



**Greenbelt Community Church  
United Church of Christ**

# **Annual Report 2020**

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**Annual Meeting Agenda**  
**Greenbelt Community Church United Church of Christ**  
**January 24, 2021**

1. Call to Order
2. Invocation
3. Approval of Agenda for the Annual Meeting
4. Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Annual Meeting, January 20, 2020
5. Adoption of Reports from Boards and Committees
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Approval of Budget for 2021
8. Report of the Nominating Committee
  - a. Nominations from the Floor
  - b. Election of Church Officers and Board Members
9. Old Business
10. New Business
11. Announcements
  - a. GCCUCC Website Redesign
12. Adjournment

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**NOTES**

## Using Zoom for GCCUCC Annual Meeting

We recommend participating from a desktop or laptop computer. Participation via phone will not allow you to vote.

### Two Zoom functions will be utilized during votes:

- **Raising Your Hand**  
Click Raise Hand in the webinar controls (it may also be under More)  
Click Lower Hand when instructed  
Blue Lower Hand
- **Answering a Poll**  
It will be announced that a poll is about to be shown on the screen. You will see the poll pop up with the question and a series of choices.  
Select your choice in the time allotted.  
Once the poll closes, additional responses cannot be added.  
Routine Voting Items such as approval of Agenda, Minutes, etc. will be done via polls.

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82048485460?pwd=K3BQeG8wVVB5aGpmaEVpNGdBNU55UT09>

Meeting ID: 820 4848 5460

Passcode: 2021

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,82048485460# US (Washington D.C)

+13126266799,,82048485460# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

## **Annual Meeting 2020 Minutes**

**January 20, 2020**

- 1) Call to order – at 12:01 p.m. by Moderator Karen Yoho.
- 2) Invocation – by Pastor Glennyce Grindstaff.
- 3) Approval of minutes - It was moved and seconded (J. Lloyd, J. Derry) to accept the minutes as written, with no changes. Approved by acclamation.
- 4) Approval of Board reports in annual report – It was moved and seconded (M. Voigt, J. Lloyd) to accept the reports. Approved by acclamation.
- 5) Treasurer’s report - by Treasurer Stephen Isler. He announced there is an additional report that supersedes that in the annual report. He directed attention first to page 28 of the new report that showed rate increases for the Cornerstone Fund and Calvert Foundation, and then to page 26 where a surplus was shown although costs of guest ministers are up and a new computer was needed. He called for questions and there were none. He then discussed the 2020 budget on page 30 in the report. He will monitor the pledge situation. Currently there are fewer pledges so far this year, although pledges continue to come in throughout the year. Charges for church use have increased for all uses. There have been no increases in utility costs so far this year. The Center for Progressive Renewal (CPR) is added as a line item. There were questions regarding the funds raised in church usage Stephen answered that those funds went into the general budget. Money received as rent from the SDAs goes into missions and the money raised by the Montessori school pay for CPR. It was moved and seconded (D. Alexander, K. Johnson) to approve the budget for 2020 and it passed by acclamation. Stephen announced that this is his last year as treasurer and called for anyone considering the job next year to please volunteer so they can prepare to take over.
- 6) Nominating Committee report: K. Yoho named those stepping down from boards and committees and thanked them for their gift of time to the church. L. Knutson of the Nominating Committee read the names of members of the boards and announced there are vacancies for at-large members of the council and on the Boards of Christian Education and Missions. A motion to accept the report of the Nominating Committee was made and seconded (C. Bellamy, K. Johnson). All approved. K. Yoho then called for volunteers for the vacant positions. M. Crompton volunteered to be the at-large member to council. J. Young asked for volunteers for the Green Team, explaining that a Green Team member can also be a member of a board, and that anyone could be a “friend” of the Green Team.
- 7) Old Business: K. Yoho stated she had no old business and asked if there were suggestions from the floor. Nothing was suggested as old business.

8) New Business:

- a. L. Tanner, chair of Trustees, asked the congregation for opinions on how to proceed with the lift. It is not ADA-compliant and cannot be made compliant even with repairs. A new lift will cost about \$40,000. He asked if we should keep the lift as is or go forward with replacing it. He answered questions about usage of the lift, if it was under warranty, what would happen if it failed inspection, and whether its availability affected church attendance. Pastor G. related her story of needing the lift after an injury and how it works, saying that “anyone could need the lift at any time.” There was more discussion of how to finance a new lift and whether a new lift would work better. D. Portney described how the lift works and that the current lift is antiquated. She explained that a new lift would work electronically, and she has estimates for replacing the lift but extra money would be needed for increasing the shaft size and electrical work. A motion was presented and seconded (S. Breon, S. Marley) to allow the Trustees to proceed with replacing the lift and for Trustees to present funding options to the congregation for approval. There was further discussion about whether replacing the lift was the best option and whether a chair lift would work as well, and about using the reserves to fund the replacement. Pastor G. said she thought it would be irresponsible of Trustees to go forward with the replacement without a funding plan and that she would like Trustees to come back to the congregation with a funding plan before work began. There was a motion (J. Miers, J. Schaffer) to table the current motion and for Trustees to present a new plan for construction and funding of a new lift. It passed by acclamation.
- b. L. Tanner continued to speak, telling the congregation of another issue that had been brought up at the 2018 annual meeting – converting the boiler to gas from oil. A. Cassell presented the facts - the boiler was installed in 1974 and is in good shape, not needing to be replaced yet. Replacement is estimated to cost about \$25,000 but should we replace it with a gas boiler, we would make back our money in 5-6 years because the price of gas is so much less. There is already a gas line to the building but it may need to be extended. There was discussion about waiting until the lift situation is resolved and getting an engineer to evaluate the boiler. A motion was presented and seconded (D. Alexander, E. Taylor) to defer the question on the boiler for one year. It passed by acclamation.
- c. Presentation by the Church Growth Task Force: K. Yoho introduced the members of the task force - G. Vaccaro, K. Littlefield, R. Dobson, K. Jones, K. Yoho, and Pastor G. Each member addressed the congregation. They discussed seeing the church as a visitor might and the qualities of a vibrant, active church and were led to partnering with the Center for Progressive Renewal (CPR). CPR has done an assessment and made some recommendations that were shared with the council in October. Council has approved working with CPR for at least one year. Each congregant needs to contribute and assist

the task force. Each task force member will work with a few boards and committees to share ideas. A retreat is planned for March to discuss strategies.

- 9) Announcements: It was announced that we are short 4 counters. D. Tull and L. Scheff volunteered.
- 10) Adjournment – Pastor G. moved the meeting be adjourned. It was seconded (Y. Burnett) and all approved. The 2020 annual meeting was adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Griffith, Clerk

## Pastor's Report

For Such a Time as This:

We are in the wee hours of the ending of a tumultuous and challenging period in our nation's and world's history with Covid-19 in an amped up wave sweeping through our communities. We are also in the wee hours of a new day dawning in the course of our New Year of 2021. We are in-between what has been and what is emerging.

In complex ways what was in the past isn't going to return in exactly the same form we were used to and counted on as being the norm for our lives. Much has been torn asunder. Our shared life together is now being impacted and will in the future be affected in unknown ways by what has swept through our society and culture. It's as though we've all taken a "somersault of thought into the inconceivable" as one author has shared. Yet there are facets of our shared life together that will abide: continuing to learn how to care for each other, serve our community, listen ever more carefully, be the people of hope and love, and be the church of Jesus Christ. We will carry on being enlivened by a power greater than our imagination's reaches and limits. For such times as this Isaiah 40 was penned: **the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.** What God inspires within us is needed now more than ever before. As healers, seekers, and people of the gospel of Jesus Christ, we will venture forth into this new era doing what Isaiah 61: 4 indicates is God's call for times such as this: **They shall build ... they shall raise up ... they shall repair...**

In every telephone conversation individually and during in-person outdoor gatherings as well as in Zoom groups (worship, social, and board meetings) I am so touched by the creative loving expressions of Christian hope. There's more than ample energy and vision for how we actively can be the church even when physically distanced. It's a time for God's Spirit to inspire us to resiliently flex and spring up together as the body of Christ moving grace-fully in hope.

By the time you read this we will all be in the wee opening moments of our New Year. Let us all continue in prayer for God's wisdom to reveal to us a fresh renewing course. A vaccine isn't going to fix what's been lost in terms of the toll on human life. We are and will continue to be healing resources for each other. This resilience of Spirit will continue to allow us to respond in loving ways to the opportunities God is now providing. Opportunities in such times? The Living Christ within and between us works the miracle of our resurrection faith that doesn't wither in challenging times, but instead shows us a path forward and into God's hoped for future. The King James version of Ruth's famous words: "Whither thou goest, I will go." Let's go there with God together expectantly following these many emerging tendrils of light inviting, enticing, and enlivening us!

Pastor Curt  
December 2020

## Moderator's Report

The year 2020 can be called many things, but as I write this before the new year begins, I see it as a year of waiting. Waiting involves an expectation of something special. Waiting means anticipation, expectation, confident hope in something that will take place. Rising above a global pandemic requires much waiting. But isn't our journey of faith to follow Jesus Christ, one of waiting? Christians are in a season of waiting during the 40 days of Lent. During Advent, we wait for the birth of the Christ child. And in our final hours, we know that eternal life is waiting when our physical time on earth is complete. Faith rules. And so, we wait.

For our GCCUCC church community, 2020 has consisted of a lot of waiting. When I received news of Pastor Grindstaff's retirement I began the wait—albeit with sorrow—for her departure. When news of COVID-19 was announced in early March, we waited for guidance and discernment on how our congregation would join in worship. We waited for the guidance and advice of scientists and public health professionals. We waited for the “all clear” to return to life as we knew it, but that “all clear” has yet to occur. And so, we wait.

We waited for the work of the Interim Pastor Hiring Committee and their announcement of the individual that would work alongside us in a period of waiting as we ready ourselves to call the next settled pastor. We are grateful for his arrival, and Pastor Curt has now joined us in our waiting. He shares with us Christ's comfort and calm when the world around us does not. And so, we wait.

We have waited through a season of protests that lift up those who have waited far too long to hear Black Lives Matter. We wait for justice. We wait for freedom. We wait for leaders in our nation to unite us in hope and offer solutions to the challenges we face. And so, we wait.

We wait to join together to mourn and remember those we have lost this past year. These times of quarantine can make gathering for funerals and memorial services impossible. In 2020 we lost Rena Hull and Betty Brady, two gentle children of God. And so, we wait.

In that season of waiting, we were forced to find ways to connect. We learned new ways to show care and concern. We had groceries and dinners delivered to our doorstep. We drove down streets with horns blaring to wish friends and family “happy birthday” or “farewell.” We logged on to technology that was at times frustrating, but in the end provided an opportunity to join in real time while we kept a safe distance from one another. Honestly, I find waiting unbearable. Waiting is my kryptonite. My enthusiasm and passion cannot bear to be restricted by slow moving time.

*“For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

Romans 8:38-39

But in this waiting, we have been reassured again and again that God is with us. He is our comfort. He is our strength. And so, we move on to a new year. A new opportunity to see what God has in store for Greenbelt Community Church.

In Christ's Love,  
Karen Yoho  
Moderator

## Board of Christian Education Report

2020 has been as challenging a year for the Board of Christian Education as it has for everyone. We were forced to adapt and innovate in our mission to provide quality educational experiences for the congregation and community. We started the year with promising Sunday school activities and engaging with the Heifer project. The pandemic forced us to adapt to virtual events.

The tragic murders of Ahmaud Arbery and George Floyd demanded decisive action from the church, and Christian Education responded with the implementation of a local chapter of Coming to the Table, a national group with educational resources and methodologies to help fight systemic racism. In recent meetings, participants from Mishkan Torah and Greenbelt Racial Equity Alliance have attended, opening the doors for future partnership opportunities.

Christian Education also implemented the weekly Jumpstart Bible study program. Following a simple, consistent structure, Jumpstart maximizes participation and fellowship while mitigating doctrinal bias. The structure is easy to facilitate, and greater participation is expected in 2021.

With significant turnover in board membership, 2021 is certain to be another year of significant change and adaptation. We trust in the sovereign and merciful God to guide us into the future, and we are excited for the future.

Blessings to all,

Ken Littlefield (chair)

## Board of Communications Report

2020 was a year like no other at Greenbelt Community Church (GCC), United Church of Christ and required all hands-on deck to keep our members connected and continue our ministry in the community. The 2020 Communication Committee Members, David Alexander, Chris Daw, Ron Dobson, Jo-Anne Fournier, and Thyra Packett, found ways to do their part.

Articles on the retirement of Rev. Glenyce Grindstaff and the hiring of our Interim Minister Rev. Curt DeMars-Johnson were published in the News Review by Jo-Anne Fournier. With assistance from church members, we have been very successful in placing articles and notices in the News Review about GCC activities and fundraisers throughout 2020.

Like many other organizations, GCC moved to Zoom and Facebook in March. David Alexander and Jo-Anne Fournier volunteered to assist with early broadcasts of GCC services sponsored by the Worship Committee.

Ron Dobson as a member of the Church Growth Group has been a resource to the committee as we explore a communication strategy for GCC In Person/Zoom/Facebook services and activities in 2021.

The committee is excited to announce the “New and Improved GCC Website” in 2021. A special thanks to David Alexander who identified Churchdev.com. a company which specializes in designing church websites. A special shout out to Chris Daw who handled the day-to-day communications with Churchdev.com managing the project, planning the design, writing text, and handling a million other details.

The committee did a lot of hard work in 2020 to lay a great foundation and is excited about keeping our members connected and continuing our ministry in the community in 2021.

Jo-Anne Fournier, Chair  
David Alexander  
Chris Daw  
Ron Dobson  
Thyra Packett

## Board of Congregational Life Report

This has been a totally different year due to COVID. We held a successful Pancake Dinner to mark the Shrove Tuesday. It was great as usual, thanks to the cooks, kitchen help, members, and our community. Agape Meals began the following week with donations of soup from church members. We got halfway through that when COVID hit, and we moved them to Zoom during that first stay-at-home order. We also held several meetings on Zoom.

Pastor G started Wednesday night concerts, which she called "Zoom-certs." Congregational Life then scheduled those with musical performances, games, and book readings. We kept those going for many weeks. These were enjoyed by members and friends, too.

All other in-person events had to be cancelled, such as the Luncheon on the Lawn, Empty Bowls, and numerous other projects, but we found a way to stay connected for Christmas projects.

These Christmas projects were done by giving gift cards from Safeway, Giant, Target, and the Co-op to Greenbelt Elementary, Springhill Lake, and Magnolia Elementary schools, as well as checks to be used by less fortunate families. Online donations were also made to CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) to help teenagers who were aging out of the foster care system. We participated in the Toys for Tots program, which was done by the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department (GVFD).

With Thanks,

Barbara Ransom, Chair  
Liisa Granfors-Hunt  
Amy Hansen  
Keith Johnson  
Kathy Reynolds  
Gwen Vaccaro

## Board of Missions Report

In 2019 the Board of Missions (BOM) successfully transitioned to having no line item for Board of Mission Designations under Budgeted Missions in the church budget. Funding for Designated Benevolence spending came exclusively from the proceeds from various fund-raising events conducted throughout the year and 20% of the SDA rental fees and the Special Mission offerings. As it turned out GCC's designated benevolence spending actually went up by over \$2,600 from 2018 to 2019, and the grand total benevolence spending also went up slightly in 2019 over 2018.

Encouraged by our success in 2019, we were optimistic that 2020 would be a similarly successful year for GCC designated benevolence spending. So, we started out the year assuming to apply our successful 2019 strategy to 2020. Looking forward to a revived GCC/UCC participation in the Christmas in April program under the leadership of the Crompton family, we designated the first quarter Special Mission offerings to the Christmas in April program. We also designated the Pancake Dinner proceeds to Bread for the World and the Agape Meal proceeds to Help by Phone. Even when GCC/UCC abruptly switched to online services in mid-March, we continued following the previous year's strategy by designating the second quarter Special Missions to the University of Maryland United Campus Ministries.

When the realization finally set in in mid-April that the shutdown of in-person services would continue for several months instead of just a few weeks, the BOM realized that we had to change our strategy for the rest of the year. Learning that Help by Phone and Meals on Wheels was experiencing a sharp increase in demand for their services, we switched the Special Missions offering designation from the United Campus Ministries to a 50/50 split between Help by Phone and Meals on Wheels in May. We very much appreciate Carol Bellamy's offer to accept donations of non-perishable food items for Help by Phone on her front porch. Carol reports that she has averaged receiving roughly 12 bags of food items a week that she has delivered to the Help by Phone food pantry at Berwyn Heights Presbyterian Church. Thanks also to Ron Dobson who reports delivering about 150 bags of groceries to the Help by Phone food pantry at Trinity Moravian Church during 2020. These amounts are similar, or even slightly higher, than the amounts contributed throughout 2019.

With special anonymous donations totaling \$1300, we were able to fund our initial participation the Community Place Café "Angel Tree" Food Assistance Program which commenced in April. This program provides food gift cards to previous Community Place Café clients who were quarantined. When these funds ran out a few months later, for October and November we funded our continued participation in this program (at \$240/month) from the monthly Special Missions offering, with funds collected in excess of \$240 being split evenly between Help by Phone and Meals on Wheels. We thank Marsha Voigt and Karen Yoho who purchased and mailed the initial sets of food gift cards and Loriann Scheff who later took over the task of purchasing and mailing the gift cards on a continuing basis for GCCUCC.

Since our planned participation in the Christmas in April had to be cancelled due to COVID-19, we instead sent the funds we raised directly to the Prince George's Christmas in April organization (in retrospect, I think that we should have held back a portion of those funds for our future year's

participation). The CROP Hunger Walk still proceeded in early May, but in a special “virtual” format. There was no mass gathering at the Lake Artemesia park (see separate report).

Due to COVID-19, GCCUCC could not conduct any fundraising activities from March throughout the rest of the year. Also, the SDA rental fees were only about half the amount expected. So, the funds the BOM had to work with this year were mainly limited to the funds received from the Special Missions offerings. However, we also held collections via email solicitation and mailed donations for the traditional UCC offerings: One Great Hour of Sharing, Neighbors in Need, and the Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross.

We kept church members informed of the GCCUCC benevolence activities through regular announcements in the weekly GCCUCC emailed newsletter. Some of these announcements included a year-to-date listing of benevolence funds designations.

In December 2020, Pastor Curt encouraged me to submit a COVID-19 Recovery Grant application (for \$1,000) to the Central Atlantic Conference. As of this writing, I am working with Marsha Voigt in her role as president of the board of Help by Phone and Maria Newsom of Meals on Wheels of College Park in drafting the application, which is due on January 15, 2021. I am proposing to split the funds evenly between the two organizations.

Provided below are tables listing the amounts of sources and distribution of benevolence funds. The total benevolence funds distributed was \$22,327.84. This compares to \$34,340.49 in 2019. This reduction of \$12,012.65 in benevolence spending was largely due to the reduction of SDA rental funds received (\$1,040 less) and the reduction in fund raising dollars (\$7,171.50 less). This reduction in funding was partially offset by a \$1,771,98 increase in Special Missions offering receipts. Even with this overall reduction in available benevolence funds, GCCUCC was able in 2020 to support the critical Help by Phone and Meals on Wheels charities at similar levels to 2019, at the expense of less support or no support to several other organizations that we regularly supported in previous years.

Jim Tilton, Chair  
Ellen Lee  
Rhonda Nelson  
Earl Taylor  
Loriann Scheff

## Sources and Amounts of Benevolence Funds

Source Number	Source	Amount
0	Budget Line Item	\$7,500.00
1	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter Special Missions	\$1,016.00
2	April Special Missions	\$401.00
3	May-Sept. Special Missions	\$4,184.54
4	Oct.-Nov. Special Missions	\$1,304.80
5	Dec. Special Missions + Noisy Offering (March)	724.90
6	Special Anonymous Donation	\$1,300.00
7	March Special Offering	\$1,287.00
8	November Special Offering	\$800.00
9	December Special Offering	\$640.00
10	20% of SDA Rental Fee	\$1,600.00
11	Shrove Pancake Dinner	\$975.00
12	Agape Meals	\$474.00
13	Carryover from 2019	\$120.60
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$22,327.84</b>

## Benevolence Funds Distribution from Source Number

Beneficiary	Amount	Source Number
OCWM (Our Church's Wider Mission)	\$7,500.00	0
Help by Phone	\$3,220.31	3,4, 5, 12
Christmas in April	\$1,016.00	1
United Campus Ministries	\$801.00	2, 10
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$1,287.00	7
Neighbors in Need	\$800.00	8
Veterans of the Cross	\$640.00	9
Community Place Café + Angel Tree food gift card program	\$2,100.00	4,6, 10, 13
Meals on Wheels	\$3,146.90	3,4, 5,10
Bread for the World	\$975.00	11
Greenbelt CARES	\$300.00	10
Greenbelt Emergency Relief Fund	\$241.63	5
Casa Ruby	\$300.00	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$22,327.84</b>	

Hello, Hyattsville Area CROP Hunger Walk family and friends,

Despite 2020's covid craziness, we managed to raise a total of \$35,211 to fight world hunger and poverty! Although the total is almost \$10,000 less than we raised last year, we were still able to donate \$11,614 to Help by Phone (almost \$600 more than last year) through the 40th Anniversary Add-On Challenge. We also added 2 new teams (Berwyn Presbyterian Church and Greenbelt Baha'i Community) for the add-on challenge, and we hope that they will participate in next year's CROP Walk. Thanks for all your hard work and commitment to the 2020 Walk in this challenging year!



Below (and attached) is the final report of the funds that were collected for the 2020 Hyattsville Area CROP Hunger Walk:

Stay tuned for more news about the 2020 award winners and plans for the 2021 Walk,  
Suzanne



◇ Suzanne Hubbard

Coordinator, Hyattsville Area CROP Hunger Walk  
smh1011@erols.com  
301-332-7410 (cell)

### FINAL—2020 HYATTSVILLE CROP HUNGER WALK

Team	2020 Virtual Walk				40th Anniversary Add-On (\$)	Grand Total (\$)
	Walkers (no.)	Offline (\$)	Online (\$)	Total (\$)		
Adelphi Presbyterian Church	3	160	1,870	2,030	0	2,030
Ager Road United Methodist Church	1	325	50	375	0	375
Berwyn Presbyterian Church	5	...	...	...	540	540
Cheverly United Methodist Church	8	628	2,255	2,883	0	2,883
Circle Fellowship Church - Riderwood Village	2	0	20	20	240	260
First United Methodist Church of Hyattsville	42	3,320	1,330	4,650	100	4,750
Glenn Dale United Methodist Church	15	1,284	1,716	3,000	0	3,000
Golden Age Club of Greenbelt	4	490	20	510	0	510
Greenbelt Baha'i Community	1	...	...	...	250	250
Greenbelt Community Church, UCC	20	1,030	3,855	*6,685	1,065	7,750
Lanham United Methodist Church	4	300	2,280	2,580	160	2,740
Lastner Lane Greenbelt Contingent	1	100	20	120	0	120
Redeemer Lutheran Church	16	698	2,980	3,678	0	3,678
Roosevelt Democratic Club of Greenbelt	11	470	70	540	0	540
Rudifull (Patrick Walker)	2	0	815	815	40	855
St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church	1	0	20	20	0	20
St. Matthews/San Mateo Episcopal Church	4	0	1,930	1,930	0	1,930
Trinity Lutheran Church (Mt. Rainier)	7	700	2,020	2,720	0	2,720
Trinity Moravian Church	2	100	70	170	50	220
University Christian Church	1	0	20	20	0	20
University Park Church of the Brethren	1	0	20	20	0	20
<b>21 teams</b>						
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>9,605</b>	<b>21,361</b>	<b>32,766</b>	<b>2,445</b>	<b>35,211</b>

\*Total Includes Souper Bowl of Caring – \$1,800

Suzanne Hubbard, Coordinator  
Yolanda Burnett, Treasurer

Team	2020 Virtual Walk				40th Anniversary Add-On (\$)	Grand Total (\$)
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St. Matthews/San Mateo Episcopal Church	4	0	1,930	1,930	0	1,930
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Trinity Moravian Church	2	100	70	170	50	220
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<b>21 teams</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>9,605</b>	<b>21,361</b>	<b>32,766</b>	<b>2,445</b>	<b>35,211</b>

\*Total includes Souper Bowl of Caring – \$1,800

# Board of Trustees Report

The Trustees have been very active this year even though the church building was closed for most of the year. We appreciated and continue to consider the suggestions for improvements made by the Church Growth/Renewal Team.

## **Financial Matters**

- We worked with the interim hiring committee in the hiring of Rev. Curt, working with him on a contract for his term with us as interim minister.
- The Board renewed the rental contract with the Beltsville Seventh Day Adventists for their use of our church on Saturdays, Sunday afternoons and evenings, and at other times during their evangelical weeks. During the pandemic they have been meeting on the lawn or having one or two members use the social hall to broadcast their service.
- We also renewed our contract with the Beltway Montessori Children's House. They have most of their instruction online and use the Fellowship Center (FC) one or two days per week for small meetings of one family and one teacher at a time. The schools stores its instructional materials in the FC and for its licensure, must have the materials set up there as if school was fully in session. They have use of two rooms in the FC. The school requires a Use and Occupancy permit from the county, but it has been tied up in county offices since before the pandemic.
- Other prior renters such as the martial arts school and our twelve-step group have not returned to use our facilities. We signed a new charter with the Boy Scout troop we have hosted for many years although at present they are not meeting inside the buildings.
- We hired a new custodian this year, Veti Soto, who is doing a very thorough job.
- The Board has dealt with two incidents of financial fraud. The first event resulted from a stolen check and the other from a breach of the church debit card. All church monies were restored.

## **The Buildings and Grounds**

- We have painted the outdoors of the FC, the social hall, and the kitchen this year. We cleaned out and reorganized several closets in the FC, including the janitor closet.
- The carpets were cleaned in the FC and replaced in the office and hall on the sanctuary level. We instituted a "no-pet" policy for all church buildings to extend carpet life. Together with the Montessori school, we have installed higher level filters and a UV light in the HVAC system of the FC.
- We removed the pew cushions and have stored them in the balcony. Many of us would like to keep the cushions so the Board will research ways to maintain their cleanliness with frequent usage when church reopens.
- We installed a new air conditioner in the church office.
- The lift has passed the yearly county inspection. The state also conducted an inspection and reported two violations, one of which has been corrected. The other reported violation does not affect the safe operation of the lift. We will soon need to make decisions about the future of the lift and will revisit the issue when the church reopens.

- We conducted a church workday and, thanks to a great turnout of members, cleaned up, weeded, and mulched the Memorial Grove. We have planted several landscape plants and spring-flowering bulbs in the Memorial Grove area. Unfortunately, we had to have four trees removed this year. In the spring, we will ask for volunteers to “adopt” an abandoned landscaping bed for planting and maintenance.
- The Board especially thanks all those who spend many hours and much labor to keep up our facilities and grounds in such great condition - Ken Voigt, Lester Tanner, Loren Linstrom, Kirby Willis, John Voigt, and Jim and Jimmy Halley.

Carol Griffith and Lester Tanner, Co-Chairs

Orville Burnett

Darlene Portney

John Voigt

Warren Wilcox

# Board of Worship Report

As with our lives, the story of the Board of Worship is in two parts this year: before and during.

Our 2020 membership: Jan Derry, Karen Jones, Lara Knutson, Jeff Knutson, Doug Tull, and Diana Turkiewicz.

Before: We purchased new Advent paraments, in blue for the pulpit and Bible lectern and updated the Usher handbook.

The things we do every year, like recruiting Readers for scripture, special musicians, providing liturgists for supply pastors and changing the sanctuary décor for the liturgical seasons, were provided for as before.

But after mid-March, we had to move with the time, and that included some drifting.

To wit:

- Wrangling Facebook Hosts, keeping track of prayer requests.
- Lining up musicians for distanced worship music.
- Enlisting Advent candlelighters.
- Revising our communion strategy to provide communion elements to the 3 or 4 persons in the sanctuary, with no touching.
- Providing thank-you cards to the choir, the usual picnic being impossible.
- New décor for Easter and Spring, having been purchased in advanced, is stored in the communion closet.
- Providing a special textile for Rev. Deb's "Unraveling" Lenten theme.
- Accepting from the Potomac Association and guarding a tentative game plan (for modification, no doubt) for re-gathering.
- And recently, decorating the church interior for Fall/Thanksgiving and Advent.

There are several considerations for the future, either for regathering or for when our permanent pastor is called and installed that include: new or repaired Communion vessels, returning Glennyce's blue bowl and pitcher to her when replaced, planning for special observances (like delayed funerals, weddings or other celebrations) after we re-gather.

Since we don't have an accurate idea of when certain future expenses might be called-for – 2021 or even later – it is not possible to give an estimate of the Board's monetary needs. For now, our cash expenditures are minimal.

Respectfully submitted, in hope of better times to come soon,

Jan Derry  
for the Board of Worship  
Karen Jones  
Laura Knutson  
Jeff Knutson  
Doug Tull  
Diana Turkiewicz

## Sunday Scripture Readers 2021

### January 2021

3 Karen Jones  
10 Liisa Granfors-Hunt  
17 Jan Derry  
24 David Alexander  
31 Carla Crompton

### February

7 Mike Crompton  
14 Jo-Anne Fournier  
21 Marsha Voigt  
28 Louise Piper

### March

7 Ron Dobson  
14 Carol Griffith  
21 Carol Bellamy  
28 Karen Yoho

### April

4 Jim Miers  
11 Louise Piper  
18 Marsha Voigt  
25 Liisa Granfors-Hunt

### May

2 Jan Derry  
9 David Alexander  
16 Carol Griffith  
23 Karen Jones  
30 Carol Bellamy

### June

6 Mike Crompton  
13 Jo-Anne Fournier  
20 Marsha Voigt  
27 Carla Crompton

### July

4 Ron Dobson  
11 Carol Griffith  
18 David Alexander  
25 Karen Yoho

### August

1 Karen Jones  
8 Jo-Anne Fournier  
15 Louise Piper  
22 Carla Crompton  
29 Jim Miers

### September

5 Jan Derry  
12 Liisa Granfors-Hunt  
19 David Alexander  
26 Carol Griffith

### October

3 Mike Crompton  
10 Karen Yoho  
17 Liisa Granfors-Hunt  
24 Marsha Voigt  
31 Louise Piper

### November

7 Karen Jones  
14 Carol Bellamy  
21 Ron Dobson  
28 Carol Griffith

### December

5 Marsha Voigt  
12 Karen Yoho  
19 Carla Crompton  
26 Jim Miers

### January 2022

2 Karen Jones  
9 Liisa Granfors-Hunt  
16 Jan Derry  
23 David Alexander  
30 Carol Bellamy

# Church Growth/Renewal Team Report

The GCC Church Growth Task Force began meeting In May 2019. The Task Force focused on challenges we thought were holding back growth in our church. We sought the expertise of the Center for Progressive Renewal. They provided recommendations on how we can plan for a vital future for our congregation. With the approval of the Church Council in October 2019 and the congregation at the 2020 Annual Meeting, we began monthly meetings with the Center for Progressive Renewal, now called Convergence. Our group took on a new identity in 2020, serving as an implementation and facilitation team. And much like the other work of the church, we had to modify our expectations and our plans in light of no in-person meetings or face-to-face collaboration with our GCCUCC Boards.

Together we will continue to look for ways in which we can prepare for the future of our church, concentrating on these four recommendations from Convergence:

- Start new initiatives
- Meet community needs
- Ensure financial and spiritual sustainability
- Increase communication

Throughout this project, the Renewal Team will continue to be encouraging boards and church members to be mindful of these prior outcomes from our discussions with Gregg Carlson, our Convergence advisor. We will look for ways to make progress while we are virtual.

We expect all board members as well as any members of the church community to join us Sunday, January 31 at 1 PM for the GCCUCC Re-engage Summit 2021 on Zoom. At the summit attendees will discuss:

- Re-engaging the GCC community
- Re-engaging the greater Greenbelt community
- Re-engaging collaboration processes of GCC Leadership teams as the church moves towards the calling of a settled minister
- Re-engaging Strategies for GCC financial sustainability

## **GCCUCC Church Renewal Task Force**

Susan Breon

Rev. Curt DeMars-Johnson

Ron Dobson

Karen Jones

Jan Knutson

Karen Yoho

## Green Team Report

During the pandemic the Green Team has switched gears, along with most of the world. We had planned to have a monthly Environmental Justice Outreach Program, inviting the community, with speakers, discussions, potlucks, and tours.

We have adapted to having an online program, with speakers and discussions, inviting church and community members, now on the fourth Sunday evening of every month at 7 p.m. RSVPs should go to Jane Young at gccjane@aol. Our topics so far have been Safe, Simple and Sustainable Holidays and Celebrations; Chemical Erosion and Environmental Justice; Save Energy, Save Money; and “Introduction to Drawdown: How we can reverse global warming.” After a simple holiday online party on December 27, we will return to our regular program January 24, dealing with waste: composting and recycling. A future topic will include excessive plastics and chemicals and the damage they do.

Our compost bin has been given away, since it is difficult to collect and maintain in the pandemic. This was never widely used by church members in any case. The City of Greenbelt has a compost collection at the Recycling Center between Public Works and the parking lot of Buddy Attick Park. Many food and waste items are acceptable at these compost bins, unlike the home compost bin we had at church: meat products, compostable paper products and produce bags--NO plastic. There are other compost opportunities in the city, and more to come.

We are most grateful for and continue to maintain our beautiful rain garden and the cistern, both of which have been provided to us by community organizations. The cistern collects rainwater from the roof of the church building and holds it until we need the water for our grounds. We obtained the cistern through a grant from the Anacostia Riverkeepers and Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake. Our rain garden collects storm water that runs down the driveway, filtering impurities and slowing its drainage into the watershed. We are most blessed to have obtained our rain garden through a grant from the Prince George’s County Clean Water Program and Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake.

GCCUCC Green Team  
Ron Dobson  
Charlene Doyle  
Carol Griffith  
Jane Young

# UCC Potomac Association and Central Atlantic Conference Report

The Potomac Association spring meeting was held June 6<sup>th</sup> via Zoom (as were all meetings). New committee members were installed. Rev. Freeman Palmer, our conference minister, discussed how the conference was renewing connections with each association, church, and membership. We and the church will all be different in the future and we need to move into this new time of reconnections. The new UCC manual on ministry was approved by the association.

An Ecclesiastical Council was held June 13, 2020. Erin Burnette was approved for ordination and has a call as a hospice chaplain. Laura Kisthardt was approved for ordination pending call.

The 56<sup>th</sup> Central Atlantic Conference was held September 21<sup>st</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>. The theme was “I Love to Tell the Story.” Joel 1:3 “Tell your children of it and let your children tell their children and their children another generation.” On September 21<sup>st</sup> Rev. Martin Silver hosted “Beyond Talk: Prioritizing the Dismantling of White Supremacy.” On a personal level white supremacy is having advantages without thinking about the circumstances. On a congregational level it is the religious interpretations in our buildings. Community level is training and alliance with affected populations.

On September 22<sup>nd</sup> Jill White discussed “Being Church in the Midst of a Pandemic and Growing for the Future.” Evaluate the church’s online presence. Are there new participants outside of the community? Purpose – how, what, where, and who of the church. Vision and Mission – internal. Why – external visioning. Re-envision the church.

On September 24<sup>th</sup> Rev. Freeman Palmer gave a story of the conference. Our story begins in 1964. We are urban, suburban, and rural. Our diversity is exemplified in “That they may all be one.” The initiating incident was Covid 19. Change occurs. Virtual worship. Inspired sermons and music. Response to systemic racism. The climax is still to come. Thank you for all you do. God is present.

On September 25<sup>th</sup> Rev. Courtney Stange-Tregear gave the keynote address. The story of Frog and Toad. If you shout at seeds to grow, nothing happens. You cannot force gardening! How do we *listen* if we are shouting? We all need connections. Listening is an act of love.

On September 26<sup>th</sup> the strategic plan was discussed. We want to become a 21<sup>st</sup> century church in message and communication of message. Goals: Create an organizational structure that best equips us to fulfill our mission. Attain financial stability. Become an anti-racist conference. Catalog church stories and case studies. Hire an associate conference minister for congregational development.

The Potomac Association fall meeting was held October 17, 2020. The theme was “Ecclesia: Reimagining the Church through the Lens of Racial Justice.” The budget was passed. Respond to racism where you are. (Are we welcoming?)

Submitted by  
Louise Piper

**Greenbelt Community Church United Church of Christ  
Nominations for Boards and Officers, 2021**

**Moderator**

*Stephen Isler (2023)*

**Treasurer**

*Jim Miers (2023)*

**Clerk**

Carol Bellamy (2022)

**At Large Members**

Susan Breon (2021)

*Yolanda Burnett (2022)*

*Jim Tilton (2023)*

**Board of Christian**

**Education**

Stacy Hindalong (2021)

*Rachel Alexander (2022)*

(2022)

*Jane Chesnes (2023)*

*Jane Young (2023)*

**Board of Communications**

Christina (Chris) Daw  
(2021)

David Alexander (2021)

Jo-Anne Fournier (2021)

Ron Dobson (2022)

(2022)

*Carol Bellamy (2023)*

(2023)

**Board of Congregational**

**Life**

Gwen Vaccaro (2021)

Liisa Granfors-Hunt (2021)

Amy Hansen (2022)

Keith Johnson (2022)

*Ken Littlefield (2023)*

(2023)

**Board of Missions**

Rhonda Nelson (2021)

LoriAnn Scheff (2022)

*Marty Folk (2022)*

*Jeff Knutson (2023)*

*Laura Knutson (2023)*

**Board of Trustees**

John Voigt (2021)

Darlene Portney (2021)

Orville Burnett (2022)

Carol Griffith (2022)

*Kathy Fominaya (2023)*

*Ken Voigt (2023)*

**Board of Worship**

Karen Jones (2021)

Jan Derry (2021)

Doug Tull (2022)

Diana Turkiewicz (2022)

*Terry Henderson (2023)*

*Barbara Ransom (2023)*

**UCC Representative**

Louise Piper

**Financial Secretary**

*Karen Yoho*

**Memorial Secretary**

Liisa Granfors-Hunt

**Landscaping**

Lester Tanner

**Green Team**

Rob Dobson

Charlene Doyle

Carol Griffith

Jane Young

**Submitted by**

**2020 Nominating**

**Committee**

Carol Bellamy

Stephen Isler

Darlene Portney

Jane Young

**Greenbelt Community Church  
Financial Report**

**Cash and Invested Accounts - January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020**

<b>Account</b>	<b>As of 1/1/20</b>	<b>Net Change</b>	<b>As of 12/31/20</b>
Bank of America Checking Account	\$68,959.27	(\$805.31)	\$68,153.96
Bank of America Savings Account Apy - 0.02%	\$38,083.37	\$17.11	\$38,100.48
Calvert Foundation APY - 3.00%	\$10,720.73	\$428.83	\$11,149.56
Cornerstone Fund APY - 2.750%	\$51,208.75	\$586.66	\$51,795.41
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$168,972.12</b>	<b>\$227.29</b>	<b>\$169,199.41</b>

<i>Percentages should be</i>	Greenbelt Community Church		
	2020 Budget		
	2020	2020	Percent
<b>100%</b>	Budget	Income/Expense	of Budget
	Amount	Amount	As of <u>12/31/20</u>
<b>Operating Receipts</b>			
Pledges & Gifts	\$201,456	\$199,213.47	99%
Loose Offering	\$2,500	\$367.00	15%
Charges for Church Use*	\$30,050	\$10,440.00	35%
Initial Offering	\$260	\$253.00	97%
<b>Total Operating Receipts</b>	<b>\$234,266</b>	<b>\$210,273.47</b>	<b>90%</b>
<b>Pastoral Compensation &amp; Expenses</b>			
Salary	\$39,434	\$41,359.32	105%
Housing Allowance	\$38,085	\$33,190.41	87%
FICA Reimbursement	\$5,931	\$4,920.93	83%
Travel & Professional Expenses	\$3,600	\$871.21	24%
Pension	\$11,063	\$9,391.28	85%
Insurance	\$17,116	\$8,366.04	49%
<b>Total Pastoral Compensation &amp; Expenses</b>	<b>\$115,229</b>	<b>\$98,099.19</b>	<b>85%</b>
<b>Other Salaries &amp; Compensation</b>			
Administrative Assistant	\$11,000	\$9,036.50	82%
Music Director	\$14,832	\$14,832.00	100%
Guest Ministers	\$1,400	\$3,100.00	221%
Guest Organists	\$1,050	\$75.00	7%
Nursery Attendant	\$1,410	\$0.00	0%
FICA Expenses	\$2,100	\$1,690.12	80%
<b>Total Other Salaries &amp; Compensation</b>	<b>\$31,792</b>	<b>\$28,733.62</b>	<b>90%</b>
<b>Church Operating Expenses</b>			
Advertising	\$1,750	\$1,372.00	78%
Insurance	\$11,664	\$7,623.25	65%
Supplies & Expenses	\$8,500	\$8,989.28	106%
Custodial Services	\$11,700	\$11,237.50	96%
Maintenance	\$10,000	\$10,329.18	103%
Utilities	\$12,000	\$11,932.16	99%
Major Building Repair	\$11,520	\$2,828.31	25%
<b>Total Church Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$67,134</b>	<b>\$54,311.68</b>	<b>81%</b>

<b>Church Programs</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Actual</b>
Board of Christian Education	\$1,000	\$0.00	0%
Board of Communications	\$500	\$328.00	66%
Board of Congregational Life	\$250	\$0.00	0%
Board of Missions	\$200	\$55.00	28%
Board of Worship	\$500	\$378.12	76%
Music Program	\$300	\$0.00	0%
Stewardship	\$150	\$0.00	0%
Center for Progressive Renewal	\$2,400	\$2,400.00	100%
Conference Delegates	\$250	\$0.00	0%
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$1,000	\$565.35	57%
Potomac Association	\$2,221	\$2,221.00	100%
Our Church's Wider Mission	\$7,500	\$7,500.00	100%
<b>Total Church Programs</b>	<b>\$16,271</b>	<b>\$13,447.47</b>	<b>83%</b>
<b>Total Congregational Expense</b>	<b>\$230,426</b>	<b>\$194,591.96</b>	<b>84%</b>

<b>Budgeted Missions</b>			
Board of Missions Designation	\$3,840	\$1,600.00	42%
<b>Total Budgeted Missions</b>	<b>\$3,840</b>	<b>\$1,600.00</b>	<b>42%</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$234,266</b>	<b>\$196,191.96</b>	<b>84%</b>
<b>Budgeted Net Income</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$14,082</b>	

	Greenbelt Community Church		
	Proposed 2021 Budget		
Pledges Needed: \$173,345 (+5%)	2020	2021	Difference
Gifts Needed: \$35,000	Budget	Proposed	Between
	Amount	Amount	2020-2021 Budget
<b>Operating Receipts</b>			
Pledges & Gifts	\$201,456	\$211,245	\$9,789
Loose Offering	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0
Charges for Church Use	\$30,050	\$30,050	\$0
Initial Offering	\$260	\$260	\$0
<b>Total Operating Receipts</b>	<b>\$234,266</b>	<b>\$244,055</b>	<b>\$9,789</b>
<b>Pastoral Compensation &amp; Expenses</b>			
Salary	\$39,434	\$38,400	-\$1,034
Housing Allowance	\$38,085	\$38,000	-\$85
FICA Reimbursement	\$5,931	\$5,845	-\$86
Travel & Professional Expenses	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$0
Pension	\$11,063	\$11,375	\$312
Insurance	\$17,116	\$6,678.52	-\$10,437
Retirement Savings Account	\$0	\$26,000	\$26,000
<b>Total Pastoral Compensation &amp; Expenses</b>	<b>\$115,229</b>	<b>\$129,899</b>	<b>\$14,669</b>
<b>Other Salaries &amp; Compensation</b>			
Administrative Assistant	\$11,000	\$12,500	\$1,500
Music Director	\$14,832	\$15,129	\$297
Guest Ministers	\$1,400	\$1,400	\$0
Guest Organists	\$1,050	\$1,050	\$0
Nursery Attendant	\$1,410	\$0	-\$1,410
FICA Expenses	\$2,100	\$2,500	\$400
<b>Total Other Salaries &amp; Compensation</b>	<b>\$31,792</b>	<b>\$32,579.00</b>	<b>\$787</b>
<b>Church Operating Expenses</b>			
Advertising	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$0
Insurance	\$11,664	\$11,664	\$0
Supplies & Expenses	\$8,500	\$9,500	\$1,000
Custodial Services	\$11,700	\$10,500	-\$1,200
Maintenance	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
Utilities	\$12,000	\$11,000	-\$1,000
Major Building Repair	\$11,520	\$8,867	-\$2,653
<b>Total Church Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$67,134</b>	<b>\$63,281</b>	<b>-\$3,853</b>

<b>Church Programs</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Actual</b>
Board of Christian Education	\$1,000	\$500	-\$500
Board of Communications	\$500	\$500	\$0
Board of Congregational Life	\$250	\$200	-\$50
Board of Missions	\$200	\$200	\$0
Board of Worship	\$500	\$500	\$0
Music Program	\$300	\$300	\$0
Stewardship	\$150	\$150	\$0
Convergence (CPR)	\$2,400	\$1,200	-\$1,200
Conference Delegates	\$250	\$250	\$0
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$1,000	\$750	-\$250
Potomac Association	\$2,221	\$2,407	\$186
<b>Total Church Programs</b>	<b>\$8,771</b>	<b>\$6,957</b>	<b>-\$1,814</b>
<b>Total Congregational Expense</b>	<b>\$222,926</b>	<b>\$232,715</b>	<b>\$9,789</b>
<b>Budgeted Missions</b>			
Board of Missions Designation	\$3,840	\$3,840	\$0
Our Church's Wider Mission	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$0
<b>Total Budgeted Missions</b>	<b>\$11,340</b>	<b>\$11,340</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$234,266</b>	<b>\$244,055</b>	<b>\$9,789</b>
<b>Budgeted Net Income</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	

**Statement of Purpose**  
**Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ**  
**Revised March 11, 2012**

We uphold and affirm the principles of the Christian faith as commonly held among us, believing the foundation laid by Jesus Christ is our greatest strength.

It is our aim to bring joy, instruction, high ideals, inspiration and comfort to the people of all ages, to work together for the betterment of all.

Our fellowship will not be dependent upon identity of theological opinion, or of outward circumstances, or of denominational name but will grow from a common loyalty to Jesus; a common passion to serve the world; a common purpose to do justly, to love kindness and to walk humbly with God.

Our ideal is a church of the open mind, the warm heart, the aspiring soul, and the social vision, which ever seeks to express in all ways the mind and spirit of Jesus.

