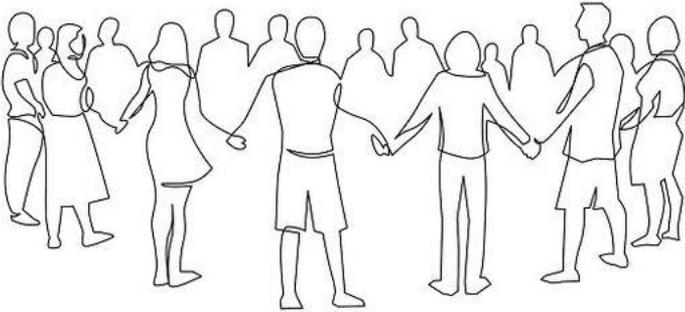


2021 – 2022
STEWARDSHIP

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, USA



*“Forward In Faith
Together”*



“FORWARD IN FAITH TOGETHER”

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 3 – FORWARD IN FAITH TOGETHER

Stewardship Focus: We are family

World Communion Sunday and Celebration of The Lord’s Supper

Scripture Readings: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 and Hebrews 11:1-3, 8, 23, 29-32, 12:1-2

The Rev. Dr. Joel Alvis, Stated Clerk and Mission

Coordinator for Cherokee Presbytery will be our preacher for the day.

Stewardship 2021-22 Kick-Off Celebration with a Family Picnic on the grounds following the Worship Service.

October 10 - FORWARD IN FAITH TOGETHER

Stewardship Focus: Time

Scripture Readings:

Psalm 90:12-17 and Mark 10:17-31

October 17 - FORWARD IN FAITH TOGETHER

Stewardship Focus: Talent

Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 53:4-12 and Mark 10:35-45

October 24 - FORWARD IN FAITH TOGETHER

Stewardship Focus: Treasure

Scripture Readings:

Psalm 34:1-8 and Mark 10:46-52

October 31 - FORWARD IN FAITH TOGETHER

Stewardship Focus: Commitment

Scripture Readings:

Deuteronomy 6:1-9 and Mark 12:28-34

Our 2021 Stewardship Pledge Sunday

STEWARDSHIP CELEBRATION 2021

This year's Stewardship theme has been "Forward in Faith Together". The experiences of the last year have given new meanings to the word "Together". For most of this year we have been together apart: viewing each other through screens, with our connectedness dependent upon WIFI signals and the gremlins of technology. We have shared each other's joys, pains, and sorrows together, yet from a distance.

For much of the year we have seen our beautiful new church stand empty, ready, yet unable to serve the church community. The collective dreams and excitement for our new building were put on pause by the pandemic. Zoom church with all its' challenges served us well. Yet through this historical time, the family of Faith Presbyterian has continued to serve each other and our community without hesitation. The restrictions and limitations of the last year have not resulted in inactivity or any lessening of our willingness to serve.

Our programs have continued, and some have grown. Making masks, the summer meals program, Habitat for Humanity, support and prayers for each other, have flourished to name a few. Even in the pandemic, the time, talents, and treasure of the Faith Family have been extended in new efforts such as Meals on Wheels, Little Free Library, and a joint ReKindle Grant project, with our Jewish Congregation partners, intended to reach the impoverished elderly in our local community. The Faith Presbyterian Family has been unwavering in its service to their church and to others.

The Faith Family continues to strive to make manifest the calls to action that our faith has taught us.

The programs and efforts of the Faith Presbyterian Family are visible throughout our greater community. We are known as the church that says, "Yes we can." Our collective willingness to give our time, talent and treasure makes an impact both within our church and the greater community in the North Georgia Mountains.

As we emerge together to begin to meet in person, our friendships and family connections will continue to be nurtured and renewed. It is also time to renew our pledges of Time, Talent, and Treasure. Our hope is

that you will be prayerful and generous in your commitments for the coming year.

Your pledge is a vital part of every aspect of the Faith community family's mission.

Sincerely

The Stewardship Team.

Connie Griggs

Patty Morris

Bill Young

Carol Furtwengler

Frances Young

Steve Williamson



Our faithful community garden volunteers pictured with a pickup truck half full of huge, sweet potatoes harvested from our garden. This produce is distributed through the Fannin Food Bank.



Our ReKindle volunteers twice a month pack nonperishable and fresh produce for distribution to the elderly throughout Fannin County. This is a joint outreach by FPC and the Jewish Congregation of Fannin County.



October 2022

“Forward In Faith Together”

Dear Faith Presbyterian Members and Friends,

Faith’s focus theme for this year ~ “Forward in Faith Together” ~ is also our theme for the 2021-2022 Stewardship Campaign. I don’t know about you, but I find it difficult to believe we are closing in on the end of 2021. It has been a momentous year in that we moved more fully into using our new building and property on Bluebird Road; however, we still have much to do to fully use the building and property as was planned and hoped when this space was still a dream for us.

Here are a few of the highlights of 2021. I say “a few” because the nature of this church, even when we were “closed down” during the pandemic, was to continue to be witnesses of God’s love and share God’s love with our community and with each other. I know we all give thanks to God for the energy, intelligence, imagination, and love that allowed us to do so, even during a worldwide pandemic, and I thank each of you for the ways in which you played a part in these highlights.

- We opened the building for Sunday morning worship on March 21 for the first time. We began with two services with limited numbers and advance registration and over time we were able to increase the number of attendees. Now, we no longer are limiting the number of attendees or are requiring registration, but we do continue to embrace actions that will keep visitors and each other safe as we negotiate the impact of the pandemic upon our life together.
- The church office in our new building was opened for the first time beginning in July and is staffed Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. by our Office Angels.
- We, along with our brothers and sisters in the Jewish Congregation of Blue Ridge, received a ReKindle Grant from Columbia Theological Seminary. That grant has allowed us to distribute food bags to senior citizens in our community and helped support our August Summer Learning Series focused on The Unexpected Faces of Poverty.
- For the first time, our Feed Fannin Garden was planted on our Bluebird property and there was an abundance of corn,

cucumbers, and sweet potatoes provided to the food bank at Family Connection to distribute to those who would not otherwise have fresh produce.

- Our beautiful Faith Memorial Garden was planned and constructed and charter member, Hervey Jones's ashes were the first to be interred on Saturday, September 11.
- We continued to maintain both the property and the building with volunteers. The only paid staff were the pastors and the Director of Music.
- We said good-bye to Director of Music, Kathy Wills, as she entered a new season of her life in retirement and welcomed Phillip Mitchell as our new Director of Music.
- We added a camera system to our sound system that enables us to livestream our worship services and other programs and events held in our sanctuary to YouTube and our website.
- We also said good-bye to the Rev. Dr. Jim Simpson as he left FPC to answer God's call to serve as the Interim Pastor at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Marietta.

Obviously, these are just a small sampling of all the things that occurred within the life of this church during 2021. You, no doubt, have those worship and ministry and mission items you would add to this list.

Now we look to the future to a period of transition in the life of our church family. We will be living in what is called an interim time...the time between installed pastors. A Pastor Nominating Committee will be elected by the congregation to search for Faith Presbyterian's next installed pastor. It will be a different time and a time that will require the best we have to give to God, to our community, and to each other.

It is also a time when your commitment of Time, Talent, and Treasure, as a member or friend of Faith Presbyterian Church, continues to be vitally important. There is specific work, in addition to all the worship, ministry, and mission we already do, to be accomplished during this time of transition. You will be hearing more about that in the weeks ahead. My prayer and dream for Faith Presbyterian Church is that we will continue *Forward in Faith Together* ~ forward in our faith in God and his love and grace and mercy for all and forward as the family known as Faith Presbyterian Church.

Each Sunday of October, we will focus on various aspects of worship, ministry, and mission of Faith Presbyterian. I hope you will do all you can to be present, either in person or virtually via livestreaming, for these and all our worship services. The Stewardship Information Packets will be distributed before the worship service on October 3 and will be mailed to those unable to attend in person the next day.

We will present both our financial and time and talent commitments during the worship service on Sunday, October 31.

Each Sunday in October, we will use the following prayer as our Prayer of Dedication as we move Forward in Faith Together:

**Gracious God, creator of the world, giver of all that is good,
bless the gifts and the offerings we bring to you today.
Our pledges and gifts represent our work, our hopes, and our
dreams and we offer them in thanksgiving for all we have
received.**

**May they be the first fruits of all we have, and not what we have
left over.**

**May we see our commitments as our sacred offering,
and not a gift of obligation or exchange.**

**May we use them wisely for your service,
as we continue to move “Forward in Faith Together”.**

**May they move us to be more faithful disciples,
and energize us for lives of generosity within the family of
this church.**

**In gratitude for the grace of God,
in the warmth of God’s hospitality,
and in the spirit of the generosity embodied by Christ,
we dedicate our time, talent, and treasure to God’s work
in us and through us.**

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.

**Grace and Peace,
Susan Haynes, Interim Pastor**



Time and Talent stewardship displayed by our Crafty Friday ladies who are pictured painting rocks for distribution “worldwide”. Our artists from left-to-right are Diana Gnann, Lynn Hayes, Kim King, Betty Benedict, Treva Wheatley, Debbie Peterson, Frances Young and Maggie March.

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

July 31,2021 vs. July 31,2020

| ITEM | 2021 | 2020 |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| <u>INCOME</u> | | |
| Pledged Offerings | \$160,706 | \$147,460 |
| Non-Pledged Offerings | 21,045 | 6,715 |
| Loose Offerings | 925 | 954 |
| <u>Other Offerings and Income</u> | <u>\$143,873</u> | <u>\$117,898</u> |
| TOTAL INCOME | \$326,549 | \$273,027 |
| <u>DISBURSEMENTS/EXPENSES</u> | | |
| Personnel Salary & Benefits | \$ 83,049 | 69,225 |
| Spiritual Development (Worship/Discipleship) | 15,592 | 13,527 |
| Mission & Outreach | 15,423 | 14,376 |
| Congregational Care | 1,155 | 1,097 |
| Administrative & Facilities | 56,836 | 51,647 |
| <u>Future for Faith (F3) Fund</u> | | <u>1,350</u> |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$172,055 | \$151,221 |



Members of our Faith Choir pictured with our new music director Phillip Mitchell. All are looking forward to live singing returning to our Sunday worship services hopefully, soon.

HOW WE SPEND OUR MONEY – 2021

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 spends in that category. The dollar figures shown in each category are calculated using the 2021 operating budget of \$282,594 that was approved by the Session.

Spiritual Development (Worship & Discipleship – 27% of Total Expenses) - \$76,116

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 - (17% of Total Expenses) - \$47,444

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 - (21% of Total Expenses) - \$58,729

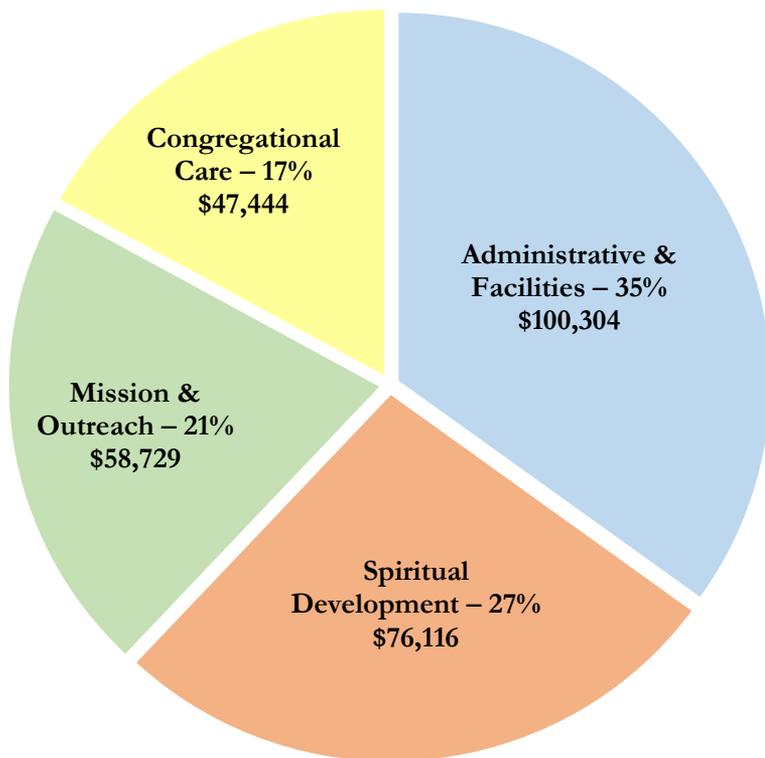
Special offerings to various local and national agencies and the Cherokee Presbytery Unified Benevolences. Outreach into the community including sending letters, contacting visitors, advertising, the Summer Meals program, and working with other community agencies and churches. 20% of the minister's compensation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

Administrative/Facilities/Finance (35% of Total Expenses) - \$100,304

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 2021

“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 the Stewardship Booklet.

Thanks, The Stewardship Committee

Session of Faith Presbyterian Church

| | | |
|---------------|---|-----------------|
| Class of 2021 | Lynn Hayes Janiece Glascock | Rick Borden |
| Class of 2022 | Randy Griggs Carl Riggs | Chris Martinez |
| Class of 2023 | Candy Frank – Clerk of Session Linda Ray | Bill Young |
| Elders Elect: | Terri Charron Al Gnann | Sylvia Goodyear |

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 2021: *(Adopted by the Session at the Session Retreat November 2021):*

- Pursue a sustainable way, including volunteer support, of video streaming (Zoom) for worship and other events. Identify creative opportunities to safely engage, worship, and learn together, recognizing the continued challenge of COVID-19.
- Increase membership and participation through connecting with and serving those who reside in and beyond our community.
- Continue as a spiritual community worshipping 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 and social media.
- Continue to transition to our new church facility.
- Invite continuing participation in our "Growing in Faith Together" campaign (GIFT) supporting our ongoing life and witness.



Faith Presbyterian Church, USA

Physical Address

1349 Bluebird Road
Mineral Bluff, Georgia 30559

Mailing Address

P. O. Box 2668
Blue Ridge, Georgia 30513
(706) 374-5912

Reverend Susan Haynes, Interim Pastor

Susan.Haynes@faithpresbyterianusa.org

www.faithpresbyterianusa.org

email: office@faithpresbyterianusa.org