presbyterian Youth Connection in 6th grade. Day McLaughlin and Kelli Smith are helping Kim and Nancy with this group. There are between 12 and 20 participants at each meeting. The group is using the “Connect” curriculum and Connect Bibles, which help them understand how all our scriptures are connected.

Our Safe Sanctuary Policy continues to be the cornerstone of our responsibility for ensuring the safety of our children. Adults working with children or youth in any capacity are made aware of their duties as outlined in this policy, parents are made aware that there is a policy, and the policy is posted on the church Website. Background checks were run this year on all Sunday School teachers, adults the church employs to work with children, and adults involved in Presbyterian Youth Connection.

PYPs: (Parents of Young Presbyterians), formerly part of Congregational Life, became part of CYM this year. PYPs organizes events throughout the year for families with young children. Events organized by PYPs this year included an Easter egg hunt, a pancake breakfast, parents nights out, playground playdates, a faith and sexuality event, and tailgating before a UNC football game.

PYC: Presbyterian Youth Connection meets on Sunday nights. Usually there are anywhere from 40-70 youth present for fellowship and programs that help youth see the world through the lens of their Presbyterian faith.

PYC stays busy with trips throughout the year. The Washington DC service trip in the spring included 12 middle schoolers and five high schoolers. High school youth attended a beach retreat in April to plan the time and details for the fall All Youth Retreat. Youth headed to Montreat Youth Conference, as well as Appalachia Service Project in the summer. In the fall, youth went back to Montreat for a successful All Youth Retreat with 40 youth and 12 adults attending. High school youth worked to plan and keynote the retreat, investing them in the outcomes of the retreat and PYC as a whole.

There are 22 8th graders in the 2016 Confirmation Class. The curriculum comes from a variety of resources, namely “The Thoughtful Christian” and “We Believe,” the PC(USA) confirmation curriculum. Many supplemental materials enhance the learning experience.

Godly Play: Godly Play includes kindergartners and four-year-olds (who have turned four by the start of the school year). Ten storytellers participate in the program. In the spring CYM hosted a training for Godly Play storytellers. Storytellers and Godly Play organizers attended the daylong training. The Godly Play room was moved in the fall to accommodate classroom needs with construction underway.

Sunday Morning Nursery: Childcare is available during both services and during the Sunday School hour. A combination of paid staff and parent volunteers offer a welcoming environment to infants through pre-kindergartners. Our two paid Nursery Coordinators provide a consistent contact for parents, and they help families navigate the hallways so everyone finds their places. The Nursery Coordinators also direct the placement of the paid staff and volunteers, depending on how many children are present and the ages in attendance.

Vacation Bible School (VBS): Tracy Lovelady headed this committee with enthusiastic and talented volunteers helping to ensure the success of this week at Camp New Hope with 95 kids and 80 volunteers. The theme was “Message Received: Hearing God’s Call.” Logistics and curriculum information were available online. Participants and volunteers were able to register online to attend or assist during the week.

Meals for New Babies: Another new CYM undertaking this year was providing meals for families with new babies. Lou Pons organized meals through online signups for these families starting in the spring of 2015. Many new babies are being born at UPC and this gives CYM and the rest of the congregation a chance to welcome the baby and provide the family with a meal. More than nine meal trains had been started at the writing of this report.

Advent Craft Festival: The Advent Craft Festival was held in conjunction with the Alternative Gift Market. It continues to be a favorite of many UPC families. Amie Lindquist and Tracy Lovelady headed the committee and were ably supported by members of the congregation. Participants created seasonal and religious items to keep or to give as gifts.

The CYM committee is a committed, enthusiastic, and vibrant group of church members who love coming up with ways to implement our faith and to help our youth explore their own.

~ May Martin Bryan, *Chair, Children’s and Youth Ministries Committee*

Adult Education Committee

This year the Adult Education Committee (AEC) offered Sunday morning, evening and weekday opportunities for adults at UPC to become more engaged in their exploration of faith, community, and their own relationship with God. In addition, the committee was able to more clearly define its own mission and objectives, define a schedule and strategy for planning educational programming, and work collaboratively with children's and youth ministries to plan educational opportunities for all ages.

In November, 2014, UPC and the Adult Education Committee welcomed Kate Fiedler Boswell as Associate Pastor for Adult Ministries. Kate's clear leadership, passion for educational programming, and positive energy were instrumental in spurring the committee's work.

In March, 2015, the AEC created an electronic survey asking members for input on adult education classes. Responses were thoughtful and encouraging. In April, 2015, the members of the committee participated in a half-day retreat to focus on two things: (1) Christian education programming for UPC adults in 2015/16 and (2) a mission statement to better define the goals of the Adult Education Committee. Both of these tasks were accomplished and in September, 2015, UPC's Session approved both an Adult Education Schedule for Sunday morning programming through June, 2016 and a new mission statement defining the goals of the committee. The content of both documents are included in this report.

The Adult Education Committee, of course, was limited as other programs were this year due to construction in the building, and only three adult Sunday morning classes were offered each term. However, the committee was pleased with the varied course selections offered in an effort to be inclusive of all adults in the UPC community. As space allows, the committee will examine the possibility of expanding class offerings. Attendance in Sunday morning adult classes continues to grow and feedback from participants has been positive.

As part of Sunday morning programming, many high-profile speakers were invited to UPC for the benefit of our membership. In January, Dr. Jodi Magness presented as part of "The Holy Land" DVD series. In October, Dr. Scott Ellsworth spoke about his book, *The Secret Game*, which was the topic of a Sunday morning adult class. In conjunction with the Mental Health task force, Dr. Warren Kinghorn and many other experts shared their expertise on the topic of Alzheimer's and dementia and how to respond to this disease through faith.

In addition to Sunday morning programming, Kate Fiedler Boswell began a Bible Study for Young Adults. Planning for a weekday women's group and a men's Bible study is underway, and the committee plans to implement these educational opportunities in 2016. Additional weeknight programming for other demographics is also under consideration for 2016/17.

Sincere thanks and gratitude goes to the hardworking members of the 2015/16 Adult Education Committee: Jim Copeland, Mac Gilliland, Kaarin Huffman, Leslie May, Ruth Moose, Mike Nicholson, Sarah Owen, Kelly Ross, and Jim Schultz. Vicky and Bart Phillips, Joe and Shipley Jenkins, Lee and Myrah Scott and Cam and Kaarin Huffman also served as members of the Connections Class Planning Team.

~ Laura Baxley, *Chair, Adult Education Committee*

Adult Education Committee Mission Statement

Adopted August 20, 2015

According to Matthew, Jesus said the greatest commandment is, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets (Matthew 22:37-40)."

We at University Presbyterian Church, as part of God's people in the Reformed tradition, seek to love God and our neighbors through educational opportunities that:

- *are rooted in the Bible and present topics through a Christian "lens of faith"
- *incorporate theology professed by the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Reformed tradition
- *integrate worship, study, and service
- *nurture spiritual exploration and development
- *encourage faithful living in concert with Christ's mission

- *welcome participants of all ages, backgrounds and beliefs
- *respect and welcome other denominations and faiths.

An essential function of a congregation is to provide educational opportunities that challenge people of all ages to become more aware of and to discern God’s call. We believe such study should touch upon all aspects of our lives as individuals and as a church community, informing our mission and enhancing our worship of God.

UPC Adult Education Programming – Sunday Mornings, 2015

	Faith and the Arts Literature, Music, Visual Art, etc.	Faith in Practice/ Living Out Our Faith (Parenting/Spiritual Practice/Service/ Taking Care of Others and Ourselves, etc.)	Connections Current Issues, World/ Local Concerns (Planned by small committee)	Bible Study	Presbyterian 101 (focus on New Members)
Term 1 (Fall 2015)	Title: <i>Leaving North Haven</i> by Michael Lindvall Location: Stephen Ministry Room Facilitators: Kelly Ross, Nancy Benjamin	Title: <i>Blessings of a B Minus</i> by Wendy Mogel Location: Terrace Room Facilitators: Mellicent Blythe, Brian and Claire Curran	Title: God, Sports and Community Location: Vance Barron Hall Facilitators: Connections Team		Title: B: The “U” in Church Location: Room 139 Facilitators: Kate Fiedler Boswell, John Rogers
Term 2 (Fall 2015)		Title: It’s Complicated: Relationship Status and the Church Location: Stephen Ministry Room Facilitators: UPC Members and Staff	Title: <i>The Era of the Crusades</i> – DVD Series Location: Vance Barron Hall Facilitators: Joe and Shipley Jenkins	Title: Advent Devotionals, <i>Expecting God’s Surprises</i> by Robert E. Dunham Location: Terrace Room Facilitators: UPC Members	
Term 3 (Winter 2015)	Title: <i>Home By Another Way</i> by Barbara Brown Taylor Location: Stephen Ministry Room Facilitators: Kelly Ross, Kate Fiedler Boswell	Title: Building Moral Intelligence Location: Terrace Room Facilitator: Jim Schultz	Title: <i>The Holy Lands Revealed</i> – DVD Series Location: Vance Barron Hall Facilitators: Lee and Myrah Scott	Title: <i>Feasting on the Word</i> Location: Room 139 Facilitator: Bob Dunham	
Term 4 (Spring 2015)	Title: Poetry of Mary Oliver Location: Stephen Ministry Room Facilitators: Nancy Benjamin, Kelly Ross, Ruth Moose		Title: Dementia and Alzheimer’s Location: Vance Barron Hall Facilitators: UPC Mental Health Task Force	Title: <i>Feasting on the Word</i> Location: Room 139 Facilitators: Bob Dunham, Anna Pinckney Straight	
Term 5 (Spring 2015)		Title: <i>Stick Faith</i> Location: Terrace Room Facilitators: Will and Martha Aldridge	Title: Senior Life Planning Location: Vance Barron Hall Facilitator: Anna Pinckney Straight Title: Exploring Islam Location: Fellowship Hall Facilitators: Marc and Kate Fiedler Boswell	Title: <i>Feasting on the Word</i> Location: Room 228 Facilitators: Young Adults	

Congregational Life Committee

Members of the Congregational Life Committee (CLC) in 2015 were Bill Campbell, Lynnette Campbell, Gwen Lamb, John Poteat, Amy Whitley, Patty Baum, Chelsey McElwee, Robert Bruce and Lyn Billings. The CLC's Staff Liaison was Kate Fiedler Boswell.

The committee's purpose is to organize activities of a social nature that bring church members together for fellowship, thus enabling members to form and maintain friendships which will encourage them in their faith journey. With this in mind, the Committee planned and organized the following activities: Second Sunday Lunches, the *Cotton Patch Gospel* dinner theater in mid-February, an Easter Brunch and Advent Brunch between worship services, morning coffee during the program year and Punch on the Porch during the summer months following both services. The committee also organized activities for the Adult Fun and Fellowship Group, including five outings to shows at the Durham Performing Arts Center. The CLC hosted a reception following Tom Brown's piano recital in the fall.

Another aspect of the Congregational Life Committee's work includes sponsoring fellowship groups. The Parents of Young Presbyterians (PYPs) have been moved to a different committee and are no longer reporting to the CLC.

Chelsey McElwee and Robert Bruce continued to strengthen the number of people involved on a regular basis in the Young Adult Group for those who are post-college/pre-children in our congregation. Events for the Young Adults in 2015 included meeting in the evening to watch ball games together, having fellowship nights at members' homes, going to local shows and performances together, and attending the new Young Adult Bible Study coordinated and hosted by Kate Fiedler Boswell. The group continues to grow in number and strength and is also assisting at various church functions like the Second Sunday Lunches and ushering.

To help meet the challenge of calling one another by name in a large congregation, the CLC continues to sponsor and encourage the sale of permanent name tags for those who wish to purchase them.

The CLC hopes to expand its reach with new members and new ideas for fun and fellowship throughout the church. As such, the Congregational Life Committee continues to play an active role in the activities of University Presbyterian Church and its members.

~ Patty Baum, *Chair, Congregational Life Committee*

Membership Committee

In 2015 the Membership Committee included Mary Ann Klomp maker and Nancy Benjamin, Co-Chairs, Leigh Anderson, Betty Hutton, Linda Lane, Matt Marvin, Linda Plunkett, Karen Vandersea, and Kate Fiedler Boswell (Staff Liaison).

During the year, we welcomed 70 new members: 35 by letter of transfer, 12 by reaffirmation of faith, 20 by profession of faith, and three by reactivation of membership. The church lost 215 members: 24 deaths, 10 by transfer out, "other" by 181. (The "other" category is the result of two actions during the year: a detailed membership review done by Anna Pinckney Straight, resulting in 97 people either removed from rolls or placed on the inactive list; and 84 losses from a reconciliation of the church's written records with the computer database, done by Clerk of Session and office staff. It is felt that we now have a much more accurate representation of active membership.) There were seven births and 13 infant baptisms during the year. The total membership at the end of 2015 is 1236, an apparent loss of 145 from 2014's total (which is not thought to be correct.)

The Committee is charged with welcoming new members into the church family. This year, as in the past, they were received by Elders in called meetings on the second Sunday of each month, for which our committee, with assistance from the church office staff, prepared name tags and a membership packet of materials about our church. On that day, they were introduced in church and then again at the Second Sunday Lunch following the 11:00 service. Members of our committee followed up with handwritten notes accompanying the mailing of their name tags. It should be noted that this procedure will be changed for the coming year (2016) following many discussions in committee and with pastoral staff. Henceforth, new members will join six times per year, meeting with Elders following 11:00 church on one Sunday, then being introduced in the church service and at the Second Sunday Lunch as above. We are excited about the change, believing that many more Elders and Pastoral Staff members will be able to be present to meet the new members.

The Committee completed work begun in 2014 on a visitors' brochure that introduces our church, welcomes and invites membership, and provides information on our pastors and staff, Sunday School classrooms, and much more. This brochure is now available in the narthex, Parlor, church office and worship registers.

Finally, the Membership Committee is responsible for maintaining and updating the online directory of members. For the past two years we have been working diligently to take more photos for the directory and to make the directory easier to use by church members. Both efforts have run into many difficulties, and as the year ends, questions have arisen about accessing the updated online directory, which was introduced in coordination with the new church Website. It is hoped that these questions may be addressed successfully in the coming year or years.

~ Nancy Benjamin, *Co-Chair, Membership Committee*

Nominating Committee

Members of the 2015 Nominating Committee: Daphne Little (Chair and Elder), Mellicent Blythe, Mark Bozyski, Jamie Bryan, Catherine Duncan, D.G. Martin, Amy McEntee, Joan Page, Linda Plunkett (Deacon), Marc Pons, Chip Sudderth and Bob Dunham (Staff Liaison).

The committee nominated the following members for the positions listed below. They were elected at a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, August 30, 2015.

Endowment Committee: Laura Baxley and Chuck Goins, current members, to serve a second consecutive 3-year term; Joyce Waterbury, an initial 3-year term

Elder, 3-Year Term, Class of 2018

Portia Christensen
Betsy Edwards
Carolyn Karpinos
Steve Kennedy
Chelsey McElwee
Kelly Ross
Ben Soderling (Youth)
Julia Tauras
Hank Waters

Deacon, 3-Year Term, Class of 2018

Michelle Abel-Shoup
Tabitha Alexander
Kathy Clemmons
Collette Drake
Jane Griffin
Caroline Jones
Patrick Kavanaugh
Sarah Owen
Nancy Pfaltzgraff
Matt Singleton (Youth)

Trustees, 3-Year Term, Class of 2018

Davin Stewart (Data)
John Chapman (Property)
Toby Savage (Property, 2 year term)

Members of the 2016 Nominating Committee: Daphne Little (Chair and Elder), Aaron Cook, Claire Curran, Adam Lovelady, D.G. Martin, Amy McEntee, Joan Page, Linda Plunkett (Deacon), Marc Pons, Brian Vandersea, and Bob Dunham (Staff Liaison).

~ Daphne Little, *Chair, Nominating Committee*

Outreach Committee

Members of the 2015 Outreach Committee were Bart Phillips (Local Chair), Carolyn Karpinos (Global Chair), John Wilson (Elder and Treasurer), John Rogers (Staff Liaison) and Susan Ross (Elder and Outreach Chair). All three committees met monthly except in July.

The mission of the Outreach Committee of University Presbyterian Church is to encourage and coordinate programs and activities that further the ministry of Jesus Christ in our community, our nation and the world. To that end, chairs of the subcommittees consistently and thoughtfully lead the effort to use our resources of time and money wisely.

The Outreach budget for 2015 was \$292,184 with \$15,000-\$20,000 initially promised from the 2014 budget surplus as determined by the spring audit. At the December, 2014, Session meeting, a motion was passed to give "additional revenue overage to the Outreach budget up to their 2013 budget amount." The reduction in funds allocated to Outreach was due to starting 2015 with a \$16,800 deficit. The Outreach budget was adjusted using the \$292,184 amount and reducing spending on line items by the 5.13 percentage of the decrease. Fortunately in October, Outreach received an additional \$42,173.63 from the surplus funds to be distributed.

Our pastoral leadership has a strong, continuing commitment to encouraging vigorous church outreach. The Outreach Committee is grateful to the congregation and the Session for their steadfast support in maintaining this budget during difficult economic times and the many important and worthwhile needs of other church functions. At the April Session meeting, a motion was passed for Session to set a budget goal of allocating 20 percent of the budget to Outreach within five years, if the way be clear.

In 2015, Outreach sent \$101,985 in General Benevolence to PC(USA) and \$9,768 to the Presbytery of New Hope for our per capita assessment. Both amounts total 36 percent of the Outreach budget and support the work of our denomination. Local Outreach's budget of \$93,870 amounts to 32 percent of the total Outreach budget. Global's budget of \$50,850 is 17 percent of the total Outreach budget. Campus Ministry received \$15,393 or 5 percent of the Outreach budget. The remaining \$20,318 supports Camp New Hope scholarships, Union Seminary and theological education, Presbyterian Homes, and a nascent Spanish-language church. The Alternative Gift Market brings in its own revenue which is disbursed in total upon receipt and is not included in the budget.

With the \$20,123.17 in surplus funds for "Other," an additional \$13,009.17 was added to General Benevolence, \$2,138 to the Theological Education Foundation, \$654 to Union Seminary, \$1,299 to Iglesia Emanuel, and \$3,023 to Campus Ministry.

Local Outreach subcommittee, chaired by Bart Phillips, continues its support of Habitat for Humanity (\$27,000), Inter-Faith Council (\$27,000 plus \$1,000 to IFC's Food Shelter Fund) and New Hope Camp and Conference Center (\$10,000). In 2015, Local Outreach supported the CROP Hunger Walk (\$125), Faith Connections (\$250), UPPS for scholarships to help diversify the preschool population (\$5,000), Emergency Relief (\$1,000) for Presbyterian Disaster Relief for South Carolina, Arc of Orange County (\$1,000), A Helping Hand (\$1,000), Diaper Bank (\$500), Orange County Rape Crisis Center (\$1,000), and Vets for Vets (\$500). With the 2014 surplus funds of \$14,302.63, Local Outreach was able to give IFC an additional \$5,000 and \$3,000 to Habitat for its "A Brush With Kindness" program. In addition the following organizations were funded: Porch of Orange County (\$1,000), Cornucopia House (\$500), Faith Connections (\$250), Friends of Orange County Social Services (\$1,000), IPFW (\$500), Housing for New Hope (\$1,000), Freedom House (\$1,000), Alamance/Orange Prison Ministries (\$500), Meals on Wheels (\$1,000), Compass Center (\$500), and the Pastor's Discretionary Fund (\$2,017.63). Though not by funding, the congregation supported Book Harvest through Local Outreach by donating over 400 books.

Endowment grants were provided for Charles House for renovation and expansion (\$5,000) and Blue Ribbon Mentor-Advocate for Youth Leadership Institute Summer Camp (\$2,000). Local Outreach named Blue Ribbon Mentor-Advocate as the beneficiary of forty percent of the Pentecost Offering. Local Outreach continues its practice of relational giving. In an effort to learn more about organizations we support, presentations to the subcommittee were made by Orange County Justice United, IFC, Blue Ribbon Mentor-Advocate and University Presbyterian Preschool.

Global Outreach subcommittee, chaired by Carolyn Karpinos, continued its emphasis on relational giving. Twenty-five percent of the Peacemaking Offering, collected on World Communion Sunday, went to Justice United of Orange County. Endowment grants were funded for Universidad Biblica Latinoamericana for online degree courses (\$4,000) and Voltaire Women's Health Center in Haiti (\$2,000). The Capital Campaign Tithe Task Force recommended contributing a \$65,000 grant to aid in rebuilding Wings of Hope in Jacmel, Haiti. A motion was made and passed to that effect. In March, a team of five from UPC and two from Westminster Presbyterian Church in Durham traveled to Haiti to renew relationships with Haiti partners and conduct teacher training workshops. The congregation provided many of the materials that were taken to Haiti. Global Outreach welcomed visits from Elizabeth Little from the Presbyterian Mission Agency, Jolinda Hackett of GOALS in Haiti, Daniel Jeanmary of Wings of Hope in Haiti, and Thailand missionaries Andy and Ellen Collins.

The committee responded to many needs, including the Medical Benevolence Foundation to assist with the Ebola crisis in Africa (\$3,000), Haiti Outreach Ministries (\$1,000), UNC/Nepal project (\$500), Presbyterian Disaster Relief for the island of Vanuatu (\$1,000) and for Nepal earthquake assistance (\$1,000), Scholarships for the Latin Patriarchate School (\$1,500), Hearts of Haiti (\$1,000), Family Health Ministries of Durham for a Women's Health and Birthing Center in Haiti (\$1,500), Dental and Health Clinic in Yazdieh, Syria (\$1,000), in addition to supporting our missionaries (\$16,875). With the \$7,747.83 in surplus funds, Global provided an additional \$2,000 to each of our three missionaries and \$1,747.83 to Blanchard Clinic of Family Health Ministries in Haiti.

Global Outreach held a well organized and researched Alternative Gift Market in December with opportunities for the congregation to give to 38 agencies around the world and one in Chapel Hill. \$18,633 was contributed and sent to the various agencies. Global Outreach added an additional \$7,050 from their discretionary funds.

Campus Ministry led by John Rogers, our Associate Pastor for Campus Ministry, is a very important part of University Presbyterian Church. In 2015, a number of retreats were held in addition to weekly gatherings and Bible study small groups, Student Sunday in February and Family Day, a Senior Reception in May, Alumni Homecoming in October, and a Thanksgiving dinner

for ninety students. John led a group of twelve to Denver over spring break. They worked with DOOR (Discovering Opportunities for Outreach and Reflection) and visited a Presbyterian camp in Boulder. A beach retreat was held in April. In May, a group of fourteen traveled to the Puget Sound for a Lilly grant sponsored retreat entitled, “God’s Spirit Hovered Over the Waters.” Learning nautical skills and leadership development were the focus of the retreat. A leadership retreat, a fall retreat to Montreat and a Lilly “Guide My Feet” retreat in the Virginia mountains were held, as well. PCM cooked and served six meals at IFC, volunteered at Anathoth Community Garden and served a meal at Ronald McDonald House. With John’s enthusiasm, our Campus Ministry continues to thrive.

Outreach at University Presbyterian Church strives to touch many people in need at home and across the globe. The commitment of the committee members is sincere and conscientious. Members are grateful for the generous support provided by the congregation to do the Lord’s work in our world.

~ Susan Ross, *Chair, Outreach Committee*

Personnel Committee

During 2015, the Personnel Committee was staffed by the following members: Jesse Basnight, Jr., Reid Chisholm (Chair), Margaret Costley, Brian Curran, Courtney Edwards, and Fran Wilson. Bob Dunham was the Staff Liaison.

Staff Reviews

The Personnel Committee held annual reviews with members of the Program Staff and some members of the Administrative Staff. In December, the committee met as a group with each Program Staff member. As part of the review process, the committee solicited survey input on each Program Staff member, including communication, organizational, and leadership skills. For each Program Staff member, survey responses were solicited from several church members and other Program Staff who had worked closely with the person. In addition, each member of the committee met or will meet with at least one member of the Administrative Staff in late 2015 or early 2016.

The committee also set a goal to check in with staff more frequently than the annual reviews, contacting at least one Program Staff person and one Administrative Staff person once during the year to provide an informal opportunity for staff to provide feedback to the committee.

Administrative Staff Changes

Melani Wilhite joined the church as a part-time financial assistant, working with Katharine Yager. Melani, who previously worked for the church in a similar capacity, took over work performed for the church by an outside firm.

Elva Small retired as part-time youth and children’s choir accompanist after the Montreat Music and Worship Conference in June. The committee authorized a congregational communication soliciting a love gift for Elva, which was presented to her in May.

Staff’s Raises

The committee provided recommendations to the Session on raises to reward and retain the terrific staff our church enjoys. The recommendation included a significant raise in Bob Dunham’s salary to bring it more in line with benchmark numbers.

~Reid Chisholm, *Chair, Personnel Committee*

University Presbyterian Preschool

University Presbyterian Preschool (UPPS) is a half-day early childhood program serving the preschool-aged children of University Presbyterian Church and the larger community. The school operates under the daily leadership of Ellen Parker, the Director; Caroline Jones, Assistant to the Director; the dedicated service of its teachers; and the church’s UPPS Committee. In 2015, Debbie Bevin took over as UPPS Committee Chair, and members included past Chair Kelly Moore, Reid Chisholm, Megan Crunkleton, Harriett Burns, David Jones, Jenny Eller, and Winnie Morgan. Teacher representative Melissa Miller was replaced mid-year by Lee Ann Buck. Nancy Myer, UPC Staff Associate for Children’s Ministries, staffs the committee.

The impacts of the church’s construction project on the preschool remained the focus of the committee’s work this year. After successfully navigating the interior renovations to the preschool during the summer of 2014, the Preschool enjoyed a respite from significant construction activity during the 2014-2015 school year. In anticipation of major construction immediately adjacent to the preschool beginning in the fall of 2015, the committee discussed and approved the following:

Annual Report to the Congregation

1. Revised the drop-off and pick-up procedures, accompanied by slight changes to the daily schedule, due to Robertson Lane closures and restrictions;
2. Added a “floater” staff position to help manage the arrival and departure process plus provide support throughout the school day; and
3. Relocated the 4s classroom to the former Godly Play and Garden Rooms because of the proximity of the original classroom to construction activity and noise. This move necessitated the removal of a wall between the two rooms to create one larger space. The addition of a portable sink has made it a serviceable alternative to the original 4s classroom.

As part of the larger building project, some playground maintenance was done which included new mulch, monkey bars, climbing wall and other safety-oriented repairs. These improvements have largely been funded by the Building Committee. The Preschool and the students are grateful!

The committee discussed at length issues of security and access to the preschool. The committee’s primary concern is a stairwell door which remains unlocked on the orders of the fire marshal. Ellen Parker and Nancy Myer are serving on a newly-established church Security Task Force, which has recommended the installation of a lock-able door which will satisfy the fire marshal’s concerns while also securing the preschool during the school day.

Throughout the entire construction process, Ellen Parker and Nancy Myer have been closely coordinating with the UPC Building Committee, other UPC staff, architects and contractors, and the UPPS Committee deeply appreciates the attention these parties have shown to the preschool’s concerns and needs. We look forward to the completion of the UPC addition sometime in the next year.

The preschool’s financial records were brought up to date during 2015 thanks to the efforts of Katharine Yager in the church finance office and the ongoing work of David Jones, treasurer for the preschool. 2014 ended with a slight surplus despite the projection of a loss due to construction-related expenses and lower than anticipated enrollment. The budget for 2015 also projects a loss due to the addition of the floater position and lower projected enrollment. Any actual deficit at year end will be covered by the preschool’s reserve accounts.

Enrollment remains a concern. UPPS is not alone in seeing lower numbers of applicants in recent years. Other area preschools report a similar trend, due likely to more families with two working parents who require full-time child care. For the 2015 school year, the preschool currently has 82 enrolled students but a capacity of 86.

UPPS offers full and partial scholarships to students with demonstrated need. For the 2015-2016 school year, six students are receiving scholarships totaling \$1,067.50 per month, or \$9,607.50 for the nine-month school year. The scholarship program is funded through fundraising organized by preschool families, primarily the Winter Carnival. In addition, in 2015 the Local Outreach Committee generously granted \$5,000 to the scholarship fund when another local preschool that had been a grant-recipient closed. Preschool Director Ellen Parker and church member Martha Aldridge, who chairs the YMCA board, met with representatives of the Town of Chapel Hill and a local elementary school social worker to discuss broadening the reach of our scholarship program. Ellen also met with the Local Outreach Committee in December to brainstorm ways to spread awareness of the scholarship program within the community.

UPPS is fortunate to be staffed by highly trained, nurturing teachers, several of whom have been teaching here for over 15 years. We added three new teachers to the UPPS staff during 2015. Stephanie Nally was hired as lead teacher and Myra Jester as co-teacher in the Tue/Thu/Fri 3s class. In the 2s class Lib Ferguson was promoted to lead teacher and Mary Bozyski was hired as co-teacher. All three new teachers, in addition to the “floaters” hired to help manage the changes in the carpool line, have been warmly received by students, parents, and teachers this fall. An overnight staff retreat was held in late summer to provide team-building, training, and planning time for the staff prior to the start of the school year.

After over forty years in operation, UPPS remains one of the most highly respected preschools in the Chapel Hill area. The UPPS Committee is deeply grateful for the ongoing support provided by University Presbyterian Church.

~ Debbie Bevin, *Chair, University Presbyterian Preschool Committee*

Worship Committee

The Worship Committee at University Presbyterian Church supports the ministers and staff of the church and serves its members and visitors through the weekly Sunday services. Special services include Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and three Christmas Eve services. UPC ministers travel to the residents of both Carol Woods and Carolina Meadows, providing a monthly worship service with the sacrament of the Lord’s Supper. In conjunction with University Methodist Church, UPC shares a bus that transports Carolina Meadows residents to our 11:00 Sunday services.

In our large church, UPC members are essential to making the worship experience meaningful to each other and visitors alike. It begins at the front door with greeters, ushers, Elders, and deacons in the narthex, communion preparers, coordinators, floral and holiday Sanctuary decorators and coordinators, assistants for handicapped parking, and other volunteers extend God's grace with a smile. In 2015, Worship Committee members were: Bob Dunham, Pastor; Thomas Brown, Minister of Music; Beth Auman Visser, Youth and Children's Choirs Director; Ann Merklein, Elder and Chairman of the Worship Committee; Betty Bouldin, Elder and member of the Worship Committee; Philip Hughes, worship service greeter coordinator, Nancy Robinson, Communion coordinator; Lee Ann Buck, Communion preparation coordinator; Donna Frick, floral coordinator; and Jesse Basnight, Jr., handicapped parking coordinator. The year's weddings and memorial services are officiated by the pastors with assistance from the church office staff members.

A significant responsibility of the Worship Committee is to provide head ushers or captains who serve on a monthly basis and who ask church members to volunteer to usher at the two Sunday services. In 2015 Gus and Libby Conley oversaw ushers at the 8:30 service and Ann Merklein and Betty Bouldin coordinated usher captains for the 11:00 service.

John Rogers and Kim McNeill continue to coordinate university and high school student-led services, a rich and inspiring UPC tradition. This year, our worship has been enriched by the presence of new staff members Kate Fiedler Boswell and Nancy Myer. In November we welcomed the Rev. Dr. Kimberly Clayton, Director of Contextual Education at Columbia Seminary, as our Margaret McLaughlin Endowment Preacher.

Gathering weekly as the Body of Christ within our Sanctuary unites us, intentionally and mindfully, "with believers in every time and place." Worship rejuvenates us, makes us humble and strengthens our resolve to do the work of the church in the world. Our thanks go to all who offer their time, talent, and service to make worship at UPC reverent, memorable, and beautiful.

~ Ann Merklein, *Chair, Worship Committee*

Stewardship Committee

Committee members: Perry Aycock, Kirsten Barker, Jim Baxley, Don Hunter, Jay Klompaker, Crowell Little, Daphne Little, Nancy Oates, Susan Ross, Scott Singleton, Ashley Wilson and John Wilson. Staff: Bob Dunham and Anna Pinckney Straight

Established at the May 2014 Session meeting, the Stewardship Committee began 2015 with follow up from its first campaign the previous fall. Committee members and two volunteer Session members wrote thank you notes on newly created "Wordle" notecards to all who pledged.

Final 2015 campaign results were 446 pledges totaling \$1,610,249. This total amount pledged was up 5.2 percent over 2014. The average annual increase for the 10-year period from 2005-14 was 2.3 percent. 446 pledges for 2015 represent 68 percent of UPC's 659 total households, up from 63 percent for 2014. Half of the 446 pledges for 2015 were either increased or new pledges relative to 2014, with the other half unchanged or decreased.

At its March 23 meeting, the Stewardship Committee endorsed the model of having campaign co-chairs serve two-year, staggered terms. Ashley and John Wilson agreed to serve for a second year during the 2016 campaign. Daphne and Crowell Little agreed to co-chair the 2016 and 2017 campaigns.

After thoughtful discussion, the committee selected "*Rooted. Giving. Growing.*" as the 2016 campaign theme, inspired by Colossians 2: 6-7:

Fullness of Life in Christ

6 As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives[a] in him, 7 rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

After consultation with staff, the committee established the following campaign schedule:

September 20 – Moment for Stewardship

September 27– Moment for Stewardship

October 4 – Moment for Stewardship (World Communion Sunday)

October 5 – Pledge packets mailed

October 11 – Moment for Stewardship (Second Sunday Lunch hosted by Stewardship Committee)

October 18 – Dedication Sunday

In an effort to foster deeper conversations about stewardship, the committee hosted several gatherings from September 20 through October 7 to launch and celebrate the 2016 campaign. Gatherings included light refreshments, screening of a seven-minute stewardship video produced by Ashley and John Wilson, discussion of the campaign theme, and opportunities for questions. Several gatherings took place at UPC, with additional gatherings at Carol Woods, The Cedars, Carolina Meadows, and the homes of Scott and Lee Ann Buck, Tom and Susan Ross, and Sandy and Tabitha Alexander.

Members of the Stewardship Committee also:

- ◇ created a six-page stewardship brochure, designed by Jim Baxley
- ◇ selected the four “stewardship moment” speakers for worship
- ◇ wrote stewardship articles for the September, October and November editions of *The Chimes*
- ◇ wrote weekly bulletin announcements and updates throughout the campaign
- ◇ wrote posts for the UPC Facebook page containing campaign announcements and video interview outtakes
- ◇ taught a class on stewardship to the confirmation class

The stewardship web page was regularly updated with campaign pledge results, transcripts of stewardship sermons and “moments,” the stewardship brochure, stewardship articles in *The Chimes*, the stewardship video and interview outtakes, and a link to online pledging.

Stewardship Committee members wrote thank you notes to those who pledged beginning in November. In December, committee members called UPC members who pledged in prior years but had not yet pledged for 2016 with friendly reminders to pledge as soon as possible so the Session could budget.

At its October and December meetings, the committee shared thoughts regarding the current campaign to date and suggestions for improvement in future campaigns. There have been many deep, constructive conversations about stewardship, and UPC members have responded most favorably in word and action to encouragement to “stretch” their stewardship. The response was also excellent to the gatherings, “Moments for Stewardship,” sermons, brochure, thank you notes, and videos. The committee feels that not asking members to “give to a budget” is appropriate and effective.

Suggestions for the future include asking the Session, other committees, and staff to describe their “vision” of what UPC could be and do with even more resources in the form of time, talent and treasure. Aspects of these aspirations could be a primary component of next year’s stewardship campaign.

Other suggestions for improvement:

- ◇ Encourage larger attendance at gatherings and more discussion at each.
- ◇ Moments for Stewardship should take place just before the offering instead of early in services, enabling late arrivals to hear and encouraging contemplation before each offering.
- ◇ Mailed finance statements should include brief messages about our giving at work.
- ◇ Dedication Sunday was inspirational and should be photographed next year.
- ◇ A plan to start the campaign approximately one week later next year.

After reviewing the 2016 church calendar and consulting staff, the committee decided upon the following key dates for the 2017 campaign, to be conducted in the fall of 2016:

September 25 – Campaign kickoff

October 23 – Dedication Sunday

Bob commented at the December committee meeting that he feels the congregation’s giving habits are changing, particularly in terms of pledging earlier. He said this would enable the Session to budget one or more months earlier than in prior years. Bob and multiple committee members mentioned hearing very positive and substantive stewardship conversations and comments by UPC members this year.

As of January 27, 2016, the total pledged for 2016 was \$1,730,009, up 7.4 percent over the prior year. The average pledge thus far for 2016 is \$4,109, compared to \$3,610 for 2015. 62 percent of all pledges for 2016 are increased or new, compared to 50 percent last year.

University Presbyterian Church and its members are indeed *Rooted. Giving. Growing.*

Diaconate Report

The Board of Deacons is comprised of 28 UPC members who have been called to serve the UPC Congregation. Their primary responsibilities include acting as liaisons between members of the congregation and the pastoral staff, helping to support and nurture the church family and helping members, non-members, families, friends and visitors connect with each other through the church. A new “Class” comprising about one-third of the Board of Deacons is installed each year and members of each Class serve three-year terms. There are nine members of each Class plus a Youth Deacon who serves for one year.

Deacons are divided into eight Deacon Care Teams to better focus their service to the congregation. The following describes the teams for the 2015 year, their members, and a brief summary of their responsibilities:

- ◇ Memorial Reception Care Team (Stephanie Duncan '15, Vicki Lotz '15, Jean Moses '15, Lou Pons '15, Shelley Adams '16, Linda Plunkett '16, Leigh Anderson '17, Lyn Billings '17 and Linda Lane '17)—Responsible for coordinating memorial receptions (supplies, volunteers, food, etc.). This is the largest care team.
- ◇ Special Needs/Special Events/Babies/Flowers (Alison Bevin '16, Cam Huffman '16, Jeri Oliaro '16, Allis Rodelli '16, and Brian Lange '17)—Responsible for coordinating special events (50+ reception, Second Sunday Lunch and others), providing assistance in the death of family, support through illnesses, welcoming new babies, or celebrating anniversaries by taking a meal and a book to the family, and delivering flowers from Sunday worship.
- ◇ In addition to the Older Adult outreach activities, UPC maintains close contact with three centers where deacons are responsible for visiting residents, attending monthly worship, planning at least one gathering annually and/or other projects or outreach.
- ◇ Cedars (Bonnie Simms '15, Woody Coley '15)
- ◇ Carol Woods (Wade Wilson '15, Betty Hutton '17)
- ◇ Carolina Meadows (Judy Warburton '16, Ellen Courts '15 and Jackie Heywood '17)
- ◇ Older Adult (Sharon Stevens '15, Charlotte Pearce '17, Ted Richardson '17)—Responsible for calling, sending cards and/or visiting those in need, assisting with transportation to worship and other events, and other special needs for older adults who are aging in place.
- ◇ Oral History/UPC History Care Team (Laura Baxley '16, Beverly Tindall '17)—Responsible for organizing UPC's relevant history documents and developing new ways to use oral histories gathered over the years.
- ◇ Deacon Leadership (Fred Lybrand '15 and Will Aldridge '17)—Responsible for coordinating meeting agendas, publicity items, minutes, training, etc. They also seek to be deacons to deacons.

In addition to their Care Team assignments, each Deacon is assigned to a “neighborhood” comprised of approximately 25 to 35 families who are members of the church. Sometimes the neighborhood actually is a neighborhood or several neighborhoods, such as Meadowmont and The Oaks. Other neighborhoods are comprised of larger geographies encompassing many smaller neighborhoods, rural areas and outlying areas. One of our deacon's neighborhoods, for example, encompasses Lake Hogan Farms, as well as the rural areas north and west of Chapel Hill such as Hillsborough and Mebane. Deacons reach out to the families in their neighborhood twice a year in February/March and September/October through phone calls, emails and visits. This provides an opportunity for UPC families to share joys, concerns and other news that can be passed along to the pastoral staff.

Adjustments to the Care Teams and neighborhood structure will be made as necessary in the coming year. The Deacons appreciate the opportunity to serve the congregation in this way.

~ Fred Lybrand, *Deacon Moderator*

Stephen Ministry Program

Stephen Ministry is a Christian caring ministry provided by trained lay people. This ministry has been available in our church since 1992, offering confidential ongoing, year-round, weekly personal care-giving meetings between the Stephen Minister and their care receiver. Stephen Ministers meet once a month for peer supervision, prayer, and community. To prepare a lay person for serving in this ministry; a fifty-hour training course is initially required.

Continuing education is provided monthly, for all Stephen Ministers to sharpen skills, become acquainted with community services, and to heighten our own spirituality. We are aware that some of the folks we partner with are struggling with clarity of their own spiritual and faith concepts. The Stephen Ministers were given and asked to read the book *Cries of the Heart* by Ravi Zacharias. Monthly discussions of book chapters were lead by the leaders and Anna Pinckney Straight.

Annual Report to the Congregation

UPC Stephen Ministers serve both members within our own congregation and people in our community. They are available to serve people who need additional support facing a variety of difficulties in life: divorce, grief due to death of a loved one, loss of health for self or a loved one, job loss, financial issues, family difficulties, spiritual issues, loneliness etc. A total of eleven Stephen Ministers served during the 2015 year. All Stephen Ministers have had or are currently serving a care receiver.

A service offered to those in our congregation who are grieving the death of a loved one is a mailed set of four booklets entitled *Journeying Through Grief*. A total of thirty-one people received the booklets this year. Stephen Ministers also provide the rose on the retable announcing the birth of a member's baby.

A leadership team of two members directs the activities of our group. Anna Pinckney Straight, a trained leader, is our staff representative and referral coordinator; Bob Dunham is a trained Stephen Leader, lending his support to our ministry, training, and continuing education. We are grateful to be part of this ministry and for its active presence in this congregation.

~ Ann Henschel, *Stephen Leader*

Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees continues to operate under the structure of two committees, Technology and Property, with one chairperson. Jim Baxley (Technology), began his term in 2015, while two new property trustees were identified by the Nominating Committee: Toby Savage and John Chapman begin terms in January 2016. Continuing members include Rod Visser and Davin Stewart (re-elected, now Class of 2017), Ed Billings and Mason Harris (Class of 2016).

The Board continues to be actively involved in the operation of UPC, receiving valuable feedback from office and administrative staff, and excellent advice and participation from church members. The board will plan to meet on a quarterly basis in 2016, while committees will meet on an as-needed basis. The key agenda issues for 2015 included:

Technology Committee:

- ◇ Selection and implementation of a new church Website—completed by administrative staff in November 2015
- ◇ Wireless network adjustments to improve signal strength
- ◇ Advice and recommendations on technology for the new building
- ◇ Make recommendations on standards for computing resources used (e.g. laptops, mobile devices, etc.)
- ◇ Maintain standards that critical UPC documents are backed up both locally and offsite
- ◇ Recommend new technology options as necessary that will provide benefit to the UPC communities
- ◇ Provide an oversight to age out older technology systems that are difficult to maintain

Property Committee:

- ◇ Provided guidance and advice to Building Committee for the new building
- ◇ Assisted with the Security Task Force in recommending enhancements to the new building plan
- ◇ Facilitated Hearing loop installation and repair after a lightning strike
- ◇ Provided advice to staff on Property Insurance

~ Jim Baxley, *Chair, Board of Trustees*

Treasurer's Report

For the twelve months ending December 31, 2015, total revenues were \$2,019,425, which amounted to 109.2 percent of the budgeted amount. Total expenses for the year were \$1,989,043 (107.6 percent of the budgeted amount). This resulted in positive net revenue of \$30,382 for the year which will be added to General Reserves upon closing the books for 2015 according to our financial guidelines.

At year's end, investments totaled \$1,143,912. These funds continue to be administered by the Littlewood/Kempf/Guild Group, associated with Merrill-Lynch. On December 31, 2015, Operating Reserves totaled \$469,482, the General Reserves amounted to \$200,436, and total Building Fund Reserves totaled \$1,278,889.

Katharine Yager has done an outstanding job in dealing with the various problems which emerged over the early months of 2014, and has made many improvements in our financial accounting procedures. In addition she has developed a strong working relationship with our auditors, Bernard Robinson and Company, LLP. Our most recent audit contained no recommendations for changes in our overall operating procedures, and it is anticipated that the improved accounting procedures should lead to lower auditing costs for 2015.

Summarized Analysis of Revenue and Expenses

University Presbyterian Church Unaudited Summary Statement of Revenues & Expenses For the Year Ended December 31, 2015						
	Annual Budget 2015	MTD Actual 2015	YTD Actual 2015	Budget Remaining 2015	% Annual Budget Used 2015	YTD Actual 2014
REVENUES						
Income for Operating Budget						
401105 - Pledges and Commitments	\$ 1,606,500.00	\$ 194,824.32	\$ 1,631,642.58	\$ (25,142.58)	101.57%	\$ 1,548,508.19
401110 - Non Pledge Contributions	132,000.00	29,537.48	129,723.09	2,276.91	98.28%	145,637.40
401115 - Open Plate Offering	22,000.00	2,481.17	22,340.98	(340.98)	101.55%	22,583.58
401120 - Pledges Paid - Last Year	-	-	5,840.00	(5,840.00)		6,410.00
401125 - Rec'd from UPPS	5,800.00	483.34	5,800.00	-	100.00%	8,700.00
401130 - Rec'd for Weddings	300.00	-	300.00	-	100.00%	600.00
401135 - Rec'd for Other Bldg. Use	250.00	-	400.00	(150.00)	160.00%	500.00
401140 - 212 Rosemary Rent	-	-	-	-		2,664.00
401150 - Misc. Receipts for OpFund	-	-	-	-		-
401155 - Investment Income	-	15,285.60	27,495.25	(27,495.25)		30,983.24
401160 - Transfer Inv. Inc to Reserve	-	(15,285.60)	(27,495.25)	27,495.25		(30,983.02)
401170 - Reserve Utilization	-	43,376.09	131,796.72	(131,796.72)		-
405100-405500 - Program Revenue	82,200.00	10,963.00	91,581.43	(9,381.43)	111.41%	78,717.12
Total Operating Fund Receipts	1,849,050.00	281,665.40	2,019,424.80	(170,374.80)		1,814,320.51
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 1,849,050.00	\$ 281,665.40	\$ 2,019,424.80	\$ (170,374.80)	109.2%	\$ 1,814,320.51
EXPENSES						
Operating Budget Expense						
Total Personnel	\$ 1,194,409.00	\$ 101,628.61	\$ 1,176,954.13	\$ 17,454.87	98.54%	\$ 1,070,082.87
Total Administration	194,953.00	59,056.39	306,041.62	(111,088.62)	156.98%	214,751.32
Total Operating Budget Expense	1,389,362.00	160,685.00	1,482,995.75	(93,633.75)	106.74%	1,284,834.19
Total Outreach	310,184.00	93,610.09	351,768.41	(41,584.41)	113.41%	327,522.04
Total Worship	59,414.00	5,189.82	60,423.42	(1,009.42)	101.70%	61,596.35
Total Children's and Youth Ministry	59,850.00	4,228.86	67,240.99	(7,390.99)	112.35%	66,068.50
Total Adult Christian Ed	14,300.00	508.48	12,299.47	2,000.53	86.01%	4,763.36
Total Deacons	2,040.00	-	1,715.73	324.27	84.10%	1,377.08
Total Congregational Life	10,900.00	420.92	12,053.65	(1,153.65)	110.58%	13,204.28
Total Membership & Assimilation	3,000.00	28.55	545.12	2,454.88	18.17%	2,636.55
Total Operating Budget Expense - 2	459,688.00	103,986.72	506,046.79	(46,358.79)	110.08%	477,168.16
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 1,849,050.00	\$ 264,671.72	\$ 1,989,042.54	\$ (139,992.54)	107.6%	\$ 1,762,002.35
Net Total	\$ -	\$ 16,993.68	\$ 30,382.26			\$ 52,318.16

Facility Use

University Presbyterian Church is a vital, active church in the heart of Chapel Hill. The church's facilities are used by hundreds of people for worship, meetings, Bible study, choir rehearsals, Sunday School, and preschool. Due to construction renovation throughout the building, the facilities were not as available to church members and the community as in previous years. Despite the upheaval, every effort was made to accommodate groups early in the year. During 2015, eight weddings were performed at the church. There were seven memorial services. In February, the Youth Choir staged a dinner theatre presentation of *Cotton Patch Gospel*. In May, the Junior and Children's choir presented *The Sailor's Bible Musical*. Church families held piano recitals, boy scout events and wedding receptions.

UPC is home to University Presbyterian Preschool, offering classes for children age 2-5. Classes meet each weekday from September through May and the school's Parent Association and Board meet regularly. University Presbyterian Church is also home to Presbyterian Campus Ministry at UNC-Chapel Hill. PCM is a community of faith and witness with and for the students, faculty, administration and staff of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The Terrace Room, Student Lounge, and PCM Café are available to students 24/7 and a weekly dinner and program is offered during the fall and spring semesters.

Annual Report to the Congregation

In addition to the many uses of the facilities by church members, University Presbyterian Church has an ongoing commitment to the community of which we are a part and has a longstanding tradition of making its facilities available to university, public service, and other community organizations while striving to be a good steward of the facilities. Outside groups are accommodated at no cost or very reasonable fees. During 2015, University Presbyterian Church provided meeting rooms and gathering places for the following community organizations:

Chapel Hill-Carrboro YMCA
Chapel Hill Toastmasters Club
International Friends

~ Jeanette Schmidt, *Office Manager*

Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women (PW) of University Presbyterian Church is an active group of about 114 women who strive to further their faith through prayer and Bible study, service to the church and community, and care and support for each other. Membership is open to all women and is divided into circles. These small groups provide an excellent opportunity for fellowship for women of all ages within our very large church. By nurturing individual members, circles create a supportive, caring community for women which strengthens both the church and the community.

There are currently five circles, three daytime and two evening, which meet once a month in members' homes. In 2015, four of the five circles concluded the study "Reconciling Paul: A Contemporary Study of 2 Corinthians," by Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty, and began "Come to the Waters" by Judy Record Fletcher. Both are Horizon Bible Studies prepared specifically for PW. The lessons are presented by various women of the church and are intended to spark lively discussion as well as to nurture understanding. Our newest circle, Circle 1, studied *Home by Another Way* by Barbara Brown Taylor, followed by the book *Stuck* by Jennie Allen.

PW supports the community through service and financial contribution. Each month some members prepare and serve meals at the Community Kitchen, while others prepare bags of sandwiches at home, delivering them to the Kitchen to supplement lunches. At Christmas, individual circles choose charities to support through a special Christmas offering. This year PW suggested that circles consider supporting the Inter-Faith Council's Home Start program, which decorates rooms at the Women's Shelter, however donations for any charity were accepted. This year about \$1,470 was donated to the IFC Home Start Program, \$1,005 was given to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, \$50 went to Orange County Social Services, and 46 pounds of food were given to CORA (Chatham OutReach Alliance, Inc.). Throughout the year, Least Coin offerings are taken, and at the May General Meeting a Birthday Offering is taken which supports projects recommended by the Presbytery but not funded by the General Assembly mission support.

Our budgeted benevolences support Children's Hope Alliance (formerly called Barium Springs), Church Women United, UPPS, scholarships to Camp New Hope, Presbyterian Campus Ministry, and the Discretionary Fund. We are financially self-sufficient. All of our gifts are funded through our budget or special offerings. PW also supports Church Women United. Some of our members attended the March and November meetings, as well as the May luncheon. Four of our members, Maureen Braun, Betty Hutton, Nancy Pfaltzgraff, and Judy Warburton, presented the March program, "Do You Understand What I Have Done For You," written by women of the Bahamas, which was enthusiastically received.

Each February, PW places a floral arrangement in the Sanctuary in memory of women of the church who died during the past year. This year we remembered: Jane Roller, Dorothy Mullen, Ellen Ironside, Jean Buckwalter, Venitah Sanders, Liz Fudge, Martha Rice, Thelma McComb, Nonnie Neikirk, Ruth Penberthy, Beulah Tate, Betty Jane Walker, Ruth Ann James, Marilyn Brandt, Nell Payne, and Hazel Fischer Craige.

PW holds two general meetings per year, in September and May, to which all women of the church are invited. We meet over a catered dinner served in the Fellowship Hall. In May 2015 about 75 women attended the dinner, and Kate Fiedler Boswell was the speaker. In September 2015, with about 80 in attendance, Kate installed our new officers and gave a brief introduction to our new study, "Come to the Waters."

On October 10, 2015, Judy Warburton attended the PW Fall Gathering held at Kirk of Kildaire in Cary, NC. This meeting brings together women from a wide geographic area of our state for fellowship, a program, and a business meeting.

Kate Fiedler Boswell has served as our staff liaison member.

~ Judy Warburton, *Co-Moderator, Presbyterian Women*

Endowment Committee

University Presbyterian Church Endowment, under the stewardship of the Endowment Committee, continues to play a vibrant role in the life and fellowship of University Presbyterian Church. Growth in the net asset value of the Fund over the years is attributable to donations and appreciation of its portfolio of stocks and bonds. At the end of 2015, the net asset value of the endowment was \$1,593,856. During the year, the committee disbursed funds throughout the faith community in accordance with the Statement of Purpose contained in the articles establishing the *University Presbyterian Church Endowment Fund: A Legacy of Faith*.

The Endowment is divided between *restricted* funds and *unrestricted* funds. The committee administers the *restricted* portion in accordance with the intent of the donors. Under the operating procedures, the committee makes recommendations to the Session on the distribution of available *unrestricted* funds two times a year—approximately two-thirds of the available amount is distributed in the spring and the remaining one-third in the fall. The total authorized for disbursement from *unrestricted* funds was \$60,200 in 2015.

The Committee recommended, and the Session approved, these disbursements from *unrestricted* funds:

- ◇ \$5,000 for Charles House renovations and expansion;
- ◇ \$4,000 to Universidad Biblica Latinoamericana for equipment to support online degree courses;
- ◇ \$1,970 for scholarships and housing for the Montreat Worship and Music Conference;
- ◇ \$11,719 for the purchase and installation of a hearing system for the Sanctuary, requested by the Senior Pastor (purchase and installation of the hearing system for the Sanctuary was supplemented by \$2,000 from gracious donors, thereby fully funding the project.);
- ◇ \$875 for purchase of a laptop computer and accessories for use in education programs;
- ◇ \$1,500 for the McLaughlin Endowment Preacher;
- ◇ \$2,000 for Blue Ribbon Mentor-Advocate Youth Leadership Institute Summer Camp;
- ◇ \$2,000 for equipping Voltaire Women's Health Clinic (Haiti);
- ◇ \$3,000 for partial funding for two performances of Requiem, Op 48: by Gabriel Faure for both worship services on Palm Sunday; and
- ◇ \$3,125 for Campus Ministry to purchase a gas pig cooker.

The Session had previously approved the recommendation of the Endowment Committee to disburse from the available *unrestricted* endowment funds \$25,000 for each of the three years of the *Faith Forward* Capital Campaign (2013, 2014, and 2015) for a total commitment of \$75,000. Accordingly, the third and final of these annual payments of \$25,000 was made in 2015.

From the *restricted* portion, the Endowment continued the funding of Bibles for children and youth from the Boyd Bible Fund, flowers in the Sanctuary from the Parsons Family Flower Fund, maintenance of the Anne McClamroch McFall Memorial Garden from the Clara McClamroch Garden Fund, and education programs funded by the Faith and Family Fund.

During the year, the committee also approved a new, comprehensive *Investment Policy Statement* and updated the committee's *Endowment Policies and Operating Rules*.

Faithful stewardship of the Endowment is carried out by the committee members: James Smith (Chair), Marc Pons (Treasurer), Lee Scott, Chuck Goins, Laura Baxley, Megan Crunkleton, Kari Marvin, Kathy Clemmons and Joyce Waterbury.

Lastly, we assure the congregation and the Session that the responsibility entrusted to the committee is taken very seriously. As the committee looks to 2016, we are confident that the University Presbyterian Church Endowment is in capable hands and positioned to remain faithful to its Statement of Purpose as articulated in the Articles.

~ James O. Smith, *Chair, Endowment Committee*
~ Marc Pons, *Treasurer, Endowment Committee*

UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Church Staff, 2015

PROGRAM

Robert E. Dunham, Pastor
Anna Pinckney Straight, Associate Pastor
Kate Fiedler Boswell, Associate Pastor for Adult Ministries
John Rogers, Associate Pastor for Campus Ministry
Thomas Brown, Minister of Music
Beth Auman Visser, Youth and Children's Choir Director
Kim McNeill, Staff Associate for Youth Ministries
Nancy Myer, Staff Associate for Children's Ministries

MISSIONARIES

The Rev. Dr. Karla Koll, Costa Rica
The Rev. Jo Ella Holman, The Caribbean
Two Mission Co-Workers, The Middle East

ADMINISTRATION

Al Field, Treasurer (Volunteer)
David Biswell, Assistant Treasurer (Volunteer)
Nan Van Der Puy, Assistant Treasurer (Volunteer)
Bill Whisenant, Assistant Treasurer (Volunteer)
Jeanette Schmidt, Office Manager
Jennifer Johnson, Publications Coordinator
Kaitlin Dunn, Administrative Assistant
Katharine Yager, Controller
Melani Wilhite, Financial Assistant
Dennis Dallke, Property Manager
Rob Kurtz, Sexton
Ellen Parker, Dir. of University Presbyterian Preschool

SESSION

Class of 2015

Porter Alexander (Youth Elder)
Patty Baum
Nancy Benjamin
Jeffrey Hart
Mary Ann Klompmaker
Daphne Little
Kelly Moore
Ruth Moose
Chip Sudderth
John Wilson

Class of 2016

Debbie Bevin
May Bryan
Scott Buck
Reid Chisholm
Bob Greenwood
Daphne Little
Ann Merklein
Scott Singleton

Class of 2017

Kirsten Barker
Betty Bouldin
Megan Crunkleton
Brian Curran
Sam Leaman
Matt Marvin
Christie Osborne
Susan Ross

Clerk of Session:
Mary Ellen Olson

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2015

Woody Coley
Ellyn Courts
Stephanie Duncan
Vicki Lotz
Fred Lybrand
Jean Moses
Lou Pons
Bonnie Simms
Sharon Stevens
Wade Wilson, Youth Deacon

Class of 2016

Shelley Adams
Laura Baxley
Alison Bevin
Cam Huffman
Jeri Oliaro
Linda Plunkett
Allis Rodelli
Judy Warburton

Class of 2017

Will Aldridge, II
Leigh Anderson
Lyn Billings
Jackie Heywood
Betty Hutton
Linda Lane
Brian Lange
Charlotte Pearce
Ted Richardson
Beverly Tyndall

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Class of 2015

Davin Stewart
Rod Visser

Class of 2016

Ed Billings
Mason Harris

Class of 2017

Jim Baxley

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