



COBLESKILL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2019

ANNUAL REPORT



Inside

[Vacation Bible School and Sunday School are back.](#)

Children and Family ministries got a breath of new life in 2019.

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[Outreach numbers sore.](#) Our church gave an impressive amount of money away to great causes thanks to our commitment to outreach.

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A year of possibility.

Two Thousand and Nineteen has been a year of transition and newness for Cobleskill United Methodist Church. With newness always comes possibility. I (Pastor Anna) was privileged to be appointed as your senior pastor beginning July 1 and we've been stepping together into the new chapter that God is opening for our church. In the pages that follow you will find narratives of ministry marking the many different ways this church has served its community with vibrant youth ministry, a growing children's program, meaningful worship, stewardship of our building and financial resources, dedicated outreach ministries, and more! You will find stories told in numbers, memories, people and pictures. Above all, you will find the record of a year in which God remained faithful to this church.

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What does our staff do?

Our paid staff works an average of

98.5

hours each week preparing bulletins, cleaning restrooms, locking up at night, caring for children, counting the offering, balancing checkbooks, visiting the sick, leading meetings, preaching sermons, playing the organ, and so much more!

If you think that's a lot, you should keep reading to see what some of our volunteers do with hours too numerous to count.

Hats Off!

These volunteer and paid staff keep our church running day in and day out.

Rev. Anna Blinn Cole

Senior Pastor

Rev. Jongdeok Park

Associate Pastor

Catherine Krajewski

Administrative Assistant

Rosalie Danforth

Treasurer

Ruth Haugh

Financial Secretary

Dawn Schell

Child Care Provider

Elizabeth Walsh

Organist/Accompanist

Jamie Livingston

Building Monitor

Katie Joe Dougherty

Custodian

Natasha Foote

Co-Lay Leader

Amy Gildemeister

Co-Lay Leader

Ann-Marie Frank

Administrative Round Table Chair

Harriet Berard

Board of Trustees Chairperson

Martha Price

Church Historian

Paige Bulmer

Thrift Store Coordinator

Loren Schaff

Food Pantry Coordinator

Patricia Miller

Sunday School Superintendent

COBLESKILL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Lay Leadership Report

For the year beginning January 1, 2020

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NOTES:

Blank Underlined spaces are vacancies to be filled. **Bold underlined** are newly filled positions. Numbers after a person's name designate how many terms that person has served on a particular committee.

ADMINISTRATIVE ROUND TABLE

Co-Lay Leader.....	Amy Gildemeister (<i>term: 2017 – 2020</i>)
Co-Lay Leader.....	Natasha Foote (<i>term: 2017 – 2020</i>)
Lay Member to Annual Conference.....	Paige Bulmer (<i>term: 2019 – 2021</i>)
Alternate Lay Member.....	Suzanne Mazoff (<i>term: 2017 – 2020</i>)
Church Council Chair.....	Ann-Marie Frank
Church Council Vice-chair	Martha Price
Church Council Secretary.....	<u>Martha Price</u>
Church Treasurer.....	Rosalie Danforth (staff)
Financial Secretary	Ruth Haugh (staff)
Finance Committee	Tarrence Lasher
Trustees Chair.....	Harriet Berard
Trustees Treasurer.....	<u>Janet Sand</u>
Staff Pastor Parish Relations Co-Chairs.....	Kate Elder, Neil Law
Youth Representative.....	Samuel Lasher
Sunday School Superintendent.....	<u>Patty Miller</u>
Childcare.....	Dawn Schell
Outreach Committee Chair	Debra Wollaber
Thrift Store	Paige Bulmer
Food Pantry	<u>Loren Schaff</u>
Church Historian.....	Martha Price
Congregational Representative.....	<u>Sandra Manchester</u>

STAFF PASTOR PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE (SPPRC)

Kate Elder and Neil Law, *chairpersons*

CLASS OF 2020

Scott Barton (2)

Margaret Herrala (1)

Priscilla Davis (1)

CLASS OF 2021

Carl Stoner (1)

Lori Lasher (1)

Anita Wright (1)

CLASS OF 2022

Neil Law (2)

Ann-Marie Frank (2)

Kate Elder (2)

Members not included in classes: Natasha Foote, *Lay Leader*; Paige Bulmer, *Lay Member to A. C.*

Committee must have 5-9 members; all professing members of the church

TERM LIMITS: Members may serve TWO consecutive 3-year terms

TRUSTEES

Harriett Berard, *chairperson*

Janet Sand, *treasurer*

CLASS OF 2020

Harriet Berard (5)

John Price (4)

Loren Schaff (2)

CLASS OF 2021

Alan Danforth (2)

Don Bond (1)

Dick Frank (1)

Loren Schaff, *vice-chairperson*

Alan Danforth, *secretary*

CLASS OF 2022

Brian Elder (3)

Bruce Wright (7)

Janet Sand (1)

Committee must have 3-9 members; 2/3 must be professing members of the church.

Trustees must be elected by written ballot at Church Conference.

TERM LIMITS: There is NO mandated term limit. QUORUM: A majority of the members (5)

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Tarrance Lasher, *chairperson*

CLASS OF 2020

Tarrance Lasher

CLASS OF 2021

Alan Danforth

Ken Olcott

CLASS OF 2022

Debra Wollaber

Mike Quigley

Ex-officio members (staff): Rosalie Danforth (treasurer); Ruth Haugh (financial secretary)

TERM LIMITS: There is no mandated term limit.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Pastor Anna Blinn Cole, *chairperson*

Ann-Marie Frank, *vice-chairperson*

CLASS OF 2020

Ann-Marie Frank

Jane Olcott

CLASS OF 2021

Martha Price

Jeff Foote

CLASS OF 2022

Paige Bulmer

Janet Sand

***New class members are to be nominated from the floor of church council**

TERM LIMITS: Members are limited to ONE 3-year term.

COMMITTEES WITHOUT CLASSES (no term limits):**WORSHIP TEAM**

Pastor Anna Blinn Cole, *chairperson*

Liturgists: Scott Barton, Alan Danforth, Natasha Foote, Amy Gildemeister, Carl Stoner, Terry Lasher, Amy Kennedy, Brian Elder, Larissa Hackney

Worship Assistants: Rosalie Danforth, Jeff Foote, Terry Lasher

Computer Operators: Chris Elder, Sam Lasher, Hannah Rose Foote, Margaret Law, Alex Smith

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Deb Wollaber, *chairperson*, Lori Lasher, Margaret Herrala, Pat Rickard, Paige Bulmer, Sue-Ann Karker, Loren Schaff, Jongdeok Park (*pastoral representative*)

CHILDRENS MINISTRY TEAM

Paige Bulmer, Kate Elder, Karen Stoner, Doris Leverett, Patty Miller, Carl Stoner, Dawn Schell, Janet Sand, Amy Gildemeister, Anna Blinn Cole (*pastoral representative*)

VISITATION COMMITTEE

Pat Miller, Sue-Ann Karker, Patti Bond, Margaret Herrala, Janet Sand, Sandra Manchester, Jongdeok Park (*pastoral representative*)

SAFE SANCTUARIES

Dawn Schell, *chairperson*, Anna Blinn Cole (*pastoral representative*)

CAMPING REP

Lori Lasher

COMMUNION STEWARDS

Pat Miller, Denise Smith, Darah Wright, Sue-Ann Karker

□

In 2019 our church went social!

- Check out our redesigned website: cobleskillumc.org
- Follow “cobleskillumc” on Instagram
- Like “Cobleskill United Methodist Church” on Facebook



PASTOR'S REPORT Continued from page 1

Here are some 2019 highlights from my perspective:

❖ Shortly before I began my appointment as your pastor, I was ordained at the Upper New York Annual Conference on June 8. This was a highlight of my ministry thus far and represented a significant bookend in a long process (6 years!) of graduate school, interviews, essay-writing, retreats, and mentorships. I look forward to serving the church as an Elder.

❖ It was a blessing to arrive as your pastor being not a complete stranger! My office has been in this building for the past three years as I served as Schoharie Region Coordinator. As I transitioned into the role as your senior pastor, it was wonderful to get to know you better at several Meet-and-Greet parties hosted around the community.

- ❖ It is an honor to serve alongside Pastor JD who brings enthusiasm and a passion for discipleship to our youth ministry.
- ❖ I am passionate about children's ministry and I was thankful to join with a number of you to rejuvenate that programming here at CUMC. Our Block Party was an experiment to reach out to our neighborhood and it turned out to be great fun as we welcomed many different people to our yard for food, ice cream, a bouncy slide, music and games.
- ❖ Our worship services have been enhanced by our many kids who bring "joy" to our Joys and Concerns, preach the Gospel in their own words at Children's Time, take candle lighting very seriously, work diligently on bulletins related to each Sunday's theme, and bring the stories alive through dramas.
- ❖ Several new families have joined our congregation and two of those families have taken the step of becoming members. It is wonderful to welcome new faces into our family.
- ❖ I enjoy planning and leading worship series. I began my time with you leading a series called "Summer at the Movies" where my message was connected to a different movie each week. In the fall we grew together with a series called "Living Well" in which we explored the practical ways our faith can affect our every-day health and well-being.
- ❖ My first six months with you was marked by the passing of several incredible saints. In all, I presided over 6 church-related funerals. It was an honor to be brought into these

families at such a vulnerable point and allowed to participate in the celebration of life of such special people.

- ❖ As a congregation, we embarked on a Vision 2020 process during the last several months of 2019. During these meetings after church it was fun to dream with you about possibilities for our church. I'm excited about the four areas of focus we have chosen. Read more about that on page 27.
- ❖ A couple of extraordinary events in my short time with you include our Catalpa tree being struck by lightning and a deer jumping into (and back out of!) our Conference Room. The conference room is back to normal and we pray our beloved tree will withstand this injury.
- ❖ As pastor this year, I have had to adjust to having a multi-church charge for the first time (I also serve as pastor at Warnerville UMC). You have also had to adjust to having your lead pastor be part of a multi-church charge for the first time. This has required flexibility and patience on everyone's part. I see fruitful signs of a renewed cooperation between Cobleskill and Warnerville moving forward.
- ❖ I continue to serve on the Oneonta District Leadership Team, the Upper New York Committee on Camps and Retreats, in the community as a member of the Village Historic District Review Board, and I meet regularly with the Cobleskill Area Clergy and our own Schoharie Mosaic Clergy Group, affectionately called the "Jedi."
- ❖ On a personal note, my family is grateful for the way you have welcomed us into this church. These first six months have had several challenges. Having such a supportive church community and trusting in God's companionship through it all has allowed us to see the many blessings around us.

2019 BY THE NUMBERS

150+

The number of neighbors and friends who came out for our September 9th Block Party.

15%

Increase in average worship attendance at year-end.

5

New members received. Welcome Amy and Tiernan Kennedy & Noelle, Jim and Nick Jackman!

19

The number of groups that utilize our building on a daily, weekly or monthly basis.

1440

The number of lunches served as we hosted a free mid-day meal each day of summer vacation.

10,736

The number of dollars our church was able to give away to local and global mission.



ASSOCIATE PASTOR

REPORT

BY PASTOR JONGDEOK ("JD") PARK

Beloved sisters and brothers in Christ, I am so excited to share what I have done as an Associate Pastor in 2019 with you. Mainly, I worked with the youth, to help them grow in faith through fun, meaningful and spiritual activities on Finally Fridays. Our youth did a chocolate-fundraiser on Valentine's Day to support kids at the Conference Youth Gathering at Syracuse, OUTWARD 2019. And, in church lock-in activities, we had time to build our relationships. Moreover, last September, kids in grades 6-8 began a confirmation class with a 2 year-curriculum. The confirmation class is a significant moment for young kids to study God and The United Methodist Church's belief so that they may feel more intimate with God as well as our Church. I look forward to having the kids celebrated and supported by all of the congregation when they are confirmed, and

they are given an opportunity to be members of the church. Lastly, I have to say that what we have done could not be without Finally Friday Angels who provided wonderful meals and youth parents who supported them. So, thank you all for your prayers and support.

In addition to the youth group, last summer, it was my joy to be a part of our Vacation Bible School in August. I was so grateful for the opportunity to guide young kids in fun and deep learning moments. Moreover, my presence with my family on four Sundays in 2019 was a good opportunity to show my leadership in service and meet and greet people. I was deeply moved to feel your welcoming and love. In 2020, I look forward to seeing how God might do something special, exciting, and amazing through our ministries of the church. And, I always pray to be a part of the moment. Thanks be to God!



ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

REPORT

BY CATHY KRAJEWSKI

I am happy to say that the year 2020 will be my third year at CUMC. I have made many friends here and thank each and every one who has helped me through personal tough times. I have enjoyed working for all and look forward to many more years here. As the Adm. Assist, I oversee the church office by performing the following with utmost confidentiality: assist the Pastor and Associate Pastor, answer phones, sort and distribute mail, check and answer e-mails, order supplies, keep track of the church calendar and Pastor Anna's appointments, prepare letters, receive and distribute minutes and reports, type bulletins, and prepare the Power Point. On occasion I have mass mailings and process memorial donations. There are many committees that are in and out of the building all week. I make up signs, schedules and forms as

needed, and tend to any of their needs so they can further their important work here at CUMC.

I assist Pastor Anna in putting together the bulletin and Power Point presentation each week, adding any special events. When complete, it is printed, saved on the thumb drive and placed in the sanctuary.

I also assist Pastor Anna with the Newsletter. After information is completed I e-mail it to the subscribers.

Each week Home Touch is mailed out to the members who cannot make it to church but still want to keep in touch with the church and goings on.

Ps. Anna and I have been working on updating Safe Sanctuaries, doing background checks and sending out letters. I bring many years of experience in an office setting, and feel very blessed to be here helping to do God's work.

ADMINISTRATIVE ROUND TABLE

REPORT

BY ANN-MARIE FRANK

The Administrative Round Table consists of committee/team chairs and at-large members who meet every two months to share information regarding the work and activities that are taking place within the church.

This past year was full of transition and activity. We wished Rev. Nancy Hale all the very best as she transitioned from Cobleskill United Methodist Church (CUMC) to her new church in Canton. We then welcomed Rev. Anna Blinn Cole (a.k.a. Pastor Anna) as our senior pastor and Rev. Jongdeok Park (a.k.a. Pastor JD) as our associate pastor. Because of their prior roles within our church, the transition was seamless and we are very excited to have both of them with us.

The year was also full of new events, activities, and endeavors. While we were hopeful for a vibrant and meaningful Vacation Bible School program, no one could have imagined that attendance would be more than three times what was anticipated. The success of that event seemed to spill right over into our first block party. The front lawn of the church was full of church members and neighbors who enjoyed fellowship, good food, and rides down the giant slide. It doesn't get any better than that!

CUMC officially joined the newly formed Mosaic last spring. The Mosaic is a United Methodist Cooperative ministry comprised of churches in the Schoharie region and provides a mechanism to share resources and talents, help our neighbors, and strengthen our churches. We look forward to working with our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ.

Our Thrift Store and Food Pantry continue to provide valuable services to our community. The number of individuals and families coming to the Thrift Store and receiving food continues to grow very steadily. Thank you to the many volunteers who make these vital outreach services possible.

Last Spring our church participated in the Crop Walk and Home Mission Weekend. We had members participate in community parades. Many of our children and youth attended church camp. We started 2020 Vision meetings and discussions to discern God's calling for us as we move into the year 2020. The list goes on and on.

We've seen an increase in attendance at Sunday morning worship and Sunday School. New young families joined the church this year. We can see a renewed energy and great enthusiasm. We count our many blessings as our future is looking very bright!



FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

BY TERRY LASHER

Cobleskill United Methodist Church's finances were a challenge in 2019. We entered the year with a \$7,700 balance forward, yet finished the year with a \$12,445 deficit. Early in 2020 we transferred a \$10,987 credit from Ambit Energy for over charges into our general account eliminating most of our carried over deficit. Unfortunately, the 2019 budget was not balanced from the beginning; the Finance Committee knew we did not have the income to meet our current operating expenses and staffing. However, the vitality and mission of the congregation is so spirited we choose to move forward in faith that we would end the year close to the mark. And it did.

Several pieces came together to help this happen: the members of the congregation have met their individual commitments, and some gave above, the thrift store is contributing monthly, and the Trustees have continued to supplement the annual budget from interest on our investments, \$36,000 yearly. We are

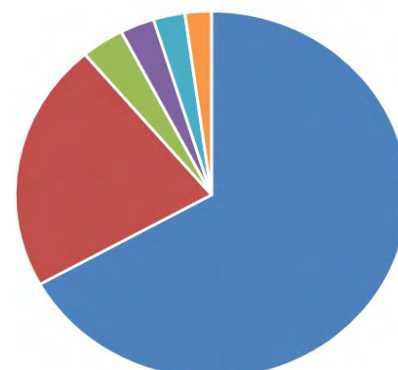
grateful that the generous bequests of the past allow us to supplement our annual budget with investment income and provide the maintenance necessary to care for our buildings.

In 2018-2019 the church experimented with transferring building-related expenses from the main operating budget into a dedicated Trustee account funded by building use money and investment income. After reconsideration of Upper New York guidelines, the Finance Committee and Trustees agreed to return operational expenses back into the general budget for 2020. Several capital-related expenses will remain in a dedicated Trustee budget. Merging our building expenses back into our general budget will allow us to see a more complete picture of our church's financial health.

After paring down our 2020 budget, we are still facing a sizable deficit. We will make adjustments as necessary and trust that God will provide.

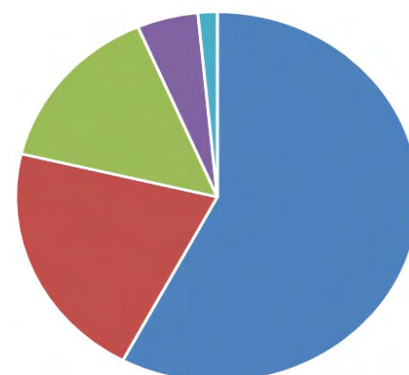
	2019 Budget	2019 Actual	% of Budget	2020 Budget
INCOME				
Commitment	145,000	131,285	91%	120,000
Commitment/late - early	1,000	4,400	440%	1,000
Other Identifiable Offerings	1,000	320	32%	1,000
Plate Offering	2,000	2,679	134%	3,500
Anticipated Extra-Mile Giving	8,605	0	0%	7,686
Festival Offerings	3,000	2,721	91%	3,000
Payroll trustee funds	10,000	8,300	83%	0
Investment Income	36,000	36,000	100%	36,000
Ambit Income	0	211		10,987
Banking Reimbursement	200	185	92%	200
Miscellaneous Income		1,783		0
Fund raisers (Include wedding/funeral)	2,500	2,429	97%	2,500
Property Use	4,080	5,278	129%	5,200
Thrift Store Donation	7,200	7,200	100%	7,200
Total Income	220,585	202,791	92%	198,273
EXPENSES				
Salary and Benefits				
Pastor salary (Nancy)	22,950	22,950	100%	0
Pastor Salary (Anna)	17,212	16,551	96%	34,425
Assoc. salary	11,058	10,520	95%	10,082
Substitute Pastor	150	90	60%	150
Substitute organist	600	200	33%	600
Staff salary	42,950	40,889	95%	42,950
Service contract	1,200	1,372	114%	1,300
FICA	2,700	2,535	94%	2,700
Pastor pension/health ins. (Nancy)	12,293	12,170	99%	0
Pastor Pen/Hlth ins. (Anna)	9,220	9,281	101%	17,580
Assoc. benefit	2,700	6,004	222%	5,600
Staff medicare	550	593	108%	600
Unemployment insurance	700	435	62%	700
WC Ins.		745		0
Total Salary & Benefits	124,283	124,334	100%	116,687
Operating Expenses				
Deficit Carried Over From 2019				12,445
Acct. reimbursements (Nancy)	2,250	2,362	105%	0
Acct. reimbursements (Anna)	1,688	1,481	88%	3,375
Assoc. acct. Reim	1,400	1,024	73%	1,125
Travel (Renamed "Annual Conf")	500	215	43%	500
Office supplies	1,500	1,242	83%	1,500
Postage	1,200	1,018	85%	1,200
Office equipment (Moved to Trustees)	2,000	2,306	115%	2,000
Banking	400	303	76%	400
Publicity(Renamed "Marketing")	150	106	71%	300

2019 Income by Source



- Commitments
- Trustee Transfers
- Thrift Store Donation
- Plate Offerings
- Property Use
- Other Income

2019 Expenses by Category



- Salary and Benefits
- Building Maintenance
- Connectional Expenses
- Operating Expenses
- Church Ministries

	2019 Budget	2019 Actual	% of Budget	2020 Budget
Decorations				250
Finance Committee	750	254	34%	250
Technology (Moved to Trustees)	300	233	78%	300
Total Operating Expenses	12,138	10,544	87%	23,645
Church Ministries				
Children's ministries	500	479	96%	100
Sunday School				200
Vacation Bible School				200
Fellowship Team	100	75	75%	225
Worship team	400	533	133%	275
Leadership Dev.		4		75
Safe Sanctuaries	400	93	23%	200
Youth ministries	500	505	101%	500
Choral music	250	42	17%	150
Organ Maintenance (Moved to Trustees)	1,500	1,590	106%	1,600
Piano tuning (Moved to Trustees)	400	0	0%	400
Total Church Ministries	4,050	3,322	82%	3,925
Building Maintenance				
Parsonage elec.	1,050	962	92%	1,050
Parsonage fuel	1,750	1,755	100%	1,750
Parsonage phone	750	227	30%	0
Insurance	9,450	8,541	90%	9,450
Church fuel	8,400	5,880	70%	8,400
Church elec.	3,100	3,001	97%	3,100
Church phone & internet	3,120	2,983	96%	2,100
Grounds Maintenance	3,500	4,692	134%	3,500
Refuse collection	700	726	104%	900
Custodial supplies	700	1,300	186%	1,000
Water/sewer	1,200	1,460	122%	1,500
Assoc. Housing-Utilities	1,320	586	44%	1,200
Building Main/Repairs	5,000	6,599	132%	5,000
Snow Removal	8,000	6,440	81%	8,000
Total Building Maintenance	48,040	45,152	94%	46,950
Connectional Expenses				
Ministry shares	29,352	29,352	100%	27,168
Ministry Shares-retiree prem.	2,532	2,532	100%	2,556
Total Connectional Expenses	31,884	31,884	100%	29,724
Total Expenses	220,395	215,236	98%	220,931
Income - Expenses	190	-12,445		-22,658
<i>NOTE: Outreach funds are reported on page 18-19.</i>				



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

REPORT

BY HARRIET BERARD

The following officers were elected for **2019**:

Chairperson: Harriet Berard
Vice-Chair: Loren Schaff
Secretary: Alan Danforth
Treasurer: Margaret Karker

The Trustees are the custodians of our church's assets. They hold these assets in trust for the Upper New York Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church per the Book of Discipline. The church, parsonage, their contents and the adjoining land are the chief concern of the Board of Trustees. We continue to monitor church investments and meet semiannually with our fund managers to maintain proper stewardship of these funds.

The Board of Trustees had a year with several changes and surprises. We changed pastors in the middle of the year and then we

lost our faithful member and Treasurer, Margaret Karker. It threw us in a small turmoil to do the work she had been doing for the church and the Trustees, specifically. We have managed these changes with the help of many dedicated members of our board who have stepped up to fill the gap.

One of the highpoints of each year is the awarding of scholarships from the endowments managed by our board. This year the Trustees awarded three scholarships to college students, Nick Elder, Nathalia Mazoff and Emily Lasher.

Our building also hosted the Summer Lunch Program made possible through the Joshua Project. Hosting this ministry didn't cost us anything but we did have our kitchen inspected by the Health Department and the space was readied by volunteers from the congregation.

During this year we have succeeded in doing many improvements for the church building and parsonage. The following projects and expenses were incurred:

- New alarm system installed in the church -\$21,075
- Parsonage sewer system repair - \$1280
- Fencing on the parsonage lawn – materials, \$820 and labor, \$1100.
- Parsonage upstairs bathroom renovation –materials, \$940, labor was donated by Garrett Cole and Bruce Wright.
- Painting of three rooms in the parsonage- \$700 plus in-kind donation from Mike Quiqley.
- Church steam boiler repair-\$529
- Lightning damage to tree and alarm system -\$2166
- Portions of sidewalk replaced -\$2900

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FUND BALANCES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2019

Bank Deposits

Bank of Richmondville	\$9,835.24
NBT (Memorial Funds)	\$4,167.85
NBT (Accessibility Funds)	\$4,916.34

Investments

Landscape Fund	\$10,869.64
Scholarship Funds	
Ryder/Decker	\$40,602.74
Veddar	\$11,513.27
Decker (camp scholarships)	\$21,599.71
Regular Undesignated	\$1,022,566.26
<u>Stocks</u>	<u>\$128,285.50</u>

Total of all Trustee supervised accounts	\$1,254,356.55
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MEMBERSHIP

REPORT

BY JANET SAND

Membership statistics: We have continued to update our membership rolls by updating addresses and other information, as well as keeping our register in compliance with The Book of Discipline.

Total number of members reported at beginning of 2019	289
Removed by death	4
Removed by transfer to another Methodist Church	2
Removed by transfer to other denomination	1
Removed by action of charge conference	0
Received by profession of Faith	3
Received by transfer from Another Methodist Church	0
Received by transfer from other denominations	0
Restored	0
Total membership at end of 2019	285

In Memoriam

Duane Barton*
 Marion Herzog
 Margaret Karker
 Louesa Rickard*
 Ina Jones
 Esther (Terri) Downie
 (*constituent)

Received as Transferred Members

Amy Kennedy
 Noelle Jackman
 Jim Jackman

Received as Baptized Members

Nick Jackman
 Tiernan Kennedy



STAFF- PASTOR PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

REPORT

BY NEIL LAW & KATE ELDER

SPPRC's 2019 can be described as a year in transition. The fourth such year in a row. It is the second that could be classified as a new beginning year in that same four year block (2016-2019). This year saw the arrival of a new pastoral team (Rev. Anna Blinn Cole and Rev. JD Park) and a new custodian, Katie Joe Dougherty. It also represented the passing of the baton to new co-chairs.

The January through August period of the year was focused specifically on transition. Given the previous pastor's request to leave in early fall 2018 and our 1/4 time additional pastor having visa issues and unable to actively work, our new senior pastor was appointed by mid-Fall, followed by a 1/4 time associate assigned in December 2018. This unusual timing, and nearby location of our new senior pastor meant that there were several meetings held in this period regarding the transition (e.g. condition and preparation of the parsonage). New meetings with the leadership team of Esperance and Gallupville UMC's were also added as we welcomed Pastor JD as part of our 100% appointment team, after his period as a 1/4 time on top of the 100% pastor. During this time the SPPRC learned about sharing costs of

parsonages, for example. February brought the arrival of Katie Joe as custodian; she has been a wonderful addition to the church's staff. Finally, the SPPRC kept the congregation apprised of the changes throughout the January to July period and reinforced the role of our outgoing pastor as our leader.

In July, the co-chairs met with both new pastors in July to discuss how the pastoral duties were going to be handled. This represented new terrain for our SPPRC in that we had not dealt with more than one person representing the 100% full time pastor. Moving into the fall of 2019, work focused on moving solidly into the new era of pastoral and SPPRC leadership. At the August SPPRC meeting, Pastor Anna announced her intention to begin a visioning process for Cobleskill UMC. The SPPRC was fully in support of this process. The SPPRC conducted annual reviews, pastoral salary approvals for 2020, and the pastoral covenants.

The Cobleskill UMC SPPRC is looking forward to a calmer 2020 focused on the support of pastors, staff and congregation through the launch of programs and disciple making opportunities that arose from the Visioning 2020 process.



OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

BY DEB WOLLABER

Our Outreach Committee, funded by the Road to Jubilee Thrift Store revenues, works to fund Internal, Local, and Global Ministries. At the beginning of 2019 the Committee voted to distribute \$9,175 as follows:

- **Internal Ministries: Camp Scholarships \$4,000**
 - Funding of scholarships enables children to participate in church camps. This year we had 25 children and adults visit or attend either Skye Farm or Casawasco.
- **Local Ministries:**
 - Caring Connections: \$1,500. Rather than have our Church Administrative Assistant and Pastor respond to people asking for monetary and/or other assistance and not be able to accurately assess needs, we refer those in need to Caring Connections.
 - Catholic Charities Domestic Violence \$350;
 - Venison Donation Coalition \$125. We receive donations of venison for our Food Pantry.
 - Office of the Aging \$150. This donation helps to fund Meals on Wheels.
 - Hospice (Helios Care) \$300. We support the efforts of Helios Care to assist patients and families with the complex care required for patients facing significant illness and death.
 - Sunshine Fair Bike Donation: \$100. We assist in the purchase and/or rehabilitation of bicycles for children. Bikes are distributed at the Sunshine Fair.
 - Miscellaneous Needs: Halloween funding, \$200; Emergency miscellaneous assistance funds, \$200.
 - Joshua Project: \$200 (see below for further explanation).
- **Global Ministries**
 - Heifer Fund: \$250. The purpose of the Heifer Fund is to assist in ending world hunger. See <https://heifer.org>
 - UMCOR: \$300. The United Methodist Committee on Relief responds to disasters around the globe.
 - Mission Trip Scholarship: \$1500. This year we added this line item to assist members in the congregation in their efforts to participate in mission trips. Mission focused trips can occur locally, regionally, or globally. An application for funds was developed (see church website) for anyone interested in applying for these funds.

Other Outreach Initiatives

- For the first time Cobleskill UMC participated in and hosted a free Summer Lunch program, partnering with the Joshua Project to serve free lunches every day to those in need. Outcomes for this project are as follows:
 - 1440 meals served at CUMC (as compared to established programs in Middleburgh (2500), Richmondville (2200), and Central Bridge (800). Over the summer a total of 6,618 meals were served to 3,858 children and 2955 adults.
 - We anticipate participating in the Summer Lunch program in Summer 2020. Based on feedback our church will be responsible for lunches on Mondays (rather than Fridays).

Additional 2019 accomplishments include:

- Financial support for Six Sunday Collections: \$1561.67
- Establishment of Mosaic – Regional UMC work
 - Enables members from various UMC congregations to work for the betterment of all. For example, The Church Has Left the Building Event worked with several churches on needed building and repairing projects.
- Food Pantry
 - A separate report will summarize the work of our Food Pantry
- Road to Jubilee Thrift Store
 - This Outreach effort has shown tremendous success in providing gently used clothing, toys, and small household items to those in need.
- Play Group
 - Meets weekly to provide parents of preschool age children to spend time with other parents while their children socialize with other children
- Crop Walk
 - CUMC hosted and participated in our local Crop Walk.
- Block Party:
 - Pastor Anna organized and hosted a Block Party in September for our neighbors (and anyone who passed by). This was a great success and we have hopes to do another next year.
- Halloween
 - Once again we provided candy and hot and cold drinks to families and children walking by what can be categorized as “Halloween Central” in Cobleskill. All candy was distributed (1255 pieces!) and the adults appreciated the hot drinks as they “trunk or treated” in our space.
- Empty Bowls
 - We were able to purchase 20 bowls for a minimal cost. Participants paint bowls and then the bowls are sold at a local event to benefit Food Pantries within the county. It assists our Food Pantry in monies to help feed those in need.
- Flood Buckets
 - We purchased and filled approximately 20 flood buckets to support areas that experienced devastating flooding.



FOOD PANTRY

REPORT

BY LOREN SCHAFF

It is with heavy hearts the Food Pantry is operating without our leader Margaret Karker after her unexpected passing in August. I would like to thank all of the volunteers who help on Friday and all the people who pick up deliveries, as well as our Administrative Assistant, Cathy Krajewski, for helping with ordering. Since I took over in mid-August we have served 302 household and 991 family members.

The CUMC Food Pantry is a participant in the Feeding America network, the nation's largest domestic hunger-relief organization

that works to connect people who are food insecure with the food they need to care for themselves and their families. The network works to get nourishing food from farmers, manufacturers, and retailers to people in need via regional food banks and local pantries. Hunger can affect people from all walks of life. Many Americans are just one job loss or medical crisis away from food insecurity. The Regional Food Bank in Latham, donors, and volunteers all play an important role in our effort to curtail hunger here in Schoharie County.

Food Pantry Contributions

We are blessed to have so many people giving of their time to pick up the food, sort it and stow it away, as well as those who serve the clients who come to our door each Friday. Food and other donations are dropped off at the pantry during the week, usually anonymously; we also have donors who share their excess produce and eggs. During the year we are helped out by Food Drives from mail carriers, Boy/Cub Scouts, SUNY collections, Warnerville United Methodist Church, and the Antique Auto Association; sale of recipe books and recyclable grocery bags at the Hannaford in Esperance. In addition to the caring individuals who give regularly, we received donations from FAM, Beards Hollow Society, Crop-Walk, and Empty Bowls.



The Cobleskill
UMC Food Pantry
serves an
average of 175
people each
month.

Month	Households	Adults	Children	Older Adults	Total Persons
July	39	63	20	14	97
August	54	84	46	23	153
September	70	117	78	27	222
October	60	104	72	16	192
November	65	107	59	31	197
December	56	108	64	22	194
Half-Year Totals	182	300	339	133	1055
2019 Mon. Aver.	59	104.4	52.25	19	234.6
2018 Mon. Aver.	55.3	95.7	50.5	16.3	162.6



IN MEMORY OF
Margaret L. Karker
who served as volunteer
Food Pantry Coordinator
for seven years providing food to
over 6,650 families.



THRIFT STORE

REPORT

BY PAIGE BULMER

Change...nothing is ever constant except change! 2019 was indeed a year for change at The Road to Jubilee Thrift Store...but thankfully it was all good change! We started the year out with our wonderful crew of volunteers who are so incredibly dedicated and thoughtful in their work. For the first half of the year we were again often joined by elder members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Later Day Saints, who helped lift and carry and clean and sort! While the elders have moved on to other duties, we have been blessed by the addition of several new volunteers from the local community whose contributions have become invaluable!

In May, our church as well as 11 other UMCs in the Schoharie Region decided to become a cooperative ministry, committed to supporting each other in growth of our

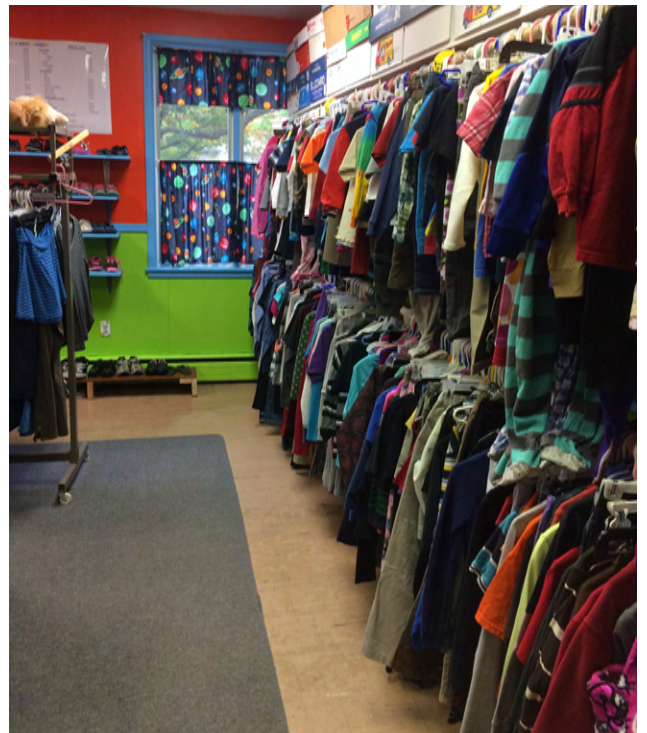
individual ministries as well as region wide collective ministry. Mosaic was chosen as a name to represent our individual blessings combined together in a beautiful mosaic! With Pastor Anna moving into her role as Senior Pastor at our church, and ending her role as Regional Coordinator, we recognized the need for some part time administrative help for managing the communications and record keeping for Mosaic, and this would require funding.

After some discussion it was decided that a trial run of extending the hours at the thrift store, and having volunteers from the other Mosaic churches help to fill those additional hours could be a way to fund the position as well as possibly provide some extra money to be available for additional Mosaic ministries. We began a trial period of extended hours on Fridays and Saturdays

– adding 2 hours to each day – in September and started to get Mosaic members to take on some shifts each month. It became clear quickly that the extended hours were a great idea, as we started to see new faces as well as an increase in donations. Thus far, we have had Mosaic volunteers from 6 out of the 11 churches, with several churches having more than one volunteer. In the coming year, we will be looking at ways to encourage representation from all 11 Mosaic member churches.

So....what was the outcome of all of our change? In 2019, we once again exceeded our last years income. This year the increase was more than \$4500! We continue to contribute \$7200 per year to our church's general fund, as well as continuing our support of UMCOR, Catholic Charities Domestic Violence Shelter, Heifer Project, Venison Project, The Sunshine Fair bicycle drive, The Joshua Project, Meals on Wheels, and Helios. In addition we added the CRCS Backpack Program and Street Soldiers to our list of community outreach programs we support!

We continue to be so incredibly blessed and thankful for the support of this congregation and our community, and look forward to strengthening our relationship with other Mosaic churches through increased volunteer participation. Here's to another great year for The Road to Jubilee Thrift Store!





NURSERY

REPORT

BY DAWN SCHELL

The nursery continues to be a hub of activity at CUMC. Between Sunday morning worship, workshops, new members classes, child care for funerals, VBS, Sunday school and play group our nursery has provided care and shared God's love and nurturing spirit to 65 different children. God has truly blessed us.

Our nursery is very blessed with several safe sanctuary assistants and we could not do what we do without them. We

extend a heartfelt invitation to anyone who would like to come and play on Sunday morning to talk to Dawn in the nursery or call the church office for more information. Our children are our heritage and it is a blessing to spend our time getting to know them.

In closing, I wish to say thank you to the congregation for my Christmas gift but also for the gifts of your support and friendship throughout the year.



YOUTH

REPORT

BY SAM LASHER

In the year 2019, the CUMC Youth Group did many activities and ministries in the church with the leadership from Pastor JD. We met once every two weeks for a "Finally Friday." During this time we enjoy fellowship through games like 4-square, eat dinner provided by a gracious member of the church, and then have a serious time of discussion and learning about God in our daily lives as youth. This time for connecting our extremely busy lives to God was important for us to grow our faith. This was done in many ways but commonly through TED talks.

As a Youth Group, we also had a few special meetings. In February we did a chocolate fundraiser that was very successful and in December we sang carols and delivered cookies to shut-ins in the church. With this money that was fundraised, we were able to go to a large

Methodist youth event in the spring called Outward. We sent a carload of youth to this CCYM (Conference Council on Youth Ministries) event and also Y.A.C. (Youth Autumn Conference) in November, which was also a CCYM youth event. Myself and Grace Dunham are on the CCYM planning team and help plan, lead and make these events happen.

Lastly, at the end of the year, I was privileged to go with the NEJ CYM (Northeastern Jurisdiction Council on Youth Ministries) Mission of Peace to India. Supported by this and other churches, I traveled with 16 other youth from the Northeast for 19 days on a journey of Shalom and Peace to worship and learn from other youth in India.

As youth of this church, we have done great things in 2019 and we hope for a great new year!



CHILDRENS MINISTRY

REPORT

BY PAT MILLER

Our 2019 Childrens Ministry received new energy this year when a team of teachers, parents, grandparents, and pastors put their heads together about restarting a Vacation Bible School program after many years.

The result was a week-long summer camp for ages 3-12 that explored the Bible's Super Heros through music, crafts, building, drama, games and break-out boxes. Thirty five kids from our neighborhood and surrounding churches plus over 15 adult and youth volunteers made the week a big success. Our VBS week led into our back-to-school Block Party where the kids presented a drama they had learned.

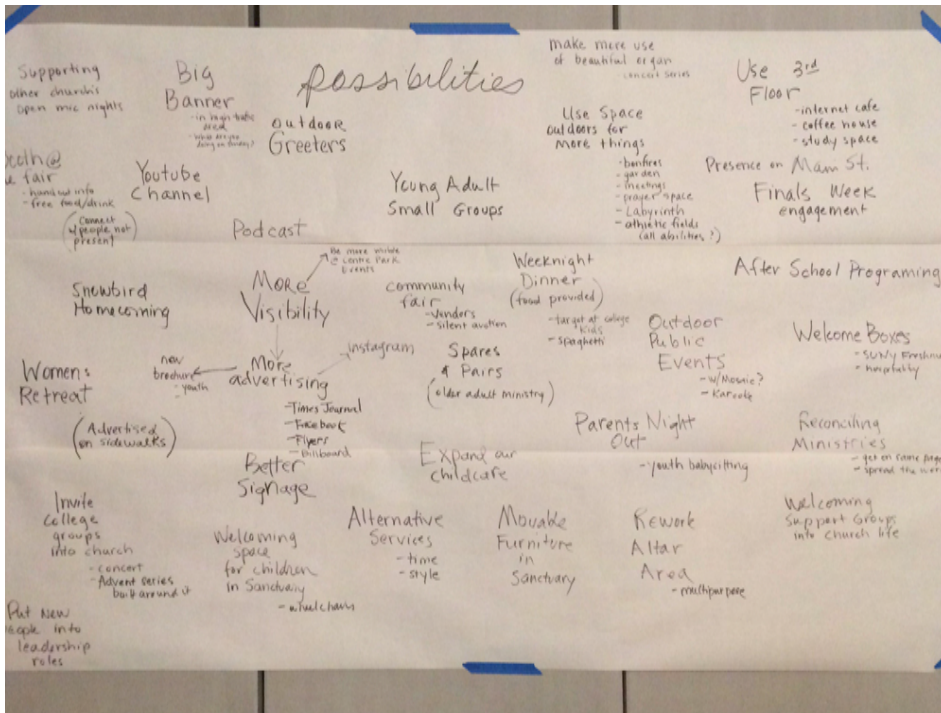
Sunday School restarted in September with four new families joining our existing kids to make two new classes with a total of 10-12

kids. Several new teachers were recruited to help including Karen and Carl Stoner, Dawn Schell, and Doris Leverett. I stepped in as Sunday School Superintendent to help where needed.

Each Sunday the kids start their morning in Little Chapel with Paige Bulmer where they sing and pray for 15 minutes before heading to their classes.

At Halloween our kids made a banner that said "Kids Matter Here" to display on our church's popular trick-or-treat stop.

At Christmas the kids joined with the youth to do a big pageant led by Kate Elder and Pastor Anna. We also had a movie night and board game night for families in December.



VISION 2020 REPORT

BY PASTOR ANNA BLINN COLE

After meeting together for six conversations in late 2019, an *ad hoc* visioning group identified many things about our church that we love while also brainstorming new areas where we want to see our church grow. The group came up with four areas where we want to direct energy and passion in 2020. Working groups will begin making plans in the new year.

presence: A renewed focus on being present to our community. What does it mean to be a neighborhood church? Can we foster a closer connection between us and our neighbors? Do our neighbors know who we are and what we are about? What is the core message we want to communicate to our community and how do we communicate it?

justice: Looking for the hurt in the world and taking action. Who is marginalized today in our community and world? How can our community of faith be a place of healing that hurt? What concrete actions can we take to care for and include those who have been cast off including LGBTQ persons, broken families, people living with addiction, those who live in fear of violence, and the earth itself.

worship: Bringing more people to a meaningful worship of God. Who is not worshipping at our church and why? Are there new times and new styles of worship that could reach new people? How can we continue to make our current service meaningful and creative? Are there ways we can make the content of our worship service more broadly available?

discipling: Connecting and growing together as followers of Christ. Is the life of faith more than just Sunday morning? How do we bring groups of people within our church together in closer community beyond worship? How do we practice our faith on a day-to-day basis? How do we grow, encourage and support different age-level ministries with seniors, young adults, working people, parents, kids, and youth?



CHURCH HISTORIAN

REPORT

BY MARTHA PRICE

The basic Archival Collection of historic documents, photos, pamphlets, booklets and Annual Reports are now available by request to CUMC members as well as others interested in the history of the church. This collection is stored in a secure location, primarily in loose-leaf binder notebooks, free from environmental damage possibilities. In 2019, photo archives of the Sunday School, the CUMC Choir, and Confirmation classes were added to the collection. For persons who wish to look at specific dates, celebrations or events, a detailed Inventory Guide, available at the Church Office, provides chronological access to the collection. Archival notebooks may not be borrowed or removed from the church facility, but accommodations to provide access can be requested. The Archival Collection began as a way to organize the many boxes of

items that had been saved or donated, and moved around within our facility over many, many years. A wealth of information is provided for those who are interested in the history of our church, dating back to 1854, when the first Cobleskill Methodist Episcopal Church was built on the corner of North Grand Street and an alley that would become Chapel Street. In the future, there are plans to inventory old ledgers and hard cover archives which are fragile, but important additional artifacts. Please feel free to contact me with any questions about church history and the Archival Collection. I would also refer you to the 2015 book, *A History of Cobleskill United Methodist Church: 160th Anniversary Celebration*, which contains much of the information stored within our archives. Copies are available at the Church Office.



UNITED METHODISM OUT AND ABOUT

REPORT

BY PASTOR ANNA BLINN COLE

2019 was a big year for the United Methodist church here in our Schoharie Region. After working together informally for several years, the twelve churches of this region discerned together that a formal Cooperative Parish was in our best interest. After a visioning process and several Town Hall meetings, we were ready for our May Charge Conference and “party” at the Fair Grounds where many of these churches entered into a covenant together and officially became the “The Mosaic: A United Methodist Cooperative Ministry in the Schoharie Region.”

Through our partnership together with our sister churches across this region, we sent another team to Red Bird Mission in Kentucky, worked together on local projects at our various churches during our first-ever

Home Mission Weekend, enjoyed another fine Progressive Dinner, hosted the Oneonta District for the October District Day gathering, and marched in two parades together carrying our “You Matter Here” banner.

As I transitioned out of my role as Regional Coordinator, a team of lay and clergy joined together to form the Mosaic Council meeting every other month to organize and dream on behalf of the Cooperative. Paige Bulmer and Neil Law are our congregation’s representatives, as well as myself, on this council.

We are grateful for all that God is doing through this partnership with our fellow UMCs in the Schoharie Region and look forward to much more collaboration in the year to come.

PICTURES OF 2019



CUMC having fun with friends from the Schoharie Mosaic.



