



Memorial Park Church

# ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020



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## From the Desk of Pastor Dean

*I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God" (Ephesians 3:17-19).*

I have a 25-year-old ficus tree in my office. The tree was a gift on my first day at Knox Church all those years ago, and it has stayed with me my entire 14 years at Memorial Park—through three different offices! One thing I will say about that tree: it is rooted and established in love! My ficus is a full tree that is wide, high, and deep. Every day I see that beloved tree, it serves as a metaphor for ministry; it has seasons of dropping leaves and renewing growth; it has been repotted, pruned, watered, nurtured, and all these years later, continues to thrive.

Like a "tree planted by streams of water" (Psalm 1), Memorial Park continues, in season and out of season, to thrive. Being "rooted and established in love" God's beloved "Root of Jesse" (the Biblical name for God's people) has grown wide, high, and deep, thriving in so many ways. She has been pruned, replanted, nurtured, and loved. The fruit of the Spirit from this "tree of life" has been a blessing to the nations (Revelation 22).

The year 2020 will be forever known as the COVID-year, but our ministry year, lest we forget, started ten months before the pandemic began to impact us locally. I could not be more proud of our elders, deacons, and staff for the amazing things they have accomplished in the last two months of our ministry year, but I don't want us to forget the amazing things the Lord has been pleased to do through us in the months prior.

In the following pages you will see not a just a financial report (though that is there), but a report of the ministry and stories of God's fruitfulness to and through MPC as the Lord Himself has rooted us and established us in love! I hope that you will be as encouraged as I am from reading about the tremendous maturity of our congregation through our Adult Discipleship ministries; the growth of our Youth Ministries; and the faithfulness of our Women's, Men's, and Children's ministries. I hope you praise God for the many MPCers who have used their gifts in worship and on the mission field; for the generous giving of time, talent, and financial resources!

Pastor Dean



# WORSHIP

WORSHIP & ARTS >

## The Getty Concert

By Jim Lueers, Minister of Worship & Arts

This past December, 50 MPC choristers joined with 200 other singers from around Pittsburgh for an unforgettable performance. The concert, called "Sing! An Irish Christmas" featured Keith and Kristyn Getty and was held at the beautiful Benedum Center in downtown Pittsburgh.

For four weeks leading up to the concert, the choir practiced every Sunday morning between services. Even though many of the songs were familiar carols, there were many intricate parts for the choir to learn!

The first half of the program was a Christmas Carol Festival, where the band showed off their virtuosity and the audience was drawn into the joyous spirit of the season. Slowing down with "Silent Night," Keith Getty led into the second half of the program, which was marked by lessons-and-carols format that was very moving; it was as if Church broke out right there in the Benedum!

On the day of the concert, December 12, the choir arrived at the Benedum at 3:00 p.m. to prepare for the 7:30 p.m. performance. Almost everyone remembered the required all black uniform—except Bridgette Ombres and her mother who had to quickly go shopping! The first rehearsal began at 4:00 p.m. in the rehearsal room with standing room only as the choir warmed up with "Silent

Night." The sound was heavenly! Moving to the stage, the group prepared for sound check. Christy Ehman, who organized a group of 40 concert goers from MPC remarked of the experience: "I'd never been backstage at the Benedum before and as a music educator, I was so excited to be on the same stage as Anne Martindale Williams, cellist with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, and Ricky Skaggs. The whole day was like a Christmas gift to myself!"

After a quick dinner catered by Chick Fil-A, Keith Getty shared with the group the reasons why we sing: "One of the main reasons to sing is that we are commanded by scripture to sing. All through the psalms there are instructions to sing to the Lord!"

Entering the stage after dinner, the choir was reseated by height, which of course moved Cotton Mather to the back row. The MPC choir members were scattered throughout the choir and made many new friends. Soon the lights faded and the spotlight fell on Kristyn Getty.

Ted and Nancy Shaffer invited their daughter Mallory, son Matthew, and Ted's sister, Amy Thomas, to join the choir for the concert. One memorable behind-the-scenes moment took place at intermission when one chorister fell off the riser. Ted rushed over to help with Mallory and Matthew and Matthew by his side.

"Hello," he said. "I'm Dr. Shaffer. And this," pointing to his son, "is Dr. Schaffer, and this," pointing to his daughter, "is Dr. Schaffer!" Fortunately, they were able to help her recover and sing in the second half of the concert.

The concert was a great success and at the end, Keith Getty stood by the exit and thanked each individual chorister. There was a palpable sense of Christian community that night and we all left with a new mission to "go spread the news of Emmanuel!"



*"The whole day was like a Christmas gift to myself!"*



## STUDENT IMPACT &gt;

## October: All for One

By Ryan Pietryga, Director of Student IMPACT & Jacob Soto, Middle School Coordinator

“When you want something you never had, you have to do something you’ve never done.” Did we get this quote from Pinterest? We sure did! Does it effectively capture our ministry month of October in Student Ministry? It sure does! This past October, in an effort to invite teens into our youth space to show them the love of Christ, the Student IMPACT team reached deep into their creativity banks and put on two outreach events for teens in our community. The Pumpkin Olympics, an old favorite for our middle school students, was given a fresh look in 2019. For our high school students, the “5th Quarter” was a brand-new event, geared towards reaching older teens in our community.

Last October we celebrated the 27th year of one of our most popular events, Pumpkin Olympics. Almost every year without fail the Pumpkin Olympics is one of our most attended events not only by our MPC families, but by their friends, as well. Traditionally, we have made this event Middle-School specific, but we decided to go big for the 27th year on October 27 and invited our high-schoolers. While we expected it to be bigger, due to combining Middle- and High-School, we did not anticipate having over 80 students in attendance! We had kids from our youth group, friends that they invited, and even a handful of people from the community that had heard about it and wanted to give it a chance.

What makes the Pumpkin Olympics so special is the fun we have; it is a

night full of food, costumes, and most importantly, pumpkins. We create different challenges and games that everyone is familiar with, but add the twist of pumpkins. Whether that means playing musical chairs (with the chairs being pumpkins) or our time of pumpkin smashing, the night is one that we all look forward to every year.

The 5th Quarter is an outreach event designed for high schoolers that took place in the Clayton Center every Friday night during October. We named it the “5th quarter” because we invited teens to stop by either during or after the high school football games on Friday nights. The event provided an opportunity for teens to enjoy fellowship with one another by playing games, eating food, and participating in the “theme” for that night. Each Friday had its own theme like “Under the Lights” (playing games outside under flood lights); “Neon Night” (playing glow in the dark games); “Live Band Night” (we invited a Christian band to play music); and “Flannel Friday” (kids were encouraged to wear flannel and participate in fall-themed games). From the students’ perspective, the night with the live band seemed to be the favorite “5th quarter” event.

Madi Eschenbach, a freshman from North Allegheny who has recently started attending Student IMPACT recounts, “the highlight for me was having a great time being with my friends and worshipping with the amazing band. I know I definitely had a

lot of fun when we were all jumping up and down like we do at Laurelville, and I think everyone else did too.” This event also brought out the generosity of MPC; we had several parents and other MPC members donate food, time, and even their own money in support of this event. One family even helped cover the cost of the live band and bought band merchandise for every student in attendance. Wow!

The Student IMPACT team had big dreams and expectations for this event, with the hope of not only showing the love of Christ to those who entered our Clayton Center doors, but also to continue to invite them to youth group so that they could experience a life-changing and ever-growing relationship with Jesus Christ. Our vision was for dozens and dozens of new kids to come through our doors and then for those kids to come to youth group and begin to know Christ personally. While we welcomed and ministered to many new kids in our community and continued to build relationships with those who regularly attend, the numbers were not exactly what we were hoping for.

We were initially discouraged by the smaller than expected numbers, but after a few months we received an encouraging email from a parent of a teen in our youth group. The subject line of the email read “Even if just for the one” and she reminded us that the Lord works through us regardless of who shows up for an event. Her email brought to mind a teen who came to

the 5th Quarter because a friend had brought him. It was through the 5th Quarter that this student attended youth group for the first time! Though our vision was for the masses, the heart of God is for the one. It was a humbling reminder that we organize big outreach events, we plan youth groups, we prepare Bible studies, we build relationships with teens, we invest our time, energy, and creativity, “even if just for the one.”



## MEN'S MINISTRY >

### Strengthening Relationships

By Dave Daniel & Corky Semler, Men's Ministries

To say that the past year was unusual would be a vast understatement. Our Joshua League Saturday Breakfasts commenced in September with a string of strong speakers, emphasizing our exposure to vibrant local ministries. We hosted Wayne Younger, Executive Director of the Pittsburgh Project; Doug Smith of Light of Life Ministries; Ed Glover, the founder of Urban Impact and Man Up Pittsburgh; and Herb Bailey, owner of Uncommon Grounds Café in Aliquippa, to address our men in consecutive months.

Each speaker illustrated how their respective ministries address pressing needs within their neighborhoods, and they invited us to participate in meeting those needs and coming alongside them to broaden the scope of their ministries.

Each ministry does important, community-strengthening work and we are deeply grateful to participate in it. The Pittsburgh Project has operated

in the Northside of Pittsburgh for 35 years. They seek to invest in future community leaders by hosting a variety of after-school programs and summer camps. Additionally, they serve vulnerable homeowners throughout the Pittsburgh region through their work, providing relationship and community, as well as much needed home repairs. Light of Life Rescue Mission is another organization located in the Northside of Pittsburgh. It serves the homeless community by offering them shelter, food, employment, and the hope of the Gospel. Urban Impact is a ministry serving the Northside youth through a holistic approach to outreach. Their programs focus on all aspects of life, pursuing academic, athletic, artistic, and spiritual growth. Man Up is an annual even sponsored by Urban Impact that ministers to thousands of men across the tri-state area and features speakers from the Pittsburgh Steelers football team. Herb Bailey's Uncommon Grounds Café is a huge

blessing to the Aliquippa neighborhood through hosting and sponsoring a variety of events, and offering each patron of the café a listening ear and a sense of community.

Though our plans were severely curtailed in March, the Joshua League breakfast programs have been immensely fruitful, introducing us to each of these awesome ministries and allowing us to join in several initiatives. Men's Ministries now has a regular presence at Light of Life Ministries through serving meals to men who are homeless or living at the Light of Life facility. Additionally, we have begun to participate in a Bible study at the Uncommon Grounds Café, and we provide regular service through the Pittsburgh Project. Our hope and expectation are that these relationships will continue to deepen as we find new and creative ways to stay connected in the months ahead.

## Delighting in the Law of the Lord

By Michele Holmes, Director of Women's Ministries

Lately, I have been struck by what the Lord graciously allows for us. He knew our world would shut down in mid-March, and He knew what He would allow for each of us just before, during, and after our quarantine experience. Joleen and I are so humbled by the reality that He allowed our Women's Retreat to take place at the end of February, as the theme of that retreat served to carry us through the difficult season ahead. We had no idea at the time just how impactful the theme of that retreat would be for us in the weeks following!

Lisa Anderson-Umaña generously offered to lead our retreat this year, offering her years of expertise in leading groups to lean in close to the Lord. She chose Psalm 1 as our starting place, and we focused on the first few verses: "Blessed is the one...whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and

whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers."

As we learned to meditate on these words, the Lord met us in our quiet spaces and reminded us how refreshing His presence is in our lives. Through His word the Lord comes close and reveals things in our hearts that we need to wrestle with. Sometimes He asks things of us that feel too hard, or seemingly require too much sacrifice; and yet when we make His word our delight, He blesses us. Lisa led us in a time of bread making to illustrate this point—that sometimes what the Lord reveals to us in His word is difficult and requires more waiting than we would like. How we laughed at ourselves when we discovered how difficult it was to wait for our yeast to activate our bread dough or how perfectly we imagined those loaves coming out of the oven, even though they went into the oven looking far from perfect! I think we were all pleasantly surprised that, though the process was difficult, in the end, the bread was delicious. We

felt what we had done had "prospered."

As we look ahead to a year full of question marks, we can rest assured that the Lord's word does not change. Those who delight in the law of the Lord and meditate on it day and night will prosper because they will grow closer to their Savior, the only One who can make sense of the upside-down days. Oh, how we all want to yield fruit in our lives! We've learned that Psalm 1 is the key to fulfilling that desire. Let's spend time in His word together—it will refresh us, challenge us, and lift us up out of our uncertainties right onto God's lap.

If you're wishing you had a group of women to spend time in God's word with, you do! MPC Women's Ministries offers a variety of opportunities to study God's word together. We've been Zoom-ing together through the spring and summer, and are planning some exciting fall study options. We can't wait for you to join us!



*"Blessed is the one...  
whose delight is in  
the law of the  
LORD, and who  
meditates on his law  
day and night."*

*Psalm 1:2*

## Praise for the Pastoral Care Team

By Rev. Dr. Kevin Gourley, Pastor of Congregational Care

Philippians 1:3 reads, "I thank my God every time I remember you in my prayers." That is my exact sentiment as I think about the Pastoral Care Team we have at Memorial Park. In business, there is a term used in reference to completing a business plan called "MITS," or "Most Important Things." My "MITS" are names Dee Cuffman, Tom Anderson, and Pastor Karen Anderson. Let me tell you why:

**Member Care Coordinator, Dee Cuffman:** Dee has a Masters Degree in Pastoral Care and Theology from Liberty University. She simply keeps me organized! Anyone who knows me and my gifts knows they are definitely not in administration. Dee assists in coordinating numerous areas including visitation, many of the Deacon initiatives, and Stephen Ministry. She also assisted Rev. Dr. Karen Anderson in Senior Ministry, handles Member Care records, teaches and preaches at our various nursing homes, and so much more. She is humble, unassuming, organized, hard-working, and deeply spiritual—with an unprecedented prayer life!

**Pastoral Associate, Tom Anderson:** Tom has a Masters of Divinity Degree from Reformed Seminary in Pittsburgh with a specialty in the Greek Language. Tom was Business Manager and Minister of Pastoral Care at North Park Evangelical Presbyterian Church for years. He volunteered to assist in Pastoral Care for MPC five years ago. Tom is simply invaluable to me as a friend, counselor, and ministry partner. He visits many of our homebound friends and hospital patients on a regular basis alongside me and Deacon Steve Kimmel, and he responds when emergencies arise. In a given year, Tom will have as many as 300 visits with our members, as well as many phone calls to those in need. If you add up his volunteer service to us over the last 5 years, Pastor Tom has made over 1500 visits offering a listening ear, the reading of Scripture and prayer! He also serves as a frequent Pastor on Call and as a member of the Fiscal Management Committee.

**Pastor Karen Anderson:** Karen has both a Masters of Divinity Degree, as well as a Doctor in Ministry Degree. In addition to serving several churches as a Pastor, she was formerly a Christian Educator. Karen served MPC for the past 5 years as our Pastor to Senior Adults. Rev. Dr. Anderson has developed the finest Senior Adult Ministry at MPC that I have ever been a part of—as well as what I believe to be one of the finest in all of Pittsburgh! From the Senior Adult lunches on Thursday to the Nursing Home services each month, to her profound teaching and visitation ministry, Karen's vibrancy, creativity, organization and love for our Lord is unparalleled! Karen retired in the spring of 2020, and we will miss her tremendously! We are so glad that she and her husband Dave will be staying at MPC both to volunteer and to worship with us.

There are many times I take this Pastoral Care Team for granted, yet because of these gifted and special people, MPC and I are blessed with the phenomenal pastoral care of our church. Dee, Tom and Karen are of course joined by the 36 Deacons and the 20+ Stephen Ministers who serve the entire congregation behind the scenes in the areas of visitation, care, prayer, worship, administration, communication, welcoming, ushering, etc. It takes the entire Body of Christ to provide care inside the Church and to reach out to those outside the Church, inviting all into a life-changing, ever-growing relationship with Jesus. To God be the Glory



## SENIOR MINISTRY &gt;

## From Challenges to Abundance

By Dee Cuffman, Pastoral Associate

*"Is not wisdom found among the aged? Does not long life bring understanding?" (Job 12:12)*

*"Growing in grace, they will still thrive and bear fruit in old age; they will flourish and be vital, rich in trust and contentment." (Psalm 92:14)*

Several years ago, a major newspaper published a report about life lessons gleaned from senior citizens. The report opened with these words: "While aging brings challenges to mind and body, it can also lead to an... abundance of emotional, spiritual, and social knowledge; qualities which scientists are beginning to define as wisdom...the wisdom of elders" ("Age-Old Wisdom," *Our Daily Bread*, March 2019).

The report concluded that there is a great benefit in aligning the acquired wisdom of our elders with the energy and freshness of young people through social interaction and shared tasks, as each person in such a mix has something unique to contribute. This kind of meaningful interaction is uplifting for individuals on all points of the age spectrum. In Senior Ministry, we believe that the best application of acquired wisdom is in acts of service. We focus not only on ministry to seniors but also on ministry by our seniors to others within our church and community.

One of our objectives is engaging in cross-generational ministry through

partnering with other ministry areas at MPC. This year we teamed up with Children's Ministry for Operation Christmas Child (OCC). At our Second Thursday luncheons, we asked each attendee to bring (as they are able) a small gift to be used in filling the shoeboxes for OCC. Our seniors demonstrated generous hearts of giving for the children—during the 5 months we collected for this project, they provided over 300 items!

We also teamed up with a young adults LIFE group at the same luncheons. This group greets our seniors as they arrive and then serves the meal. Most importantly, they join us for lunch. Our seniors enjoy getting to know our young adults and interacting with them—gaining one another's perspective in anticipation of future partnering.

But our seniors are also eager to serve one another. Our team sends out birthday cards and other personal notes to those who are home bound. In this pandemic season of ministry, many of our seniors have also reached out to others with an encouraging phone call—a ministry that we will joyfully continue.

We are enthusiastic about serving among all age groups, wherever a need presents itself. In the ministry year ahead, more of our seniors are looking to increase our cross-generational sharing by interacting with our youngest friends, perhaps through

volunteering in the nursery or TRU Kids or through supporting our preschool teachers behind the scenes.

As we look ahead to a new season of senior ministry, we welcome you to join us as we serve seniors, learn from seniors, and find new and engaging ways for our seniors to serve you.

*"While aging brings challenges to mind and body, it can also lead to an...abundance of emotional, spiritual, and social knowledge; qualities which scientists are beginning to define as wisdom...**the wisdom of elders.**"*

## Community Together

By Sam Taylor, Campus & Community Outreach Coordinator

On a Sunday in early September of 2019, I sat in the Clayton Center Cafe, wondering if anyone would show up to our first Young Adults gathering, when I walked a young woman from Rwanda whom I'd never met before. Emma (name changed for anonymity) had just finished her first year as a grad student at La Roche University.

In the months that followed that first September meeting, I had the privilege of getting to know Emma well. I came to learn that she is married, and that her husband continues to live and work in Rwanda. Then in February, Emma shared the exciting news that she was pregnant! Thinking she was only a few months along in her pregnancy, I was surprised when she shared that she was nearly seven months along. As we continued talking, I gathered that she didn't yet have many of the things needed when preparing for a newborn's arrival.

Providentially, Deb Waugaman had befriended Emma's sister one day last fall while she was walking through the MPC parking lot. So, as I talked to Deb after hearing Emma's exciting news, she informed me that she too had just learned of the pregnancy. What a tapestry God was already weaving! Deb and I quickly teamed up to help Emma. We

reached out to various ministries and individuals within the MPC family and, just as quickly, the church was mobilized to care for Emma and her unborn child. In a matter of weeks, those ministries and individuals contributed a bassinet, crib, dresser, clothing, diapers, bottles, and more! More importantly, supportive relationships were built so that Emma and her baby would be emotionally cared for upon the baby's arrival.

One afternoon in the church office, Deb and I were talking to Emma and making plans to deliver all the donations. With a heart-warming smile Emma remarked, "I don't feel alone anymore." After a year and a half in America, Emma finally felt known.

On April 24, Emma gave birth to a healthy and beautiful daughter! However, due to the COVID-19 travel restrictions, Emma's husband was unable to leave Rwanda to be present with her. Thankfully, Deb, my wife Carly, and numerous other church members stepped into that need and have been present with Emma every step of the way: taking her to follow-up appointments, grocery shopping, collecting additional clothing, diapers, etc. Beyond these practical tasks, Deb's relationship with Emma and her sister continues to grow and

deepen as they pray for one another and share life together as much as possible while socially distancing.

Witnessing this sweet new life coming into the world, being a part of mobilizing Christ's church, and demonstrating God's love and presence to Emma at a vulnerable time has been a joy. This is the exciting work that we at MPC get to be a part of—sharing the love of Christ with college students and our surrounding community, leading them into a deeper walk with Christ. This work happens through the faithfulness of many, as we seek to invite people into a life-changing and ever-growing relationship with Jesus Christ. Through our faithfulness this year a future leader in Rwanda has experienced Christ in a tangible and life-changing way. Thanks be to God!

# 41-year Overnight Success

By Paul Housman, Pastor of Missions & Outreach

## How much can you do in a lifetime?

Memorial Park Church has been committed to sharing the life-changing and ever-growing relationship that we enjoy with Christ for many years.

More than forty-one years ago MPC started supporting Fran and Dave Jordan as they moved to Thailand following God's call to reach the Prai people, an unreached people group. The first thing Fran and Dave needed to do after arriving in Thailand was learn the language. The Prai people, who live in both Thailand and Laos, have their own unique language, so they studied and learned Prai. However at the time, the Prai didn't have a written language. So, Dave and Fran developed the first written Prai language using Thai symbols. If that wasn't enough for one lifetime, they then began the massive job of translating the Bible into Prai. Now, 41 years later, there is a digital app with the Prai bible which includes an audio version for people who don't read Prai. Someday you will see this on your YouVersion Bible App!

Can you imagine how the Jordans must have felt during this long journey? It took years for anyone they met to respond to the gospel. It took even longer to produce the printed Prai Bible and the app that was recently completed. Only after their many years of perseverance could they see the spiritual flourishing that is happening now in the region.

I believe the Jordans have accomplished several lifetimes of work during their 41 years in Thailand. As they develop indigenous leadership, the gospel is being spread and lives are being changes for time and eternity.

I share this story to help spread awareness, to congratulate you for your efforts to invite others into the life-changing and ever-growing relationship with Christ that we enjoy, and to challenge you to persevere and stay the course because there is still much good work to be done. This is an amazing story of how God is working through His people!







## ADULT MINISTRY &gt;

## Adult Discipleship Hour

By Betsy Rumer, Executive Pastor of Ministry

While it seems like it was just yesterday, 2019-2020 was actually the second year since we changed our Sunday morning worship schedule, in part to create space for an “Adult Discipleship Hour” between our two services. As I reflect on year two of the Adult Discipleship Hour, I wonder: *Are we accomplishing our goal for that hour? Are we learning and changing?* These aren’t idle questions—we want to continue to evaluate our progress and modify where needed as we move forward.

So, let me start with: **“What is our goal for the Discipleship Hour?”** To invite people into a life-changing and ever-growing relationship with Jesus Christ. Hopefully you’ll recognize that as our mission statement, which guides everything we do here at MPC. Now that we know our goal, let’s examine how we’re doing with that mission.

First, **are people being invited?** Yes! The Adult Discipleship Hour has been a game changer in regards to the number of people who participate in Adult Ministry. We’ve grown from roughly 40 students per week to an average of 175 students per week since introducing the Discipleship Hour. To those who began to attend thinking, *“Well I’m already here for the nine o’clock service, I might as well stay!”*, I just smile and think to myself, *“whatever it takes!”* Now, while increased attendance is good, it’s not nearly as important as whether lives are being changed by an ever-growing relationship with Jesus Christ. Rather than hearing from me, I want to share a few quotes from both students and teachers that speak to the impact these classes are having:

### -STUDENTS-

“I love and need the Discipleship Hour. It holds me accountable to studying God’s Word and experiencing what the scripture means to others in class. It enables me to grow in my spiritual life and learn how I can become more Christlike in my daily walk. Having several classes available, allows me to choose the one most pertinent to my life.”

—Kathy Raymond, MPC congregant

“I have thoroughly enjoyed Adult Discipleship Hour classes. I believe adult study is vital to advancing in faith and Biblical knowledge. In Discipleship Classes at MPC, I often see many of the same people and have also made new acquaintances. I enjoy the input and discussion from participants. I have been amazed at how the teaching and class discussion have advanced my excitement about studying faith issues and understanding of how we can participate with God in [growing to be more like Jesus]. I have found additional study material online and find it further deepens my understanding.”

—Madeline Stitt, MPC Congregant

### -TEACHERS-

“I absolutely LOVE teaching in Memorial Park’s Discipleship Hour! Why? Not only does preparing to facilitate the classes keep me engaged with God’s Word throughout the week, but I love the fellowship with other members. Getting to know other members and to see God anew from their perspective on Scripture and their experience following Jesus are experiences not to be missed.”

—Roger Rumer, Elder

“I find that teaching at Memorial Park Church is a wonderful experience. The attendees in the course genuinely care about learning the material, and the environment is conducive to teaching and learning. It is a wonderful and enjoyable way to share your gifts if you are a teacher.”

—Steve Little, Elder

Even when we needed to close the church in March due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we didn't stop the Discipleship Hour. Instead, we went online with "virtual" classes held live via video chat. Neither the students nor the teachers missed a beat because we all WANT to learn and grow! Throughout the transition online, students of all ages, including our seniors, were willing to learn how to video chat and, amazingly, we had almost no drop in class participation!

This summer's session has moved to a hybrid-model, combining in person attendance at church with virtual classes, offering our students the option of how they want to attend. We began the year with great excitement and energy around learning and growing in our faith, meeting new friends, encouraging one another and building community and we've ended the year the same way! I praise God for what He's done through the Discipleship Hour and look forward to thanking Him for what He'll do in the future. Stay tuned, it's going to be exciting!

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY &gt;

## Equipping the Next Generation

By Brandon Davis, Elementary Coordinator

In this cultural moment, we face the important task of equipping the next generation to become resilient disciples. One of the ways we do that is by engaging in difficult, but foundational conversations with our kids and pre-teens. Additionally, we come alongside parents as the primary spiritual influencers of their children, equipping them to disciple their kids.

For many years, Children's Ministries has partnered with Women's Ministries to put on an event for mothers and daughters called Created in Love. This beloved event provides an opportunity for mother-daughter pairs to learn about the physical, emotional, and spiritual changes that come with entering the teenage years, opening the door for mothers to continue the conversation at home. This year, Jacob Soto, Middle School Coordinator, and I saw the possibility of doing a similar event for our fathers and sons. After a few brainstorming sessions, we came up with the idea of Anchored.

Anchored was created to address the topics of Biblical identity, manhood, and sexuality. These themes flow naturally into one another and help our kids in grades 4-6 begin to learn what it looks

like to be Godly men. We also saw this as an opportunity to come alongside our fathers, equipping them to continue teaching about these topics at home. We hoped that Anchored would support and encourage our fathers, as well as teach our sons about these foundational topics in the presence of other Christ-following men. Without having these conversations from a Biblical framework and in a safe, comfortable setting like the Church, our children will learn about these topics at school or from friends—places where God's truth is often neglected.

From the start of our planning, we recognized the need for fathers to speak to our audience, as neither Jacob nor I have children of our own. To address this need, we partnered with Men's Ministries and recruited speakers Dave Butler and Sam Taylor to help lead and teach the lessons on these topics. In total, we had about a dozen father-son pairs come to the event. The day was split into three sessions with the first and last sessions grouping fathers and sons together. The middle session on manhood, we split up to talk separately to the pre-teens and to the men. This provided a unique opportunity for fathers to support and listen to one

another. The day concluded with a father vs. son dodgeball tournaments and a cook-out—a huge thanks to Kevin Steele who grilled for us in February!

The first year of Anchored definitely accomplished our initial goal of inviting both fathers and sons into the crucial, but sometimes neglected conversation about manhood. One of the fathers in attendance, Doug Klocko, remarked, "great program! I liked the way the morning was divided up. I thought topics were on target." We hope to build on this event's success and look for ways we can continue to support and foster relationships with our fathers in the future. In addition to Anchored, look out for another Created in Love event coming this winter. These programs will rotate every other year as we work to equip young boys and girls to grow into Godly men and women.

## An Exemplary, Christ-Centered Education

By Janey Mather, Interim Preschool Director

Memorial Park Christian Preschool (MPCP) is an outreach ministry of Memorial Park Church (MPC) which offers an exemplary Bible-based learning experience for children ages two through six. With classes ranging from one day a week to four days a week, parents are able to choose the program that best suits their child's needs. Eight credentialed teachers and nine aides greet each preschooler Monday through Friday from mid-September through mid-May.

This past year, 167 children, representing 142 families from the surrounding communities, participated in MPCP. Several generous donors continued to offer financial support to students in need of assistance. What was most remarkable was the rich and varied ethnicities, faiths, cultures, and customs comprising the background of enrolled families.

The preschool's mission commits to the following outcomes: With God's guidance and love, we support the community of children and their families by strengthening the spirit, enriching the mind, and developing the social, emotional, and physical potential of each child in a safe, nurturing Christian environment. Sharing a theme for 2019-2020 of "Better Together," the staff infused lesson reminders—both directly and indirectly—of this kind of support.

When one considers that the average attention span of a two-year-old is four to six minutes and a four-year old can maintain focus for a possible twelve minutes, it becomes clear that "hands on" learning is the most important aspect of any given lesson. Intentional and frequent transitions in "play" is the actual "work" that is seamlessly accomplished on any given day at MPCP. Teachers and aides are in constant communication with each other and with each student as everyone investigates and interacts with colors, shapes, sounds, and concepts that align with each class's developmental level. The world is a fascinating and curious place; each student is a precious child of God in that world of wonder.

- Bible stories were read aloud, acted out, discussed, and incorporated in artwork throughout the year, whether in the classroom setting (September-March) or remotely during Zoom gatherings (March-May).
- Teachers contacted families via emails and phone calls, asking for the privilege of praying for each member and inquiring of specific needs that might be met by staff of MPCP and MPC alike.
- With great pride, students displayed their artwork and learning successes via in-school interactions or photos and conversations during remote connections.
- In May, aides and teachers celebrated the students in a socially distanced drive-through-pick-up as families came to retrieve their child's creative artwork from the postponed art show.
- The theme of "Better Together" was never more fully demonstrated than in the flexibility, grace, generosity, and understanding of students, parents, and families during Spring 2020.
- Last but not least, there is no data confirming the number of teeth that were 'lost' during this past school year, but it is definitely a high number!

In closing, this ministry remains well positioned to meet the ever-changing landscape of the coming year. With Director Jan Moreth's sudden resignation in late February, the reins were passed to Laura Gidas (Accountant/Administrative Assistant) and myself, Janey Mather (Interim Director) to provide continuity of learning during Spring 2020. A new director, Debi Bordo, has been hired and there is no doubt that MPCP's superb reputation will continue to flourish as an exemplary and Christ-centered place for preschool education.



# STEWARDSHIP

## PERSONNEL >

### Adding Talent at Memorial Park

By Janey Mather, Elder, Personnel Committee

Memorial Park Church (MPC) is blessed with an outstanding group of men and women who dedicate their skills, gifts, and talents to the ongoing work of ministering to the congregation. From staying in contact with missionaries to organizing outside worship services on a Saturday night, staff members provide the necessary structure and supervision of key elements in the life of the church.

This past year has witnessed several changes in personnel due to new hires, retirements, resignations, transitions to employment in different states, and natural attrition. None of these changes is without loss, yet as each person exits, God provides an opportunity for leadership to reassess and discern “best practices” as aligned with strategic planning goals. Believing that the Holy Spirit directs our path, the Personnel Team would like to report the following employee changes that occurred during 2019-2020:

#### New Hires

Stephen Blum, returned as Worship Coordinator as of January 2020

Marissa Kotanichek, Administrative Assistant to Student IMPACT as of January 2020

Barbara Kowalski, Administrative Assistant to Pastor Betsy as of January 2020

#### Retirements

Karen Anderson, Pastor of Visitation and Senior Life as of May 31, 2020

Susan Umble, Publications Coordinator as of May 31, 2020

#### Resignations

Jan Moreth, Preschool Director as of February 24, 2020

There is no doubt that God provides MPC with a group of people who work tirelessly with a sense of vitality and a high standard of excellence. The Personnel Team is grateful for such dedication and commitment which enhances and nourishes the entire body of believers.



Stephen Blum



Marissa Kotanichek



Barb Kowalski

## 2019-2020 Leadership at Memorial Park

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### -2019 Deacons-

Kathy Fenton  
Curt Powell  
Erin Butler  
Jim Stoof  
Shirley Crawford  
Janell Butorac  
Kelly Gronbeck  
Tracy Weller  
Mary Lou Leibold  
Lynn Sekeres-Sosovicka  
Bob Kildea

Alisha Belack  
Laurie Brown  
Melissa Bucci  
Rob Burton  
Matt Degnan  
Chris Fenton  
Claudia Fraser  
Deb Gallo  
Steve Kimmel  
Carole Klocko  
Karen Kurtz  
Scot Kurtz  
Heather McAnich  
Terri Morris

Tim Molnar  
Airong Park  
Kathy Patton  
Curt Powell  
Jen Profovich  
Lynne Rackley  
Alexis Rose  
Michelle Scott  
Stacie Sebeck  
Jocy Waibel  
Patrick Ward  
Ted Weller

### -2019 Session-

Rick Corliss (clerk)	Chris O'Rourke
Paula Allan	Amanda Rihn
Tom Anewalt (elder emeritus)	Rev. Betsy Rumer
Dave Butler	Karl Sauereisen
Joe Cafaro	Corky Semler
Joshua Dadeboe	Kevin Steele
Rev. Dr. Kevin A. Gourley	Rev. Dr. D. Dean Weaver
Carol Kjellman	Greg Wilson
Steve Little	Jenny Wolff
Dave Moran	

# FISCAL REPORT

June 1, 2019 – May 31, 2020

## End of Year Report

By Catherine Pavlock, Executive Director of Operations

This was certainly a year like no other, yet God is always faithful to His people, and once again, our financial needs have been met! Giving was down last summer, so we ended the first quarter of our fiscal year over \$36,000 behind in projected Tithes & Offerings. Giving picked up a bit in the fall, so we were only \$29,000 under budget by the end of the second quarter. Then came December, typically our biggest giving month of the year, and the bottom fell out. We were \$136,000 short of budget for that month alone. Although expenses had been tracking under budget all year, Fiscal Management Committee and Session decided to further tighten up spending in response to the December giving. We also had several donors step up to make large one-time gifts to help us get back on track. So, by the end of the third quarter, Tithes & Offerings were only \$40,000 short of budget year-to-date. Then came COVID! See what I mean about a year like no other?!

As you know, we quickly pivoted to online worship in March, and many people switched to our online giving platforms who had not previously participated in this way. Prior to COVID, online giving averaged between 25-30%; this jumped to over 50% almost immediately. Thank you for your willingness to continue to support the church through these times and your flexibility in trying new technologies both for worship and giving! With special gifts, faithful support, and severe expense restrictions, we ended the year with a net gain of \$110,000. This puts us in a much stronger position as we face the continuing uncertainty before us.

We were able to receive Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) funding under the CARES act, which was designed to allow small businesses, including churches, to keep their staff employed through these uncertain times. This currently shows on our books as a loan; however, at the end of the 24-week period allowed for spending, we will apply for loan forgiveness and expect that it will be mostly or completely forgiven. Because of this funding, we have been able to continue paying all our employees for the time they would normally have worked. (Note: Despite working from home, many actually worked MORE hours than usual in response to the rapidly changing environment we find ourselves in.)

One of the great highlights of this year was paying off the balance of the construction loan from the renovation of the Educational Wing! We temporarily used some other funds to do so, therefore we still “owe ourselves” a little over \$21,000, but we don’t owe the bank anything. That means that for the first time in years, we don’t have any debt—certainly something to celebrate!

The maintenance of our facilities, the programs here at MPC, the outreach to our local community, and the support of missionaries around the world is only possible because of your generosity. Especially in these uncertain times, more than ever we thank you for your ongoing support of the work that God has called us to do together in His name.

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## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

	31-May-20	31-May-19
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents:</b>		
Ministry	\$ 980,780	\$ 594,776
Capital Campaign	\$ 4,270	\$ 28,310
Library Endowment	\$ 8,002	\$ 8,617
Preschool	\$ 224,787	\$ 223,643
Scouts	\$ 14,847	\$ 18,880
Subtotal	\$ 1,232,686	\$ 874,226
<b>Receivables</b>	\$ 68	\$ 479
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	\$ 8,644,590	\$ 8,718,542
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 9,877,344</b>	<b>\$ 9,593,247</b>

<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Local Payroll Taxes Payable	\$ 2,502	\$ 2,443
Designated Giving	\$ 174	\$ 4,224
Construction Loan	\$ -	\$ 368,009
Other Payables	\$ 25	\$ 25
PPP Loan	\$ 342,000	\$ -
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 344,701</b>	<b>\$ 374,701</b>

<b>FUND BALANCES</b>		
Ministry Fund	\$ 289,466	\$ 179,327
Building Fund	\$ 39,868	\$ 52,629
Capital Campaign	\$ (21,489)	\$ (339,698)
Emergency Reserves	\$ 102,183	\$ 88,350
Legacy Fund	\$ 10,000	\$ -
Preschool	\$ 224,855	\$ 223,897
Fixed Assets	\$ 8,644,590	\$ 8,718,542
Other Designated Ministry Funds	\$ 243,170	\$ 295,499
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>\$ 9,532,643</b>	<b>\$ 9,218,546</b>

### NOTE:

The church received \$342,000 in funding from the Small Business Administration (SBA) under the Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) as part of the federal government's COVID relief program, the CARES Act. This currently shows as a loan on our balance sheet, but we plan to apply for loan forgiveness in late 2020 and expect that the entire loan will be forgiven. At that time, it will convert to income on our books.

# MINISTRY FUND SUMMARY

2019-2020  
Budget

2019-2020  
Actual

2018-2019  
Actual

## REVENUES



Tithes & Offerings	\$ 2,535,000	\$ 2,451,530	\$ 2,418,588
Facility Rental	\$ 5,000	\$ 8,811	\$ 5,815
Investment Income	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,237	\$ 3,488
Uncleared Checks	\$ -	\$ 11,648	\$ -
Other Income	\$ 55,000	\$ 60,506	\$ 59,288
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 2,600,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,536,732</b>	<b>\$ 2,487,179</b>

## EXPENSES

### BELONG



Belong Staffing	\$ 280,886	\$ 294,913	\$ 261,352
Deacons	\$ 5,100	\$ 2,651	\$ 3,691
Congregational Ministries	\$ 5,700	\$ 1,027	\$ 5,888
<b>TOTAL BELONG</b>	<b>\$ 291,686</b>	<b>\$ 298,591</b>	<b>\$ 270,931</b>

### GROW



Grow Staffing	\$ 355,665	\$ 339,737	\$ 329,483
Family Ministries	\$ 39,347	\$ 22,937	\$ 36,179
Adult Ministries	\$ 15,200	\$ 8,024	\$ 9,129
Learning Support	\$ 14,200	\$ 5,987	\$ 7,869
<b>TOTAL GROW</b>	<b>\$ 424,412</b>	<b>\$ 376,685</b>	<b>\$ 382,660</b>

### SERVE



Serve Staffing	\$ 207,292	\$ 203,309	\$ 214,505
Mission Partners	\$ 401,300	\$ 378,541	\$ 396,020
Outreach	\$ 7,500	\$ 4,073	\$ 6,400
Denominational Ministries	\$ 44,801	\$ 40,552	\$ 46,489
Program Ministries	\$ 4,000	\$ 500	\$ 8,370
<b>TOTAL SERVE</b>	<b>\$ 664,893</b>	<b>\$ 626,975</b>	<b>\$ 671,784</b>

### WORSHIP



Worship Staffing	\$ 262,081	\$ 250,731	\$ 244,881
Worship & Arts	\$ 24,400	\$ 16,480	\$ 27,075
<b>TOTAL WORSHIP</b>	<b>\$ 286,481</b>	<b>\$ 267,211</b>	<b>\$ 271,956</b>

### STEWARDSHIP



Stewardship Staffing	\$ 457,268	\$ 451,495	\$ 419,650
Leadership	\$ 2,550	\$ 1,774	\$ 3,396
Administration	\$ 196,210	\$ 174,902	\$ 174,096
Property	\$ 253,000	\$ 216,510	\$ 237,710
Generosity	\$ 23,500	\$ 12,449	\$ 13,307
<b>TOTAL STEWARDSHIP</b>	<b>\$ 932,528</b>	<b>\$ 857,130</b>	<b>\$ 848,159</b>

## SUMMARY

TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 2,600,000	\$ 2,536,732	\$ 2,487,179
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 2,600,000	\$ 2,426,592	\$ 2,445,490
<b>NET TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 110,140</b>	<b>\$ 41,689</b>

## PERSONNEL SUMMARY

TOTAL PERSONNEL	1,563,192	1,540,185	\$ 1,469,871
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## PRESCHOOL OPERATING FUND SUMMARY

	2019-2020 Budget	2019-2020 Actual	2018-2019 Actual
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Fees	\$ 258,137	\$ 256,983	\$ 272,117
Other Income	\$ 1,480	\$ 9,746	\$ 2,780
Art Camp	\$ 9,600	\$ 8,080	\$ 9,824
<b>Total Revenues</b>	\$ 269,217	\$ 274,809	\$ 284,721
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Personnel	\$ 185,011	\$ 186,110	\$ 173,484
Personnel Benefits	\$ 33,433	\$ 28,104	\$ 31,388
Administration	\$ 16,117	\$ 42,425	\$ 10,262
Student Activities	\$ 1,193	\$ 479	\$ 905
Student Resources	\$ 10,970	\$ 7,346	\$ 8,833
Teacher Resources	\$ 700	\$ -	\$ 360
Art Camp	\$ 6,916	\$ 6,024	\$ 6,399
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$ 254,340	\$ 270,488	\$ 231,631
<b>Revenue Less Expenses</b>	\$ 14,877	\$ 4,321	\$ 53,090

## PERSONNEL SUMMARY

Total Salaries & Benefits <i>including Art Camp</i>	\$ 223,721	\$ 219,019	\$ 209,845
Percentage of Total Expenses	88.0%	81.0%	90.6%
Year-end Enrollment	154	173	171

## ALL PRESCHOOL FUNDS

	31-May-20	31-May-19
PS Operating Fund	\$ 155,087	\$ 155,764
PS Scholarship Fund	\$ 17,543	\$ 19,402
PS Families in Need Fund	\$ 9,122	\$ 6,497
PS Special Gifts Fund	\$ 39,595	\$ 38,273
PS Equipment Fund	\$ 3,509	\$ 3,961
<b>Total Preschool Fund Balance</b>	\$ 224,856	\$ 223,897

### NOTE:

Due to the COVID pandemic, the Preschool closed for in person classes and switched to online learning from mid-March through the end of the school year. The decision was made to refund one month of tuition at a cost of \$29,988, which is included in Administrative Expenses. Parents generously contributed \$8,138 of this back to the Preschool, and this is shown as Other Income.

## BUILDING FUNDS SUMMARIES

### GENERAL BUILDING FUND

Fund Balance 05/31/2019	\$	52,629
Contributions & Transfers	\$	40,982
Expenses	\$	53,743
Fund Balance 05/31/2020	\$	39,868

### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN - Next Steps

Fund Balance 05/31/2019	\$	28,310
Contributions	\$	336,026
Interest	\$	152
Transfer from Seventh Trumpet		
Gain on Sale of Stock	\$	1,739
Total Income	\$	337,917
Tithe	\$	7,613
Financing & Credit Card Fees	\$	10,094
Debt Repayment	\$	370,009
Total Expenses	\$	387,716
Fund Balance 05/31/2020	\$	(21,489)

### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN - Seventh Trumpet

Fund Balance 05/31/2019	\$	(368,009)
Loan Payments	\$	368,009
Transfer to Next Steps	\$	-
Fund Balance 05/31/2020	\$	-

*Note: negative balance includes mortgage liability*

### FIXED ASSETS

Fund Balance 05/31/2019	\$	8,718,542
Less Depreciation	\$	(73,952)
Fund Balance 05/31/2020	\$	8,644,590

## FUND BALANCES

As a church, we use a fund-based system of accounting, where the Total Fund Balance = Assets - Liabilities. All income and expenses are attributed to a specific fund at the time of receipt/disbursement. The Ministry Fund covers the budgeted operating expenses of the church. Other funds are used to designate or restrict moneys that have been received for specific purposes. Disbursements from the specific designated/restricted accounts are generally controlled by the ministry directors responsible for the particular ministry area under Session's direction.

	Balance 05/31/2020	Balance 05/31/2019
Operating Fund	\$289,466	\$179,327
Building Fund	\$39,868	\$52,629
Fixed Asset Fund	\$8,644,590	\$8,718,542
Capital Campaign Fund	(\$21,489)	(\$339,698) *
Emergency Reserve Fund	\$102,183	\$88,350
Legacy Fund	\$10,000	\$0
Preschool	\$224,855	\$223,897
Administration & Personnel	\$43,383	\$69,292
Memorials	\$7,979	\$18,974
Library	\$8,607	\$9,088
Deacons	\$33,235	\$29,314
Missions	\$19,146	\$41,437
Family Ministries	\$56,791	\$68,213
Men's Ministries	\$4,489	\$3,764
New Life	\$4,253	\$4,960
Women's Ministries	\$31,306	\$18,852
Worship & Arts	\$13,567	\$7,118
Scouts	\$15,002	\$19,035
Other Ministries	\$5,412	\$5,452
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<b>\$9,532,643</b>	<b>\$9,218,546</b>

## ANALYSIS OF DEBT

A construction loan was taken in 2014 to pay for construction costs associated with the Seventh Trumpet Campaign. The loan was interest only during the construction period and was converted at the conclusion of the campaign to a mortgage payable over 10 years. We used other available cash to pay off this loan in May 2020, but we still owe ourselves \$21,489 to cover this expense. Funds received under the Next Steps campaign are being used to pay off this debt. The church also has a \$500,000 line of credit available for operating expenses, but we did not borrow against this during 2019-2020; however, there is now an annual fee to keep the line open.

	Principal
<b>Debt at 05/31/19</b>	<b>\$ 368,009</b>
<b>Additions &amp; Reductions to Principal:</b>	
Mortgage	\$ (368,009)
Line of Credit	\$ -
<b>Debt at 05/31/20</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

### Schedule of Interest Paid for the Year

	Interest
Construction Loan/Mortgage	\$ 9,054
Line of Credit Interest/Fees	\$ 500
<b>Total Interest Paid</b>	<b>\$ 9,554</b>

## COMMITMENT TO MISSIONS

Memorial Park is a missional church and places high value on its commitment to missions. This takes the form of staffing, budgeted contributions to outreach and mission partners, support for the Presbytery of the Alleghenies and General Assembly, designated gifts, mission trips, and maintaining a Mission House for use by visiting missionaries.

	2019-2020	2018-2019
<b>Budgeted Missions</b>		
Serve Staffing	\$203,309	\$214,505
Mission Partners	\$378,541	\$396,020
Outreach	4,073	6,400
Denominational Ministries	40,552	46,489
Program Ministries	500	8,370
<b>Total Budgeted Missions</b>	<b>626,975</b>	<b>671,784</b>
Designated Mission Payments	138,373 <sup>(1)</sup>	130,253 <sup>(1)</sup>
Next Steps Tithes	7,613	22,500
<b>Total Mission Support</b>	<b>\$772,961</b>	<b>\$824,537</b>

(1) Plus \$174 in other giving not yet distributed

## MEMBERSHIP, ATTENDANCE, AND GIVING STATISTICS

	05/31/2020	05/31/2019
Total Church Membership	1212	1257
Average Weekly Worship Attendance <sup>(1)</sup>	671	697
Discipleship Hour:		
Children (birth-5 <sup>th</sup> grade)	139	65
Youth (grades 6-12)	51	43
Adults	103	94
Annual Tithes & Offerings	\$2,451,530	\$2,418,588
Average Giving/Person/Week <sup>(2)</sup>	\$70.26	\$66.31

### NOTES:

- I. Attendance statistics are for the period of June 2019-February 2020. Due to the COVID pandemic, in person worship was suspended starting March 21/22 and continuing through May 2020.
- II. Average online viewing for the period of March 29 – May 31, 2020 was 752/week.

(1) Calculated based on total regular Saturday/Sunday worship attendance.

(2) Calculated based on worship attendance only

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Memorial Park Church (the Church) is a designated 501(c)(3) non-profit religious organization established to provide spiritual and benevolent services to its membership, the local community, and other needy communities throughout the world. The Church is supported primarily through member contributions. The financial statements of the Church were prepared on a modified-cash basis of accounting in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. More specific details of our accounting policies are documented in the accompanying notes.

### Note 2: Ministry (Operating) Fund

The Ministry Fund is for the general operations of the Church. The operating needs are approved by the Session in accordance with the Church's annual operating budget. The Ministry Fund expenses are allocated in the four areas of the MPC Strategic Plan: Belong, Grow, Serve, and Worship, plus an additional area called Stewardship that covers the overhead expenses of the church. Salaries and benefits are prorated to each area as a percentage based on the work each employee does.

Marketable securities received by the Church from contributors are sold at the market price as soon as title passes to the Church. The proceeds are applied in accordance with the desire of the donor. The difference between the amount credited to the donor and the cash realized is included in the fund(s) to which the donation was applied.

### Note 3: Pastoral Staff

The EPC has several classifications for ordained clergy, namely Pastors, Associate Pastors, and Assistant Pastors. Pastors and Associate Pastors have Terms of Call (financial terms) that are initially approved by the congregation and presbytery. At Memorial Park, our Pastor and Associate Pastors are Dean Weaver (Pastor), Kevin Gourley (Associate), and Betsy Rumer (Associate). In accordance with EPC governance, once a Pastor or Associate Pastor is hired, the Terms of Call are overseen and approved by the Session as part of the annual budget formation process. Therefore, the individual salary and benefits packages for each pastor are no longer included in this report. Our church participates in the medical, dental, life, and long-term disability insurance programs of the EPC for called pastors. Payments to the retirement accounts of pastors is set by the EPC at a rate of 10% of salary (including housing).

In the EPC, Assistant Pastors may be hired by the Session for a period of time to perform particular tasks. Paul Housman is Assistant Pastor for Mission & Outreach and Karen Anderson is Assistant Pastor for Visitation & Senior Life at Memorial Park. Note: Karen retired effective May 31, 2020.

### Note 4: Property, Plant, & Equipment

Due to the unavailability of sufficient historical cost relating to property and equipment purchased prior to January 1, 1982, the Church has adopted the policy of recording the property and equipment at the insurance appraisal value provided by the current insurance carrier as of January 1, 1982, in accordance with the guidelines recommended by the Accounting Standards Subcommittee on Non-Profit Organizations. Subsequent additions are recorded at cost for purchased assets and fair market value at the date of donation for donated assets. Depreciation on equipment is provided for on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the equipment.

The guidelines recommended by the Accounting Standards Subcommittee on Non-Profit Organizations also state that structures used primarily as houses of worship need not be depreciated. Accordingly, the Church has elected not to depreciate the Church building, which includes Westminster Hall and the Education Wing addition. The Clayton Youth Center and the five Peebles Road properties are being depreciated over 25 years, facility improvements over 15 years, furniture and fixtures over 10 years, worship equipment over 7 years and major computer equipment over 5 years. When a property is demolished, it remains on the books as original cost less depreciation to reflect the value of the land to MPC. Three properties have been demolished thus far: 8824 Peebles (Hope House), 8832 Peebles (Hospitality House), and 8856 Peebles (Lynch 1). Desktop computers are expensed in the year purchased.



**Annual Report 2019-2020**

**Memorial Park Church  
8800 Peebles Road, Allison Park, PA 15101**

**[www.mpcepc.org](http://www.mpcepc.org)**