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# ANNUAL REPORT



**First  
Presbyterian**  
CHURCH OF PORTLAND

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# ANNUAL MEETING DOCKET

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**The Annual Meeting of the Congregation  
by Zoom online conferencing  
First Presbyterian Church of Portland, Oregon  
November 15, 2020**

Call to Order, Opening Prayer, Overview	Rev. Dr. Audrey Schindler, Moderator
Declaration of Quorum and Adoption of Docket	Joyce Evans, Clerk of Session
Recognition of Officers Concluding a Time of Service	
Elders: Joyce Evans, Brenda Peterson, Erich Merrill, Andrew Wright, Sue Miller	
Deacons: Sally Bates, Shelly Garg, Bette Hess, Kathryn Hill	
Trustees: Erik Oliverson	
Congregational Nominating Committee: Dustin Coles, Sally Fish, Amy Hall, Fran Merz-Phinney	
Recognition of Chairpersons	
Amy Wood, Mission; Brenda Peterson, Menucha/Downtown Working Group;	
Erich Merrill, Personnel; Rick Lee, Menucha Commission; Joyce Evans, Clerk of Session;	
Bill Nelson, Finance; Jon Bates and Bill Nelson, Co-chairs, Capital Campaign Project Team;	
Russell Smith, Fellowship; Steve Primack, Strategic Planning; Cam Birnie, Membership;	
Jon Bates and Steve Snodderly, Co-chairs, Facilities; Kendra Hilty, Outreach;	
Jean Iles, Deacons; Chris Rasmussen, Trustees, Erich Merrill, CNC	
Congregational Nominating Committee Report & Election of Officers	Erich Merrill, chair of CNC
Call for Nominations from the floor	
Finance Report	Bill Nelson, chair of Finance
Terms of Call for Installed Pastoral Staff	Erich Merrill, chair of Personnel
Celebrating God's Work at First Presbyterian Church	
Capital Campaign Forward in Faith celebration	CCPSC members
The church's work in Mission and Youth	Rev. Brenna Dykman
The church's care for Families and Children	Rev. Carmen Goetschius
Pastor's Reflection & Closing Prayer	Rev. Dr. Audrey Schindler

# A NOTE FROM AUDREY

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Dear friends in faith,

As we look back at the church's year of program life, which began in September of 2019 and concluded at the end of August 2020, **none of us could have foreseen the changes that this year would hold.**

We began with a lively fall, Sunday School classes beginning, a kick-off Sunday to learn about the church's programs and places we could become involved. In Advent and Christmas, we celebrated with special services and an Advent study series. The capital campaign projects were in full flight, with repairs to the roof and stained glass, and beautiful refurbishments to the Whitman Room, Geneva Hall and Calvin Library. We welcomed back to our staff Brenna Dykman, a candidate for ministry who had served earlier to cover Emily Stecher's parental leave, returning this time as our Interim Associate Pastor.

When the new year came, there were the first stories of a new and concerning coronavirus, and then a few cases near Seattle. By early March, public health authorities were advising the large gatherings, including church worship services, would put people at risk of spreading and contracting the virus. **On March 8, 2020, we held our last in-person worship for the season,** offering each other elbow bumps in the passing of the peace.

Making the decision to suspend in-person worship and gather together only online until the way be clear was one of the hardest of my years in ministry. Usually, in the past, congregations have been able to worship together; in time of war or disaster, we have drawn comfort from one another. But this threat was of a different kind. **We read in the church's history that during the pandemic of 1918, the influenza that swept the world, First Presbyterian had suspended worship for a time,** requiring masks and distancing when services resumed. It was good to know that our decision wasn't entirely unprecedented.

None of us would have envisioned that our time of streaming worship only would extend for such a long season. The Session appointed a Re-Opening Task Group to guide our **planning for a time when we can gather together again.** They are drawing on public health advice to await a low number of cases in the tri-county region before we can re-convene worship in person.

**Several events provided notes of hope in the midst of this season,** the wedding of two church members, Andy Wright and Georgina Anton, at the church this summer, with masking and distance unable to dampen their joy, and the ordination of the now Rev. Brenna Dykman.

## A NOTE FROM AUDREY - continued

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This was held on the Menucha patio. We had been concerned about how there could be a laying on of hands, given the need for separation. Several of the Deacons arranged for church officers to trace their handprints in felt, and then these were applied to a cape which the Presbytery leader put on Brenna's shoulders during the service to convey our prayers and the laying on of hands!

**We were sad to farewell Emily Stecher**, our Director of Christian Education, as she stepped away to care for her family. We're grateful for her faithful and diligent ministry with our children, youth, and adults in her tenure with us. As Emily departed, Session and the Personnel committee asked for aspects of the Christian Education role to be taken up by Brenna and Carmen. **Brenna Dykman added ministry to youth to her Mission and Deacons roles, and Carmen Goetschius added ministry to children and families** to her roles in pastoral care and Fellowship. The church has been graced with their ministries and their creativity in adapting the life and outreach of the church to the needs of this extraordinary time.

I've been grateful to have **Zane Buxton back on our pastoral staff**. He was to have been Acting Head of Staff for us this past summer, had my planned sabbatical been able to happen. With the sabbatical scuppered by the pandemic, we've been grateful for Zane's help in pastoral care to the congregation in this season.

This past year also saw a **changing of the guard in our church business office, as we said farewell to Bonnie Garcia, our Church Business Administrator, who had served the church well and faithfully, and Jim Patterson, our Bookkeeper**. Jim is a church member and sings in the choir, so while he is retiring, we don't have to say goodbye to him. **We were delighted when Marc Lavender joined the staff last spring as our new CBA, and Deb Davis took on our bookkeeper role**. It was a strange time to train in new staff, as with many staff working from home, it was some time before they were able to meet other staff and church members.

Discussions continued this year, with a congregational forum in February (and one online this fall), **about the possibility of Menucha becoming its own 501c3 non-profit corporation**. Consultants with expertise in church conference centers advised the Menucha Commission and our Session that both the church and Menucha would find their mission more focused if we were to separate, as most conference centers across the wider church have done. We anticipate another congregational forum online in January.

## A NOTE FROM AUDREY - continued

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Meanwhile we're **thankful for the herculean efforts of Spencer Parks and all the staff at Menucha**, as they have developed programs online and pitched in to cook and clean and do maintenance to help see Menucha through this season and into a new chapter of its life and mission.

This year, the tragic killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis birthed a movement **of resurging concern to address racial injustice and rebuild a society that is more just and fair**. Our church has responded with several initiatives for us to learn, including the 21 Days program through the denomination, and a One Church, One Book initiative, as more than 60 of our members read and discussed a book on anti-racism by Ibram X. Kendi. Out of these groups will come additional initiatives in the new year to take part in the work of justice to which our faith calls us.

This year, we've decided to do a **pictorial annual report to highlight some of the creative ways that the church's life and ministry continues to unfold even amid the challenges of this season**.

**Resourcing the church to keep its life and work strong are our dedicated staff**, Marc and Deb in the business office, as well as Gail answering our phone calls and caring for members, Kim in publications, Bill in weddings. The church buildings are well cared for by our facilities staff of Ricky, Peter and Zenebew.

**It's a gift having worked this year with our pastors**, Brenna, Spencer, Carmen, and Zane, as companions in the gospel, and with Greg and Maddy, our gifted musical staff. I'm grateful to the church's Deacons, Trustees, and Elders, as together we seek to listen for the Spirit's leading to guide the church through this time, **and to all our faithful members as you keep the faith through these days**.

**I look forward to the time when we can again gather together as God's people, and meanwhile hold you in my heart and prayers!**

May God's peace keep you through these days,



*We have fought the good fight, we have finished the race, we have kept the faith.  
From now on there is reserved for us a crown of righteousness,  
which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give us on that day,  
and not only to us, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.*

# WORSHIP



## 18 NEW MEMBERS IN 2020!

WE THANK YOU FOR JOINING AND BECOMING A PART OF OUR FPC COMMUNITY!



## STREAMING WORSHIP

WE'RE GRATEFUL THAT AN AVERAGE OF 127 HOUSEHOLDS WATCHED STREAMED SERVICES EACH SUNDAY!



## DRIVE-IN WORSHIP

WE'RE GRATEFUL TO THE 70 MEMBERS, IN 30 CARS, WHO ATTENDED DRIVE-IN WORSHIP AT MENUCHA!

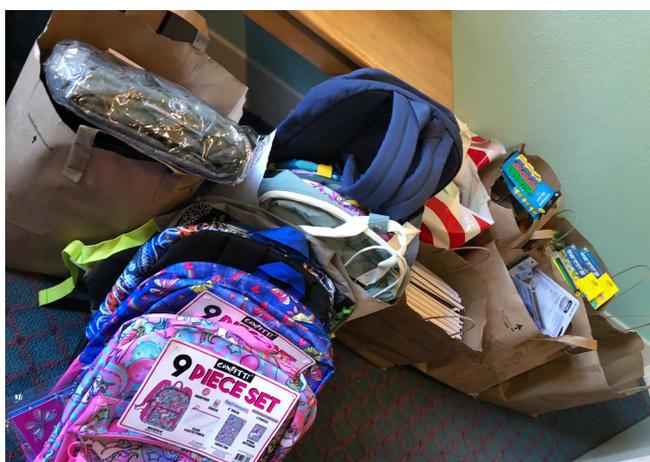
# MISSIONS



You donated 40 cases of water, 66 masks, and 84 hygiene kits to our wonderful ministry partners Home PDX and RoseHaven



Brenna delivering supplies for Missions



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Generous donations of 440 items for the school supply drive for Rose Haven and New Avenues for Youth children and youth!

We all have had to adapt this year in ways we could not have dreamed about, and that is the same for the church. Our Mission Team has been hard at work focusing on serving the growing needs of our community, as those who are on the margins of society have been hit the hardest by COVID-19. We have partnered with Lift Urban Portland to adopt Alder House and are in the process of putting in a temporary Emergency Food Closet in Julia West for their residents. We have collected water, hygiene supplies, and school supplies for Rose Haven, Home PDX, and New Avenues for Youth, who all work with those who are unhoused or in unstable housing.

Youth Ministry and Adult Education have also had to adapt. The youth have been meeting with the Downtown Youth Collective once a month via zoom along with participating in a few special youth coffee hours. In October, the youth had a special movie night and bags with treats were delivered to their homes. Adult Education teamed up with our Racial Response Team to offer a 6-week book study, One Church, One Book. We had eight groups of 68 members and friends who learned together about caring for all of God's children.

— Brenna

# MISSION GIVING

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!



## SPECIAL OFFERINGS - FOUR FOR FOUR

CHRISTMAS JOY 2019 \$2872

ONE GREAT HOUR OF  
SHARING \$7394

PENTECOST \$2935

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS  
\$3375

AND

CHRISTMAS EVE 2019 \$4447  
northeast emergency food pantry

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN MISSION GIVING

LIVING WATERS \$4000  
travel & train 2 fpc members

FRIENDLY HOUSE \$5000  
covid-19 relief

NE EMERGENCY FOOD  
PROGRAM \$5000  
covid-19 relief

CAMP ATTITUDE \$10,000

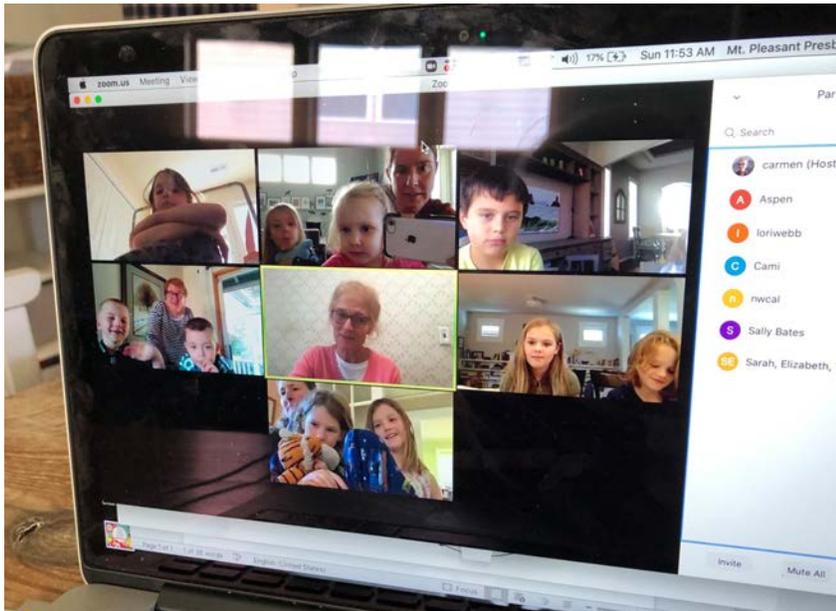
CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF  
WARM SPRINGS \$11,500

INGAN LEYTE \$27,700  
philippines project

LIFT URBAN PDX \$12,625

EMERGENCY FOOD  
CLOSET \$1000  
adoption of Alder House residents

# FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN



12 kiddos gathered for "Cocoa Hour"

PIVOT! This has been the theme for all of us in 2020. Fellowship had been a top priority alongside pastoral care when I was first invited to serve as Parish Associate at FPC back in 2018, but because of the Pandemic, in-person fellowship has become almost impossible. Thankfully, church members are finding creative ways to connect via zoom and I have been tasked with finding new ways to employ "Social

Media" to accomplish "Social Ministry." We are growing our outreach and discipleship ministries through the use of Facebook and Instagram and I oversee these mediums of communication and connection.



Hand-delivered Godly Play materials

Since the departure of our Christian Education Director, Emily Stecher, I have been tasked with tending the ministry to Children and their families (5th graders and younger). Godly Play teachers have recorded at-home lessons, boxes of Sunday School materials have been hand-delivered to the children of the church, I have started communicating with families on a weekly basis through email and we are "refreshing" the church nursery in anticipation of babies and toddlers returning to the space eventually. I am dedicated to an ongoing ministry of care alongside the other pastors and deacons of the church as well as teaching and preaching, leading worship, leading vespers and devotions as needed, and I will continue to dedicate myself to sharing in creative ministry with you all in the coming year!

— Carmen

# MUSIC

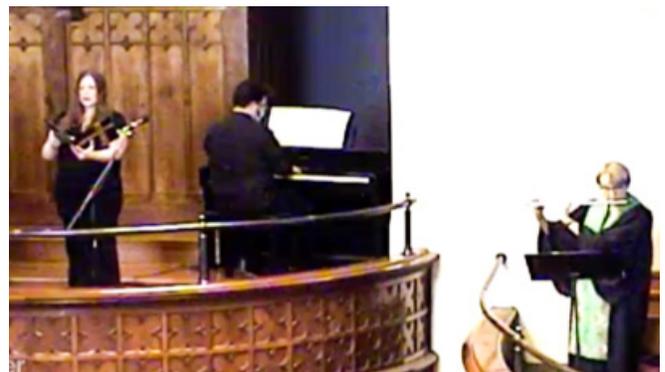
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Members of the Chancel Choir offer a musical benediction for all FPC members and friends in the parking garage



Greg & Leah perform in the sanctuary choir loft



Greg & Leah perform in the sanctuary choir loft as Audrey plays flute



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Sunday services with socially distanced Pastors and musicians

# 2020 CHURCH OFFICERS

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## Session

### Class of 2021

Olivia Coles (Youth Elder)  
Rick Lee  
Bill Nelson  
Fran Page  
Mary Priedeman  
Steve Primack  
Russell Smith

### Class of 2022

Jon Bates  
Cam Birnie  
Kendra Hilty  
Jerry Johnson  
Amy Meabe  
Steve Snodderly

### Class of 2023

Natasha Brown  
Estelle Brunner  
Vince Carpenter  
Sarah Schwab  
Peter Vanden Bosch  
Amy Wood

## Deacons

### Class of 2021

Grace Babatunde  
Cathy Chang-Lowe  
David Hawkins  
Emily Jo Jensen  
Fonda Lucas  
Dick McFall

### Class of 2022

Rebecca Brownell Brown  
Preston Callison  
Will Deming  
Bruce Felix  
Molly Spencer  
Shelby Walker

### Class of 2023

James Brunner  
Dustin Coles  
Jess Dallas  
Jeane Iles  
Gordon Lindbloom  
Jim Patterson  
Bill Resley  
Lurna Shively

## Trustees

### Class of 2021

Marilyn Howe  
Chris Rasmussen

### Class of 2022

Steve Brown  
George Spencer

### Class of 2023

Peter van Bever  
Mary Kay West

## Congregational Nominating Committee

Sandy Castles  
Lauren Deming  
Alice Estes

Shelly Garg  
Joey Razzano  
Deborah Resley

Jean Smith  
Mike Starosciak  
Phyllis Whittington

## Treasurer

David Hawkins

# FINANCIAL REPORT

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## FPC Financial Summary

**Fiscal Year – from September 2019 - 2020 through August (12-month fiscal year).**

*Please note: all numbers rounded to the nearest 000; numbers are year to date unless otherwise stated. All numbers are compared to the annual budget.*

### **Church/Garage Activities: Operating Results Revenues**

#### **Church:**

- Pledged contributions of \$831K are far in excess of the planned \$740K. The main contributor to this excess is \$100K gift from member couple, which supplements their previous pledge. Without that contribution, the annual pledge contributions would have been \$731K or \$9K short of our budget.
- General contributions of \$112K were slightly in excess of \$110K budget. Considering that we had no in person church services for several months that is a great achievement.
- Designated gifts and program income was \$319K vs. a budgeted \$102K. The reason for huge positive excess is that \$175K from PPP loan proceeds was counted as income (revenue).
- An outside auditor was consulted before making this entry to the books. Once the PPP lending period is complete and we know which portion of the PPP loan is unforgiven, a portion of this \$175K in revenue will be re-entered into the books as a loan.
- Facility Use and Rent of \$36K was well short of expected \$77K, due to the suspension of classes at Alder Street Learning Center and the lack of weddings revenue.

#### **Garage:**

- Since reporting year to date revenues in March of \$373K, revenues have ended the year at \$472K, well short of the \$630K budgeted amount. Parking garage revenues over the last two months have been \$28K and \$17K.

# FINANCIAL REPORT - continued

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## Expenses:

- Church: expenses for the year of \$1.4mm are better than the budgeted \$1.53mm. Drivers for this positive result are Personnel, Maintenance, and Program costs that have ended the year well below budget.
- Church surplus (revenues plus transfers from trust funds minus expenses) totals \$43K vs. a projected annual deficit of \$242K. Trust Fund transfers to supplement the annual budget were \$144K, well below the budgeted \$242K. This result was heavily influenced by the pledge results and the unbudgeted contribution of the PPP loan, as well as expense management.
- Garage: expenses of \$390K vs. budgeted \$445K principally from the reduction of contract services.
- Garage surplus (revenue minus expenses) totals \$88K vs. budgeted \$184K.

## Menucha Activities: Operating Results

- Menucha revenues of \$600 compare to budgeted \$1.37mm. In addition to McCall House rent, Menucha total revenue results of \$935K were bolstered by \$132K of PPP loan proceeds that were booked as revenue (see church revenue results above for comparison).
- Menucha expenses of \$1.03mm compare to budgeted \$1.498mm.
- Menucha deficit (revenues minus expenses) totals \$170K vs. budgeted \$2K.

***We are so grateful for your generous giving to the church that strengthens its life and mission through this season!***

# BALANCE SHEET

## First Presbyterian Church of Portland, Oregon Balance Sheet

	<b>August 31, 2019</b>	<b>August 31, 2020</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash & Equivalents	\$ 944,697.00	\$ 384,714.00
Investments	\$ 5,439,893.00	\$ 5,577,508.00
Receivables	\$ (42.00)	\$ (138.00)
Inventory	\$ 27,562.00	\$ 27,424.00
Pre-paid expenses	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Total	<u>\$ 6,412,110.00</u>	<u>\$ 5,989,508.00</u>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Furniture & Equipment, Net	\$ 19,097.00	\$ 19,097.00
Land	\$ 578,717.00	\$ 578,717.00
Buildings, Net	\$ 10,704,299.00	\$ 10,701,522.00
Total	<u>\$ 11,302,113.00</u>	<u>\$ 11,299,336.00</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u><u>\$ 17,714,223.00</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 17,288,844.00</u></u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Payables	\$ 108,770.00	\$ 95,778.00
Unearned Revenue	\$ 390,941.00	\$ 294,881.00
<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>		
PPP Loan	\$ 0.00	\$ 47,489.00
Mortgage	\$ 1,247,285.00	\$ 1,165,675.00
SBA - EIDL Loan	\$	\$ 150,000.00
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 1,746,996.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,753,823.00</u>
<b>Fund Balances</b>		
Designated Fund Balance	\$ 6,456,014.00	\$ 5,768,234.00
Net Assets	<u>\$ 9,511,213.00</u>	<u>\$ 9,766,787.00</u>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balances</b>	<u><u>\$ 17,714,223.00</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 17,288,844.00</u></u>

# First Presbyterian Church

1200 SW Alder Street

Portland, OR 97205

[www.firstpresportland.org](http://www.firstpresportland.org)

Church Office (503) 228-7331 | Menucha (503) 695-2243

10:30 am Sunday Services streamed online at [www.firstpresportland.org](http://www.firstpresportland.org)

