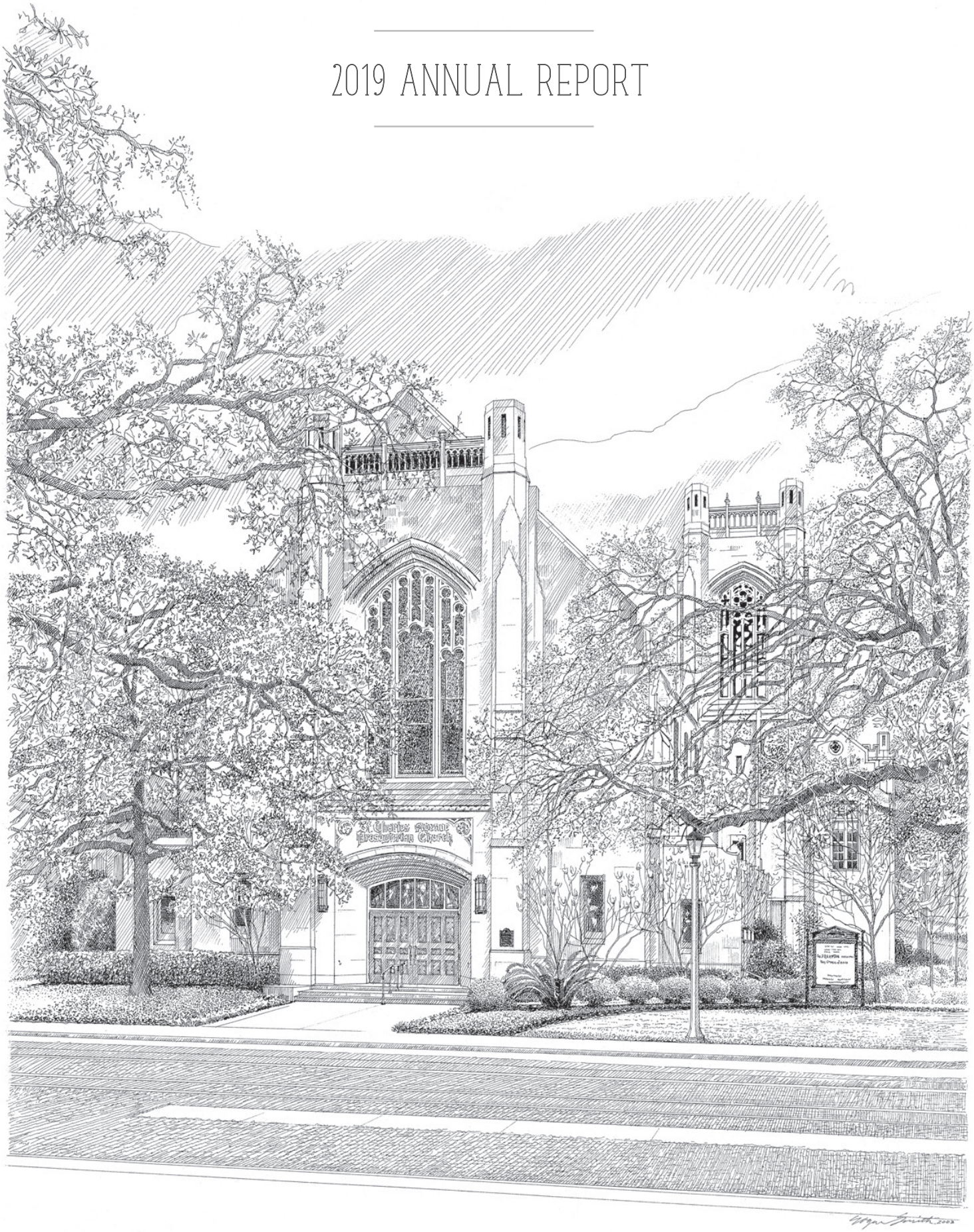
2019 ANNUAL REPORT



ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

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AGENDA

Annual Meeting of the Congregation
St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church
New Orleans, Louisiana
Sunday, February 2, 2020

CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING PRAYER	Michael Jinkins, Moderator
DECLARATION OF QUORUM AND PURPOSE OF MEETING	Shannon Holtzman, Clerk of Session
DISTRIBUTION OF ANNUAL REPORT	Buddy Cambas, Usher Captain
REPORT OF 2020 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN	Holly Snodgrass, 2019 Chair, Stewardship
PRESENTATION OF 2020 CHURCH BUDGET	Hunter Hill, 2020 Chair, Finance
ELECTION OF CONGREGATIONAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE	Brenda Stephens, Member Involvement

Session, 2020	Brenda Stephens, Chair
Session, 2021	Arden Barnett
Session, 2022	Jenny Baldwin
Youth	Aiden Morriss
PW	Ann Van Horn
Staff	Hallie Boh
YAF	Catherine Karas
Senior Adults	Hans Jonassen

APPROVAL OF CHANGES IN PASTORS' TERMS OF CALL	Bob McCleskey Chair, Personnel
ADJOURNMENT AND CLOSING PRAYER	Sarah Chancellor-Watson, Vice Moderator

CONGREGATIONAL CARE COMMITTEE

Chair: Nancy Rix

Caring for Nursing Home and Home Bound Presbyterians

Committee members prepared and delivered holiday gift bags at Easter and Christmas. The recipients were SCAPC members and non-member Presbyterians living in nursing homes or other care facilities. Also, bags were delivered to SCAPC members who are age 70+ and are homebound. We delivered approximately 45 bags on each occasion. Various members donated items for the bags to supplement what our budget allowed for purchase. Other committee members assembled bags and still others delivered them. We received assistance from the SCAPC art department for the design and production of special Easter and Christmas cards for inclusion in the bags.

Significantly, during 2019, the committee learned of SCAPC members without family in town who needed help getting to doctor appointments, getting to church, physical therapy, etc. Our members rose to the occasion to assist them.

Birthday Cards for SCAPC Members Age 70 and Older

Each month Camille Zander in the church office provides to our committee a list of names, addresses, and birth dates for members who are 70 years and older who will have a birthday during the following month. A committee member who has volunteered for that particular month addresses birthday cards designed by the church staff and posts them to the birthday celebrants.

Notes and other correspondence to members and others who are ill and/or have sought prayers from the church

Mary Lou O'Keefe undertook writing ALL the notes from our group to the ill or those who have suffered a loss or other troubles. Congregational Care learns of some of these people in need from the weekly prayer list and some from Parish Associate for Pastoral Care, Harry Brown. During most months Mary Lou writes at least 20 completely personalized notes (and some months quite a few more). We have requested preparation of a variety of greeting cards, which are in the process of being designed by our church artists. These are sympathy, support, wedding anniversary congratulations, and others. We anticipate sending these out in addition to the personalized messages composed by Mary Lou.

Pantry Ministry

Our group conducted two soup and chili pantry drives during 2019. Soups and other foods are delivered to those who are ill or have special needs. This is an ongoing mission. Committee members as well as the entire congregation are always encouraged to replenish the freezer whenever they can.

Working with Young Adults and Families (YAFs) to Assist Families with newborn babies

In the past our committee has offered soup or stew to families bringing new babies home from the hospital. Often the deliverer adds bread, a salad, and cookies or dessert at his or her personal expense (not reimbursed from our budget)—this occurs in all cases, not just with regard to the birth of a baby. This year we were contacted by the YAF group offering to assume caring for families with newborns, with a plan to provide three full meals each to them. Unexpectedly, there were 11 families with new babies within a short period of time, which challenged the YAFs beyond their expectations. Our committee worked with the YAFs to deliver some food and on one occasion to work out an arrangement with the Wednesday Night Out program to package some leftover food for a family. This endeavor has served to meet a goal set for our committee in 2019, which was to involve younger church members in congregational care. Two YAF members receive our committee minutes and they are always invited to join our meetings.

Prayer Shawls and Miscarriage Ministry

Our committee discussed trying to be of service to families who have suffered the loss of a child through miscarriage. We addressed one situation by giving the mother a donated blanket and a card expressing our sorrow and offering prayers. This led to more ideas about reaching out to grieving members, and eventually we decided to start a prayer shawl ministry. Some of those who will refine their knitting skills or learn knitting for the first time will attend the Thursday morning knitting group. Mary Ann Mott and Mary Ruth Shanks from the Thursday group have given us some good advice and materials, and they will work with anyone who wants to join them. Committee Member Ann Byerly has completed the first prayer shawl, and she has been invaluable in providing guidance about moving forward with this ministry. We will develop a procedure for suggested prayer as the shawls or blankets are made, as well as having them blessed before they are presented to the intended recipients.

Adult Day Care

The Aden Program continues under the direction of Adelle Bergman. The program sought new participants during the year, and it is our understanding that they met their goal.

Committee

This committee consists of 16 active members. The committee enjoys several friends who do not wish to be official members, but who undertake one or more special projects during the year. I will continue as chair a second year in 2020. Stephanie Haniford will serve as the vice chair. While we are small in number the dedication and hard work of many of the committee members is an inspiration to me. At the beginning of my term as Chair I was feeling overwhelmed--Mary Lou O'Keefe said to me that I should not worry because all I needed to do was advise the committee members of a need and someone would be there to address it. This has been 100% accurate. It is a blessing to me to see how readily and happily the committee members strive to assist all those who want our help.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Rix, 2019 Chair, Congregational Care

COMMUNITY MINISTRY COMMITTEE

Chair: Glenn Barnett | Vice-Chair: Kathy Randall

The Community Ministries Committee supports agencies and organizations which 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 2019 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 a Spring and a Fall Day of Service. Each service day was a great success with several of our church members participating in many different projects, such as gardening, painting, and organizing, with our Community Ministry partners. We continue to work towards to 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.

We continue to support SCAPC's own Carrollton Camp Program. We welcome elementary aged children from the Carrollton neighborhood and beyond as they engage in activities ranging from yoga, reading, cooking, crafts and art. Church 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 20 organizations in 2019:

- 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
- Habitat for Humanity Unity Build in October
- Okra Abbey
- Program of Hope at First Presbyterian Church
- Raintree Children & Family Services
- Rebuilding Hope in New Orleans (RHINO)
- St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church Carrollton Camp Program
- St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church 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,
Glenn Barnett, 2019 Chair, Community Ministries

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE

Chair: Allison Tiller | Vice-Chair: Julie Nice

The Congregational Life Committee was busy and productive in 2019. Our charge was to coordinate Wednesday Night Out (WNO) activities, provide treats for fellowship hour after the 8:30 and 10:30 services, and arrange special events during the fellowship hour. 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 the king cake tasting, Mardi Gras float races, zucchini races, trivia night, bingo, spring presentation from Urban Roots, gingerbread decorating, and of course Broadway Night. New themes introduced this year board game night, riddles and giggles, favorite book night, and a tartan-making night.

As with prior years, we coordinated with other committees to assist in their mission. For instance, WNO attendees participated in egg-stuffing for the Presbyterian Women's Palm Sunday Easter egg hunt and wrapping gifts for the White Gift service. We held a LEGO Build in partnership with RHINO, as well as a new-member night in coordination with the New Member Committee.

Perhaps the most meaningful WNO programming was the following:

- MLK Celebration night, in which Dr. Walter Harris told of his experience playing piano for Dr. King and his involvement with the Civil Rights Movement.
- Presentation and book signing by Rev. Dr. Gerald "Jerry" Schumm, Jr. on his memoir detailing his canoe journey down the Mississippi River.
- "Finding God in the Foxhole" presented by Vietnam vets, General David Mize, Col. Terry Ebbert, Dr. Glenn Barnett, Dr. Chesley Hines, and John Galbraith.

Special Events
We said goodbye to Dr. Frampton in February and held a very special going away reception. A team of volunteers came together to ensure the event was worthy of the occasion and by all accounts it was an elegant, fun event and a huge success. A few weeks later, we hosted a smaller but still special welcome reception for Dr. Michael Jinkins and his family.

Due to these additional committee expenses, we decided to skip the fall picnic this year.

Hansen's again supplied delicious snowballs on the annual Snow Ball Sunday. Maritza at Pepperoni's Café again supplied all the delicious food for the Pancake Breakfast, which was held in July.

After Worship Fellowship
Congressional Life provided snacks after worship every Sunday. Various committee members agreed to take on one month of "snack duty." This was made easier by allowing delivery of the snacks to the kitchen freezer early in the week, or sometimes even a week or two in advance.

It was a fun and exciting year for the Congressional Life Committee. Many thanks to our devoted committee members as well as the staff that enables us to do our work each week.

Respectfully submitted,
Allison Tiller, 2019 Chair, Congregational Life

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chair: Harrison Frampton | Vice-Chair: Hunter Hill

Attached are the following reports as of December 31, 2019:

- Operating Income Statement, including the approved budget for 2020
- Operating Balance Sheet
- Visionary Fund Financial Report

Operating Budget

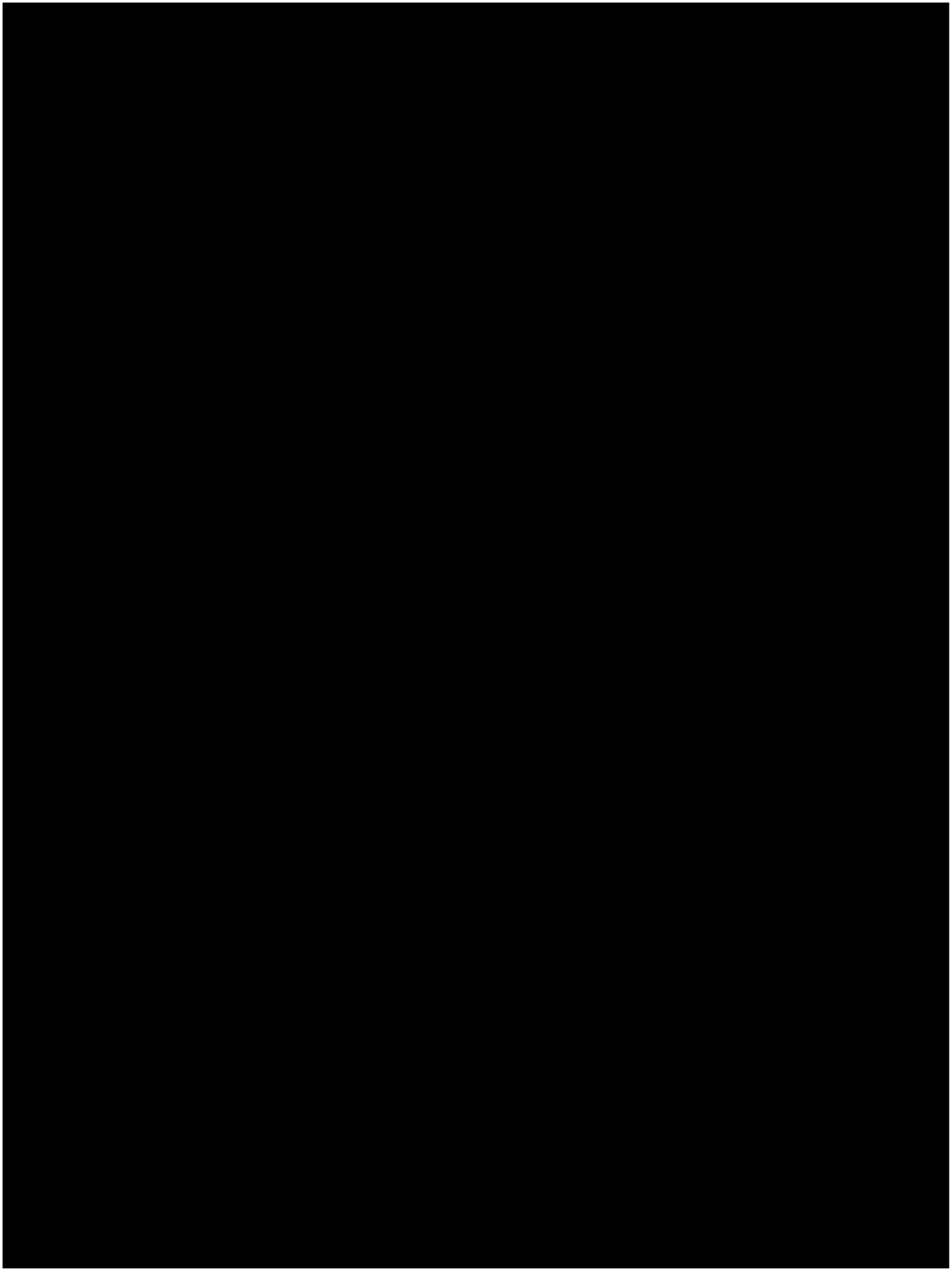
The net result for the year was a negative $172,819. Wedding and miscellaneous income surpluses were $8,675, reducing the deficit.

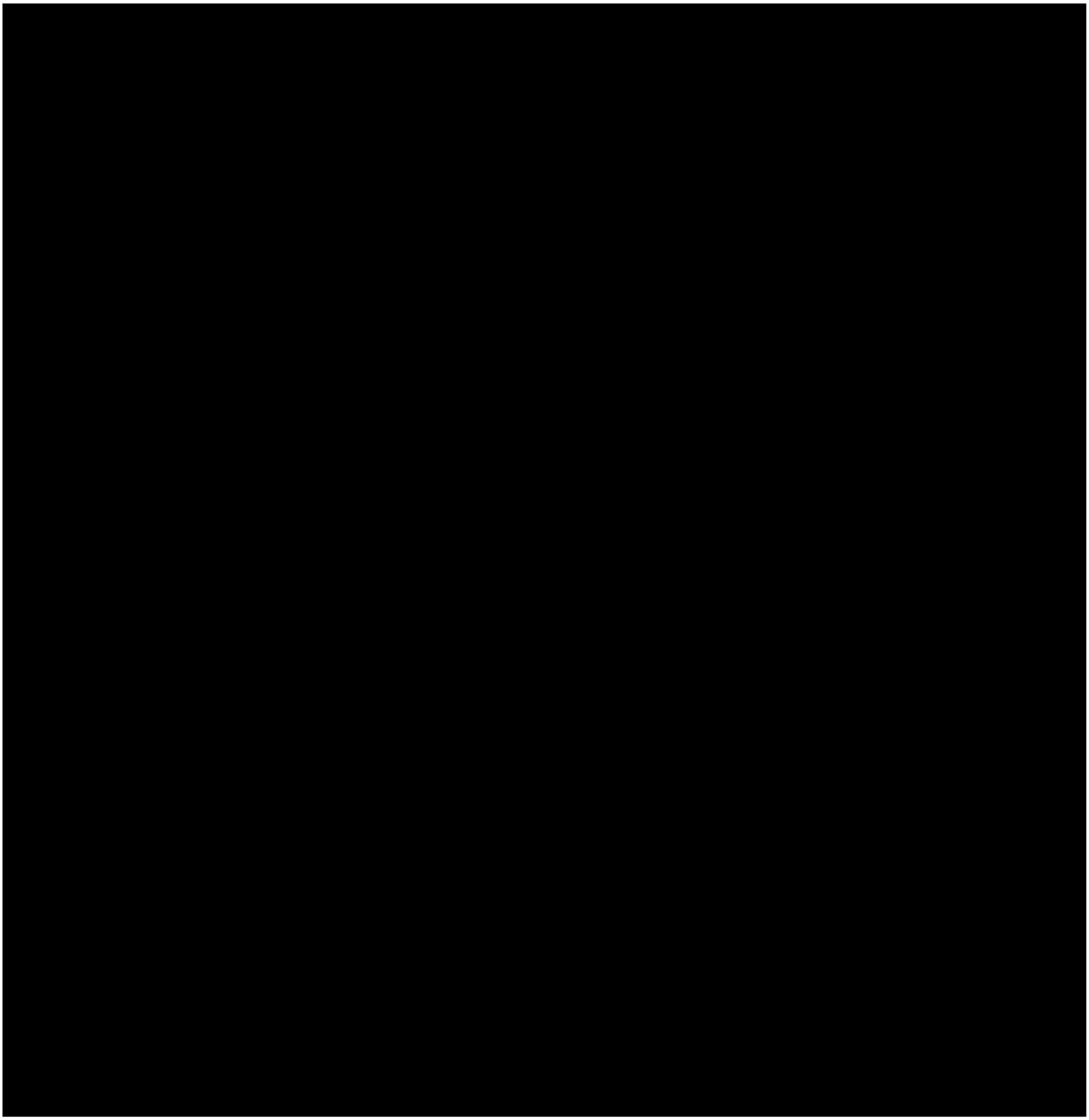
Budgeted revenue was $473,796 less than pledge committments. Pledge revenue received failing to match budget pledged revenue is of concern. The Stewardship and Finance Committee will address pledge shortfalls within the next few weeks.

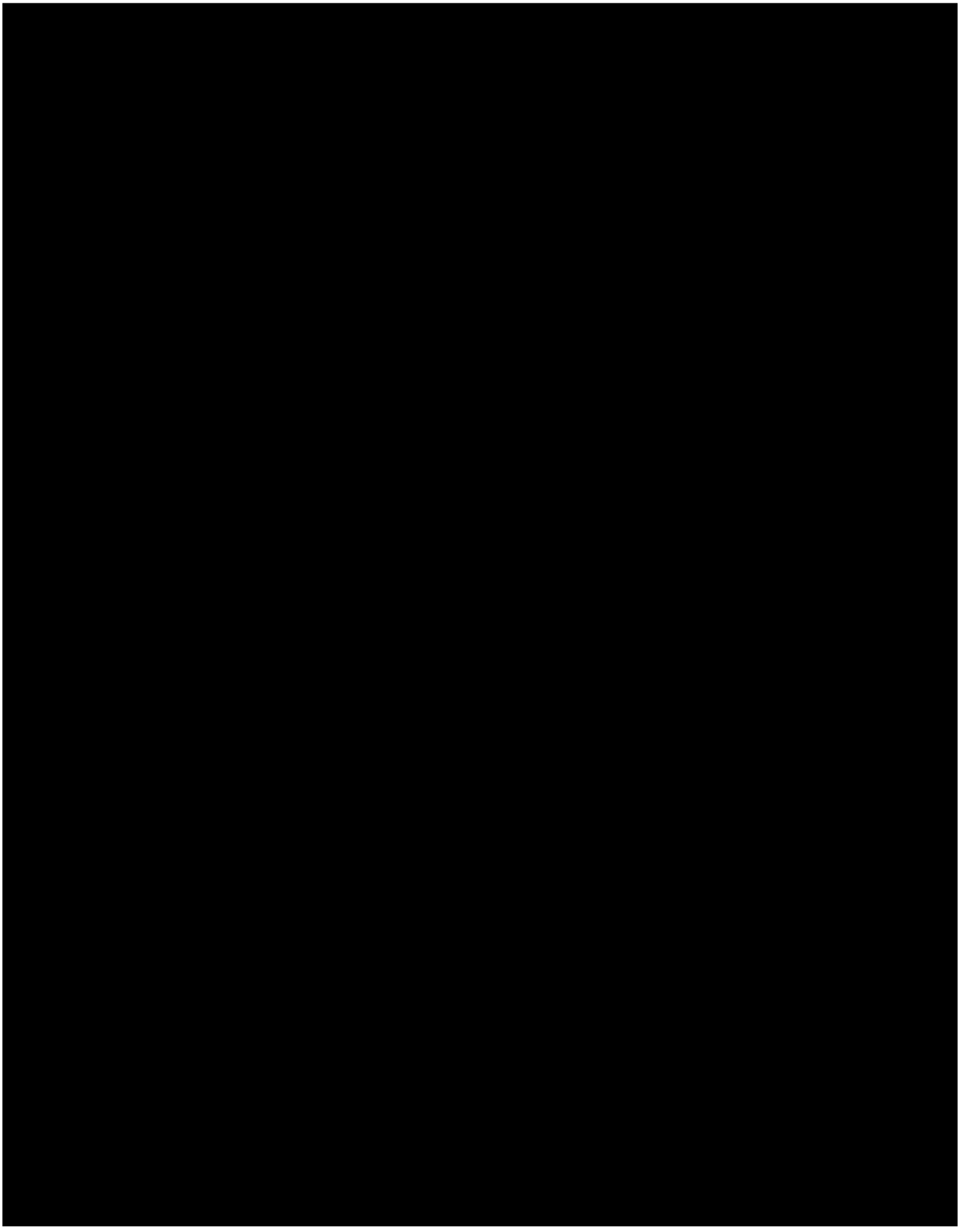
Our cash position continues to be strong and we remain without debt.

Visionary Fund

The Visionary Fund assets increased $263,007 in interest and dividend income over the year. All funds are invested in compliance with the Approved Financial Investment Guidelines.







GLOBAL MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

Chair: David Stagg

Global Ministries continues to support these mission partners and missionaries:

Direct Mission Support:

1. PC(USA) South American Liaison and Mission Co-workers Dennis and Maribel Smith: head quartered in Argentina.
2. Caribbean Area (includes Cuba) Mission Coworker Jo Ella Holman: stationed in Santa Domingo in the Dominican Republic.
3. Democratic Republic of the Congo Mission Co-Workers Larry and Inge Sthreshley. Work focuses on medical and health ministry and community garden programs.
4. West African regional Liaison for PCUSA and Mission Co-Worker Josh Heikkila is stationed in Ghana.
5. Asia—Drs. Cynthia and Les Morgan medical Mission Co-workers.
6. Ukraine area -- Bob Gamble and the non-profit called "This Child Here."

Global Mission Partners:

1. Ghana Scholarship Fund, support given through PCUSA.
2. Mama Maji's Kanjira Water Project in Kenya.
3. Days For Girls, International with local New Orleans chapter work. 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.

Cuba & Living Waters for the World:

El Fuerte and Juan G Hall both contain 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.

Led by Laura St. Clair, teams from SCAPC continue to travel to visit our Cuban mission partners, bringing supplies and making repairs to the Living Waters systems.

More information on Global Ministries mission and support can be found on SCAPC's website.

MEMBER INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs: Brenda Stephens, Margaret Ann Lindsay, Arden Barnett

During 2019 the Member Involvement Committee accomplished the following goals:

- Lead the 2019 Congregational Nominating Committee which had the responsibility to:
  - Recruit the Elder Class of 2022
  - Formulate the Pastor Nominating Committee
  - Suggest persons to serve on the Capital Campaign Committee
- Enlisted Elders to serve as Commissioners to the Presbytery of South Louisiana
- Provided funding for training materials for the Elder Class of 2022
- Provided funding for gifts to retiring Elder Class of 2019
- Conducted meetings to assess opportunities for Congregation involvement in additional Church activities.
- Participating in plans for the Elder Retreat in January 2020

Respectfully submitted,
2019 Co-Chairs, Member Involvement

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chair: Deanna McLendon | Vice-Chair: Louise Schaefer

Membership's 2019 goal of 22 new congregants was exceeded!

As of Dec. 20, SCAPC has welcomed 24 new congregants: 11 confirmands and 13 new members/affiliates/reaffirmations. There are at least 4 others who either have already received new member paperwork to complete or have indicated an intention to join.

Membership moved its location to receive interested new members and prospects to a table in Frampton Fellowship Hall. This allowed for higher visibility and a more welcoming atmosphere, versus being sequestered in the Phifer Library. The committee and pastors continued to use the library for formal welcoming of new members.

Membership held two New Member Welcome Nights at Wednesday Night Out, which were well attended by both new members and committee members.

New members and prospects attended both SCAPC 101 classes during the year, and provided lively input and discussion.

Many new members already have become very involved in the church, regularly attending services, taking on church roles and enjoying social events.

We look forward to another successful Membership year in 2020!

Respectfully submitted
Deanna McLendon, 2019 Chair, Membership

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Chair: Pete November | Vice-Chair: Bob McCleskey

Interim Senior Pastor / Senior Pastor Search

After approving the hire of Interim Senior Pastor Dr. Michael Jinkins, the Personnel Committee finalized the 2019 terms of service for Dr. Jinkins, which then were approved by the Session. Dr. Jinkins' terms of service for 2020 are being finalized.

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) for the Senior Pastor position continued to make progress during 2019. The Personnel Committee completed the Ministry Information Form (MIF), which then was made available to all candidates for the Senior Pastor position. In that form, the Personnel Committee recommended to the Session a range of potential salary and benefits (the minimum and maximum "effective salary") for the Senior Pastor position. That range was approved by the Session; however, only the minimum effective salary is publicly available to potential candidates.

Annual Staff Interviews

As is the custom of the Personnel Committee, annual staff interviews were conducted in October and November 2019. 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. SCAPC is blessed to have a hard working, collegial and caring staff that has performed "above and beyond" through a period of transition during 2019. The Personnel Committee addressed certain staff concerns, and we are pleased to report that we are well positioned to address any challenges – expected or unexpected – in 2020.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob McCleskey, 2019 Vice-Chair, Personnel

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Chair: Leigh Ferguson | Vice-Chair: Kevin Murphy

The Property Committee's focus in early 2019 was in heating and air conditioning systems: both the cooling tower and the 3rd floor rooftop AC unit were replaced. As the year progressed, we addressed many other things as well. Dry wood termites were discovered in the Land Building, so we contracted with Orkin to tent the building and eradicate them. The sewer line from the basement sump pump became clogged, so we removed and replaced it. We also completed phase I of a multi-step plan to improve drainage in the play yard. While we remain committed to replacing all SCAPC's lighting with LED bulbs, this year we found ourselves more focused on mitigating issues related to existing fixtures that are difficult to repair. Throughout the year the committee stayed on top of minor issues with the buildings and continued to make repairs as needed. We believe that our church facilities continue to be in excellent shape.

General Property Items Addressed in 2019:

- Cooling tower for Sanctuary was replaced
- 3rd floor rooftop HVAC unit was replaced
- Water treatment system added to Sanctuary cooling system
- Duraclean cleaned carpets and sofa in Land Building Riverside Room
- Phase I of drainage improvements to play yard completed
- Leaks in 3rd floor flat roof repaired
- Closer on Sanctuary door was replaced
- Orkin completed dry wood termite treatment to the Land Building
- Replacement of clogged drain line between sump pump and storm drain
- Sextons cleaned columbarium walls
- Replacement rug for LB foyer has been installed
- Blower and fan motor for Bloomfield/Parlor AC system were replaced
- Floor scrubbing machine for tile floors on 1st floor has been purchased
- Replacement of stolen scupper and downspout behind cooling tower completed

Financials and Budget
We ended up under budget for property maintenance as there were no extraordinary items that needed to be addressed in 2019.

Looking Ahead
In early 2020, we will be washing the exterior of the Land Building, including the windows. Plans are also in place to trim the live oak at the corner of State Street and St. Charles Avenue. Additional objectives for 2019 include: lighting upgrades in the Sanctuary, Parlor and Bloomfield Room; improving drainage between the church and the condominiums next door; replacing the Land Building AC unit which still uses R22 refrigerant; repairing the Land Building porch; replacing the flat roofs above the 2nd and 3rd floors and making repairs to the Education Building envelope to decrease water intrusion in key areas.

Respectfully Submitted,
Leigh Ferguson, 2019 Chair, Property

SPIRITUAL FORMATION COMMITTEE

Chair: Sarah Edgecombe | Vice-Chair: Patrick Egan

Bible Adventures

The Children's Sunday School Classes (3-year-olds through 3rd Grade) began a new curriculum this year, Growing in Grace and Gratitude, which is put out by PCUSA. The students learned about the Bible through fun activities, stories, and projects. Emphasis was placed on the worship service and how children can learn to serve God. 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 characters from the Old Testament and used the Growing in Grace and Gratitude curriculum.

This year we started several new traditions at St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church. The church presented personalized Children's Bibles to members of Kindergarten and 1st grade classes and Board Bible Books for 2-year-olds. Reading the Bible along with Sunday School participation reinforces the lessons Jesus taught us.

We also introduced a Worship 101, which was a 6-week class for 1st grade students from October till the week before Advent. These children met during the 10:30 service and learned all aspects for the service. Where do we worship, why do we worship, how do we get ready for worship, what is the Baptismal, how do we hear God/how do we thank God, what is Worship in Action, and how does Communion work? After the workshop, those children began to stay in the full service after the Children's Message.

Each age group had 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. The first part of the year we focused on Book of James and the Apostle's Creed. The remainder of the year was spent learning about the Ten Commandments and Advent. Sixteen fourth grade students received embossed Bibles during a spring service. On November 1-3, the Challenger Class attended a retreat at Tickfaw State Park with the theme of "Who is Jesus?" They learned about his family, why he taught in parables, people he met and how he relates to our lives today.

We introduced a new tradition for the class: 4th and 5th grade students are assigned as Jr. Baptismal Buddies. They meet with the family and have a card for the child. They are part of the baptismal service by asking questions to the children of the church and presenting the presents to the family. They will pray for the family throughout the year as well as send cards for key milestones in the infants first year.

Vacation Bible School

VBS was held the first week in June with the theme To Mars and Beyond. There were 90 participants, 27 youth counselors, and 15 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

With the position of Director of Youth and Young Adults still empty at the start of 2019, Emma Pegues served as the Interim Director of Youth from January through May. Emma continued to successfully run youth group on Sunday

evenings and used the curriculum Faith Questions: Science from the PCUSA for lessons. She continued the traditions of youth olympics, a scavenger hunt, the annual crawfish boil, and senior recognition night. Sarah Chancellor Watson took on teaching the Confirmation classes and Michele Murphy took those ten confirmands on a mission trip to Houston, Texas, with City, Service, Mission in January. Sunday school continued under the leadership of Amy Morriss, Senior High Small Group continued under the leadership of Jessie Bruggers, and Middle School Girls Small Group continued under the leadership of Alexandria Leland and Ellie Pectol.

Chris Hazlaris was hired as Director of Youth and Young Adults and began at the end of May. His first order of business was supporting Michele with Vacation Bible School, where he actively began making relationships with church staff, families, and high school youth working as VBS helpers. After the conclusion of VBS, Chris spent the summer getting adjusted to the "nuts and bolts" of SCAPC youth ministry, its spaces and resources, and its various families. He tried to introduce himself via phone call and make contact with every household connected to the program within his first month in the office and invited non-member youth that helped with VBS into the program. Finally, during the summer, Chris initiated a "Summer Saturdays" series of activities, including City Putt Mini-Golf, the "Red Sand" Service Project, and a Water Day on Pearl River, to help youth meet him and nurture their relationships with their peers before the school year began.

In August, school for the youth started as did the formal routine of Sunday School and Youth Group, celebrated by a "welcome back" pool party that brought together almost sixty youth and family members. Youth Group's theme for the year was announced to be "Blessed to Be a Blessing"; youth would spend the next few months from 5-7 PM on Sunday nights discussing what it means to be blessed by God and how His inclusive mercy, patient Grace, and practical gifts could be shared with the world. (Youth worked with this theme in discussion groups and thoughtful activities in addition to playing numerous fun, relationship-building games). Throughout the fall, Youth Group averaged around 20-25 members. Sunday School saw an average of around 8 students each week and focused on giving context to the Bible reading(s) to be read in church that day. Small groups functioned as they had historically, with Middle School Girls meeting monthly with sporadic leadership (Ellie and Alexandria were both abroad) and High School Small Group meeting every other week under Chris – each garnering around five participants per event. By the end of the year, High School Small Group saw a notable rise in participation, bringing in closer to 10 students per event.

Finally, a note on staff: Chris found a new team of six or so volunteers to help with youth group and off-site events and hired one, Claire Adams, on a part-time basis to help with his work, planning, and clean-up.

Young Adults and Families

2019 was another wonderful year for Young Adults & Families. The commitment to join with the WNO dinners followed by a weekly PINTS bible/book study continued to be a success. Attendance at PINTS steadily grew throughout the year as we read Theology for Presbyterians by the PC (USA)'s Being Reformed series in the spring, and Searching for Sunday: Loving, Leaving, and Finding the Church by Rachel Held Evans in the fall.

Monthly events continued to be great ways to connect both YAF congregation members and visitors alike. Our most popular events of the spring and summer seasons were our annual crawfish boil, bowling at Rock 'n' Bowl, kayaking on Bayou St. John, and attending a Babycakes baseball game. We continued to serve with Crescent City Café once per season. Bria left on maternity leave in early October and Chris Hazlaris as well as the YAF Leadership Team carried out the remaining fall events. In Bria's absence, the YAF group continued to meet in the context of PINTS every Wednesday, where they would talk about their weeks and continue to discuss the book topic of the day. In addition, the YAF leadership team hosted the traditionally largest annual events (Pumpkin Carving, a Friendsgiving Feast, and a Christmas Brunch and White Elephant Gift Exchange).

Small Groups

The 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

Adult Christian Education remained busy this year with many leaders stepping up to lead tradition and thought-provoking classes. Parenting classes included Parenting in the Pew, Home Grown, and Boundaries with Kids. Bible study classes were most weekends and Bill Banta taught a class, Roles of Christians Facing Moral Issues, which was well received. Michael Jinkins taught a class in the fall called What in the World is the Holy Spirit Up To and we had successful Lent and Advent classes.

The number and quality of our volunteer leaders allows us to offer classes that touch many of our members.

* * *

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Sarah Edgecombe, 2019 Chair, Spiritual Formation

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Chair: Holly Sharp Snodgrass | Vice-Chair: George Wilson

The Stewardship Committee for the 2020 campaign consisted of Chair Holly Snodgrass, Vice- Chair George Wilson, and Price Lanier. The committee met on an as-needed basis to discuss strategy and goals for the 2020 campaign. The campaign theme "I want to be in that number" was taken from the 4th book of the Bible "Numbers." The Stewardship kick off on Sunday September 29, 2019 featured readings and the sermon theme from the book of "Numbers" with a second line jazz band encouraging all to be in that number with a 2020 pledge. A journal for days in October was developed with passages from "Numbers," church statistics, quotes from several church members, and pictures of church events and church programs As of December 31, 2019, 2020 pledges totaled $1,411,712, which is an increase of 2.26% over prior year amounts.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Sharp Snodgrass, 2019 Chair, Stewardship

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE

Chair: Matt Guy | Vice-Chair: Rick Grubb

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. 18 baptisms were approved, by the Session, 17 of which were performed in 2019!

Bonnie Shoemaker organizes each baptism, communicates to the committee the need for Session approval and works 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. This year SCAPC children became involved in baptisms, serving as "Baptism Buddies."

Flowers
We are so very thankful for Jennie Steele for her past service and willingness to continue in 2020. 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.

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.

The Music Program
The Church's Music splendid music program continues under the leadership of Steven Blackmon with leadership for the children's ensembles generously offered by dedicated members from the congregation. A special collection for the Choir was started in 2014 and continues. This special collection is made on Palm Sunday and the Sunday of the Celebration of Carols at Christmas time, the occasions when the fifty-member choir are joined by members of the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra. We are thankful for all who support the choir and music programs.

The Committee has discussed the plans for the new organ for the Sanctuary and the Chair was a member of the Ad Hoc Session Committee to develop and propose to the Session the plans for funding the new organ.

Scottish Heritage Sunday
Dave Grissett continues to manage the program and the budget, which is included annually on a continuing basis.

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

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,
Matt Guy, 2019 Chair, Worship and Music

A special thanks to our Elder Class of 2019 for three years of hard work!

Glenn Barnett
Jessie Bruggers
Sarah Edgecombe
Leigh Ferguson
Harrison Frampton
Matthew Guy
Margaret Ann Lindsey
Ann Maier
Deanna McLendon
Pete November
Susie Rumsfeld
Laura Shields (Clerk of Session)
Holly Snodgrass (Elder Trustee)
Ebie Strauss
Nathan Turner

Youth Elders:
Conery Schmidt
Jacob Thomas

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