



**Christ CHURCH**

TO LOVE CHRIST SUPREMELY

## **Docket**

### **2021 Annual Stated Congregational Meeting**

*(covering the 2020 ministry year)*

May 16th, 2021  
1301 N. Linden Street  
Normal, IL 61761

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# **Minutes of the 2020 Annual Congregational Meeting**

Congregant members and guests of Christ Church gathered at 9:40 AM on Sunday, January 26th, 2020. Those gathered sang "The Church's One Foundation" to begin the meeting. Immediately after the singing of the hymn, TE Smart opened the meeting with prayer. It was determined that a quorum of members was present.

Becky Barnes moved that Julie Leong serve as secretary. The motion was seconded by Brad Barnes and the motion passed. There was one correction to the minutes for the 2019 Annual Congregational meeting. Don Lusk moved that the minutes of the 2019 Annual Congregational Meeting be approved as written. Sarah Ray seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Note: Reports for all ministries were printed in the official Docket of the 2020 Annual Stated Congregational Meeting.

## **Cultivating Gospel Transformation**

### **Lead Pastor's Overview**

TE Bob Smart read Isaiah 54:1-3 and commented on all written reports. He described Christ Church in two words: Convergence and Consummation. He praised God for providing and the work of the ministries at Christ Church. He is excited for the new building and to head to one service. He described how a new building also brings more outreach and a change in culture. In other words, cultivating gospel transformation renews gospel culture in an ongoing way from generation to generation.

Susan Mathes prayed for all of the ministries and the church.

### **Executive Pastor's Building Report**

Tim Trouten commented on the Building report. He shared that the building plans are almost complete and only need a few minor changes. He shared the timeline for the building and the possible start date. He then took a significant time for Q&A.

TE Bob Smart prayed to give thanks for all the Lord has done this past year and for providing.

### **New Business**

Steve and Lori Parsons shared they will be leaving Christ Church due to a new job opportunity. They thanked Pastor Bob for his leadership over the past twenty-five years.

TE Bob Smart prayed that God would raise up new leaders and that the transitions in leadership would go smoothly.

Gary Haluska initiated the election for two open trustee positions. He moved to nominate and elect Brad Barnes as Trustee Chair and Bob Mathes as at-large. The motion was seconded by Gary Ayers and the motion passed.

### **Adjournment in Prayer**

The congregation then sang the Doxology. TE Bob Smart closed the meeting at 10:35AM and dismissed the congregation.

*Respectfully Submitted, Julie Leong*

## 2020 Lead Pastor's Report

Christ Church thrived in Covid and its' mitigations, and has become a mature mother church, executing her last building phase. We are a part of a Gospel movement in order to become a generous church planter and nurturer of local and global efforts with a cohort of church planters and effective missionaries. My calling is to cultivate Gospel-transformation through expository preaching, teaching, praying, counseling, discipleship, and writing books from the Word. This Gospel-ministry is combined with the leadership component; namely, to lead in casting vision, establishing policy, and overseeing shepherding and life on life, missional discipleship (LOLMD).

The 2020 preaching series included Romans, Minor Prophets, and the Psalms. Other preaching and teaching efforts come annually from the elders, who "tithed" my preaching and teaching to global missions and other itinerant invitations. In 2020 this included Identity in Christ for Campus Outreach in Lexington – KY, Charis Church, The Journey Church, and Christ Community of Gridley; an online seminary course for S American Reformed on Christ and Salvation, and two online Identity trainings for CO San Diego and CO Bradley University.

2019-2020 was encouraging as Christ Church continued to put hands and feet to her mandate to *cultivate Gospel transformation*. Our discipleship team asked elder Bob Force to standardize and interview leaders of both men's and women's groups. This, along with our shepherding elders discipling younger men, is an ongoing initiative of investing in the next generation and future for Christ Church. All our future elders will have had some experience with, and commitment to, discipleship as a lifestyle.

It was a year of publishing books as well. Enhancing One Another's Glory: Counsel for Premarital and Marital Couples (Minneapolis: Lighthouse Publications, 2019) and Waging War in an Age of Doubt: A Biblical, Historical, Theological, and Practical Guide to Spiritual Warfare Today (Grand Rapids: Reformation and Heritage Books, 2020), and Willows by Flowing Streams: Raising Children of Promise to Gospel Maturity (Lighthouse, 2020).

The leadership component of my calling is fulfilled by attending six leadership meetings: the staff meetings, the monthly governance commission of governing elders (vision and policy), the quarterly meeting of shepherding elders with deacons, the quarterly presbytery meetings, the PCA's Historical Center in Atlanta, and the annual general assembly was cancelled. I also served on the governing board for Cornerstone Christian Academy.

In the midst of this full year, Karen and I celebrated our 36<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, and our sixteenth grandchild is due in 2021. Our two sons-in-law are ordained PCA pastors in Phoenix and Atlanta. It is a privilege for us to see each member's face every week and to ponder the Gospel script with you each year at Christ Church.

***Pastor Bob***



## 2020 Treasurer's Report

It is with both joy and thankfulness that we can look back on the financial results of 2020 and see the evident faithfulness of our God. We began 2020 in faith, looking to begin construction on our new sanctuary, with a new budget in hand, trusting Him for His provision and His protection as we entered a new year of ministry - joining Him in His work of Cultivating Gospel Transformation in and through Christ Church.

God has providentially assembled His chosen staff and has called a wonderful group of officers and volunteers to preach, teach, minister, disciple, encourage and carry out His work in a variety of heartfelt ways – especially as we needed to be more flexible in how we did ministry in 2020. The impact of the Covid pandemic meant changing a lot of our ministries and focuses for the year, but our leadership trusted the Lord and we saw him respond in many ways.

God, as well, has called each of us to respond with a growing sense of generosity by contributing our time, talents, gifting and finances in supporting the ministries He has established at Christ Church.

God has not only shown His provisional and transformational faithfulness to us, but has also encouraged us, by His many years of faithfulness, to look forward to what He has in store for Christ Church going forward. We can trust Him to continue to expand His gospel-focused work and to provide any facilities needed for this work. We as a congregation, in faith, took out a \$1 million loan to begin our facility expansion with the multi-purpose space we will meet in as we expand the sanctuary.

With all of this in mind, it is a blessing to note that we ended the 2020 year spending \$62,634.86 less than what had been budgeted on all operating costs with an extra \$287,619.26 on early building costs. And for 2020, through the diligent work and recommendations of all those administering budgets, and the various ministry and administrative committees and staff, the Governance Commission of the Session approved moving forward with a budget for 2021 that, due to the increase in mortgage costs, budget expenditures will increase by \$70,448.95. This still keeps us more than \$100,000 below our giving and revenue from 2020.

The attached reports summarize the church's 2020 expenditures.

Thankfully, with expectation, we can begin 2021 just as we began 2020, in faith, with a new budget in hand that supports the ministry He has called us to - of Cultivating Gospel Transformation and excitedly looking forward to expanding and completing our campus in 2022 and 2023.

***Respectively Submitted, Tyler Kupferschmid, Treasurer & Tim Trouten, Executive Pastor***

## Financial Summary as of December 31, 2020

### One Fund as of December 31, 2020

Total Contributions+Interest Income+Miscellaneous Income	\$880,338.59
Total Budgeted Expenses (not including Depreciation)	(650,308.14)
Total Costs Toward New Building (These come from saved funds rather than budget)	(289,619.26)
Subtotal:	\$59,588.81

### Balance Sheet Only Items paid out of One Fund:

Loan Principal Payments	\$18,189.69
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ACTUAL NET CASH FLOW	\$41,399.12
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<b>Debt:</b> (Total debt on building)	\$993,073.35
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### Deacons Fund as of December 31, 2020

1/1/20 Beginning Balance:	\$27,887.19
Deacons Fund Donations YTD:	\$16,443.25
Deacons Fund Gifts YTD:	<u>\$25,000.57</u>
TOTAL in Deacons Fund as of 12/31/20:	\$19,329.87

## 2020 Board of Trustees Report

During the year of 2020 the following served as Trustees of Christ Church PCA:

Chairman:	Brad Barnes
Vice Chairman:	Gary Haluska
Secretary:	Bill Ray
Treasurer:	Chris Evans
Member-at-Large:	Bob Mathes

The amount of indebtedness as of 12/31/2020 is the following:

Phase 2        \$993,073.35

Total indebtedness as of 12/31/2016:	\$ 0
Total indebtedness as of 12/31/2017:	\$ 0
Total indebtedness as of 12/31/2018:	\$ 0
Total indebtedness as of 12/31/2019:	\$ 0
Total indebtedness as of 12/31/2020:	\$993,073.35

*The Lord continued to bless us as we seek to expand our campus. We decided to move forward with our building project in August of last year. We took a \$1M dollar loan in October and currently have \$612,000 set aside for building as we seek to expand our sanctuary and build a new multipurpose space through 2021. After that, we'll move forward with the Sanctuary expansion.*

*Respectfully Submitted, Brad Barnes, Chairman*

**Expenses****Budget Summary - 2020**

\$2,659.51	Christian Education - Supplies for Children's Sunday morning classes, Children's Church, special needs ministry, nursery equipment, supplies and background checks.
\$635.82	Adult Sunday morning classes & evening small groups, Spiritual Formation, K-Groups & Others
\$400.00	Events-deacon retreat, funeral brunches. Christmas Banquet, Christmas Eve Service. Host Presbytery, Send ruling elder to General Assembly, Anniversary Celebrations
\$187.65	Men's Ministry
\$7,930.89	Women's Ministry- Including Flowers & Cards
\$35,392.16	Youth Ministry
\$39,607.88	Global Outreach
\$18,911.36	Donations to Denominational programs, schools and missionaries
\$1,417.41	Donations to Local Organizations and Schools and Outreach Events
\$1,779.25	Music and Choirs
\$2,494.62	Burglar and Fire Alarms
\$0	Cleaning supplies and equipment
\$137.82	Discipleship Training
\$4,091.41	Equipment
\$18,066.50	Audio Media Services
\$12,829.42	Insurance
\$0	Building Elevator and Lawn Repairs & Maintenance, Snow Removal, Pest Control
\$127.92	Major Facilities Repair & Upkeep
\$16,570.38	Real Estate Taxes
\$339,530.00	Utilities
\$109,187.65	Pastors salaries, benefits and expenses
\$4,251.93	Staff Payroll and Payroll Taxes
\$6,640.08	Office Supplies, Paper, Postage, Kitchen Supplies and other Supplies
\$0	Information Technology: Video Media Services , Computer hardware, software, church web page, and DSL service
\$6,413.70	Communications – advertising, brochures, graphics & designer
\$421.29	Copies and copier maintenance
\$11,367.65	Young Adult Ministries
\$631.01	Professional Fees
\$8,385.30	Gifts
\$0	Online Giving Fees
\$382.37	Church Van
\$287,539.42	PCA General Assembly/Presbytery
\$937,927.40	New Building Costs - out of pocket costs for building and load repayment



## **2020 KGroup Report**

### **KGroups at Christ Church PCA seek to accomplish two key objectives:**

First, KGroups offer our people an opportunity to engage each other in Gospel Transformation throughout the Fall, Winter and Spring months. They provide an opportunity to belong to a gospel community as we seek to engage each other with gospel truths. We grow in Gospel Transformation as we reflect on the sermon and how it applies on a more personal level with our lives and each other. Finally, they allow us to Give in gospel mission as we can serve one another, help one another, and use our gifts and time with members of our KGroup as well as any outreach opportunities we may engage in.

Secondly, KGroups serve as a hospitality component. Many of our guests who have been invited to and attend a KGroup of their choosing decide to make Christ Church their home. 2020 was a very different year as many Kgroups were meeting in either a zoom or hybrid format. We still ended with 8 KGroups, most of these had more than 10 adults. In total, we still ended with 132 adults, 50 kids, and 75 families were involved in KGroups for the year. We were very glad that we were able to continue to offer KGroups even as we were meeting in limited formats. We would love to see that number grow as we return to more normal operations in 2021 and more guests are invited to attend and become members of KGroups.

### **With great thanks, below are the leaders of 2020 KGroups:**

The Loomis family, the McLean family, the Ray family, the Barnes family, the Pence Family, the Kupferschmid family, the Young family, the Pogue family, the Lucht family, the Haluska family and the Wiersema family. Some of these are co-leaders, some are hosts, and some have stepped back this past fall; but we couldn't see this ministry help people belong to a gospel community without you all.

*Respectfully Submitted, Tim Trouten, Executive Pastor*

## **2020 Men's Ministry Report**

2020 was a quieter year for Men's Ministry. The two separate bible studies going for the men were put on hold in 2020 (but they did restart in 2021). We look forward to how the Lord will continue to use this for Growth in Gospel Transformation as we look to 2021.

After a late start, the softball team was led by Pastor Brad and the men enjoyed a good season of fellowship. Even under Covid mitigations, it was still a wonderful time of fellowship not only for the men, but the families involved within the church who were able to cheer the Yardbirds on. We look forward to another successful (and more normal) season this year.

We are looking to 2021 being a time of seeing the return of our normal men's events.

*Respectfully Submitted, Tim Trouten, Executive Pastor*

## 2020 Women's Ministry Report

The Women's Ministry Team continued to prayerfully serve and equip the women of Christ Church PCA in 2020, focusing on its mission to encourage and equip women to know Christ, to think biblically, to use their gifts and embrace their identity in Christ so that they live covenantally and advance God's kingdom in their lives, homes, church and throughout the world.

We recognize there are so many women involved in crucial ministries at Christ Church and in our community. The Christ Church Women's Ministry Leadership Team has been honored to meet monthly to pray for, plan, support, and facilitate women's ministry at Christ Church.

The 2020 team has been:

Leslie Sfura (President)

Krista Kuniyoshi (Vice President)

Bekka Schwartz (Secretary)

Margaret McLean, Mary Lyons, and Kathleen Cockrel (Christian Education),

Kim Trouten (Outreach)

Mary Lou Farnsworth (Hospitality and Connection)

Rhonda Young and Janet Mitchell (Compassion)

Sarah Martin (Member at large)

Zoe Calio (Prayer walk project consultant)

Diane Walker (Consultant)

### Core Function Report

**Christian Education:** Women's Bible study finished the book of Judges in the spring of 2020 as the pandemic struck. In spite of lock downs and quarantines, fifty women met online to discuss the book of Ruth during the month of May.

During the summer a team of women worked together to produce a journal for personal study of the Psalms. In the fall, when some restrictions had been lifted, three separate meetings were offered either in person or online to discuss selected Psalms from all five books. Dr. Van Gemeren provided background teaching and Zoom meetings enabled online connections when physical meetings were limited. God's word, fellowship within the body of Christ, and prayer provided a lifeline in the midst of a year of isolation and restriction.

**Outreach:** In 2020 Christ Church was able to bless 19 families with 52 children with Angel Tree gifts this year! We are so grateful for the folks who called Angel Tree Families to discern what gifts would most bless the children, wrote notes of encouragement to caregivers to remind them they are loved and appreciated, purchased and wrapped gifts to help these families build connections during a very hard season of their lives, delivered gifts to these precious families the week before Christmas, and those who wrote cards to the prisoners in each family to remind them they are loved and not forgotten. Special thanks to Tim Trouten, Lydia Lyons, and Julie Leong for jumping in the last few weeks to help us with online distribution of the Angel Tree tags as we were not able to meet in person for church and distribute tags in the traditional way!

**Hospitality and Connection:** The only official event in the Covid year of 2020 was a "Titus 2" held at the home of Cyndy Irwin on Feb. 15. A delicious brunch was enjoyed with accompanying fellowship. After the brunch Mary Lyons was the speaker. She shared some of her testimony and then some scriptures from the Psalms and how they related to her life. It was inspiring to hear of God's faithfulness in her life. Then the ladies were divided into small groups to discuss the question, "What are the gifts God has given you at significant moments in your life?"

In the small groups the ladies had a chance to share some of these gifts given to them by God . It was very encouraging to share such times of hearing of God's work in each others' lives.

The Christ Church *Women's Prayer Walk* event was held on Saturday, January 16, 2021 outdoors on Christ Church's property. The goal was to gather our women together in person to pray during this COVID season in a way that was safe and enjoyable. The Prayer Walk Team created 10 prayer prompts that were placed on stakes in the ground, spaced out in large loop. The women traveled in pairs or individually, stopping to pray at each one. The prayer prompt themes ranged from prayer for humility, prayer for repentance, prayer for our identities in Christ and so on. We concluded our time gathered by an outdoor fire for one last corporate prayer and time of fellowship. About 15 women attended the prayer time, and the feedback was very positive. We desire to have a similar event in the future.

**Compassion:** Our compassion team coordinated and implemented our traditional outreach to Fairview Elementary, providing 280 Christmas gift bags to the students and a treat tray from Sugar Mama's to the staff. A few women helped wrap and compile the gifts to the Fairview students the week of December 10th and they were dropped off at the school December 14th. The school was able to distribute the gifts to the students when they returned to school after remote learning ended. The gift bags and breads were compiled during an evening of fellowship December 10th and in the morning of December 11th.

We are honored to be a hub of knowledge about what ministries the women of Christ Church are part of and to facilitate some of the ministries of the women. We invite all the women of Christ Church to bring your suggestions and ideas to us. We would love to support and pray for you as you walk out the roles God has given you in His Church as well as to invite you to participate in what is already going on through Christ Church.

***Respectfully Submitted, The Women's Ministry Leadership Team***

## **2020 Children's Ministry Report**

Our Children's Ministries exist to care for and nurture of our children from newborns through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. This time in a child's life is crucial in his/her spiritual growth, especially within each home and family.

Our programs and volunteers come along side of parents as they raise their children to know God and grow in Christ within our covenant family. We want to live lives of authentic faith before these children.

In the past, we have had over 100 children participating in our programs, but the Covid pandemic has greatly decreased on-site participation. Our usually busy Nursery was closed from March until the end of the year.

The training in worship during Children's Church, however, continued during the pandemic, led by a group of five teachers and junior helpers. Meeting outside during the summer, the children each had their own rug to sit on, and individualized crafts box and clipboard. They later moved to classroom six, then classroom two, continuing use of the individualized materials.

Our Foundations classes from Toddler through 6<sup>th</sup> grades were cancelled through the pandemic, but packets of the Fall and Winter studies were made available to the parents to use at home.

Recently the Nursery reopened, under the leadership of Laura Sims and Amy Nelson. In June, we look forward to the return of Foundations classes this summer, with the *Walk Thru the Bible* program for children 4 through 10 years old, and junior high aged helpers.

In the past, we have had over 100 committed volunteers, teachers and helpers, adults and juniors. As more families return to on-site services and classes, we have been praying for more volunteers to return as well.

Please pray about your own involvement, as we all have a part in the nurture of our covenant family children.

*Respectfully Submitted, Jackie McBurney, Children's Ministries Director*

## 2020 Music Reports

The goal of music at Christ Church, PCA is to offer praise to God through congregational singing, assisted by instrumentalists, choirs, and soloists.

**1st and 2nd Service Music:** In person services stopped in March of 2020. Shortly after that, Lori Parsons moved out of the area and her many years of faithful service overseeing the music at Christ Church came to an end. Thank you Lori for using your gifts for God's glory and to bless His church!

Josh Zehr had been leading the 2nd service music, but once the online services started, Josh led both services and helped the church through a time of unexpected transition. He stepped down from the role in September. Thank you Josh for your faithful service as well!

I started serving in September, and have been blessed to be a part of the team leading the congregation in lifting up the name of the Lord through a combination of hymns and contemporary songs.

Many people have served on the music worship team from week to week, dedicating time to practice and participate in both services. Thanks to the following people for the offering of their time and talent (with all the transitions, if we missed someone, we offer our apologies) -

Guitar (Bass and Acoustic): Luke DeGraaf, Tyler Kupferschmid, Aaron Mallehan, Caleb Martin, Daniel Myerscough, Asher Nelson, Josh Nelson, Jared Schaffer, and Caid Swiger. Piano: Erica Evans, Emily Lemons, Jon Leong, Nita Loomis, Laurie Martin, John Nagle, and Kristine Rogers. Percussion: Joe Calio, TJ Lemons, Caleb Mitchell, Matt Morris, and Kenny Sims. Flute: Ben Wyland. Vocals: Andrew Gallegos, Kelsie Gallegos, Joyce Hagberg, Grace Henderson, Emily Lemons, Jasmine Lockett, Don Lusk, Caleb Martin, Sarah Martin, and Amanda Sims. AV Team: Bryan Enneking, Josiah Hagberg, Steve Hagberg, and Caleb Wells.

**Junior Choir:** With the church not meeting in person most of 2020, Junior Choir was put on hold. We hope to start it up again this fall.

*Respectfully Submitted, Jon Troast*

**Adult Choir 2020:** The Christ Church Adult Choir was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic during 2020. Although our desire was to meet; and hopefully that will occur again soon, I am not as as I'd like to be. We have been blessed over the years to have the strong leadership of Lori Parsons, who coordinated our traditional singing events (Christmas Eve, Christmas, Good Friday, Easter, Reformation Sunday & Thanksgiving). Unfortunately, Lori & her family relocated to Missouri during the summer of the pandemic. Even if she were here, our singing together would have been hindered due to circumstances.

The current research shows that COVID spreads from person to person through airborne respiratory droplets. As singers, training the voice to produce large amount of air through breath support from the lungs & diaphragm is essential. Additionally, using articulators (lips, tongue and teeth) are necessary to produce and maintain a quality tone. With this experience. Activities like singing and a loud voice produces these types of airborne respiratory droplets in a greater volume, and should be avoided if at all possible.

I have participated in many forums sponsored by the American Choral Director's Association (ACDA) and the National Teachers of Singing (NTS), both of whom have recommended recommended that choral activities be suspended until there is significant reduction in the spread of the virus. The University of Norther Colorado has worked with both organizations to provide significant research into the spread of the virus through singing. Without proper ventilation or masks, the risk is too great. Singing in a mask can also be detrimental to singers.

Given that the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), federal & state governments has issued guidelines for gatherings, we agree to follow those as in the best interest of the individual, and to remain obedient to the word of God (Romans 13). We are trusting God to move in His own way, at His own set time to restore us to what will be a time of honoring HIM through song and praise.

*Respectfully Submitted, Don Lusk, Adult Choir Director*

## 2020 Youth and Young Adult Report

**CCY 2020:** This past year looked different for CCY from past years, but we are so grateful for God's faithfulness to us. We had an incredible number of students join us at our winter retreat in January, 2020. This weekend was full of spiritual and relational transformation, and we had so much fun hanging out with the kids that weekend. During the winter of 2020, Pastor Brad walked the group through a series of talks on song lyrics from pop culture, and taught the students how to interpret and evaluate them from a Christian worldview. We also had the chance to hear from some of our high school students, as they shared some of their favorite songs. Our gatherings also included fellowship over dinner, games, student-led worship, and time to connect in small groups.

In the spring, Danielle led an online study through the book of 1 Peter for CCY girls. In the midst of a season of so many uncertainties, this study was an encouraging time to connect with one another, grow in biblical literacy, and to be reminded of the living hope that we share in Christ. She also meets weekly for discipleship with some of the CCY girls and college-aged volunteers.

Tristan Fox also led an online study for the guys during the spring of 2020 on biblical covenants. The guys thoroughly enjoyed connecting together during these times!

In the late spring, we loved connecting with the students through weekly video meetings that involved fellowship, games, and teaching. After several months apart, it was refreshing to see each other's faces, even if it was only through a computer screen!

To commemorate the graduating class of 2020, we held a drive through graduation party for our six seniors. We were all deeply encouraged by the love our church family showed to them that evening! We also welcomed in one of our largest 6th grade classes to date in 2020. We are thrilled to have these twelve new students joining us weekly to hear the gospel proclaimed and grow in community.

Danielle led a Bible study for the girls on the book of Esther during the summer, and Tom Kelly led a Bible study on the book of Philippians for the guys. We were grateful for time to gather together in these small groups in addition to our Sunday gatherings.

During the summer and fall, we gathered in small groups, led by 14 leaders who generously gave their time to serve the youth of Christ Church. These small groups met in homes and at the youth house, and watched and discussed Season 1 of The Chosen, a television series based upon the life of Christ. After watching this series, we studied the book of Mark in small groups. These gatherings were much different than what Sunday nights had previously looked like for CCY, but we were so encouraged by the friendships that formed and relationships that deepened in these groups. Despite not being able to gather as a large group in 2020, we saw consistent attendance in these small groups and witnessed God working through our time together with the students.

**Campus Outreach 2020:** Co-Vid shifted our plans this past year and as a ministry we spent more time discipling students within our ministry rather than reaching out to non-Christians outside our ministry. We spent all spring semester studying the Old Testament, while also taking a month to take our ministry thru Identity in Christ training with Pastor Bob. We were able to evangelize 26 students this year and we had 8 students profess faith in Christ! We graduated 13 seniors this year, 9 of whom came to Christ in college, and we are excited to see God use them in the workforce, many of whom are staying here in Normal. Our ISU staff team is changing as well with several staff transitioning off and some new staff transitioning on. This was a year of adapting, learning to be content, and slowing down. Thanks Christ Church!

**Cru 2020:** This year has been a challenging, yet faith-filled one for our ministry, with realities such as covid, mental health, and racial injustice impacting many of the students we lead. We have lived in the tension of honoring the universities by abiding by their covid policies, while simultaneously serving students by continuing to pursue evangelism, community, and discipleship. We continue to prioritize our calling to pursue gospel conversations with every student and to raise up disciples of Jesus that will

multiply their lives in whatever sphere they move into for the rest of their lives. Our team gives leadership to 8 separate contextualized movements at 4 different campuses. We are grateful for individual Christ Church partners, as well as our church's overall generosity to our ministry through facility use, and more. Glory be to Christ!

*Respectfully Submitted, Brad Lucht, Youth & Young Adult Pastor*

### **2020 Adult Foundation Report**

Christ Church offers a Sunday morning Education Hour entitled Foundations. Due to Covid mitigations, we only offered one class in 2020. We look forward to seeing the restart of Foundation Hour in 2021 and we are looking forward to finding classes for our many teachers as well.

**Honoring God:** Johnny Smart

*“As the rain and snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.”* Isaiah 55:10-11

*Respectfully Submitted, Tim Trouten, Executive Pastor*

### **2020 Christ Church Library Report**

Our goal remains the same, to make the resources of this library a valuable and enjoyable resource for all - men, women and children.

In 2020, the library was closed from March until the end of the year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the year we had a solid number of donations to the library and we continued to rotate books on display in the foyer.

Recently we reopened the library and cleaned up the shelves. If you feel like this is a place where you can serve please contact Julie Leong. We would love your help to make our library an inviting and encouraging spot.

*Respectfully Submitted, Julie Leong*

## 2020 Deacon's Annual Report

*"...The office (deacon) is one of sympathy and service, after the example of the Lord Jesus; it expresses also the communion of saints, especially in helping one another in time of need."*

Book of Church Order, Chapter 9

### 2020 Highlights

**Mercy Issues:** Through the generosity of the Christ Church family, the deacons were able to provide financial support to members in need, approving gifts totaling \$25001. Additional assistance included non-monetary services such as repair work, moving, and general care.

**Annual Duties:** Some of the duties included: coordination of lawn maintenance for church building and youth house; service contracts; two church workdays; custodian duties; moving ministry; oversight of audio service; oversight of general repairs for building and property; coordination of various building inspections; Sunday morning worship service support (opening church, recording attendance, collecting regular and deacon offerings, providing coffee, and closing church); assisted Elders with communion as needed; assisted with special event setup and cleanup. This year also deacons have been paired with an elder with Elder/Deacon Flock groups. This year there was also a reorganization that placed the Sunshine ministry under the cover of the deacon oversight, this change was simply in the oversight and the Sunshine ministry otherwise operates as it always had.

**Challenges:** Covid 19 has given all of us a certain challenges on new ways to do business. God is faithful and has provided both grace and guidance as we dealt with each of those challenges. One of those challenges was the use of the Technology of Zoom to have actual meetings. Deacons have been able to have socially distanced meetings as well as Zoom meetings during this challenging times.

**Coming and Going:** Gary Ayers served as Chairman with Todd Lyons as Secretary Steve Parsons moved out of state. Robert Nagle was on Sabbatical during 2020. Fred Martin will be on sabbatical in 2021. Dave Helling will be Deacon Emeritus as of January 1, 2021 . The 2021 Deacon Chair will be Chris Evans with Kenny Lee as Secretary.

**Weekly Service Attendance:** Due to Covid 19 we averaged 150 per week on site. We will resume counting weekly attendance once services go back to normal.



## Christ Church Deacon Responsibilities – 2020/2021

**Grounds:** Chris Evans, Roy Lyons, Fred Martin\*, Brian Niesen

1. Snow removal contract
2. Mowing schedule
3. Yearly maintenance of mower
4. Lawn care and fertilizer
5. Landscape care team
6. Trees, shrubs and landscaping
7. Parking lot
8. Outdoor sign
9. Garbage contract

**Building:** Gary Ayers, Bob Mathes, Kenneth Lee, C.J. Schneider

1. Cleaning (janitor)
2. Electrical/plumbing
3. Fire sprinkler system
4. Doors and windows
5. Elevator inspection and maintenance
6. Garage
7. Alarm system
8. Security
9. Church insurance
10. Heating and cooling

**Electronics, Media, and Miscellaneous:** Robert Nagle

1. Digital information
2. Telephone and internet connections
3. Audio/video sound system
4. Attendance data
5. Table & chair setup/take down
6. Music/worship
7. Financial/collecting/offering

**Service and Mercy:** Gary Ayers, Fred Martin\*, Roy Lyons (Sonshine Ministry)

1. Moving ministry
2. Deacon's Fund to members
3. Sonshine Ministry
4. Severe weather list and communication
5. Christian education classrooms and furniture
6. Coordinate retreat

**New Facilities planning:** Chris Evans, Bob Mathes

\*Fred Martin on Sabbatical in 2021

The 2021 Deacon Chair will be Chris Evans with Kenny Lee as Secretary.

*Respectfully Submitted, Gary Ayers*

## **2020 Prayer Ministry Report**

“...everything by prayer.” (Philippians 4:6)

Last October, we, as a church body, participated in two weeks of prayer, one in the spring and the other in the fall. For the spring week of prayer, we used the prayer guide which focused on praying for our church leadership and the various ministries of our church. For the fall week of prayer, we used the prayer guide which helped us to pray through 2 Chronicles 7:14, asking God to help us humble ourselves, to pray and seek His face, and for us to turn from our wicked ways. What a privilege it was to unite our hearts in prayer and to ask God to work in us and through us, and what a joy to invite all ages to pray, from the youngest child who can pray to the oldest saint.

In April, we prayed through a prayer guide asking God to transform us so that we would have willing hearts to love one another, to have a desire to grow spiritually, and to give generously of our time, resources, and gifts. We will look forward to praying together again later this year.

Also in April, we added an opportunity to pray for our community every month. We joined a prayer initiative called “One Church – One Day.” Our church will be praying individually for the community on the fourth Tuesday of every month. We are using a SignUp Genius so people can sign up to cover a 30-minute slot to pray for our community. Please consider joining this prayer initiative.

For those of you who are new to Christ Church, we want to let you know that there is a team of intercessors who pray for prayer requests from our church. If you would like to share a need with the prayer team, please email it to [prayerchain@christchurchpca.org](mailto:prayerchain@christchurchpca.org). If you are not yet a member of the prayer team, but would like to join, please email the church office and let Julie know, and she will add you to the email list.

Thank you for your dedication to intercessory prayer this past year. We thank our Lord, that as we call upon Him and pray to Him, He hears us! (Jeremiah 29:12-13)

***Respectfully Submitted, Susan Mathes for the Prayer Team***

## **2020 McLean County Nursing Home Ministry Report**

The ministry was directed this year by Jeff Barrett. The services at the nursing home were held on the second and fourth Sundays of each month until the closures due to Covid. Approximately 8-12 residents attended each service. The nursing home staff assisted the patients in order to get to the service. The service consists of a combination of greeting, scripture reading, hymn singing, a short message and prayer. The following people were involved in leadership of the service: Jeff Barrett, Bill Ray, Cyndy Irwin, Lori Parsons, Mary Beth Nagle and Kelvin Schill. The following people were involved in the music aspect of the ministry: Lori Parsons, Cyndy Irwin and Kristine Rogers along with various family members.

***Respectively Submitted, Jeff Barrett***

## 2020 Host Ministry Report

**Purpose Statement:** To warmly greet every person who comes to Christ Church and to give ample opportunity for newcomers to meet and remember at least one person from their visit to Christ Church.

**Review:** In 2020 we continued our partially repeated schedule. Because of our volunteers, we are able to have a 6-week rotation with a number of people who are happy to fill in throughout the schedule, if needed. Our purpose is still to warmly greet those entering our doors on Sunday mornings and to hand out bulletins to those entering our sanctuary. We continued to emphasize initiating meaningful contact with people whom we don't already know. We have also become aware of the key role our greeters play in our congregants' security.

Through March of 2020, the Host Ministry saw about 12 new servant volunteers. 26 serve second service, 23 serve first service. We are always looking for new volunteers, so if you have any interest you are welcome to join us. The deacons took over hosting duties the second half of 2020 in order to focus on out mitigations.

**Future:** The Host Ministry is eager to receive new help. Qualifications for this ministry are simple. I can think of two qualities: Friendliness and availability. If your other commitments allow you to make Host Ministry your primary service when you are scheduled to serve, then you are qualified. Smile, wear your name tag, and love people in our doors. We look forward to seeing the host ministry expand in 2021 as operations return to normal.

*Respectfully Submitted, Tim Trouten, Executive Pastor*

## 2020 Sonshine Report

The Sonshine ministry is a mercy ministry to those in the Christ Church family who find themselves in times of need due to hospitalizations, new babies, job loss, surgeries, deaths, moves, and more. Although providing meals and flowers are our main goals, opportunities arise for other types of mercy ministries, such as cleaning or providing transportation to church events and doctor's appointments. Mary Paradies continued to create and deliver beautiful flower arrangements on behalf of the church as part of Sonshine. Laura Sims, Lydia Lyons, Colleen Bronke, Kathleen Cockrel, Katy Smart, and Deanna Banks served as meal coordinators in 2020, for approximately two months at a time and Julie Leong oversaw the ministry. Our list of volunteers who made and or provided meals stayed at 79 names. This year, we gave out gift cards instead of meals at the beginning of the Covid Pandemic. We then went back to providing meals by the end of the summer and continued to post the online sign-up links in both the Connection and the Christ Church PCA Women's Fellowship page on facebook, as well as continuing with the google group email list. In 2021, we need a few more people who would be willing to be coordinators by setting up online meal schedules for a month or two at a time, as needed.

*Respectively Submitted, Julie Leong and Mary Lyons*

## **2020 International & Local Missions Report**

In the past year for Christ Church missions we have seen both transition and deeper roots formed with our international missionary families. Early in the year we received the news that the Carrigan family made the hard decision to exit Uganda and their medical mission there. We were saddened by this because the work there was so impactful, but also grateful and encouraged by the future direction in the U.S. for Marc and Stephanie and believe their years in Uganda were ordained for lasting impact to the kingdom. The Ambrose family continued their own medical mission in Thailand and have suffered through major health complications with Laura, leaving her often on bedrest and with a very chronic fatigue. Marc and family continue to care for her as well as build out the infrastructure for their work fighting human trafficking and rescuing young adults medically and spiritually. The work in Thailand has been fruitful and hard, the mixture of the two we so often see. The Congdon family has experienced this in Tokyo as well in such a spiritually dark place of the world, but Joe has had many opportunities, now working towards a major church plant while also serving as an evangelist. We are grateful for the years they have spent in Japan and believe there can be great things ahead in the immediate years as they have fully enmeshed into the Japanese culture. The Esaki family continues their steady teaching and mentoring ministry in Osaka, Japan and Erin O'Grady continues the same nearer to home in Chicago. Erin has had broader opportunities within Bridges International and continues to faithfully serve mainly Asian students on campuses in Chicago. Finally, David Sherbrooke continues to show a steadfast, compassionate, and disciplined mission in Ethiopia and we recently grieved with him on the passing of his father.

With all of the challenges of the past year, local campus groups have had to adjust to the times and lack of students on campus and we continue to support and be encouraged by our campus ministry groups as they get back to a more normal world and we all look for more opportunity to serve the community locally.

*Respectfully Submitted, Nick Anderson*

## **New Business:**

## **Election of Trustees:**