Chapin Church Council Minutes 2021

Chapin United Methodist Church

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CUMC Church Council Agenda – January 26, 2021

Welcome/Devotion: Ben McCoy

Standing Reports

1. Treasurers Report: Ann Senn
2. Finance: Harry Cromer
3. Lay Leader: Becky McCormack
4. Trustees: Clay Shelton

Other Reports

UMW – Cornelia Smith

New Business

Old Business

Pastor’s Report
Media and Production have continued to advance the technical capabilities and the production standards during year 2020. The following are the highlights from last year:

1. **Live Streaming:** The COVID 19 pandemic has changed the landscape for Church participation nationally and CUMC is no different. With the cancellation of Sunday services, our live streaming viewership totals have seen major increases. Our device viewership was up 363% over 2019. The numbers reflected 12656 device views for 2019 while 2020 shows the dramatic increase to 56536. The most watched broadcast was the Christmas Eve services on 2430 viewing devices. In 2020, we added YouTube to our list of streaming platforms. YouTube began slow but ended the year with 634 total views. On Facebook live, we averaged 300 views per month.

2. **Production:** We produced, edited, and aired 50 worship services, with a closed sanctuary. We packaged 78 children’s programs which aired on all CUMC platforms and archived on the Wave ministry web page for on demand viewing. Christmas Eve services was produced during the fall and aired on demand Christmas eve. Those services were the most watched programs at CUMC since we began streaming in 2018.

We had no major equipment failures, however we were able to upgrade our production intercom system during 2020. We also upgraded our streaming service package to include closed captioning for those with hearing difficulties.

Mark Slice
Director of Media and Production
Facilities Report to the
Church Council (November/December)

It has been an active start to the year, and we are excited about the improvements and upgrades happening around campus. The following are highlights of what has been taking place at Chapin United Methodist Church since Facilities last reported out to the Church Council:

1) Campus Improvements- We continue to work on various projects around campus to help with cleanliness and aesthetics of the buildings and grounds (including the cemetery), while also attempting to minimize reoccurring maintenance.

2) We have worked over the past several months to assist in the ministries of traditional worship, contemporary worship, and media production as it pertained to setup, recording, and producing both Christmas Eve services and the December 27th service.

3) We have set up and torn down multiple events in the sanctuary, fellowship hall and room 206 to make accommodations for our small groups, Fusion, UMW, circles, men’s prayer group, funerals, etc.

4) We continue to work weekly on various maintenance projects, and as always, oversee the ordering and stocking of all kitchen and janitorial supplies.

We strive to make CUMC an attractive and appealing environment where all people feel comfortable and welcome. We consider our opportunity to serve the Lord and His people of this congregation a tremendous honor and we look forward to this service on a daily basis.

Curt Mitchell
Facilities Manager
Fusion Student Ministries
Council on Ministries Report
Jan 2021

We wrapped up our 2020 Fusion with our Flannel Formal in November and Fusion Fiesta in December. We had an average of 35 kids on Fusion Sunday nights.

We will be taking 10 students and 5 leaders on our first retreat since the pandemic started. This trip will help us understand and plan better for future.

We will kick off our first small group of this year at the beginning of February. We will continue meeting on Sunday nights and will open up small groups at the beginning of February.

Emily and I are looking at combining efforts for some upcoming fun nights with the Transit and middle school students.
Lay Leader Report
January 27, 2021

We just completed one of the most difficult years as a nation, as a world, than we have ever experienced before. A global pandemic that forced us to stay home from work and school, to stop attending church and family events, and cut us off from those who are suffering and needed comfort. But God was and is, in control. In the midst of a global pandemic, God has been glorified through His people coming together to care for each other by calling to check on friends and neighbors as well as giving generously to organizations that care for those in need. Much still lies ahead for us, but God will not be stopped, nor will His people. Thanks be to God!

Since my last report, Chapin UMC has restarted in-person worship with vigorous safety protocols in place. What a blessing it is to be able to regather and worship together! Average in-person worship attendance is around 100 each week in both services. We look forward to the day when our entire congregation can be together for in-person worship again but in the meantime, Mark Slice and his extraordinary team are keeping our congregation together in worship online, and we are reaching across the country and even around the world!

Holy Communion was celebrated in October via pre-packaged elements. It was so wonderful to be able to participate in this joyous sacrament together once again! In 2021, we will go back to a regular schedule for Holy Communion – the first Sunday of every other month – beginning in February. There will be a slight deviation from this for Palm Sunday in March. The dates of Holy Communion will be Feb 7, March 28, June 6, Aug 1, Oct 3 and Dec 5. We will continue to take Communion via the pre-package elements until such time the staff and leadership feel it is safe to return to personal serving of the elements.

The laity of Chapin United Methodist continue, even in the midst of this pandemic, to spread the love of Jesus. Phone calls are being made to shut-ins, meals are being delivered to those in need, food, water and backpacks are being donated. Faith is remaining strong and needs are being met. This congregation has been extremely generous in it’s giving, surpassing all 2020 budget needs and providing almost $75,000 to four local organizations in our Christmas Eve offering. God’s church is strong and we will continue on our mission of connecting, growing and sharing!

I, along with the entire congregation, would like to thank our AWESOME staff, under the exceptional leadership of Pastor Jody, for their tremendous dedication and effort throughout 2020 to be sure that Chapin UMC remained strong and viable. They worked diligently every day to be sure that the needs of the congregation were being met and coming up with new and innovative ways to share God’s love and support. We are truly, truly blessed to have the best church staff ever!

As we begin 2021, we are still battling some of the same issues we faced in 2020 but our faith remains strong! We need to continue to pray for our world, for our leaders, for all those directly and indirectly effected by the virus, and take this opportunity to show the love of Jesus to a world that desperately needs it.

If there is anything that I can do to assist in any way, please let me know. If you know of a need within our congregation that I can help with, please let me know that as well.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky McCormack
Happy New Year to all of the amazing servant ministers on the Church Council. Your staff is excited for what the Lord has in store for CUMC in 2021, and we are thankful for the privilege to partner with you in ministry. I am excited about the opportunity of being the new Director of Operations and working with you all. I have been working with Rick Faulkner during December 2020 on this transition as well as a little of January. Looking ahead to the new year, here are a few items from the Operations side of ministry for your information:

1. **Staffing:** We have postponed the hiring of a new Office Manager because of COVID-19 and the possibility of the job description changing due to COVID-19. We plan to reevaluate at the beginning of February.
2. **Thank you:** To Jody and all the staff for leading well through 2020. And for an amazing Christmas Eve service.

Caroline K Fogle
Director of Operations
Traditional Music Ministry Report for January 2021

**Highlights**

Acknowledgements

- Thank you to all the musicians that participate in worship weekly. Their spirit lightens my soul.
- Thank you to Mark and for his help with online music ministry.
- Thank you to all the encouraging emails and texts from our congregation and others.
- Thank you to volunteers that help with whatever is needed: Ann Gainey, Linda DuRant, Julie Gazda, Carol Saxton, Carol Weathers, Gwen Jaeger and so many others.
- Thank you to all of our staff that always are willing to help out with what is needed. They are unbelievable.

Outreach

- Cards are sent out to various choir members and those that need encouragement.
- Phone calls and emails and texts are sent out daily to check on our people.

Organization and Improvement

- Addition of handbells to allow for more participation
- Addition of people to our singing groups.
- New music purchased to enhance worship and lift up our congregation.

Past and Future Plans

- We have just completed our online Christmas Eve music that was a total new adventure for us... a “never been done before”. It was a blessing to those that participated, and I hope to the viewers as well. Thanks to Mark and staff and musicians for making my vision from the Lord come to pass. New plans are being made each week to provide creative online services using as many of our church people as possible. Plans are being made and implemented to create ways to let people that desire to participate in our worship services the opportunity to participate in very small ensembles. Even though this will take many more hours of planning and preparation, it will help with the loss of the choir at this time. Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Easter online worship and in person have been planned and now go to the implementation and recording stage. Going forth, I pray that God will lead me to ways to show the world our love for Him, and that we learn new ways to serve and worship Him like never before.

It is joy and honor to serve the Lord under Jody Flowers’ leadership and with our dedicated staff and loving, supportive congregation. It is a blessing!
Transit Student Ministries
Council on Ministries Report
Jan 2021

We wrapped up our 2020 small group in December. We had around 20 students each week and it was a great group!

We will kick off our first small group of this year at the end of the month. We will continue meeting on Wednesdays at 4pm in the fellowship hall.

Hugo and I are looking at combining efforts for some upcoming fun nights with the Transit and middle school students.
Chapin United Methodist Women  
Cornelia Smith, President  
Church Council Meeting, January 26, 2021

UMW Purpose: The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.  
Mission: Promoting the welfare of women, children and youth.

At the beginning of 2020, who could have imagined the challenges presented as we came face to face with a global pandemic. In spite of those challenges, the Chapin UMW continued to support various missions throughout the year. With God’s help we were able to support the following missions:

Mully Family (four $600 scholarships)  
CUMC college scholarships (three $1000)  
Columbia District UMW Pledge ($4000)  
Columbia Bethlehem Center ($150)  
Bethlehem Center Spartanburg ($300)  
Wallace Family Life Center ($780)  
Killingsworth ($300 + $50 golf sponsorship + church wide donation drive)  
Hub ($200)  
Home Missions ($200 + $700 Christmas family sponsorship)  
We Care ($500 + donated items)  
Good Works ($300)  
Wesley Foundation @ USC ($233)  
Epworth Children’s Home ($900 + $100 Alumni Association + 2 cottage sponsorships)  
Screaming Eagles ($200)  
Snack Pack Program ($400)  
Sistercare ($500 Christmas family sponsorship)  
Church Women United ($100 for Health kits)  
Shriner’s Circus ($35)  
Gift in Memory (Frances Chitty)  
Gift to Mission (Alice Furman)  
Special Mission Recognition (Carolyn Pott - Unit Woman of the Year)

As we reflect on 2020, let us remember the words from Isaiah 42:16 which states “I will lead the blind by ways they have not known, along unfamiliar paths I will guide them; I will turn the darkness into light before them and make the rough path smooth. These are the things I will do; I will not forsake them.” And in Galatians 6:9 we read “Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”
Wave Ministry Report
November/December 2020

Our desire is to come alongside parents and help them live out their call to make disciples of their children.

- We continue to offer live online preschool and elementary worship services on Sunday Mornings for the children. These services can also be accessed throughout the week. A blessing from COVID-19 is that we have reached many new families through the online services.
- We love seeing all the children hiding God's Word in their hearts through the memorization of our monthly Bible verses. We post many of these on our Wave Facebook page.
- For Christmas, we designed and assembled Advent boxes for the entire congregation. Included in the boxes were advent devotions we specifically wrote for children, advent wreaths, candles, and an advent devotion book for adults. 250 families signed up and received the boxes!
- Each month, we do a drive thru pick up of Wave Bags. We love having the opportunity to see talk to the parents, grandparents and children each month. These bags are designed for specific age groups and include weekly devotions, monthly Bible memory verse challenge, crafts, and fun activities to reinforce the online lesson. We also have a parent information sheet and quick lesson recaps for reference. Around 150 bags are picked up each month. This has been a great way for us to partner with parents and grandparents in developing their child’s spiritual life.
- In February, we will be offering Driveway visits to our families. Andrea and I will visit with the children (socially distanced) in their driveways and play games, read books, and just hang out with them.
- We are also providing a form for parents to complete if they need additional information or resources on specific topics.
- We are currently designing an Easter Basket for each family. The basket will include age-appropriate devotions for the 40 days of Lent, a special craft, activities to do as a family and a few surprises. We look forward to families receiving these in February.

It is a privilege to partner in ministry with the parents, leaders, and members of Chapin UMC as children Catch the wave of God’s amazing love, Dive deep into God’s word and then Cast His love to everyone!

Natalie McCoy
Wave Children's Minister
**Small Groups/Sunday School**

Most small groups and Sunday School classes have continued to meet, either in person or online. Some are even doing a hybrid of in person and online with a laptop sitting in a space for a person.

The new 316 Super Small Groups were very successful with the first recruitment time. Six groups of 3 formed through me directly and two groups of 3 formed all on their own. Feedback has been good and I have more that would like to try these.

Care Groups also met last fall. Both groups, Divorce Care and Grief Share have new leaders.

Spiritual Gifts had two classes that met in the fall, one online and one in person.

**First Connection Team**

I created a new sign up system for the First Connection Team that is really working well. It allows folks to see how many we need each week and how many have already signed up. It also allows the usher leaders a chance to see who all have signed up so they can place them in areas to serve.

Guest Central has returned and I’ve set up two locations, one by the main double doors and one in the lower lobby. We were outside for a while until it turned too cold. Having these by the doors have greatly increased exposure. We’ve either had a lot more guests lately or moving it meant more guests were stopping and getting a gift bag.

**Membership**

We have conducted two membership classes online. I created a PDF of the membership “program” for easier viewing. We also then received new members online by video as well. We expect to continue this way for the near future.

**She Talks**

She Talks Facebook group now has over 650 members. This continues to be a great connection point for women. Since the IF:Gathering has been cancelled, the Women’s Ministry Leadership team has been creating other outlets for connection. We’ve had several video devotion campaigns as well.
• The following deaths associated with our church family have occurred during December 2020 and January thus far. Deaths since my last report in March connected to our church family (We had 19 deaths connected with our church family, including 2 members)
  1. Alma Burris White-Coward – Lee Burris’s Sister
  2. **Dot Allee** – Gay Gingrich & Jim Kirby’s Mother
  3. Faye Clamp – Todd Clamps Mother
  4. Verdi Christmus – Nathan Christmus’s Grandmother
  5. Dennis Crop – Cheryl Trueblood’s Father
  6. Joshua Sessoms – Margaret Hinson’s Son
  7. Rosilyn Brown – Wilson Fairey’s Daughter
  8. Charlotte Boleyn – Billy Boleyn’s Grandmother
  9. Christine Crosby – Lennie Tucker & Harry Crosby’s Mother
  10. Geneva Haney – Harry Haney’s Mother
  11. Lou Baughman – Jan Hunter’s Mother
  12. Louise Hunter – James Hunter’s Mother
  13. Robert Turner – Alicia Klauk’s Father
  14. Jim Rapp – Joyce Rapp’s Husband
  15. Eustice Walters – Donna Lawrence’s Father
  16. Marion Frost – Donnie Senn’s Uncle
  17. Adrian King – Janice Jones Bother/Rebecca Lassiter’s Uncle
  18. **John Saunders** – Julie Saunders’ Husband
  19. Rita Willett – Darlen Collett’s Mother

• Illness/ Serious Concerns Currently requiring our prayers
  1. Mr. Cliff McMillan – Ongoing Care
  2. Mr. Ralph Cooper – Ongoing Care
  3. Miss Cammy Wheless – Overall Health Deterioration
  4. Mrs. Deanie Weldon – Overall Health Deterioration
  5. Coach Dick Weldon – Overall Health Deterioration
  6. Miss Lila Dodson – Overall Health Deterioration
  7. Mrs. Pat Mullins – Lung Cancer
  8. Mr. Ken Streeter – Lung Issues/ Back Surgery

• “The Spirit Lifters” continue sharing their food & love. These visits, meals, and touches of Christ’s love are appreciated particularly at this time. They delivered some awesome fruit baskets prior to Christmas which were appreciated. They will be cooking and delivering meals again soon. They are always looking for some folks to add to their Team. If you might be interested please contact Mary Linda Rye or Susan Turner.

• Marcy Kenny has initiated a new group of folks that are writing notes and sending cards to our people. They are named “Paper Love”. These notes are going to shut-ins, folks in assisted living, folks recovering from hospital stays etc. If they need a note of encouragement this team is ready to provide it. Just send Marcy a name and address and the team will handle the rest.

• All of the members of our staff along with 25 additional volunteers have been making calls to some of our identified church members to check on them to see if they are ok or have needs that they can take care of during the pandemic. These calls continue. THANK YOU!!
• 4th Sunday Community Services are suspended at this time until further notice.

• Please continue to pray for our church families. Not only for COVID-19 protection but for the Issues of life. They affect us and those in our families we love and hold dear. Christians are not immune from the virus or attacks of Satan. We have to deal with the issues of Finances, Health, Relationships, Addictions, Hurts, Hang-ups, & Habits also.

In His Service along with you,

Paul
Well we are still standing after 2020. Here are a few ministry updates from the Contemporary Worship ministry.

1. From September to December a lot of our energy was put into our Christmas Eve service. We were excited about the challenge of creating a service that helped people see and connect with Jesus. We wanted people to worship and see the greatness of Jesus and I think we were able to accomplish that.

2. In October I started working with a few of the musicians to write most of our own arrangements of the Christmas songs as well as creating medleys with other worship songs that we sing on Sundays. Bobby Scott and Justin Dodson were such a huge part of making that come together. Then in November we pre-recorded all of our songs as a band and then over the next 4 weeks tweaked in the studio with extra parts and vocals.

3. In the middle of November we filmed the music portion of the service and then Courtney spent the next month editing the video content for the service. This service could not and would not have happened without the work put in by Courtney Dox.

4. In 2021 we are moving forward into some new challenges like our monthly Seek First nights of worship and prayer. We want to follow the lead of Pastor Jody in calling our church to be a people of prayer and presence. Can’t wait to see what all God does this year.

I say it every time, but extremely grateful to be a part in what God is doing in and through CUMC.
The GO Team has met monthly and is very excited about what lays ahead this year. We have several highlights to share with Council that include the following:

The GO Team was extremely thankful for the generous gift of $100,000 given towards missions from excess funds. We have already distributed $62,000, and are waiting to see how the summer shapes for our different international partners with plans to disburse the remaining funds over the summer.

We have a Missions Trip to Asbury Hills planned for April; a trip to Guatemala planned for June; and making tentative plans for other trips in the fall. We will not be going to Kenya or Costa Rica this year.

Save the Date: September 24-26 is the weekend for this year’s Global Impact Celebration. We are still working on details for what that will look like, but it will take place and it will be a grand celebration!

Summer Trip Policy Guidelines recommendation for 2021 have been sent to Church Council Leadership for your review and vote. The GO Team would appreciate your support in making sure that both our teams and the host organizations we travel to are all operating from guidelines that are ensuring the safety of team members and those they travel to serve.

Thanks so much for your leadership, it is a pleasure to serve as the GO Team Leader.

Rick Faulkner
The Global Outreach Team is committed to providing clear guidance and timely support to all of our Mission Trip Leaders and Participants. In 2021, we are facing some unique challenges related to COVID-19 and its potential impact on both our teams and the countries that they will be traveling to. The following guidelines are provided in order to ensure that our groups are as safe as possible, as responsible as possible, and as loving as possible. These guidelines are applicable to all CUMC International Mission Trips until further notice.

1. CDC and State Department regulations mandate that every U.S. citizen must test negative for COVID no more than 72 hours prior to returning to the U.S. As part of each mission trip “checklist”, this testing must be included as part of the trip cost and should be budgeted by each participant.

2. Trip Leaders are responsible for working with the host organization to ensure that testing will take place prior to returning home.

3. Every person planning on participating on a mission trip is strongly encouraged to be vaccinated for COVID-19 (as well as all other required vaccinations) if they are eligible to receive the vaccine prior to leaving.

4. Short Term Mission Trip Health Insurance is required for all participants unless their current U.S. Health Insurance covers international medical care. This coverage should include COVID-19 related care. If the host organization does not have a preferred insurance provider, the GO Team will provide information on reputable insurance carriers to trip leaders.

5. If an individual becomes infected with COVID while on the trip, they are responsible for bearing the costs of quarantine and treatment. If they cannot reschedule their airline travel with their current return ticket, the GO Team will cover the cost of that return ticket if the individual submits a request for reimbursement. This reimbursement also applies to anyone remaining in-country with the infected individual.

6. Trip Leaders are responsible for working with the host organization to ensure that any participant being left in-country is adequately cared for.

7. If a trip participant is not allowed to return to the U.S. due to a positive COVID-19 test, it is at the Trip Leaders discretion to leave that person on their own to return or to assign another leader or co-leader to remain in-country with them. If a trip participant is under the age of 18, they will not be left alone; either a parent, guardian or adult approved in writing by the parent will remain with them until they are allowed to return. If any individual requires short term financial assistance in order to leave the host country, the GO Team will cover those costs as a short term, no interest loan. Arrangements for full repayment to the GO Team will be made upon arrival to the U.S.

8. Because the burden of responsibility is on the trip leader shoulders, the leader has the final say in who can participate on their specific mission trip. Health factors, age, and risk of the specific country traveling to will all be taken into consideration, but the final say rests with the trip leader.

Any request to modify these guidelines must be preapproved by the GO Team.
CUMC Church Council Agenda – March 23, 2021

Welcome/Devotion: Ben McCoy

Review of Minutes: Ann Gainey

Standing Reports

2. Finance Committee: Harry Cromer
3. Lay Leader: Becky McCormack – will also give SPRC Report
4. Trustees: Clay Shelton
5. Missions: Rick Faulkner

Staff Reports

1. Assimilation Ministry: Marcy Kenny
2. Contemporary Worship – John Dukes
3. Congregational Care: Paul Allen
4. Children’s Ministry: Natalie McCoy
5. Facilities: Curt Mitchell
6. Media and Production: Mark Slice
7. Traditional Worship – presented by Ann Gainey
8. Transit Ministry – Emily Wheaton
9. Student Ministry – Hugo Muraco
10. Operations – Caroline Fogle

Other Reports

- UMW – Cornelia Smith

New Business

Old Business

Pastor’s Report
Traditional Music Ministry Report for March 2021

Highlights

Outreach
- Cards are sent out to various choir members and those that need encouragement.
- Phone calls and emails and texts are sent out daily to check on our people.
- 2 new people to join singing groups
- 7 singing ensembles (added a new one in February)

Organization and Improvement
- Donated funds for purchasing keyboard for sanctuary

Worship Planning
- Weekly rehearsals for Preparation for Worship
  - Sunday 7:45  Rehearsal for Worship with accompanist and sound people
  - Sunday 10:15 Rehearsal for various groups with accompanist
  - Monday 11:30 Worship Planning with worship leaders
  - Monday 1:00  Handbells (6)
  - Monday 3:00  Mixed Ensemble (5)
  - Monday 4:00  Trio (3)
  - Monday 5:00 Women’s Ensemble I (6)
  - Monday 6:00 Women’s Ensemble II (6) with accompanist
  - Monday 7:00 Men’s Ensemble (7) with accompanist
  - Tuesday 6:30  Mixed Ensemble (5)
  - Various other rehearsals are scheduled when needed.
- Planning weekly for music for each of the seven groups
- Planning and rehearsing for Ash Wednesday and Good Friday service
- Planning and rehearsing for Easter

Psalm 104:33

“I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.”
• The following deaths associated with our church family have occurred since our last meeting. (We had 6 deaths connected with our church family)
  1. Jackie Brantley – Melissa Logue’s Grandmother
  2. Marek Makoski – Melly Makoski’s Son
  3. Cornelia Bittle – Harriet Wilson’s Mother
  4. Paul Highberger – Steve Highberger’s Father
  5. Polly Pearson – Lee Ann Lawrence’s Mother
  6. Larry McLinden – Debbie Wilson’s Brother

• Illness/ Serious Concerns Currently requiring our prayers
  1. Mr. Ken Streeter – Lung Issues/ Throat Cancer
  2. Mr. Guy Sorrell – Stroke – Recovering at Encompass Rehab
  3. Miss Gloria Hendricks – Fell and has broken ribs
  4. Mr. Cliff McMillan – Ongoing Care
  5. Miss Cammy Wheless – Overall Health Deterioration
  6. Mrs. Deanie Weldon – Overall Health Deterioration
  7. Coach Dick Weldon – Overall Health Deterioration
  8. Miss Lila Dodson – Overall Health Deterioration

• “The Spirit Lifters” continue and consistently share their food & love. These visits, meals, and touches of Christ’s love are always appreciated. They will be cooking and delivering meals again soon. They are always looking for some folks to add to their Team. If you might be interested please contact Susan Turner or Mary Linda Rye.

• Marcy Kenny has initiated a new group of folks that are writing notes and sending cards to our people. They are named “Paper Love”. These notes are going to shut-ins, folks in assisted living, folks recovering from hospital stays etc. If they need a note of encouragement this team is ready to provide it. Just send Marcy a name and address and the team will handle the rest.

• Our staff members and volunteers have been making calls to some of our identified church members to check on them to see if they are ok or have needs that they can take care of during the pandemic. These calls continue. THANK YOU!!

• 4th Sunday Community Services are suspended at this time until further notice.

• Please continue to pray for our church families. Not only for COVID-19 protection but for the Issues of life. They affect us and those in our families we love and hold dear. Christians are not immune from the virus or attacks of Satan. We have to deal with the issues of Finances, Health, Relationships, Addictions, Hurts, Hang-ups, & Habits also.

In His Service along with you,

Paul
**Small Groups/Sunday School**

Most small groups and Sunday School classes have continued to meet, either in person or online. Some are even doing a hybrid of in person and online with a laptop sitting in a space for a person.

The new 316 Super Small Groups have continued to be successful. We have over 50 people in one right now. Alpha kicked off with two online groups.

**First Connection Team**

We continue to struggle with having enough folks to serve, but we make do with what we have each week. The new sign up system is working really well.

Guest Central continues to attract more visitors than it ever has before.

**Membership**

We had our first Foundations class this year in February and decided to have it online again. We had 25 people participate. Then we had 15 adults join.

**She Talks**

She Talks Facebook group has grown to almost 680 members. This continues to be a great connection point for women. We will be presenting the IF:Gathering that was postponed from last year by the time this report is submitted.

**Misc**

Paper Love – this team is made up of folks that want to serve but are unable to come on Sunday as they are at risk. They are sending out cards to people who need encouragement or love from their church family. This continues to be a great serving opportunity and folks are enjoying getting the cards.
Media and Production have continued to advance the technical capabilities and the production standards during year 2021. The following are the highlights from the first two months of 2021:

1. **Live Streaming:** The COVID 19 pandemic has changed the landscape for Church participation nationally and CUMC is no different. January and February 2021 have seen 9893 views over all platforms. The totals are an increase of 600% over the same time last year.

2. **Production:** Ash Wednesday was a virtual service this year. The service was provided as an “On Demand” service as well as a 7pm broadcast on all platforms. The “On Demand” netted 185 device views and the 7pm broadcast 61 device views.

We had no major equipment failures, however the audio board in the fusion center is experiencing some issues and will be replaced. The audio board will be moved into the fellowship hall to replace that 15+ year audio board.

Mark Slice
Director of Media and Production
2021 International Mission Trip Guidelines

The Global Outreach Team is committed to providing clear guidance and timely support to all of our Mission Trip Leaders and Participants. In 2021, we are facing some unique challenges related to COVID-19 and its potential impact on both our teams and the countries that they will be traveling to. The following guidelines are provided in order to ensure that our groups are as safe as possible, as responsible as possible, and as loving as possible. These guidelines are applicable to all CUMC International Mission Trips until further notice.

1. CDC and State Department regulations mandate that every U.S. citizen must test negative for COVID no more than 72 hours prior to returning to the U.S. As part of each mission trip “checklist”, this testing must be included as part of the trip cost and should be budgeted by each participant.

2. Trip Leaders are responsible for working with the host organization to ensure that testing will take place prior to returning home.

3. Every person planning on participating on a mission trip is strongly encouraged to be vaccinated for COVID-19 (as well as all other required vaccinations) if they are eligible to receive the vaccine prior to leaving.

4. Short Term Mission Trip Health Insurance is required for all participants unless their current U.S. Health Insurance covers international medical care. This coverage should include COVID-19 related care. If the host organization does not have a preferred insurance provider, the GO Team will provide information on reputable insurance carriers to trip leaders.

5. If an individual becomes infected with COVID while on the trip, they are responsible for bearing the costs of quarantine and treatment. If they cannot reschedule their airline travel with their current return ticket, the GO Team will cover the cost of that return ticket if the individual submits a request for reimbursement. This reimbursement also applies to anyone remaining in-country with the infected individual.

6. Trip Leaders are responsible for working with the host organization to ensure that any participant being left in-country is adequately cared for.

7. If a trip participant is not allowed to return to the U.S. due to a positive COVID-19 test, it is at the Trip Leaders discretion to leave that person on their own to return or to assign another leader or co-leader to remain in-country with them. If a trip participant is under the age of 18, they will not be left alone; either a parent, guardian or adult approved in writing by the parent will remain with them until they are allowed to return. If any individual requires short term financial assistance in order to leave the host country, the GO Team will cover those costs as a short term, no interest loan. Arrangements for full repayment to the GO Team will be made upon arrival to the U.S.

8. Because the burden of responsibility is on the trip leader shoulders, the leader has the final say in who can participate on their specific mission trip. Health factors, age, and risk of the specific country traveling to will all be taken into consideration, but the final say rests with the trip leader.

Any request to modify these guidelines must be preapproved by the GO Team.
Youth Ministry has been very challenging moving into 2021. We’re seeing more and more students become disconnected. We have been faithfully creating opportunities for students to connect both through online/virtual means as well as in person gatherings.

While our numbers remain at an average of 30ish students, there are a lot of students that we have not seen return from before Covid. We’re also seeing a drop in the number of leaders that we have jumping in. we have gone from a team of about 20 leaders to less than 10 leaders serving regularly. Some of this shift is due to a sense of discomfort due to the Corona Virus, but we also believe that we have lost some of our regular attending students.

We are in a place where we need to acknowledge the truth that some of these students and parents/leaders have stopped attending or have connected with other ministries. Our hope is that they are connected with other ministries instead of disconnected from church altogether. As a ministry we are choosing to move forward without looking back. While our ministry and care will always remain open towards any student who would like to walk through our doors, whether returning or first-time guest, we are pouring our energy into the ministry of right now.

We are working on creating stronger discipleship and relational connections with the students that we have in our ministry right now. Our aim is to imitate the approach Jesus took throughout the gospels in His ministry, we will love, care and pour into the ones who are seeking while welcoming any who are curious and want to encounter Jesus!

While ministry has been challenging, and this perspective shift is challenging itself, I (Hugo Muraco) am optimistic and confident in knowing that God is at work and that HE is moving in the lives of our students who are currently involved!
Facilities Report to the
Church Council (January/February)

It has been an active start to the year, and we are excited about the improvements and upgrades happening around campus. The following are highlights of what has been taking place at Chapin United Methodist Church since Facilities last reported out to the Church Council:

1) **Campus Improvements** - We have cleaned up and decluttered the outside area in front of the choir room, including thinning out some of the crape myrtle trees, placed river rock around drains to prevent erosion, and added new sod.

2) **Cemetery** - We have installed a new retaining wall on the south side of the cemetery to deal with the erosion issue. Also, we have implemented a monthly walk through/cleanup on the first Wednesday of every month to remove anything that is old, worn, or unsightly. We are working to edge the grass around every monument in order to maintain them properly (north side is completed). All of this is in effort to bring the aesthetics of the cemetery to a higher level.

3) **Unforeseen** - In February we repaired a leak to the water line near the main driveway. This required the asphalt road to be cut so that the plumbing was accessible. Since we were replacing the asphalt for the repair already, we also cut out and repaired two other smaller “alligating” spots in the asphalt of our parking lot at the same time.

4) **Fire Alarm Panel** - We have worked in conjunction with Mark Slice and Johnson Controls to upgrade our fire panels communication ability. There was a grounding issue between the buildings, so by abandoning the old copper wires and replacing them with new single mode fiberoptic cables, we have corrected the grounding issue and helped minimize future repair expenses. A large percentage of this labor was preformed “in-house” and helped lower the cost of this project significantly.

5) We have set up and torn down multiple events in the sanctuary, fellowship hall and room 206 to make accommodations for our small groups, Fusion, UMW, circles, men’s prayer group, funerals, etc.

6) We continue to work weekly on various maintenance projects, and as always, oversee the ordering and stocking of all kitchen and janitorial supplies.

We strive to make CUMC an attractive and appealing environment where all people feel comfortable and welcome. We consider our opportunity to serve the Lord and His people of this congregation a tremendous honor and we look forward to this service on a daily basis.

Curt Mitchell
Facilities Manager
God continues to bless Chapin United Methodist Church as we move forward in our mission, even during this pandemic, to winning souls for Christ. Membership continues to grow, missions continue to reach those in need and we are financially strong due to an amazingly generous congregation.

We are approaching Easter Sunday and in order to accommodate as many people as possible, while still following our COVID protocols, there will be 3 Contemporary services on Saturday, April 3rd and 3 Traditional services on Sunday, April 4th. Attendees are being asked to pre-register so we can assure that social distancing is followed. All but two of the services are almost full now. We will have an overflow area to try to accommodate “walk-ins”, but please be sure to register ahead if at all possible.

Our in-person gathering on Sunday mornings has seen a bit of an increase in attendance as more people are vaccinated and begin to feel more comfortable being around others. The staff and the leadership are doing a great job in assuring the safety of all of us, and they are constantly monitoring the CDC recommendations for possible easing of some of our current restrictions. However, we must proceed with caution so please be patient. Our laity is faithful and dedicated and having their support has been so very appreciated.

If there is anything that I can do to assist in any way, please let me know. If you know of a need within our congregation that I can help with, please let me know that as well.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky McCormack
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If there is anything that I can do to assist in any way, please let me know. If you know of a need within our congregation that I can help with, please let me know that as well.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky McCormack
GO Team Report
February – March 2021

The GO Team has met monthly and is very excited about what lays ahead this year. We have several highlights to share with Council that include the following:

The GO Team was extremely thankful for the generous gift of $100,000 given towards missions from excess funds. We have already distributed $62,000, and are waiting to see how the summer shapes for our different international partners with plans to disburse the remaining funds over the summer.

We have a Missions Trip to Asbury Hills planned for April; a trip to Guatemala planned for June; and making tentative plans for other trips in the fall. We will not be going to Kenya or Costa Rica this year.

Save the Date: September 24-26 is the weekend for this year’s Global Impact Celebration. We are still working on details for what that will look like, but it will take place and it will be a grand celebration!

Summer Trip Policy Guidelines recommendation for 2021 have been sent to Church Council Leadership for your review and vote. The GO Team would appreciate your support in making sure that both our teams and the host organizations we travel to are all operating from guidelines that are ensuring the safety of team members and those they travel to serve.

Thanks so much for your leadership, it is a pleasure to serve as the GO Team Leader.

Rick Faulkner
Operations Report to the
Church Council (February-March 2021)

It has been a busy two months here at Chapin UMC. All of our ministry teams, both staff and servant ministers, are working hard and looking forward to some important upcoming events on the calendar, many of which will be included in other staff reports. On the Operations side of things, here are a few important milestones and projects Council should be aware of:

1. **Excess Funds Distributed:** Thank you again, Finance and Council for the 2020 approval of Excess funds. Many great things are happening here at Chapin UMC campus and beyond because of this approval. 28% of the excess funds are going out to the community and around the world.

2. **Cemetery:** Huge kudos to the Trustees and Curt Mitchell for the immense improvement in the cemetery

3. **Monthly Outreach with Congregation:** As always the people of Chapin UMC continue to step up and make a difference in the name of Jesus.
   a. January- partnered with Mike Millington and FCA to donate 150+ blankets to Transitions Homeless Centre’ in Columbia
   b. February- partnered with Lifebridge and was able to donate 300+ items to replenish their low supplies
   c. March- Provided lunch for employees at the Lovelace Family Medical Centre’ on a Saturday while they administer CoVid Vaccines and testing.

4. **Staffing:**
   a. Kay Reeves: Thank you to all the Committees who put time in reviewing the increase for hours proposal. We are excited that she will start her new hours the week of March 28th.
   b. It is with great sadness, we announce that Andrea McFadden, Children’s Ministry Assistant, has put in her resignation. She is relocating to Texas and her last day will be at the end of April. Though we certainly understand and support her decision, it does not diminish the pain and absence that will be felt by this team, especially Natalie. Andrea, we thank you for your dedication, love for the children of Chapin UMC and sharing how to love Jesus with the children of Chapin UMC.
Church Council Report
Tuesday, March 23, 2021 / 7PM

Jody Flowers, Lead Pastor

It is such a pleasure to present my report to Church Council. I am so grateful for each of you; you’re such a beautiful group of vision-driven, mission-minded, kingdom-focused leaders!

Our “Sunday Nights in Lent” (after the “With Christ in the School of Prayer”) gatherings on Facebook Live have been going great! The Lenten Guide is a solid resource, and I’m thankful for what the Lord is doing through these times to grow us in Christlikeness!

The Wednesday Morning Prayer Calls (6 AM / ZOOM) are sweet and powerful times (began back in January) and I look forward to connecting with the Lord and with the CUMC family in this way each week!

A brief update on a couple things at the denominational level. The 2020 General Conference, originally scheduled for May of 2020, postponed to August of this year, has been postponed again, with a tentative date of August 29-September 6, 2022 (Minneapolis). Also of note, the South Carolina Annual Conference will meet virtually (with an abbreviated agenda) on June 6 and 7.

The main item of business for the 2020 GC (to be held in Aug of 2022) is The Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace through Separation. If this plan is adopted, there will be at least 3 “new” denominations birthed from the one: Two Liberal (one named “The post-separation UMC”), and one Traditionalist (The Global Methodist Church).

The church family, through its commitment to the mission of Jesus to share the gospel with the world, continues to share in the great harvest of souls. God’s love cannot be quarantined, cancelled, or postponed – and this church family continues to be a beautiful model of that truth. Jesus is building His Church and nothing has or will ever stop Him! Already in 2021, we have received 20 new members into the Chapin UMC Family, and we praise God for that!

“Thank Yous” from sister churches who received “love gifts” from Chapin UMC ... (may have a video)

As we all continue to wait and trust and pray for the Lord to bring this virus to an end, my hope is that His work in and through us will never end. I pray that we will continue, in ever increasing ways, to demonstrate the love of Jesus to each other and to the world through lives of sacrifice, self-denial, humility, and patience.

“Steps toward Normalcy” ... (for approval / may change after ELT meeting on 03/22/2021) ... (may have a chart)

I love you all. Michelle and I are so honored and humbled to serve alongside you all. God Bless, and may we all stay safe, stay strong, and stay in love with Jesus.

Jody Flowers
03/23/2021
Transit Student Ministries
Council on Ministries Report
March 2021

We kicked off our Transit season the second week of February! We meet on Wednesday afternoons at 4pm and have had 30+ kids each week. We are currently using some material titled “Defined: Who God Says You Are” using the book of Ephesians to learn all about our identity. They have been super engaged, and we use the last 15 minutes of our time to play games. This particular study will wrap up the week before Easter and we will begin something new after spring break.

On February 12 we reserved a theater and 17 students and 3 adults watched a movie together for a Fun Friday Night event. Our next event will be in April.

The Worthy Conference for girls is back on the schedule for May 15. This event will be held in host homes and include both virtual and in person elements. Registration is open now.
Knitted Together for God’s Good Work is the 2021 theme for United Methodist Women. The programs explore how we as children of God are joined and linked together into the whole body of Christ. Even at times when social distancing or other obstacles may keep us physically apart, we are knit together in community to transform the world (United Methodist Women Program Book 2020-2021).

Officers for 2021: Cornelia Smith, President
Linda Durant, Secretary
Cheryl Crooks, Treasurer
Leslie Watford, Vice-President
Leanne Lamar, Spiritual Growth
Kristine Joseph, Membership, Nurture, Outreach

Circle Leaders: Jenny Rawlings, Helen Rainey Circle
Kathy Roberts, Marjorie Derrick Circle
Susan Turner and Debbie Watts, Flowers Circle

Several officers and circle leaders participated in the Columbia District Officers' Training held virtually in January. Also in January we lost one of our beloved members, Pat Mullins. A Gift in Memory was given to missions in honor of her contributions to UMW.

February is Wallace Family Life Center Special Emphasis Month. Member donations of $5 each support the center. During February, valentines were sent to circle members and valentine bags were given to Chapin Police Department. Pizza, cookies, cupcakes, chips and drinks were given to the girls who live at Stokes Cottage at Epworth. Diapers were donated to Lifebridge during the CUMC donation drive. Virtual activities included Legislative Advocacy Days workshops (Juvenile Justice Reform, Elder Abuse, Opioid Epidemic, Christians and Justice), A Call to Prayer and Self Denial featuring Africa University.

Jessica Brodie, Editor for the South Carolina United Methodist Advocate, was the speaker for the virtual Day Apart on March 6. Her message emphasized the many hats we as women wear each and every day. Today is our annual Legacy Day of Giving. To commemorate our 152 years of mission in the world, a $152 donation was made to insure our legacy will continue.

Chapin UMW has committed to partner with the Truth Seekers Sunday School Class to provide items for their Epworth renovation project. The building when completed will become home for the displaced moms and kids that have completed their programs and are now ready to move into a place to call home.

Chapin UMW Scholarship Applications are available in the church office. Deadline is May 1. One recipient will be chosen to receive $1000.

Ways To Be In Mission In South Carolina: Kristine Joseph Chair
Pull tabs from soda cans: Ronald McDonald House
Cancelled stamps for Marian Mission Storehouse: Methodist churches in Zambia and Republic of Congo
SmileAmazon (https://smile.amazon.com/) to benefit Killingsworth
Wave Ministry Report  
For Church Council Meeting  
March 2021

Our desire is to come alongside parents and help them live out their call to make disciples of their children.

- Andrea McFadden, our children’s ministry assistant, will be leaving us and moving to Texas at the end of April. She has been an invaluable member of our team and has worked tirelessly to minister to the children, families, and volunteers of our church. Her hard work and dedication to the children’s ministry is beyond appreciated. She will be greatly missed by us all!
- We continue to offer live online preschool and elementary worship services on Sunday Mornings for the children. These services can also be accessed throughout the week.
- We designed Lent/Easter Baskets for each family. These baskets include age-appropriate devotions for the 40 days of Lent, Lent Bingo, palms for Palm Sunday, activities, and treats. The children have been busy doing acts of service to complete their Lent Bingo cards. We are so proud of the way they are shining the light of Christ to others. Once their card is completed, we surprise them with a treat dropped off at their door.
- Each month, we do a drive-thru pick up of Wave Bags. We love having the opportunity to see and talk to the parents, grandparents, and children each month. These bags are designed for specific age groups and include weekly devotions, monthly Bible memory verse challenges, crafts, and fun activities to reinforce the online lessons. We also have a parent information sheet and quick lesson recap for reference. Around 150 bags are picked up each month. This has been a great way for us to partner with parents and grandparents in developing their child’s spiritual life.
- In February, we conducted several driveway visits to children in the ministry. We had a great time playing with the children and getting to know the parents better. We brought games and ministry resources with us.
- We have had a lot of families sign up for ministry resources. Over the past month, we have provided over 20 families with articles, devotions, and books dealing with various topics and needs.
- Several families have been dealing with Covid and quarantine. We have delivered meals to those families and followed up with calls.

It is a privilege to partner in ministry with the parents, leaders, and members of Chapin UMC as children Catch the wave of God’s amazing love, Dive deep into God’s word and then Cast His love to everyone!

Natalie McCoy  
Wave Children’s Minister
Contemporary Worship Church Council Report - March 2021

Here are a few ministry updates from the Contemporary Worship ministry.

1. We have continued our weekly process of pointing people to Jesus on Sunday morning. I have been so proud of our musicians as they have served faithfully during this pandemic.

2. We have hosted two Seek First Nights of Prayer and Worship. They have been powerful nights and I'm grateful for the work of Holy Spirit in my life as well as what I have heard from others.

3. We are focused right now on Easter 2021. Couldn't be more excited to be having a physical gathering. It is going to be a great time as we celebrate the resurrection of our Savior King.

I say it every time, but extremely grateful to be a part in what God is doing in and through CUMC.
ASSETS

Current Assets
Checking/Savings
11100 · GFChking 616,154.86
11300 · Missions Checking 359,524.23
11400 · Building Fund Checking 329,846.00
11500 · Cemetary Fund Checking 59,540.77
11600 · Certificates of Deposit & MM
11610 · CDs/MM for Designated Funds 556,654.16
11630 · CDs/MM for Building Fund 386,785.66
Total 11600 · Certificates of Deposit & MM 943,439.82
11800 · Endowment Fund 64,876.19
Total Checking/Savings 2,373,381.87
Total Current Assets 2,373,381.87

Fixed Assets
15000 · Bldg, Land & Improvements 15,941,968.72
15400 · Furniture and Equipment 32,226.60
17000 · Accumulated Depreciation -1,611.33
Total Fixed Assets 15,972,583.99
TOTAL ASSETS 18,345,965.86

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities
Current Liabilities 58,372.08
Long Term Liabilities
20100 · Long Term Loans
20151 · Loan 1 - 5034068 2,489,200.20
20161 · Loan 2 - 5066150329 2,387,900.00
Total 20100 · Long Term Loans 4,877,100.20
20300 · Long Term Leases
20310 · Office Equipment 32,226.60
Total 20300 · Long Term Leases 32,226.60
Total Long Term Liabilities 4,909,326.80
Total Liabilities 4,967,698.88

Equity
31300 · Perm. Restricted Endowment 64,876.19
31500 · Designated Net Assets 1,393,043.41
31600 · Building Fund Equity 691,938.00
31700 · Cemetary Fund Equity 59,540.77
33000 · Net Assets 11,097,491.75
Net Income 71,376.86
Total Equity 13,378,266.98
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 18,345,965.86
Changing full-time Children's Ministry Assistant to two part-time Assistants Proposal

Previously Shared with SPRC:

It is with great sadness, we announce that Andrea McFadden, Children's Ministry Assistant, has put in her resignation. She is relocating to Texas and her last day will be at the end of April. Though we certainly understand and support her decision, it does not diminish the pain and absence that will be felt by this team, especially Natalie. We thank Andrea for her dedication, love for the children of Chapin UMC and sharing how to love Jesus with the children of Chapin UMC.

Who:

Full-Time Children's Minister Assistant
Hours and pay: 40 hours; current pay: $39,000 and full benefits

Request:

Hiring 2 part-time assistants at 25 hours a week instead of a Full-time Children's Minister Assistant. Salary $19,500; $750 medical reimbursement; each.

Why:

After reevaluating the Children's Ministry Assistant position, hours and responsibilities, it was determined that the best decision is to split this position into two part-time positions to provide Natalie with more flexibility and a larger staff presence on Sundays.

Benefits:

This will give Natalie more visible staff presence on Sundays. Budgeted Salary for new Full time Children's Minister is $39,000 with Full Benefits (total package $56,760). Changing this position to two part time employees will not increase the currently budgeted salary. Chapin UMC will save $16,260 by making this position change.
Some Steps Toward Normalcy

CHAPIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MARCH 22, 2021
Fellowshipping
Sanctuary / Narthex
Masks Required
March 28
Celebration of Holy Communion
Sanctuary / Pre-Packaged
Masks Required
March 28
Physical Distancing

* Sanctuary / 6 FT reduced to 3 FT
Masks Required
April 11
Groups (SS / Small Groups, etc)
Fellowship Hall (other dsg. rms) / 6 FT reduced to 3 FT
Masks Required
April 11 (*non-Sunday Morning usage)
Sunday Worship Gatherings

No spacing on main floor/ 3 FT spacing in balcony

Masks Required

June 6* (vaccine availability)
Sunday School
No Spacing
Masks Required
June 6* (vaccine availability)

Hugo - worries about volunteers
Emily worries about size of room
Sunday Worship Gatherings

No Spacing
Masks Optional (main floor) / Masks Required (balcony)

September 5** *(CDC/SC/UMC)*
*All Plans Subject to Change*
Decisions will continue to be prayerfully made out of an abundance of caution for the health of the CUMC family.
*CDC/SC/UMC*
Church Council
May 25, 2021 – 7:00 pm
Via Zoom

Members in Attendance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paul Allen</th>
<th>Eldon Armstrong</th>
<th>Clair Bouknight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joe Bouknight</td>
<td>Harry Cromer</td>
<td>Donna Croom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Dukes</td>
<td>Jody Flowers</td>
<td>Caroline Fogle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ann Gainey</td>
<td>Marcy Kenny</td>
<td>Becky McCormack</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeff McCormack</td>
<td>Ben McCoy</td>
<td>Natalie McCoy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Curt Mitchell</td>
<td>Hugo Muraco</td>
<td>Kay Reeves</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steve Reeves</td>
<td>Ann Senn</td>
<td>Clay Shelton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trey Simon</td>
<td>Mark Slice</td>
<td>Cornelia Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony Timmerman</td>
<td>Randy Watts</td>
<td>Emily Wheaton</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visitors: none

I. Welcome/Devotion: Ben McCoy presented a devotional based on John 14:26 which says the Holy Spirit will teach you all things. How often do we hear children say “I can do it by myself” and many of us adults think this as well. We can’t do it by ourselves. Getting help is not an issue of weakness but a sign of maturity and wisdom. Jesus chose twelve people to help him so as the Body of Christ we need each other’s help as we all rely on our Lord for help.

II. Review of the Minutes: from March 23, 2021 meeting by Ann Gainey

Unanimous approval

III. Standing Reports:

1. Treasurer – Ann Senn
   - No issues meeting budget

2. Finance – Harry Cromer
   - On budget as YTD offerings are very strong
   - There are $77,876 in excess funds which will be rolled over
3. Lay Leader – Becky McCormack

The blessings continue to flow and we are thankful! Our Easter Services were awesome – all six of them were full – and the good news of the resurrection was celebrated with joy! In person attendance continues to grow as more people are vaccinated and feel safe coming back to in-person worship. And joy of joys, we are now able to worship together, in-person, with no masks!

Adult Sunday School will resume on June 6th on campus and everyone is very excited to be back together for that! Our Children’s program is starting again on site for the 11:15 service, small steps at first, but as more volunteers can be secured, additional age groups will be added.

Our challenge with the laity will be getting everyone back into the habit of physically coming to church on Sunday mornings. It’s sometimes difficult to get re-motivated to waking up, getting dressed, and driving to church for worship when the convenience of watching from our couch in our p.j.’s is so tempting. But we will rely on the Holy Spirit to move on our congregation and inspire them to return to join together with the body to worship our Lord!

We will celebrate Holy Communion again on June 6th using the pre-filled elements. We have had very positive feedback on everyone partaking of communion at the same time, so we are trying to determine a good way to continue to do this when we start back with the served elements.

If there is anything that I can do to assist in any way, please let me know. If you know of a need within our congregation that I can help with, please let me know that as well.

4. Missions – Rick Faulkner (not presented)

Over the past 2 months, local and global missions have been extremely active. The GO Team is excited to share the following information with Church Council:

- A renovation project spearheaded by Susan Turner took place at the Epworth Home. A new residential space at the Trenholm Road Epworth Campus was overhauled which included a 5,000 square foot space with six bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 office areas and 3 laundry rooms. Over 10,000 man hours and $6,000 made it happen. Thank you Susan!
- A missions team went to Asbury Hills in April and was there for one week. Led by John Nesbitt, this team provided repairs to multiple buildings throughout the campus.
- Faithful Servant Missions shared that the additional funding we sent to them recently was used to complete repairs on roof providing shelter for a 3 classroom education building. This generous contribution allowed them to complete a project that had been in dire need of repairs for a significant period of time.

Looking Ahead:
- Our Guatemala missions trip will take place in June immediately after school is out. The team is led by Ramon Hayes and will be in country for a week.
• Save the Date: September 24-26 is the weekend for this year’s Global Impact Celebration. The theme this year is “This Little Light of Mine”, and currently we have 24 missionaries or partners joining us this year, with 7 of those being new additions to our missions partnerships over the past year!

Thanks so much for your leadership, it is a pleasure to serve as the GO Team Leader.

5. **Trustees – Clay Shelton (not presented)**
   - Have completed the installation on icemaker in the room next to room 206.
   - Completed the reinstall of coffeemakers in main kitchen.
   - Reorganized all of storage buildings at rear of property, creating work area with power and lighting.
   - Held initial conversations with facilities manager of the Catholic Church concerning the possibility of a joint prayer ground between our cemeteries.
   - Continuing to monitor condition on cemetery.
   - Build cooler storage rack outside of main kitchen.
   - We offer our appreciation and thanks to our Facilities and custodians for the work they do to clean and maintain our Campus.

**IV. Staff Reports:**

1. **Assimilation Pastor – Marcy Kenny (not presented)**

   **Small Groups/Sunday School**
   Many small groups have been challenged this session with commitment level. Fall plan will include training sessions for leaders to spur new interest with their members. Many are already making their space reservations for the building for the fall.

   Most Sunday School groups are gearing up to return to the building.

   The new 316 Super Small Groups have continued to be successful. We have over 50 people in one right now.

   Alpha kicked off with two online groups.

   **First Connection Team**
   We continue to struggle with having enough folks to serve, but we make do with what we have each week. Leaders Ken Spence and Lynn Dempsey, along with Dustin Degoursey have been invaluable. They are awesome leaders who truly care about making sure this is a welcoming place, while also abiding by the Covid protocol. Steve Reeves stepped up to be the new Fusion Lead Usher! Woo Hoo! Guest Central continues to attract more visitors than it ever has before.
Membership
We just had the first in-person Foundations class since the pandemic started. We had 15 people attend and it was so refreshing to have that physical time together. We will have the first in-person receiving of new members on Sunday May 16th.

Women’s Ministry
She Talks Facebook group has grown to almost 680 members. This continues to be a great connection point for women.

The IF:Gathering was presented after being postponed last year. We set the limit at 50 women to maintain social distancing and sold out in 4 days! It was a wonderful day of learning and growing. Many relationships that were formed that day have continued, and several 316 Super Small Groups formed out of this day as well.

The Women’s Ministry team met to decide future plans. A stroller group was discussed, as well as having She Talks monthly gatherings return for the fall. A discussion was also held to have a Men’s Retreat late summer or fall, so I am looking to start a team for that as well.

Misc
Paper Love – this team is made up of folks that want to serve but are unable to come on Sunday as they are at risk. They are sending out cards to people who need encouragement or love from their church family. This continues to be a great serving opportunity and folks are enjoying getting the cards.

2. Contemporary Worship – John Dukes (not presented)
Here are a few ministry updates from the Contemporary Worship ministry;
• We have continued our weekly process of pointing people to Jesus on Sunday morning. I have been so proud of our musicians as they have served faithfully during this pandemic.
• We have continued to host Seek First Nights of Prayer and Worship. They have been powerful nights and I’m grateful for the work of Holy Spirit in my life as well as what I have heard from others.
• We are focused right now on our Steps Toward Normalcy. For our ministry that involves starting to open up recruitment for new musicians and prayerfully considering how to help our church love Jesus better each day.

I say it every time, but extremely grateful to be a part in what God is doing in and through CUMC.

3. Congregation Care – Paul Allen (not presented)
The following deaths associated with our church family have occurred since our last meeting. (We had 6 deaths connected with our church family)
1. Tim Cox - Albert & Margie Cox’s Son
2. Emily Fisher Manley – Maria Timmerman’s Mother
3. Mary Franklin – Jim Franklin’s Mother
4. Barbara Lattimore – Cindy Hodges Mother
5. Linda Cannon – Mike Cannon’s Mother
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7. Steve Mims – Sandy Mims’s Brother-in-Law
8. Otis Spires – Rena McDonald’s Father
10. William Hetherington – Jeff Hetherington’s Father

Illness/ Serious Concerns Currently requiring our prayers
1. Mr. Ken Streeter – Lung Issues/ Throat Cancer
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“The Spirit Lifters” continue and consistently share their food & love. These visits, meals, and touches of Christ’s love are always appreciated. They continue cooking and delivering meals. **They are always looking for some folks to add to their Team. If you might be interested please contact Susan Turner or Mary Linda Rye.**

4th Sunday Community Services are suspended at this time until further notice.

Please continue to pray for our church families. Not only for COVID-19 protection but for the Issues of life. They affect us and those in our families we love and hold dear. Christians are not immune from the virus or attacks of Satan. We have to deal with the issues of Finances, Health, Relationships, Addictions, Hurts, Hang-ups, & Habits also.

4. Children’s Ministry – Natalie McCoy (not presented)

Our desire is to come alongside parents and help them live out their call to make disciples of their children.

- We are excited to announce the hiring of our new part-time Children’s Ministry Assistant, Rebecca Nelson. Rebecca is married to Nate and they have a seven-year-old son, Jordan. Rebecca has been an active volunteer in the Wave Ministry on Sunday mornings in our Wee Worship class and has been a substitute in our weekday preschool. She loves Jesus and is excited to join our team as we partner with parents in ministering to their children.
- We continue to produce and offer online preschool and elementary worship services on Sunday Mornings for the children. These services can also be accessed throughout the week. Thank you to Mark and John for being sure the videos are streamed each Sunday!
- On Sunday, May 2nd, we began our regathering process as we welcomed our Nursery and Toddler age children on Sunday morning at 11:15. It was a beautiful day, filled with the joy and laughter of children, parents and our dedicated volunteers. During the 11:15am hour, on Sunday, June 27th, we will welcome our 2, 3, and 4’s and on July 11th, our K-4th graders will be back! Thank you to Curt and his team for being sure the building was cleaned, sanitized and ready for May 2nd.
- We need additional volunteers to serve in all areas of the Wave Ministry. Our volunteers are the hands and feet of Jesus to the children, and we can’t do it without dedicated volunteers serving in each age group.
• In April and May, we did a drive-thru pick up of Wave Bags. These bags are designed for specific age
groups and include weekly devotions, monthly Bible memory verse challenges, crafts, and fun
activities to reinforce the online lessons. We also have a parent information sheet and quick lesson
recap for reference. Around 150 bags are picked up each month. This has been a great way for us to
partner with parents and grandparents in developing their child’s spiritual life.
• I have conducted several Safe Sanctuary trainings via zoom and will be scheduling several more for
new volunteers as well as for those going on mission trips.
• Meetings for Nursery/Toddler, Welcome Desk, Wee Worship and Sunday School Wave Leaders have
all taken place over the last month.
• A Kids Worship meeting will be held tomorrow (Wednesday, May 26th) for volunteers.

It is a privilege to partner in ministry with the parents, leaders, and members of Chapin UMC as
children Catch the wave of God’s amazing love, Dive deep into God’s word and then Cast His love to
everyone!

5. Facilities Manager – Curt Mitchell (not presented)

It has been an active start to the year, and we are excited about the improvements and upgrades
happening around campus. The following are highlights of what has been taking place at Chapin United
Methodist Church since Facilities last reported out to the Church Council:

1) Campus Improvements- We coordinated and executed with Mark Slice on the Fusion Center
upgrade project. This included but was not limited to, the addition of a new light bar as well as
wiring a new circuit to provide power for the lights, the addition of a stage extension (4’ x 20’),
construction and wiring of the new Aviom system along with other infrastructure wiring for the
sound system. We also worked with Cashion Electric to resolve the grounding/surge protection
issue between the Fusion Center, Admin Hallway, and Fellowship Hall by grounding the panels
together as well as adding the surge protection to the specific panels that provide power to any
electronics.
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water to sustain new growth. Anything unsightly/worn has been removed from the monuments
again this month. The turf has also been treated for weeds and fire ants. All of this is in effort to
bring the aesthetics of the cemetery to a higher level.
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running properly. With the assistance of Mrs. Ann Senn, we are tracking these annual unforeseen
repairs for 2021, in order that we may provide a proposed budgeted line-item estimate reflecting
the average annual expenses on these repairs for 2022.
4) We have set up and torn down multiple events in the sanctuary, fellowship hall and room 206 to make
accommodations for our small groups, Fusion, UMW, IF Conference, circles, men’s prayer group,
funerals, etc.
5) We continue to work weekly on various maintenance projects, and as always, oversee the ordering
and stocking of all kitchen and janitorial supplies.
We strive to make CUMC an attractive and appealing environment where all people feel comfortable
and welcome. We consider our opportunity to serve the Lord and His people of this congregation a
tremendous honor and we look forward to this service on a daily basis.

6. Media Director – Mark Slice (not presented)
Media and Production have continued to advance the technical capabilities and the production standards during year 2021. The following are the highlights from the reporting period:

**Live Streaming:** The COVID 19 pandemic has changed the landscape for Church participation nationally and CUMC is no different. March and April 2021 have seen 8291 views over all platforms. The totals are a decrease of 38% over the same time last year. However, the totals are 275% above the March / April 2019 numbers.

**Production:** To prepare for the opening of the Fusion Center on May 2, we re-designed the stage, purchased a new audio console to replace the existing one which was at end of life and add an new and re-configured the existing light grid to better light the stage. Project was completed and operators trained on the new system. The first event out of the Fusion Center was the May 1 Seek First. The aged audio console was removed from Fusion and installed in the Fellowship hall to replace that audio console which was even an older model.

We had no major equipment failures during this reporting period.

7. **Traditional Worship – Lennie Tucker (not presented)**

**Outreach**
- Cards are sent out to various choir members and those that need encouragement.
- Phone calls and emails and texts are sent out daily to check on our people.
- 1 New Member in May 2021
- 8 singing ensembles (Another added in April)

**Organization and Improvement**
- Preparing choir room for the return of the Black Sheep Sunday School Class
- Enlisted a new member (Joan Longo) to accompany several of the singing groups and fill in at the instruments when Lisa or Mary Ann are absent.

**Worship Planning**
- Groups That Provide Worship Music
  - Handbells with 11 members now instead of 6
  - Two SSA groups
  - Two Mixed Ensembles
  - One Trio and Small Group 3:16
  - One TTBB group
  - One Octet
  - Total of 8 group

**Preparation for July 4, 2021**
- Special Prayer for Our Country “If My People”
  - Pastor Jody, Mark, and myself and members for our church along with The Octet will be praying and leading our church in a special prayer day this year.

**Return of the Choir and Orchestra on September 8, 2021**
- Members have all been contacted to see if they will be serving.

Psalm 104:33
“I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.”

8. Transit Ministry – Emily Wheaton (not presented)

We kicked off our Transit season the second week of February! We meet on Wednesday afternoons at 4pm and have had 30+ kids each week. We are currently using some material titled “Defined: Who God Says You Are” using the book of Ephesians to learn all about our identity. They have been super engaged, and we use the last 15 minutes of our time to play games. This particular study will wrap up the week before Easter and we will begin something new after spring break.

On February 12 we reserved a theater and 17 students and 3 adults watched a movie together for a Fun Friday Night event. Our next event will be in April.

The Worthy Conference for girls is back on the schedule for May 15. This event will be held in host homes and include both virtual and in person elements. Registration is open now.

9. Student Pastor – Hugo Muraco (not presented)

We're excited to be finishing our school semester strong. Our attendance remains the same, but the relationships and conversations are growing stronger. We're seeing students asking real questions about their faith and strengthening their understanding of their relationship with God. We have been consistent and faithful with what God is granting. Our leaders have been meeting regularly once a month for prayer, planning, and training.

Our season will end with a fun night on Sunday night, June 6th for our student groups and a community Summer Kick Off with Chapin Baptist on Friday, June 11th! Sunday School will also start for our Middle School and High School students on June 6th.

As we gear up for summer our Middle School Camp registrations are at capacity, our mission trip to ASP is taking 8 students and 4 adults, and our High School Beach Trip only has five spots left open. We believe that this summer will set up the Fusion Student Ministry for a really strong Fall!

10. Operations – Caroline Fogle (not presented)

As always it has been very busy here at Chapin UMC. All of our ministry teams, both staff and servant ministers, are working hard and looking forward to some important upcoming events on the calendar, many of which will be included in other staff reports. On the Operations side of things, here are a few important milestones and projects Council should be aware of:

1. Fusion Center Regathering: Thank you to Mark, Curt, Van and everyone else that helped ensure the Fusion Center was ready to Regather on May 2nd. Many changes and upgrades were made prior to May 2nd to ensure a great worship experience.

2. Monthly Outreach with Congregation: As always the people of Chapin UMC continue to step up and make a difference in the name of Jesus. We completed a food drive for WeCare and collected over 300 lbs of food for the month of April. May we will focus on the Mother’s Day offering for Epworth.

3. Staffing: We welcome Rebecca Nelson to the Chapin UMC staff as (lof2) Children’s Ministry Assistants. We continue the search for the 2nd part-time assistant.
4. Special Guests: We will have special guest spend the night in the Fellowship Hall Saturday, June 19th and worship with us on Sunday, June 20th at the 9am Traditional Service. The Student Ministry of First United Methodist Church of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, are coming to South Carolina to do mission work and were in need of night to stay prior to going to the mission sight. Their student minister, Emily McKenzie and 60 youth/volunteer were so happy to know we could assist them.

This will not affect Sunday School and Curt has a great plan to ensure the restrooms and anything else are ready for Sunday Worship. They are aware of our protocol and understand, as is everything these day, this is a fluid plan. If you have chance that Sunday please stop by to welcome them.

V. Other Reports:

- UMW – Cornelia Smith
  1. All three UMW circles have resumed in person meetings as well as the UMW Book Club.
  2. Monthly donations are made to We Care of Chapin.

April Activities
- South Carolina Conference United Methodist Women Spiritual Growth Virtual Event
- Mission Moment: Renovation of Epworth facility to house displaced women and children who have completed their program and are now ready to move into a place to call home.
- Selection of Chapin UMW Woman of the Year (announcement at the Columbia District Annual Meeting)
- Easter Baskets for shut-ins
- Printed new Chapin United Methodist Women brochures to be distributed to potential new members.

May Activities
- Senior Bingo at Crooked Creek Park
- $100 Donation to Church Women United Health Kit Fund
- Prize donation for Killingsworth Golf Tournament
- Virtual Voices From the Field – The work of UMW Regional Missionaries
- Prayer Squares for shut-ins

June Activities
- Presentation of two $1000 scholarships to seniors during the Contemporary Worship Service June 6.

VI. New Business

none

II. Old Business
VIII. Pastor’s Report – Jody Flowers

It is such a pleasure to present my report to Church Council. I am so grateful for each of you; you’re such a beautiful group of vision-driven, mission-minded, kingdom-focused leaders!

The Wednesday Morning Prayer Calls (6 AM / ZOOM) continue to be sweet and powerful times (began back in January) and I look forward to connecting with the Lord and with the CUMC family in this way each week!

Speaking of prayer, as we all continue to wait and trust and pray for the Lord to bring this virus to an end, my hope is that His work in and through us will never end. I pray that we will continue, in ever increasing ways, to demonstrate the love of Jesus to each other and to the world through lives of sacrifice, self-denial, humility, and patience.

Revised “Steps Toward Normalcy” ... (approved by the CUMC Executive Leadership Team at their meeting on 05/18/2021) ... (see attached document)

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The Chapin Methodist church family, through its commitment to the mission of Jesus to share the gospel with the world, continues to share in a great harvest of souls. As I’ve said before, God’s love cannot be quarantined, cancelled, or postponed – and this church family continues to be a beautiful model of that truth! Jesus is building His Church and nothing has or will ever stop Him! Already in 2021, we have received 36 new members (ministry partners) into the Chapin UMC Family, and we praise God for that!

And your reach extends way beyond the 4-walls of this church. Because of your generosity, we’ve received “Thank Yous” from sister churches who received “love gifts” from Chapin UMC ... (will show video)

I love you all. Michelle and I are so honored and humbled to serve alongside you all. God Bless, and may we all stay safe, stay strong, and stay in love with Jesus.

Next Church Council Meeting- July 27, 2021

Respectfully submitted by
Ann Gainey
**Assimilation Minister – Council Report**

**Small Groups/Sunday School**

Many small groups have been challenged this session with commitment level. Fall plan will include training sessions for leaders to spur new interest with their members. Many are already making their space reservations for the building for the fall.

Most Sunday School groups are gearing up to return to the building. The new 316 Super Small Groups have continued to be successful. We have over 50 people in one right now. Alpha kicked off with two online groups.

**First Connection Team**

We continue to struggle with having enough folks to serve, but we make do with what we have each week. Leaders Ken Spence and Lynn Dempsey, along with Dustin Degoursey have been invaluable. They are awesome leaders who truly care about making sure this is a welcoming place, while also abiding by the Covid protocol. Steve Reeves stepped up to be the new Fusion Lead Usher! Woo Hoo!

Guest Central continues to attract more visitors than it ever has before.

**Membership**

We just had the first in-person Foundations class since the pandemic started. We had 15 people attend and it was so refreshing to have that physical time together. We will have the first in-person receiving of new members on Sunday May 16th.

**Women’s Ministry**

She Talks Facebook group has grown to almost 680 members. This continues to be a great connection point for women.

The IF:Gathering was presented after being postponed last year. We set the limit at 50 women to maintain social distancing and sold out in 4 days! It was a wonderful day of learning and growing. Many relationships that were formed that day have continued, and several 316 Super Small Groups formed out of this day as well.

The Women’s Ministry team met to decide future plans. A stroller group was discussed, as well as having She Talks monthly gatherings return for the fall. A discussion was also held to have a Men’s Retreat late summer or fall, so I am looking to start a team for that as well.

**Misc**

Paper Love – this team is made up of folks that want to serve but are unable to come on Sunday as they are at risk. They are sending out cards to people who need encouragement or love from their church family. This continues to be a great serving opportunity and folks are enjoying getting the cards.
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In His Service along with you,

**Paul**
Here are a few ministry updates from the Contemporary Worship ministry.

1. We have continued our weekly process of pointing people to Jesus on Sunday morning. I have been so proud of our musicians as they have served faithfully during this pandemic.

2. We have continued to host Seek First Nights of Prayer and Worship. They have been powerful nights and I’m grateful for the work of Holy Spirit in my life as well as what I have heard from others.

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We had no major equipment failures during this reporting period.

Mark Slice  
Director of Media and Production
Facilities Report to the
Church Council (March/April)

It has been an active start to the year, and we are excited about the improvements and upgrades happening around campus. The following are highlights of what has been taking place at Chapin United Methodist Church since Facilities last reported out to the Church Council:

1) **Campus Improvements**- We coordinated and executed with Mark Slice on the Fusion Center upgrade project. This included but was not limited to, the addition of a new light bar as well as wiring a new circuit to provide power for the lights, the addition of a stage extension (4’ x 20’), construction and wiring of the new Aviom system along with other infrastructure wiring for the sound system. We also worked with Cashion Electric to resolve the grounding/surge protection issue between the Fusion Center, Admin Hallway, and Fellowship Hall by grounding the panels together as well as adding the surge protection to the specific panels that provide power to any electronics.

2) **Cemetery**- We continue to work on the irrigation system to make sure the turf is receiving adequate water to sustain new growth. Anything unsightly/worn has been removed from the monuments again this month. The turf has also been treated for weeds and fire ants. All of this is in effort to bring the aesthetics of the cemetery to a higher level.

3) **Unforeseen**- We continue to partner with Carolina Comfort to keep each of our HVAC units/systems running properly. With the assistance of Mrs. Ann Senn, we are tracking these annual unforeseen repairs for 2021, in order that we may provide a proposed budgeted line-item estimate reflecting the average annual expenses on these repairs for 2022.

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5) We continue to work weekly on various maintenance projects, and as always, oversee the ordering and stocking of all kitchen and janitorial supplies.

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Curt Mitchell
Facilities Manager
Fusion Student Ministries
Council on Ministries Report
March- May 2021

We’re excited to be finishing our school semester strong. Our attendance remains the same, but the relationships and conversations are growing stronger. We’re seeing students asking real questions about their faith and strengthening their understanding of their relationship with God. We have been consistent and faithful with what God is granting. Our leaders have been meeting regularly once a month for prayer, planning, and training.

Our season will end with a fun night on Sunday night, June 6th for our student groups and a community Summer Kick Off with Chapin Baptist on Friday, June 11th! Sunday School will also start for our Middle School and High School students on June 6th.

As we gear up for summer our Middle School Camp registrations are at capacity, our mission trip to ASP is taking 8 students and 4 adults, and our High School Beach Trip only has five spots left open. We believe that this summer will set up the Fusion Student Ministry for a really strong Fall!
Lay Leader Report
May 27, 2021

The blessings continue to flow and we are thankful! Our Easter Services were awesome – all four of them were full – and the good news of the resurrection was celebrated with joy! In person attendance continues to grow as more people are vaccinated and feel safe coming back to in-person worship. And joy of joys, we are now able to worship together, in-person, with no masks!

Adult Sunday School will resume on June 6th on campus and everyone is very excited to be back together for that! Our Children’s program is starting again on site for the 11:15 service, small steps at first, but as more volunteers can be secured, additional age groups will be added.

Our challenge with the laity will be getting everyone back into the habit of physically coming to church on Sunday mornings. It’s sometimes difficult to get re-motivated to waking up, getting dressed, and driving to church for worship when the convenience of watching from our couch in our p.j.’s is so tempting. But we will rely on the Holy Spirit to move on our congregation and inspire them to return to join together with the body to worship our Lord!

We will celebrate Holy Communion again on June 6th using the pre-filled elements. We have had very positive feedback on everyone partaking of communion at the same time, so we are trying to determine a good way to continue to do this when we start back with the served elements.

If there is anything that I can do to assist in any way, please let me know. If you know of a need within our congregation that I can help with, please let me know that as well.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky McCormack
Over the past 2 months, local and global missions have been extremely active. The GO Team is excited to share the following information with Church Council:

- A renovation project spearheaded by Susan Turner took place at the Epworth Home. A new residential space at the Trenholm Road Epworth Campus was overhauled which included a 5,000 square foot space with six bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 office areas and 3 laundry rooms. Over 10,000 man hours and $6,000 made it happen. Thank you Susan!

- A missions team went to Asbury Hills in April and was there for one week. Led by John Nesbitt, this team provided repairs to multiple buildings throughout the campus.

- Faithful Servant Missions shared that the additional funding we sent to them recently was used to complete repairs on roof providing shelter for a 3 classroom education building. This generous contribution allowed them to complete a project that had been in dire need of repairs for a significant period of time.

**Looking Ahead:**

- Our Guatemala missions trip will take place in June immediately after school is out. The team is led by Ramon Hayes and will be in country for a week.

- Save the Date: September 24-26 is the weekend for this year’s Global Impact Celebration. The theme this year is “This Little Light of Mine”, and currently we have 24 missionaries or partners joining us this year, with 7 of those being new additions to our missions partnerships over the past year!

Thanks so much for your leadership, it is a pleasure to serve as the GO Team Leader.

Rick Faulkner
Operations Report to the
Church Council (April - May)

As always it has been very busy here at Chapin UMC. All of our ministry teams, both staff and servant ministers, are working hard and looking forward to some important upcoming events on the calendar, many of which will be included in other staff reports. On the Operations side of things, here are a few important milestones and projects Council should be aware of:

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Church Council Report
Tuesday, May 25, 2021 / 7PM

Jody Flowers, Lead Pastor

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The Wednesday Morning Prayer Calls (6 AM / ZOOM) continue to be sweet and powerful times (began back in January) and I look forward to connecting with the Lord and with the CUMC family in this way each week!

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The Chapin Methodist church family, through its commitment to the mission of Jesus to share the gospel with the world, continues to share in a great harvest of souls. As I’ve said before, God’s love cannot be quarantined, cancelled, or postponed – and this church family continues to be a beautiful model of that truth! Jesus is building His Church and nothing has or will ever stop Him! Already in 2021, we have received 36 new members (ministry partners) into the Chapin UMC Family, and we praise God for that!

And your reach extends way beyond the 4-walls of this church. Because of your generosity, we’ve received “Thank Yous” from sister churches who received “love gifts” from Chapin UMC ... [will show video]

I love you all. Michelle and I are so honored and humbled to serve alongside you all. God Bless, and may we all stay safe, stay strong, and stay in love with Jesus.

Jody Flowers
05/25/2021
Steps Toward Normalcy
Revised May 18, 2021

May 16th:
- If you are fully vaccinated, face coverings are optional. If you are not fully vaccinated, face masks are encouraged (but not required).

June 6th:
- No social distancing required on campus, except for three-feet in the balcony of the sanctuary during worship.
- Return of Adult, Youth and Transit Sunday School.
- Coffee and food allowed at all meetings, classes, groups, and in the Fusion Center.

September 5th:
- Three-feet spacing in balcony of the sanctuary is eliminated.
- Choir returns.
- Passing of offering plates returns at Traditional; TBD at Contemporary.
- Bulletins return at Traditional; TBD at Contemporary.
- Meet and Greet returns.

Staying the Course (at least through the Summer):
- Cleaning protocol.
- Communion (prepackaged).
- Baptism Celebrations.
Staff/Office Volunteers:
- Beginning May 19 will follow the – “If you are fully vaccinated, face coverings are optional. If you are not fully vaccinated, face masks are encouraged (but not required)” guideline.

Children’s Ministry Regathering:
- May 2nd - 2 years old and younger
- June 27th - 4 years old and younger
- July 11th - 4th grade and younger and SonFlower Ministry

*11:15 hour only, limited class sizes, and preregistration required.

**Timeline is subject to change.

***Decisions will continue to be prayerfully made out of an abundance of caution for the health and safety of the CUMC family and our surrounding community. Input from local physicians, the CDC, the State of SC, and the UMC will continue to be gathered and valued.

"Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not get bent out of shape."

Stay safe. Stay strong. Stay in love with Jesus.
Traditional Music Ministry Report for May 2021

Highlights

Outreach

• Cards are sent out to various choir members and those that need encouragement.
• Phone calls and emails and texts are sent out daily to check on our people.
• 1 New Member in May 2021
• 8 singing ensembles (Another added in April)

Organization and Improvement

• Preparing choir room for the return of the Black Sheep Sunday School Class
• Enlisted a new member (Joan Longo) to accompany several of the singing groups and fill in at the instruments when Lisa or Mary Ann are absent.

Worship Planning

• Groups That Provide Worship Music
  o Handbells with 11 members now instead of 6
  o Two SSA groups
  o Two Mixed Ensembles
  o One Trio and Small Group 3:16
  o One TTBB group
  o One Octet
  o Total of 8 group

Preparation for July 4, 2021

• Special Prayer for Our Country “If My People”
  o Pastor Jody, Mark, and myself and members for our church along with The Octet will be praying and leading our church in a special prayer day this year.

Return of the Choir and Orchestra on September 8, 2021

• Members have all been contacted to see if they will be serving.

Psalm 104:33

“I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.”
This has been an amazing month in the Transit Ministry! On Friday, April 30 we held a Family Fun Night on campus. 17 families/67 people came out to enjoy hotdogs, Pelicans, and fellowship. We had some inflatables for the kids as well as 9square and cornhole. It was a great opportunity to meet many parents I had not yet and hang out with them and their kids.

We have held steady with around 26 kids showing up every Wednesday for discipleship and a little fun time. We are currently working through the Armor of God and how we can “wear” it each day and apply it to our lives.

Saturday the 15th we FINALLY got to have our Worthy Girls Conference. We had 27 girls spread across Chapin in 3 host homes. Each host home had two adult leaders. The girls watched pre-recorded talks from K. Lee Graham, former member of the Fusion Student Ministry and Miss Teen USA. She shared her testimony and it really resonated with many of our girls. They had great discussion, did a craft together, worshipped together, and had lunch from Chick-Fil-A. It looked a little different from the initial vision of the conference, but God did “IMMEASURABLY MORE” than I could have imagined. It was an AMAZING day!
Chapin United Methodist Women  
Cornelia Smith, President  
May 22, 2021

All three UMW circles have resumed in person meetings as well as the UMW Book Club.

Monthly donations are made to We Care of Chapin.

Garage Sale tentatively scheduled for September 4th.

April Activities

South Carolina Conference United Methodist Women Spiritual Growth Virtual Event

Mission Moment: Renovation of Epworth facility to house displaced women and children who have completed their program and are now ready to move into a place to call home.

Selection of Chapin UMW Woman of the Year (announcement at the Columbia District Annual Meeting)

Easter Baskets for shut-ins

Printed new Chapin United Methodist Women brochures to be distributed to potential new members.

May Activities

Senior Bingo at Crooked Creek Park

$100 Donation to Church Women United Health Kit Fund

Prize donation for Killingsworth Golf Tournament

Virtual Voices From the Field – The work of UMW Regional Missionaries

Prayer Squares for shut-ins

June Activities

Presentation of two $1000 scholarships to seniors during the Contemporary Worship Service June 6.
Update on The UMC Crisis

Traditional pastors/congregations are under increasing attack:

- North Georgia Conference (Mt. Bethel)
- New Jersey Conference
- Cal-Pacific Conference

https://goodnewsmag.org/2021/04/244329/

General Conference is set for: Aug 29 – Sept 6, 2022

The question: When do we begin having conversations with the congregation? (Some conversations are being held within; when do we have conversations with?)

Preparation for various possible outcomes of GC:

- Executive Leadership Team will meet at least monthly beginning September 2021.

- General Info/Discussion (1): November 14, 2021 (Sunday at 4pm; sanctuary)

- Congregation-Wide (3 presentations/6 opportunities): #1 - March 6/13, 2022; #2 - April 3/10, 2022; #3 - May 15/22, 2022. (Each meeting will be held at 4pm in the sanctuary)

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up, do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. -Isaiah 43:19 [NIV]
Wave Ministry Report
For Church Council Meeting
April/May 2021

Our desire is to come alongside parents and help them live out their call to make disciples of their children.

- We are excited to announce the hiring of our new part-time Children’s Ministry Assistant, Rebecca Nelson. Rebecca is married to Nate and they have a seven-year-old son, Jordan. Rebecca has been an active volunteer in the Wave Ministry on Sunday mornings in our Wee Worship class and has been a substitute in our weekday preschool. She loves Jesus and is excited to join our team as we partner with parents in ministering to their children.

- We continue to produce and offer online preschool and elementary worship services on Sunday Mornings for the children. These services can also be accessed throughout the week. Thank you to Mark and John for being sure the videos are streamed each Sunday!

- On Sunday, May 2nd, we began our regathering process as we welcomed our Nursery and Toddler age children on Sunday morning at 11:15. It was a beautiful day, filled with the joy and laughter of children, parents and our dedicated volunteers. During the 11:15am hour, on Sunday, June 27th, we will welcome our 2,3, and 4’s and on July 11th, our K-4th graders will be back! Thank you to Curt and his team for being sure the building was cleaned, sanitized and ready for May 2nd.

- We need additional volunteers to serve in all areas of the Wave Ministry. Our volunteers are the hands and feet of Jesus to the children, and we can’t do it without dedicated volunteers serving in each age group.

- In April and May, we did a drive-thru pick up of Wave Bags. These bags are designed for specific age groups and include weekly devotions, monthly Bible memory verse challenges, crafts, and fun activities to reinforce the online lessons. We also have a parent information sheet and quick lesson recap for reference. Around 150 bags are picked up each month. This has been a great way for us to partner with parents and grandparents in developing their child’s spiritual life.

- I have conducted several Safe Sanctuary trainings via zoom and will be scheduling several more for new volunteers as well as for those going on mission trips.

- Meetings for Nursery/Toddler, Welcome Desk, Wee Worship and Sunday School Wave Leaders have all taken place over the last month.

- A Kids Worship meeting will be held tomorrow (Wednesday, May 26th) for volunteers.

It is a privilege to partner in ministry with the parents, leaders, and members of Chapin UMC as children Catch the wave of God’s amazing love, Dive deep into God’s word and then Cast His love to everyone!

Natalie McCoy
Wave Children’s Minister
Operations Report to the  
Church Council (April - May)

As always it has been very busy here at Chapin UMC. All of our ministry teams, both staff and servant ministers, are working hard and looking forward to some important upcoming events on the calendar, many of which will be included in other staff reports. On the Operations side of things, here are a few important milestones and projects Council should be aware of:

1. Fusion Center Regathering: Thank you to Mark, Curt, Van and everyone else that helped ensure the Fusion Center was ready to Regather on May 2nd. Many changes and upgrades were made prior to May 2nd to ensure a great worship experience.

2. Monthly Outreach with Congregation: As always the people of Chapin UMC continue to step up and make a difference in the name of Jesus. We completed a food drive for WeCare and collected over 300 lbs of food for the month of April. May we will focus on the Mother’s Day offering for Epworth.

3. Staffing: We welcome Rebecca Nelson to the Chapin UMC staff as (1of2) Children’s Ministry Assistants. We continue the search for the 2nd part-time assistant.

4. Special Guests: We will have special guest spend the night in the Fellowship Hall Saturday, June 19th and worship with us on Sunday, June 20th at the 9am Traditional Service. The Student Ministry of First United Methodist Church of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, are coming to South Carolina to do mission work and were in need of night to stay prior to going to the mission sight. Their student minister, Emily McKenzie and 60 youth/volunteer were so happy to know we could assist them.

This will not affect Sunday School and Curt has a great plan to ensure the restrooms and anything else are ready for Sunday Worship. They are aware of our protocol and understand, as is everything these day, this is a fluid plan. If you have chance that Sunday please stop by a welcome them.
Members in Attendance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paul Allen</th>
<th>Clair Bouknight</th>
<th>Joe Bouknight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harry Cromer</td>
<td>Donna Croom</td>
<td>John Dukes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rick Faulkner</td>
<td>Jody Flowers</td>
<td>Caroline Fogle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ann Gainey</td>
<td>Azonia Ginyard</td>
<td>Crystal Ginyard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marcy Kenny</td>
<td>Becky McCormack</td>
<td>Jeff McCormack</td>
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<td>Ben McCoy</td>
<td>Natalie McCoy</td>
<td>Andrea McFadden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Curt Mitchell</td>
<td>Hugo Muraco</td>
<td>Kay Reeves</td>
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<td>Steve Reeves</td>
<td>Ann Senn</td>
<td>Clay Shelton</td>
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<td>Trey Simon</td>
<td>Mark Slice</td>
<td>Cornelia Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tony Timmerman</td>
<td>Randy Watts</td>
<td>Ron Weathers</td>
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<td>Emily Wheaton</td>
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Visitors: none

I. Welcome/Devotion: Ben McCoy presented a devotional based on John 14:1-3 in which Christ gives us an open invitation of welcome. Since we are provided a welcome mat, we should keep it “clean” so we can change the world. Ben also expressed his appreciation for all our endeavors during these difficult time in the pandemic.

II. Review of the Minutes: from January 2021 meeting by Ann Gainey

Unanimous approval

III. Standing Reports:

1. Treasurer – Ann Senn
   - No issues meeting budget
   - Continues to simplify and clarify the budget
2. Finance – Harry Cromer
   • All looks good YTD
   • Made recommendation to take vacated children’s ministry position and have to new part-time positions of 25 hours each which would result in a $16,260 savings. The motion was seconded by Crystal Ginyard.

   Unanimous approval

3. Lay Leader – Becky McCormack
   God continues to bless Chapin United Methodist Church as we move forward in our mission, even during this pandemic, to winning souls for Christ. Membership continues to grow, missions continue to reach those in need and we are financially strong due to an amazingly generous congregation.

   We are approaching Easter Sunday and in order to accommodate as many people as possible, while still following our COVID protocols, there will be 3 Contemporary services on Saturday, April 3rd and 3 Traditional services on Sunday, April 4th. Attendees are being asked to pre-register so we can assure that social distancing is followed. All but two of the services are almost full now. We will have an overflow area to try to accommodate “walk-ins”, but please be sure to register ahead if at all possible.

   Our in-person gathering on Sunday mornings has seen a bit of an increase in attendance as more people are vaccinated and begin to feel more comfortable being around others. The staff and the leadership are doing a great job in assuring the safety of all of us, and they are constantly monitoring the CDC recommendations for possible easing of some of our current restrictions. However, we must proceed with caution so please be patient. Our laity is faithful and dedicated and having their support has been so very appreciated.

   If there is anything that I can do to assist in any way, please let me know. If you know of a need within our congregation that I can help with, please let me know that as well.

4. Missions – Rick Faulkner
   The GO Team has met monthly and is very excited about what lays ahead this year. We have several highlights to share with Council that include the following:

   The GO Team was extremely thankful for the generous gift of $100,000 given towards missions from excess funds. We have already distributed $62,000, and are waiting to see how the summer shapes for our different international partners with plans to disburse the remaining funds over the summer.

   We have a Missions Trip to Asbury Hills planned for April; a trip to Guatemala planned for June; and making tentative plans for other trips in the fall. We will not be going to Kenya or Costa Rica this year.
Save the Date: September 24-26 is the weekend for this year’s Global Impact Celebration. We are still working on details for what that will look like, but it will take place and it will be a grand celebration!

Summer Trip Policy Guidelines recommendation for 2021 have been sent to Church Council Leadership for your review and vote. The GO Team would appreciate your support in making sure that both our teams and the host organizations we travel to are all operating from guidelines that are ensuring the safety of team members and those they travel to serve.

Thanks so much for your leadership, it is a pleasure to serve as the GO Team Leader.

Rick made a motion that the GIC dates aforementioned be approved by the Council. It was seconded by Harry Cromer.

Unanimous approval

5. Trustees – Clay Shelton

1. Thanks to Facilities staff for all the work they have been doing so far this year.
2. Water leak on left side of driveway has been repaired a patch made to driveway.
3. Retaining wall constructed of left side of cemetery to fix constant erosion problem.
4. Tile engraving for columbarium brought up-to-date.
5. Leak in front atrium to be worked on in April/May.

IV. Staff Reports:

1. Assimilation Pastor – Marcy Kenny

Small Groups/Sunday School
Most small groups and Sunday School classes have continued to meet, either in person or online. Some are even doing a hybrid of in person and online with a laptop sitting in a space for a person. The new 316 Super Small Groups have continued to be successful. We have over 50 people in one right now.
Alpha kicked off with two online groups.

First Connection Team
We continue to struggle with having enough folks to serve, but we make do with what we have each week. The new sign up system is working really well.
Guest Central continues to attract more visitors than it ever has before.

Membership
We had our first Foundations class this year in February and decided to have it online again. We had 25 people participate. Then we had 15 adults join.
She Talks
She Talks Facebook group has grown to almost 680 members. This continues to be a great connection point for women. We will be presenting the IF:Gathering that was postponed from last year by the time this report is submitted.

Misc
Paper Love – this team is made up of folks that want to serve but are unable to come on Sunday as they are at risk. They are sending out cards to people who need encouragement or love from their church family. This continues to be a great serving opportunity and folks are enjoying getting the cards.

2. Contemporary Worship – John Dukes

Here are a few ministry updates from the Contemporary Worship ministry:
• We have continued our weekly process of pointing people to Jesus on Sunday morning. I have been so proud of our musicians as they have served faithfully during this pandemic.
• We have hosted two Seek First Nights of Prayer and Worship. They have been powerful nights and I’m grateful for the work of Holy Spirit in my life as well as what I have heard from others.
• We are focused right now on Easter 2021. Couldn’t be more excited to be having a physical gathering. It is going to be a great time as we celebrate the resurrection of our Savior King.

I say it every time, but extremely grateful to be a part in what God is doing in and through CUMC.

3. Congregation Care – Paul Allen

• The following deaths associated with our church family have occurred since our last meeting. (We had 6 deaths connected with our church family)
  1. Jackie Brantley – Melissa Logue’s Grandmother
  2. Marek Makoski – Melly Makoski’s Son
  3. Cornelia Bittle – Harriet Wilson’s Mother
  4. Paul Highberger – Steve Highberger’s Father
  5. Polly Pearson – Lee Ann Lawrence’s Mother
  6. Larry McLinden – Debbie Wilson’s Brother

• Illness/ Serious Concerns Currently requiring our prayers
  1. Mr. Ken Streeter – Lung Issues/ Throat Cancer
  2. Mr. Guy Sorrell – Stroke – Recovering at Encompass Rehab
  3. Miss Gloria Hendricks – Fell and has broken ribs
  4. Mr. Cliff McMillan – Ongoing Care
  5. Miss Cammy Wheless – Overall Health Deterioration
  6. Mrs. Deanie Weldon – Overall Health Deterioration
  7. Coach Dick Weldon – Overall Health Deterioration
  8. Miss Lila Dodson – Overall Health Deterioration
• “The Spirit Lifters” continue and consistently share their food & love. These visits, meals, and touches of Christ’s love are always appreciated. They will be cooking and delivering meals again soon. They are always looking for some folks to add to their Team. If you might be interested please contact Susan Turner or Mary Linda Rye.

• Marcy Kenny has initiated a new group of folks that are writing notes and sending cards to our people. They are named “Paper Love”. These notes are going to shut-ins, folks in assisted living, folks recovering from hospital stays etc. If they need a note of encouragement this team is ready to provide it. Just send Marcy a name and address and the team will handle the rest.

• Our staff members and volunteers have been making calls to some of our identified church members to check on them to see if they are ok or have needs that they can take care of during the pandemic. These calls continue. THANK YOU!!

• 4th Sunday Community Services are suspended at this time until further notice.

• Please continue to pray for our church families. Not only for COVID-19 protection but for the Issues of life. They affect us and those in our families we love and hold dear. Christians are not immune from the virus or attacks of Satan. We have to deal with the issues of Finances, Health, Relationships, Addictions, Hurts, Hang-ups, & Habits also.

4. Children’s Ministry – Natalie McCoy

Our desire is to come alongside parents and help them live out their call to make disciples of their children.

• Andrea McFadden, our children’s ministry assistant, will be leaving us and moving to Texas at the end of April. She has been an invaluable member of our team and has worked tirelessly to minister to the children, families, and volunteers of our church. Her hard work and dedication to the children’s ministry is beyond appreciated. She will be greatly missed by us all!

• We continue to offer live online preschool and elementary worship services on Sunday Mornings for the children. These services can also be accessed throughout the week.

• We designed Lent/Easter Baskets for each family. These baskets include age-appropriate devotions for the 40 days of Lent, Lent Bingo, palms for Palm Sunday, activities, and treats. The children have been busy doing acts of service to complete their Lent Bingo cards. We are so proud of the way they are shining the light of Christ to others. Once their card is completed, we surprise them with a treat dropped off at their door.

• Each month, we do a drive-thru pick up of Wave Bags. We love having the opportunity to see and talk to the parents, grandparents, and children each month. These bags are designed for specific age groups and include weekly devotions, monthly Bible memory verse challenges, crafts, and fun activities to reinforce the online lessons. We also have a parent information sheet and quick lesson recap for reference. Around 150 bags are picked up each month. This has been a great way for us to partner with parents and grandparents in developing their child’s spiritual life.

• In February, we conducted several driveway visits to children in the ministry. We had a great time playing with the children and getting to know the parents better. We brought games and ministry resources with us.

• We have had a lot of families sign up for ministry resources. Over the past month, we have provided over 20 families with articles, devotions, and books dealing with various topics and needs.

• Several families have been dealing with Covid and quarantine. We have delivered meals to those families and followed up with calls.
It is a privilege to partner in ministry with the parents, leaders, and members of Chapin UMC as children **Catch** the wave of God’s amazing love, **Dive** deep into God’s word and then **Cast** His love to everyone!

5. **Facilities Manager – Curt Mitchell**

It has been an active start to the year, and we are excited about the improvements and upgrades happening around campus. The following are highlights of what has been taking place at Chapin United Methodist Church since Facilities last reported out to the Church Council:

1. **Campus Improvements** - We have cleaned up and decluttered the outside area in front of the choir room, including thinning out some of the crape myrtle trees, placed river rock around drains to prevent erosion, and added new sod.

2. **Cemetery** - We have installed a new retaining wall on the south side of the cemetery to deal with the erosion issue. Also, we have implemented a monthly walk through/ cleanup on the first Wednesday of every month to remove anything that is old, worn, or unsightly. We are working to edge the grass around every monument in order to maintain them properly (north side is completed). All of this is in effort to bring the aesthetics of the cemetery to a higher level.

3. **Unforeseen** - In February we repaired a leak to the water line near the main driveway. This required the asphalt road to be cut so that the plumbing was accessible. Since we were replacing the asphalt for the repair already, we also cut out and repaired two other smaller “alligatoring” spots in the asphalt of our parking lot at the same time.

4. **Fire Alarm Panel** - We have worked in conjunction with Mark Slice and Johnson Controls to upgrade our fire panels communication ability. There was a grounding issue between the buildings, so by abandoning the old copper wires and replacing them with new single mode fiberoptic cables, we have corrected the grounding issue and helped minimize future repair expenses. A large percentage of this labor was preformed “in-house” and helped lower the cost of this project significantly.

5. We have set up and torn down multiple events in the sanctuary, fellowship hall and room 206 to make accommodations for our small groups, Fusion, UMW, circles, men’s prayer group, funerals, etc.

6. We continue to work weekly on various maintenance projects, and as always, oversee the ordering and stocking of all kitchen and janitorial supplies.

We strive to make CUMC an attractive and appealing environment where all people feel comfortable and welcome. We consider our opportunity to serve the Lord and His people of this congregation a tremendous honor and we look forward to this service on a daily basis.

6. **Media Director – Mark Slice**

Media and Production have continued to advance the technical capabilities and the production standards during year 2021. The following are the highlights from the first two months of 2021:

1. **Live Streaming** - The COVID 19 pandemic has changed the landscape for Church participation nationally and CUMC is no different. January and February 2021 have seen 9893 views over all platforms. The totals are an increase of 600% over the same time last year.
2. Production: Ash Wednesday was a virtual service this year. The service was provided as an “On Demand” service as well as a 7pm broadcast on all platforms. The “On Demand” netted 185 device views and the 7pm broadcast 61 device views.

We had no major equipment failures, however the audio board in the fusion center is experiencing some issues and will be replaced. The audio board will be moved into the fellowship hall to replace that 15+ year audio board.

7. Traditional Worship – Lennie Tucker (presented by Ann Gainey)

Outreach
- Cards are sent out to various choir members and those that need encouragement.
- Phone calls and emails and texts are sent out daily to check on our people.
- 2 new people to join singing groups
- 7 singing ensembles (added a new one in February)

Organization and Improvement
- Donated funds for purchasing keyboard for sanctuary

Worship Planning
- Weekly rehearsals for Preparation for Worship
  - Sunday 7:45 Rehearsal for Worship with accompanist and sound people
  - Sunday 10:15 Rehearsal for various groups with accompanist
  - Monday 11:30 Worship Planning with worship leaders
  - Monday 1:00 Handbells (6)
  - Monday 3:00 Mixed Ensemble (5)
  - Monday 4:00 Trio (3)
  - Monday 5:00 Women’s Ensemble I (6)
  - Monday 6:00 Women’s Ensemble II (6) with accompanist
  - Monday 7:00 Men’s Ensemble (7) with accompanist
  - Tuesday 6:30 Mixed Ensemble (5)
  - Various other rehearsals are scheduled when needed.

- Planning weekly for music for each of the seven groups
- Planning and rehearsing for Ash Wednesday and Good Friday service
- Planning and rehearsing for Easter

Psalm 104:33
“I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.”
8. Transit Ministry – Emily Wheaton

We kicked off our Transit season the second week of February! We meet on Wednesday afternoons at 4pm and have had 30+ kids each week. We are currently using some material titled “Defined: Who God Says You Are” using the book of Ephesians to learn all about our identity. They have been super engaged, and we use the last 15 minutes of our time to play games. This particular study will wrap up the week before Easter and we will begin something new after spring break.

On February 12 we reserved a theater and 17 students and 3 adults watched a movie together for a Fun Friday Night event. Our next event will be in April.

The Worthy Conference for girls is back on the schedule for May 15. This event will be held in host homes and include both virtual and in person elements. Registration is open now.

9. Student Pastor – Hugo Muraco

Youth Ministry has been very challenging moving into 2021. We’re seeing more and more students become disconnected. We have been faithfully creating opportunities for students to connect both through online/virtual means as well as in person gatherings.

While our numbers remain at an average of 30ish students, there are a lot of students that we have not seen return from before Covid. We’re also seeing a drop in the number of leaders that we have jumping in. We have gone from a team of about 20 leaders to less than 10 leaders serving regularly. Some of this shift is due to a sense of discomfort due to the Corona Virus, but we also believe that we have lost some of our regular attending students.

We are in a place where we need to acknowledge the truth that some of these students and parents/leaders have stopped attending or have connected with other ministries. Our hope is that they are connected with other ministries instead of disconnected from church altogether. As a ministry we are choosing to move forward without looking back. While our ministry and care will always remain open towards any student who would like to walk through our doors, whether returning or first-time guest, we are pouring our energy into the ministry of right now.

We are working on creating stronger discipleship and relational connections with the students that we have in our ministry right now. Our aim is to imitate the approach Jesus took throughout the gospels in His ministry, we will love, care and pour into the ones who are seeking while welcoming any who are curious and want to encounter Jesus!

While ministry has been challenging, and this perspective shift is challenging itself, I (Hugo Muraco) am optimistic and confident in knowing that God is at work and that HE is moving in the lives of our students who are currently involved!

10. Operations – Caroline Fogle

It has been a busy two months here at Chapin UMC. All of our ministry teams, both staff and servant ministers, are working hard and looking forward to some important upcoming events on the calendar,
many of which will be included in other staff reports. On the Operations side of things, here are a few important milestones and projects Council should be aware of:

1. **Excess Funds Distributed:** Thank you again, Finance and Council for the 2020 approval of Excess funds. Many great things are happening here at Chapin UMC campus and beyond because of this approval. 28% of the excess funds are going out to the community and around the world.

2. **Cemetery:** Huge kudos to the Trustees and Curt Mitchell for the immense improvement in the cemetery.

3. **Monthly Outreach with Congregation:** As always the people of Chapin UMC continue to step up and make a difference in the name of Jesus.
   a) January- partnered with Mike Millington and FCA to donate 150+ blankets to Transitions Homeless Centre’ in Columbia
   b) February- partnered with Lifebridge and was able to donate 300+ items to replenish their low supplies.
   c) March- Provided lunch for employees at the Lovelace Family Medical Centre’ on a Saturday while they administer CoVid Vaccines and testing.

4. **Staffing:**
   a) Kay Reeves: Thank you to all the Committees who put time in reviewing the increase for hours proposal. We are excited that she will start her new hours the week of March 28th.
   b) It is with great sadness, we announce that Andrea McFadden, Children’s Ministry Assistant, has put in her resignation. She is relocating to Texas and her last day will be at the end of April. Though we certainly understand and support her decision, it does not diminish the pain and absence that will be felt by this team, especially Natalie. Andrea, we thank you for your dedication, love for the children of Chapin UMC and sharing how to love Jesus with the children of Chapin UMC.

V. **Other Reports:**

- **UMW – Cornelia Smith**

Knitted Together for God’s Good Work is the 2021 theme for United Methodist Women. The programs explore how we as children of God are joined and linked together into the whole body of Christ. Even at times when social distancing or other obstacles may keep us physically apart, we are knit together in community to transform the world (United Methodist Women Program Book 2020-2021)

**Officers for 2021:**

Cornelia Smith, President          Leslie Watford, Vice-President
Linda Durant, Secretary           Leanne Lamar, Spiritual Growth
Cheryl Crooks, Treasurer          Kristine Joseph, Membership, Nurture, Outreach

**Circle Leaders:**

Jenny Rawlings, Helen Rainey Circle       Kathy Roberts, Marjorie Derrick Circle
Susan Turner and Debbie Watts, Flowers Circle
Several officers and circle leaders participated in the Columbia District Officers’ Training held virtually in January. Also in January we lost one of our beloved members, Pat Mullins. A Gift in Memory was given to missions in honor of her contributions to UMW.

February is Wallace Family Life Center Special Emphasis Month. Member donations of $5 each support the center. During February, valentines were sent to circle members and valentine bags were given to Chapin Police Department. Pizza, cookies, cupcakes, chips and drinks were given to the girls who live at Stokes Cottage at Epworth. Diapers were donated to Lifebridge during the CUMC donation drive. Virtual activities included Legislative Advocacy Days workshops (Juvenile Justice Reform, Elder Abuse, Opioid Epidemic, Christians and Justice), A Call to Prayer and Self Denial featuring Africa University.

Jessica Brodie, Editor for the South Carolina United Methodist Advocate, was the speaker for the virtual Day Apart on March 6. Her message emphasized the many hats we as women wear each and every day. Today is our annual Legacy Day of Giving. To commemorate our 152 years of mission in the world, a $152 donation was made to insure our legacy will continue.

Chapin UMW has committed to partner with the Truth Seekers Sunday School Class to provide items for their Epworth renovation project. The building when completed will become home for the displaced moms and kids that have completed their programs and are now ready to move into a place to call home.

Chapin UMW Scholarship Applications are available in the church office. Deadline is May 1. One recipient will be chosen to receive $1000.

Ways To Be In Mission In South Carolina: Kristine Joseph Chair
  o Pull tabs from soda cans: Ronald McDonald House
  o Cancelled stamps for Marian Mission Storehouse: Methodist churches in Zambia and Republic of Congo
  o SmileAmazon (https:smile.amazon.com/) to benefit Killingsworth

Requested a collection box be placed in Admin Building to collect these items.

VI. New Business

none

VII. Old Business

none

VIII. Pastor’s Report – Jody Flowers

It is such a pleasure to present my report to Church Council. I am so grateful for each of you; you’re such a beautiful group of vision-driven, mission-minded, kingdom-focused leaders!
Our “Sunday Nights in Lent” (after the “With Christ in the School of Prayer”) gatherings on Facebook Live have been going great! The Lenten Guide is a solid resource, and I’m thankful for what the Lord is doing through these times to grow us in Christlikeness!

The Wednesday Morning Prayer Calls (6 AM / ZOOM) are sweet and powerful times (began back in January) and I look forward to connecting with the Lord and with the CUMC family in this way each week!

A brief update on a couple things at the denominational level. The 2020 General Conference, originally scheduled for May of 2020, postponed to August of this year, has been postponed again, with a tentative date of August 29-September 6, 2022 (Minneapolis). Also of note, the South Carolina Annual Conference will meet virtually (with an abbreviated agenda) on June 6 and 7.

The main item of business for the 2020 GC (to be held in Aug of 2022) is The Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace through Separation. If this plan is adopted, there will be at least 3 “new” denominations birthed from the one: Two Liberal (one named “The post-separation UMC”), and one Traditionalist (The Global Methodist Church).

The church family, through its commitment to the mission of Jesus to share the gospel with the world, continues to share in the great harvest of souls. God’s love cannot be quarantined, cancelled, or postponed – and this church family continues to be a beautiful model of that truth. Jesus is building His Church and nothing has or will ever stop Him! Already in 2021, we have received 20 new members into the Chapin UMC Family, and we praise God for that!

“Thank Yous” from sister churches who received “love gifts” from Chapin UMC ... (may have a video)

As we all continue to wait and trust and pray for the Lord to bring this virus to an end, my hope is that His work in and through us will never end. I pray that we will continue, in ever increasing ways, to demonstrate the love of Jesus to each other and to the world through lives of sacrifice, self-denial, humility, and patience.

Shared slides of “Steps toward Normalcy” ... and submitted to Council for approval.

| Unanimous approval |

I love you all. Michelle and I are so honored and humbled to serve alongside you all. God Bless, and may we all stay safe, stay strong, and stay in love with Jesus.

Next Church Council Meeting- May 25, 2021

Respectfully submitted by
Ann Gainey
Members in Attendance:

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<td>Paul Allen</td>
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<td>Brad Bramlett</td>
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<td>Donna Croom</td>
<td>John Dukes</td>
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<td>Libbie Moore</td>
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<td>Clay Shelton</td>
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Visitors: none

I. Welcome/Devotion: Ben McCoy presented a devotional based on Genesis 6:13-7:17 (building of the ark). Ben said as a child his perception of the ark was a boat with no water which seemed rather foolish but Noah follow God’s commands even though it seemed foolish to all those who witnessed the building of the ark. It’s a good lesson for us to go on into the “storms” as God commands. We know the “storms” will find us so we need to be ready to know how to respond.

II. Review of the Minutes: from May 25, 2021 meeting by Ann Gainey

| Unanimous approval |

III. Standing Reports:

1. Treasurer – Ann Senn
   - No issues meeting budget

2. Finance – Harry Cromer
   - On budget as YTD offerings are 9% more than 2020
   - There are $142,521 in excess funds which will not be designated at this time
3. Lay Leader – Becky McCormack (not reported)

Chapin UMC, like so many other churches, is still trying to find our “new normal” in a post-pandemic world but hope and blessings continue to rain down on us! In-Person worship attendance continues to increase and the Children’s and Youth ministries have also re-started to some degree. Thanks and appreciation to our wonderful staff and congregation for all the hard work and faithfulness.

We celebrated Independence Day with an AWESOME music and prayer service – If My People. The focus was to offer our prayers for our country and our leaders, and our praise to our heavenly Father for his goodness and mercy. Along with the music provided by Lennie and her team, five (5) members of our congregation offered their personal prayers for the country, and Pastor Jody delivered a powerful message to remind us we need to be the UNITED States of America, not the UN-TIED States of America!

We observed Women in the Pulpit Sunday on July 18th and heard first-hand from 4 women in our community that miracles still do take place every day!

On August 22 we will observe national “Welcome Back to Church” Sunday. The staff is preparing a wonderful day for us and now is a great time to reach out to those who have not started in-person worship again as well as invite friends and neighbors who do not have a church home.

Coming up in September is our GIC Celebration – more from our Missions team on that – but this is a wonderful opportunity for our congregation to meet and love on our missionary partners.

I am so delighted to serve this church and this congregation. Chapin UMC has kept our eyes looking up to Jesus during this past very difficult 18 months and the Lord has provided well for us. Keep praying, keep serving and stay in love with Jesus!

4. Trustees – Clay Shelton

1. Other than items covered in Facilities report, this Summer has been quiet for Trustees.
2. Assisted Facilities with rewiring of choir loft area.
3. Reviewing current cemetery policy.
4. Awaiting feedback from Our Lady of the Lake concerning a joint effort with a prayer/meditation garden between churches. They are in the midst of a large project so expect fall action.

IV. Staff Reports:

1. Assimilation Pastor – Marcy Kenny

Small Groups/Sunday School
The summer typically sees small groups take a break. However, many groups use the summer for fellowship events. Many have gone to dinner together, festivals, events, etc.
Most Sunday School groups have returned to the building. We did see one class not return, and some have experienced really low attendance. Once the Children’s area is open to the Sunday School hour, families should begin to return.
The new 316 Super Small Groups have continued to be successful.
Alpha this past season had two classes, and plan to return in the fall. Spiritual Gifts classes also plan to return in the fall. Thank you to all Small Group, Sunday School, and Class leaders! They continue to be committed to the spiritual growth of all who come to their group or class.

**First Connection Team**
After a slow start with volunteers, we have seen many return. Each week we are almost full! Guest Central continues to see more visitors than ever. Each week we are giving away many gift bags. A super special thank you to Ken Spence and Lynn Dempsey, Traditional & 1115 Contemporary Usher Leaders. They have just been truly the most awesome leaders ever! They are committed to their positions and love what they do. They inspire folks to serve. I am leaving Sunday mornings in such capable hands!
And another special thank you to Steve Reeves! After the previous Fusion Usher Leader stepped down, he took over seamlessly!

**Membership**
We had the first in-person receiving of new members on Sunday May 16th. The next Assimilation Minister should have a pretty large Foundations class when they are ready to have it!

**Misc**
Paper Love – This team sends out cards to those in need. This team continues to be a great serving opportunity and folks are enjoying getting the cards.

**Final thoughts...**
I am so thankful to Chapin UMC for the blessing they are to this community. I am not sad to leave because I leave with lifelong friendships and huge personal spiritual growth. I will miss everyone, but I know that God will lead the right person here who will continue this ministry!

2. **Contemporary Worship – John Dukes**
Here are a few ministry updates from the Contemporary Worship ministry;

1. We have continued our weekly process of pointing people to Jesus on Sunday morning. We are beginning the process of looking for new musicians.
2. We have continued to host Seek First Nights of Prayer and Worship. They have been powerful nights and I’m grateful for the work of Holy Spirit in my life as well as what I have heard from others.
3. With the work of Mark, Curt and so many others, we have been able to install some new equipment and adjust the layout of the musicians in the Fusion Center and Sanctuary. I love these changes that we have made and I believe they will help us do what is most important: help people see and love Jesus.
4. We are beginning to work on some of the GIC elements that our team gets to be a part of. We are looking forward to celebrating all that God is doing around the world in September.

I say it every time, but extremely grateful to be a part in what God is doing in and through CUMC.

3. **Congregation Care – Paul Allen**

The following deaths associated with our church family have occurred since our last meeting. (We had 17 deaths connected with our church family including 3 members)

1. George Weathers – Ron Weathers’ Father
2. Brandon Cox – Albert & Margie Cox’s Grandson
3. Lindsay Roof – Phil Roof’s Brother
4. Jackie Stork Tillison – Curtis Stork’s
5. Patrick Murphy – Brett Williams’ Grandfather
6. Jean Davis – Reba Singley’s Mother
7. Glenda Lominick – Chip Lominick’s Mother
8. Guy Spence – Ken & Margaret Spence’s Son
9. Kelly Wendt – Steven Wendt’s Wife
10. Bernie Laabs – Kris Laabs-Cogdill’s Father
11. Kay Tigner – Merle Kohl’s Sister
13. Robin Campbell – Shawn Kiser’s Mother
15. Carolyn Gray – Rollin Ring’s Daughter, Vicki Arthur’s Sister
16. Betty Edwards – Joan Longo’s Mother
17. Donna Beck – Scott Beck’s Mother

Illness/ Serious Concerns Currently requiring our prayers
1. Miss Lilla Dodson – Overall Health Deterioration – Very Serious Issues at this time
2. Miss Caroline Connelly – Very Serious Issues at this time
3. Mrs. Pam Rabon – Very Serious Issues at this time
4. Mr. Ken Streeter – Lung Issues/ Throat Cancer
5. Miss Cammy Wheless – Overall Health Deterioration
6. Mrs. Deanie Weldon – Overall Health Deterioration
7. Coach Dick Weldon – Overall Health Deterioration

• “The Spirit Lifters” continue and consistently share their food & love. These visits, meals, and touches of Christ’s love are always appreciated. They continue cooking and delivering meals. They are always looking for some folks to add to their Team. If you might be interested please contact Susan Turner or Mary Linda Rye.
• 4th Sunday Community Services are suspended at this time until further notice.
• Please continue to pray for our church families as we all deal with the issues of life. They affect us and those in our families we love and hold dear. Christians are not immune from the attacks of Satan. We have to deal with the issues of Finances, Health, Relationships, Addictions, Hurts, Hang-ups, & Habits also.

4. Children’s Ministry – Natalie McCoy

Our desire is to come alongside parents and help them live out their call to make disciples of their children.

• We continue to recruit volunteers for the 11:15 worship hour. We have conducted numerous Safe Sanctuary trainings over the past months. After the training, each volunteer must submit an application and then all national and state background checks must be completed. In addition, we must do two reference checks for each volunteer. Volunteers returning to serve are completing their annual covenant statement and 2 year background check authorization form.
• In July, we held three in person trainings for our Preschool Worship Wave Leader volunteers as well as our Kids Worship Wave Leaders. We used this time to cast vision for the Wave Ministry and to train each small group leader on the new curriculum. We also met with Welcome Desk volunteers to train them on using the new check in system.
• We designed and prepared lessons for in person Kids Worship and Preschool Worship for the month of July.
• A big thank you to Mark and to Curt and his team (Jay, Tammy, Judy, and John Michael) for all their hard work in getting the Wave Children’s building prepared for the return of in-person worship. We also want to thank Caroline and Kay for filling in when needed in the nursery.
• On July 11th our Kids Worship (K-4th grade) returned in person for the 11:15 hour. It was an amazing day! Rocky Johnson came in to play the drums and each child receive drum sticks to play. They loved it!! We discussed how they needed to focus to play the beats and tied it into ways we can focus on God.
• On July 18th we welcomed our preschoolers back to in person worship. Our Wave Leaders did a great job leading them to learn more about the Armor of God. We look forward to ministering to more and more children each week!
• We are working hard to recruit volunteers for the SonFlower Special Needs Ministry as this is much needed for many of our families.
• We continue to produce and offer online preschool and elementary worship services on Sunday Mornings for the children. These services can also be accessed throughout the week. Thank you to Mark and John for being sure the videos are streamed each Sunday!
• We still need additional volunteers to serve in all areas of the Wave Ministry. Our volunteers are the hands and feet of Jesus to the children, and we can’t do it without dedicated volunteers serving in each age group.

It is a privilege to partner in ministry with the parents, leaders, and members of Chapin UMC as children Catch the wave of God’s amazing love, Dive deep into God’s word and then Cast His love to everyone!

5. Facilities Manager – Curt Mitchell

It has been an active start to the year, and we are excited about the improvements and upgrades happening around campus. The following are highlights of what has been taking place at Chapin United Methodist Church since Facilities last reported out to the Church Council:

1. Campus Improvements - We coordinated with Mark Slice on the sanctuary lighting upgrade project as well as the execution of the drum catch repositioning in the choir loft, along with all the infrastructure work required to complete this project.
2. Cemetery - We continue to work on the irrigation system to make sure the turf is receiving adequate water to sustain new growth. We have replaced several broken sprinkler heads during this period. Anything unsightly/worn has been removed from the monuments again this month. All of this is in effort to bring the aesthetics of the cemetery to a higher level.
3. Unforeseen - We have had two catastrophic failures of HVAC units during this period. One of the units was a 5 ton in the sanctuary and the other was a 15 ton unit in the preschool wing.
Both required full replacement and all work has been completed by Carolina Comfort and is now operational with warranty in place.

4. We have set up and torn down multiple events in the sanctuary, fellowship hall and room 206 to make accommodations for our small groups, Fusion, UMW, IF Conference, circles, men’s prayer group, funerals, etc.

5. We continue to work weekly on various maintenance projects, and as always, oversee the ordering and stocking of all kitchen and janitorial supplies.

We strive to make CUMC an attractive and appealing environment where all people feel comfortable and welcome. We consider our opportunity to serve the Lord and His people of this congregation a tremendous honor and we look forward to this service on a daily basis.

6. Media Director – Mark Slice

Media and Production have continued to advance the technical capabilities and the production standards during year 2021. The following are the highlights from the reporting period:

1. **Live Streaming:** The COVID 19 pandemic has changed the landscape for Church participation nationally and CUMC is no different. May and June 2021 have seen 6819 views over all platforms. The totals are a decrease of 38% over the same time last year. However, the totals are 220% above the May / June 2019 numbers.

2. **Production:** Highlights of the reporting period includes, the production of the Memorial Day tribute video for deceased veterans, planning and implementation of infrastructure to allow the migration of the services back onto the stage area and choir loft. This move also addressed the contemporary service to have a stationary position for the drum kit. Which also controls the volume of the drums in the sanctuary.

We had no major equipment failures during this reporting period.

7. Traditional Worship – Lennie Tucker

- July 4, 2021 “If My People” Patriotic and Prayer for Our Country
- A special thanks to all those that participated in this service.
- July 11, 2021 Handbells played during worship.
- July 18, 2021 Mixed Ensemble sang during rehearsal.
- Electric Keyboard was purchased through money that was donated for use in the sanctuary.

**Growth and Additional Worship Groups:**
- The following groups were added to our music ministry during the pandemic to accommodate the CDC guidelines provided by our church: 2 Ladies’ Ensemble, Men’s Ensemble, Octet Mixed Ensemble, Handbell Ensemble, 2 Mixed Ensembles, Trio, and Various Solos and Instrumentalist. These groups will be continued post pandemic.
- Each voice section on the choir and orchestra has begun rehearsals preparing in July and August for September 5 when the choir will be united in the sanctuary to sing.
We have added 3 new choir members during the pandemic, 1 new bell ringer, and 1 new orchestra member, and 1 new volunteer accompanist. Several former members of these groups have now graduated from high school or college, have been sick and are no longer able to participate now.

**Future Plans:**
- Music for Christmas has arrived and we are looking forward to singing together this year.

Although things were different during the pandemic, I am thankful for the way God lead us through it and how we know things changed for us, but God never changes. So now, prayerfully, we will be able to take the things we have learned through this and glorify Him even more. As I have said before, I thank God for our pastor and staff and serving with our brothers and sisters at Chapin United Methodist.

8. **Transit Ministry – Emily Wheaton**

We started Sunday School again on June 6 and we are averaging 10 or so kids each week. We continue to use the Orange Curriculum which provides several elements for us to use in that hour. The kids who come are genuinely interested in participating and discussion.

Our Wednesday afternoons will begin back August 4 and we will spend 4 weeks focused on LOVE and how it is the main point of the bible, the reason we come to church each week, and the purpose of God’s life. We meet each Wednesday from 4-5:15 for “small group” and some fellowship time.

Our annual Unplugged Transit Retreat is scheduled for Sept 10-12 at Camp Langridge. We will include our rising 7th graders this year since they missed a year due to Covid. Kyle Hammill will be our speaker for the 4th year. We opened registration a week ago and have 20 students signed up thus far. This weekend is our kick-off to the new year, and we are so excited to pour into our kids!

We have a Meal Packing Event for Mission of Hope scheduled for Saturday, October 23rd. This event will have a multi-generational impact as we will be inviting church members of all ages to be a part. This event will allow us to continue to serve the people of Haiti by providing 20,000+ meals to be delivered into the country. If you would like more information, I would love to talk to you about it!

9. **Student Pastor – Hugo Muraco**

Sunday night middle/high school worship and small group gatherings have stopped during the summer season. We had a great summer kick-off gathering where we combined with Chapin Baptist!

Sunday School is meeting in the Fusion Center immediately following the 9:00 am service. While school was still active, we saw about 20 students. Now that we’re in the summer season our numbers are closer to 8, that’s both middle school and high school combined.
We took 25 kids and 5 leaders to middle school summer camp from June 5-8. No one got hurt and everyone had an awesome time! This will help establish unity and momentum as students get reengaged with ministry. It was really great to be able to separate middle school from high school for camp this year this year. This created a more comfortable and engaging environment for all students. That is definitely one of the greater wins of the whole experience.

As of right now we will be taking 18 high school students and 8 adult leaders to Murrells Inlet, SC, for our high school summer camp. This will take place from July 30th to August 2nd. Since we separated middle school from high school this allows us to have a smaller group, which is easier for our leaders to manage. The benefit of that is that we can take the students to a more desired location, like the beach!

This will be our final event under the leadership of Hugo Muraco as Hugo’s last day is August 3rd.

**10. Operations – Caroline Fogle**

As always it has been very busy here at Chapin UMC. All our ministry teams, both staff and servant ministers, are working hard and looking forward to some important upcoming events on the calendar, many of which will be included in other staff reports. On the Operations side of things, here are a few important milestones and projects Council should be aware of:

1. **Sanctuary Lighting Update**: Thank you to Mark, Curt, and everyone else who helped execute this tremendous update to the Sanctuary.
2. **Monthly Outreach with Congregation**: As always, the people of Chapin UMC continue to step up and make a difference in the name of Jesus. We completed a giving to Epworth to supplement the Mother’s Day offering in May, had great success with a water drive for Keepin It Real Ministry in June and started a drive for Palmetto place beginning July 26th
3. **Assimilation Candidate**: We will have special guest who is applying for the Assimilation Minister position with us all morning, August 1st.
4. **Staff Transitioning**: This week is Marcy and Hugo’s final week at Chapin UMC. We are thankful for all that they have done here at Chapin UMC, they will be missed, however we pray and cheer them on in their future ministry areas.

**V. Other Reports:**

- **UMW – Cornelia Smith**
  - Monthly donations are made to We Care of Chapin.
  - Monthly donations are made to Killingsworth’s Transitional Home in Columbia by the Helen Rainey Circle.
  - In June the Flowers Circle donated money to Hadassah Hope. Patricia England was guest speaker for their June meeting. The ministry assists women who are in and out of county detention centers, preparing them for safe and successful re-entry into larger society.
  - We are partnering with the church to collect items for Palmetto Place Children and Youth Services from July 26th to August 14th. Palmetto Place mission is to provide a safe and supportive
environment for children and teens who have faced abuse, abandonment, neglect and/or homelessness. Household and baby items will be collected.

- The Flowers Circle is leading the way to present the Festival of Tables on Sunday, August 15th @ 1pm in the church Fellowship Hall. Gorgeous tables will set the stage for a wonderful meal, good conversation, Silent Auction and entertainment by Cherie Nettles. Ms. Nettles is a national Christian Comedian and her presentation will certainly set the mood for a fun filled day. Tickets are $20 and can be purchased in advance from Circle leaders. Various missions will be the recipient of the proceeds from this event.

- One of the missions receiving the money is “Convoy for Hope”. A “meal packing event” will be held in October in conjunction with GIC. Emily Wheaton is leading this effort and the event will aid those living in Haiti.

- The annual Garage Sale is scheduled for September 4th. Proceeds from this event will also go to missions.

VI. New Business

none

VII. Old Business

none

VIII. Pastor’s Report – Jody Flowers

Staff Changes: A special thanks Marcy Kenny (Assimilation) and Hugo Muraco (Middle/Senior High Students) for all they have done in their 4 years here. My heart as a Lead Pastor is to see every member of our team effective and fulfilled in their ministry areas. And when God calls and leads them to greater effectiveness and fulfillment, sometimes that means that they take a path that leads them away from Chapin UMC. Yes, we’re going to miss them, but we bless them as they follow God’s call and lead.

COVID-19 Update: It seems that our foe has gotten up off of the mat just before the ten count (there’s at least one staff member who is thrilled that I’m using a sports analogy tonight). COVID cases and hospitalizations are on the rise at an alarming rate.

We will continue to do what we have been doing since March of 2020: Pray for the leadership of the Holy Spirit; Listen to the wisdom of the medical professionals we know, love, and trust; and, keep in step with the recommendations of the CDC and SC DHEC. As of tonight, we have not made any changes in our protocol, and I know we all hope and pray that we will not need to return to more stringent safety measures. But if our situation here calls for it, we will. (Stay Safe, Stay Strong, Stay in Love with Jesus).

One question that has been asked is: If someone in my family has tested positive for COVID-19, and I am fully vaccinated, do I need to quarantine? (In other words: Is that fully vaccinated person – who has a family member who has the virus – a threat to the health others?) The CDC says “No.” Their latest statement is: Fully vaccinated people who have been in contact with someone who has the virus need to monitor their health closely, but they do not need to quarantine, as long as they do not experience any COVID-19.
symptoms. With this being said, if you’re feeling uncomfortable with the uptick and not knowing if those around you are sick or are carriers, I would simply encourage you to wear a face covering.

July 25: A shout out to Kay Reeves for heading up the “COVID CREW THANK YOU BREAKFAST” that was held this past Sunday morning in the fellowship hall. There was a great turnout and I believe my prayer that those volunteers who stepped up during a difficult season would feel loved and appreciated, I believe it was answered.

August 22: We’re celebrating the National Back to Church Sunday on August 22nd, and our theme for the day is: Hope Is Here! I’m so excited about that day ... it creates an “easy entry point” for those who haven’t returned yet, and for those who’ve never attended. Music will be incredible (as always), food (early and late), T-shirts, a lot of fun stuff. You can help make it great, by making the effort to invite ... to be bringers ... A culture of invitation leads to a climate of celebration!

One last thing. A question that I haven’t been able to shake, a question that I’ve wrestled with since last summer, is: “Who’s not coming back?” Each week I seem to see a few more people return that I haven’t seen in so long, and I rejoice in that ... but ... Who’s not coming back? We’re seen about 60-65% of our regular attending adults return. But what about the other 35-40%, right? Who’s not coming back?

Am I concerned? Yes, of course, I’m very concerned. But I feel like the Holy Spirit has been reminding me lately, that while being concerned is a good thing ... Jody, do not allow your concerns to consume you. Anybody else need to be reminded of that tonight? It’s like, “Yes, you need to be concerned with who’s not here, but don’t let that consume you ... you keep your focus on the One who is always here ... the One who shows up every single Sunday without fail (summer, winter, spring, fall) pre-COVID, mid-COVID, and post-COVID ...

Yes, you be concerned with those who aren’t here, but don’t let your concerns consume you ... you keep your focus on the One who is high and exalted, seated on His throne, whose train of His robe fills the temple (we’ve all seen some pretty impressive trains on some beautiful wedding dresses, but none comes close the incredible train of the robe of our beautiful Lord!!) ... You cry out for more and more of Jesus in your life ... you stay mindful of your need for His presence in your life every moment of every day (I need You, Oh I need You, every hour I need You) ...

Yes, we should be concerned with who’s not here ... every single one of them matters to God and must matter to us ... but we must not let our concerns consume us ... I believe God wants us to cry out for more and more of His holy presence that lives in us (His holy presence that makes us more and more like Jesus, gives us more and more of Jesus’ heart for lost and broken and bound and hurting people ...) ...

I believe God wants us to feed on Jesus, the true Bread from Heaven, the One who said ‘I am the Bread of Life, whoever comes to Me will never go hungry ...’ Jesus, who is here every single Sunday is the One who fills us and sustains us and satisfies us and nourishes us and grows us ... He is our daily bread, He is the very Word of God ...

Yes, we should be concerned about who’s not here, but we should only be consumed with the One who is here, Jesus!

Will you join me in making that the cry of your heart? Consume us Jesus! Consume our thoughts, consume our words, our desires, our deeds ... consume us Lord!
There's a song, released in 2001 (the year the Lord brought us to Chapin) by Michael W. Smith. I've been singing it all afternoon ... I've sent it out to some of my closest friends and asked that they sing it and pray it over me (over the Lord's Church) ... I'd love for us to sing this song together tonight as we end this meeting ... Asking God to make us desperate for more and more of Him in our lives ...

Play / Sing ("You Are the Air I Breathe")

Next Church Council Meeting September 28, 2021

Respectfully submitted by
Ann Gainey
CUMC Church Council Agenda – July 27, 2021

Welcome/Devotion: Ben McCoy

Review of Minutes: Ann Gainey

Standing Reports

2. Finance Committee: Harry Cromer
3. Lay Leader: Becky McCormack
4. Trustees: Clay Shelton

Staff Reports

1. Assimilation Ministry: Marcy Kenny
2. Contemporary Worship – John Dukes
3. Congregational Care: Paul Allen
4. Children’s Ministry: Natalie McCoy
5. Facilities: Curt Mitchell
6. Media and Production: Mark Slice
7. Traditional Worship – Lennie Tucker
8. Transit Ministry – Emily Wheaton
9. Student Ministry – Hugo Muraco
10. Operations – Caroline Fogle

Other Reports

- UMW – Cornelia Smith

New Business

Old Business

Pastor’s Report
Director of Media and Production (DMP) Report to the Church Council (MAY 2021 – JUN 2021)

Media and Production have continued to advance the technical capabilities and the production standards during year 2021. The following are the highlights from the reporting period:

1. **Live Streaming:** The COVID 19 pandemic has changed the landscape for Church participation nationally and CUMC is no different. May and June 2021 have seen 6819 views over all platforms. The totals are a decrease of 38% over the same time last year. However, the totals are 220% above the May / June 2019 numbers.

2. **Production:** Highlights of the reporting period includes, the production of the Memorial Day tribute video for deceased veterans, planning and implementation of infrastructure to allow the migration of the services back onto the stage area and choir loft. This move also addressed the contemporary service to have a stationary position for the drum kit. Which also controls the volume of the drums in the sanctuary.

We had no major equipment failures during this reporting period.

Mark Slice
Director of Media and Production
Chapin UMC, like so many other churches, is still trying to find our “new normal” in a post-pandemic world but hope and blessings continue to rain down on us! In-Person worship attendance continues to increase and the Children’s and Youth ministries have also re-started to some degree. Thanks and appreciation to our wonderful staff and congregation for all the hard work and faithfulness.

We celebrated Independence Day with an AWESOME music and prayer service – If My People. The focus was to offer our prayers for our country and our leaders, and our praise to our heavenly Father for his goodness and mercy. Along with the music provided by Lennie and her team, five (5) members of our congregation offered their personal prayers for the country, and Pastor Jody delivered a powerful message to remind us we need to be the UNITED States of America, not the UN-TIED States of America!

We observed Women in the Pulpit Sunday on July 18th and heard first-hand from 4 women in our community that miracles still do take place every day!

On August 22 we will observe national “Welcome Back to Church” Sunday. The staff is preparing a wonderful day for us and now is a great time to reach out to those who have not started in-person worship again as well as invite friends and neighbors who do not have a church home.

Coming up in September is our GIC Celebration – more from our Missions team on that – but this is a wonderful opportunity for our congregation to meet and love on our missionary partners.

I am so delighted to serve this church and this congregation. Chapin UMC has kept our eyes looking up to Jesus during this past very difficult 18 months and the Lord has provided well for us. Keep praying, keep serving and stay in love with Jesus!

Respectfully submitted,

Becky McCormack
**Assimilation Minister – Council Report**

**Small Groups/Sunday School**

The summer typically sees small groups take a break. However, many groups use the summer for fellowship events. Many have gone to dinner together, festivals, events, etc.

Most Sunday School groups have returned to the building. We did see one class not return, and some have experienced really low attendance. Once the Children’s area is open to the Sunday School hour, families should begin to return.

The new 316 Super Small Groups have continued to be successful.

Alpha this past season had two classes, and plan to return in the fall.

Spiritual Gifts classes also plan to return in the fall.

Thank you to all Small Group, Sunday School, and Class leaders! They continue to be committed to the spiritual growth of all who come to their group or class.

**First Connection Team**

After a slow start with volunteers, we have seen many return. Each week we are almost full!

Guest Central continues to see more visitors than ever. Each week we are giving away many gift bags.

A super special thank you to Ken Spence and Lynn Dempsey, Traditional & 1115 Contemporary Usher Leaders. They have just been truly the most awesome leaders ever! They are committed to their positions and love what they do. They inspire folks to serve. I am leaving Sunday mornings in such capable hands!

And another special thank you to Steve Reeves! After the previous Fusion Usher Leader stepped down, he took over seamlessly!

**Membership**

We had the first in-person receiving of new members on Sunday May 16th. The next Assimilation Minister should have a pretty large Foundations class when they are ready to have it!

**Misc**

Paper Love – This team sends out cards to those in need. This team continues to be a great serving opportunity and folks are enjoying getting the cards.

**Final thoughts...**

I am so thankful to Chapin UMC for the blessing they are to this community. I am not sad to leave because I leave with lifelong friendships and huge personal spiritual growth. I will miss everyone, but I know that God will lead the right person here who will continue this ministry!
Facilities Report to the
Church Council (May/June)

It has been an active start to the year, and we are excited about the improvements and upgrades happening around campus. The following are highlights of what has been taking place at Chapin United Methodist Church since Facilities last reported out to the Church Council:

1) **Campus Improvements**- We coordinated with Mark Slice on the sanctuary lighting upgrade project as well as the execution of the drum catch repositioning in the choir loft, along with all the infrastructure work required to complete this project.

2) **Cemetery**- We continue to work on the irrigation system to make sure the turf is receiving adequate water to sustain new growth. We have replaced several broken sprinkler heads during this period. Anything unsightly/worn has been removed from the monuments again this month. All of this is in effort to bring the aesthetics of the cemetery to a higher level.

3) **Unforeseen**- We have had two catastrophic failures of HVAC units during this period. One of the units was a 5 ton in the sanctuary and the other was a 15 ton unit in the preschool wing. Both required full replacement and all work has been completed by Carolina Comfort and is now operational with warranty in place.

4) We have set up and torn down multiple events in the sanctuary, fellowship hall and room 206 to make accommodations for our small groups, Fusion, UMW, IF Conference, circles, men’s prayer group, funerals, etc.

5) We continue to work weekly on various maintenance projects, and as always, oversee the ordering and stocking of all kitchen and janitorial supplies.

We strive to make CUMC an attractive and appealing environment where all people feel comfortable and welcome. We consider our opportunity to serve the Lord and His people of this congregation a tremendous honor and we look forward to this service on a daily basis.

Curt Mitchell
Facilities Manager
Traditional Worship Leader Church Council Report
July 28, 2021

Highlights for July:

- July 4, 2021 “If My People” Patriotic and Prayer for Our Country
  - A special thanks to all those that participated in this service.
- July 11, 2021 Handbells played during worship.
- July 18, 2021 Mixed Ensemble sang during rehearsal.
- Electric Keyboard was purchased through money that was donated for use in the sanctuary.

Growth and Additional Worship Groups:

- The following groups were added to our music ministry during the pandemic to accommodate the CDC guidelines provided by our church: 2 Ladies’ Ensemble, Men’s Ensemble, Octet Mixed Ensemble, Handbell Ensemble, 2 Mixed Ensembles, Trio, and Various Solos and Instrumentalist. These groups will be continued post pandemic.
- Each voice section on the choir and orchestra has begun rehearsals preparing in July and August for September 5 when the choir will be united in the sanctuary to sing.
- We have added 3 new choir members during the pandemic, 1 new bell ringer, and 1 new orchestra member, and 1 new volunteer accompanist. Several former members of these groups have now graduated from high school or college, have been sick and are no longer able to participate now.

Future Plans:

- Music for Christmas has arrived and we are looking forward to singing together this year.

Although things were different during the pandemic, I am thankful for the way God lead us through it and how we know things changed for us, but God never changes. So now, prayerfully, we will be able to take the things we have learned through this and glorify Him even more. As I have said before, I thank God for our pastor and staff and serving with our brothers and sisters at Chapin United Methodist.

With a heart of gratitude,
Lennie Tucker
Church Council Congregational Care Report – 7/20/2021

• The following deaths associated with our church family have occurred since our last meeting. (We had 17 deaths connected with our church family including 3 members)
  1. George Weathers – Ron Weathers’ Father
  2. **Brandon Cox – Albert & Margie Cox’s Grandson**
  3. Lindsay Roof – Phil Roof’s Brother
  4. Jackie Stork Tillison – Curtis Stork’s
  5. Patrick Murphy – Brett Williams’ Grandfather
  6. Jean Davis – Reba Singley’s Mother
  7. Glenda Lominick – Chip Lominick’s Mother
  8. **Guy Spence – Ken & Margaret Spence’s Son**
  9. Kelly Wendt – Steven Wendt’s Wife
  10. Bernie Laabs – Kris Laabs-Cogdill’s Father
  11. Kay Tigner – Merle Kohli’s Sister
  13. Robin Campbell – Shawn Kiser’s Mother
  14. **Cliff McMillan – Alice McMillan’s Husband, JJ Casey’s Brother in Law**
  15. Carolyn Gray – Rollin Ring’s Daughter, Vicki Arthur’s Sister
  16. Betty Edwards – Joan Longo’s Mother
  17. Donna Beck – Scott Beck’s Mother

• Illness/ Serious Concerns Currently requiring our prayers
  1. Miss Lilla Dodson – Overall Health Deterioration – Very Serious Issues at this time
  2. Miss Caroline Connelly – Very Serious Issues at this time
  3. Mrs. Pam Rabon – Very Serious Issues at this time
  4. Mr. Ken Streeter – Lung Issues/ Throat Cancer
  5. Miss Cammy Wheless – Overall Health Deterioration
  6. Mrs. Deanie Weldon – Overall Health Deterioration
  7. Coach Dick Weldon – Overall Health Deterioration

• “The Spirit Lifters” continue and consistently share their food & love. These visits, meals, and touches of Christ’s love are always appreciated. They continue cooking and delivering meals. **They are always looking for some folks to add to their Team. If you might be interested please contact Susan Turner or Mary Linda Rye.**

• 4th Sunday Community Services are suspended at this time until further notice.

• Please continue to pray for our church families as we all deal with the Issues of life. They affect us and those in our families we love and hold dear. Christians are not immune from the attacks of Satan. We have to deal with the issues of Finances, Health, Relationships, Addictions, Hurts, Hang-ups, & Habits also.

In His Service along with you,

*Paul*
Council on Ministries Report
TRANSIT STUDENT MINISTRY
July 2021

We started Sunday School again on June 6 and we are averaging 10 or so kids each week. We continue to use the Orange Curriculum which provides several elements for us to use in that hour. The kids who come are genuinely interested in participating and discussion.

Our Wednesday afternoons will begin back August 4 and we will spend 4 weeks focused on LOVE and how it is the main point of the bible, the reason we come to church each week, and the purpose of God's life. We meet each Wednesday from 4-5:15 for “small group” and some fellowship time.

Our annual Unplugged Transit Retreat is scheduled for Sept 10-12 at Camp Langridge. We will include our rising 7th graders this year since they missed a year due to Covid. Kyle Hammill will be our speaker for the 4th year. We opened registration a week ago and have 20 students signed up thus far. This weekend is our kick-off to the new year, and we are so excited to pour into our kids!

We have a Meal Packing Event for Mission of Hope scheduled for Saturday, October 23rd. This event will have a multi-generational impact as we will be inviting church members of all ages to be a part. This event will allow us to continue to serve the people of Haiti by providing 20,000+ meals to be delivered into the country. If you would like more information, I would love to talk to you about it!
Contemporary Worship Church  
Council Report - July 2021

Here are a few ministry updates from the Contemporary Worship ministry.

1. We have continued our weekly process of pointing people to Jesus on Sunday morning. We are beginning the process of looking for new musicians.

2. We have continued to host Seek First Nights of Prayer and Worship. They have been powerful nights and I’m grateful for the work of Holy Spirit in my life as well as what I have heard from others.

3. With the work of Mark, Curt and so many others, we have been able to install some new equipment and adjust the layout of the musicians in the Fusion Center and Sanctuary. I love these changes that we have made and I believe they will help us do what is most important: help people see and love Jesus.

4. We are beginning to work on some of the GIC elements that our team gets to be a part of. We are looking forward to celebrating all that God is doing around the world in September.

I say it every time, but extremely grateful to be a part in what God is doing in and through CUMC.
Fusion Student Ministries
Council on Ministries Report
June - July 2021

Sunday night middle/high school worship and small group gatherings have stopped during the summer season. We had a great summer kick-off gathering where we combined with Chapin Baptist!

Sunday School is meeting in the Fusion Center immediately following the 9:00 am service. While school was still active, we saw about 20 students. Now that we’re in the summer season our numbers are closer to 8, that’s both middle school and high school combined.

We took 25 kids and 5 leaders to middle school summer camp from June 5-8. No one got hurt and everyone had an awesome time! This will help establish unity and momentum as students get reengaged with ministry. It was really great to be able to separate middle school from high school for camp this year. This created a more comfortable and engaging environment for all students. That is definitely one of the greater wins of the whole experience.

As of right now we will be taking 18 high school students and 8 adult leaders to Murrells Inlet, SC, for our high school summer camp. This will take place from July 30th to August 2nd. Since we separated middle school from high school this allows us to have a smaller group, which is easier for our leaders to manage. The benefit of that is that we can take the students to a more desired location, like the beach!

This will be our final event under the leadership of Hugo Muraco as Hugo’s last day is August 3rd.
Chapin United Methodist Women
Cornelia Smith, President
July 24, 2021

Church Council Meeting July 27, 2021

Monthly donations are made to We Care of Chapin.
Monthly donations are made to Killingsworth’s Transitional Home in Columbia by the Helen Rainey Circle.
In June the Flowers Circle donated money to Hadassah Hope. Patricia England was guest speaker for their June meeting. The ministry assists women who are in and out of county detention centers, preparing them for safe and successful re-entry into larger society.

We are partnering with the church to collect items for Palmetto Place Children and Youth Services from July 26th to August 14th. Palmetto Place mission is to provide a safe and supportive environment for children and teens who have faced abuse, abandonment, neglect and/or homelessness. Household and baby items will be collected.

The Flowers Circle is leading the way to present the Festival of Tables on Sunday, August 15th @ 1pm in the church Fellowship Hall. Gorgeous tables will set the stage for a wonderful meal, good conversation, Silent Auction and entertainment by Cherie Nettles. Ms. Nettles is a national Christian Comedian and her presentation will certainly set the mood for a fun filled day. Tickets are $20 and can be purchased in advance from Circle leaders. Various missions will be the recipient of the proceeds from this event.

One of the missions receiving the money is “Convoy for Hope”. A “meal packing event” will be held in October in conjunction with GIC. Emily Wheaton is leading this effort and the event will aid those living in Haiti.

The annual Garage Sale is scheduled for September 4th. Proceeds from this event will also go to missions.
Wave Ministry
Church Council Report
June/July 2021

Our desire is to come alongside parents and help them live out their call to make disciples of their children.

- We continue to recruit volunteers for the 11:15 worship hour. We have conducted numerous Safe Sanctuary trainings over the past months. After the training, each volunteer must submit an application and then all national and state background checks must be completed. In addition, we must do two reference checks for each volunteer. Volunteers returning to serve are completing their annual covenant statement and 2 year background check authorization form.
- In July, we held three in person trainings for our Preschool Worship Wave Leader volunteers as well as our Kids Worship Wave Leaders. We used this time to cast vision for the Wave Ministry and to train each small group leader on the new curriculum. We also met with Welcome Desk volunteers to train them on using the new check in system.
- We designed and prepared lessons for in person Kids Worship and Preschool Worship for the month of July.
- A big thank you to Mark and to Curt and his team (Jay, Tammy, Judy, and John Michael) for all their hard work in getting the Wave Children’s building prepared for the return of in-person worship. We also want to thank Caroline and Kay for filling in when needed in the nursery.
- On July 11th our Kids Worship (K-4th grade) returned in person for the 11:15 hour. It was an amazing day! Rocky Johnson came in to play the drums and each child receive drum sticks to play. They loved it!! We discussed how they needed to focus to play the beats and tied it into ways we can focus on God.
- On July 18th we welcomed our preschoolers back to in person worship. Our Wave Leaders did a great job leading them to learn more about the Armor of God. We look forward to ministering to more and more children each week!
- We are working hard to recruit volunteers for the SonFlower Special Needs Ministry as this is much needed for many of our families.
- We continue to produce and offer online preschool and elementary worship services on Sunday Mornings for the children. These services can also be accessed throughout the week. Thank you to Mark and John for being sure the videos are streamed each Sunday!
- We still need additional volunteers to serve in all areas of the Wave Ministry. Our volunteers are the hands and feet of Jesus to the children, and we can’t do it without dedicated volunteers serving in each age group.

It is a privilege to partner in ministry with the parents, leaders, and members of Chapin UMC as children Catch the wave of God’s amazing love, Dive deep into God’s word and then Cast His love to everyone!

Natalie McCoy
CUMC Church Council Agenda – September 28, 2021
(Via Zoom)

Welcome/Devotion: Ben McCoy

Review of Minutes: Ann Gainey

Standing Reports

2. Finance Committee: Harry Cromer
3. Lay Leader: Becky McCormack (presented by Jeff McCormack)
4. Missions – Rick Faulkner
5. Trustees: Clay Shelton

Other Reports

• UMW – Cornelia Smith

New Business

• Paul Allen – Aisha Brumley
• Emily Wheaton – Food Packing

Old Business

Pastor’s Report
Church Council Report  
Tuesday, September 28, 2021 / 7PM [ZOOM]

Jody Flowers, Lead Pastor

It is such a pleasure to present my report to Church Council. I am so grateful for each of you; you’re such a beautiful group of vision-driven, mission-minded, kingdom-focused leaders!

The Wednesday Morning Prayer Calls (6 AM / ZOOM) continue to be sweet and powerful times (began back in January and have been held for 40 Wednesdays now) and I look forward to connecting with the Lord and with the CUMC family in this way each week!

Speaking of prayer, as we all continue to wait and trust and pray for the Lord to bring this virus to an end, my hope is that His work in and through us will never end. I pray that we will continue, in ever increasing ways, to demonstrate the love of Jesus to each other and to the world through lives of sacrifice, self-denial, humility, and patience.

Since we’ve last met, we’ve hired a new staff member! Jonathan Ruth is our new Minister of Assimilation, and he’s off to a great start! Jonathan (along with his wife Tiffany and their four children) comes to us from Blythewood, brings with him 15 years of ministerial experience, and we could not be happier to have the Ruths here at Chapin UMC!

Hope Sunday was held back on August 22. Due to this surge of the Corona virus that we’re experiencing, we scaled back from what we had originally planned, but it was still a great Sunday infused with much hope for the future! (Note: Chapin UMC did not gather onsite for two Sundays – August 8 and 15 - due to an active Covid case in worship on August 1. We have amended our protocol and once again are requiring masks inside all buildings on campus. We continue to prayerfully monitor the situation, and will hopefully be able to return to a “mask optional” status soon.)

Our Global Impact Celebration (GIC) ... [I’ll write this paragraph after the weekend takes place.]

Your Nominations Team has begun their annual meetings, seeking God’s direction for the lay leadership of the Church. My hope and prayer is that there will be minimal turnover this year. Trusted, tenured leaders are always a great asset, especially during seasons like the one we’re enduring. In the next year or two, major decisions will likely need to be made by every UM church due to the possible realignment of our denomination (General Conference 2022: August 29 – September 6). We continue to pray for God’s will to be done.

Please know that Michelle and I love you all, and are so honored and humbled to serve alongside each of you.

Stay safe, stay strong, and stay in love with Jesus.

God Bless,

Jody

09/28/2021
GLOBAL IMPACT CELEBRATION 2021: It has been an extremely busy couple of months as the GO Team and the GIC Team have made preparations for our annual Global Impact Celebration. Our celebration theme was “This Little Light Of Mine”, taken from Matthew 5:16. The weekend took place 24-26 September and was an incredible success! 28 of our 37 partners were able to attend and take part in the weekend. This year the celebration was all about them, as we refreshed and rejuvenated them with plenty of activities and down time. There were events the entire weekend which enable our church family to get to know our missionaries better, and it all culminated on Sunday morning with incredible worship! Our partners left refreshed and blessed, and we look forward to seeing them again next year!

NEW PARTNERS: We have begun financial support for 5 new ministries that include a local ministry to women in prison (Hadassah Hope); a local Christ-based rehabilitation ministry (Reconciliation Ministries); Brazil (South American Missions); Rock Hill church based ministry (Old Town Church); and the United Methodists NOMAD’s, a RV ministry that travels all over the United States doing renovation and rehab work on UMC campuses.

In addition, we have met with and evaluated “Agua Por Vida”, a ministry that provides the gospel and clean water to villages on the Amazon River in Peru. We hope to begin supporting them in the next couple of months and are excited to add them to our growing list of organizations that we get to support and resource.

UPCOMING TRIPS: There will be two missions trips in October that will close out our year.
Red Bird in Kentucky. A large group led by John Nesbitt will be heading to Kentucky to do some renovation work on their campus.
Casa Por Cristo in Dominican Republic. A group led by Jim Franklin and Mike Arthur will be building a home in the DR.

The GO Team is excited about 2022 and all that the Lord has in store for us as a church and for our partners throughout the world. This pandemic has not slowed down or altered the Lord’s plan to reach lost people, and neither will it slow down ours as we co-labor with these amazing organizations!
Small Groups/Sunday School

Small groups kickoff for the Fall is underway and I’ve been very impressed by so many leaders who already have a game plan and calendar of meeting dates. New online sign ups through TextinChurch are going well. Moved groups over to one Chapin UMC PlanningCenter account in order to reduce costs and streamline church database of members involved in small groups/discipleship.

Sunday school classes are coming back slowly, but seeing growth in some. Truthseekers saw 36 people join for beginning of Alpha on Sunday Sept 12th. Striving for Godliness class is seeing an uptick. CFC and Black Sheep holding steady around 40 people each.

316 super small groups are meeting but when gauging interest it seems many have dropped off are no longer meeting. Debating whether to keep this ministry up or focus efforts on getting people back in Small groups/SS.

First Connection Team

Many thanks to Ken Spence and Lynn Dempsey, Dustin Degoursey and Steve Reeves. During my transition into this role they have been rock steady and helped me get my bearings. We’ve had several guests visiting Guest Central each week and filling out information/requesting information.

We’ve received some new bags for Guest Central and continue to pack them with important info and gifts. Considering how we can make Guest Central more visible and attract more interest.

Membership

Next Foundations Class is Oct. 3rd and we have 19 people registered so far! That may go up after this past Sunday!

I’ve been working on new systems to connect people into the DNA of the church including implementation of Workflows in Planningcenter. This will help the staff follow up with guests and members concerning their next steps here at Chapin UMC whether it’s membership, baptism, serving, etc.

Men’s and Women’s Ministry

I’ve spoken with DeeDee Simons and Mary Jo Johnson about getting together with potential women’s ministry leaders to talk about future plans. I’d like to see large women’s gatherings 3-4 times a year that facilitate growth in smaller groups throughout the year.

Same concept with Men’s ministry. I would like to see men gathering on a large scale either Monthly or quarterly to encourage and equip men to be the husbands and fathers we are called to be. This would hopefully lead to smaller accountability groups and small groups meeting regularly.

Misc

It has truly been a pleasure meeting everyone and getting to know the culture and DNA of the church. The staff is fantastic and I couldn’t be more blessed to be a part of Chapin UMC! My family and I feel at HOME!
Church Council Report - September 2021
Associate Minister (Contemporary Worship and Families: Students)

There has been a lot going on as I have had the privilege to transition into a new role. Here are a few of the highlights below:

1. We have continued with our monthly Seek First gatherings. With the weather starting to change we were able to host September’s gathering outside. I believe it was a good night and that the people able to gather with us were encouraged and God was honored by the hearts and lives in the room.

2. Our worship team on Sunday morning has been so faithful and so good. I am forever grateful for their heart, talent and selfless willingness to serve. We have a couple of potential new additions in the audition process right now and the future is bright.

3. Right now the plan for October’s Seek First will be online only. The load on the Contemporary Worship Team will have been a little heavier leading up to October 1 and we feel like the best way to serve them and the church is to gather online that evening.

4. Our Middle School and High School Sunday School classes just started back. I’m so grateful for our adult leaders who have stepped up in a major way to lead those classes. With my responsibilities on Sunday morning I am unable to interact with the Sunday school classes but our leaders are amazing. With new leaders as well as some familiar ones, we have 6 different adults helping lead those classes.

5. Fusion Sunday Night kicked off on September 12th. Our leadership team helped reach out to students and families and make as many personal invites as possible. We had many in our church commit to pray at 5:30pm for our student ministry and their families. We had 75 students on our opening night and 12 adults. The atmosphere of the room was different and so much of that has to do with the Holy Spirit and the investment of Chapin UMC through prayer.

I’m so grateful for the opportunity to lead and serve at Chapin UMC and I am very excited and hopeful about how God might move in us and through us.
Lay Leader Report  
September 28, 2021

In the gospel of Matthew, Jesus tells us that He will build His church and not even the “gates of hell” will prevail against it – well, neither will COVID! Although it may try and try again, Jesus will keep His church strong! Chapin UMC has faced many challenges from COVID, but we will not let it stand in the way of spreading the gospel in our community and our world. As a church, we have come together and worshipped and fellowshipped and shared the love of Jesus all around us. Thank you to an awesome staff AND an awesome Laity for your faith and commitment to our Savoir.

On behalf of the Laity, I would like to welcome Jonathan Ruth and his family. Jonathan is serving as our new Assimilations Pastor and has already had an impact on recruiting new members to the First Impressions team and connecting us all better through the use of the Church Center app and website for Small Groups. We are excited to have Jonathan with us and look forward to seeing God work through him here at Chapin UMC.

By the time this report is filed, Chapin UMC will have spent a weekend raising up and celebrating the ministries of over 100 of our Mission partners. It is so very humbling to me to see the faith of these missionaries and their dedication to our Lord. Whether their ministry field is here in Chapin or across the world, these servants work diligently in spreading the Gospel. A huge thank you to our Missions Team for an outstanding and inspiring event.

Laity Sunday is planned for November 14th. This will be a special time to thank the Laity for their dedication and encourage those who are still seeking opportunities to serve get involved.

The United Methodist General Conference has date has been set for August 29-September 6 in Minneapolis. Chapin UMC is planning several church-wide meetings prior to that to inform the congregation of the issues that will be discussed. Those meeting dates will be announced at a later time.

What a blessing it is for me to serve not only our Lord and Savior, but this church as well. Thank you for all you do!
Traditional Worship Leader Church Council Report
September, 2021

Highlights for August/September:
- Choir resumed rehearsal in August with masks.
- Choir will sing during worship on October 3, 2021 with masks.
- Orchestra will play during worship on October 3, 2021 with masks.

Growth and Additional Worship Groups:
- Handbells, Mixed Ensembles, Trio, Solos, Men’s Ensemble, Ladies’ Ensemble will continue to rehearse throughout the year.
- Orchestra will meet each week on Wednesday at 5:45 pm
- Choir will meet each week on Wednesday at 6:45
- Ensembles and other groups will rehearse on Mondays.

Future Plans:
- The choir has begun working on music for our Christmas Cantata which will be presented on December 12, 2021.
- Preparation has also begun for music for Christmas Eve.

Needs:
- Because so many students have now graduated from school, and the pandemic, we now need orchestra members.
- Before Covid, we had built our Sanctuary choir up to 60 members. Now we are rebuilding our choir. Many people will be able to return after mask restrictions and Covid are not so prevalent. We have now 26 people that have returned to choir wearing masks during rehearsal and in worship.
- Because of the number of groups in the music ministry and the amount of music being prepared for worship, we have need for a part time clerical person or volunteers to help with filing and organizing music. Thanks to Ann Gainey for helping us, but it is a BIG job, and she could use more help.

With a heart of gratitude,
Lennie Tucker
Our desire is to come alongside parents and help them live out their call to make disciples of their children.

- On September 5th, we added the 10:10am Sunday School hour back in-person. We continue to have our 11:15 services for babies- 4th Graders.
- We have the most amazing Wave Leader volunteers who pour into the lives of our children. We are continuing to recruit more volunteers for the 11:15 worship hour as well as the Sunday School hour. At this time, we do not have enough volunteers to have Sunday School for children 2 years old and under.
- We provided childcare on Friday evening during the GIC worship and Q&A time.
- We will conduct additional Safe Sanctuary Child Protection Trainings again in October.
- We have 3 volunteers willing to serve in the SonFlower Ministry. We are working hard to provide at least once a month for those with children in the program to come. This is a vital and much needed ministry. Our goal is to have the first class at 11:15am on Sunday, October 17th.
- We continue to produce and offer online preschool and elementary worship services on Sunday Mornings for the children. These services can also be accessed throughout the week. We have children from our church, community and across the United States accessing the videos and learning about the saving grace of Jesus!
- We have been working on items for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes.
- We are planning an outreach opportunity for families to do together for Halloween that involves special stickers to be placed on candy that is handed out. We have also begun planning for Advent and Christmas activities.

It is a privilege to partner in ministry with the parents, leaders, and members of Chapin UMC as children Catch the wave of God's amazing love, Dive deep into God's word and then Cast His love to everyone!

Natalie McCoy
Wave Children's Minister
Media and Production have continued to advance the technical capabilities and the production standards during year 2021. The following are the highlights from the reporting period:

1. **Live Streaming:** The COVID 19 pandemic has changed the landscape for Church participation nationally and CUMC is no different. July and August 2021 have seen 6717 views over all platforms. The totals are a decrease of 33% over the same time last year. However, the totals are 274% above the May / June 2019 numbers.

2. **Production:** Highlights of the reporting period includes, the production of the July 4th service, The move back to the stage for the message and two virtual services for August 8th and 15th.

3. **Installation:** The Sanctuary house / emergency lighting system was upgraded to LED lights, a centralized battery location for emergency lighting and new wall mounted light switches.

We had no major equipment failures during this reporting period.

Mark Slice
Director of Media and Production
As always it has been very busy here at Chapin UMC. All our ministry teams, both staff and servant ministers, are working hard and looking forward to some important upcoming events on the calendar, many of which will be included in other staff reports. On the Operations side of things, here are a few important milestones and projects Council should be aware of:

1. **Monthly Outreach with Congregation:** As always, the people of Chapin UMC continue to step up and make a difference in the name of Jesus. Leading up to GIC weekend we successfully completed the following outreach collections: Palmetto Place for the UMW, Pant’s Drive for Keepin It Real and Glasses for Guatemala. We are so thankful for everyone’s generous donations of items.

2. **Staff Transitioning:**
   a. We welcomed Jonathan Ruth to the Chapin UMC family and team on August 16th. Jonathan has transitioned smoothly in the Assimilation Minister role and we could not be more pleased with what he is already doing at Chapin UMC.
   b. During this time of transition in Chapin UMC’s Youth Ministry. We have initiated a plan to ensure it does not miss a beat and our Youth program continues to move forward. We are asking Sarah Dukes and Steve Wheaton, with John Dukes’ oversee, to continue with planning and execution of the Fall Season. Both Sarah and Steve have been dedicated Volunteers and have relationships with the Students.
We have been averaging 4-5 students on Sunday mornings for Sunday School. We are still using the Orange Curriculum but are looking to change it up to fit the needs of a smaller group.

Our Wednesday afternoons are back, and we have had 28 kids the last couple weeks. We spend about 30 minutes in Bible Study and then we have game/fellowship time for 45 minutes. It is a great group of kids and they really participate in the discussions!

We decided to put our Unplugged Retreat on hold for now due to the rise in Covid cases. After discussing with leadership and medical personnel, I just did not feel comfortable taking kids to an overnight event at this time. We will hopefully reschedule at the beginning of the new year.
Church Council Congregational Care Report – 9/29/2021

- The following deaths associated with our church family have occurred since our last meeting. (We had 9 deaths connected with our church family)
  1. Carolyn Ellis – Debbie Hall’s Mother
  2. Louise Dunker – Lydia Hall’s Aunt
  3. Larry Tucker – Ken Magee’s Brother in Law
  4. Del Maples – Katie Crumrey’s Step Father
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  7. Michael “Mike” Patsolic – Shelise Crossland’s Father
  8. Doris Tyler – Frank Tyler’s Mother

- Illness / Serious Concerns Currently requiring our prayers
  1. Miss Lilla Dodson – Overall Health Deterioration – Very Serious Issues at this time
  2. Mrs. Pam Rabon – Very Serious Issues at this time
  3. Mr. Ken Streeter – Lung Issues/ Throat Cancer
  4. Miss Cammy Wheless – Overall Health Deterioration
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  6. Coach Dick Weldon – Overall Health Deterioration
  7. Fire at the apartment of Aisha (Jay & Kisura) Bumbrey – Totally Destroyed

- “The Spirit Lifters” continue and consistently share their food & love. These visits, meals, and touches of Christ’s love are always appreciated. They continue cooking and delivering meals. They are always looking for some folks to add to their Team. If you might be interested please contact Susan Turner or Mary Linda Rye.

- 4th Sunday Community Services are suspended at this time until further notice.

- Please continue to pray for our church families as we all deal with the issues of life. They affect us and those in our families we love and hold dear. Christians are not immune from the attacks of Satan. We have to deal with the issues of Finances, Health, Relationships, Addictions, Hurts, Hang-ups, & Habits also.

In His Service alongside you,

Paul
Facilities Report to the
Church Council (July/August)

It has been an active start to the year, and we are excited about the improvements and upgrades happening around campus. The following are highlights of what has been taking place at Chapin United Methodist Church since Facilities last reported out to the Church Council:

1) **On Campus Events:** We hosted our annual garage sale and partnered with the UMW on all aspects of this fundraising project. We also hosted our annual Festival of Tables event at the end of August which had a tremendous turn out.

2) **Cemetery:** We continue to work on the irrigation system to make sure the turf is receiving adequate water to sustain new growth. We have replaced several broken sprinkler heads during this period. Anything unsightly/worn has been removed from the monuments again this month. All of this is in effort to bring the aesthetics of the cemetery to a higher level.

3) **Unforeseen:** We had another failure of a HVAC unit during this period. This unit was a 5ton unit in the 3 year old classroom that was 13 years old and used the old R-22 refrigerant, which is currently being phased out. The unit required full replacement and all work has been completed by Carolina Comfort and is now operational with warranty in place.

4) We have set up and torn down multiple events in the sanctuary, fellowship hall and room 206 to make accommodations for our small groups, Fusion, UMW, 50 forward, circles, men’s prayer group, funerals, etc.

5) We continue to work weekly on various maintenance projects, and as always, oversee the ordering and stocking of all kitchen and janitorial supplies.

We strive to make CUMC an attractive and appealing environment where all people feel comfortable and welcome. We consider our opportunity to serve the Lord and His people of this congregation a tremendous honor and we look forward to this service on a daily basis.

Curt Mitchell
Facilities Manager
Chapin United Methodist Women
Cornelia Smith, President

Church Council Meeting
September 28, 2021

Monthly donations to We Care, Chapin.
Monthly donations to Killingsworth, Columbia. (September was Killingsworth Special Emphasis Month)
Bingo for Seniors at Crooked Creek Park

The August Festival of Tables was a huge success. Thanks to Susan Turner and her team for their hard work. Over $6300 was raised to support missions for women, children and youth. Chapin UMW is partnering with Emily Wheaton and Transit to pack meals for Haiti October 23rd and $3000 has been allocated from the festival proceeds for this event.

The Garage Sale in September netted over $6600. Carolyn Pott and her committee did a fantastic job. We are thankful to all who contributed items and to those who worked so hard to make this event so successful.

The church-wide collection for Palmetto Place Children and Youth Services from July 26-August 27 was also successful. Enough items were collected to fill two SUV’s. The items were transported to Platt Springs UMC by Kathy Roberts, Jenny Rawlings and Cornelia Smith.

The Chapin unit donated $500 to purchase sheets for the Afghan Refugees. Other items were donated by the Helen Rainey Circle, Marjorie Derrick Circle and the Flowers circle as well as from individuals.

The virtual Columbia District Annual Meeting was held Saturday, September 18. During the meeting, several women were recognized from our church.
Celebration of Life for our Heavenly Sisters 2020-2021: Jean Jonte and Pat Mullins
Woman of the Year: Evie Shelton
Reading program: Plan 2, Peg Barker, Linda DuRant, Jenny Rawlings, Evie Shelton, Cornelia Smith
Plan 3, Joanne Brucker, Pat Gundler

The unit received the following awards: Mission Today, Diamond Unit/Charter for Racial Justice, Five Star/Gold Seal, and Campaign for Children.
Church Council Report
Tuesday, November 16, 2021 / 7PM

Jody Flowers, Lead Pastor

It is such a pleasure to present my report to Church Council. I am so grateful for each of you; you’re such a beautiful group of vision-driven, mission-minded, kingdom-focused leaders!

The Wednesday Morning Prayer Calls (6 AM / ZOOM) continue to be sweet and powerful times (began back in January and have been held for 47 Wednesdays now) and I look forward to connecting with the Lord and with the CUMC family in this way each week!

Your Nominations Team has finished their work for the 2022-2024 Leadership Team. Once again, God was faithful in providing a great collection of lay leadership for the Chapin UMC family. There was minimal turnover this year, which was a part of the Nominations Team’s prayers. Trusted, tenured leaders are always a great asset, especially during seasons like the one we’re enduring. In the next year or two, major decisions will likely need to be made by every UM church due to the possible realignment of our denomination (General Conference 2022: August 29 – September 6). We continue to pray for God’s will to be done.

Last Sunday (November 14) was Laity Sunday and our Lay Leader (Becky McCormack) did a great job with the message from John 15 (thanks Becky!). We also received a 2020-2021 Gideon’s Report from a representative of the Chapin Camp and made a special financial gift to the Gideon Ministry (once I am aware of the amount, I can include it in my next report).

This Sunday we will wrap up our 24-part series on The Gospel According to Mark. Some have commented how beneficial this study has been. One particular testimony really blessed me, so I’ll share a portion of it here:

When Chapin UMC offered the journals for studying Mark, I was thrilled to have a new journal. I have enjoyed journaling ever since I was in elementary school. The written reflections help me recall what I felt, thought and was experiencing in the moment. And, some good laughs, from me as a 9-year-old reflecting on “problems.” Journals are not only a way to take notes, but a great way to preserve a moment, reflection or even a struggle. After all, lessons can be learned from our darkest times; as well as our most celebrated.

(May 5, 2020-My Mother was diagnosed with stage 4 breast cancer. Sitting on the floor, in the far corner of my closet, I sobbed, I prayed and sobbed. I prayed for time, memories to last my lifetime and for a closer relationship with God. It’s been over a year! My Momma is here, my memory bucket is being filled and my relationship with God is flourishing.)

When I picked up my journal, I made a vow, to God and myself. I vowed to wake up Monday through Friday at 5:30 to allow myself 30-45 minutes of time with God, and God only. No distractions, no needs of my children, no chores. Nothing but me, God, my Bible and a cup of coffee. I’m so incredibly proud that since April 13th I have not allowed the Devil to get in my way. I have not let illness keep me from His word. I have not turned my alarm off because I’m so incredibly tired. I have woken up, showed up and given it my all. The rewards have been so
instrumental in my walk and how I am making baby step changes in how I am a follower of Christ, wife and mother.

My intentions are not to brag or pat myself on the back, but I am writing to attempt to explain that this journal was the greatest (material) gift Chapin UMC has given me. I enjoy going to church on Sunday. I find comfort in singing and praising God with Chapin UMC. But, the work, the hard part is living all the other days. The hard part is taking what I learned and using it in my day-to-day experiences. The hard part, for me, was greeting my children with a smile and readiness, because I was so tired, so incredibly tired. We all have struggles, I understand that. But my struggles have been hard; truthfully, harder because I wasn’t relying on my faith. I am so incredibly thankful for what God has provided me since April 14th. It’s been beautiful to read so much about faith while my own has grown exponentially. He’s given me the energy, my pain has subsided, my enthusiasm exudes when I hear my children’s feet hit the floor and I am incredibly content. The gift I wanted to give myself, time with God, became such a bigger gift.

Paper...paper bound with blank lines was just what I needed. This journal was the greatest gift, at just the right time. Thank you!!!

How awesome is that!

On Sunday, November 28, I’m so excited that we will begin our Advent Sermon Series called, **Do You hear What I Hear?** Each week, the title of a great Christmas Carol will also serve as the title of the sermon. This year’s Christmas Musical is on Sunday, December 12, features **O Come, All Ye Faithful** and promises to be amazing! Please go ahead and begin inviting people to worship with you during Advent (“Hey, come and sit with me at church this Sunday...” / A culture of invitation leads to a climate of celebration! So please help establish a culture of invitation by inviting someone this week!)

Please know that Michelle and I love you all and are so honored and humbled to serve alongside each of you.

Stay safe, stay strong, and stay in love with Jesus.

God Bless,

Jody

11/16/2021
I. Welcome/Devotion: Ben McCoy presented a devotional based on Daniel 3:12 regarding Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego who were thrown into a blazing furnace. With God’s protection, they stood fast despite the fire growing hotter. We also have and must continue to endure the “fire” in these times.

II. Review of the Minutes: from July 27, 2021 meeting by Ann Gainey

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III. Standing Reports:

1. Treasurer – Ann Senn
   - No issues meeting budget
   - $2.2 million in checking and CDs
   - $5 million mortgage balance

2. Finance – Harry Cromer
   - There are $199,662 in excess funds which will not be designated at this time
$208,306 more in tithes than August 2020

2022 budget will be submitted shortly

Approved an account for Aisha Brumbry

3. Lay Leader – Becky McCormack

In the gospel of Matthew, Jesus tells us that He will build His church and not even the “gates of hell” will prevail against it – well, neither will COVID! Although it may try and try again, Jesus will keep His church strong! Chapin UMC has faced many challenges from COVID, but we will not let it stand in the way of spreading the gospel in our community and our world. As a church, we have come together and worshipped and fellowshipped and shared the love of Jesus all around us. Thank you to an awesome staff AND an awesome Laity for your faith and commitment to our Savior.

On behalf of the Laity, I would like to welcome Jonathan Ruth and his family. Jonathan is serving as our new Assimilations Pastor and has already had an impact on recruiting new members to the First Impressions team and connecting us all better through the use of the Church Center app and website for Small Groups. We are excited to have Jonathan with us and look forward to seeing God work through him here at Chapin UMC.

By the time this report is filed, Chapin UMC will have spent a weekend raising up and celebrating the ministries of over 100 of our Mission partners. It is so very humbling to me to see the faith of these missionaries and their dedication to our Lord. Whether their ministry field is here in Chapin or across the world, these servants work diligently in spreading the Gospel. A huge thank you to our Missions Team for an outstanding and inspiring event.

Laity Sunday is planned for November 14th. This will be a special time to thank the Laity for their dedication and encourage those who are still seeking opportunities to serve get involved.

The United Methodist General Conference has date has been set for August 29-September 6 in Minneapolis. Chapin UMC is planning several church-wide meetings prior to that to inform the congregation of the issues that will be discussed. Those meeting dates will be announced at a later time.

What a blessing it is for me to serve not only our Lord and Savior, but this church as well. Thank you for all you do!

4. Missions – Rick Faulkner

GLOBAL IMPACT CELEBRATION 2021: It has been an extremely busy couple of months as the GO Team and the GIC Team have made preparations for our annual Global Impact Celebration. Our celebration theme was “This Little Light Of Mine”, taken from Matthew 5:16. The weekend took place 24-26 September and was an incredible success! 28 of our 37 partners were able to attend and take part in the weekend. This year the celebration was all about them, as we refreshed and rejuvenated them with plenty of activities and down time. There were events the entire weekend which enable our church family to get to know our missionaries better, and it all culminated on Sunday morning with incredible worship! Our partners left refreshed and blessed, and we look forward to seeing them again next year!
NEW PARTNERS: We have begun financial support for 5 new ministries that include a local ministry to women in prison (Hadassah Hope); a local Christ-based rehabilitation ministry (Reconciliation Ministries); Brazil (South American Missions); Rock Hill church based ministry (Old Town Church); and the United Methodists NOMAD’s, a RV ministry that travels all over the United States doing renovation and rehab work on UMC campuses.

In addition, we have met with and evaluated “Agua Por Vida”, a ministry that provides the gospel and clean water to villages on the Amazon River in Peru. We hope to begin supporting them in the next couple of months and are excited to add them to our growing list of organizations that we get to support and resource.

UPCOMING TRIPS: There will be two missions trips in October that will close out our year.
Red Bird in Kentucky. A large group led by John Nesbitt will be heading to Kentucky to do some renovation work on their campus.
Casa Por Cristo in Dominican Republic. A group led by Jim Franklin and Mike Arthur will be building a home in the DR.

The GO Team is excited about 2022 and all that the Lord has in store for us as a church and for our partners throughout the world. This pandemic has not slowed down or altered the Lord’s plan to reach lost people, and neither will it slow down ours as we co-labor with these amazing organizations!

5. Trustees – Clay Shelton
After discussing the leak at the church entrance and Trustees decided to postpone the decision until we could do more research. We were trying to solve problem from the roof, thinking that was where the leak was. Curt had a 24 foot lift here for work being done in the fellowship hall, so he and John Nesbitt took it down to entrance and cut a hole in the ceiling. The problem turned out to be the rubber boot connecting roof drain with drain pipe and could only be seen and repaired thru the ceiling. It has been repaired and the ceiling can now be repaired. We avoided a big expense that would not have solved problem.

Thanks to Curt and volunteers for all the work done to the campus doing GIC. You may have noticed the tree limbs on the driveway have also been trimmed back.

Curt also had all the ceiling lights in Fellowship Hall replaced with LED lights. Brighter and much less costly to operate.
IV. Staff Reports:

1. Assimilation Pastor – Jonathan Ruth (not reported)

   Small Groups/Sunday School
   Small groups kickoff for the Fall is underway and I’ve been very impressed by so many leaders who already have a game plan and calendar of meeting dates. New online sign ups through TextinChurch are going well. Moved groups over to one Chapin UMC PlanningCenter account in order to reduce costs and streamline church database of members involved in small groups/discipleship.
   Sunday school classes are coming back slowly, but seeing growth in some. Truthseekers saw 36 people join for beginning of Alpha on Sunday Sept 12th. Striving for Godliness class is seeing an uptick. CFC and Black Sheep holding steady around 40 people each.
   316 super small groups are meeting but when gauging interest it seems many have dropped off are no longer meeting. Debating whether to keep this ministry up or focus efforts on getting people back in Small groups/SS.

   First Connection Team
   Many thanks to Ken Spence and Lynn Dempsey, Dustin Degoursey and Steve Reeves. During my transition into this role they have been rock steady and helped me get my bearings. We’ve had several guests visiting Guest Central each week and filling out information/requesting information.
   We’ve received some new bags for Guest Central and continue to pack them with important info and gifts. Considering how we can make Guest Central more visible and attract more interest.

   Membership
   Next Foundations Class is Oct. 3rd and we have 19 people registered so far! That may go up after this past Sunday!
   I’ve been working on new systems to connect people into the DNA of the church including implementation of Workflows in Planningcenter. This will help the staff follow up with guests and members concerning their next steps here at Chapin UMC whether it’s membership, baptism, serving, etc.!

   Men’s and Women’s Ministry
   I’ve spoken with DeeDee Simons and Mary Jo Johnson about getting together with potential women’s ministry leaders to talk about future plans. I’d like to see large women’s gatherings 3-4 times a year that facilitate growth in smaller groups throughout the year.
   Same concept with Men’s ministry. I would like to see men gathering on a large scale either Monthly or quarterly to encourage and equip men to be the husbands and fathers we are called to be. This would hopefully lead to smaller accountability groups and small groups meeting regularly.

   Misc
   It has truly been a pleasure meeting everyone and getting to know the culture and DNA of the church. The staff is fantastic and I couldn’t be more blessed to be a part of Chapin UMC! My family and I feel at HOME.
2. Contemporary Worship – John Dukes (not reported)

There has been a lot going on as I have had the privilege to transition into a new role. Here are a few of the highlights below:

1. We have continued with our monthly Seek First gatherings. With the weather starting to change we were able to host September’s gathering outside. I believe it was a good night and that the people able to gather with us were encouraged and God was honored by the hearts and lives in the room.

2. Our worship team on Sunday morning has been so faithful and so good. I am forever grateful for their heart, talent and selfless willingness to serve. We have a couple of potential new additions in the audition process right now and the future is bright.

3. Right now the plan for October’s Seek First will be online only. The load on the Contemporary Worship Team will have been a little heavier leading up to October 1 and we feel like the best way to serve them and the church is to gather online that evening.

4. Our Middle School and High School Sunday School classes just started back. I’m so grateful for our adult leaders who have stepped up in a major way to lead those classes. With my responsibilities on Sunday morning I am unable to interact with the Sunday school classes but our leaders are amazing. With new leaders as well as some familiar ones, we have 6 different adults helping lead those classes.

5. Fusion Sunday Night kicked off on September 12th. Our leadership team helped reach out to students and families and make as many personal invites as possible. We had many in our church commit to pray at 5:30pm for our student ministry and their families. We had 75 students on our opening night and 12 adults. The atmosphere of the room was different and so much of that has to do with the Holy Spirit and the investment of Chapin UMC through prayer.

I’m so grateful for the opportunity to lead and serve at Chapin UMC and I am very excited and hopeful about how God might move in us and through us.”

3. Congregation Care – Paul Allen (not reported)

- The following deaths associated with our church family have occurred since our last meeting. (We had 9 deaths connected with our church family)
  1. Carolyn Ellis – Debbie Hall’s Mother
  2. Louise Dunker – Lydia Hall’s Aunt
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4. **Children’s Ministry – Natalie McCoy (not reported)**

Our desire is to come alongside parents and help them live out their call to make disciples of their children.

- On September 5th, we added the 10:10am Sunday School hour back in-person. We continue to have our 11:15 services for babies- 4th Graders.
  - We have the most amazing Wave Leader volunteers who pour into the lives of our children. We are continuing to recruit more volunteers for the 11:15 worship hour as well as the Sunday School hour. At this time, we do not have enough volunteers to have Sunday School for children 2 years old and under.

- We provided childcare on Friday evening during the GIC worship and Q&A time.

- We will conduct additional Safe Sanctuary Child Protection Trainings again in October.

- We have 3 volunteers willing to serve in the Sonflower Ministry. We are working hard to provide at least once a month for those with children in the program to come. This is a vital and much needed ministry. Our goal is to have the first class at 11:15am on Sunday, October 17th.

- We continue to produce and offer online preschool and elementary worship services on Sunday Mornings for the children. These services can also be accessed throughout the week. We have children from our church, community and across the United States accessing the videos and learning about the saving grace of Jesus!

- We have been working on items for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes.

- We are planning an outreach opportunity for families to do together for Halloween that involves special stickers to be placed on candy that is handed out. We have also begun planning for Advent and Christmas activities.

It is a privilege to partner in ministry with the parents, leaders, and members of Chapin UMC as children Catch the wave of God’s amazing love, Dive deep into God’s word and then Cast His love to everyone!
5. Facilities Manager – Curt Mitchell (not reported)

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6. Media Director – Mark Slice (not reported)

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- Live Streaming: The COVID 19 pandemic has changed the landscape for Church participation nationally and CUMC is no different. July and August 2021 have seen 6717 views over all platforms. The totals are a decrease of 33% over the same time last year. However, the totals are 274% above the May / June 2019 numbers.
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- Installation: The Sanctuary house / emergency lighting system was upgraded to LED lights, a centralized battery location for emergency lighting and new wall mounted light switches.

We had no major equipment failures during this reporting period.
7. Traditional Worship – Lennie Tucker (not reported)

Highlights for August/September:
- Choir resumed rehearsal in August with masks.
- Choir will sing during worship on October 3, 2021 with masks.
- Orchestra will play during worship on October 3, 2021 with masks.

Growth and Additional Worship Groups:
- Handbells, Mixed Ensembles, Trio, Solos, Men’s Ensemble, Ladies’ Ensemble will continue to rehearse throughout the year.
- Orchestra will meet each week on Wednesday at 5:45 pm
- Choir will meet each week on Wednesday at 6:45
- Ensembles and other groups will rehearse on Mondays.

Future Plans:
- The choir has begun working on music for our Christmas Cantata which will be presented on December 12, 2021.
- Preparation has also begun for music for Christmas Eve.

Needs:
- Because so many students have now graduated from school, and the pandemic, we now need orchestra members.
- Before Covid, we had built our Sanctuary choir up to 60 members. Now we are rebuilding our choir. Many people will be able to return after mask restrictions and Covid are not so prevalent. We have now 26 people that have returned to choir wearing masks during rehearsal and in worship.
- Because of the number of groups in the music ministry and the amount of music being prepared for worship, we have need for a part time clerical person or volunteers to help with filing and organizing music. Thanks to Ann Gainey for helping us, but it is a BIG job, and she could use more help.

8. Transit Ministry – Emily Wheaton (not reported)

We have been averaging 4-5 students on Sunday mornings for Sunday School. We are still using the Orange Curriculum but are looking to change it up to fit the needs of a smaller group.

Our Wednesday afternoons are back, and we have had 28 kids the last couple weeks. We spend about 30 minutes in Bible Study and then we have game/fellowship time for 45 minutes. It is a great group of kids and they really participate in the discussions!

We decided to put our Unplugged Retreat on hold for now due to the rise in Covid cases. After discussing with leadership and medical personnel, I just did not feel comfortable taking kids to an overnight event at this time. We will hopefully reschedule at the beginning of the new year.
9. Operations – Caroline Fogle (not reported)

As always it has been very busy here at Chapin UMC. All our ministry teams, both staff and servant ministers, are working hard and looking forward to some important upcoming events on the calendar, many of which will be included in other staff reports. On the Operations side of things, here are a few important milestones and projects Council should be aware of:

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2. Staff Transitioning:
   a) We welcomed Jonathan Ruth to the Chapin UMC family and team on August 16th. Jonathan has transitioned smoothly in the Assimilation Minister role and we could not be more pleased with this with what he is already doing at Chapin UMC.
   b) During this time of transition in Chapin UMC’s Youth Ministry. We have initiated a plan to ensure it does not miss a beat and our Youth program continues to move forward. We are asking Sarah Dukes and Steve Wheaton, with John Dukes’ oversite, to continue with planning and execution of the Fall Season. Both Sarah and Steve have been dedicated Volunteers and have relationships with the Students.

V. Other Reports:

• UMW – Cornelia Smith

Monthly donations to We Care, Chapin.
Monthly donations to Killingsworth, Columbia. (September was Killingsworth Special Emphasis Month)
Bingo for Seniors at Crooked Creek Park

The August Festival of Tables was a huge success. Thanks to Susan Turner and her team for their hard work. Over $6300 was raised to support missions for women, children and youth. Chapin UMW is partnering with Emily Wheaton and Transit to pack meals for Haiti October 23rd and $3000 has been allocated from the festival proceeds for this event.

The Garage Sale in September netted over $6600. Carolyn Pott and her committee did a fantastic job. We are thankful to all who contributed items and to those who worked so hard to make this event so successful.

The church-wide collection for Palmetto Place Children and Youth Services from July 26-August 27 was also successful. Enough items were collected to fill two SUV’s. The items were transported to Platt Springs UMC by Kathy Roberts, Jenny Rawlings and Cornelia Smith.

The Chapin unit donated $500 to purchase sheets for the Afghan Refugees. Other items were donated by the Helen Rainey Circle, Marjorie Derrick Circle and the Flowers circle as well as from individuals.
The virtual Columbia District Annual Meeting was held Saturday, September 18. During the meeting, several women were recognized from our church.
Celebration of Life for our Heavenly Sisters 2020-2021: Jean Jonte and Pat Mullins
Woman of the Year: Evie Shelton
Reading program: Plan 2, Peg Barker, Linda DuRant, Jenny Rawlings, Evie Shelton, Cornelia Smith
Plan 3, Joanne Brucker, Pat Gundler
The unit received the following awards: Mission Today, Diamond Unit/Charter for Racial Justice, Five Star/Gold Seal, and Campaign for Children.

VI. New Business

- Paul Allen made a motion to establish an account as approved by the Finance Committee for Aisha Brumbry. Ron Weathers seconded the motion and Council unanimously approved it.
- Emily Wheaton made a motion for the Mission of Hope organization to have a food packing event on October 24 in the Fellowship Hall as well as setup for merchandising and sponsorship. Natalie McCoy seconded the motion and The Council approved it unanimously.

VII. Old Business

none

VIII. Pastor’s Report – Jody Flowers

It is such a pleasure to present my report to Church Council. I am so grateful for each of you; you’re such a beautiful group of vision-driven, mission-minded, kingdom-focused leaders!

The Wednesday Morning Prayer Calls (6 AM / ZOOM) continue to be sweet and powerful times (began back in January and have been held for 40 Wednesdays now) and I look forward to connecting with the Lord and with the CUMC family in this way each week!

Speaking of prayer, as we all continue to wait and trust and pray for the Lord to bring this virus to an end, my hope is that His work in and through us will never end. I pray that we will continue, in ever increasing ways, to demonstrate the love of Jesus to each other and to the world through lives of sacrifice, self-denial, humility, and patience.

Since we’ve last met, we’ve hired a new staff member! Jonathan Ruth is our new Minister of Assimilation, and he’s off to a great start! Jonathan (along with his wife Tiffany and their four children) comes to us from Blythewood, brings with him 15 years of ministerial experience, and we could not be happier to have the Ruths here at Chapin UMC!

Hope Sunday was held back on August 22. Due to this surge of the Corona virus that we’re experiencing, we scaled back from what we had originally had planned, but it was still a great Sunday infused with much hope for the future! (Note: Chapin UMC did not gather onsite for two Sundays – August 8 and 15 - due to an active Covid case in worship on August 1. We have amended our protocol and once again are requiring masks inside all buildings on campus. We continue to prayerfully monitor the situation, and will hopefully be able to return to a “mask optional” status soon.)
Our Global Impact Celebration (GIC) ... [I'll write this paragraph after the weekend takes place.]

Your Nominations Team has begun their annual meetings, seeking God’s direction for the lay leadership of the Church. My hope and prayer is that there will be minimal turnover this year. Trusted, tenured leaders are always a great asset, especially during seasons like the one we’re enduring. In the next year or two, major decisions will likely need to be made by every UM church due to the possible realignment of our denomination (General Conference 2022: August 29 – September 6). We continue to pray for God’s will to be done.

Please know that Michelle and I love you all, and are so honored and humbled to serve alongside each of you.

Stay safe, stay strong, and stay in love with Jesus.

Next Church Council Meeting November 16, 2021

Respectfully submitted by
Ann Gainey
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Global Outreach Team Report  
October-November 2021

2021 In A Brief Review: Although it is only mid-November, because this is the last report of the calendar year, I wanted to provide you with a brief review of 2021. If I had to sum up this past year in one word, I would be hard pressed to find a better word to describe missions in 2021 at CUMC than “INCREDIBLE”.

In spite of obstacles completely out of our control, the Lord used Chapin United Methodist Church to advance His kingdom in word and deed. We were able to send our people to Asbury Hills in the mountains of South Carolina as well as to Red Bird Mission in rural Kentucky. Our international teams traveled to Guatemala and the Dominican Republic, despite long odds and many limitations. Four trips that allowed the gospel to be proclaimed, and people in those different regions blessed in ways which we may never fully understand.

Almost on weekly basis, our Acts 20:35 (I encourage you to look up this verse and memorize it) Team led by John Nesbitt, Clay Shelton, Eddie Sloop and many others repaired roofs, built wheelchair ramps, renovated bathrooms, built sheds, and did so all over the local Midlands (but primarily Chapin/Little Mountain) area. Literally thousands of man and woman hours from our church membership were expended to serve the underserved and unserved.

10 years ago (2011), a dream was shared by a member of our congregation and from that seed a vision was cast to bring to our community a FREE medical clinic to serve those who do not have health insurance or are living in the shadows of poverty. That clinic has been operating now for almost a decade and hundreds of men, women and children who will never step foot in our sanctuary have been ministered to by volunteers, many of whom are members of CUMC.

This past year we not only supported 32 different organizations and partners from all over the world, but we ADDED six more who are both local (Reconciliation Ministries), regional (Hadassah Hope, Old Town Church), national (UMC Nomads), and global (Layne’s in Brazil, and the Hanff’s in Peru). Because of the Lord’s extreme generosity through this church, we gave a record amount of financial support to these precious gospel bearing people. Over $370,000 was given away to support and partner those we call our family. That amount is more than %15 percent of this church’s programmed general fund budget in 2021! I have attached a copy of the giving that took place in this current year. Be encouraged and amazed at what the local church can accomplish when mobilized and strengthened by the Holy Spirit.

The GO Team is excited to see what God has in store for us in the upcoming year. Our pledge to Jesus and the leadership of this church is that we will be a “give it away” team, constantly looking for ways that we might steward all that is entrusted to us in such a fashion that the gospel will be obvious, understandable, and compelling to those who do not know their Savior. Thank you for the privilege and opportunity to serve in this capacity at Chapin UMC!
Media and Production have continued to advance the technical capabilities and the production standards during year 2021. The following are the highlights from the reporting period:

1. **Live Streaming:** The COVID 19 pandemic has changed the landscape for Church participation nationally and CUMC is no different. Sept and October 2021 have seen 5650 views over all platforms. The totals are a decrease of 30% over the same time last year. However, the totals are 156% above the sept / oct 2019 numbers.

2. **Production:** Highlights of the reporting period includes, the production of the GIC events as well as taping of a testimonial, which will be used at a later date. Audio/ video support of 50Forward and 1st Impressions luncheons. Christmas planning continues.

We had no major equipment failures during this reporting period.

Mark Slice
Director of Media and Production
Church Council Congregational Care Report – 11/10/2021

• The following deaths associated with our church family have occurred since our last meeting. (We had 14 deaths connected with our church family including 5 members)
  1. Dianne Christian – Bill Christian’s Wife
  2. Miss Milly Cregger – Morris Cregger’s Mother
  3. Pam Nesbitt – John Nesbitt’s Wife
  4. Miss Lilla Dodson – Buddy Dodson’s Mother/Justin Dodson’s Grandmother
  5. Jamie Steen – Michelle Flowers’ Brother
  6. Paulette Botten – William Driggers’ Aunt
  8. Beatrice Cockrell – Matt Cockrell’s Grandmother
  9. Melvin Wicker – Kenny Wicker’s Brother
 10. Karen Clark – Cynthia James’ Sister
 11. Sally Harwell – Joe Borden’s Mother
 12. Andy Hensley – Randall Henseley’s Brother
 13. Jeff Merck – Jim & Gerri Merck’s Son
 14. Howard Gothard – Spring Slagle’s Father

• Illness/ Serious Concerns Currently requiring our prayers
  1. Mrs. Pam Rabon – Very Serious Issues at this time
  2. Mr. Ken Streeter – Very Serious Throat Cancer
  3. Miss Verna Hubich – Overall Health Deterioration – Moved to Full Nursing Care
  4. Miss Cammy Wheless – Overall Health Deterioration
  5. Mrs. Deanie Weldon – Overall Health Deterioration
  6. Coach Dick Weldon – Overall Health Deterioration

• “The Spirit Lifters” continue and consistently share their food & love. These visits, meals, and touches of Christ’s love are always appreciated. They continue cooking and delivering meals. They are always looking for some folks to add to their Team. If you might be interested please contact Susan Turner or Mary Linda Rye.

• 4th Sunday Community Services are suspended at this time until further notice.

• Please continue to pray for our church families as we all deal with the Issues of life. They affect us and those in our families we love and hold dear. Christians are not immune from the attacks of Satan. We have to deal with the issues of Finances, Health, Relationships, Addictions, Hurts, Hang-ups, & Habits also.

In His Service alongside you,

Paul
Laity Sunday was celebrated on Nov. 14 and the message was on abiding in Jesus. This church is blessed by a devoted, faithful and hard-working laity and I am just as blessed to get to work with them.

Advent Season begins on November 28th and we have several folks lined up to light the Advent Wreath at the 9:00 traditional service. This provides an opportunity for members of our congregation to participate in this celebration of Christ’s birth. Each week we focus on a different theme and light candles of Hope, Love, Joy, Peace, and finally the Christ candle on Christmas Eve. This is such a beautiful and moving observance of what Christ has done for us as we patiently await his return.

We will celebrate Holy Communion on December 5th.

Several of our members attended Red Bird in October and assisted with home repairs on several residences. They also assisted in the Food Pantry and the Thrift Store. Over 100 volunteers came together on a Saturday morning in October and packed 20,000 meals for Haiti! Thank you to all who are giving of their time to serve others!

As we approach the end of the year, and our celebration of Christ’s birth, let us always be thankful for our blessings – at home and in our church. God has continued to bless Chapin UMC and we give him all the praise and glory!
Chapin United Methodist Women
Cornelia Smith, President
Church Council Meeting Report
November 16, 2021

Ongoing activities: Senior Bingo @ Crooked Creek, We Care Donations, Killingsworth Donations, Book Club.

Previous activities: CUMC Bazaar, Mission of Hope for Haiti, Gift in Memory for past UMW members: Diane Christian, Milly Cregger, Pam Nesbitt and Lilla Dodson, World Thank Offering.

Upcoming activities: Native American Elder Baskets, the Snackpack Program for Lexington/Richland District 5, Epworth, Killingsworth Gala. The Chapin UMW Book Club will be traveling to UofSC to visit the Anne Frank exhibit Wednesday, November 17th.

Monetary donations have been made to the following: Killingsworth, CUMC Home Missions, We Care, Sistercare, Good Works, Wesley Foundation@UofSC, Epworth, Screaming Eagles and Snackpack.

Officers for 2022:

President: Carolyn Pott
Vice-President: Susan Turner
Secretary: Linda DuRant
Treasurer: Cheryl Crooks
Membership, Nurture, Outreach: Cornelia Smith
Spiritual Growth: Lee Anne Lamar

Circle Leaders:

Marjorie Derrick Circle: Kathy Roberts
Helen Rainey Circle: Jenny Rawlings
Flowers Circle: Susan Turner and Debbie Watts
## 2021 Chapin UMC Mission Budget/Gifts

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Church Council Report - November 2021
Associate Minister (Contemporary Worship and Families:Students)

Here are a few of the highlights below:

1. We have continued with our monthly Seek First gatherings. One more gathering for 2021 in December. I have been really happy with the atmosphere of these nights throughout the year.

2. Our worship team on Sunday morning has been so faithful and so good. I am forever grateful for their heart, talent and selfless willingness to serve. We have added a new member and have one more in the audition process now.

3. Our Fusion Sunday nights have been going well. We have been working our way through the book of Colossians. I’m so grateful for the leaders who have helped out in Fusion, especially as we get closer to the Christmas season. Our average has been around 54 students and 14 adults on Sunday night.

4. We sold out our Winter Retreat before October was over. We added a 2nd cabin which allowed us to add some more students and now there is only 1 spot left. There is a lot of momentum in Fusion right now and I pray we will be good stewards of it.

I’m so grateful for the opportunity to lead and serve at Chapin UMC and I am very excited and hopeful about how God might move in us and through us.
2021 In A Brief Review: Although it is only mid-November, because this is the last report of the calendar year, I wanted to provide you with a brief review of 2021. If I had to sum up this past year in one word, I would be hard pressed to find a better word to describe missions in 2021 at CUMC than “INCREDIBLE”.

In spite of obstacles completely out of our control, the Lord used Chapin United Methodist Church to advance His kingdom in word and deed. We were able to send our people to Asbury Hills in the mountains of South Carolina as well as to Red Bird Mission in rural Kentucky. Our international teams traveled to Guatemala and the Dominican Republic, despite long odds and many limitations. Four trips that allowed the gospel to be proclaimed, and people in those different regions blessed in ways which we may never fully understand.

Almost on weekly basis, our Acts 20:35 (I encourage you to look up this verse and memorize it) Team led by John Nesbitt, Clay Shelton, Eddie Sloop and many others repaired roofs, built wheelchair ramps, renovated bathrooms, built sheds, and did so all over the local Midlands (but primarily Chapin/Little Mountain) area. Literally thousands of man and woman hours from our church membership were expended to serve the underserved and unserved.

10 years ago (2011), a dream was shared by a member of our congregation and from that seed a vision was cast to bring to our community a FREE medical clinic to serve those who do not have health insurance or are living in the shadows of poverty. That clinic has been operating now for almost a decade and hundreds of men, women and children who will never step foot in our sanctuary have been ministered to by volunteers, many of whom are members of CUMC.

This past year we not only supported 32 different organizations and partners from all over the world, but we ADDED six more who are both local (Reconciliation Ministries), regional (Hadassah Hope, Old Town Church), national (UMC Nomads), and global (Layne’s in Brazil, and the Hanff’s in Peru). Because of the Lord’s extreme generosity through this church, we gave a record amount of financial support to these precious gospel bearing people. Over $370,000 was given away to support and partner those we call our family. That amount is more than %15 percent of this church’s programmed general fund budget in 2021! I have attached a copy of the giving that took place in this current year. Be encouraged and amazed at what the local church can accomplish when mobilized and strengthened by the Holy Spirit.

The GO Team is excited to see what God has in store for us in the upcoming year. Our pledge to Jesus and the leadership of this church is that we will be a “give it away” team, constantly looking for ways that we might steward all that is entrusted to us in such a fashion that the gospel will be obvious, understandable, and compelling to those who do not know their Savior. Thank you for the privilege and opportunity to serve in this capacity at Chapin UMC!
Wave Ministry  
Church Council Report  
October/November 2021

Our desire is to come alongside parents and help them live out their call to make disciples of their children.

- We continue to recruit and add more volunteers to our Wave Leader team. In October, we conducted a Safe Sanctuary training with 12 in attendance. On November 14th, we hosted another training with 8 in attendance.
- During GIC, we provided childcare for children on Friday evening.
- We designed and prepared a Fall Outreach for our families. This included stickers that families could use to place on candy given out on October 31st. The candy stickers had sayings such as Jesus’ love is so sweet and No tricks! Jesus is your Savior.
- I met with a special education teacher to brainstorm ideas for the SonFlower Ministry. Currently, the SonFlower participants are ages 14-30 years old. We are meeting on the 3rd Sundays of the month at 11:15am and will add more Sundays as we are able to as determined by volunteer numbers. SonFlower participants will be trained to serve as greeters at doors for the 11:15am service. After greeting, they will return to the SonFlower classroom for a lesson individualized to their learning needs.
- I have been assisting a children’s ministry committee from Union UMC to help them with the new design for their children’s area. I met them for an onsite visit and we continue to talk by phone several times a week.
- A Family Advent Box has been designed by the Wave Children’s Ministry for families with preschoolers and/or elementary students. We encourage families to spend this season preparing the hearts and minds of your family to focus on the coming of Christ. This year’s Advent Box contains daily scriptures and activities as well as a Good Deeds Manger to complete together during the Advent season.
- We have the most amazing Wave Leader volunteers who pour into the lives of our children. We are continuing to recruit more volunteers for the 11:15 worship hour as well as the Sunday School hour. At this time, we do not have enough volunteers to have Sunday School for children 2 years old and under.
- We continue to produce and offer online preschool and elementary worship services on Sunday Mornings for the children. These services can also be accessed throughout the week. There are children from our church, community and across the United States accessing the videos and learning about the saving grace of Jesus!

It is a privilege to partner in ministry with the parents, leaders, and members of Chapin UMC as children Catch the wave of God’s amazing love, Dive deep into God’s word and then Cast His love to everyone!

Natalie McCoy  
Wave Children’s Minister
Facilities Report to the
Church Council (September/October)

It has been an active start to the year, and we are excited about the improvements and upgrades happening around campus. The following are highlights of what has been taking place at Chapin United Methodist Church since Facilities last reported out to the Church Council:

1) **On Campus Events**- We hosted our annual Bazaar and partnered with the UMW on this fundraising project. We also hosted our tenth annual GIC! This was a busy three-day event where we hosted our guest in the fellowship hall, main sanctuary, as well as the back parking lot where we hosted the “tailgate” event outside and under the tents.

2) **Cemetery**- We have repaired one broken irrigation line during this period. Anything unsightly/worn has been removed from the monuments again this month. All the veteran star/flag holders will remain in place for Veterans Day and through the end of the Christmas season. All of this is in effort to bring the aesthetics of the cemetery to a higher level.

3) **Unforeseen**-
   - With the assistance of the trustees we were able to repair the leak in the ceiling in the vestibule of the main sanctuary.
   - We had all the light fixtures in the fellowship hall (16) with six bulbs in each (rated at 38 watts), retrofitted them with new LED bulbs (rated at 18 watts each). This will be a reduction of more than 50% in electrical usage in this room.
   - Sadly, we also hosted funerals of four different members since we last reported to Council.

4) We have set up and torn down multiple events in the sanctuary, fellowship hall and room 206 to make accommodations for our Haiti meal packing event, First connections luncheon, small groups, Fusion, Transit, UMW, 50 forward, circles, men’s prayer group, prayer vigil on patio for CHS student, etc.

5) We continue to work weekly on various maintenance projects, and as always, oversee the ordering and stocking of all kitchen and janitorial supplies.

We strive to make CUMC an attractive and appealing environment where all people feel comfortable and welcome. We consider our opportunity to serve the Lord and His people of this congregation a tremendous honor and we look forward to this service on a daily basis.

Curt Mitchell
Facilities Manager
Operations Report to the
Church Council (October - November)

As always it has been very busy here at Chapin UMC. All our ministry teams, both staff and servant ministers, are working hard and looking forward to some important upcoming events on the calendar, many of which will be included in other staff reports. On the Operations side of things, here are a few important milestones and projects Council should be aware of:

1. Monthly Outreach with Congregation:
   a. As always, the people of Chapin UMC continue to step up and make a difference in the name of Jesus. We are currently collecting Operation Christmas Child and Native American Baskets. We will also have a drive for Keeping It Real beginning December 1st through 12th for White Socks for Men and Women.

2. Staff Transitioning:
   a. We welcome the return of Rick Faulkner as the Director of Missions, which is a part time staff position where he will lead and execute CUMC’s Local and Global Outreach initiatives. Rick will be responsible for increasing congregational awareness and participation in missional outreach locally and internationally. In addition, Rick will work with the Lead Pastor and Church Leadership in identifying new opportunities for missional growth. Ultimately, this new position will create and lead multiple avenues for people to live out their faith as fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ through CUMC’s vision to fulfill the Great Commission (Mt 28:19-20)... We are EXCITED for this new opportunity for Missions and Rick!
Traditional Worship Leader Church Council Report
November, 2021

Highlights for October/November:
- Additional volunteers for handbell choir and adult choir.
- Our post pandemic choir enrollment has risen from 26 to 42 from September.
- Our music ministry is thriving and has survived the past year with a revival spirit and joy in our hearts! Praise the Lord!
- Our bell choir has now increased to the large bell ensemble instead of the small group.
- The men’s ensemble has increased in number.
- The choir has gained 3 new members.

Growth and Additional Worship Groups:
- Handbells, Mixed Ensembles, Trio, Solos, Men’s Ensemble, Ladies’ Ensemble, and Octet will continue to rehearse throughout the year.
- Orchestra will meet each week on Wednesday at 5:45 pm
- Choir will meet each week on Wednesday at 6:45 pm
- Ensembles and other groups will rehearse on various days throughout the week.
- Handbells rehearse on Sunday at 11:00 pm

Future Plans:
- The choir has begun working on music for our Christmas Cantata which will be presented on December 12, 2021.
- Preparation has also begun for music for Christmas Eve.
- We will continue to lead our congregation in worship each Sunday with enthusiasm.

Needs:
- Because of the number of groups in the music ministry and the amount of music being prepared for worship, we have need for a part time clerical person or volunteers to help with filing and organizing music. We are appreciative of our volunteers: Ann Gainey, Julie Gazda, Jackie Volf, Chuck Case, Carol Saxton, and Gwen Jaeger.
- We are in need of 1 violinist, 1 violist, 1 cello, 1 double bass, 1 trumpeter, and others. If you know anyone, please have them email me at lennie@cumc.com

With a heart of gratitude,
Lennie Tucker
Transit Student Ministry
Council on Ministries Report
November 2021

We have had pretty steady attendance in both our Sunday morning Transit and Wednesday afternoons. Our last Wednesday Transit for 2021 will be on December 17. We will have a “cereal party” where the kids bring two boxes of cereal, one to eat and one to share. All of the shared boxes of cereal will go to We Care.

I have begun planning for 2022 and I’m excited about a new year in Transit and bringing back some of our favorite events/activities.
CUMC Trustees Report

November 2021

1. Many repairs have been completed in last 2 months:
   Sanctuary building has been power washed, Exposed wood now needs to be resealed.
   Leak repair in front entry has successfully passed several hard rains and the sheetrock repairs can
   now be scheduled.
   Ceiling in Youth is leaking badly. A plan for repair with an estimate of costs is being developed.

2. Working on revisions to Cemetery Policy with plan to submit to Council in January meeting.