

# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

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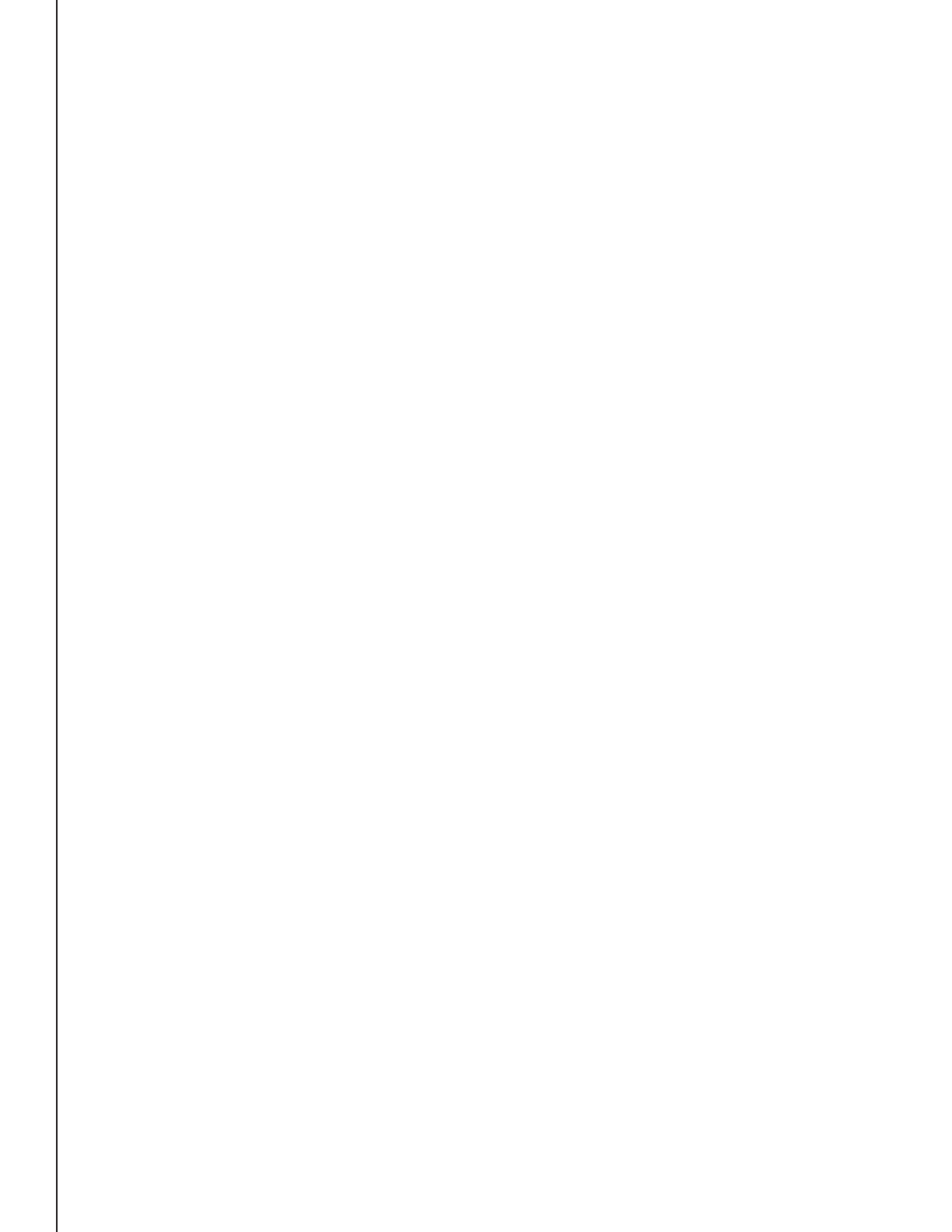
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# AGENDA

Annual Meeting of the Congregation  
 St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church  
 New Orleans, Louisiana  
*Sunday, February 3, 2019*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING PRAYER                | Donald R. Frampton, Moderator           |
| DECLARATION OF QUORUM AND PURPOSE OF MEETING    | Laura Shields, Clerk of Session         |
| DISTRIBUTION OF ANNUAL REPORT                   |   |
| REPORT OF 2019 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN             | Parke Ellis, 2018 Chair, Stewardship    |
| PRESENTATION OF 2019 CHURCH BUDGET              | Harrison Frampton, 2019 Chair, Finance  |
| ELECTION OF CONGREGATIONAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE | Brenda Stephens,<br>Member Involvement  |
| Session, 2019                                   | Nathan Turner                           |
| Session, 2020                                   | Brenda Stephens, Chair                  |
| Session, 2021                                   | Jeff Mazzanti                           |
| Youth   | Jack DeFrait                            |
| PW  | Jeanie Clinton                          |
| YAF   | Bria Rault                              |
| Senior Adults                                   | Hans Jonassen                           |
| APPROVAL OF CHANGES IN PASTORS' TERMS OF CALL   | Bob McCleskey Vice-Chair, Personnel     |
| MODERATOR'S REPORT                              | Donald R. Frampton, Moderator           |
| ADJOURNMENT AND CLOSING PRAYER                  | Sarah Chancellor-Watson, Vice Moderator |

# COMMUNITY MINISTRY COMMITTEE

Chair: Brad Stillwagon | Vice-Chair: Glenn Barnett

The Community Ministries Committee supports agencies and organizations that provide a wide range of critical services to the neediest residents in our city. We provide this support in the form of substantial financial resources, volunteers, and prayer. Our partnerships continue to inspire the congregation, and they provide an immediate opportunity for all members to become involved in our church’s ministry outside our walls.

The Committee had an active year in 2018 in which we sought to strengthen collaboration among our partners, expand volunteer opportunities for the congregation, and discern our impact more strategically. We focused our partnerships and outreach on the areas of children, education, neighborhoods and communities, homelessness, women, families, at-risk youth, and senior citizens.

This year the Community Ministries Committee expanded our Day-of-Service opportunities to include both a spring and a fall day of service. Both were a great success with several church members participating in projects such as gardening, painting, and organizing with our Community Ministry partners. We continue to work towards the following objectives with our days of service:

1. Serve our Community Ministry partners through various work projects.
2. Give our members (of all ages) an opportunity to serve their community.
3. Strengthen our relationships with our CM partners.
4. Cultivate new CM leadership and recruit new CM partner liaisons to fill vacant positions.

RHINO continued to serve and rebuild the greater New Orleans area with the help of 20 groups, consisting of 293 volunteers. RHINO hosted Rebuilding Hope Mission Trips to Texas and Puerto Rico to help rebuilding efforts following Hurricanes Harvey and Maria. RHINO also had a strong Camp RHINO summer program; bookings are filling up for 2019 spring break and Camp RHINO is looking strong for 2019. Another Rebuilding Hope Mission Trip is in the works to assist in Florida’s recovery following Hurricane Michael.

In December, we hosted our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Carrollton Christmas Camp at SCAPC. Throughout six days we welcomed elementary aged children from the Carrollton neighborhood and beyond as they engaged in activities ranging from yoga, reading, cooking, crafts and art. We also had 40 volunteers help assist the camp staff in creating a fun, nurturing, and enriching environment for our campers.

Finally, as stewards of the congregation’s resources, we continued to thoroughly study our existing and proposed partnerships and their role as community giving in the church’s budget.

## SUPPORTED MINISTRIES

Through the Community Ministries budget and committee liaisons, SCAPC supported the following 19 organizations in 2018:

- Café Reconcile New Orleans
- Crescent City Café
- Eden House
- Liberty’s Kitchen
- Junior League of New Orleans Diaper Bank
- New Orleans Charter Science & Mathematics High School
- New Orleans Mission
- Okra Abbey
- Program of Hope at First Presbyterian
- Raintree Children & Family Services
- Rebuilding Hope in New Orleans (RHINO)
- SCAPC Carrollton Camp Program
- SCAPC White Gift Program
- St. Thomas Community Health Center
- Start the Adventure in Reading (S.T.A.I.R.)
- Kinship Center
- Victories in Service
- YAV – Young Adult Volunteers
- YMCA Educational Services (YES!)

Information on these organizations, including a description of their services and their liaison to SCAPC, is available on the church’s website.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah Chancellor-Watson, Staff Liaison to Community Ministries

# CONGREGATIONAL CARE COMMITTEE

Chair: Janet Favrot

## **Caring for Nursing Home and Home Bound Residents**

Committee members prepared and delivered holiday give bags. We delivered 45-50 Easter bags and Christmas bags to our members residing in local retirement homes and to those that were home-bound. Various members assembled bags and other members of the committee delivered the bags. Mayson Buffington continues to deliver flower arrangements after worship services to Poydras Home and Lambeth House.

## **Correspondence**

Mary Lou O'Keefe and Nancy Rix were diligent about writing notes from our group. Each month we have a member assigned to send out birthday cards to SCAPC's members that are 70 and over.

## **Pantry Ministry**

Our group decided not to continue the casserole delivery. Instead, we have had several soup drives to stock our freezer. Soups are delivered to those that are ill and to those with new babies. This is an ongoing mission. Committee members are always encouraged to bring soups to replenish the freezer whenever they can. Anyone in the congregation is encouraged to add to our soup freezer when possible.

## **Adult Day Care**

The Aden Program is up and running. This was a culmination of a lot of hard work on the parts of several committees. Adelle Bergman is the director, and I think there are five attendees at this time.

## **Committee**

My committee consists of 24 members. Nancy Rix will be taking over as chairman in 2019 for two years.

## **Easter bags and Christmas bags**

Our committee put together around 50 bags and delivered to the shut-ins as well as those in nursing facilities. They were well received by all.

## **Soup Drives**

We will continue asking the congregation to help with filling our freezer with quarts of soup for those in need. I have been blessed with a wonderful committee these past few years!

Respectfully submitted,  
Janet Favrot

## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE

Chair: Ebie Strauss | Vice-Chair: Allison Tiller

The Congregational Life Committee was busy and productive in 2018. Our charge was to coordinate Wednesday Night Out (WNO) activities, provide treats for fellowship hour after the 8:30 and 10:30 services, arrange special events during the fellowship hour on Sundays and plan a church wide Fall picnic. Our goal as a Committee was to generate and encourage intergenerational fun and fellowship within our church community.

### **Wednesday Night Out (WNO)**

WNO had many of the traditional favorites, such as Mardi Gras float race and King Cake contest, Trivia Night, Easter Egg-Stravaganza partnering with Presbyterian Women, Bingo, Urban Roots, Lego Build partnering with RHINO, Collegiate Night, Cake Walk, Pumpkin Palooza, Gingerbread House Build with RHINO and of course crowd favorites, such as Broadway Night, Zucchini Race, and White Gift Wrapping. New programs initiated were Hawaiian Night partnering with Membership, Aden Program featured with Game Night, Global Ministry: "Where in the World is Mission?" PowerPoint on Antarctica, Crime in NOLA speaker, and a big hit "SCAPC Female Doctors."

Through YAF, childcare was provided from 6 to 8pm, which was a big plus for young families and their little ones. We had a gradual weekly increase in young families in attendance. Our Facilities Coordinator, Pierce Young, wisely started instituting the "overflow" tables (2), which usually were filled by young families, who in the hustle and bustle of the week forgot to make reservations.

### **Special Goodbye Events**

We said goodbye to two long-time employees with Farewell Receptions hosted by Congregational Life Committee and Personnel Committee.

1. Wayne Willcox--January 28 and February 4
2. Andy Fox--May 20

### **After-Worship Fellowship**

Congregational Life provided snacks after worship every Sunday. Life initiated a test case of providing Sunday snacks ahead of time and putting into the church freezer. Sextons would pull snacks out of the freezer early Sunday morning. This test case proved to be successful. Life also coordinated a number of special events after Sunday worship, including New Member Orientation and Hospitality Sunday, Summer Snowball Sunday, Sunday Pancake Brunch, Heritage Sunday and a Fall Family picnic. The Fall Family picnic was co-sponsored by Congregational Life, Spiritual Formation, and Membership. The event was held on the Land Building Grounds and was a huge success. Members of all ages were sharing food and fellowship. BBQ was served and our Community Ministry partners were honored that day at the church service and then stayed and enjoyed the SCAPC Fall picnic. A Kids Zone with crafts, bubbles and sidewalk chalk was set up behind the Land Building. The Sextons were key to pulling this off.

It was a fun and challenging year for Congregational Life. Many, many thanks to our talented Life committee and our ever present liaison Don Frampton, who counseled and encouraged us every step of the way.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ebie Taylor Strauss, 2018 Chair



# FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chair: Tom Wright | Vice-Chair: Harrison Frampton

Attached are the following reports as of December 31, 2018:

- Operating Income Statement , including the approved budget for 2018
- Operating Balance Sheet
- Visionary Fund Financial Report

## **Operating Budget**

The net result for the year was a negative \$ 36,000. Budgeted operations was a negative \$57,000. Wedding and miscellaneous income surpluses contributed to the \$21,000 reduction from the budget deficit.

Budgeted revenue was \$198,000 under budget primarily due to pledge revenue received being \$177,000 under budget, partially offset with additional contributions from members who had not pledged of \$51,000 above budget. Pledge Revenue received failing to match budget pledged revenue is of concern: 2018 was the first year of new federal income tax rules regarding charitable deductions and standard deductions. Revenue from Gifts and Memorials was under budget \$46,000, all associated with an accounting change.

Total operating expenses were under budget \$142,000. Personnel vacancies contributed \$80,000 of the saving with the remainder being across most other committees. Music was over budget due to hiring additional singers for special programs. Member Involvement was over budget due to hosting an unbudgeted member recognition function.

Our cash position continues to be strong and we remain without debt.

## **Visionary Fund**

The Visionary Fund assets increased by \$1,900,000 over the year. Investment returns were negative for the year. The increase in the Fund was associated with significant bequests to the church from the Mary Riess and George & Virginia Porter Estates. All funds are invested in compliance with the Approved Financial Investment Guidelines.

**OPERATING ACCOUNT  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**

**2017  
ACTUAL**      **2018  
ACTUAL**      **2018  
BUDGET**      **2018  
VARIANCE**      **2019  
BUDGET**

**RECEIPTS**

	\$1,287,176	\$1,285,927	\$1,272,281	\$176,706	\$1,550,000
Prior Year Pledge Payments	(17,221)	329,112	40,000	(11,949)	320,000
Members without Pledges	(153,845)	\$180,784	140,000	\$50,784	\$150,000
Loose Plate Collection	35,135	532,931	50,000	\$2,931	530,000
<u>Subtotal Donations Received</u>	<u>1,089,245</u>	<u>\$1,042,827</u>	<u>1,270,280</u>	<u>\$136,755</u>	<u>\$1,250,000</u>
Visionary Fund Operating Draw	206,000	210,000	210,000	\$0	\$206,750
Visionary Fund Pastoral Housing Draw	25,096	34,175	34,175	\$0	\$34,175
Visionary Fund Property Draw	(40,807)	0	0	\$0	0
Visionary Fund Special Draw	74,221	0	0	\$0	\$135,250
Music Fund Draw	24,875	23,000	23,000	\$0	23,000
Gifts & Memorials Draw	5,000	22,733	65,300	\$45,567	\$40,000
Wedding Revenues (Net)	(2,317)	19,068	15,000	\$4,068	\$10,000
Nursery School Contribution	20,000	0	0	\$0	0
Other Budgeted Miscellaneous	1,000	0	0	\$0	0
Interest & Invest Income	1,000	0	0	\$0	\$5,000
<u>Total Receipts</u>	<u>\$1,522,222</u>	<u>\$1,522,222</u>	<u>\$1,522,222</u>	<u>\$1,000</u>	<u>\$1,522,222</u>

**Redacted: church members, please see church office for printed copy of these reports.**

**DISBURSEMENTS**

<b>Benevolence</b>					
Presbytery Tax (per capita)	(32,128)	32,765	32,765	\$0	\$0
Greater Church	(41,975)	41,880	41,880	\$0	\$17,500
Seminary Support	(2,300)	0	2,300	\$2,300	0
Local Projects-Community Ministry	(199,852)	169,536	179,300	\$59,784	\$200,000
Global Missions		30,871	42,000	\$5,823	\$45,000
<u>Total Benevolence</u>	<u>(\$286,776)</u>	<u>\$281,052</u>	<u>\$298,755</u>	<u>\$17,587</u>	<u>(\$22,500)</u>
<b>Adult Spiritual Formation</b>	(1,585)	2,203	4,500	\$2,915	\$2,500
<b>Children's Spiritual Formation</b>	(16,021)	17,918	17,988	\$1,897	\$17,500
<b>Youth &amp; Young Adults Spiritual Formation</b>	(28,717)	27,620	39,520	\$10,903	\$30,000
Speaker Series	0	0	2,500	\$2,500	0
<b>Congregational Care</b>	(407)	20,413	21,463	\$19,056	\$20,000
<b>Congregational Life</b>	(119,087)	19,549	25,736	\$6,189	\$20,000
<b>Property</b>	(340,312)	314,102	335,094	\$20,990	\$335,000
Membership	(298)	453	500	\$202	\$500
Music	(102,405)	105,301	100,361	\$3,896	\$105,000
Personnel	(1,174,181)	1,132,113	1,212,000	\$79,897	\$1,163,835
Member Involvement	(2,254)	2333	1,800	\$533	\$1,800
Stewardship	(235)	375	800	\$424	\$800
Worship	(3,982)	3,338	5,400	\$1,456	\$5,400
Nursery School		(1,331)		\$1,331	0
Office	(64,827)	67,354	69,238	\$1,884	0
<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>(\$2,052,981)</u>	<u>\$1,993,405</u>	<u>\$2,134,959</u>	<u>\$159,240</u>	<u>(\$125,475)</u>
<b>Net Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$12,241</b>	<b>\$537,817</b>	<b>\$387,263</b>	<b>-\$156,733</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**ASSETS**

Cash & Equivalents	\$433,117	\$276,341	\$357,057	\$418,075	\$316,181
Deposits in Transit and Acc Receivable	(118,301)	\$84,217	\$246,355	\$106,045	\$36,731
Due from Voluntary Fund	\$316,581	\$610,911	\$193,701	\$321,818	\$467,221
Other Assets	\$13,774	\$12,382	\$12,382	\$12,382	\$1
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$645,171</b>	<b>\$983,851</b>	<b>\$819,495</b>	<b>\$858,320</b>	<b>\$822,140</b>
<b>LIABILITIES - Current Liabilities</b>					
Accounts Payable	\$18,338	\$5,378	\$4,706	\$2,855	\$1
Unearned Liabilities	\$20,182	\$27,502	(18,328)	\$22,941	\$1,101
Deferred prepaid pledges received	\$180,637	\$247,188	\$278,577	\$312,746	\$184,981
Other Deposits received	\$10,000	\$6,500	\$8,000	\$12,500	\$3,000
Temporary Gifts and Memorials	\$19,014	\$3,468	\$1,763	\$2,000	\$2,000
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$248,141</b>	<b>\$290,036</b>	<b>\$309,472</b>	<b>\$355,041</b>	<b>\$191,073</b>
<b>Gifts &amp; Memorials</b>					
Unrestricted Gifts & Memorials	\$36,701	\$48,818	\$55,845	\$8,348	\$81,624
Restricted Gifts & Memorials	(13,931)	(22,883)	(23,881)	(1,224)	(24,882)
Gifts in Progress	\$155,291	\$150,920	\$125,707	\$101,088	\$89,641
<b>Total Gifts &amp; Memorials</b>	<b>\$255,577</b>	<b>\$256,430</b>	<b>(273,358)</b>	<b>\$283,252</b>	<b>\$147,493</b>
<b>Other Liabilities</b>					
Renovation Fund/Benevolence Fund	\$301,088	\$380,797	\$45,088	\$20,600	\$30,077
Reserve for Major Maintenance (PRRSM)					
Bank Loans Payable					
<b>Total Other Liabilities</b>	<b>\$301,088</b>	<b>\$380,797</b>	<b>\$45,088</b>	<b>\$20,600</b>	<b>\$30,077</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$763,392</b>	<b>\$826,103</b>	<b>\$620,585</b>	<b>\$659,795</b>	<b>\$690,401</b>
<b>CAPITAL</b>					
Prior Year Surplus	\$118,382	\$157,851	\$188,207	\$188,524	\$131,739
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; CAPITAL</b>	<b>\$881,774</b>	<b>\$983,954</b>	<b>\$818,792</b>	<b>\$858,320</b>	<b>\$822,140</b>

VISIONARY FUND

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>B</b> Beginning Asset Balance	\$ 173,153	\$ 428,551	\$ 435,625	\$ 400,274	\$ 329,622
Realized Investment Income (Loss)	1,000	(1,000)	1,000	(1,000)	1,000
Realized Capital Gains (Losses)	\$ 215,780	\$ 258,232	\$ 189,532	\$ 223,717	\$ 172,500
Contributions Received	1,304,511	1,151,505	1,467,105	1,353,511	1,250,000
Draw for Church Operations	\$ 170,000	\$ 197,000	\$ 215,000	\$ 208,000	\$ 210,000
Draw for Pastoral Housing	334,341	343,660	335,365	328,066	331,715
Draw for Property Maintenance		\$ 770,000	\$ 1,153,463	\$ 48,466	\$ 770,000
Draw for Scholarships		79,352	89,719	79,000	79,000
Draw for Employee Benefits & Pension	0	0	0	0	0
Draw for Personnel				161,221	
Draw for Missions		\$ 10,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 0	\$ 10,000
Transfer Other Cash to Operating Fund		0		1,000,000	
Other Distribution Made	227,316	321,725	35,321	35,323	33,216
Unrealized Gain (Loss)	15	\$ 680,700	\$ 12,125	\$ 583,787	\$ 350,527
Ending Balance	\$ 428,551	\$ 835,625	\$ 840,274	\$ 823,067	\$ 694,126
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Cash - Money Market Fund	50,000	110,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Investments at Market Value	\$ 2,728,725	\$ 2,245,724	\$ 2,228,625	\$ 2,158,470	\$ 2,112,000
Due From (To) Church Operating Assn	\$ 210,511	\$ 210,511	\$ 193,100	\$ 221,618	\$ 210,519
Total Fund Assets	\$ 3,489,236	\$ 3,566,235	\$ 3,422,725	\$ 3,381,088	\$ 3,323,519
<b>NET FUNDS</b>					
Unrestricted Fund	\$ 280,000	\$ 280,000	\$ 280,000	\$ 280,000	\$ 280,000
Removances Fund	\$ 665,441	\$ 625,770	\$ 635,515	\$ 609,551	\$ 665,441
Missions Fund	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
Seminary Support Fund	\$ 47,723	\$ 45,536	\$ 48,125	\$ 50,155	\$ 47,723
Counseling Fund	\$ 12,028	\$ 11,028	\$ 11,028	\$ 11,028	\$ 12,028
Evangel Fund	\$ 230,387	\$ 218,828	\$ 222,686	\$ 242,128	\$ 230,387
Christian Education Fund	\$ 74,876	\$ 71,723	\$ 72,675	\$ 75,248	\$ 74,876
Flowers Fund	\$ 18,402	\$ 17,559	\$ 17,787	\$ 18,340	\$ 18,402
Music Fund					
Speakers Fund	\$ 46,614	\$ 44,479	\$ 45,216	\$ 46,164	\$ 46,614
Property Fund	\$ 44,000	\$ 42,241	\$ 43,004	\$ 42,161	\$ 44,000
Senior Campus Ministry Fund	\$ 67,770	\$ 67,030	\$ 67,761	\$ 68,026	\$ 67,770
Maddox Property Maintenance Fund	\$ 1,107,759	\$ 930,640	\$ 1,114,945	\$ 975,569	\$ 1,107,759
Base Fund	\$ 1,119,106	\$ 1,056,637	\$ 1,111,667	\$ 1,023,326	\$ 1,077,105
Pastors Discretionary Fund	\$ 142,855	\$ 140,325	\$ 140,711	\$ 137,415	\$ 142,855
Children Discretionary Fund	\$ 40,875	\$ 40,539	\$ 42,310	\$ 40,432	\$ 40,875
Random Scholarship Fund	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000
Unit Scholarship Fund	\$ 147,010	\$ 147,010	\$ 150,188	\$ 152,580	\$ 147,010
Bible Library Fund	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
Employee Benefits Fund (Scholarships)	\$ 22,773	\$ 21,774	\$ 20,335	\$ 20,229	\$ 22,773
Pastoral Housing Fund	\$ 664,625	\$ 635,664	\$ 654,365	\$ 644,706	\$ 664,625
Interden Theological Fund	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000
Worship Center Fund	\$ 67,639	\$ 60,735	\$ 60,360	\$ 59,627	\$ 67,639
Trans Property Maintenance Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Widow Fund	\$ 37,015	\$ 35,385	\$ 34,331	\$ 34,332	\$ 37,015
Presbyterian Women Fund (Maddox)		\$ 4,728	\$ 2,130	\$ 0	\$ 4,728
Rev. Alma Press - Christian Education	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$ 2,225
Rev. Alma Press - Pastoral	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$ 2,225
Widow Porter - Church Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$ 2,225
Total All Funds	\$ 8,428,551	\$ 8,435,625	\$ 8,400,274	\$ 8,323,067	\$ 8,241,126

Redacted: church members, please see church office for printed copy of these reports.

# GLOBAL MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs: Ann Maier & David Stagg

In 2018 the approved budget support for the Global Ministry Committee outlined expected work in the following general areas. The work completed met and exceeded original plans.

- A first-ever “Alternative Fair for Mission” was held in November 2018 with great success and participation by local and global ministry partners.
- Participation at “Wednesday Night Out” brought new interest to ongoing mission activities and awareness of the many projects of Global Ministries. Bob Gamble led a memorable interactive demonstration of trust-building during his WNO presentation.
- Global Ministry Committee members maintained interesting and informative fellowship hall shadow box displays. Articles for the “View” the “*Quatrefoil*” and weekly bulletin information were written and published.

## **Direct Mission Support: \$12,000 divided equally**

1. PC(USA) South American liaison and Mission Co-workers Dennis and Maribel Smith: head-quartered in Argentina. Their visit to SCAPC in January 2018 included educational and relationship building opportunities for all ages of members and community. Greater understanding of the changing expression of “mission work” in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century was shared. Upcoming retirement of the Smith’s was discussed. An informational Power Point “The Next 100 Years of Mission” was shared at Wednesday Night Out.
2. Caribbean Area (includes Cuba) Mission Coworker Jo Ella Holman: stationed in Santa Domingo in the Dominican Republic. Closer relationship and coordination with this mission worker is expected as we continue our connection to Cuba and re-initiate Mission trips to Dominican Republic. The RHINO Reverse trip to Puerto Rico was not coordinated by Global Ministry Committee.
3. Democratic Republic of the Congo Mission Co-Workers Larry and Inge Sthreshley. Work focuses on medical and health ministry and community garden programs. Quarterly updates are received regarding the work of these mission co-workers.
4. West African regional Liaison for PCUSA and Mission Co-Worker Josh Heikkila is stationed in Ghana. He met with SCAPC members Geiser, Pannell, and Dunlap in January 2018 to develop and expand support for congregation and building project in Senchi Ferry, Ghana. In September 2018 an interactive video conference call was held with PCUSA African mission workers and PCUSA Global Ministry committee. Greater understanding of structure for support was gained. Delays of funds transfer and management of communications were clarified. Major financial support was provided for on-going approved projects. Details on Budget sheet.
5. Asia—Drs. Cynthia and Les Morgan medical Mission Co-workers. We are able to see the [work of these Louisiana natives on line](#).
6. In the Ukraine area Bob Gamble manages a non-profit called “This Child Here.” The visit of the Gambles in Spring of 2018 shared updates on his work. Minute for Mission, Sunday School options, presentation at Global Ministry meeting and relationship building filled an active scheduled visit.

## **Global Mission Partners: \$10,000 divided equally**

1. [Ghana Scholarship Fund](#). Support given through PCUSA: The visit of Kathleen Hubbard Ismail in December 2018 brought us up-to-date with this charismatic founder of the scholarship fund. Coordination by Global Ministry team members Geiser, Pannell, Dunlap and Harris assured a valuable learning experience and good understanding of the long-term impact of our support. A Sunday School presentation was made 12/2/2018 by the team. A donation of thirty-four computers was facilitated by SCAPC for this organization. Special thanks to GM Committee member Dave Grissett for his leadership in corporate donation.
2. Mama Maji, Kenya. Local nonprofit. Reports were given personally by founders throughout the year. Participation in the December visit of Kathleen Ismail (Ghana Scholarship Fund) led to valuable sharing of information regarding education in Africa. Excellent organizational financial status and [information on projects](#) are available online.
3. [Days For Girls, International](#) with local New Orleans chapter work. Celeste Mergans, founder of Days for Girls, spoke in New Orleans in March 2018. The event was held at the local Church of Latter Day Saints Stake House in Metairie and attended by several hundred women and some men. SCAPC was given great praise for their continuing support of the organization. Kits are regularly delivered to Cuban connections when SCAPC members visit there. Connection to the Days For Girls organization has been made with SCAPC Mission partners in

Ghana and Malawi.

4. Muliko Literacy Project, Malawi. Support given through PCUSA to Blantyre Synod. Quarterly progress reports submitted to the Global Ministry Committee. Miriam and Chancy Gondwe were recognized by African Bible College as outstanding alumni, "Change Makers in Action". PCUSA featured the SCAPC to Muliko connection in the Fall 2018 issue of national magazine "Crossroads". This year SCAPC paid the shipping costs for the American Christian Curriculum textbooks sent annually to Muliko. Congregational support for annual Christmas Youth Retreat was supplied. Request made for Turfitt Mission funds to support Teacher Training and Christmas Camp. Photos and videos shared regularly. Facebook updates are viewed by SCAPC members. Nancy Collins participated in September PCUSA video conference and spoke of her visit with Gondwes.

### **Global Ministries Events: \$1,500**

Outreach and educational activities including opportunities for fellowship and congregational participation were achieved as planned. Coordination with other congregations interested in Global Ministry remains an area where more connection could be made. Pastor Sarah has communicated with other local churches with invitations and information.

### **Inter-generational international Mission**

The 2017 youth trip to the Dominican Republic was studied to develop additional possibilities for families or youth or intergenerational opportunities for mission.

### **Cuban Fund and Living Waters Interactions**

The long-term relationship between SCAPC and Cuba is a continuing testament to the work and faith of Nell Johnston. Activities are led by a small group of committed SCAPC members. There are several components of this interaction.

### **Living Waters for the World**

El Fuerte and Juan G Hall churches are sites of SCAPC Living Waters systems. The Matanzas Central Church Living Waters system is maintained by our LWW team on behalf of the Presbytery of South Louisiana. A Living Waters Covenant was extended for the Living Waters system at El Fuerte in early 2018. This was approved by the GM Committee and was presented for session in February 2018. The upcoming covenant renewal gave a sense of the continuing success of this project and was tied to a celebration of the production for the millionth gallon!

There is great interest in the Cuba mission trips. A team led by Saint Charles Avenue Presbyterian members visited our partners at least twice during the year of 2018. Other SCAPC members chose to participate in additional presbytery sponsored trips. Mrs. Laura St. Clair invited interested individuals to contact her to develop mission trip plans.

The financials of the funding for the Cuba area of Global Mission are separate. Under the leadership of co-chair David Stagg the redefinition of the Cuban Projects was reviewed. A focus for Global Ministry 2019 will be a re-organization to share leadership and provide greater transparency in all Cuban related mission and connection.

Minute for Mission September 2018:

**Donation requested: amount given and designation of those funds unknown.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Maier, 2018 Co-Chair

## MEMBER INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs: Trudi Stafford, Brenda Stephens, Margaret Ann Lindsey

During the calendar year 2018, in accordance with our charge, the Member Involvement committee accomplished the following:

- Developed and implemented new recruitment strategy for Elder Class of 2022
- Obtain names from SCAPC Staff and obtain names from Committee Chairs
- Post a notice calling for self-nomination
- Conducted an analysis of congregation to assess opportunities for involvement in church activities
- Two meetings were held with the Assessment Team
- Assessed opportunities for each person on the church roll
- Assessment will be shared with Committee Chairs and Staff for recruitment
- Identify a Campaign for church members to self report interest in volunteering for church activities
- Sarah Chancellor-Watson introduced “Worship +2” in the 2018 Pentecost issue of the SCAPC “View,” introducing a new model that encourages three faith-forming practices
- Opportunities for involvement were listed along with SCAPC staff
- Streamline process for identifying volunteer interest of new members
- New Member Orientation provides opportunity for introduction to volunteer interests
- Develop and implement highly effective Session Training programs
- Developed a February 2019 Session Retreat to include the Class of Elders, 2019, 2020, 2021
- Secured off campus Retreat Conference Center
- Secured Inspirational speaker
- Enlisted Elders to serve as Commissioners to Presbytery meetings

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda Stephens, 2018 Co-Chair

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chair: Judith Luchsinger | Vice-Chair Deanna McLendon

The main role and purpose of the Membership Committee is to recruit, to orient, and to assimilate new members into the life of the church.

Committee members sought out and welcomed visitors before and after worship services. They were also identified through the friendship pad. First time visitors received emails and/or phone calls from committee members. Pastors continued their practice of writing letters to first-time visitors. Committee members met in the library each Sunday after worship service to welcome visitors, to answer their questions, and to accept new members into the church. New members were provided with new member packets which detailed the many activities and facets of the church as well as ideas on how to become personally involved in the life of the church.

Orientation sessions which covered the history of the Presbyterian church and of the Reformed tradition in general were conducted by the Associate Pastor. At these sessions, new members also filled out a new member involvement form. Committee Chairs and/or Leaders of various groups then contacted the new members and invited them to participate in areas of their indicated interests. This activity was tracked as much as possible through a coordinated effort of the Membership Committee, the Staff Membership Coordinator, the Member Involvement Committee, and the Associate Pastor. Throughout the year, new members were notified of special programs and activities and encouraged to attend. The Membership Committee in collaboration with Congregational Life Committee invited new members as guests to

“Wednesday Night Out” dinner on two occasions, to a “Hospitality Reception” in the Frampton Fellowship Hall, and to the annual church picnic. This provided opportunities for the new members to meet and become acquainted with other members of the church and congregation. Special thanks to Camille Zander, Staff Membership Coordinator; Pastor Sarah, Staff Membership Liaison; and the Membership Committee as they all played a vital part in the success of the Membership Committee.

We welcomed 49 new members in 2018.

Respectfully submitted  
Judith Luchsinger, 2018 Chair

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## PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Chair: Richard Seelman | Vice-Chair: Pete November

### **Search Committee for Interim Senior Pastor**

After receiving advanced notice from Dr. Don Frampton of his intention to retire as SCAPC’s senior pastor on or about February 17, 2019, the Personnel Committee formed a Search Committee, with Michael O’Keefe (Chair), Hans Jonassen, Beth Poe, and Gillian Egan comprising the committee to conduct a search to hire an Interim Senior Pastor. The Search Committee identified Dr. Michael Jinkins, the recently retired President of Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, as its candidate. Both the Personnel Committee and Session have approved the hire of Dr. Jinkins, pending the completion of several procedural steps required by the Presbytery of South Louisiana and the finalization of Dr. Jinkins’ compensation package. Dr. Jinkins has agreed to begin work at the time of Dr. Frampton’s departure and to serve as Interim Senior Pastor for one year, which is the maximum time allowed under the Book of Order. However, SCAPC and Dr. Jinkins can later mutually agree for him to serve additional time as Interim Senior Pastor depending upon how the Senior Pastor search is progressing.

### **Search Committee for Director of Youth and Young Adults**

The Personnel Committee learned in early 2018 of Andy Fox’s intention to resign his position as Director of Youth and Young Adults in order to accept a position with a church in Greenville, South Carolina in May 2018. After learning of Andy’s plans, the Personnel Committee established a Search Committee, headed by Dawn Talbot, which has been hard at work for the majority of 2018 and has considered many candidates for this position, but until recently had not identified a candidate to which it was ready to make an employment offer. The Search Committee has identified a third-year seminary student and New Orleans native for this position. According to Dawn, the Search Committee and the candidate have mutual enthusiasm for each other, but financial details remain to be resolved. The Personnel Committee hopes to soon have further news on these exciting developments.

### **Annual Staff Interviews**

As is the custom of the Personnel Committee, annual staff interviews were conducted on October 31<sup>st</sup> and November 1, 2018. These interviews provide our ordained and lay staff the opportunity to express their joys and concerns with their work at SCAPC and allow the Personnel Committee to assess whether any issues identified by the staff require assistance. The Personnel Committee is pleased to report that SCAPC is blessed to have a very collegial and caring staff that greatly enhances the life of our church through their work here.

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard Seelman, 2018 Chair



# PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Chair: Leigh Ferguson

With outstanding support from the staff, the Property Committee's focus in early 2018 was in heating and air conditioning systems. We referred to the consulting engineers (Infinity Engineering) report to review the conditions of all our HVAC units. We replaced the Sanctuary chiller and the radiator pump for the boiler. The committee has started the process of replacing all lighting with LED bulbs. We started in the Sanctuary and will go throughout the church and buildings. Also, the committee stayed proactive in all flaws that came up in the buildings and minor repairs were made throughout the year. The buildings are under scrutiny of the congregation, the staff, all committees and especially members of the Property Committee. We are confident that our church and facilities are in excellent shape.

## Other General Property Items Addressed in 2018:

- Plaster repaired in Land Building stairwell
- Attic ladder in Land Building repaired
- Replaced rotten boards on Land Building porch
- Furniture cleaned in Education Building and Land Building
- Sanctuary Ladder Repaired
- Third floor and Land Building exit signs upgraded
- Deadbolts added to Parlor and Bloomfield doors
- Sanctuary lightwell upgraded to LED
- Land Building stair lighting added
- New drinking fountain installed at toddler-level in play yard
- Re-poured damaged concrete slab near coffin doors
- Applied polyurethane to all exterior wooden doors on Education Building
- Replaced sewer line under Land Building
- Repaired broken sign at State/St. Charles corner
- Re-keyed all locks in both Education Building and Land Building
- Replaced radiator pump for boiler
- Sanctuary chiller replaced

## Financials and Budget

We ended up under budget for property maintenance as there were no extraordinary items that needed to be addressed in 2018.

## Looking Ahead

In early 2019 we will replace the 3rd floor roof top AC unit, which cools/heats the entire 3rd floor. We will replace the cooling tower and add water filtration to the HVAC systems. Additional objectives for 2019 include: replacement of the Land Building AC unit which still uses R22 refrigerant; and improvement of the play yard drainage.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Leigh Ferguson, 2018 Chair

## SPIRITUAL FORMATION COMMITTEE

Chair: Becka Curry | Vice-Chair: Sarah Edgecombe

### **Bible Adventures**

The Children's Sunday School Classes (3-year-olds through 3rd Grade) continued to use the Deep Blue Kids curricula. The students learned about the Bible through fun activities, stories, and projects. Each week the younger students (3-year-olds to 1st Grade) watched an animated video that tells the Bible story in a contemporary way. Students in all classes learned the same story to create continuity for parents in weekly discussions at home.

Over the summer, The Church and Bible Adventures focused on the Beatitudes. Creative lessons were taught during Summer Sunday classes, and the sermons during the service focused on the Beatitudes creating a common theme for all attending church.

This fall, the Sunday School classes were modified for the older students in second and third grade. Rather than watching the animated video each week, the students spent this time focusing on a specific element of the Sunday bulletin. This discovery activity helped the children to understand and become more present in the church services at St. Charles Avenue. The students in 2nd and 3rd Grade were also introduced to "Worship Notes," a creative way for the children to engage in worship by taking notes on lessons throughout the service..

We also hosted our first Advent workshop following church in Fellowship Hall where adults and children came together to make Advent wreaths and participated in Advent activities. Our first Sunday School class in September had over 75 students in attendance. We also offered two classes of "Parenting in the Pew" to help 2nd Grade parents and children as they transitioned into remaining in church for the full worship service.

Each age group has 6-8 adult volunteers and attendance this year was strong. Spiritual Formation honored our teacher volunteers by hosting a picnic for Sunday school teachers, youth leaders and their families at the end of the spring semester.

### **Challenger Class**

The Challenger Class (4th & 5th Grades), continues to have a strong program. We started the year studying the Gospel according to Dr. Seuss before moving into a study of Lent. The remainder of the year was spent learning about prayer and traditions and the students did a deep dive into The Lord's Prayer, our foundations of faith through the Reformed Traditions, and Communion. On November 2nd-3rd The Challenger Class attended a retreat to Tickfaw State Park with the theme Praying in Everyday Life. As we prepared for Christmas, the Challenger Class focused on Advent and the students even presented the Children's Message at the 10:30 service. A communion workshop was offered to students and their parents to help them explore the sacraments and their meanings. Eighteen fourth grade students received embossed Bibles during a spring service.

### **Vacation Bible School**

VBS was held the first week in June with the theme, Rapid Rolling Rampage. There were 90 participants, 25 youth counselors, and numerous adult volunteers.

### **Nursery School**

The Nursery School offered weekday programs for approximately 100 children (full capacity) plus summer and holiday camps under the leadership of Keflyn Fransen.

### **Youth**

In 2018, the youth ministry continued to serve around 30 students weekly. Andy Fox returned after his sabbatical to lead in youth ministry until he took a new job in South Carolina. A search committee has worked tirelessly to find a replacement for Andy. In the meantime, this position has been filled by Michele Murphy, Sarah Chancellor-Watson and Bria Rault until recently, when Emma Pegues was hired to fill this role until a hire is made. She will also assist Michele

Murphy in her role as Director of Christian Education.

The 2018 Confirmation class included 13 students that joined the church. There was a continued effort to reach out to, and include, parents in more of the ministry offerings. This year we were able to participate in two summer trips with the youth group, the middle school beach retreat (12 students and leaders) and we spent another wonderful week at Montreat Youth Conference (15 students and leaders).

The fall of 2018 saw a great new class of sixth graders join the youth program and will continue to provide a strong base of leadership for years to come. With Sarah, Bria and Michele taking the lead for Sunday night Youth group, the program continued to flourish, using the curriculum, Faith Questions, as our guide. Students came together to make College Care Packages for our college members to help them prepare for exams and enjoyed other fellowship building activities.

### **Young Adults and Families**

This was another successful year for the ministry of Young Adults and Families. We have better served our congregation by offering many main events on weekends, with childcare and meals provided, which has added numbers to our already well-attended programs. This will continue in 2019. The commitment to join with the WNO dinners followed by a weekly, PINTS bible/book study continued to be a success. Annual events, such as the crawfish boil and pumpkin carving, and off-site events such as kayaking Bayou St. John, touring St. Louis Cathedral, and watching Saints together were also well-attended fellowship events.

### **Small Groups**

There are 15 small groups. The Sunday Bulletin and SCAPC website provide descriptions of each group and contact information for each leader, which can help you find the group that works best for your interests and schedule.

### **Adult Christian Education**

Following the Year of the Bible, Adult Christian Education reintroduced Supper Clubs. We had over 100 people join Supper Clubs. These clubs have met in various homes and restaurants throughout the year, and all feedback has been positive.

Throughout the year, Michael O'Keefe continued to lead *Feasting on the Word*, a class that takes an in depth look at the Sunday sermon reading. While Michael told us he was retiring from teaching this class early in the year, he continued to teach through May. Spiritual Formation, and all involved in Sunday School, are appreciative of his time, dedication and service to leading us through meaningful lessons. Another highlight of the year were the different classes geared towards parents. We started the semester with *Drawing the Line*, then studied *Blessings of a Skinned Knee*, and finished with a study of *Prepare Him Room*, as we moved into Advent. Adults also had the opportunity to study, *The Book of John*, *History of the Medieval Church*, *Development of the Early Church*, and participated in a *Prayer* class as we began to prepare and wait for the Season of Advent.

\* \* \*

Many thanks to all who volunteer their time and talents to SCAPC and Spiritual Formation.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Becka Curry

## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs: Parke Ellis & Holly Snodgrass

The Stewardship Committee consisted of Chair Parke Ellis, Co-Chair Holly Snodgrass, and George Wilson. The committee met on an as-needed basis to discuss strategy and goals for the 2019 campaign. George Wilson hosted a function at his house for the roughly top 15% of givers to recognize them for their leadership in the financial support of the church.

Our stretch goal for the year was to increase giving by 10%. As of the most recent report, the total amount of pledges received for the 2019 campaign is \$1,312,625. Those same pledging units pledged a total of \$1,225,896 last year. This yields and increase of 7.19%.

We have approximately 85 pledges outstanding. Those 85 pledged about \$220,000 last year. The Stewardship Committee has been working, along with some other volunteers, on getting these pledges finalized. If pledges remain as is, we are going to end up at around \$1,550,000.

Respectfully submitted,

Parke Ellis, 2018 Chair

# WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE

Chair: Robert Weaver | Vice-Chair: Matthew Guy

The purpose of the Worship and Music Committee is to coordinate and promote the worship life of the congregation, working with the Pastors and the Director of Music. The committee also promotes the music ministry of the church. The committee has specific responsibility for the following important elements of the worship experience:

## **Communion**

Communion is now served through the procession of individual communicants to the front of the Sanctuary where the Pastors and Elders share the message with the elements of bread and wine (grape juice). It is served every Sunday at the 8:30 service and on a regular basis at the 10:30 service. The Pastors work through Bonnie Shoemaker early in the year to publish the communion schedule for the year. Our committee is indebted to Mayson Buffington for faithfully arranging for all elements for communion at both services. The Chairman is responsible for recruiting four to five Elders at a timely Session meeting to volunteer to assist the Pastors in serving communion at the 10:30 communion services. The committee appreciates each of the Elders who served communion this year.

## **Baptisms**

The Worship and Music committee is responsible for requesting Session approval of any scheduled baptism. 26 baptisms were approved and performed in 2018! (as listed in Attachment 2). Bonnie Shoemaker organizes each baptism, communicates to the committee the need for Session approval, and works with Judith Halverson to prepare the special cloth given as a gift and remembrance of this special day. Bonnie works with Hallie Boh to have the baptism certificate printed and with Pierce Young to put each baptism on the calendar and notify the Sextons. Bonnie assembles the gift of the cloth and books for the parents of the baby and ensures that it is ready for the Pastor to give to the family immediately following the baptism.

## **Flowers**

We are so very thankful for Jennie Steele for her past service and willingness to continue in 2019. She arranges for all our floral needs through the year. She coordinates and ensures that the flowers for the Sunday service are in place. They are always beautiful. She also takes care of the palms for Palm Sunday and the flowers for the cross on Easter Sunday. This year the committee arranged to use a garland to drape across the cross at both services. The traditional children's participation includes their bringing individual bouquets from home to lay at the base of the cross.

## **Banners**

The banners for festival Sundays are a noticeable and welcome addition to worship. Banners adorn the sanctuary on Palm Sunday, Heritage Sunday and during Advent and Christmas. In 2016 the Worship Committee approved the purchase of Louisiana Tartan banners (~\$600).

## **Pentecost Sunday**

Building on the 2015 experience where we started the services in a special way, with members speaking in tongues other than English to welcome the Holy Spirit, we added special wands as a visual metaphor for flames. These were incorporated into the Children's Message which included the excellent leadership and poetry of Jim Rumsfield. Thanks to Jim for this service and to Nell Lanier and Hallie Bob for obtaining the wands. We expect this tradition to be an annual part of the Pentecost service.

## **The Music Program**

The church's splendid music program continues under the leadership of Steven Blackmon with leadership for the children's ensembles generously offered by dedicated, part-time members from the Chancel Choir. A special collection for the choir was started in 2014 and continues. This special collection is made on the Sunday of the Celebration of Carols at Christmas time, the occasion when the 50-member choir are joined by members of the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra. We are thankful for all who support the choir and music programs. As an aside, the effort to quietly identify funding for a new Sanctuary organ proceeds thoughtfully.

**Scottish Heritage Sunday**

Dave Grissett is continuing to manage the program, which is included annually on a continuing basis.

**Security**

After a series of earlier threats to Christian churches and a perceived vulnerability particularly during holidays and at the major music events at SCAPC, the matter of appropriate security measures was undertaken on its own merit and at the advice of our insurer. Several providers of auxiliary guards on site were contacted and arrangements for these occasions are in place with the N.O.P.P (New Orleans Private Control). They provide us the presence of armed monitor guards for a four-hour period at selected events at a nominal cost of \$500 per event. Contacts there are Col. Cary Robinson, [crobinson@nopplpp.com](mailto:crobinson@nopplpp.com), phone 504-525-7111 (office), 460-6677 (mobile truck).

**Ushers**

We are genuinely grateful for Geoff Snodgrass and all of our faithful ushers. They serve such an important service in helping the service run smoothly and guiding members and visitors in finding their way through the church on Sunday mornings.

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The Chairman gratefully recognizes this year's Worship and Music Committee as the dedicated group of SCAPC members who work quietly behind the scenes to ensure that the worship experience is rich and meaningful. We always welcome feedback from the congregation at large on how we can enhance the worship life of the congregation.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bob Weaver, 2018 Chair

*A special thanks to our Elder Class of 2018 for three years of hard work!*

Sallee Benjamin  
Becka Curry  
Cathy Dunn  
Parke Ellis  
Lyn Fabacher  
Janet Favrot

Dave Grissett  
Leon Hinson  
Ken Kneipp  
Judith Luchsinger  
J Pegues  
Richard Seelman

Brad Stillwagon  
Bob Weaver  
Tom Wright  
Ryland Edwards  
Calder Schmidt

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