

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE, EQUIPPING GOD'S PEOPLE

Annual Congregational Meeting
January 26, 2020

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New Co-Pastors for GBPC in 2019!

On January 1, 2019, we were in one of our favorite places, Disneyland, and as we do most years we were reflecting on the past year and wondering about the year to come. We had received contact from GBPC's PNC, but the thought of moving to Virginia was still far from our minds on that New Years' Day. Within a few days, however, a tremendous possibility for the new year started to open up to come and be with you all, and God opened every door to bring us to the doors of our new home and our new church by July 2019.

In the process of moving, we would look at our furniture, the clothes, the toys (without our boys knowing most of the time!!), and we would ask ourselves "what do we want to bring with us into the future?" This is the question we all face every day.

Right here and now, just today, what do we bring with us into the future? Into just the next moment? This is what we bring with us, the church family at GBPC, these simple truths: We are the body of Christ, unified by the Holy Spirit, standing on the sure foundation of God's word, and following Jesus wherever he wants to take us.

Everything that took place in 2019 and everything that will take place in 2020 is built upon these truths. So far, we have seen the powerful salvation messages of VBS, the friendly community outreach in movie nights, Trunk or Treat, and the Christmas Parade. We have heard beautiful music as voices and instruments "raise a hallelujah" on Sunday mornings. We have seen volunteers quietly and faithfully serving in every way in our congregation and in the world. We have enjoyed spending time with the youth of our church. We have had the honor of officiating memorial services and praying for many of you during the struggles and trials of life.

In a moment of stunning beauty, we raised our candles in the dark of Christmas Eve night, and felt the peace and presence of God in the sanctuary. May God's light continue to shine through us all in 2020. **This is our goal for 2020: Follow the Light.** Follow the Light where Jesus wants to take us in worship, in service, in fellowship, in outreach, in connection, in every moment. We have decided to follow Jesus, dear church family, no turning back!

Blessings,

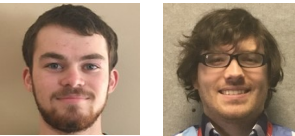
Michael and Kelly Nieto



WORSHIP



Charity Stephens,
**Contemporary
Worship Director**



Ethan Crews Aaron Dunn
Audio Technicians



Mike Boron,
**Worship & Music
Elder Liaison**



Bob Wilks,
**Worship & Music
Elder Liaison**

Contemporary Worship Highlights 2019

When looking back at 2019, I am thankful for so much and humbled at the ways the Lord worked in me, the praise team, and our church. Below are some of the highlights from 2019.

- GBPC's praise team (that will be 20 years old in 2021!) has a name—Bridge to Worship. Bridge to Worship has a logo, Facebook page, YouTube channel, and is in process of recording cover and original songs.
- Bridge to Worship prepared and served a dinner for NEST.
- AudioFetch hearing assistance system was installed. We continue to encourage the use of it.
- Bridge to Worship partnered together and published a weekly Lenten devotional video with original video, pho-

tography, and voice recordings. This video series partnered with the music ministry's church-wide devotional, "Awakening to God's Beauty." We also published a daily Advent video with original video, photography, and voice recordings called the "Luke Challenge." The videos are available on our YouTube channel—Bridge to Worship GBPC.

- AV support was provided for multiple events outside of Sunday morning worship services—Ladies' Morning Out, Men's Retreat, Women's Retreat, May 19 Joyful, Joyful concert, candlelight concerts, Fall Kick-off, Trunk or Treat, Who Dun It? Dinner, Christmas Eve Services, and so much more. A big thank you to Ethan Crews and Aaron Dunn who faithfully provided excellence with sound. We also

have a wonderful team of media volunteers.

- Creation and development of several services outside of Sunday morning worship such as: A Night of Praise and Worship with Hands of Praise Sign Language Team, Service of Healing and Wholeness, Maundy Thursday, VBS Salvation Night, 7:00 PM Christmas Eve Service, etc.
- Nashville Nights was an eight week FBLive session series on Monday nights in the fall to educate and equip Bridge to Worship's musicians (vocalists and instrumentalists).
- Bridge to Worship participated in the 2019 Chesapeake Christmas Parade. Our float, "Joy to the World," was a huge success and a wonderful example of Christian teamwork.

Goals for 2020

Goal #1: Spiritual Growth—Begin each rehearsal with a devotional based on the scripture for the coming Sunday. Provide daily team devotionals during Advent and Lent. Study Scripture together and continue to deepen our relationship with Jesus Christ.

Goal #2: Personal Goal—Compose/arrange/record five songs with Bridge to Worship. Publish/stream these songs on YouTube, Spotify, and social media.

Goal #3: Ministry Goal—Develop a media ministry team to film, photograph, edit and produce videos for GBPC.

It is an honor and privilege to serve the Lord through ministry at GBPC! This year I plan to focus on "speaking life" to those around me and developing ministry teams with a special focus on media, AV, and musicians. We are blessed and I look forward to seeing the Lord's work in us in 2020! *Charity*

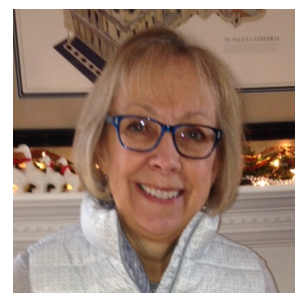


Traditional Worship Highlights 2019

- GBPC Music Ministry joyfully celebrated Cheryl Madison's 20 years of faithful service.
- Operation Tons of Love— 1,843 pounds of food donated.
- Offered "Awakening to God's Beauty" a church-wide devotional to pray with art that included a meditation room set up in the library for personal time.
- Our Family SING Sunday with Children's ministry Sunday saw 75 in the chancel.
- Presented "A Living Portrait of the Last Supper" for Maundy Thursday, a recreation of the Leonardo da Vinci masterpiece.
- Welcomed the Virginia Children's Chorus in joyful Candlelight Concert.
- Coordinated and presented "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee." A Celebration of Ministry Concert to honor the 23 year ministry of Ralph Herbert at GBPC. Special guests were in attendance for this afternoon of music presented by the entire music ministry of GBPC.
- Combined our Senior Adults and Senior Graduates in a special worship service.
- Directed the "Soli Deo Gloria" Bon Voyage Concert of all of the musicians traveling to Italy on their 3rd Singing Mission Trip. The entire group consisted of 73 travelers with 41 musicians. Tour dates were June 25 – July 3 and involved 3 formal concerts, one of which was an outreach concert at a Senior Living facility. We had 3 impromptu singing opportunities, one of which was an incredible moment where we sang at *the Florence American Cemetery and Memorial* that contains the gravesites of 4,402 American soldiers.
- The "Power Up Emoji Troupe" eagerly participated in VBS! We also welcomed Mike, Kelly, Josh, and Sam Nieto to GBPC. They jumped in with both feet and participated in VBS!
- Bid a fond farewell to Ralph and Anita Herbert.
- Fall *Food for All* collected 1,393 lbs of food bringing our 2019 total to 3,236 lbs of food donated with a cumulative total since collecting food for the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia to 50,212 lbs. This is a CHURCH-WIDE effort sponsored by the music ministry.
- The Worship and Music team sponsored the pumpkin decorating table for Trunk or Treat! GREAT fun!
- Our intergenerational instrumental ensemble began rehearsals to play during Fellowship Connections throughout December! Thanks to everyone! We hope to continue.
- JOY TO THE WORLD was the church-wide theme this month as we commemorated the 300th Anniversary of this beloved hymn. The Chancel Choir's Adopt-A-Family was a Chesapeake family who lost everything in a fire. The choir collected approximately \$800 to provide them with some Christmas JOY.



Billye Brown Youmans,
Director of Music



Cheryl Madison,
Organist



Joy Vernon,
Music Intern

Goals for 2020

Goal #1: Hire a Music Ministry Assistant With the departure of Joy Vernon to pursue a Master's degree in Choral Conducting at Temple University, we have a huge void in the music ministry. We will be praying for God to lead as we actively search for an assistant.

Goal #2: Refurbish Schulmerich Five Octave Handbell and Handchime sets Our original 3 octave handbell set was purchased with a donation in 2003. In 2007 we received another donation to expand the handbell set to 4 octaves and to purchase 4 octaves of handchimes. We received another donation in 2013 to expand the bells and chimes to 5 octaves each.

They are in desperate need of refurbishing. We have received donations to cover the expense. The process involves shipping all of the cases and bells/chimes back to the factory.

Goal #3: Increase our social media presence in creative ways. We are realizing the great need to use social media to share the Good News with others. Our dedicated volunteers are working hard to do this. We will search for ways to support their work.

Upon reflection of my 25 years at GBPC, I am energized and amazed to see how God has been working throughout the years. We have had the opportunity to show God's

love and His promise of Salvation through a vibrant music ministry that has steadily grown and evolved into a rich tapestry of faithful and committed servants.

We have helped to lead worship in a variety of ways and have enjoyed having some incredibly gifted sacred music composers and ministers come to GBPC to share their gifts with us. Because of God's grace we continue to serve to the glory of God.

In Soli Deo Gloria!

Billye Brown Youmans

Children’s Ministry Highlights 2019



Stacey Michalak,
Director of Children’s
Ministries

Our Children’s Ministry team and each of our leaders feel their prime mission is to show each of the children and their parents in our church community the love of Christ. Through our events, missions, and regular Sunday and Wednesday classes, our leaders give of their time to be listening ears, mentors, and teachers.

During VBS, we had the opportunity to reach 300 kids with the love of Christ through Bible teaching, drama, games, music, art, and sci-

ence experiments. Over 75 children came to the front for prayer and many prayed to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

Trunk or Treat was another example of Children’s Ministry teaming with the church to share Christ’s love to our community. Hundreds of families showed up for this event and it was a wonderful opportunity to connect with our church members and countless new faces.

Our Christmas season was wonder-

ful! Our first ever Gingerbread event gave our families an opportunity to participate in a Christmas activity as a family team. In addition to our Gingerbread event, Children’s Ministry was so proud of our kids who helped to lead the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service. Our children’s choirs, narrators, actors, and “special animal guests” were able to facilitate a beautiful service in order to honor the birth of our Lord and Savior.

Children’s Ministry 2020 Goals

Happy New Year! We are looking forward to a year of vision, rejuvenation, and refreshing in 2020! We already have exciting plans for this years VBS as well as a couple of new events that we can’t wait to share with our church family. We are praying blessings to each of you this year!

Goal #1: Our priority in 2020 is for all our children to develop a lasting relationship with God. We intend to educate our children about the

Bible and help foster and grow their faith. We intend to continually come up with new and engaging ways to reach our kids on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights and during our events.

Goal #2: Family Ministry. Schedules are so busy for parents and children that we often find our families going in different directions. This year we intend on having intentional family programming where both parents and children

can participate in fun faith building activities together.

Goal #3: We hope to grow our number of volunteers. We are looking for our next generation of leaders who will love the opportunity to lead our kids on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights—sharing Christ’s love and planting seeds that will last a lifetime.

Stacey Michalak



Via Goode,
Children’s Ministry Assistant



Becky Miles,
Preschool Director

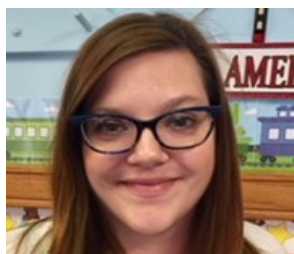
Preschool Highlights 2019

- We had another successful year with 158 students and 21 staff members.
- The Preschool Vision Committee completed their strategic plan for investing in the preschool. We made many investments in new furniture,

new STEM materials for the classroom, updated teacher supplies, and a new copier. We also purchased a Touch Board for the kindergarten classroom.

- We conducted five successful summer camps.

- We continue to see a strong connection between church and preschool families, with many of them becoming involved in church and the children’s ministry.



Rachel Witcher,
Childcare Coordinator

Preschool Goals 2020

Goal #1: We are continuing to grow. We are planning to add another kindergarten class due to high enrollment demands. This will also increase the size of our staff.

Goal #2: We will continue to look at ways to invest in improvements to the preschool, including new toys and educational materials for the classrooms, more furniture updates, and more.

Becky Miles



Mindy Boomer,
Elder Liaison

Youth Ministry Highlights 2019

- Our year-long intern Branisha Jones completed serving at the beginning of the summer and was replaced by Sean Drew, who has continued to serve our youth and has taken on a greater role after the transition of our Director of Youth Ministries. We are grateful for Sean's flexibility and service.
- In early November, we said goodbye to our Director of Youth Ministries, Andrew Marshall, who served in his role at GBPC for seven years. After sending him off with our blessings, a team of staff members led by our pastors stepped in to ensure a smooth transition while we begin a search for a new Director of Youth Ministries.
- Youth Sunday went wonderfully with another "squeeze" service and lots of participation from our students and children.
- Confirmation culminated for our students with a retreat to the mountains for hiking and alone time with God in nature. We continue to build this retreat each year to allow students and mentors from previous years to attend.
- Matthew Bitterman and Kaycee Chilton both served this past summer in internship positions. They grew as youth leaders and supported our ministry by helping plan and run VBS, Sunday Morning Club, and Wednesday trips. We're grateful for their service.
- Our High School students continued to serve those in need this summer in D.C. on our Pilgrimage mission trip. Our Middle Schoolers also went on a service trip to Harvest of Hope.
- Students and leaders went both to Nicaragua and Honduras this year to serve those missions.
- Late this fall, we began having Fun Friday events for High School and Middle School students to provide great time to fellowship together and a low-pressure event to invite friends to each month.
- We continue to establish life groups for our students and integrate worship into our regular programming times.
- Sunday Morning Club- Average: 30 students
- Wednesday night Middle School Youth- Average: 20-30 students
- Sunday night High School Youth- Average: 10-15 students
- Fun Fridays- Average 20-25 students
- Girls High School Life group led by Mari Runkle: 8-12 girls. Mari led them through *The Bride Wore White* in the spring and *Battle Plan for Prayer* in the fall.
- Wednesday night High School Life group led by Beth Doriani, 5-12 students. In the spring, we studied topics in apologetics -- how to give a good defense of our faith. This fall, the group has been reading *Making Sense of the Scriptures: Understanding the Bible's Grand Story*, to understand how the Bible fits together and be able to explain God's story
- Serving children's ministry: 10-15 HS students
- Youth Leadership Ministry team of 4 parents and our elder, Beth Doriani
- Transition Team of 6 staff



Andrew Marshall,
Director of Youth
Ministries



Sean Drew,
Youth Intern



Beth Doriani,
Youth Elder Liaison

Youth Ministry Goals 2020

Goal #1: Equip students to be a follower of Christ and a member of the body of Christ, the Church.

- Disciple students through life groups
- Build relationships through Fun Fridays and other group events
- Foster intergenerational relationships through mentors and prayer partners
- Encourage students to participate in worship, service opportunities, and other activities within the church

Goal #2: Equip our adult volunteers for effective work with youth.

- Provide training to lead students, especially the youth life groups

Goal #3: Complete a search for a new Director of Youth Ministries. Youth Elder, Beth Doriani is chairing the search committee

Sean Drew & Beth Doriani





Laura Bowser,
**Life Group
Coordinator**



Lance Marston,
**Adult Ministry
Elder Liaison**

**Thanks to those serving
on the Adult Ministry**

**Connie Schell, Women's
Ministry Coordinator**

**Cindy Bitterman,
PW Moderator**

**Steven Bowser,
Men's Retreat
Coordinator**

**Jim & Judi Morgan,
Senior Ministry**

**Tammy Andre,
Wisdom Well**

**Dawn Bell, Heather
Nairn; Judi Rodgers,
Adult Class Facilitators**

Bob Burley, GriefShare

**Brenda Sims,
DivorceCare**

Jim Bagley, Cancer Care

Adult Ministries

Several ministries fall under the Adult Ministry umbrella:

- LIFE Groups
- Sunday and Wednesday classes for adults,
- Women's Ministry, Men's Ministry, Senior Ministry
- the Wisdom Well Bookstore
- Support Groups (Divorce Care, Grief Share, Cancer Care and Caregivers).



Life Group Ministries



2019 was another amazing year for GBPC LIFE Groups. We ended 2019 with 30 LIFE Groups and more than 350 people in LIFE Groups. Other highlights include adding a new Young Adult LIFE Group this fall.

The three Turbo Groups were well attended. We featured "The Psalms" led by Steven Bowser and Ralph Herbert, "Gilligan's Island" led by Dawn Bell and Laura Bowser and a parenting Class led by Ray and Heather Nairn.



Adult Classes

Wednesday Night

Adult classes for 2019 included:

- Wont You Be My Neighbor
- Engaging Like Jesus
- Preparing for Passion Week
- Death for Beginners
- Gilligan's Island
- The Psalms
- The Gospel of John
- Women on Wednesdays
- For Men Only



Sunday Mornings

We continue to see faithful groups coming together on Sunday mornings for Bible study and conversations. At 9:30, Judi Rodgers, Laura Bowser and Beth Doriani facilitated topics. At 11:30, John Munday led a faithful group through specific books of the bible.

Women's Ministry

We consider 2019 to be a very successful year!

- Shipped 60 boxes of candy, valentine love, and heart-shaped "prayer shawls," donated by the Prayer Shawl Ministry, to college students and deployed military. We also gave cards and candy to the Divorce Support and Cancer Support groups.
- The Women's Retreat in March had over 100 participants.
- The spring "Birthday Tea," raised over \$200 for the Presbyterian Birthday Fund. The fall Thanksgiving Tea," raised over \$500 to send to mission offerings.
- The annual dinner honored Caroline Vaughan and Judi Morgan with Lifetime Achievement awards. There were over 50 in attendance at the function.
- Started "craft day" several times during the year.
- Assisted the preschool with "Welcome House" breakfast on the first day of school.
- "Sock and Mitten Tree" was decorated with over 100 articles of clothing that were given to area schools.
- The Advent Wreath Workshop had 20 attendees. They learned about the symbolic meaning of the items used for the wreaths.

- Over 20 tablecloths were purchased for special events.

2020 Goals:

- Goal #1:** Continue to expand the "Valentine Love" offerings to those who need a little extra love.
- Goal #2:** Plan a retreat that helps build good relationships with each other and Christ
- Goal #3:** Support the church's mission statement.
- Goal #4:** Offer opportunities for women of the church to spend time in fellowship.
- Goal #5:** Improve communication about activities.

Cindy Bitterman



Women's Ministry Coordinator:
Connie Schell

PW Moderator:
Cindy Bitterman

Men's Ministry Coordinator:
Johnny Nelson

Men's Retreat Coordinator:
Steve Bowser

Men's Ministry

The annual 2019 Men's Retreat was held at the Hilton Garden Inn at Kitty Hawk, NC at the beginning of February. Sixty-two men of the congregation attended this two night event. Allen Crostic of Reasonable Faith in Richmond, VA facilitated an informative and practical seminar aimed at equipping men of all ages for difficult faith conversations. All had a good time.



Senior Ministry—Seasoned Saints

Our focus is to provide a predictable, caring, interesting, fun, inspiring environment for our senior adults, where fellowship, good food, trips and engaging speakers help keep us healthy. We do this

with monthly luncheons (usually with speakers) bus trips in the surrounding areas, telephone calls, and postcards. We aim for fellowship, service, edification. Seniors meet for our monthly luncheon in

the East End Lounge on fourth Fridays. Lunches are at noon, speakers begin at 12:30 pm.

Jim & Judi Morgan

Senior Ministry:
Judi and Jim Morgan

Wisdom Well:
Tammy Andre & Michelle Knapp

Wisdom Well

Our Wisdom Well Bookstore continues to carry helpful items such as Bibles, devotionals, and resources for our life groups. There are also seasonal gifts, cards, Nicaraguan coffee available throughout

the year. There are also lots of great items for children! Visitors to the bookstore can feed "Hamlet," which we designate toward a different mission every year. In 2019, our mission was Oasis Minis-

try. 2019 saw our first gift wrapping fundraiser for Oasis Ministry! Keep on the watch for special events such as coffee Sundays, special sales and stop by any time

Tammy Andre & Michelle Knapp



Congregational Care



Paula Bass,
Parish Visitor

GBPC has a team of people who provide care to the congregation. Supporting the pastors are our Parish Visitor and four Pastor's Aides who liaison with the Board of Deacons. The primary responsibility of

our deacons is to provide a ministry of compassion, witness, and service to members of the congregation.

GBPC members in Life Groups primarily receive care through the

group leader and the members of the Life Group, people who will best be able to know about and respond to specific needs in the lives of members and their families.

Deacons

The ministry of deacons is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing Jesus Christ's redeeming love. There are three, three year Deacon Class terms, each with seven deacons per Class Term. Each deacon is blessed with shepherding their flock of GBPC congregation members, who are not in one of our many *Life Groups*. Shepherding and supporting our flocks is one of the most important and most rewarding deacon assignments. Deacons are responsible for our flock families to keep them informed, to check with them for prayer requests, to make ourselves available for help supporting our flock in their toughest trials and celebrate with them in their joyous times.

Deacons are blessed with being a prayer partner with our flock members and we are here to pray with them, for them, and for their family. We ask our flocks to allow us to be their initial contact to assist them in the event a flock member should have a physical, emotional, or spiritual need. Deacons make home visits, hospital visits, talk over the phone, by e-mail, or whatever our flock members need may be. Deacons do our very best to make ourselves available should a flock member need us. All conversations are not shared with anyone else without their permission. We ask our flock member if we have their permission to include them in our *Prayer Covenant* and if so, we inform the Pastors Aides and Tonia, who does the actual inclusion. We can also request initiation of our *Prayer Chain* for emergency needs. Through our *Prayer Chain*, almost instantly, through email and phone calls, dozens of deacons and church staff will be praying for God's intervention in the emergency.

Deacons receive an advanced copy of our *Prayer Covenant* each Friday and look to see if any of our flock are included. We then contact our flock member in need and listen to them with compassion and empathy and ask how we can help. We help our flock member in need and if their need is beyond our capability we put them in contact with the GBPC ministry that can help them. For extreme needs and for monetary help we contact one of our Pastors for their help or to request we provide funding from our *Second Mile Fund*.

Through deacons coordination with the *Sanctuary Flower Ministry* and the *Prayer Shawl Ministry*, each Sunday deacons bring their flock members listed in the *Prayer Covenant* a bouquet of sanctuary flowers and usually a prayer shawl, prayer throw, baby blanket, or prayer cloth. We always ask if we can pray with our flock gift recipient before we leave.

Deacons regularly send cards and letters to our flocks and close by encouraging our flock to share with us what is going on in their lives, including both events to celebrate and problems they need help with. Deacons especially reach out to our senior members and ask if they have additional needs the church can help with, such as projects around the house or needing rides to appointments. We enclose a deacon business card with magnetic backing to adhere to their refrigerator as a reminder to call us first when a need arises.

Deacons prepare Holy Communion and clean up after communion. Deacons are so blessed with helping serve Holy Communion, which is a beautiful, spiritual experience of sensing being united with God and being one with each person receiving Holy Communion.

Deacons meet the first Tuesday of each month. For our continuing education, at each meeting, a guest speaker from one our Ministries is invited to give a presentation to the deacons about the resources available for our flocks through their specific ministry. Also, a deacon representative is present at each monthly *Session Meeting*.

Deacon goals for 2020 remain the same as described for 2019.

David Spelce



David Spelce
Deacon Moderator



Ed Novak
Elder Liason

Pastor's Aides:
Tammy Andre
Judi Morgan
June Schreiber
Brenda Sims

Divorce Support Group:
Brenda Sims

Grief Support Group:
Bob Burley

Cancer Support Group:
Jim Bagley

Prayer Shawl Ministry:
Barbara Stephens

Class of 2020

- Patsey Bain
- Bobby Davis
- Stanley Hicks
- Fran Johnson
- Sam Manning
- Kim Randell

Class of 2021

- Julie Brooks
- Kathy Cobb
- Annabelle Goebel
- Scott Holcombe
- Janet Michalak
- Lisa Pedersen
- Mark Rogers

Class of 2022

- Randy Chilton
- Dick Graham
- Holly Johnson
- Sherry Jones
- Farrah Lessick
- Becky Miller
- Arnie Pleuss

Hospitality Highlights

2019 was a year for changes for the Hospitality Team.

- Tessa Morgan, our culinary specialist, left to pursue her catering business full time. Ivory Morris was hired to replace Tessa as our new Food Service Coordinator. Our team has also added new volunteers in the kitchen.
- The Hospitality Team continues to host Wednesday Night

Live and serve meals to an average of 60 people. We also provide coffee and breakfast items for Sunday morning Fellowship Connections. A special reception was held after the Lessons and Carols service which was well attended.

- There were two New Member classes held in April and October in which the hospitality team served lunch.

- The Welcome Desk has five new volunteers to answer questions, pass out information on programs in the church and act as door greeters.
- The Hospitality Team purchased a new stove and brand new clothes dryer which was greatly needed.
- A new coffee/tea station is now in place in the fellowship hall.



Ivory Morris,
Culinary Specialist

Hospitality Goals 2019

- Goal #1:** Increase attendance at the WNL dinners
- Goal #2:** Attract new volunteers for the Welcome Desk and Door Greeters
- Goal #3:** Plan and implement a Progressive Dinner for church members.

Rose Rogers :§ Betty Vecchiolla

Outreach Team Highlights

Our mission is to create ways to share Christ and the ministries of GBPC “beyond the walls.” We do this by training the congregation and providing them resources in the area of evangelism, capitalize on GBPC events that draw the community to GBPC, and by assisting the preschool in building relationships with the community and congregation through educational opportunities. We meet every other month.

Congregational Training/Equipping Church The team created printable postcards with worship service and upcoming event information to engage potential church members. These were distributed at various times throughout the year. We

continued to restock and give out “Welcome to the Neighborhood” bags. Pastor Ralph created a 4 week class called, “Engage Like Jesus,” which gave the attendees tools to discuss Christ throughout their personal encounters.

We purchased pens to help support the Hospitality Team.

Preschool Opportunities Our team established “The Learning Table” series to help educate parents of preschool age children inside the preschool, in the church, and throughout the community. Topics included were *Kindergarten Readiness* and *Positive Discipline*. The team purchased keychains to support the “Blessing of the Back-

packs.”

Capitalize on GBPC Events The team created an after Easter BBQ event called, *Churchyard BBQ*, to encourage the community to come back to church the Sunday after Easter (typically the least attended Sunday of the year). We had a BBQ judging contest, as well as potato salad judging and plenty of family fun kid’s activities and music. This event was a huge success in bringing folks back to church.

We also assisted in setting up the Ice Cream Welcome Social for the Nieto Family. We created and donated several give-a-way baskets for the Trunk or Treat Event at GBPC.



Betty Vecchiolla
Hospitality Ministry
Co-Chair

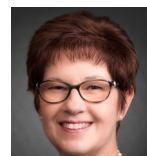


Rose Rogers,
Hospitality Ministry
Co-Chair

Outreach Goals for 2020

- We plan to continue our “Learning Table” sessions on a quarterly basis
- The team plans to host another Spring event to encourage more folks to attend worship after Easter.
- Throughout the year we plan to support church events as needed.
- Recruit new team members.

Leslie England



Pam Suter,
Outreach
Elder
Liaison



Dawn Levering,
Hospitality
Team
Elder
Liaison

Building & Grounds 2019



Sam Chalk,
Facility Director

I would like to thank all of our members who have generously contributed to our building fund as this has made it possible to accomplish many projects that were needed. In 2019 we:

- Finished renovating the ladies bathroom
- Installed a new roof over the Narthex/choir room area
- Patched multiple areas in the parking lot
- Purchased 250 new chairs for the fellowship hall
- Purchased a new commercial stove
- Purchased a new dryer
- Removed the carpet and installed new LVP flooring in the Pastor's office, the secretary's office, and Charity's office.
- Replaced old furniture in the Pastor's office, secretary's office, Billye's office, and the children's ministry office
- Installed about 40 energy efficient LED lights in school rooms
- Purchased new tires for the bus
- Had the bus relettered

All of this was done under budget thanks to the generous work done by many of our members saving us thousands of dollars.



Rico Wilson,
Sexton

2020 Goals

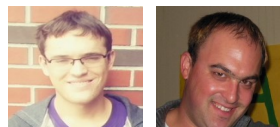
GOAL #1: Replace worn and/or broken items.

- Replace roofing in multiple areas
- Replace 20 ton roof top unit for the fellowship hall
- Continue to change fluorescent fixtures to LED as needed
- Replace damaged tables in fellowship hall
- Replace carpet in adult meeting rooms 240 & 260
- Replace chairs in 3 adult classrooms
- Replace tables in room 230

- Replace sanctuary fans
- Repair/replace lighting in sanctuary
- Replace carpeting as needed
- Repair sewer lines in community bathroom area
- Replace carpet in sanctuary

Goal #2: Study and install a security system for the building and parking areas.

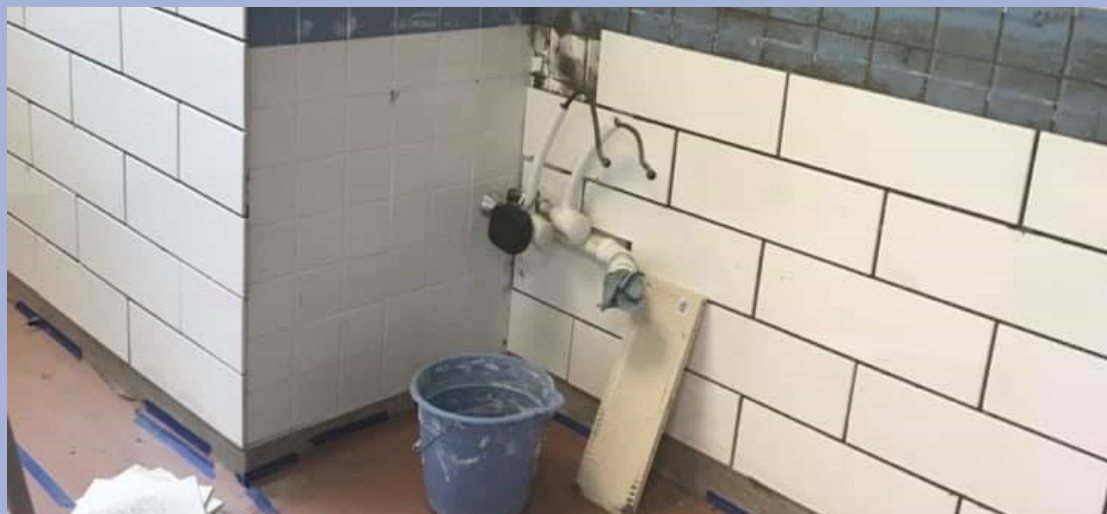
Sam Chalk



Drew Doriani Kevin Kingery
Custodial Assistants



Carter Wright,
Building & Grounds
Elder Liaison



Stewardship Highlights 2019

At Large Members:

Jennifer Crosley, Lisa Winslow, Bill Mayhue

Offering Counters:

Judy Sparrow, Frank Brothers, Robin Labby, Bradley and Sandra Simpson, and Margaret Gay

In 2019, we budgeted a deficit for the year of (\$75,000) to cover the one-time costs for the PNC team and overlap of the pastors' salaries during the transition. The good news, we only ended the year with a (\$36,886) deficit. Despite falling short of our top line budget of \$1,400,000 by (\$39,739), we had \$78,071 in expense savings for the year versus the budget. All of our ministries did an excellent job managing expenses and we had some significant payroll and benefits savings versus the budget. As a church, we continue to be debt-free and self-fund our capital needs. In 2019, we added \$83,142 by way of general fund giving and direct offering to the building fund.

Our goal for the Fall Stewardship

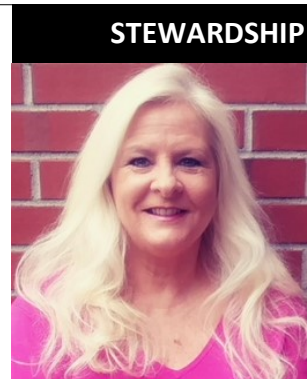
campaign was 200 pledges for \$1,000,000. So far, we have received 177 pledges for \$874,750.

We would like to thank our volunteer auditors Dee Kloskin and Jim Sterling for 2019, headed up by Laura Belcher, who compiled the review of our accounting records in accordance with requirements in the *Book of Order*. Also in 2019, Lisa Winslow and Debbie Acors performed a review of the Pre-school books for the period ended 6/30/18. In addition, we continue to have faithful and dedicated counters who volunteer to come on Monday mornings to count and reconcile our offerings.

We continue to invest a portion of our longer-term funds into CDs to

earn a better rate of return on our assets. As of 12/31/19, we had approximately \$174,350 invested and earned \$6,083 in total interest income in 2019 compared to only \$1,359 in 2018. We also received dividends on our stock investment. The market value of the Church's stock at 12/31/19 was \$12,460.

We continue our normal responsibilities of overseeing the payment of bills, the counting of weekly offerings, preparing the annual budget, informing Session monthly as to the status of the church's financial matters, and other various duties. We thank you for the opportunity to serve God through this committee and please pray that we continue to provide sound, faith-based financial judgment.



Debbie Acors,
Treasurer



Brad Simpson,
Financial Secretary

2020 Goals

Goal #1: Work with Session and the other Ministry Chairs to allocate resources for our facility and our staff without incurring any debt.

Goal #2: 2020 Fall Stewardship Goal: 200 pledges for a total of \$1,000,000.

Goal #3: Continue to utilize qualified church members to conduct our annual audit as per the *Book of*

Order and communicate all findings to Session.

Goal #4: Keep the congregation informed on our financial status with articles in the *Church Chat* and weekly bulletin updates.

Goal #5: Work with Building and Grounds to highlight the capital needs at GBPC and communicate more frequently with the congregation on our needs and progress.

Goal #6: Based on the pledged dollars as of 1/13/2020 of \$874,750 compared to \$978,892 on 1/13/2019, we will carefully monitor both our top and bottom line progress monthly and make appropriate recommendations to staff, ministry chairs, and Session, as necessary, to maintain a balanced budget.

Debbie Acors



Steven Schell

Our Objective

Encourage the congregation to become more complete disciples of Jesus Christ through the good stewardship of their time, talents and finances.

COLOSSIANS 2: 6-7

Simply Receive

Simply Give



Stewardship & Finance
Elder Liaison

SERVE



Judy Steinmetz,
Service and Mission
Coordinator

Service & Mission Highlights 2019

GBPC continues to provide a multitude of outreach and service opportunities that help support and assist countless numbers of individuals, families, schools, and organizations, both locally and internationally. Our church body is blessed to have so many members who truly love to serve, give, share, and show compassion to others. Because of this, we have been able to respond to a broad spectrum of needs that arise throughout the year.

The overall theme for Service and Missions is "Beyond the Walls."

Our goals are to serve the members of our church, our community and beyond. We seek to use the gifts given to us all and go beyond the sanctuary to reach others with our time, talents and resources. Once again, we were blessed to exceed each of these areas this year.

The Service and Mission budget for 2019 was \$213,150, which was allocated to many different local, state-side and international missions throughout the year. With additional funding from our members, we were able to easily serve those within our budget as well as gift

others with the many blessings donated to us.

GBPC is known throughout our area as one who gives back to our community.

We truly are a congregation who serves "Beyond The Walls" as well as continuing to teach, grow and worship from within.

Thank you to our members and non-members who gave generously and volunteer often to support the multiple missions we serve!

Children & Youth Related Missions

Funding

Local Missions: \$81,907
Stateside: \$19,899
International: \$94,954
Presbytery: \$54,522

TOTAL: \$251,282

Christmas Angel Tree Project In December, our Angel Tree blessed multiple families and children through the PIN Ministry. God moved and touched many GBPC families' hearts to give, as there were even five bikes donated!

Finding Hope Honduras GBPC financially supports this ministry started by former church member Katlyn McConnell. *Finding Hope* works with women on a micro business project to promote self-sufficiency as well as a feeding

program for children. GBPC gave \$6000. We also sent a team to Honduras to work on a new building.

Hearts for Honduras This outreach helps offset costs for caring for the children of *Finding Hope*. The families and the Center struggle to provide for the needs of the children. For \$1 per day, GBPC provides these children daily needs. This is an investment into the lives of children, making a positive impact on the quality of their lives and able to have a personal connection directly with the children and staff.

Jingle Jog 5K 10th Annual Jingle Jog was held in December. 235 participants registered for the combined 5K and 1 mile events. Participants ranged in age from 4 to 80 years old. The overall winner crossed the finish line in 18:46. Our event sponsors were:

- CrossFit Krypton
- Sports Medicine & Orthopedic Center
- Gannett Fleming
- Rose and Womble
- Marable Home Team
- Thomas and Thomas
- Atlantic Bay Mortgage

\$8000 for Young Life/Young Lives Chesapeake.

Operation Christmas Child GBPC sent 298 Christmas boxes this year. Our boxes made their way to Mexico and Uruguay.

Parents in Need Outreach GBPC supports this ministry both financially and with volunteers.

Tree of Lives GBPC donated \$5,000 to this ministry, which supports the Joy Village, an orphanage in Kenya, for children who are abandoned and living with HIV/AIDS.

Valentine Boxes of Love Presbyterian Women coordinate this outreach by collecting donations of candy, treats, and special notes of encouragement to be sent in care packages to college students and military members serving overseas.

VBS Mission Project This year we supported *Finding Hope*. Our children brought in supplies for the children's center and raised over \$2400.

Young Life Chesapeake GBPC donated \$5,000 to this ministry which focuses on sharing Christ with teens from our local area schools.

Vida Joven Missionary Support Nicaragua GBPC donated \$3,500 to help support several Nicaraguan VJ leaders in both Rivas and Matagalpa, Nicaragua



Community Outreach

AARP Church members volunteer with free tax preparation. Hosted at GBPC for two days a week for 10 weeks, our volunteers completed over 1,070 tax returns. In addition, volunteers provided snacks, coffee, and fellowship to those waiting to be served.

Burfoot House A transitional home and comprehensive program designed for homeless single women to achieve self-sufficiency. Volunteers help with weekly mentoring, financial liter-

acy classes, life skills, professional development, bible study, the creative arts, transportation, and case management.

Christmas "Adopt a Family" GBPC members adopted 10 families, providing Christmas gifts for their children. Families that were assisted came from Camelot Elementary, PIN ministry, GBPC, and the community.

Family Outreach GBPC supports many individuals and families in the community with clothes, and other needed items from the many donations given by church members. We

have had the privilege of helping several families get established in new apartments with furniture, repairing automobiles, helping with medical bills, electric bills, rent and many other needs.

Helping Hands Ministry GBPC volunteers help with home repairs, yard clean-up, and moving assistance for church members and individuals in the community. This year, volunteers made repairs to the home of a single person suffering with cancer.



Karen Gibson,
Service & Mission Elder
Liaison

Health Related Missions

AIDS/Hospice Meals Each month, PW Circle groups and small groups met in the kitchen to prepare meals that are given to the ACCESS AIDS Center, which help feed those living with HIV/AIDS. This year, the groups prepared and donated over 1,100 meals to the Center.

ARC Blood Drive The Men's Saturday morning bible study group hosted two blood drives this year for the American Red Cross. Volunteers from GBPC helped with

staffing the drives, which produced over 80 pints of blood.

Cancer Care Foundation GBPC volunteers support this outpatient treatment cancer center by providing lunches and snacks for the patients receiving treatments. The volunteers deliver the lunches directly to the patients, and offer words of encouragement during their visits.

Chesapeake Free Care Clinic GBPC donated \$2,000 towards this organization, which provides free dental

and medical care to residents of Chesapeake who cannot afford insurance and medical care. Several members of GBPC volunteer and/or are on staff at the Clinic.

Tidewater Pastoral Counseling GBPC donated funding to this agency, which offers counseling services at a sliding scale fee to those who cannot afford to pay or do not have insurance. GBPC is one of the host sites for their counseling services, and has counselors on site at GBPC one day a week.

Food Related Missions

Backpack Program GBPC supports 75 students at Camelot Elementary School by sending food kits home on the weekends. Many assist with set up, packing the meals, and delivery each month.

Food Closet GBPC collects canned food throughout the year and volunteers deliver to local food pantries. In addition, GBPC hands out "to go bags" to "walk ins" looking for assistance.

Food for All & Operation Tons of Love The Music Ministry organized food drives to support the Food Bank of Southeastern Virginia. In 2019, GBPC collected 1,843 lbs. of food in February and 1,393 lbs. in September.

Garden Ministry Our gardeners grow vegetables that are delivered to Plant-A-Row, which

in turn delivers to the House of Blessings Food Pantry. The garden produced over 687 pounds donated veggies. More than a dozen gardeners helped this year.

Rise Against Hunger GBPC hosted two Rise Against Hunger events in March and August, with 80-100 volunteers at each event. We packaged approximately 33,000 meals in 2019 to be sent around the world.

Thanksgiving Food Our congregation donated to the following schools:

- 30 dinners to Camelot
- 10 dinners to BM Williams
- 16 dinners to Great Bridge Primary
- 4 dinners to the school board building.

We took 400 pounds of food to the Food Closet at Prince of Peace Church.



Homeless & Housing Related Missions

CAST Chesapeake Area Shelter Team GBPC hosted the shelter program for one week with an average of 46 guests per night. Dinner, breakfast, and sack lunches were provided to all guests. We offered additional services such as haircuts, blood sugar screening, flu shots, a therapy dog, bible study, music performances, and prayer. We have approximately 150 volunteers that assisted during the week.

Faith Works Coalition GBPC donated \$1,000. Local churches work on repairs to homes of needy individuals. Donated funds purchase supplies for repairs. All of the labor is provided for free. We have a

few church members who have participated in the work days.

For Kids Inc GBPC supports this organization with funding and volunteers that assist with several projects.

- Hosting their end of school year summer picnic providing all of the food and activities for the 100+ kids and families.
- Hosted "Beyond the Bell" in our building for 4 weeks. Volunteers assisted with tutoring and lunches .

NEST Norfolk Emergency Shelter Team GBPC housed approximately 50 guests each night for one week in March. We provided two meals a



day, a bagged lunch, and prayer. Two hundred volunteers helped to make meals, serve food, provide fellowship, entertainment, drive the bus, make sack lunches and to stay overnight with guests.

Incarcerated Related Missions

Chesapeake Jail Ministry GBPC donated \$2,000 towards this local jail ministry, which seeks to share the gospel message of Christ to the incarcerated, through Bible study and biblical teaching.

Kairos Prison Ministry Several church members travel to Greensville Correctional Facility to facilitate Bible study and to help host two weekend retreats. Our church members supplied baked cookies, decorative hand-made placemats, and cards of encouragement to the incarcerated men who participate in the weekend retreat.

Evangelistic & Disciple-Making Missions

Glad Tidings India GBPC donated funding which enabled the message of Christ to groups in India who have never heard the gospel message.

Middle East Missionary Support GBPC financially supports a missionary family that resides in the Middle East, working to share the message of Christ with those who are of a predominately Muslim community.

CRU Financial support is given to missionaries Matt and Anna Shenk in Richmond, VA working with local churches to address the needs of the city.

ODU Presbyterian Student Union GBPC hosts dinners and bible study with the students once a month. We also donate funding to help sustain this ministry on the campus.

Presbytery, Synod of Eastern Virginia GBPC donated \$53,000 to the Presbytery to support its programs.

Mission Trips 2019

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Mission Trip: October 2019

The team was hosted at C Stone church along with 2 other teams from Cincinnati, OH and Pelham, MA. We were introduced to the Fuller Center Disaster Rebuilder Team at the orientation dinner. We met Heather Tucker, who along with her husband, Bart, started FCDR. Our project assignment was to demo and rebuild a house that was flooded by 4 ft. of water. The owner was a 75 year woman who had a stroke following the hurricane, requiring her to undergo prolonged rehabilitation and now uses a wheelchair. Her home had to be modified to accommodate the wheelchair. Daily work accomplishments:

- The interior of the home was removed of cabinetry, demolished to the studs, sub flooring.
- The windows were removed and rotten wood replaced.



Mission Trips 2019 Continued

- Electrical outlet boxes throughout the house were moved to code height.
- Repair of the flooring continued and subflooring was completed.
- Outside wall rotten wood was replaced.
- Insulation and dry wall was installed where no electrical wiring was located to allow for electrical inspection.
- The new luxury vinyl flooring was laid down in the smaller bedroom.
- Insulation and dry wall installed.
- Electrical work completed.

FCDR does a daily devotional at dinner called the *Face of God*. It is a time of sharing where you saw God in your day. There were many touching moments.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Mission Trip: December 2019

The team was hosted at C Stone church. Our project was to continue to rebuild the house we worked on in October. The owner, Ms Frances had not seen her home since being rescued at the time of the hurricane in September of 2018, as she continued her rehabilitation for a stroke which occurred after her rescue. On the first day, the team was divided. Half of our team worked at the Ruth house and the other half went to a Habitat for Humanity house referred to Fuller Disaster Rebuilders. Demolition was started in the kitchen and bathroom; however, pest infestation, suspected drug dealing, and weapons was reported. For our team's safety we would not return to that location. Beginning day two, all GBPC team members served at the same location. We were able to complete the home we assisted with in October. The highlight of our mission trip was the home dedication when we met Ms. Frances for the first time and she saw her rebuilt home. The home that had once been enclosed in small rooms was now one open living space with handicapped adapted doors and bathroom. A new ramp and front porch allowed her easy ingress and egress with a place to enjoy the outdoors.

Finding Hope, Honduras Mission Trip: October 2019

GBPC sent a team of 13 participants on a mission trip to Honduras to support the Finding Hope ministry. The ministry has purchased a new plot of land and our mission team was able to help with the construction of a retaining wall and bridge on a new piece of property. We also held a VBS for the children where we taught bible lessons, played games, had craft projects and were able to teach the kids how to play handbells. The GPBC music ministry donated a set of handbells to Finding Hope. In the evenings, we had a devotion time with our team, along with some of the Finding Hope leaders. We cooked a traditional American Picnic Dinner meal for all the Finding Hope staff and their families and had a night of celebration together.



Vida Joven Nicaragua Mission Trip: August 2019

A GBPC team of 30 traveled to Vida Joven Camp in August, 2019. Twelve "first timers" went to La Finca in central Nicaragua. We spent the week working on various camp maintenance projects including planting 500 plants. Mary Hammel donated the plants to help with soil erosion and beautification of the camp. Our 16 plus year relationship with the Vida Joven mission in Nicaragua was strengthened as the team got to talk to Young Life campers that had accepted Jesus at camp. We also got to participate in leading activities at a local Young Life Club.

Goals for 2020

Goal #1: Review all service and mission current and future plans in light of changing levels of funding and available resources to support the continued progression of our vision of GBPC.

Goal #2: To continue to grow this ministry by seeking out and developing relationships with current and new members of the congregation in order to marry their strengths and passions with the mission that fuels their desire to serve.

Goal #3: Assess and balance the current goals of our local, domestic and international partnerships as to their impact of those who are serving and those whom are served.

Judy Steinmetz

Personnel & Administration Highlights



Tonia Hill,
Secretary

- Completed and published the Staff Policies and Procedures Manual.
- Reviewed, updated and created various new staff policies.
- Facilitated alignment of budget and expenses with Stewardship & Finance Team.
- Arranged Staff Appreciation Luncheon and Staff Christmas Party, distributing bonuses at parties.
- Presented anniversary bonuses to four staff members:

Caroline Vaughan - 15 years
Cheryl Madison - 20 years
Tonia Hill - 20 Years
Billye Brown Youmans - 25 years



Caroline Vaughan,
Media & Membership
Secretary

- Evaluated staff insurance coverages to ensure proper coverage.
- Reviewed and adjusted staff hours, benefits, and compensation.
- Assisted in hiring of new Food Services Coordinator and reviewed/adjusted job description.
- Provided input for Ministry Handbook.
- Assisted with Pastoral transition.
- Assisted in preliminary steps in replacing Youth Pastor.
- Reviewed office equipment usage.

2020 Goals

- Objectively analyze equitable staff compensation levels with respect to staff positions/descriptions.
- Assist in the hiring of a new Youth Pastor.
- To review and act upon other ministries' requests for additional staff and professional expenses.
- To continue to balance the needs of staff with those of the congregation.
- Advocate church staff, ensuring that they receive the compensation, benefits, work environment, tools & training to accomplish their goals.
- To continue to research and implement more economical systems and equipment solutions related to Staff work functions.
- To constantly be proactive in looking for new ways to make our staff more efficient, effective, & productive.

JD Miles



David Collins
Clerk of Session



JD Miles
P & A Ministry Chair



Melissa Howell,
P & A Elder Liaison

Pastoral Nominating Committee



2019 was an exciting time for the Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC). Much was accomplished and confirmed in the early months of the year culminating with the selection of Reverends Mike & Kelly Nieto along with their sons, Sam and Josh to accept the call to serve at Great Bridge Presbyterian Church. After many months of prayer and discernment (that began in spring of 2018), the GBPC PNC announced our selection of the Nieto's at our Congregational Meeting on May 5, 2019. During this meeting, the selection was approved by an overwhelming majority vote by our church mem-

bers.

On September 22, 2019, Pastor Mike and Pastor Kelly were formally installed by PEVA representatives. The PNC would like to thank Great Bridge Presbyterian Church members for the overwhelming prayer support they received over the course of 2019.

2020 will bring about many exciting changes! Previously, our staff was asked to hold on many changes and projects due to the impending senior pastor change. We are pleased to note that 2020 will bring about many awesome additions and changes to our church and programming as our gifted staff will now be allowed to implement their new and innovative ideas. Please join the PNC as we continue to pray for and with Great Bridge Presbyterian Church and for the many ways God is wanting to bless us as a community as many new believers are added. To God be the Glory!

PNC: Bob Wilks, Dawn Levering, Bob Jennings, Connie Schell, Ashley Sweigart, Jason Gay, Ed Novak