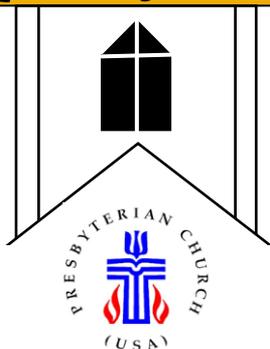


2020 – 2021
STEWARDSHIP



**FAITH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH,
USA**

*Beyond the Wood and Stone,
Step-By-Step*



“BEYOND THE WOOD AND STONE- STEP BY STEP”

During our weekly Services of Worship, we should anticipate hearing ways in which God leads us to be people called to be the living body or community of Jesus Christ stepping forward to serve and worship God and care for all our neighbors.

October 4 – 1. Working

World Communion Sunday

The Lord’s Supper

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 5:1-7 and Matthew 21:33-46

Sermon Title: Knife Skills

**Stewardship Zoom Lunch and Program will follow the weekly
Worship Connection**

October 11 – 2. Feasting

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 25:1-9 and Matthew 22:1-14

Sermon Title: Celebrating and inviting

October 18 – 3. Paying

Scripture Readings: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 and Matthew 22:15-22

Sermon Title: The divine currency

October 25 - 4. Giving

Our 2020 Stewardship Pledge Sunday

Scripture Readings: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 and Matthew 22:34-46

Sermon Title: You shall love....

November 1 – 5. Living

DST Ends (“fall back” one hour)

The Lord’s Supper

Scripture Readings: 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13 and Matthew 23:1-12

Sermon Title: Humbling

November 8 – 6. Waiting

Scripture Readings: Amos 5:18-24 and Matthew 25:1-13

Sermon Title: What if there is a delay?

November 15 – 7. Serving

Scripture Readings: Zephaniah 1: 7, 12-18 and Matthew 25: 14-30

Sermon Title: It is not about us!

STEWARDSHIP CELEBRATION 2020

In planning for the Stewardship activities this year, we started with joyous anticipation for a completed new building, an ever-growing congregation, the continuation, and expansion our service to our church, our community and to each other.

No one could foresee the looming impact of the Covid 19 virus and the challenges the pandemic would have on our individual, family, community and church lives. We have all experienced the new realities of “Zoom Church Services”, the expanded opportunities for serving each other, and the increased needs within our greater community.

Our theme for this year has been “BEYOND THE WOOD AND STONE: STEP BY STEP” and step by step the Faith Presbyterian family has stepped up to respond in God’s name. and expand our stewardship and involvement. The Time, Treasures and Talents of the congregation served in many ways, including: safely supporting Habitat for Humanity, Snack in a Backpack, the Faith Garden, creating and distributing masks, and providing outreach and supportive prayers to our neighbors and each other, just to name a few. Through it all, our new church home on Bluebird road has risen, confirming the hopes, prayers and efforts of a loving congregation.



It was an early foggy morning in late July on the Bluebird site and the men of the church were hard at work on the “Annex” shed. Elder Bruce Burn, Elder Randy Griggs, Joe Mahovsky, Glenn Ferris and Bill Young were busy framing up a wall section. Another example of the Time portion of your commitment to the service of God.

We have grown, structurally and spiritually and our visible works attract more and more people to our congregation year after year. This has not occurred by accident. The Faith congregation truly lives their faith and believes that others, seeing the joy that we as a congregation exhibit, cannot help but be impacted and attracted. We grow every time someone says, “I am looking for a church home, where do you go?”

We have asked for and received stories from many of you about how God has reached out to you

and how you have answered His call. The stories have been touching, joyful, awe inspiring, personal and thoughtful. This year our theme has been: “What brought you to Faith Presbyterian?”, and the response always boils down to one thing—it is the PEOPLE of Faith. Thank you to all of you who have shared your personal stories and we hope more of you will share thoughts of your journey in the coming year.

Next year will bring more challenges, greater joys, some heartaches and certainly the need to grow even closer. We believe that this congregation continues to accept those challenges and even seeks them out. As important as Time and Talent are, there is still the reality of an Operating Budget which helps sustain the foundation from which we move forward and support our outreach programs.

Your pledge is a vital part of every aspect of the faith mission.

Sincerely, the Stewardship Action Team:

Randy Borden	Connie Griggs
Harry Chambers	Dr. Jim Simpson
Bill Young	Randy Solt
Frances Young	Patty Hampton



Started with a ground-breaking with a great multitude participating.



Momentous event when the steel skeleton was finally erected.



*Finally, after 18+ long months, the end result.
Thanks be to God!*

October 2020

Dear Faith friends and members:

**“BEYOND THE WOOD AND STONE-
STEP BY STEP”**

As this year has unfolded Faith Presbyterian Church has again and again gone **“Beyond the wood and stone”** in its witness to our Savior, Jesus Christ, and in service to all the neighbors that God has given to us. Through prayer and determination even amidst challenging times we have maintained and sought to increase our connections to the neediest in our community and demonstrated that even facing the unexpected challenges of covid19 and its impact upon our society and world Faith is undaunted in its determination to be the church we know in our hearts, God needs us to be!

As 2020 has unfolded its promise of a clear 20/20 vision has not played out. We have certainly taken many steps, just not the ones we had been anticipating. We were expecting to step with joy and gladness – all of us, at one time – into our new church building- but the presence of a troubling and stubborn virus dashed and delayed these hopes. We were expecting to be readying a genuine and heartfelt welcome to those who would likely be drawn to experience the joy of worshipping God in our beautiful new Sanctuary – but we have for some time been both excited by the possibilities of gathering on zoom, and frustrated over its limitations. We were excited to welcome the Rev. Susan Haynes as our new Pastoral Associate and to have her alongside us as we journeyed through this year but it took from mid-May until August 18, to see she and I stand beside one another in person.

As we enter into this season when we focus in some particular ways upon all our faith asks of us in the commitment of our lives, our time, our energy, our ideas, our financial resources I want myself to affirm and invite all of you in our congregation to demonstrate the continuing resolve that has been always been a hallmark of the life of this church. The future we face is to some extent unknown, but we know what God asks of us and we know what it is we can and need to offer gladly, gratefully, and prayerfully.

This year’s Stewardship Team invite and encourage all of us to accept every opportunity and the full responsibility of giving to God by the

offering of time, talent, and treasure. As each and all make their annual Stewardship Pledge and return a completed Time & Talents Form we each do our part to ensure that all the programs, activities, mission and ministry that express the life of Faith Presbyterian Church “Beyond the wood and stone” can and will continue and develop in 2021.

Our 2020 Pledge/Commitment Sunday will be Sunday, October 25. Given that we cannot yet anticipate exactly where and how we will be called together to worship God that day, we will make the best plans that we can all mark and celebrate our shared commitment to the future of our church. Look for the necessary information and options nearer to that time.

Each Sunday in our Stewardship Worship theme we will use the following as our Prayer of Dedication. This prayer expresses much of what it means for us and asks of us as we go **“Beyond the wood and stone- Step by Step”** in serving God together!

Gracious and loving God, as a community of faith we offer you these gifts.

We pray that you will bless them, and bless us, as we share the love and compassion of Christ our Savior with others.

We pray that thru our giving will bring honor and glory to you, as we work together in love.

We pray that our living will express your comfort to the needy and oppressed.

And we pray, that this, your church, will reflect your everlasting love to all around us.

In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.

Best wishes.

Jim Simpson, Pastor



Angela and Tim Huffstetler loaded down with summer meals to be delivered to the children of Fannin County.

**FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OPERATING - FINANCIAL STATEMENT COMPARISON**

July 31, 2020 vs. July 31, 2019

ITEM	2020	2019
<u>INCOME</u>		
Pledged Offerings	\$147,460	\$135,090
Non-Pledged Offerings	6,715	11,728
Loose Offerings	954	4,452
Other Offerings and Income	117,898	8,819
TOTAL INCOME	\$273,027	\$160,089
<u>DISBURSEMENTS/EXPENSES</u>		
Personnel Salary & Benefits	\$69,225	\$48,812
Spiritual Development (Worship/Discipleship)	13,527	18,960
Mission & Outreach	14,376	13,859
Congregational Care	1,097	3,018
Administrative & Facilities	51,647	28,959
Future for Faith (F3) Fund	1,350	1,050
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$151,221	\$114,658



This is a clear demonstration of members of Faith displaying their time portion of their stewardship commitment, during the pandemic summer of 2020 delivering meals to the children of Fannin County. Thousands of meals were delivered during June and July. 60 members of Faith Presbyterian Church participated during the meal service program.

HOW WE SPEND OUR MONEY – 2020

This Narrative Budget Summary shows major expense items including the allocation of the minister's salary and benefits into the major categories of our Church life. The pastor's salary and benefits are divided into the proportion of time that the pastor actually spends in that category. The dollar figures shown in each category are calculated using the 2020

budget of \$288,813 that was approved by the Session.

Spiritual Development (Worship & Discipleship – 23% of Total Expenses) - \$65,298

Direct expenses include the Church Director of Music salary, pulpit supply fees, worship bulletins, music supplies, communion supplies, Discipleship supplies and publications, faith group publications and Lenten/Advent and other special studies. 30% of the minister's compensation which includes sermon preparation and design of worship services, and preparation for teaching of special studies is allocated to this category.

Congregational Care - (12% of Total Expenses) - \$35,561

Direct expenses include greeting cards, postage stamps and luncheon supplies, food/snacks. 30% of the minister's compensation which includes hospital and home visitations, support for the Shepherds as well as church Fellowship activities is allocated to this category.

Mission/Outreach - (18% of Total Expenses) - \$51,151

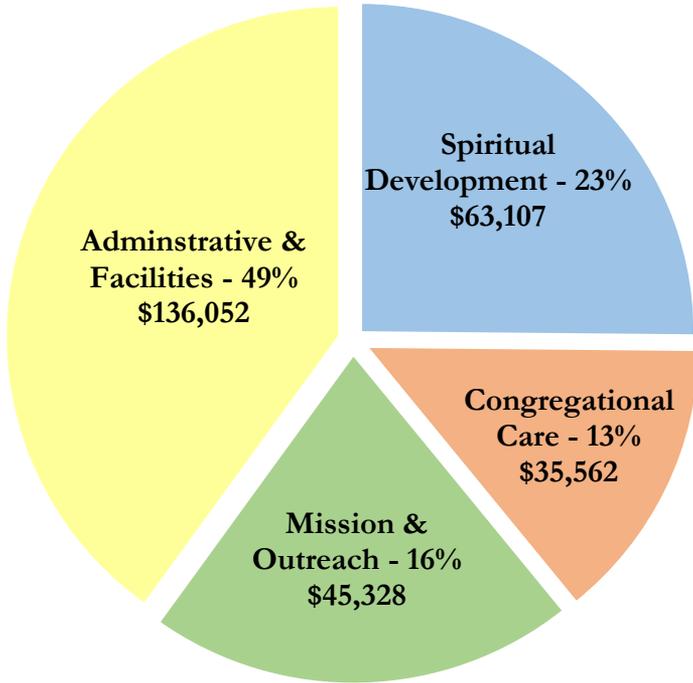
Special offerings to various local and national agencies and the Cherokee Presbytery Unified Benevolences. Outreach into the community including sending letters, contacting visitors, advertising, the Summer Meals program, and working with other community agencies and churches. 20% of the minister's compensation is allocated to this category.

Administrative/Facilities/Finance (47% of Total Expenses) - \$136,803

Direct expenses include leasing the church facilities, utilities, multi-peril insurance, maintenance of equipment, corporate registration, office/Session supplies, postage, printing and copying, General Assembly per capita assessment, paid advertising, Chamber of Commerce membership, and web site development. 20% of the minister's compensation is allocated to this category for administrative work related to the Session and Presbytery and to the life of the congregation.

FPC BUDGET SUMMARY 2020

"How We Spent Our Money"



This is the monetary narrative of Faith Presbyterian Church. But there is so much more in the story of Faith PC. Please take time to read all of the Stewardship Booklet and the one or two ***Beyond the Wood and Stone*** stories included in your Stewardship Packet.

Thanks, The Stewardship Committee



Social distancing does not stop Mission and Outreach from meeting their community service goals. Faith members King King (c) and Treva Wheatley (l) are shown presenting Robert Graham(r) red prayer squares for all the fire department employees who are essential workers during this pandemic period in Blue Ridge and all of Fannin County.

Session of Faith Presbyterian Church

Class of 2020	Bruce Burn Frances Young – Clerk of Session	Candy Frank
Class of 2021	Lynn Hayes Janiece Glascock	Rick Borden
Class of 2022	Randy Griggs Carl Riggs	Chris Martinez
Elders-Elect	Candy Frank – Clerk of Session Linda Ray	Bill Young

Vision Statement

Called by God to be Faith Presbyterian Church of the North Georgia Mountains, we welcome all to, join together to worship God.

Committed to following Jesus' example, we joyfully share God's love, grace, and gifts with all in our church family and community.

Led by the Holy Spirit, we invite all to grow spiritually in this community of Faith.

Mission Statement:

By God's love and grace, we are Called, Committed, and Led.

Our Priorities 2020: *(Adopted by the Session at the Session Retreat November, 2020):*

- Increase membership and participation through connecting with and serving those who reside in our community.
- Continue as a spiritual community worshiping God by the sharing of our time, talent, and treasure.
- Equip and encourage all to follow in Jesus' footsteps and to show God's love, grace, and care.
- Develop effective church leaders.
- Expand effective communication to include appropriate use of technology.
- Transition to our new church facility.
- Prepare and launch our mortgage reduction campaign.
- Growing In Faith Together (GIFT) in support of our ongoing life and witness,
- Recruit additional staff member to aid our pastor in pastoral care/program duties.



Faith Presbyterian Church, USA

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Reverend Susan Haynes, Pastoral Associate

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