

First Presbyterian Church
On the Square
Carlisle, PA



Annual Report
for 2018

2018 – Table of Contents

Our Vision and Mission	1
Agenda	2
Pastor’s Report	3-4
Director of Educational Ministry	5
Clerk of Session	6
Committees/Groups Reports:	
Worship	7-8
Parish Life	9
Membership & Outreach	10
Nominating	11
Human Resources	12
Mission & Interpretation	13
Property	14
Stewardship & Finance	15-26
Presbyterian Women	27
Board of Deacons	28

OUR VISION AND MISSION



“Through God’s love and power revealed in Jesus Christ and sealed by the Holy Spirit, we are called into a community of lively faith. Honored with a rich Presbyterian heritage, and committed to an enduring Christian witness, we respond to God’s grace through ministries of:

Celebration, *worshiping God with gratitude and vitality; and participating thankfully in community with each other;*

Fellowship, *connecting people with each other and God in a Spirit of wholeness and care in Christ’s name;*

Spiritual enrichment, *educating people of all ages for growth in faith and service;*

Outreach, *servicing local and global missions in Christ’s name.*

The Meeting House on the Square is where deep roots are nourished and growing branches are celebrated in Christ’s name.”

**First Presbyterian Church
Worshiping – Connecting – Educating – Serving
In Christ’s Name**

**ANNUAL MEETING
First Presbyterian Church**

Sunday, February 3, 2019

AGENDA

Call to Order with Prayer – Rev. Anthony D. Lorenz, Moderator

Clerk's Report

Declaration of a Quorum

Minutes of this meeting to be approved by the Session at its next Stated Meeting

Clerk's Report

Moderator's Comments

Committee / Group Reports

Pastor's Terms of Call – the Clerk

Adjournment with Prayer

PASTOR'S REPORT

Dear Members and Friends of First Presbyterian Church,

As I look back over the year that is covered in this report I'm encouraged by the ministry that we have done together. As you'll discover in these pages, First Presbyterian Church has been an active community of faith! Worship continues to be the most important aspect of our life together as we gather every Sunday morning to praise God. We continue to provide many excellent educational opportunities for all ages. We support mission outreach both here in the local community and around the world.

As I reflect on my activities in 2018 I realize that I had the opportunity to do a lot of travel. That's something I've always loved. Last year I was able to go to Honduras with one of our Presbytery mission teams. In June I went to St. Louis, MO as a commissioner to the 223rd General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church. Then in the fall I had the opportunity to travel with the Outreach Foundation to the Middle East and visit churches in Iraq. That was a lot of flights!

In case you didn't know, I love to travel. I love learning about new places and packing suitcases and getting my passport stamped and even trying new foods. But the thing I love most about traveling is coming home. There's nothing like sleeping in your own bed and seeing familiar faces when you come home. As I was traveling this year I started to realize just how much Carlisle feels like home.

For some of you Carlisle has always been home, for others it has been home for a long time. And some of you are like me, still kind of new in town. Carlisle isn't my hometown in the traditional sense of that phrase, but it is the town that I call home.

Carlisle feels like home in no small part because of you, the members and friends of First Presbyterian Church. More than three years ago you called me to be you pastor, to do ministry together with you, and I am profoundly grateful for that call each and every day.

I often think of the church as our home. As Christians we are united by ties that are stronger than blood. We are united by faith in Jesus Christ. Here in the church we find comfort and refuge, but we also find a place to study and grow and pray together, a place that gives us energy to go out into the world and live as Christ's faithful disciples, being salt and light to a world that needs some good news.

I'm grateful for the year that is past, but I'm even more grateful for the year that is to come as we continue to serve God together in the name of Jesus.

Yours very truly in Christ,

Pastor Tony Lorenz

Congregational Register - 2018

Receptions

Letter of Transfer

Rowenna C. Bartholomew – from Covenant Presbyterian Church, Sharon, PA

Reaffirmation of Faith

Profession of Faith

Dismissals

Letter of Transfer

Margaret Lydic – to Monaghan Presbyterian Church, Dillsburg, PA

Norman Uber – to Monaghan Presbyterian Church, Dillsburg, PA

Suspension/Removal to Inactive List

Deaths/Funerals

Active members

John W. Cline – January 20, 2018

Katherine Johnston – February 15, 2018

David B. Eavenson, Jr. – April 19, 2018

Arlene (Hammann) Guerriero – May 3, 2018

Margaret E. (Vance) Negley – May 22, 2018

Clyde M. Barr, Jr. – June 14, 2018

Richard D. Hammann – June 17, 2018

Robert E. Dowell – August 26, 2018

Rowenna C. Bartholomew – October 10, 2018

Steven E. Beck – October 30, 2018

John B. Crum, Jr. – December 19, 2018

Non-members

Genevieve Margaret Snider – February 18, 2018

David W. Shuey – September 17, 2018

Weddings

Delaney Lynn Sandberg and Bret Michael Thomas – July 21, 2018

Susan Marie Banko and Jason Carroll Frampton – August 11, 2018

2018 – A YEAR OF GRATITUDE
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATIONAL MINISTRIES

I have many reasons in my life to be grateful and 2018 brought so many of them into focus. I am honored and privileged to serve First Presbyterian Church, Carlisle. Together we are ending our 18th year of worship and service to our God, our community and world, and to each other. I am so grateful for the kindness and generosity of prayers, food, and friendship shown to me after my foot surgery in June. I am most grateful.

I am most grateful that each year with the children and youth of First Presbyterian church is an experience of joy and wonder. Through Tiny Tots and the Family Christmas Eve service, from the Easter Egg Hunt to Game and Movie Nights; I am blessed by the love and excitement of the younger members of this church. Each week as I plan Sunday school, worship bags, and children's church, I pray I reflect God's love for all of God's children.

I am most grateful for the nine members of the 2018-2019 Confirmation Class. This group of teens and pre-teens is keeping me on my toes and making me think and dream. Each one of them brings a special sparkle and spunk to my life and our church.

I am most grateful for reading and studying together. Pastor Tony and so many members of our congregation have been a blessing in our educational ministry. Whether in Bible study or Space for God, Book Club or Presbyterian Women, conversation, learning, and laughter have graced these meetings and moments.

I am grateful for the generosity of this congregation in sharing through donations of food, items for the rummage sale, time for teaching and planning, time for serving our neighbors and our world. Mission Sundays, redecorating the Christmas tree, bringing in used books, knitting caps for new babies, and most importantly of all worshipping together to continue to hear God's voice for each of us.

I am grateful for one of the most heart-felt and enjoyable experience this year, the six-session study I led on prayer. Many attendees did not know each other well and were not sure of the class, but together we learned, shared, and experienced God's Spirit.

As a new year begins, I wonder what new members and friends will come into our lives. I wonder what new classes, studies, or projects will be put before us. I give thanks for those who were here and took something of First Presbyterian to their new communities and for the marks they left in our lives. God's love and kingdom are bubbling all around us. Thanks be to God!

Debby Madden
Director of Educational Ministries

CLERK OF SESSION REPORT FOR 2018

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, for 2018 consisted of fifteen Ruling Elders: Barbara Allen, Trudy Bailey, Richard Darr, Lois Lloyd, Lynda Mann, Elizabeth Martin, Frank Meehan, Margaret Owen, Deborah Ryerson, Fred Selzer, Thomas Sheperd, Richard Sommers, Ray Thomas, Charles Thompson, and Nancy Tritt. Dr. Sommers was chosen as Clerk of Session. Mrs. Martin resigned from Session in June, because she and her family moved from Carlisle to Hershey. On November 18, Elder Thomas was elected to a second term starting in 2019. Elders Bailey, Owen, and Tritt were thanked for their contributions as they left Session at the end of 2018.

Session scheduled eleven Stated Meetings and actually held ten: January 25, February 20, (March 20, canceled in order to enjoy the nice weather), April 17, May 15, June 26, August 21, September 18, October 25, November 20, and December 18. A Special May 6 meeting approved a court settlement involving our church cemetery. Congregational Meetings took place on February 11 (Annual Meeting) and November 18.

Our church received one new member: Rowenna C. Bartholomew, received by letter of transfer from Covenant Presbyterian Church, Sharon, PA, August 21.

At the same time, we regretted the February departure of Norm Uber and Margaret Lydic by letter of transfer to Monaghan Presbyterian Church. And we gave thanks for the lives of eleven long-time members who entered the Church Triumphant: John W. Cline, January 20; Katherine Johnston, February 15; David E. Eavenson Jr., April 19; Arlene Guerriero, May 3; Margaret E. Negley, May 22; Clyde M. Barr, June 14; Richard D. Hammann, June 17; Robert E. Dowell, August 26; Rowenna Bartholomew, October 10; Steven E. Beck, October 30; and John B. Crum, December 19. Rev. Lorenz performed funeral services in our church for David, Margaret, Richard, and John. In Rev. Lorenz's absence, Rev. Jeff Gibelius of the Second Presbyterian Church of Carlisle performed Steven's service in our church. Also in First Church on October 20, Rev. Lorenz led services for David W. Shuey, who passed away on September 17; a good friend of our church, he was the husband of our Choir Director, Mrs. Sue Shuey.

With thirteen departures and one gain, church membership now stands at 233.

Rev. Lorenz performed weddings in First Church for members Bret Thomas and Delaney Sandberg, July 21, and for non-members Jason Frampton and Susan Banko on August 11.

Throughout 2018, the Session and the Congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Carlisle worked and worshipped to the Glory of God.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard J. Sommers, Clerk of Session

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Committee Members: Pastor Tony Lorenz, Debby Madden, Peggy McKeehen, Sue Shuey, Art Thompson, Richard Tritt, and Deb Ryerson (Chair).

The Committee supports the activities of those who plan and lead worship on a weekly basis, including Pastor Tony, Debby Madden, Sue Shuey and the choir, and organist Art Thompson, for whom we are all grateful.

Our committee met seven times in 2017 and accomplished the following:

- With leadership of Ron Richcreek, oversaw completion of organ repair. Also planned and hosted a May 6 celebratory organ recital and reception to dedicate the newly restored organ. It featured Dan Dorty, organist for Camp Hill Presbyterian Church. Dozens of church members participated in the execution of this event, and 90 people attended on a rainy night.
- Commissioned woodworker Daniel Lantz from Newburg to build a 3' by 5' walnut cross for our new chapel. The cross can be hung or set in a custom base, which makes its use versatile for various seasons and events. The \$350 cross was funded by an anonymous donor and Presbyterian Women.
- Recruited readers and ushers and developed the list of worship helpers twice yearly. We also slightly revamped counting teams.
- Oversaw 14 Communion and four Home Communion, making sure that helpers were assigned for preparation, serving, and clean-up.
- Through Art Thompson's leadership, oversaw another successful Lenten Concert Series.
- Through leadership of Richard Tritt and Bob Davis, oversaw Hanging of the Greens for Advent and Christmas and un-decorating in early January. The Dec. 2 Hanging of the Greens began with a congregational luncheon and concluded with a brief service of verses and carols. Many members participated, and the decorating went smoothly.
- Reviewed and submitted a budget of \$3,850 for 2019. This is \$175 more than last year but represents a valiant effort to make up for a necessary \$600 addition for the twice-yearly tuning of the organ.
- Choir director Sue Shuey appealed to members to buy choir music to dedicate in memory or honor of loved ones. Eight people signed up, and more are expected.
-

SUNDAY 2018 ATTENDANCE
(by month, with weekly average)

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>TOTAL AVERAGE</u>		
• January 2018	372	93	2017 Average = 94*
• February 2018	372	93	2017 Average = 100
• March 2018	411	103	2017 Average = 95
• April 2018	588	118*	2017 Average = 130*
• May 2018	383	96	2017 Average = 96
• June 2018	326	82	2017 Average = 93
• July 2018	407	81*	2017 Average = 91*
• August 2018	298	75	2017 Average = 84
• September 2018	441	88*	2017 Average = 93
• October 2018	393	98	2017 Average = 99*
• November 2018	353	88	2017 Average = 98
• December 2018	477	95*	2017 Average = 99*

Special Services:

- Ash Wednesday 23
- Maundy Thursday 47
- Good Friday (No count taken)
- Christmas Eve 5:00 PM 51
- Christmas Eve 8:00 PM 167
- Christmas Eve 11:00 PM 12

Average Weekly Attendance for 2018: 93

(* indicates 5 Sundays in the month)

Submitted by:
Deb Ryerson, Chair

PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE

If you donated your time and snacks to help make Fellowship Hour successful this year, many thanks! Your weekly contribution to the hospitality of our congregation following worship is truly appreciated!

The Deacons on the committee, Anita Ashbaugh and Deb Richcreek, always contribute time and effort to the committee's events. A big word of thanks to Peggy McKeehen for her tireless efforts in helping out with not only Fellowship Hour, but with everything the Parish Life Committee is involved in. Peggy remains our church's one-woman hospitality committee. Bob Davis's efforts and creativity are always appreciated. Jean Kretzing, Barb Allen, Deb Richcreek, Peg Owen, and Connie and Dennis Husler help out frequently, too. Thanks!

Highlights of the year's events include:

EASTER SUNRISE BREAKFAST: On Easter Sunday, all who attended the Sunrise Service enjoyed a breakfast in Fellowship Hall after the service. Thanks to all who contributed food. There was food left over for snacks during fellowship time after the 10:45 service!

WELCOME BACK TO SUNDAY SCHOOL: Our Fried Chicken Luncheon to welcome all back to the regular Sunday school season in September has become an annual event. This year's event was well-attended with many in the congregation contributing side dishes and desserts. A little snafu came when our supplier of the fried chicken was 45 minutes late with our order. So it was decided that in 2019, a different chicken supplier would be used. Thank you!

HANGING OF THE GREENS: An Advent Luncheon of soup, bread and dessert was served followed by our annual Hanging of the Greens (Dec. 2). The soups were fabulous! Thanks to all who contributed soups, helped to serve them, and helped to clean up afterwards. This year's soup contributors included Bob Davis (world-class cream of crab soup!), Nancy Jacoby, Samantha Gilbert, Art Thompson, Trudy Bailey, Connie Husler and Anita Ashbaugh. All the soups were great! Thanks to those who brought desserts, too! Thanks all!

I remain a guy with absolutely zero talent in the kitchen. Nuke it? Chinese carry-out? Pizza delivery? Taco Bell drive-thru? These are the total extent of my culinary skills. So as chairman of this committee, I owe a huge thanks to those who lend their talent and expertise to make everything happen. Thank you!

Ray Thomas
Chair

MEMBERSHIP AND OUTREACH

Our main outreach activity in 2018 was continuing the program of sending a welcome letter to new homeowners in the area, with a focus on those moving into Carlisle. Besides a letter of invitation to our church, the envelope also contains a copy of the brochure that outlines our various programs and activities. This is a very low-cost effort that we believe is a good way to reach out to newer, permanent residents in the community. Even if they are members of a different denomination or non-believers, it still lets them recognize First Presbyterian as a caring place.

Attempts to connect to our two main categories of temporary residents – students at the U.S. Army War College and Dickinson College students – consisted of the following:

Full participation in the Downtown Carlisle Association’s “Welcome Jam,” a First Friday event aimed at giving the USAWC students and other newcomers to the area a chance to explore the downtown through discounted restaurant meals, live performances and other fun stuff.

Despite a persistent drizzle, Debby Madden, Bill and Rita Beck and Rick Line were present to entertain younger kids with a variety of indoor and outdoor games, Kathy Mulvey supplied treats, and Jack and Nancy Augustine served as docents for those who wanted to see the sanctuary.

We also were one of a handful of community churches to participate in October’s “Faith Fest” at Dickinson College, a chance for interested students to learn a little bit more about congregations in town.

Finally, we did some publicity with The Sentinel and posted flyers at various locations around the area (Bosler Library, Dickinson College, Giant, the YMCA, Whistle Stop Bookshop) to help promote three special activities: our organ re-dedication concert, the Mission Committee’s rummage sale and Joe Shane’s Sunday School series on Science and Faith.

Sometimes it is hard to see a direct pay-off from these efforts.

But we do look forward to receiving a class of new members in the coming months, and then getting to work right away in starting to build the next one.

Please think about who you might invite to First Pres during the year ahead, and please feel free to share any other ideas you believe will help our church continue to be Christ’s witness on the Square.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlie Thompson

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Committee Members: Anita Ashbaugh, Deb Ryerson,
Ray Thomas, Sue Meehan, Lynda Mann (Chair)

Proposed Slate of Officers for Class of 2021

Board of Session:

Bruce Bailey
David Killian
Ray Thomas
Carlton Walker

Board of Deacons:

Jamie Hoffman
Connie Husler
Dennis Husler
Deb Richcreek

Lynda Mann
Chairman, Nominating Committee

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Human Resources Committee members are the same as last year: Barb Allen; Jim Crum; Ellen Darr; and Dick Darr, Chairman.

As we reported a year ago, Sexton Mike Stamey asked to be relieved of his janitorial duties. Therefore, Chuck Adler was hired as Janitor. Since then, Mike Stamey decided to retire as Sexton. As recommended by Pastor Lorenz, Chuck Adler is now Sexton, combining the duties of Janitor and Sexton – which was the situation before 2018. The Committee thanks Mike Stamey for his fine work in maintaining our church property.

Starting January 1, 2019, all staff members have been given a merit salary increase. The Committee feels we are blessed to have Pastor Lorenz as our leader. All staff members are to be commended for their fine performance working for our church.

Dick Darr
Chairman

MISSION COMMITTEE

In 2018, the Mission Committee continued to be an important part of our ministry at First Presbyterian Church. The Committee voted to financially support three local charities: Community CARES, Maranatha, and Samaritan Fellowship. We continued our commitment to Project SHARE through our soup-giving and donations to the Lenten luncheons that were under the direction of Robert Davis. Thanks to the members of the congregation and your wonderful contributions, we raised \$1,191 towards our giving with the rummage sale. A special thank-you to Peggy McKeehen, Lois Lloyd, and all who helped with set-up and clean-up.

Barbara Allen
Chair

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Committee Members: Peggy McKeehan, Dennis Rydberg, Mary Jane Blosser, Mike Stamey, Frank Meehan (chair)

A major portion of the committee's time, and resources, was devoted to four major issues:

1. The repair of the smoke detector beams in the sanctuary
2. The refurbishment and painting of the finials (the white corners on the tower)
3. The replacement of the tower roof and repair of the portion of the roof around the chimney
4. Reviewing, combining, and renewing maintenance contracts for the fire alarm system, the elevator and the heating/cooling system.

During the semi-annual inspection of the church's fire alarm system, two of the smoke detector beams in the sanctuary were found to be inoperable. Considerable effort was required to determine the nature of the problem and the needed repairs.

A bid for the repair and painting of the finials was accepted and the project completed. The appearance of the top of the tower has been greatly improved by this work.

During the work on the finials it was noted that the tower roof was in an advanced state of deterioration with some subsurface rotting. The difficulties were attributed to inferior workmanship and materials but the warranty had long since expired. The system as now installed should last indefinitely.

The contracts for elevator maintenance, maintenance of mechanical systems (heating and air conditioning), and fire detection systems were reviewed and renewed. The three contracts with Johnson Controls for the fire alarm system were combined into one 5-year contract at a slightly reduced cost.

In April, the church received an unexpected notification from the Borough that the sidewalk on Hanover Street was not up to standard and repairs were to be completed in 30 days or a fine would be assessed. A group from the church reset the bricks so that the height differential is within Borough specifications.

In April the Borough was contacted about the pothole at the rear entrance. Presented as a safety hazard, the Borough applied additional asphalt the next day. The surface is better, but still not good.

The magnolia tree (at the tower) and several of the street trees were trimmed to meet Borough requirements and for the health of the trees. The gum tree in Hanover Street was removed and replaced.

The Property Committee appreciates the suggestions, the patience, and assistance, of the congregation with the continuing efforts to keep our historic building in good repair.

Frank Meehan,
Chair

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Introduction

On the following pages you will find the summary of the 2018 budget and expenses for First Presbyterian Church and the budget for 2019 that was approved by the Church Session in December 2018. This is an estimate of the anticipated income and expenses for the coming year. It does not include any expenditures from the 2017-18 Capital Campaign. The various committee chairs are responsible for monitoring expenses within their respective areas. The Stewardship and Finance Committee is responsible for monitoring all aspects of financial matters for the congregation with the Church Session making all final decisions.

Income and Expenses - summary

The budget passed by Session for 2018 had an expected income of \$269,150 and anticipated expenditures of \$313,106, for a deficit of \$43,956. At the close of 2018, First Presbyterian had a total income of \$289,806 and final expenditures of \$302,120, for a deficit of \$12,313. Session did redeem shares for \$10,000 in order to pay end of the year bills. Even though there was a loss, it was a better year because expenditures were down by \$10,986 and income was up by \$19,656 (including the \$10,000 redeemed).

Investments and Trusts

The church holds money in reserve from the generosity of members and former members. The majority of these trusts and investments are held either by F&M Trust Company or New Covenant Funds which is part of the Presbyterian Foundation. Twice yearly we receive dividend or distribution checks from these investments which are budgeted as income. If you have been following the financial markets then you know the last quarter of 2018 was a bit of a roller-coaster. While our investments had grown throughout the first three quarters of 2018 those gains were lost by the end of the year. In September the Church Session authorized the treasurer to redeem shares of up to \$10,000 from the New Covenant Funds in order to be able to keep the checking account balance at a sufficient level to pay bills and meet payroll.

Memorial Fund – *a new way to help our church!*

The Finance Committee has worked over a year on the establishment of a new Memorial Funds Description. After much preliminary work in committee, the plan was presented to Session, and now after two more months of additional work, the Memorial Funds Description was approved by a unanimous vote of Session on November 20, 2018. The completed description is included in this report for your use and understanding. The major goal of the committee was to identify the proposed use of all funds received as memorial gifts. Research was done using old financial records and by reading wills at the Cumberland County Court House to determine how specific bequests from past years were to be used. Many questions now have answers and the Church will be better able to make wise decisions on how these gifts were to be used. Final expenditure of these funds will always be recommended by the Finance Committee of the Session for Session's final approval.

Planning for Your Future

Another goal of the Finance Committee in 2018 was to present to members of the congregation important information regarding major and important tasks that we should all complete. On Sunday afternoon, November 18, 2018, two local attorneys presented information, guidelines and reasons for writing a will, a living will and having a power of attorney. Upon the completion of the attorneys' question and answer period, Pastor Lorenz presented guidance and information for planning an individual's funeral or memorial service. He answered questions and also gave interested members a form to complete and return to the church. These pre-planning information forms are available to any member.

Thank-you

To everyone who has made a commitment to First Presbyterian Church by pledging in 2019 – thank you! We depend on your support for the financial health and vitality of our congregation. If you haven't pledged, it's not too late. Yellow pledge forms are still available. As you consider your pledge and/or support of First Presbyterian Church, please take time to consider how God is leading you to support our congregation's mission and ministry. We're grateful for your generosity and we invite you to consider continuing your generosity in 2019.

Trudy Bailey & Nancy Tritt
Co-Chairs

(FINANCIAL DATA,
PP. 17-26,
INTENTIONALLY OMITTED)

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN (PW)

PW Faith Circle meets on the 4th Monday of the month from September to May at 2 PM in Fellowship Hall. We completed the last Bible Study, Prayer, by David Healy, and are now using God's Promise, I Am with You by Amy Sutherlun. Faith Circle welcomes anyone interested in join us.

We continue to support four local charitable organizations: Meals on Wheels, Safe Harbour, Salvation Army, and Domestic Violence. We also annually promote two offerings: PW Birthday Offering and PW Thank Offering.

Our church now has a beautiful chapel which was our focus, along with the Worship Committee, to make a reality. The second floor room was cleaned, re-carpeted, and had two upholstered chairs refurbished – all under the leadership of Peggy McKeehen. Deb Ryerson, chair of the Worship Committee, worked to have a wooden cross crafted and it is now on the wall. Please take the opportunity to visit the chapel, located on the second floor.

The PW of Carlisle Presbytery had three gatherings hosted by other churches in our Presbytery, with some members of Faith Circle attending. The PW Coordinating Team meets in our Fellowship Hall several times a year.

Jean Kretzing
Moderator

Peggy McKeehen
Treasurer

BOARD OF DEACONS

The Board of Deacons provided care to members of the congregation as well as to the local community in 2018 through a number of projects and missions:

- Visited, cared for, delivered daffodils at Easter
- Served Home Communion to approximately 14 shut-ins from the congregation
- Served Sunday evening meals quarterly at “My Brother’s Table” at the Salvation Army
- Created and distributed 45 visitor bags filled with information about our congregation to worshippers who visited on Sunday mornings
- Raised \$258 for the Salvation Army’s Bell Ringing program in December
- Packaged and delivered 155 bags of Christmas cookies to the Truck Stop Ministry
- Continued the “Journeying through Grief” program for members who have experienced a death in the family. Four books are mailed periodically throughout the year following a loved one’s death. This year, 18 members received four books, and 14 others are still receiving books through the program, which is very well received.
- Together with the Mission Committee, co-sponsored Mission Sunday in October, during which we collected and sorted 10 boxes of linens and towels for Safe Harbour; assembled 100 bags of school supplies for Church World Service; collected and sorted 4 boxes of personal care items for Safe Harbour; and did yard maintenance for several members of the congregation.
- Initiated a program in which notes are sent to church members who were prayed for in church each Sunday to tell them of the remembrance
- Donated \$100 in support of a classroom at LeTort Elementary School
- Sent \$100 to eight local nonprofits including Maranatha, Community Cares and Project Share
- Distributed new pictorial church directories that were begun at the close of 2017
- Raised money on Father’s Day to support our meals at “My Brother’s Table”
- On Mother’s Day, co-sponsored the Church World Service Blanket Sunday with Presbyterian Women

Thank you to members of the congregation who supported our projects through participation and financial donations throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,
Anita Ashbaugh
Moderator