

Flossmoor Community Church

A photograph of the exterior of Flossmoor Community Church. The church is a large, multi-story building constructed from grey stone. It features a prominent central tower with three tall, narrow, arched windows with shutters. Below these windows is a red door. The church is surrounded by lush greenery, including tall evergreen trees and flowering plants in the foreground. A black metal fence runs along the left side of the church. A black lamp post stands to the right of the church. The sky is bright and clear.

2019-2020

Annual Reports

In preparation for Congregational Meeting

Sunday, June 28, 2020 at 11 am



What a year this has been!

Pastor Fred launched his final year determined to keep energy high and the transition process going. The Search Committee compiled the congregation's wish list and collected resumes.

Church life continued in ways that we had come, perhaps, to take for granted: meaningful worship, eye-opening education, music (less our Praise Team, more to come on that!), programs for children and youth, and, of course, fellowship and service. We welcomed Randy Tate and Megan McGinity and said good-bye to Alison Billings.

(Meanwhile, the Van Til family searched for a church on the internet and paid us a visit...)

At our January Congregational meeting, we acknowledged that the time for transformation has come. Over the past ten years we've sharpened our focus, pared activities that no longer served, and nipped and tucked to fit our current size. Aided by talented staff, dedicated leadership and a faithful community, God's love flows through us yet and we are proactive and expectant.

We welcomed Travis Adams just before we were closing the building in the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic. We said good-bye to our beloved Pastor Fred by Zoom and a long-distance "Drive Bye-Bye".

Then, the Reverend Pastor Julie Van Til arrived, amid not one, but two, pandemics. COVID-19 reset us all; we are adapting on the fly, discovering anew how best to worship, serve and even call a pastor under extraordinary circumstances. Structural racism is not new, but the breadth of public acknowledgement is unprecedented. We will challenge ourselves this year to take action – individually and together - to chip away at this affront to our collective humanity.

God calls each of us to step into our full and unique giftedness, casting light and love in joyful abundance. May we shower blessings about us and find unlooked for gifts in return.

In Christ,

Anna Carvalho,
Chair, Governing Board



Pastor

Rev. Julie Van Til



Grace and peace to you! In the past week, the labyrinth outside my office has hosted a number of meaningful (and socially distant) conversations, which feels like an appropriate metaphor to remind us that, even though the whole church can't get back together yet, where two or three gather, Jesus is with us. As you enjoy loosening restrictions, stepping into neighbors' backyards or the driveways of friends from church, take a moment to sense the spirit of Christ in those connections. Don't take them for granted!

I am also mindful that some of you have still not been able to connect with others face to face. You may live alone, are immune-compromised, or just want to be cautious. To you also, Jesus says, "I am with you always." Please let us know if there is any special care you need as we try to make up for some of this distance by seeing each other's precious faces on Zoom on Sunday mornings.

As we view the larger landscape, where more and more people are willing to see the ways systemic racism has shaped layers of society and of our own experience, I imagine Jesus showing up alongside every person. Jesus is with each one, whether they know it or not. Sometimes he comforts, sometimes he confronts, sometimes he listens, sometimes he liberates. Always, he loves. It is my hope that we as a church will commit together to let Jesus' presence humble us, change us, and lead us into holy response that participates in God's healing of the whole world.

Here's to doing the work together, in grace and peace,

Pastor Julie

Assistant for Pastoral Care

Rev. Randall Tate



Highlights

Since joining the staff, I have spent a large portion of my time connecting with the staff and congregants on a personal, face-to-face basis to better understand their needs. I have made numerous visits to members' homes or in the hospital.

Additionally, I have assisted the pastor with presiding at Sunday services, including the administering of sacraments. I was able to perform one wedding and provided pre-marital counseling for two couples during the year.

Over the past months of pandemic and shelter-in-place orders, I have called as many of the seniors as possible.

Hopes

I look forward to working more with the Stephens Ministers, Deacons, and the many other volunteers that continue to care for the congregation throughout the year. Flossmoor Community Church could not be the 'caring church' that it is without them and their service.



My first full year as the Director of Church Operations has been both challenging and rewarding. I am honored to work with such a strong and dedicated staff and invaluable group of volunteers.

These are not “ordinary times”. Nothing is “ordinary” and we have flexed and stretched and learned to adapt to daily changes and updates about the state of our world. The FCC staff has come together to make changes to offer as much as possible to our congregation and community during very trying times.

In my position, I oversee support staff and work closely with Properties, Personnel and Finance Committees. I am also a staff representative of the Governing Board.

Highlights

Properties

While the building has been closed since mid-March, we have been working hard to keep up with maintenance and projects that can be advantageously addressed with fewer people in the building. I am on-site daily with our Maintenance Manager, Dave Dau, and Day Porter, Bob Callahan coordinating and completing projects as we are able. In addition, properties highlights include:

- West side of music wing flat roof replacement
- Sanctuary Dimmer Panel/Theatre Lighting replacement
- Sanctuary A/C repaired from Polar Vortex damage
- Updated all FCC exterior signage
- New cleaning company contract
- New lawn care and snow removal contracts

We are also receiving estimates for the following projects from our approved facilities plan:

- Walls, Masonry repairs
- Sealants, Windows, and Doors
- Gathering Space floor
- Floor coverings, Sanctuary

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Personnel

- We welcomed Rev. Randall Tate, Megan Maginity, Travis Adams, and Matt Chelich to the FCC staff
- We celebrated Brooke King-LaBreck's new position as Director of Communication and Community Engagement and Dallas Collins' transition from Interim to Director of Weekday Preschool.
- We thanked and said goodbye to Allison Billings for her three years of service as Director of Youth Ministries
- Ongoing work to update and/or clarify the church's documents and policies as they relate to the employees, volunteers, and members.

Finance

- Created a budget that was in-line with pledges, making difficult decisions and necessary cuts.
- Approved a 3% salary increase and reinstated professional development expenses for leadership staff.
- Began an internal audit of Church finances.
- Procured a PPP loan as part of the CARES Act.

Additional Highlights

- Worked closely with leadership to plan and implement safety guidelines amidst the spread of coronavirus, and eventually planning and facilitating the building shut down.
- Contacted regular facility users to explain our decision and stop use of space.
- Worked with church staff to transition to remote working.
- Coordinated with staff to cover building needs while building is shut down, get needed supplies, etc.
- Worked closely with pastor, finance chair, personnel chair, and GB chair to discuss staffing during a shut down.
- Helped facilitate application for CARES Act PPP loan.
- Come into building daily to receive mail, check building security and maintenance issues.
- Worked with personnel chair and attorney to put together separation agreement for Pastor Fred

- Worked with Pastor Fred to help coordinate his physical exit from FCC
- Receive all incoming messages and forward to proper personnel
- Prepared Pastor's office for Julie's arrival
- Worked closely with leadership to create and implement a Phases of Regathering plan for FCC
- Follow CDC and state guidelines and closely watch area Covid-19 spread rates to safely implement progress in our individual regathering phases.

Hopes

- Safely facilitating the next phases of regathering.
- Welcome the congregation and neighborhood community to safely socially distance and visit on our church grounds on chairs purchased for this use.
- Work with facility users who offer services to our community to safely use our space again
- Work with individual staff needs to determine when staff will begin to return to the building.
- Work with worship team to update our streaming abilities to plan for future virtual worship experiences.





In this position, I currently offer staff support to Adult Education Committee, Board of Congregational Connections, Board of Faith in Action and Nominating Committee. Additionally, I work in the areas of worship and communications and attend Governing Board.

Highlights

Adult Education

- Offered support to Jessica Groen in creation of a thoughtful and engaging Fall and Spring calendar of educational opportunities.
- Organized February showing of Nate Grant's film "JOB". Assisted Trina Hayes in moderating discussion and providing refreshments following showing.

Communication

- As Brooke King-LaBreck began her position of Director of Communications & Community Engagement, I passed over maintenance of website, eblast and social media account. My role turned more toward consultant and back-up for Brooke, as she took communications in wonderful new directions!
- Initiated using Zoom for staff and church meetings during shutdown.

Congregational Connections

- Worked with Brooke King-LaBreck and Vanessa Richardson to organize this new Board, as we took over the work from Congregational Life and Lay Ministry Boards.
- Launched "Connect Events" concept, with several successful events aimed at low cost/low commitment gatherings, centered around a common interest, event or outreach. These events were halted due to shutdown.
- Led New Member Information Sessions in October and January, which led to six new members joining FCC. The session planned for March 15 had 10+ interested participants, but was unfortunately cancelled due to shutdown.
- Organized and recruited volunteers for water station #10 of the Hidden Gem Half Marathon



Nominating Committee

- Provided documents to Nominating Committee in preparation for the "Slate Meeting" held in early March to discern who we would call for positions next year.
- Switched "Letters of Call" to email letters, to allow more rapid response and eliminating mail issues. This was a very positive change, as those called felt free to reach out via email quickly with questions or concerns, and reduced the number of follow up call that were needed by members of the Committee.

Worship

- Assisted Pastor Fred in worship planning for Fall, Spring and Summer, including themes for Advent and Lent.
- Preached and provided worship leadership four times pre-shutdown.
- Led organization efforts for online worship, post-shutdown. Worked with Randy, Travis, Leslie & Vonda to provide worship during May.

Governing Board

- Attended meetings of the board, offered general support.
- Prepared information distributed and publicized for the January Congregational Meeting.
- Worked with Anna Carvalho to plan and conduct Training and Planning Session in summer.
- Also assisted Long Range Vision Committee with resources and attended meetings.

Transition

- Assisted Search Committee when requested.
- Worked with Pastor Julie to plan and record candidating worship service (May 3).
- Organized procedures and instructions for Zoom Candidate Meetings and casting votes.
- Moderated all Zoom Meetings with Candidate.
- Consulted with Pastor Julie in May regarding transition and summer worship plans.

Hopes

Support Pastor Julie, church leadership and staff as we make decisions and plans regarding worship, regathering, how we are called to respond to the needs of our community, how we gather, and what our new priorities should be.

Work to provide opportunities to welcome new members into our church during our time apart.

Faithfully strive to heal and correct those things that hurt God's heart (and our hearts!)



Summer 2019 – February 2020 (Submitted by Betsy Hanzelin)

Highlights

- 8 youth and 4 adults served on a very successful work trip at the end of June to Virginia. The group worked with Habitat for Humanity, and the Calvary UMC Food Pantry.
- Church at the Beach (West Beach, IN) on July 14
- Special August “Senior Send Off” event for class of 2019, including a scavenger hunt and dinner together.
- With Children’s Ministries, held first joint CM & YM Kick-Off event with lunch in the Community House.



- Youth once again assisted with worship leadership on World Communion Sunday.
- Tribes taught Children’s Ministry classes for three Sundays in November.
- 2 Fall Retreats (Leadership – Aug. & Quest Retreat – Oct.)
- 2 Sunday Night Youth Groups in Fall, including serving PADS guests in November.
- Allison announced that she was leaving FCC for a new position (Nov. 13), and her last day was December 15.
- Betsy Hanzelin covered Youth Ministries organizationally from January 1 – February 15.
- Recruited two Lay Advisors to fill in the absences of Allison & Marc Billings. We are grateful that Dodi Wians and Julie Johnson stepped back in for the remainder of the semester.
- World Religions Retreat in January.
- Assisted training Travis Adams for the DYM position when he thankfully arrived in February!

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February 2020 – June 2020 (Submitted by Travis Adams)

Highlights

- Orientation to FCC and the congregation cut short due to Covid-19 lockdown.
 - FCC Youth offered several weekly opportunities for others to join Bible Study and online gaming sessions during months of home isolation.
 - Volunteer staff agreed to stay on while the program attempts to return to normality by the end of the year.
- We initiated online sessions to compensate for traditions hindered by Covid-19, including online Pastoral Confirmation interviews and videos highlighting the achievements accomplished by the 2020 high school graduates.

Hopes

- With the completion of the student's regular e-learning schedule, the summer provides a myriad of opportunities to engage in social activities, which shall permit students to fellowship and process the plethora of complicated circumstances facing our communities. We look forward to experimenting with cinema, art, and games specifically tailored to each age group in our program throughout the summer.
- I still have a strong need and desire to become more personally acquainted with each youth and their families. As regathering plans present opportunities to interact in person while maintaining safe social distancing practices, I look forward to becoming more integrated within the FCC community.
- We are exploring the logistics necessary to present more social and discipleship opportunities for our Juniors and Seniors. Many have expressed they enjoy the experience of serving in a leadership role with their younger peers. Simultaneously, a strong desire to have a responsibility-free time with their friends has been articulated as well. We hope to meet this need by incorporating intentional time to meet these needs into the regular flow of the program.





Highlights

Vacation Bible School

Last Summer's Vacation Bible school was held July 15-18. We had about 110 kids participate and about half of them performed songs learned at VBS during worship that following Sunday.



Christmas Pageant

We had a very successful pageant this year! We changed the script to make it more engaging and to give the younger kids more to do during the performance. This was run by Leslie Maxie and Katie VanHeel.

Children in Worship

We made a change this year and discontinued "Worship Wigglers" during the worship service. In lieu of Wigglers, Katie VanHeel has had Children's Choir practice for ages 4 yrs-5th grade. We also extended the ages of the nursery to include all preschool age children up to 4 years old. As always, children are welcome to remain in worship with their families.

The "Praygrounds" installations at the front of the Sanctuary have proven to be an invaluable asset to the worship space, allowing children to stay in worship with their parents. The tables have been taken away, leaving soft seating and new quiet and engaging toys purchased with children with sensory issues in mind. Clipboards with coloring pages have also been added so kids can sit on pillows and color. Parents are reminded to sit close by to keep an eye on the children.

Sunday School

Our re-written 3rd grade bible class was taught by Jessica Groen and Nils Wickstrom and was a huge success. There were 4 kids who received their Bibles this year. We decided it made the most sense for the kids to actually use the Bibles they receive for the remainder of their time in the Children's Ministries program, so the Bibles that the 3rd graders receive are now being used by the 4th and 5th grade classes, with changes made to the curriculum to make this possible.

Our Children's Ministries program changed its age levels. The program now runs from 2 years old to fifth grade (instead of 3 years old to 6th grade). The twelve incoming sixth graders we had were moved up to the Youth program. This change brings our Sunday School learning in line with standard school age transitions.

Parent Observation days have continued to be a part of Sunday school, allowing the parents to be a part of what's going on. The kids generally do some sort of performance on these days and one day was more of a parent appreciation day where the kids made breakfast for the parents.

Soph's Youth Group taught Sunday School lessons for three weeks in November.



The 4th/5th grade class made and served PADS dinner in October. The class was scheduled to serve again in March, but was changed to just adults due to the new onset of the Coronavirus.

Sunday School continued through the stay at home order, via Zoom. We had 2 classes, one for the younger kids and one for the older kids. It was quite successful each week. Some weeks we dropped off things for the kids to use during the Zoom lesson. The Sunday School season was extended through the end of May.



Special Events

Children's Ministries hosted multiple fun events this year. We hosted a community Halloween party in lieu of trunk or treat and hosted approximately 150 people in the Community House, many of whom were new faces. We also hosted our annual Blizzard Blast in January, also heavily

attended with our kids and kids from the community.

The ever-popular monthly WooHOO Wednesday's were held through March and were highly attended, again bringing in many visitors from the community. We hope to continue to build a trusting relationship with these families in our community and get them more involved in the church going forward.

Our annual "Ramp it Up" celebrations to welcome Weekday Preschool families to Children's Ministries summer offerings was cancelled this year, due to the Stay at home order.

Vacation Bible School has been cancelled for health and safety concerns amidst the pandemic.

We have planned a series of Zoom story times for the kids of the community over the summer. Currently our focus has been on guiding conversations about racism and appreciating people's differences. We look ahead to covering the topics of kindness, fear and belonging.

We look forward to trying virtual WooHOO Wednesday-type events. These will likely be things like Zoom dance parties or Zoom charades. Once safety guidelines allow for the gathering of more than ten people, we may look towards outdoor children's activities. These will be planned as things progress.

Hopes

- Continue to look for more ways to serve the children and families in the community.
- Bring more kids to the program and have them stay for the whole program year.
- Host a back-to-school kick-off event to get families excited and round up volunteers for the program year in August.
- Build a strong volunteer base.
- Continue working with the Spark rotation curriculum and personalize it to best suit our Ministry.
- To have a computer set up in the Promised Land so that the kids can do the complete rotation offered in the curriculum and to reach them in a platform that is most fun and comfortable for them.





I'm exceedingly grateful to the Governing Board, FCC Staff, and congregation for their confidence and support in my promotion to this newly-created role in August 2019 after serving on staff for 15 years as the Administrative Assistant to the Pastors.

In my position, I oversee FCC's website and social media presence, design all online and print publications, promote the ministries and welcoming spirit of FCC to the community, and coordinate and plan special events and fundraisers to foster community and congregational engagement.

I offer staff support to the Board of Congregational Connections and attend Governing Board meetings as appropriate.



Homewood-Flossmoor Show Off

Our 3rd annual talent showcase benefitting FCC PADS was held Friday, November 22 inside the Community House. Guests enjoyed the talents of a children's choir, a brass choir, a rock band, a one man band, as well as ten individual musicians. Once again, all seating was taken with standing room only. Over 30 FCC volunteers pitched in with raffle sales, bartending, cleanup and hospitality. We welcomed a returning food truck from Community House Fest. Tito's Handmade Vodka and Blue Island Beer Co donated their product allowing 100% of alcohol sales to benefit FCC PADS. For the second year, Tito's Handmade Vodka matched our fundraising for FCC PADS on top of their generous contributions.



Highlights

SPECIAL EVENTS

Community House Fest

Our 2nd Annual Community House Fest, benefitting the restoration and preservation of our historical Community House, was held Saturday, August 31. The event was largely attended by the community and had a tremendous amount of support from local businesses who offered sponsorship to offset costs and maximize our fundraising efforts. Over 60 FCC faithful volunteers combined efforts to keep the festival running smoothly. We could not have pulled off such a large scale endeavor without their hospitable smiles, helping hands, and cheerful presence.

This year a large outdoor tented stage was erected in the Community House lawn providing live music throughout the day and night. The parking lot was staged with an assortment of Food Truck options, (all of whom gave a percentage of sales to the Fest), facepainting, a bubble show, and a large jumpy-house castle with a slide.

Titos Handmade Vodka and Rabid Brewing once again generously donated their product so that 100% of alcohol sales would benefit the cause. Additional funds were raised from the ticket sales from pop and water, facepainting, and the jumpy house.

It was an amazing day filled with the spirit of community connection and volunteersim.

BYOB Bingo

Partnered with the Board of Congregational Connections (BCC) for a congregation & community event hosting a split-the-pot Bingo Friday, October 25 at the Community House. This event was volunteer staffed by members of the board and MC'd by myself and Leslie Maxie (Director of Children's Ministries). Attendance was outstanding and primarily attended by the community, many of whom had never been to the Community House before and later, returned with facility use requests for the building. Although bingo card cost was minimal (\$5 first round, \$2 additional cards) and we had no beverage sales, our fundraising efforts were astonishingly high for an event of only 2 hours, and benefitted the FCC general operation budget. BCC decided we would continue to hold BYOB Bingo quarterly, however our March event was unfortunately cancelled due to Covid-19 community spread concerns, just days before the church formally announced their closure for the pandemic.

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Web Design

- Redesigned the FCC Weekday Preschool website, changing its hosting domain to that of FCC's, improving its navigability, giving it a cleaner design, and allowing the preschool to use it as a space to share upcoming news and registration forms
- Redesigned the FCC website following our closure due to the pandemic to better suit the needs of our congregation for our time sheltering in place to offer worship experiences, ways to help, and resources.

Logos

Designed new logos for the following:

Pastoral Search Committee, 2019 New Season Sunday, 2019-2020 "This is Our Story" Stewardship Campaign, Connect Events, BYOB Bingo, 2020 Lenten "Holy Transition", "Apart Yet Joined By Faith"

Print & online media

- Designed new outdoor signage
- Designed Welcoming Statement banners for entrances
- Designed 2019-2020 Women's & Men's Association program year brochure
- Redesigned and produced monthly Narthex newsletter September - March, with special edition in June
- Weekly Sunday bulletins & Faith Family Matters
- Memorial bulletins
- Designed 4 special print advertisements for FCC in the Homewood-Flossmoor Chronicle
- Publicity posters and flyers for FCC ministries and special events
- Learned new software for video editing and mastered the weekly editing of pre-recorded worship services during shutdown as well as the editing of Zoom worship
- Creation of hundreds of graphics for facebook events and individual posts

SOCIAL MEDIA

- Management of FCC's Instagram & Facebook accounts
- Generated several community-facing posts which saw a high amount of engagement and traffic
- Saw tremendous growth in the past year with followers, likes, interactions, shares, post reach and engagement
- Generated paid facebook ads for community events
- Near-daily posts designed to communicate important news and engage the congregation to keep us together while apart

OTHER

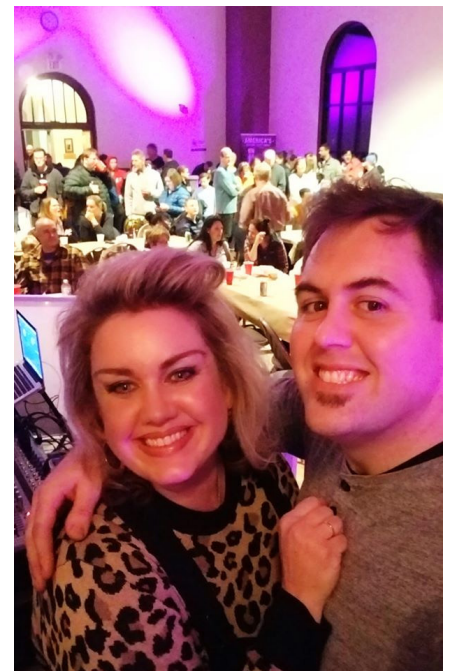
Pandemic Strategy Planning

- Worked closely with leadership to plan, communicate and implement safety guidelines amidst the spread of coronavirus, and eventually planning and facilitating the building shut down
- Worked alongside staff to transition our ministries to online-only format
- Worked closely with leadership to create and communicate a Phases of Regathering plan for FCC

Hopes

It's hard to imagine how different my "community engagement" will look in the year ahead. It's frustrating to feel that years of laying the groundwork, building relationships with sponsors, and snowballing community attendance has come to a grinding halt with the pandemic. While moving my entire ministry online has certainly proved challenging, it is hardly without hope. I now strive to engage the community online, and have been very encouraged by the fact that perhaps this offers the opportunity for others who might not otherwise visit FCC to know us even better. Rather than planning special events to entice the community and foster engagement, I am posting content which challenges the public to action and to know us by our love. The community likes what it sees. Each week we pick up new followers, new inquiries, new e-blast signups. They are getting to know who we are by our online presence in ways they may not have in showing up for Bingo.

I cannot wait for the day we can safely gather in groups again. I ache for my beautiful office and stare longingly at my party-planning hat. But I see God at work in what we are doing in our time apart. We continue to stretch and grow. I am excited about the ways we will be reaching and challenging each other and the community in the year ahead. I'm all in.





Overall, many thanks to WPDC (Weekday Preschool Directing Committee) & WPPA (Weekday Preschool Parents Auxiliary), whose support and assistance throughout the year make WPS stand out and thrive in our community. Our reputation and word-of-mouth advertising keeps WPS as a welcoming, inclusive safe space for all.

Highlights

- For the program year of 2019-2020 we had an enrollment of 102 children, and welcomed back the following returning staff:
Dallas Collins- Interim Director (11 years), Marji O'Leary (27 years), Laura Lilly (25 years), Darlene Welling (20 years), Barb Johnson (11 years), Nan Wexler (11 years), Jen Ermshler (8 years), Amy Simmons (4 years), Chris Clark (3 years), Nancy Wilson (2 years)
- We also welcomed the following new staff members:
Janice Gislason & Amy Dillman
- Flossmoor Fire Department certified our Weekday Preschool teachers in CPR and First Aid.
- Erin Keigher offered free speech & language screenings for 3, 4, & 5 year olds. These are an invaluable asset to our school and community. Erin also continued language & literacy groups in the 2's & 3's classrooms twice a month.
- Fall at Weekday brought field trips to The Children's Farm and Windmill Acres, picture days, WPS gear sales, playground clean-up and Halloween parties.
- Our annual Sock Hop at the Community House was fun night to dance with a DJ. WPS collected food items for Respond Now.
- Our library is maintained by parent volunteers and is visited by the classrooms each week.
- Parent/Teacher conferences were held with additional early and late hour options, we received positive feedback on the change.
- Enrichments offered throughout the year were Weekday Scientists, Little Doodlers, Cooking, Little Theatrics, Mixed Media Art & Earth Care. Enrichments and Lunchbreaks continue to be popular to extend children's day until 2pm. Lunch is made and served on site.

- Winter at Weekday continued collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House, sponsored a Christmas Angel family through FCC, and hosted classroom holiday parties.
- Some classrooms attended an African Drum field trip, Dudes & Donuts was a hit and the Family Fun event had yoga, hand tiles and a ukulele player.

All of our realities changed with the COVID-19 pandemic closures, just as WPS was prepping for Parent/Teacher conferences and Spring Break. Our teachers did an amazing job shifting gears and engaging with students in a variety of ways. Teachers made multiple home visits to drop off books, art supplies & activities. Some even read giant picture books with a boom box to dance and entertain their students at a safe distance. There were multiple Zoom meetings, phone calls, emails, text messages and face times. Facebook and YouTube became an electronic library of teacher storytimes and online experiments and ideas to try at home. A teacher parade lined the street in front of FCC & WPS too! I'm simply so impressed how our teachers have gone above and beyond to meet the needs of their student and families during this pandemic.

Hopes

As we look to the Fall of 2020, There are still a variety of unknowns. I'm hopeful and confident we will provide a safe version of preschool that meets all guidelines and enhances play, curiosity and socialization. We're lucky at Weekday, we already operate with low teacher-student ratios and have a fabulous outdoor space to utilize. We are accepting enrollment registrations currently- stay tuned for updates!

Respectfully submitted, Dallas Collins





Highlights

Chancel Choir & Ringers

The Chancel Choir and Chancel Ringers have continued to flourish under the direction of Mike Rugen. We love hearing the choir perform twice a month and the Ringers once a month. We wish we could have continued to enjoy their music in person this spring, particularly for Maundy Thursday and the Easter services. The choir does have some special performances in the works and are continuing to meet every Thursday via Zoom!

All of Vonda Hardesty's performances and accompaniments on organ and piano are highlights, and we are so blessed to have her at Flossmoor Community Church. We are so thankful she is continuing to play for our virtual worship services.



Praise Ensemble

It was so lovely to have Praise come together once again and perform beautifully for one of our Christmas Eve services. While we unfortunately did not fill the Praise Director position this year, we are hopeful for the future of our ensemble. We are so grateful to have Matt Chelich join our music team and look forward to having him play piano for Praise when we can gather together again. I would like to thank the members of Praise for their patience and guidance during this time.

Children's Choir

Children's Choir went through a big change this year! Having the choir rehearse on Sunday mornings during worship has greatly increased our numbers. They've been a fun bunch and done a great job this year. Special thanks to the wonderful Shari Sweeney for accompanying us on the piano again!

Sound

Last summer, we made some much needed upgrades to our system. We had a new projector installed and fixed the two TV monitors in the Sanctuary. We hope to utilize this equipment more when we are able to be together again in the church.

Our awesome sound tech, John Russell, graduated from HF this year and is heading off to the University of Southern California to study communications. We know he has a bright future ahead and wish him well!

Summer Music

We are collecting audio and video recordings from the congregation to use in our virtual worship services. Please keep sending them in!

Hopes

- I hope God sends us someone amazing to lead our Praise team.
- I hope more people join all of our outstanding music ensembles.
- I hope we can come together soon so we can enjoy our music live in the Sanctuary!





I would like to offer a special thank you to the members of this team, Leslie Maxie, Travis Adams, Jessica Groen and Dallas Collins for the outstanding jobs they did under very adverse conditions. Leslie and Travis were able to continue by adapting and adjusting their programs on a moment's notice and continued to provide educational and fellowship opportunities for our children and youth during the quarantine. I look forward to seeing how these innovative and creative teachers will adjust, adapt and grow their programs in light of the unknown conditions and restrictions we will face in the upcoming programming year.

Rebecca Courington, Chair of Christian Education

Adult Education

Jessica Groen

Highlights

- Pastor Fred taught several Wednesday evening courses in the fall and spring. His courses ranged from book studies, to thematic Bible studies, to education about liturgy in the Christian tradition.
- Phil and Rebecca Courington led an in-depth New Testament study of Acts and the Epistles on Sunday mornings in the fall.
- Trina Hayes led a sustained in-depth book study of *Holy Envy* by Barbara Brown Taylor on Sunday mornings throughout the year. Trina also hosted additional one-session book discussions as part of the Discovery Book club series, including *Born a Crime* on MLK Jr. Day weekend.
- Jessica Groen and Trina Hayes created and facilitated a 4-week course on *The 1619 Project* for Black History month in February
- Our committee created a weekly Sunday morning classroom dedicated to drop-in classes, for visitors and those unable to commit to a longer course. Each class supported at least one of the following FCC priorities for developing our congregation's spiritual health: Supporting Children and Families, Promoting Diversity and Safe Spaces, Developing Bible Literacy, and Community Engagement. These drop-ins included four guest speakers, David Zaber, Leslie Lopez, Danielle Nolen-Ragland, Emily Bosscher, and one member speaker, Audrey Weidman. We provided a \$75 honorarium to each non-member speaker. Drop-in class facilitators included a variety of church members and regular visitors, including Megan Brackin, Bill McCormick, Jennifer Haggerty, Dr. Phil Royster, and Jessica Groen.
- We planned three excursions to enrichment events produced and hosted by other organizations:

1. A documentary on early childhood education at the Homewood Science Center
2. A history documentary of Chicago's 1919 Red Summer at the DuSable Museum of African American History
3. The January 12 "Just Mercy" Connect Event co-hosted with Board of Congregational Connections was a success, with a couple dozen participants going to the movie at a public theatre and gathering at a members home for refreshments and discussion.

The Adult Education program suspended in mid-March when the stay-at-home order commenced, and the committee has been inactive for the last several months.

Appreciation

Thank you to Betsy Hanzelin and Brooke King-LaBreck for providing administrative support to the efforts of this committee, especially through assistance with formatting promotional materials, and routinely publishing paper and digital announcements of the courses, classes, and special events for congregation and wider community.

Looking Ahead

I have agreed to chair this committee for 20-21 year. This summer the committee will create and distribute a participant survey to gauge the congregation's opinions of 19-20 curriculum. We will also discuss which Covid-cancelled classes can be re-entered into the 20-21 calendar. Committee members will converse with Rev. Van Til, Betsy Hanzelin, and current Governing Board chair to make sure their recommendations, suggestions, topic priorities, and teaching plans are built into the 20-21 Adult Education calendar.



Highlights

FELLOWSHIP

The Board of Congregational Connections adjusted the approach to fellowship events this year, by supporting smaller opportunities for people to gather for

fun and/or for a purpose. In this increasingly busy world, sometimes it is hard to find time to connect with others and enjoy just being together. Connect Events can offer us many opportunities to gather for low-key congregational connecting.

A Connect Event is a gathering sponsored by an individual, team or group who want to provide space for shared interests, outreach, or enjoyment. Connect Events can be targeted to certain groups, to families or to everyone. The host or organizer supplies the idea, and Communications Staff provides publicity, sign ups, etc.

Connect Events the year included:

- Women's Night Out at Bottle and Bottega on July 24. Thirteen women attended and shared laughs, beverages and snacks as we attempted to paint a sunset scene.
- Bears and Bonfire on October 20 in the backyard of Rick and Betsy Hanzelin. A great crowd assembled to watch the game and share snacks and beverages.
- Concert & Dinner, organized by Barb Smith. The group attended a choir concert at St. Joe's and gathered for pizza and fellowship afterwards at Aurelios Pizza.
- Movie & Discussion on June 12. The group went to Marcus – Country Club Hills theater to watch "Just Mercy", and gathered at the home of Jessica and Jeff Groen for a lively and thoughtful discussion, and delicious treats prepared by Jess & Jeff.

Other Fellowship/Community Engagement Events

- Assisted with Community House Fest on August 31.
- Assisted with Brooke King-LaBreck's cake reception for her 15th anniversary working at FCC in September.
- BYO Bingo event on October 13 was a great outreach to the community, as the majority of attendees were not from the congregation! It was a fun event, and turned into a great fundraiser as well.

- Assisted with the Community Show-Off in November
- Assisted with showing of Nate Grant's movie "Job" in February.

MEMBERSHIP

- Hosted Member Information Sessions in October and January, which brought six new members into the congregation
- Our third Membership Info Session was planned for March 15, which was cancelled due to Pandemic closing. We had 10+ people interested in attending and joining. Depending on length of our closure, we may look into providing a Session via Zoom, or outside over the coming months.

Hopes

- With the huge success of the BYOB Bingo we were looking to bring it back in March. With the COVID-19 pandemic and the Governors shelter in place order we had to cancel it. When things slowly open back up and it's safe to do so, the Board would like to host this event several times a year.
- We also planned a good bye party for Pastor Fred in April but because of the current situation there was a virtual drive bye for Fred and Jan with hopes to bring him back when it is safe for us to gather and celebrate him properly.
- To continue making Flossmoor Community Church a welcoming place for all who walk through our doors.





It has been my pleasure to serve as chairperson of the Diaconate Board for the past three years. The opportunities for fellowship, exchange of ideas, planning and evaluating the delivery of services to those in need has been stimulating and rewarding. I am grateful

to my fellow congregants who will take up the mantle and continue this valuable service to FCC members.

Our 12-member board is charged with the provision of emergency aid to members who are homebound or in need of assistance for a short time. Currently there are seven ministry areas serving the congregation each with a board member serving as coordinator. Support is received from the congregation and peers.

With the faithful, generous, loving service of board members and congregants, we are able to provide the following services: transportation to medical/hospital appointments, support for memorial services, meals, greeting card distribution, delivery of floral arrangements, prayer shawl distribution and visitations/telephone contact. Also, many of you have donated greeting cards, served as ushers, greeters and assisted with preparation of refreshments, clean-up duties, and other related activities for memorial services, and supported the meal preparation service.

Your support is deeply appreciated and recipients express gratitude for services and blessed by our efforts.

MINISTRY SERVICE COORDINATORS:

- **Transportation:** Rides were provided as requested (7). Decreased activity noted related to the COVID19 Pandemic and protocols. Pat Mucklow, Coordinator
- **Floral Deliveries:** completed weekly based on the schedule provided by church staff (32). In 2019, 20 Easter Lilies were delivered in April and Christmas Poinsettias were available based on changes made to the program and notification from church staff. In 2020, floral deliveries were completed according to the schedule from January 5 – March 8 and were discontinued thereafter related to the COVID19 crisis. Shannon Williams, Coordinator
- **Meals:** 10 meals were either cooked or purchased for those in need. Requests declined with the occurrence of the pandemic. Brian Dobben, Coordinator

- **Memorial Services:** 11 receptions and related services were provided to families experiencing bereavement. Jane Hindsley, Coordinator
- **Greeting Card Distribution:** 98 cards were sent to those experiencing illness, loss, or other life changes during this reporting period. Judith Kirby, Judith Hanzelin, Coordinators
- **Visitation Ministry/ Telephone contacts:** Multiple home/ hospital visits and phone contacts were completed. Support was provided for Pastor Lyon and Pastor Tate during scheduled absences and other times of need. Jeanne provided emergency coverage for Pastor Fred on Tuesdays with Pastor Tate covering other days and Board members covering on as needed. Jeanne Deaver Higgins, Coordinator
- **Shawl preparation/ Distribution:** 11 shawls were distributed. Barbara Johnson, Judith Hanzelin, Coordinators
- Sis Flor served as recording secretary

Highlights

- Orientation/Reception for new members was held July 28, 2019 at the home of Jane Hindsley. We welcomed, Brian Dobben, Beth Samargin. Judith Hanzelin joined us at a later date.
- We welcomed Gailyn Howell to the board February 23, 2020.
- Rev. Randall Tate, Assistant to the Pastor for Pastoral Care, joined the Flossmoor Church Community staff July, 2019 and supported the Diaconate Board by providing visitations, spiritual support, and phone contact for members.
- Visitation workshop planned for March, 2020, with Pastor Fred Lyon as the presenter. However, this event was cancelled due to scheduling concerns. Pastor Fred recommended that the event be scheduled later in the spring with Pastor Randall Tate as presenter. But the training was cancelled due to the COVID pandemic and gathering restrictions.
- Article V. Section (Diaconate Board), number 7 was reviewed and revised in order to reflect Diaconate Board support of the Stephen Ministers instead of implying that the Diaconate Board was responsible for the oversight, training, and supervision of the Stephen Ministers. Governing Board approval was obtained February 25, 2020.

- Monthly Diaconate meetings usually held at FCC were put on hold in March, 2020 due to COVID19 protocols. Communication and interactions were accomplished by phone and email.
- Barbara Johnson and Judith Hanzelin updated the Prayer Shawl Ministry guidelines and expanded distribution to include the friends and relatives of FCC members and anyone who might benefit from a Prayer Shawl based on recommendations from the congregation. Notification was posted in the Narthex to update members of program changes. Shawls are hand made by Barbara Johnson who ensures that adequate supplies are available.
- Diaconate Board members supported two FCC communication initiatives:
 1. In cooperation with Pastors, Stephen Ministers and others, Deacons called FCC members to notify them of changes in church operations, and worship services related to COVID19 protocols.
 2. The second initiative, Staying in Communication, was designed by Pastors and staff with the goal of establishing and maintaining phone contact with members during our time of adjusted church hours and using these calls as an opportunity to promote general well-being and identify needs. Of special concern were individuals over age 75 and those who live alone. Starting in March, weekly calls were initiated and continue until further notice.
- Descriptions/ protocols were updated for Meal distribution and Memorials.
- Special thanks and gratitude to Jean Deaver-Higgins and Judith Hanzelin, who are leaving the board at the end of this service term and to Maurice Page who provided Phone contact support during the summer transition period.
- Pat Mucklow and Shannon Williams have agreed to serve for another three-year term. We appreciate their commitment and support.
- We continue in prayer for Judith Kirby who has faithfully served with the card distribution ministry. May she and her family feel our love, concern and support during this time.

Hopes

- Additional volunteers are needed for each service area. If interested, please contact the church office. Staff will advise you of the opportunities and process going forward.
- Review of Meal distribution protocols with a focus on unusual situations such as the recent pandemic. Brian Dobben has submitted ideas for consideration.
- Explore the possibilities of expanding services based on identified needs and church support.
- Members may contribute to the Meal Fund by writing a check to FCC Diaconate Ministry and noting "meal ministry" on the memo line.
- For those interested in supporting the shawl ministry by providing supplies, monetary donations or creating shawls, please contact Barbara Johnson.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyliss M. Royster, June 10, 2020





The renamed Board of Faith in Action (formerly Outreach Ministries) continues to identify recipients for the church's special offerings, mission grants, as well as creating opportunities to mend God's heart regarding injustices in our community by meeting the needs of our neighbors via outreach activities that can involve our congregants and their families.

Highlights

- In July BFA coordinated a water drive for University Park, whose water had been declared unsafe to drink or for use to wash dishes, take showers, etc. due to high levels of lead. Volunteers delivered bottled water, paper plates, plastic utensils, and disinfecting wipes donated by the congregation and community to the University Park Fire Station.
- The Fall World Communion Offering (\$6888) was divided between International Rescue Committee (\$3569), an organization who responds to the world's worst humanitarian crises, and By The Hand (\$3319), an after-school program based in Chicago that helps kids from kindergarten through college.
- In September, BFA created a Connect Event and service project planting trees at Irons Oaks.
- In November, BFA created a food drive for Respond Now and delivered canned goods donated by the congregation.
- In January, \$19,900 was given in mission grants to six south suburban programs/agencies: Bethel Family Center (\$6800), Jones Center (\$4000), Lighthouse (\$600), Restoration Ministries (\$1500), Sheilah Doyle Foundation (\$2000), and South Suburban Family Shelter (\$5000)
- In February, BFA sponsored a volunteer opportunity at Feed My Starving Children in Aurora, where we packaged prepared meals for distribution to areas of need throughout the world. A special thank you to Phil Courington for organizing these efforts.
- BFA continued to support the salary of the PADS On Site Manager/Coordinator (\$6000)
- We continue to support KIVA, an international agency that provides micro-loans, primarily in third world countries.



Hopes

As we adjust to the lack of funding available for mission grants, we look to create more volunteer opportunities for outreach in the community for the congregation once conditions allow.



At the writing of this report, our time of virtual worship & operation in 2020 has far exceeded our in-person time together. Therefore it should come as no surprise that many areas of our budget have been impacted, both from the revenue and expense side. Should you be interested in any of the various budget account details; our financial budgets, which include our monthly and YTD budget performance, can be accessed on the FCC website.

I am pleased to report that overall (thru May) FCC is doing well financially and maintaining a balanced budget. Yes, some revenue areas have been impacted because of our building closure, but there are other program ministry, utility, and maintenance expenses that have not been incurred or that have been reduced and which have offset revenue losses.

As many of you know, Pledge Collections are our major source of revenue and fund the majority of our budget. Through the first half of the year (and this extended period of virtual operation) it is evident that our members are making a faithful and deliberate effort to maintain their pledge commitment in a timely fashion. As well, many members and friends of the church have been faithfully sending special offerings that support the overall operations and ministry of FCC.

However, we know that the current economic conditions have affected some harder than others. If you are sorting through the financial impact of the pandemic in your own life, please know that your needs and those of your family must come first. Please advise Judy Jensen, Financial Manager, of any temporary suspension of your pledge. That will also inform us to be able to reach out to you in ways that may be of support.

One other important item that I am pleased to report is FCC participation in the federal stimulus Paycheck Protection Program. On March 27 the CARES Act (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, And Economic Security Act) was passed and signed into law. As part of the CARES Act, the Small Business Administration (SBA) enacted the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP).

PPP provides forgivable loans to help small businesses and certain non-profits (including churches) maintain their payrolls during the COVID-19 crisis. The stated purpose of the PPP loans is to allow employers to maintain payrolls, help workers to remain employed, and to help our economy snap back quicker after the crisis.



The PPP program became known to us through the urging of some members & clergy. Thereafter, the Governing Board determined that we should seek to participate in the program. Application for a PPP loan was initiated with our lending institution in early April with loan approval received in mid-May. The loan funds will be used for payroll & utility expenses for an 8 week period that began in mid-May. After the conclusion of the 8 week period, funds used for payroll & utility expenses are eligible for 'forgiveness', or in essence, become a grant.

We know the PPP program will have a positive impact to our 2020 budget, but the full impact will not be known until late 3rd or early 4th quarter and not until we once again return to our in-person worship, building reopening and resumption of normal weekly activities. Once this becomes clearer we will communicate any important budget information to the congregation.

Bob Norby,

Treasurer/Finance Committee Chairperson

Foundation

Lois Glasgow



The Flossmoor Community Church Foundation is grateful to announce a significant gift from a former FCC member family estate that has been given to FCC Foundation. The gift is provided to further the spiritual life of Flossmoor Community Church. The gift is provided as a restricted asset. The earning of the asset will be directed toward programs that further the spiritual life as determined by the Church and Foundation leadership. Praises to the Lord for this blessing.

Nominating

Terese Thrall



Highlights

The Nominating Committee fulfilled its duties this year, by placing 3 committee chairs and 26 board and committee members in open seats. The committee did much of its work remotely as we were able to meet in person only once before the quarantine. Thanks to all committee members for their diligent work, to congregation members who made nominations, and to Betsy Hanzelin, who helped and guided us.

Hopes

That the new slate will contribute in significant ways to the committees and boards on which they serve, assisting our new pastor as we face current and future challenges.

Terese Thrall,
Nominating Committee Chair



The Personnel Committee strives to support the church's staff, individually and collectively, in their efforts to help the congregation pursue the mission of Flossmoor Community Church. It has been a year of transitions with staff job changes, new staff members, and recently, a new pastor. Many thanks to the staff for safely and thoughtfully

shutting down the church building early in the Covid-19 pandemic. Even though we have been physically apart during the closure, the staff has done a great job keeping us together in spirit. God has certainly blessed us with a capable and caring staff! We are also grateful that we have been able to pay our staff during the shutdown. Many thanks to the Personnel Committee members for giving your time to help support the staff and the congregation.

Highlights

- Hired the Reverend Randall Tate as our Assistant to the Pastor for Pastoral Care. Pastor Randy's gift for listening has been a blessing.
- Combined, changed, and created the new position, Director of Communication and Community Engagement. After 15 years on staff, Brooke King LaBreck has stepped into this new position with passion and compassion.
- Megan Maginity was hired as our new Administrative Assistant, and we are excited to have her on staff.
- Allison Billings stepped down as the Director of Youth Ministries. Lay leaders pitched in and Betsy Hanzelin took over the administrative portion of the Youth position in addition to her duties as Director of Congregational Enrichment. We are so grateful for Betsy's willingness to do this and for helping onboard the new director.
- Travis Adams was hired as our new Director of Youth Ministries in February and has been engaging with our youth remotely during the shutdown. We look forward to a time when Travis can use his energy to work with our youth in person.
- Matt Chelich was hired to accompany us during worship with his piano skills. Thank you, Katie Van Heel, for your hard work in finding this talented musician!

- Dallas Collins transitioned from Interim to Director of Weekday Preschool. We are grateful to her for serving as Interim Director and excited to have her on board as Director!
- Celebrated (remotely, unfortunately) Judy Jensen's 20 years of dedication and faithful service to FCC as Financial Manager.
- Leslie Maxie completed her first full year as Director of Children's Ministries and has brought new life into the programs for our youngest members. She has done a great job at providing ways to connect with our children remotely during the shutdown.
- Jamie Ford began as the new Director of Church Operations about this time last year and has taken on this leadership role with energy and grace. She has been a blessing to the church and to the Personnel Committee as staff liaison.

Hopes

- Facilitate opportunities for the staff to set individual goals and group goals.
- Evaluate ways to enhance the staff's professional development and growth opportunities.
- Explore opportunities to match staff member's skills and talents, to meet evolving congregational needs.
- Support Katie Van Heel and the Board of Worship and Arts in their search to fill the open Praise Director position.
- Clarify and/or update the church's documents and policies (Bylaws, Employee Policies and Practices Manual, and the church's Policy Prohibiting Sexual Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation for Reporting Harassment and Abuse) as they relate to the church employees, volunteers, and members.





Highlights

- Exterior painting completed
- Preschool entrance door replaced and rekeyed
- Music Wing flat roof replaced

- Dimmer Panel and Theatre lighting in Sanctuary replaced
- Wood entrance doors repaired and painted red
- Upgraded projector and repaired monitors in Sanctuary
- Pest control application and remediation on 2218 and 847
- Organ chamber extensive cleaning and repair from mouse infestation
- Sanctuary AC repair, coil replaced from damage during Polar Vortex of 2019
- FCC sign off Flossmoor Rd. replaced
- Weekday Preschool sign and frame replaced
- New signposts and signs installed outside main office entrance, Travers Rd. entrance and outside Community House
- Switched to a new cleaning company in December 2019
- Maintenance office repurposed for Director of Communication and Community Engagement. Maintenance staff moved to main office
- Plumbing repairs in preschool and 2nd floor education wing
- Fall clean-up performed by Properties Committee and a few congregation members
- Crazy Lights were put up and taken down by members of the Properties Committee
- Keypad security lock installed on office entrance door
- Building rekeyed. Staff have keys, all other users use individual code on keypad lock
- Gutter downspout replaced on west side of building near gathering space restrooms

- Gutter work on NE side of building completed, draining into lawn and away from patio/ramp
- New snow/ice removal and lawn care/fertilizer contract
- Main compressor in Boiler room repaired

Due to building shut-down the following changes were made:

- Reduced thermostat temperature due to lack of building use
- Reduced scavenger pick-up from 3/week to 1/week
- Reduced recycling pick-up from 1/week to 1/every-other-week
- Negotiated new cleaning contract to reduce daily/weekly cleaning schedule

Due to building shut-down the following projects have been completed:

- 2nd floor hallway and education wing classrooms and hallway tile cleaned, stripped, and waxed
- Flower room cleaned and organized
- Fellowship Hall kitchen deep cleaned
- Spring clean-up of grounds
- Community House deep cleaned and organized
- 2nd floor kitchenette cleaned and organized

Hopes

- Continue with tile cleaning, stripping, and waxing in preschool wing and office wing
- Handwashing sink repair in Fellowship Hall
- Collect estimates and begin following Foundation Special Projects
- Walls and Masonry repairs, sealants, windows, and doors
- Gathering Space flooring, Sanctuary carpeting



October 2019 was the beginning of our Stewardship Season, and our theme for this year was “This is Our Story”. In worship, Pastor Fred preached sermons on the theme, and additional members of the stewardship committee spoke to the congregation and shared personal “stories”.

Stewardship continues to be factual and informative regarding the state of the church and trends in pledging and giving, as well as celebrate the many gifts and blessings that inspire our giving to the work of Christ in the world through Flossmoor Community Church. The stewardship season for our 2020 budget year ended with down news. Overall, fewer dollars have been pledged this year when compared to 2019. As of June 2020, FCC is still short around \$32,000 at \$568,000 compared to our budget estimate of pledges of \$600,000. As a result, Stewardship season did not truly end, and we kicked off

an initiative in the early part of the year called “The 2020 Challenge”. This is meant to raise around \$60,000 to cover the gap in pledges, and has raised around \$17,000 additional funds thus far. Additionally, the COVID-19 situation slowed our ability to talk directly with the congregation about our financial situation, but we will continue through other means.

The stewardship committee will continue to strive to ensure that we all are aware, and we all share in the financial future of FCC so that we can continue to do God’s work in this world.





Our activities encompass all aspects of executing our weekly worship service. This includes the coordination of a variety of entities which provide the elements needed for a successful weekly worship service, as well as creating long-term plans to enhance our total worship experience. We are continuing to concentrate on strategic visioning for worship service, as well as connecting with our local community through our various worship and arts offerings.

The Worship and Arts board has worked closely with the church staff on the tracking, alignment, and coordination of the ushers, greeter, liturgists, communion, and music needs that are required for worship service.

Highlights

- Worked with staff to provide greeters, liturgists, ushers and communion leaders for worship services. Also, worked with Leslie for youth representation in greeters and liturgists.
- Organized communion set up and clean up for worship service.
- Organized ongoing calendar for music, ushers, greeters, liturgists and communion for all services.
- Worked with church staff on best ways to inform members on using technology in service.
- Provided specific sermon feedback to Pastor Fred via a written sermon feedback form.
- Hired an accompanist for non-Chancel Sundays. He will also accompany a small version of Praise Ensemble singers who can organize music on what were previous Praise Sundays.
- Provided monthly rotating art all year, including work from church members, local artists, display of church members Christmas cards, and books read by the church from adult education.



Hopes

- Find a Praise Ensemble director who can reorganize and re-establish the Praise Ensemble singers and musicians.
- Sponsor additional "Artist Talk" small series of art workshops with local artists.
- Continue to add paintings and works from church members, and local artists to our monthly art displays.
- Explore and visit other worship services to determine if there are any practices that might be beneficial to our worship service experience.
- Explore looking at expanding the hymnal.
- Continue to work on getting quotes on the audio/visual systems and make a determination on what will be implementable to further improve the worship experience, and then present those findings to the governing board.
- Continue to be the "behind the scenes" support that enables the pastor and staff to continue to deliver worship services that are efficient, effective, and inspirational.