



2020

ANNUAL
REPORT

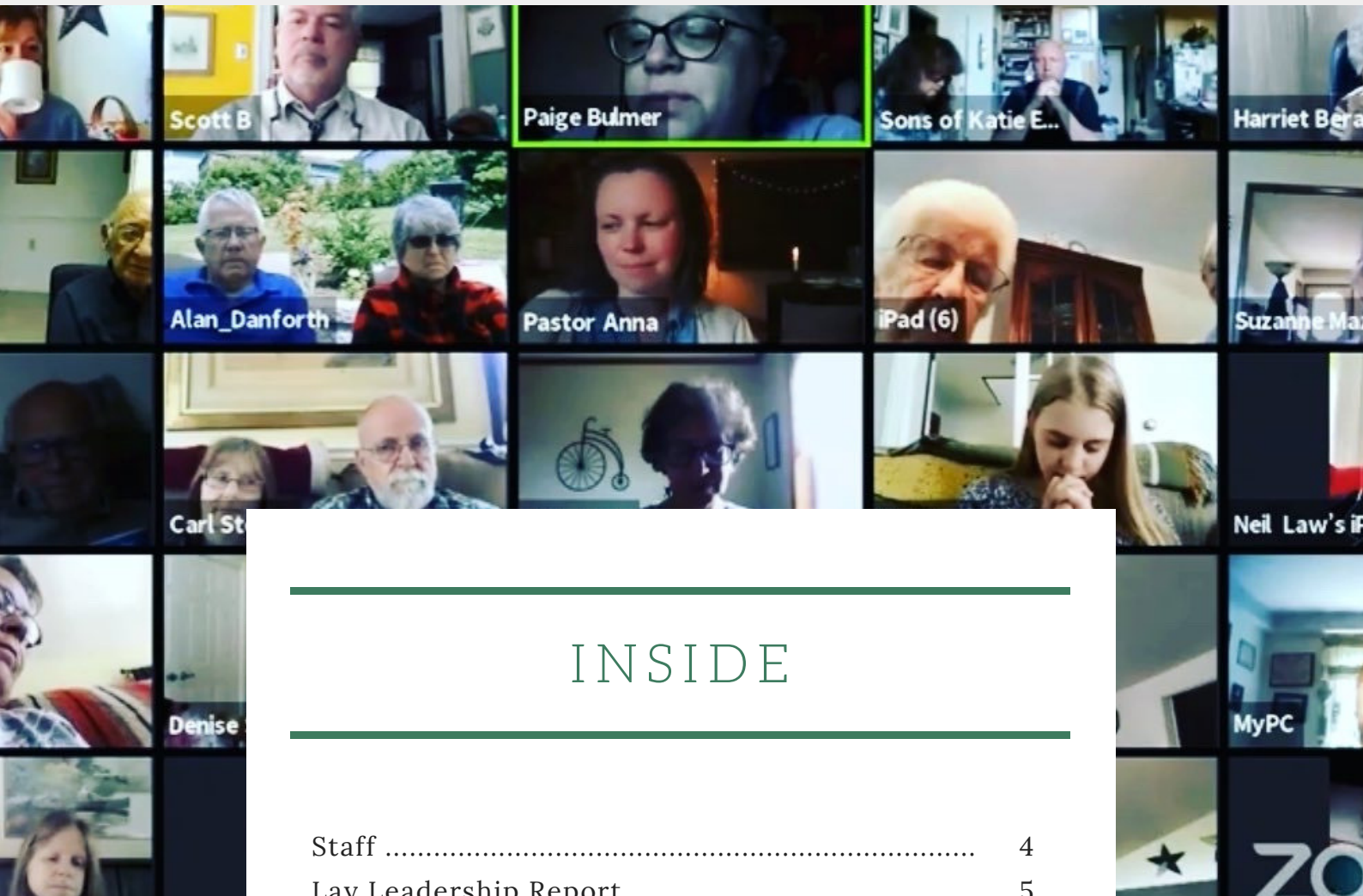
COBLESKILL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A YEAR OF PIVOT

If 2019 was a year of identifying our vision as a church, 2020 was a year of pivoting that very fresh vision. During my first whole year as your Lead Pastor, I have been struck by the way your passions as a church have not changed despite the massive revisioning 2020 has required. You still deeply love our neighborhood, long to help children grow in God, strive for inspiring worship, and care profoundly about social concerns in our world.

In the pages of this Annual Report, you will find stories of perseverance and reports of overcoming big challenges. Sit back and take stock of how God has supplied our every need and inspired us to love for our neighbors.

Happy reading,
Pastor Anna



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STAFF

Rev. Anna Blinn Cole
Pastor

Rev. Jongdeok Park
Associate Pastor

Cathy Krajewski
Administrative Assistant

Jamie Livingston
Building Monitor

Katie Joe Daugherty
Custodian

Hannah Lasher
Digital Communications Assistant

Ruth Haugh
Financial Secretary

Dawn Schell
Nursery Provider

Betsy Walsh
Organist/Music Director

Rosalie Danforth
Treasurer

Kristin Gilbert
Worship A/V Technician



LAY LEADERSHIP REPORT

For the year beginning January 1, 2021

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

Lay Leader.....	Scott Barton
Lay Member to Annual Conference.....	Paige Bulmer (term: 2019 – 2021)
Alternate Lay Member.....	Suzanne Mazoff (term: 2021 – 2024)
Church Council Chair.....	Ann-Marie Frank
Church Council Vice-chair	Martha Price
Church Council Secretary.....	Martha Price
Church Treasurer.....	Rosalie Danforth (staff)
Financial Secretary	Ruth Haugh (staff)
Finance Committee	Tarrence Lasher
Trustees Chair.....	Harriet Berard
Trustees Treasurer.....	Janet Sand
Staff Pastor Parish Relations Co-Chairs.....	Kate Elder, Neil Law
Youth Representative.....	Samuel Lasher
Childcare.....	Dawn Schell
Outreach Committee Chair.....	Debra Wollaber
Thrift Store	Paige Bulmer
Food Pantry	Loren Schaff
Church Historian.....	Martha Price
Congregational Representative.....	Sandra Manchester



STAFF PASTOR PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE (SPPRC)

Kate Elder and Neil Law, *chairpersons*

CLASS OF 2021	CLASS OF 2022	CLASS OF 2023
Carl Stoner (1)	Neil Law (2)	Natasha Foote (1)
Lori Lasher (1)	Ann-Marie Frank (2)	Margaret Herrala (2)
Anita Wright (1)	Kate Elder (2)	Noelle Jackman (1)

Members not included in classes:

Scott Barton, Lay Leader Paige Bulmer, Lay Member to Annual Conference

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*

Loren Schaff, *vice-chairperson*

Alan Danforth, *secretary*

CLASS OF 2021	CLASS OF 2022	CLASS OF 2023
Alan Danforth (2)	Brian Elder (3)	Harriet Berard (6)
Don Bond (1)	Bruce Wright (7)	John Price (5)
Dick Frank (1)	Janet Sand (1)	Loren Schaff (3)

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

Tarrence Lasher, *chairperson*

_____, *vice chairperson*

CLASS OF 2021	CLASS OF 2022	CLASS OF 2023
Alan Danforth	Debra Wollaber	Tarrence Lasher
Ken Olcott	Mike Quigley	Laurie Pracher

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 2021	CLASS OF 2022	CLASS OF 2023
Martha Price	Paige Bulmer	Karen Stoner
Jeff Foote	Janet Sand	Jack Gosselink

**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, Carl Stoner, Terry Lasher, Amy Kennedy, Brian Elder, Noelle Jackman, Suzanne Mazoff, Paige Bulmer

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, Carl Stoner, Dawn Schell, Janet Sand, **Amy Kennedy**, 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

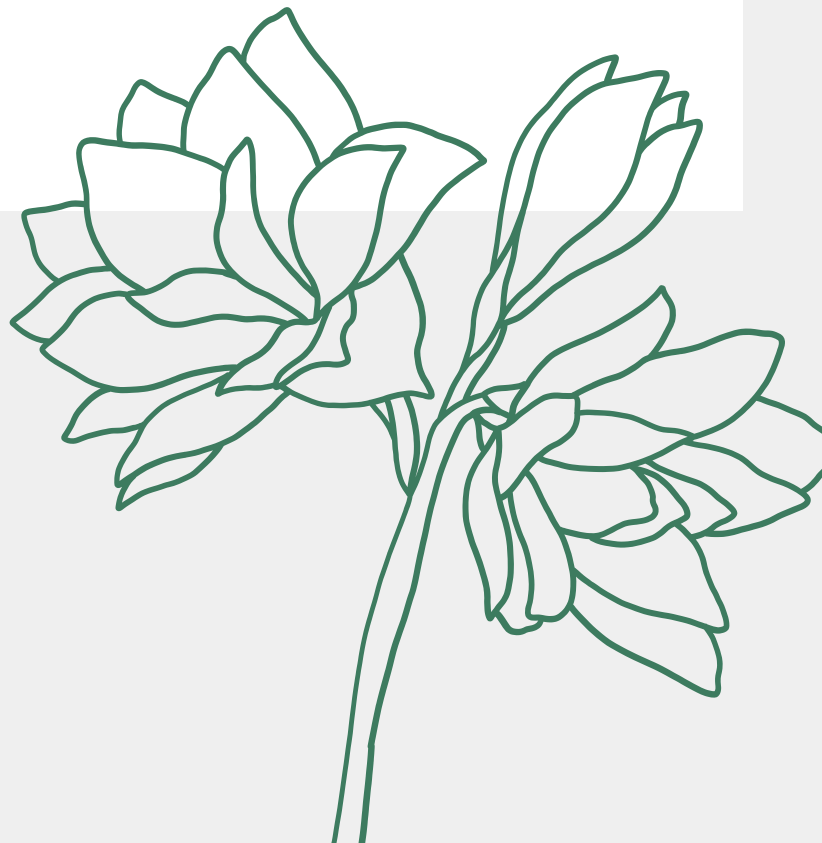
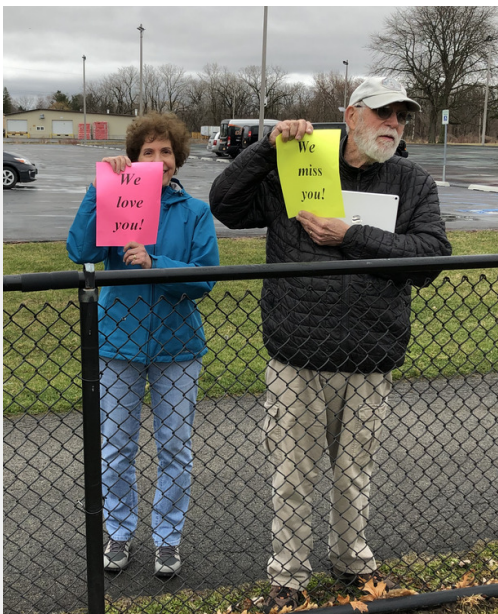
Dawn Schell, *chairperson*, Anna Blinn Cole (*pastoral representative*)

CAMPING REP

Lori Lasher

COMMUNION STEWARDS

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



PASTOR'S REPORT

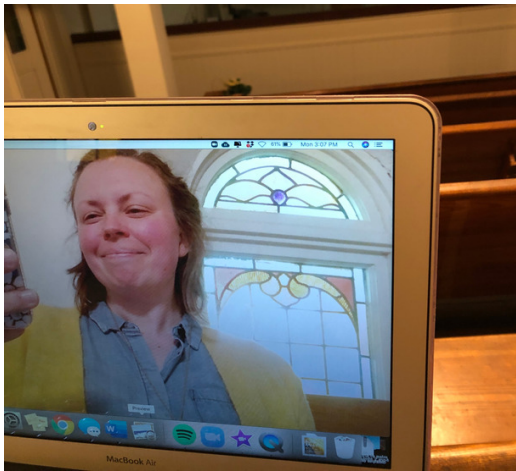
BY PASTOR ANNA BLINN COLE

- In 2020 our church faced the unprecedented challenge of keeping our community connected and faithful despite the serious threat of illness posed by Covid-19. I am proud to say we prioritized the life and health of neighbor in all ministry decisions as a Gospel witness.
- With a huge learning curve, we moved our worship services online using a variety of formats that stretched our technology and knowledge thin. Nevertheless, we learned as we went and it was fun to be able to work with our Mosaic friends for combined worship videos from March 13 (our first pandemic Sunday) up to Pentecost. May 31. We used Zoom for June and July and then worshipped outside under the Catalpa for the late summer and early fall. From September 20 to November 15, we worshipped inside with strict Covid protocols. From November 22 until the end of the year we resumed virtual-only worship during which time we fine-tuned our live-stream production. I am grateful to our two new team members, Kristin Gilbert and Hannah Lasher, who have helped us pivot into the digital age with our church ministry.
- It was heart-wrenching as a pastor to be apart for our high holy days of Easter, Pentecost and Christmas. I am thankful to serve a congregation that prioritizes everyone's health and has stepped up to help make these holy days special in creative ways.
- In a desire to keep our community safe from Covid-19, we worked as a church to reinvent classic church activities for the pandemic times. We hosted a **neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt** in which paper eggs were adopted by houses and businesses around the village. A team of church volunteers delivered **Pentecost birthday bags** to every household the day before and another festive **caravan of decorated cars** around the community spreading love to people who couldn't get out of their homes during spring shut-down.
- We pulled off a **Block Party To-Go** in which we passed out activity bags and hot dogs and tie-dyed masks. We created an extraordinary walk-through **Halloween Hollow** in our back alley and yard where families could safely receive festive hospitality. And at Christmastime our youth helped to deliver **Christmas Care Packages** to our elderly members.





- Our church has always had a strong relationship with camping, but in 2020 we were unable to send children. Instead, we went as a church to Skye Farm for Labor Day weekend, having an outdoor service in their chapel and enjoying the outdoor peace and serenity of camp. This may become a new tradition!
- 2020 was a year of reckoning with injustice in our society. In the spring we addressed the plight of our earth with a “**Monday Message**” sermon series focusing on our responsibility to God’s creation for the 50th anniversary of Earth Day. In the summer, a small group of church members began an ongoing conversation every week to address our complicity in **systemic racism**.
- Our food pantry and thrift store have continued to serve a big need in the community. I am grateful to the returning and new volunteers who have stepped up to help keep these ministries running through the pandemic.
- Without Sunday School or VBS to help our children grow in their love of God this year, our children’s ministry team created a series of Christmas programs broadcast onto the internet. Each **Worship on Wednesday (WOW)** featured Sparky the puppet and a line-up of engaging stories, songs and crafts.
- I was grateful for the opportunity to take a four-week renewal leave in July to rest and spend time with my family. In my absence you were treated to preaching from our Associate Pastor, my parents, Mary Beth and Bob Blinn, and our former pastor, Pam Mikel Hayes.
- I continue to serve the wider connection as the pastor at Warnerville UMC, convening Elder for the Mosaic Cooperative Parish, board member for UNY Camp and Retreat Ministries, and newly placed on the Lead Team for UNY New Faith Communities.



2020 BY THE NUMBERS

27 *Virtual Sundays*
in 2020, we worshipped virtually more than we did in-person.



350 *Trick-or-treaters*
walked through our Covid-friendly Halloween Hollow on October 31.



9,919 *Dollars for Equipment*

raised to allow our church to broadcast its worship services to people outside our church walls far and near.



793 *Households with food*
thanks to the volunteers in our food pantry and the generosity of the community. This was a single-year record.

80 *Paper eggs*
adopted by neighbors and friends around the village for the neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt we hosted.



19% *Giving increase*

Congregational giving rose to meet the needs of ministry in spite of not being able to pass an offering plate.



122 *WOW bags*
full of snacks and crafts for kids were picked up off our church porch over four weeks by families around the community.

98 *Average views*
for our Sunday morning worship streamed online to Facebook & YouTube (& that's not counting individuals, but how many screens played the service). Additional worshipers could find the broadcast on public access television.



0 *Covid cases*
Diligence paid off as we had no known Covid cases or community spread on our premises.



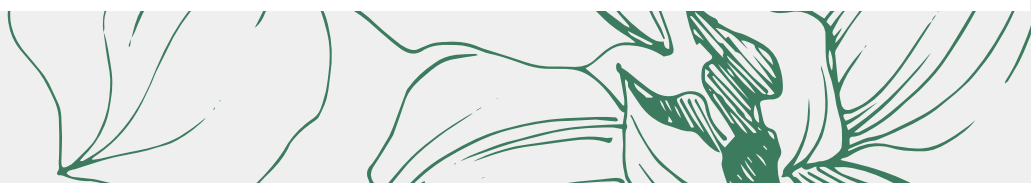
ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT

BY PASTOR
JONGDEOK
PARK

Beloved sisters and brothers in Christ, without a doubt, it was the difficult year to us. Like most of you, it also had been a tough time to adapt the impacts of Covid-19 for my ministry. Nevertheless, I discerned that it was the year that God had blessed for me and my ministry by God's grace as I fully depended on God for all my life and ministry. Moreover, the ministries that I had worked with youth kids and so many people in the several Committees had been blessed, abundant, and fruitful even in the unprecedented season. In this sense, I would like to share amazing stories of the ministries for the church and community in 2020.

1. Youth Ministry – I loved to work with the youth kids for Valentine Chocolate Fundraising in Feb., and it was the fun moment to have them in-person before the pandemic began. Even after the pandemic, they had gatherings on Zoom for check-in and discussion with specific topics. In the Christmas season, senior high school students and college students participated in the Christmas Care Package project. They delivered the Christmas package to the elderly of the church for their cozy and warm Christmas, especially, this year. Moreover, eight youth kids participated in the Youth outreach program, 'Count Your Blessings and Serve Your Neighbors,' in November and December. They wrote down what they were thankful to God for on their prayer note and donated a quarter or dollar through their piggy coin bank. All the collection will be donated to the Rolphie Fund to support our local community.

2. Confirmation Class – in 2020, four confirmands finished the half of the two-year process, and they will complete the last half of the process, and they have been scheduled to celebrate their confirmation class on Pentecost Sunday, May 23rd, 2021, and to confirm their faith before God and the whole congregation of the church.



3. Visitation and Outreach Committees – It was my privilege to serve the Committees in pastoral leadership this year. I saw their passionate hearts to serve our church and local community with their gifts. Moreover, I had a great opportunity to meet those who are connected with the church but are not able to attend at the nursing homes through pastoral visitations. I believe that through the pastoral visitation, they felt connected with the church continuously and with God.

4. Online Church Ministry – In 2020, I had been a part of building the foundation of the live-streaming ministry, and I have worked on facilitating Sunday worship videos every Sunday. In addition to that, I helped other local churches and the Mosaic ministry start their online services in the pandemic. It was my honor to organize and make happen the Mosaic combined Christmas service with 11 Schoharie local churches this year.

Of course, it was a terrible year to go through so many difficulties in 2020 through my own eyes. However, through eyes in faith, I experienced God's grace to allow our church to do what we are called to do for the church and community continuously even in the challenging season. Thus, I look forward to moving forward to 2021 with all of you in faith. I believe that God may continue to empower us to fulfill the mission of the Church as followers of Jesus Christ because God is the only hope for each of us.



Pastor JD leading movement to "Joy to the World" during one of our W.O.W. services.

Youth Grace Dunham preparing to deliver Christmas Care Packages





ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT'S REPORT

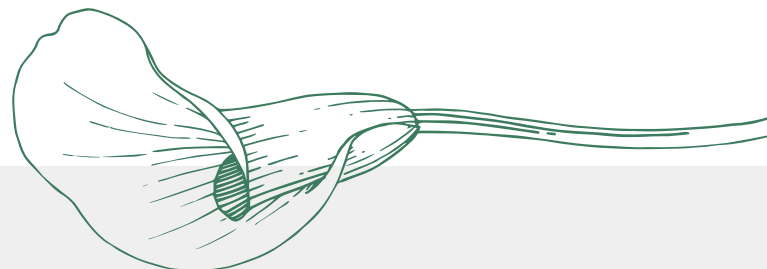
BY CATHY KRAJEWSKI

I am happy to say that the year 2021 will be my fourth year at CUMC. I have made many friends here. I have enjoyed working for all and look forward to many more years here. This past year has been a very trying year, but also a year in which many of us have learned new things. 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, prepare letters, receive and distribute minutes and reports, type bulletins and prepare the PowerPoint. During this year I have worked with a few new applications, Canva and Mailchimp, which are used for slide-design and mass emailing.

The Food Pantry has stayed up and running during the year. Assisting Loren Schaff has been added to my duties. Loren and I place orders on the NYS Food Pantry site and on Fridays I help with printing out food menus and forms that need to be signed by our Food Pantry users. I also keep track of the numbers which have to be reported to the NYS Food Pantry at the end of each month. 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. Each week the sermon is mailed out to the members who cannot make it to church or view online.

I bring many years of experience in an office setting and feel very blessed to be here helping to do God's work.



A photograph of several tall, narrow stained glass windows in a church interior. The windows feature intricate designs with floral and geometric patterns in various colors like red, yellow, blue, and green. The lighting is warm, and the windows are set against a dark background.

ADMINISTRATIVE ROUND TABLE REPORT

BY
ANN-MARIE
FRANK

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

At the beginning of 2020, members of the congregation were meeting regularly as we entered a period of discernment. There were in-depth discussions regarding our visions, dreams, and concerns. With the arrival of COVID-19, it was necessary to redirect our attention. In-person church services were suspended and our first-ever virtual services were held in conjunction with the Schoharie Mosaic. While we missed seeing each other face-to-face, we found that there were ways that we could stay connected through Zoom, telephone calls, etc. During the summer, we were able to hold in-person worship services outdoors following safety protocols. In the fall, we transitioned to indoor services while, again, following safety protocols. As the number of virus cases increased, we returned to virtual services only.

Due to Pastor Anna's creativity and the enthusiasm of our congregation, we found new ways to connect with our community. Who could forget the village-wide Easter Egg Hunt or the scavenger hunt that took us to Schoharie County's parts unknown? We safely gathered for Sunday worship at Skye Farm--a first for our congregation. Our second annual Block Party was not what we originally envisioned, but our congregation provided hotdogs, make-your-own tie dye masks, and free craft/activity items to many local families. The Halloween Hollow event brought hundreds of our neighbors to our church grounds. Our congregation raised the most money and had the most walkers participate in the virtual Crop Walk. That's not all--a new children's interactive, faith-based story time called W.O.W. (Worship on Wednesdays) was live-streamed during the month of December.

Despite the pandemic, our Food Pantry didn't skip a beat. Our volunteers developed a safe method to provide much-needed food items to members of our community during an especially challenging time. Our Thrift Store was temporarily put on pause, but came back stronger than ever once it was deemed safe to reopen.

We look forward to the day when COVID-19 is in the rear view mirror, but how wonderful it has been to see the many ways our congregation has stepped up to the plate during 2020. Just imagine all the wonderful things the Lord has in store for us once we can safely gather again for worship, events, and fellowship. Praise God!



BY
TARRENCE
LASHER

2020 was a roller coaster for the finances of Cobleskill United Methodist Church. We started the year with a budget \$21,756 out of balance and said a prayer. Soon a check arrived from the gas company for \$11,157. They had been over charging. A good start to getting us back on track.

Then March rolled around and we had to shut our doors. Giving dipped and we were afraid giving would not be able to keep up with our projections. I applied for a PPP loan to cover three months of salary for our pastor and staff, \$16,720. Rosalie's careful paperwork turned our load into a grant and we were back on track for the time being. Still the question remained whether the commitments made by our members would be able to stay steady. As the months rolled along the commitments did not stay steady, they went up. Each month giving increased a little more and some expenses were lower, the result of being closed, until we finished the year ahead \$24, 819.

You, the congregation, were amazing to prioritize giving to CUMC when everything in 2020 life was so uncertain. Thank you. 2021 continues to make the Finance Committee Chair nervous because there will be no check from the gas company and we will not qualify for the next PPP loan. However, I sleep at night because I know the congregation of CUMC believes the mission of CUMC is important, very important, and you will give your financial gifts to support that mission. Thank you again.



	2020 Budget	2020 Actual	% of Budget	2021 Budget
INCOME				
Balance (Deficit) Forwarded		-14,070		24,820
Commitment	120,000	156,957	131%	135,000
Commitment/late - early	1,000	0	0%	1,000
Other Identifiable Offerings	1,000	25	3%	1,000
Plate Offering	3,500	1,073	31%	2,000
Ambit Income	11,000	11,158	101%	200
Faith Offering	7,686	0	0%	0
Festival Offerings	3,000	1,520	51%	3,000
Investment Income	36,000	27,000	75%	27,000
Banking Reimbursement (misc)	200	935	468%	200
Fund raisers (Include wedding/funeral)	2,500	0	0%	0
Property Use	5,200	5,027	97%	5,200
Outreach Donation (Thrift S/Food P)	7,200	1,800	25%	4,800
Payroll Protection Program	0	16,721		0
Total Income	198,286	208,145	105%	204,220
EXPENSES				
Salary and Benefits				
Pastor Salary (Anna)	34,425	34,425	100%	35,114
Assoc. salary	10,082	10,082	100%	10,284
Substitute Pastor	150	0	0%	0
Substitute organist	600	100	17%	200
Staff salary	42,950	42,319	99%	39,546
Service Contracts	1,300	2,065	159%	5,950
FICA	2,700	2,624	97%	2,700
Pastor Pen/Hlth ins. (Anna)	17,580	16,814	96%	17,815
Assoc. benefit	5,600	5,213	93%	5,661
Staff medicare	600	614	102%	600
Unemployment Insurance	700	412	59%	700
Workers Comp Insurance	0	250		200
Total Salary & Benefits	116,687	114,917	98%	118,770
Operating Expenses				
Acctable Reimbursement (Pastor)	3,375	2,004	59%	3,375
Associate Accountable Reimbursement	1,125	982	87%	1,125
Annual Conference	500	0	0%	500
Office supplies	1,500	1,093	73%	1,500
Postage	1,200	1,186	99%	1,200
Banking	400	471	118%	400
Marketing	300	300	100%	300
Decorations	250	0	0%	250
Finance Committee	250	0	0%	250
Total Operating Expenses	8,900	6,035	68%	8,900
Church Ministries				
Children's ministries	100	0	0%	100
Sunday School	200	0	0%	200
Vacation Bible School	200	90	45%	200
Fellowship Team	225	234	104%	225

Worship Team	275	766	279%	1,000
Leadership Development	75	5	7%	75
Safe Sanctuaries	200	0	0%	200
Adult Studies	0	44		500
Youth Ministries	500	344	69%	500
Choral Music	150	166	110%	500
Total Church Ministries	1,925	1,649	86%	3,500

Building Maintenance

Parsonage Electricity	1,050	979	93%	1,050
Parsonage Fuel	1,750	1,150	66%	1,750
Church Fuel	8,400	4,625	55%	8,400
Church Electricity	3,100	2,535	82%	3,100
Church Phone & Internet	1,200	961	80%	1,200
Grounds Maintenance	3,500	3,625	104%	3,500
Refuse Collection	900	780	87%	900
Custodial Supplies	1,000	553	55%	1,000
Water / Sewer	1,500	1,203	80%	1,500
Assoc. Housing-Utilities	1,200	1,086	91%	1,200
Snow Removal	8,000	5,630	70%	8,000
Insurance	9,450	7,873	83%	9,450
Total Building Maintenance	41,050	30,999	76%	41,050

Connectional Expenses

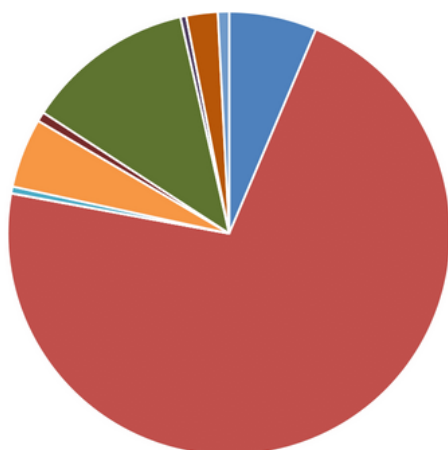
Ministry shares	27,168	27,168	100%	26,532
Ministry Shares-retiree prem.	2,556	2,556	100%	2,392
Total Connectional Expenses	29,724	29,724	100%	28,924

Total Expenses	198,286	183,325	92%	201,144
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Income - Expenses	0	24,820		3,076
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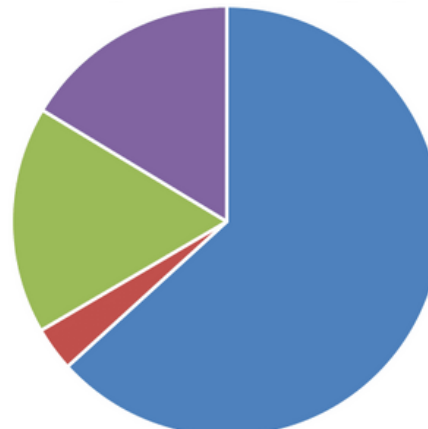
Fundraising Campaigns	2020 Goal	2020 Actual	Expense	Balance
Audio Visual Christmas Campaign	10,000	9,519	5,607	3,913

2020 INCOME



- Balance (Deficit) Forwarded
- Commitment
- Commitment/late - early
- Other Identifiable Offerings
- Plate Offering
- Ambit Income
- Faith Offering
- Festival Offerings
- Investment Income
- Banking Reimbursement (misc)
- Fund raisers (Include wedding/funeral)
- Property Use

2020 EXPENSES



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



BY HARRIET BERARD

During the year of 2020 the Trustees financed two major improvements to the church building.

1. The front steps were removed and replaced with a safer number of steps with wider treads and lower lift at a cost of \$16,000.
2. The roof on the back portion of the church was replaced. After a strong wind storm many shingles were blown off and a hole in the roof was evident. The cost was \$19,670 but insurance of \$18,000 was paid to almost cover the entire cost.

January started with election of officers. Janet Sand joined the board to replace Margaret Karker. Pastor Anna presided for the election. The following officers were elected: Chairman-Harriet Berard, Vice Chairman-Loren Schaff, Secretary-Alan Danforth, and Treasurer- Janet Sand. Leo McAllister met with the board to plan for the necessary withdrawals during the year to support the Operating Account. \$3,000 was transferred each of 9 months from dividends. A Government Stimulus check was received to pay the other 3 months.

Other Items that were taken care of in the winter months:

- Repair of ceiling in the Fellowship Hall. Gratis of the board members.
- Upstairs room renovated for use as a Sunday School Room.

No meetings were held March – August because of the required pandemic shut-down. The August and September meetings were held via Zoom. The October meeting was held outside in the back of the church hall to examine the roof. The November meeting was held via Zoom and the December meeting was a combination. Leo McAllister met via Zoom but the rest were present in the building. It has been a very trying year for all.



FUND BALANCES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2020

Trustee Bank Account Balances

Bank of Richmondville (Checking)	\$15,770.65
NBT Bank (Accessibility)	\$ 488.54
NBT (Memorial funds)	\$ 4,890.48
Total Trustee Bank Accounts	\$21,149.67

Trustee Investment Fund Balances

The principals in the below accounts are to remain and the dividends are used to pay for the items listed. The market was good in 2020 and the accounts have increased.

Lily Vedder Scholarship Fund	\$11,068.82
Jones Altar, Flower and Landscaping	\$10,998.06
Student Awards Fund	\$42,496.04
Decker Camp Scholarships	\$22,370.92
Regular Undesignated	\$1,045,193.20
Stocks	127,183.67
Total Trustee Investment Accounts	\$1,259,310.71





STAFF-PASTOR PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

BY NEIL LAW

What a difference a year makes! In our SPPRC report from 2019 we described a year of transition, and, as a committee, we were looking forward to "a calmer 2020 focused more on the standard SPPRC activities". That report also spoke of looking forward to the launch of programs and disciple making opportunities that would arise from the Visioning 2020 process. Needless to say, the addition of COVID-19 to the year 2020 made for another exciting SPPRC year at Cobleskill UMC. This year also saw Pastor Anna, despite the presence of COVID-19, successfully complete her renewal leave.

The year began with meetings between the SPPRC co-chairs and our pastors to look at the year ahead. At the first SPPRC meeting in January our staff-parish relations were discussed as the SPPRC follow-up to our annual liaison meetings with our church's staff. The committee adjusted pay rates to meet new regulation, and a new method of evaluating our pastors was proposed to SPPRC by Pastor Anna.

The committee met again on March 8, and the conversation focused extensively on what would happen in light of the then emerging concern of COVID-19. It was our last in-person meeting and, in retrospect, we are thankful that we could meet and devote time to thinking about what might happen in light of the growing COVID-19 threat. And we all know where we were just a few days later on March 13, 2020. In the following months, the SPPRC accepted a key role in working with Pastor Anna to develop the plans for the closing, reopening, and closing again of our church facility.

In May, the SPPRC refined a new evaluation process for use with our pastors, and then met with both Pastor Anna and Pastor JD later that month. The evaluation process focused on a discussion between SPPRC and the pastor with a sharing by each of strengths, areas of potential growth, and then the development of some goals/actions for the coming year that would be focused on growth. Pastor Anna provided the SPPRC with information from other Annual Conferences to help us develop this for Cobleskill UMC. Given that this time also saw uncertainty about finances and our ability to maintain our staff, the SPPRC would like to profoundly thank the folks who worked to manage the Cobleskill UMC budget and who applied for the payroll protection funds that allowed our wonderful church staff to stay focused on the mission of Cobleskill UMC.

Hannah Lasher, our new Digital Communications Assitant



August saw a return to “normalcy” as the annual functions of covenants with the pastor and pastoral compensation processes were completed, followed by the annual charge conference. It also brought a series of discussions that led to the addition of two new paid positions at the church: an Audio-Visual Technician, Kristin Gilbert, and a Digital Communications Assistant, Hannah Lasher. Kristin and Hannah have helped to meet our new social media and on-line presence for worship and interaction with members of the congregation and wider community. This also supports aspects of the Visioning 2020 process that had wrapped up in early 2020, and we look forward to working with our pastors and this new, wonderful team who are allowing Cobleskill UMC to “make disciples” here and in the broader world.

Kristin Gilbert, our new Audio/Visual Worship Assistant



As 2020 wound to a close, the SPPRC learned that our outstanding custodian, Katie Joe Daugherty, would be leaving our organization. The SPPRC would like to thank Katie Joe for her dedication to Cobleskill UMC and wish her well. In conclusion, the SPPRC will not wish for a “calmer” 2021! We will take it as it comes and we will support and work with our pastors and church staff so that Cobleskill UMC will succeed.





OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

BY DEB WOLLABER

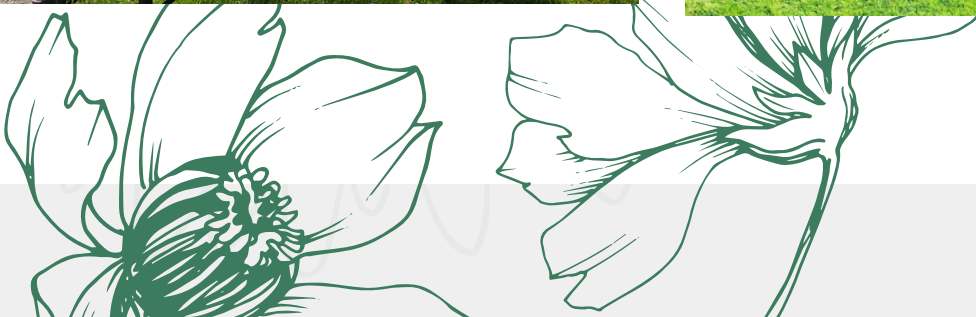
Our Outreach Committee continues to play a very active, vital role in our church ministries. Funded by the revenues from the Road to Jubilee Thrift Store, these monies allow us to fund diverse Internal, Local, and Global ministries. This year has been especially challenging in that the pandemic forced the Thrift store to close for 3 months and after we were able to reopen, we were restricted, due to COVID pandemic restrictions, to being open one day a week, initially for limited hours. Still, the news is good. As the year progressed we were able to make adjustments to the budget in order to provide support for those ministries. The allocation budget shows the original allocations and the adjustments made to further our support of the missions. Some funds simply were not spent and are being rolled over to 2021. Some funds were not spent as planned as we determined there was great need in other missions. An example is that we allocated \$1500 to each summer camp: Skye Farm and Casawasco to help them stay open in the future. Additionally we were able to provide fiscal support to our church budget.

Modifications are made every year in keeping with mission needs. Rosalie, our church treasurer reports that as of Dec. 31, 2020 the Thrift Store has brought in \$15,942 for the 2020 year. Given the fact that we were completely closed for months and, when we reopened, only open one day a week with limited hours, That. Simply. Is. Miraculous! This would not have happened without the work of Paige Bulmer and her dedicated volunteers. Our committee is grateful for the pastoral leadership of Pastor Jongdeok Park and Pastor Anna Blinn Cole.



Additional Outreach Initiatives:

- Cobleskill United Methodist Church congregation participates in the “Six Special Sundays” offerings. With the pandemic, we experienced a year with less participation than is usual. Still, thanks to the leadership of Margaret Herrala, we received donations to every “special” Sunday and earned \$927 in donations total.
- In a separate report, our Food Pantry was able to adeptly adjust how we serve the food-vulnerable as the pandemic hit. This year we served 793 households and a total of 2,104 individuals.
- We participated in the revisioned CROP WALK and received 1st place as our team was able to collect the most money and had the most walkers.
- We participated in the Salvation Army kettle drive enabling the Salvation Army to better serve those in need.
- Thanks to our very creative and energetic Pastor Anna we were able to host Halloween Hollow, an event that drew hundreds of children and families to a safe, outdoor Halloween adventure.
- We hosted a Block Party for our community neighbors, inviting them to participate in our church family.
- Our church co-sponsored a Road Rally in May in which cars followed a fun scavenger hunt around Schoharie County all while donating food to our food pantry.
- Empty Bowls also was re-envisioned due to the Corona pandemic. We were able to support the efforts to raise monies that are directed back to food pantries in our county.



Outreach Allocations

Funds Allocated To	2020	2021
Catholic Charities/Caring Connection: In the past, pastors and secretaries were being asked by those who were coming into the church for donations for needs. There was no way to properly vet such requests and pastors frequently were at a loss as to how to help these needy persons best. Catholic Charities is able to vet the requests and provide assistance to those in need. Specifically, they give assistance in housing, items needed for automobiles (e.g., repairs, insurance), personal needs, transportation, utilities, etc. This is money well spent and we are grateful to have an organization we can send people in need to and have their needs met.	\$1500 (paid) \$350 (paid)	\$2000
Venison Donation Coalition: This is an organization that allows hunters and farmers to donate properly field-dressed deer for processing into meat packages. Venison packages are then donated to Food Pantries like ours for distribution. This cost offsets the costs of processing.	\$125 (paid)	\$125
Meals on Wheels: Seniors who are experiencing physical decline or financial hardship are delivered nutritious meals daily to their homes.	\$150 (paid)	\$150
Hospice (Helios Care): Helios Cares provides symptom management, pain relief, family and grief support for individuals and families experiencing serious medical conditions.	\$300 (paid)	\$300
Sunshine Fair Bike Donation: Every year bikes are maintained, fixed, and given away to children at the fair. This covers the cost of one bicycle.	\$100 (rolled over to 2021)	\$100
Mosaic Mission Projects: We are a part of a dynamic, collaborative effort on the part of local United Methodist Churches to work together and solve common issues in our valley. One example is the work of the Mosaic during the first part of COVID as members of Mosaic came together to worship virtually.	\$2000 (paid)	\$2000
Neighborhood Outreach/Halloween: Halloween Hollow was funded from this line item. It was a tremendous success.	\$200 (paid)	\$200
Emergency Assistance Funds	\$200 (paid)	\$400
Joshua Project: These funds initially were to be used to support the summer lunch program. We decided to donate what we allocated to the Project as they are filling such a local need.	\$500 (paid)	\$500
Block Party: For two years we have funded a community block party in early September. Members of the community have been invited to join the fun.	\$500 (paid)	\$500
Backpack Program CRCS: Cobleskill/Richmondville Central School. Many of the children who attend CRCS experience food vulnerability on the weekends. The Backpack program provides them with food so that they are able to eat on the weekends.	\$500 (paid)	\$500
Street Soldiers	\$300 (paid)	

Local Mission

Internal Mission

Global Mission

Funds Allocated To	2020	2021
The Innocence Project: A new organization for our support in 2021, the Innocence project assists in exonerating those who have been wrongly convicted through DNA testing and challenges the criminal justice system to reform to prevent future injustice.		\$300
Cobleskill UMC Camp Scholarships: We fund 100% of the need for camp scholarships. The committee strongly feels that nurturing children's faith as they attend and experience camp is essential to growing their faith.	\$4500 allocated \$1500 paid to 2 camps	\$4500
Youth Outreach: These funds are to be used for the youth in our church so that they can attend church-focused district meetings and fund special events.	\$1000 (rolled over to 2021)	\$1000
Spirit Broadcasting: Spirit Broadcasting, in conjunction with SCHOPEG, has allowed our church services to be broadcast for free across a wide viewing area in Schoharie County. However, they incur expenses and we believe it is important to support them so that this mission can be continued in the future.		\$500
Thrift Store Financial Support for the Church	\$1800 (reduced from \$7200)	\$2400
UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief): UMCOR Global Ministries is the worldwide mission, relief and development agency of the United Methodist Church. It provides funding for disaster relief, education, global health initiatives, hunger and poverty initiatives, water and sanitation, services for women and children, migration, and sustainable development.	\$300 (paid)	\$300
Heifer Fund: This fund assists families in lifting families out of poverty by providing assistance to farmers.	\$250 (paid)	\$250
Mission Trip Scholarships: Although not spent in 2020, Mission Trip Scholarships are meant to support people should they choose to provide mission work. For example, a youth may be selected to participate in a foreign mission effort and would require financial support. This allows that person, once they apply, to receive that support.	\$1500 (rolled over to 2021)	\$1500





BY LOREN SCHAFF

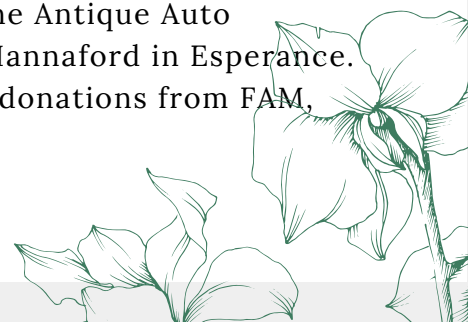
I would like to thank all of the volunteers who help on Friday and all the people who pick up deliveries and the secretary helping with ordering. In 2021 **we have served 793 household and 2104 family members.**

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.

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, 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.



Month	Household	Adults	Children	Older Adults	Total
January 2020	62	110	56	16	182
February	48	88	27	10	125
March	60	102	34	41	177
April	91	132	64	37	233
May	76	120	54	34	208
June	57	89	46	26	161
July	73	98	38	30	156
August	71	107	31	26	164
September	69	108	53	29	190
October	66	110	56	26	192
November	55	90	49	25	164
December	65	90	37	26	152
Year-end Totals	793	1244	545	326	2104
Average	66.08	103.66	45.42	27.16	175.33
2019 Mon. Aver.	59	104.4	52.25	19	234.6
2018 Mon. Aver.	55.3	95.7	50.5	16.3	162.6
2017 Mon. Aver.	54.5	103.4	57.7	6.3	177.5





CHILDREN'S MINISTRY REPORT

BY DAWN SCHELL

The early part of 2020 found our nursery bursting with the sound of children during Sunday worship and during playgroup. Sadly, by mid-March those joyous sounds were silenced by the pandemic as we closed our building to worship and other activities that bring people together. To date there is no reopening plan for the nursery, but rest assured when it is safe for our children to gather, we will be back.

The early part of 2020 brought a fun change of location for our Sunday School program. They moved into their own room on the third floor. The new space allows for table work as well as space to play, active movement games, and have fun while reinforcing the themes from the lesson. Although time was short the lessons focused on the Holy Spirit during the time we had together.

February brought Scout Sunday. Fifteen boys from Pack 5 and their scout leaders participated in a camp themed worship. They carried items to the tent site, brought forth the offering and participated in a multi person reading. We are blessed to sponsor an active cub scout group and have them participate with us.

Early March brought the pandemic and many changes to the way in which worship was held and conducted. The physical church building was closed and thus there were no more Sunday school classes or Nursery care. Children's time continued to be held during the online worship service time. Late summer brought a transition to in person, socially distanced outside worship under our beautiful catalpa tree. Here the children met for children's time on socially distanced rug squares and were once again able to safely be with friends and learn about God's love for them. This continued through early fall when careful metrics were put in place so worship could move inside again. Sunday School and Nursery care were not reconvened at this time or for the remainder of the year for in person learning and care.

Advent, however, brought a new opportunity for the children in our church and community to learn about the coming of Christ's birth and how common symbols in our secular world tie into the miracle of Jesus' birth and the holiday season. This opportunity was called WOW or Worship on Wednesday. This was a 4-week online advent series created for children ages 3 to 5th grade. A very curious dragon named Sparky asked some very big and important questions like why do we use prickly holly as a Christmas symbol or what does a Christmas tree have to do with Jesus' birth. During the half hour broadcast children heard a story, learned the first verse of Silent night in sign language, danced, sang and learned how to connect the symbols to the Christmas story. The best part was the bag of snacks and crafts each child could pick up each week that went along with the weekly theme. Many of the children were videoed and signed the opening verse to Silent Night on Christmas Eve.

Although it was certainly not a traditional year for any of us, our resiliency and thinking outside the box has resulted in some fun and quality learning about Jesus and his love for our children. The same as during any type of crisis the church has found a way to remain present in our lives and provide learning opportunities. God is good all the time.





MEMBERSHIP REPORT

BY JANET SAND

2020 Membership Statistics

Total number of members reported at beginning of 2020	285
Removed by death	5
Removed by transfer to another Methodist Church	0
Removed by transfer to other denomination	0
Removed by action of charge conference	0
Received by profession of Faith	0
Received by transfer from Another Methodist Church	1
Received by transfer from other denominations	0
Restored	0
Total membership as of 12/31/2020	281

In Memoriam:

Dorothy Madore
Jean Mallery
Thomas Greenlees
Eleanor Purcell
Ruth Cole

Received as transferring member:

Judith Lawyer





CHURCH HISTORIAN REPORT

BY MARTHA
PRICE

The year 2020 was ultimately one with limited opportunity for the sharing of any historical records. It began, in February, with a visit and an article by Jim Poole, the Editor of the Cobleskill Times-Journal. The topic was the exploration of the newly- relocated and inventoried history collection, and the message was that all are invited to view our wonderful archives.

In March, as I began to inventory the archives still located on the shelves of the third floor, I discovered a water color painting that was done by a lifetime church member, Professor and Artist. The scene of the painting was one of the buildings in downtown Cobleskill, and it was completed in 1949. Children's Time during the ensuing services was an opportunity to find out about artist Clyde Jones and how much he loved our church. We also learned about Professor Jones' lifelong work to prepare college students to become the best teachers of young children. Our final gift from Professor Jones, the artist, was that he had painted a rural countryside farm scene on the reverse side of the original painting! We were amazed and thrilled by that surprise. Once again, the Times-Journal featured an extensive article for this community.

Finally, in December, an "Unknown Photo" appeared in the Times-Journal. I knew at once that it was a 1954 re-enactment of the Centennial History of the founding of the Cobleskill Methodist Episcopal Church dating in 1854. I wrote to the Editor to correct this mis-information.

The Covid-19 pandemic arrival has led to many months of waiting for full congregational involvement once again for all of us at CUMC. The archives await.



PHOTOS FROM 2020

