

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



OLYMPIA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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AGENDA

Annual Meeting of First Baptist Church Wednesday, November 4, 2020

- I. Gathering Music
- II. Prayer
- III. Approval of 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes
- IV. Words from Pastor Mark
- V. A Word from the Moderator Jean Heidal
- VI. Presentation of the Spending Plan for 2020 Carolyn Adams
- VII. Moments for Recognition
- VIII. Election of Officers and Board Members Wayne Hallmeyer
- IX. Consecration of Officers and Board Members Pastor Mark
- X. Closing Prayer Pastor Mark

First Baptist Church of Olympia
Minutes of Annual Meeting

November 6th, 2019

6:30 p.m.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Mark Rambo.

The minutes from the November 7th 2018 annual meeting were read and approved.

Church Moderator, Jean Heidal, confirmed we had 74 members present and we have a quorum. Jean went on to speak about her heritage at Olympia First Baptist Church and the importance of her church family.

Pastor Dave Roberts spoke about the hard work of the Pastoral Search Committee. He thanked them for their contribution and time.

Pastor Mark asked those present "what do we want people to experience when they come to this church?" He cited James 2:13 Don't make decisions out of fear.

Rex Comstock presented the 2020 spending plan. Rex called for approval of the 2020 spending plan. It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the 2020 spending plan.

Wayne Hallmeyer presented the slate of officers for 2020. It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the 2020 slate of officers.

Hans Stoker, President of the Corporation asked that we suspend Roberts Rules, a typical approval percentage of 51% in favor of an 80% approval percentage when voting on changing regions. The motion was seconded. Ken Lewis asked to amend the motion to a 51% majority. A vote was taken and 39 present voted to approve the suspension of Roberts rules and require the 80% approval.

Vern Blair moved we withdraw from Mission NW and move to Evergreen Region. Several individual made comments about the benefits of changing region affiliation. The vote was taken. There were 67 in favor of changing to Evergreen region and 8 opposed. The motion to change region affiliation was approved by the congregation

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlynne Fulton
Secretary/Clerk

SENIOR PASTOR

Rev. Mark Rambo

My counsel for you is simple and straightforward: Just go ahead with what you've been given.

You received Christ Jesus, the Master; now **LIVE** him. You're **DEEPLY ROOTED** in him.

You're well-constructed upon him. You know your way around the faith. Now do what you've been taught. School's out; quit studying the subject and start **LIVING** it!

And let your living spill over into thanksgiving.

Colossians 2:6—7 – The Message

I think it is safe to say that all of us are looking forward to 2020 going away. It has been a year of deep anxiety and isolation. It has been a year of death and destruction. It has been a year of social unrest, injustice, and deep pain. It's been a mess. That doesn't even include our personal challenges, demons, losses, grief, outrage, bewilderment at what has been thrust upon us. What we have been given this year, we would rather give back. But that's not what the Apostle says up above. Nope. We are reminded that we have also been given this great gift in Christ Jesus and whatever our circumstances may be, we are to **live Christ!** Faithfully! Patiently! Trusting in God's goodness and character as exemplified by God's own child, Jesus Christ. Again, we are reminded above that you and I, we, as a community, are **rooted deeply with Christ** and that we need to stop pretending that we don't know what we are to do or to be about.

You and I, WE, know what living Christ looks like: Love, forgiveness, reconciliation, grace, kindness, gentleness, self-control, etc. It's making sandwiches and sack lunches for others. It's sending cards, notes, calls, texts, of support, care, encouragement and prayer. It's about praying, actually praying, instead of thinking about it. It's about taking our judgement, our privilege, our bias', and owning them, acknowledging them, and then giving them over to the One who can love on them, change them, lessen them, and use them for God's good. And if that's not enough; while you're trying to Live that kind of Rooted Life, make sure you do so with a thankful heart. Thank God you have your health in the midst of this pandemic. Thank God for your family and friends who keep tabs on you and want you safe and healthy. Thank God for the variety of ways that God has blessed you, even in the midst of pain, suffering, isolation, etc.

This is our challenge going forward. To Live Christ! To be Deeply Rooted in Christ! To be a thanksgiving people, who recognize their strengths and weaknesses, their blind-spots, but can still remember to walk humbly, love completely, and live differently.

Year in Review – First off, you and I were blessed by the presence and leadership of Pastor Dave Roberts, who along with his wife Merletta, were a blessing to our community of faith. Covid stole our opportunity to thank the two of them properly, but we still plan to bring them back for a joy-filled Thank You, when things settle down and we can gather again in larger numbers. In the meantime, the holidays are coming up fast and furious, so it would be a kind and loving gesture to make sure to add them to your Christmas Card lists.

Continued...

February 23rd, you gathered in the sanctuary for worship and then afterwards voted to call Rev. Mark Rambo as your next Senior Pastor. It was a joyful, humbling display of unity as well as an atmosphere of excitement about going forward toward a future that God was planning for us. Unfortunately, March came and with it, the beginning impact of Covid-19 and a global pandemic. March 15th was the last time we would gather collectively in the sanctuary, before measures were taken to limit the spread of the virus. Since that day, we have used the technology at our disposal and have streamed worship services and bible study live, on Facebook, as well as board and committee meetings. As we went further and further into the effects of the virus, we have been able to upgrade our technology and offer a more effective experience online. Special thanks to those who have been working and helping behind the scenes to keep all of us connected: Hans Stoker, Kathleen Rambo, Roy Spaulding, Mike Bradburn, and Alex Stoker have had a HUGE helping impact, whether filming, sound, procurement and/or set-up and direction of the technology that we have upgraded. Both the Executive Council and the Board of Trustees have seen the need and vision in all of this, not just for the immediate now, but for the future of the church as well. You can expect a few more twists and updating in the next few months.

It is hard to plan for a future, when you are in the midst of such an unprecedented time. The best we can do at the moment is to be prayerful, patient, and put the safety, health and well-being of others over our own. That's what living Christ looks like, for now. The good news is that you all have done a marvelous job of praying for one another, checking in on one another, encouraging one another, in a faithful and grace-filled manner. Yeah, you-all! We are also blessed by great church leadership. All of our boards and committees have done a really good job of connection with each other and the different responsibilities they have been entrusted with. The Executive Council, under Jean Heidal's leadership have their fingers on the pulse of the congregation and have worked hard to be supportive and forward thinking in the midst of this pandemic.

One note of concern. Again, the pandemic has challenged us in a variety of ways. I think this includes our giving. As I recently stated, giving is down 12—13% from this time last year. We are running a deficit, year-to-date, of around \$5400. We have challenged you to be prayerful, consistent, intentional, and joyful when it comes to your tithe and offerings. No guilt, not shame. Our giving is a recognition of God's presence and activity in our lives. So, again, consider what your giving, your tithe, for 2021 will be? Can you increase your tithe next year by ___%? Can you be a new tither/giver to the mission and ministry of Olympia First, in 2021?

We are looking at Re-Opening Worship, starting November 1st. We will be limited in the beginning to 50 worshippers, not including support staff. The decision by the Executive Council is conditional and based upon the latest information and statistics we have concerning the Virus in Thurston County. Guidelines for Re-Opening were included in the October Windows and will be again in November and December. We will also be sending out a letter as well, so I won't repeat the details here.

Finally, you and I are blessed by a wonderfully talented and dedicated staff. It starts with Lela DePaolo in the church office. Lela brings an organizational calm to the chaos that is my office and style. She is creative, relational and does a little spiritual guidance on the side. Gary Rogers,

our Caretaker, is an early riser, so most of us don't even see him. But he's at the church each and every morning, making sure things are clean, sanitized and ready for the day. His job also requires a bit of troubleshooting but he's pretty good at that too as well as communicating with the Trustees about needs around the church. We are also blessed to have two really, talented musicians in Darrell Born and Nick Carlson. Though we haven't been able to have a choir or in-person worship services, Darrell and Nick have worked together to pre-record a variety of music selections and options for each worship service we have streamed live! That takes a lot of team work and back and forth between the two of them. Luckily, Nick also has the technology chops to mix the final product before sending it on to me for the service. They both have been flexible during this time and we are so lucky to have them. Pastor Caroline Lehman, keeps her fingers on the pulse of the congregation. Knowing who is sick, ill, challenged, struggling and connecting with them in significant, but safe ways. She's been known to deliver a bouquet of flowers to the front doors of folks who have struggled with loss, health issues, and other challenges. She is rock solid and an immense help to me, personally.

Last word. The election hangs over us. We are a diverse congregation when it comes to theology and politics. God's Spirit, somehow, keeps us together. Whatever the outcome, we give thanks that we live in a country where the ideas and ideals we espouse are rather lofty and hard to achieve. I would encourage us to not settle on those ideals. Let's not lower the bar. If we believe that all people are created equal, then our society should work tirelessly to make it so. We, as followers of Jesus Christ, believe that each person carries within them the Imago Dei, the image of God. Created by the Creator for God's good purposes. We have an obligation to not just talk about justice, equality, and liberty but to live it out, to model it, to advocate for those whose voices are muted by the powers that be. Jesus models that throughout the gospels. The early church gave voice and status to all spectrums of society. That is our calling, regardless of election outcomes. To see the Imago Dei in each and every person and to make sure they have a voice, that they are loved, seen, recognized and welcomed!

I'm excited for what is to come, even though the path is shrouded in unknown shades!

Blessing and Joy!

Pastor Mark
(Rev)

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Rev. Mark Rambo

I was Associate Pastor for the first two months of 2020, until I was called to become the Senior Pastor, by vote of the congregation, on February 23rd. My responsibilities included working closely with the Interim Pastor, Dave Roberts, in planning for the church's future as well as in preparation for the on-going pastoral search process. In addition to working alongside and supporting Pastor Dave, I also was responsible for the Thursday morning Bible study, preaching every other week, working closely with the Board of Christian Education and the Board of Deacons. Attending the meetings and work of the Mission Board. Putting together and designing the Ash Wednesday service and the annual Lenten Prayer Retreat at Camp Bethel. I also oversee the ministry of Table Grace and I am also, technically, the Lead Pastor of our missionary house church, Emmaus House, where I facilitate worship services, stay connected, relationally/spiritually, with Emmaus House participants as well as their friends and family when there is a need for pastoral care and/or other issues, when asked and needed.

It has been a pleasure and honor to have been your Associate Pastor for the last 24 years. I am humbled by this relationship with you all. I'm so glad and excited that God's hand has stayed on all of us going forward, into an unknown future, together.

MINISTER OF VISITATION

Pastor Caroline Lehman

On the phone one day, Carolyn von Gohren asked me, “How do you do visitation in a pandemic?” Answer: “Very Carefully, with God’s direction and help.”

At the beginning of Covid-19 Joanna Miller was telling me on the telephone that she was making hundreds of masks for the community. I wanted to do something for the community also but my sewing machine is up a steep stair and I had a bum foot. Sewing masks was out. What could I do for the community? That was my first prayer.

My answer? At the same time that we were learning just what all this Covid-19 meant, our Farmer’s Market opened. As a teen-ager, picking our raspberries and selling them to a local store, I learned that farm produce is available only now when it’s ripe, not when this COVID thing would be over. Was it possible to help our community farmer’s market?

My next prayer question was how do I continue to connect with the people of our church when I’m not allowed into the hospitals, health care facilities, other corporate living places and people’s homes? One answer - lots of telephoning but I wanted more.

So the next prayer question was, “If I could find a way to support the Farmer’s Market, how would that help me connect with all of us individually? Taking kale and spinach to peach and berry lovers might not work so well. But I did find myself occasionally taking berries, peaches, corn and cucumbers to folks along the way. Answer - FLOWERS!! So starting with daffodils, hyacinths, tulips, onto peonies, onto roses and many different summer flowers, onto gladiolas, dahlias and sunflowers each week, the flower farmer filled my shopping bag.

Third prayer question - “How will I know who will be most needing the flowers?” Answer - “Start with the single people living alone because they have no one to talk with.” So I did start there but almost weekly some people not in the single, living alone category would be encountering new and hard challenges in their lives. So flowers went there also.

Along the way these months of Covid plus the smoky times have felt depressing to me. I was surprised to read in the newspaper that mental health experts think of flowers as a mild anti-depressant. How about that?

So, Whew! This is not my usual annual report. Because of my work for all of you calls for me to enter your lives so very often at life’s low points, I respect and honor the need for confidentiality. My annual reports have been brief just enough to let you know - I’m out there trying to follow up with Christ’s love with whomever I encounter.

But I need to tell you this story of God’s direction being so very much a part of my journey with all of you. I’ve been surprised and delighted and have been so blessed over and over just taking flowers.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Jean Heidal, Moderator

If I tried to describe this year my mind goes to the big wooden roller coaster in Puyallup. It starts off so easy, but things quickly go up and down and around tight curves and fear sets in, at least for me! Let's just say it is not my favorite ride and let it go at that. This year has felt like that roller coaster ride -- up, down, back and forth -- and all very fast! In church life and my personal life, it has been a "ride" like no other! Still, scripture has guided me, and this church, through the wild ride of this year.

After many years of conversation and interest, and a year of meetings we voted last November to move from Mission Northwest Region to the Evergreen Baptist Association. Several of us attended an Evergreen training event in February and were impressed with the leadership and exchange of ideas. I have been to a lot of leadership events over the years, but this was a very different and useful experience. We were able to use one of the ideas at a resolution meeting with the Council in May. Rev. Doug Avilesbernal, Executive Minister of Evergreen, has met with the Council several times and his insights have been most helpful.

At a Council meeting late last year the discussion turned to the unresolved issue of not having a pastoral candidate presented by the Pastoral Search Committee. Pastor Mark expressed continued interest in the position and had a lot of support from the congregation. The Council agreed to put Pastor Mark's name forward to the congregation for a vote. In February there were several meetings held for the congregation to ask questions of Pastor Mark. On February 23rd, the congregation voted by almost 90% to extend the call to Pastor Mark to be the Senior Pastor of First Baptist!

Then Covid hit and everything changed. Worship and all meetings were suspended for a time while we could make plans as to how to continue with worship, Bible Study and essential meetings. Thank you to the Trustees for their leadership in working to bring our technology into the 21st century. A special shout-out to Hans Stoker, Alex Stoker, Roy Spaulding, Kathleen Rambo and all others on the "tech team " to make this all happen for us. Also, many thanks to Darrell Born and Nick Carlson, our musicians, who have coordinated the music week by week, from different places, sometimes miles apart.

There is so much more that could be written about this year. The people who have come to work at the church in the gardens, those who continue to help with Table Grace, all of the phone calls and cards and flowers exchanged to let people know they are remembered. Maybe this "roller coaster" of a year isn't so bad after all. With the love and support of our church family we will be alright.

God is good, all the time... and all the time, God is good!

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Rex Comstock, Chairperson

The Board of Trustees consists of six elected members plus the President of the Corporation, Church Treasurer, Church Moderator, Financial Secretary and Senior Pastor. The members for 2020 are James Mackison, Russ Harpel, Wayne Hallmeyer, Pat Luhr, Maxine Hallmeyer, Carolyn Adams, Hans Stoker, Jean Heidal and Rex Comstock.

The year of 2020 has presented the church and congregation with many challenges with the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. Despite the problems this presented we have maintained the facilities as best we can. The financial situation has remained fairly stable and is being monitored very closely.

Some projects that have been completed this year are:

- Instituted system for on-line contributions to the church
- Installation of new improved telephone system for the church.
- Painted, installed new window blind and all new floor covering in Pastor's office. New floor covering in copy room.
- Working on improved system of viewing services and other meetings. (This includes sound and video). Work in progress.
- Some repairs were made to the heating system.

We still recognize that there are many projects that need to be done and that we want to address in the near future as funds are available.

We are blessed with many members who devote their time and talent to help maintain our facilities.

BOARD OF DEACONS

Pat De Neui, Chairperson

John 14:27 KJV

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

We, your Deacons, have tried our best this year to bring some peace into your lives through communicating in a variety of ways and means... and getting to know you more has truly been rewarding! We hoped that you could sense the love in our hearts and the joy in our voices as we shared those precious times together.

In the beginning of this year we celebrated decades of hard work and dedication with Norma Creighton's retirement. Faithfully and gracefully she is still inspiring us with her wonderful cards. Thank you Norma for being you!

This years Board members are: Dixie Mize, Kat Stoker, Bob Holcomb, Vern Blair, Dan Bezanson, Pat De Neui and Pastor Mark.

A Daily Devotion that has uplifted me through these times is the author of *Jesus Always*, Sarah Young. She writes, "I, your Living Savior, am Almighty God! I am sovereign over global events; I am still in control. When things around you or in the world seem to be spinning out of control, come to me and pour out your heart. Instead of fretting and fuming, put your energy into praying. Come to me, not only for comfort but also for direction; I will help you find the way forward." So let us keep the faith as in Hebrews 11:1 NRSV: "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

A special "Thank You" and appreciation to the Music Committee for all they do for us; Karen Wilson, Marilyn Gauntlett and Joanna Miller.

We also have a faithful and dedicated group of head ushers whom warmly welcomed us every Sunday morning when we could attend. A heartfelt "Thank You" goes out to Rex & Julie Comstock (2nd and 5th Sunday); Roger von Gohren (1st Sunday); Bonnie Lampers (3rd Sunday); and John Nunneh (4th Sunday).

We, your Deacons, will continue this journey of communications through calls, cards, six foot distancing visits, food, flowers, etc. to help encourage and lift your spirits.

This last September we called upon the congregation regarding reopening in-person worship service within the appropriate guidelines. Hopefully, November 1st will happen for those first 50 signed up to attend church.

In the meanwhile enjoy the fruits of the Spirit. Galations 5:22 & 23... Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Goodness, Kindness, Gentleness, Faithfulness and Self-Control. Pick one every day and feel the enlightenment that our Lord gives us and pass it on!!!

Shalom,
Pat

EMMAUS HOUSE

Rev. Mark Rambo

Emmaus House continues to minister and be a presence to people despite these times of self-isolation due to the Coronavirus. As an extension of the mission and ministry of Olympia First Baptist Church, this house church gathers for worship, looks for ways to connect with the wider community in areas of service as well as to be connected to the overall mission and ministry of Olympia First Baptist.

We are fortunate to be able to access and use the technology at our disposal as well as have people who have some experience and expertise with it. We gather for worship, via Zoom, on Saturday nights at 6:00 p.m. We share, sing, check-in, pray, read scripture, and share God's Word with one another. Ours is more of a dialogue than one person "preaching." In the early days of Covid, we were able to take a day trip out to Camp Bethel, to gather down at the river, social distancing and enjoy a new way of "being together." Since then, everything has been through Zoom, text, Facetime and the occasional drive-by check-in, socially distanced, delivery of some kind or the other.

Serving others, has evolved around Table Grace. Some have helped with the lunches, others have contributed homemade cookies. We have looked for ways to be supportive of our teachers and students. One of the Emmaus House community members, Jodi Honeysett, has been working with a small team from the Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches, around Anti-Racism training.

Like all of us, the Emmaus House supports one another and others the best we can. We look forward to gathering in person, starting in November, in the Fellowship Hall of the church, on Saturday nights, masked and distanced.

As a reminder, the following are the Values we attempt to live out as a community:

We have **OPEN HEARTS** ready to give and receive love. Just relationships and community are essential to our survival and we are committed to being both present with others and vulnerable with our own needs.

We have **OPEN HANDS** ready to serve and act to show God's love in tangible ways, ready to give generously to the needs both locally and globally that we see, and also ready to receive support and blessing from God and others.

We have **OPEN MINDS** to see different perspectives, to ponder new ideas, to delve deeply into complex issues and the Bible, to wrestle with questions and doubts, and to honor and celebrate diversity and creativity as life-giving expressions of God.

We have **OPEN SPIRITS** to follow the Spirit's leading, to engage in art, song, ritual, and worship, to pray and explore the sacred in the simple and in the significant.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sandy Grebbs, Chair

The Board of Christian Education is comprised of Sandy Grebbs, Chair, Amanda Mackison, Becky Nash, Sarah Waterhouse, with Pastor Mark being part of the team as well.

As redundant as it sounds, with current state of our lives due to the Covid-19 pandemic, there is little to share. From January until the 15th of March, we were offering Sunday school classes, Bible study, live and in person. We prepared for the season of Lent, with an Ash Wednesday meal and worship service. We followed that up with our annual Lenten Prayer Retreat out at Camp Bethel the end of February as another layer of preparation and spiritual connectedness. We were in the midst of planning small group encounters and other spiritual/educational opportunities when everything came to a screeching halt due to the Virus.

Since March, we have met a few times, looking for ways to stay connected. Pastor Mark continued Thursday morning Bible Study, using Facebook Live as well as recording it so it could be posted on the church website. Overall, that has worked out well, though we have had the occasional “technical difficulties.” Camp Bethel’s summer camps were cancelled. Anything “in-person,” was put on hold as we prioritized the health and safety of others. We found and have posted on the church website resources that families can access that will continue the spiritual development of their kids and the family as a whole. Finally, we encouraged members of the congregation to read one of the following books, *Surprised by Joy*, CS Lewis; *Just Mercy*, Bryan Stevenson; and *Canoeing the Mountains*, by Tod Bolsinger. We hope to form small book club gatherings in November.

The majority of the Board are also working in jobs that require a lot of attention and extra-work due to the virus. Prayers for them as well, as we look for ways to keep the congregation connected in their spiritual growth and engagement.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Jean Heidal, President

To write a complete report I have to go back to November and December of 2019, for events that happened after our Annual Meeting last year.

In October and November, 2019, the women were collecting diapers for the Foster Care Clothes Closet coordinated by Jane Van Deventer, daughter of Rex and Julie Comstock. We invited the congregation to join us in providing diapers and we were able to deliver more than 4500 diapers at the end of November! Thank you to all in the congregation who gave diapers, or cash so that they could be purchased! It was amazing to see all that we were able to provide.

December was our Annual Christmas Brunch, again a sell-out. We were entertained and challenged and had the opportunity to fellowship with many women from our church and community! The Cookie Room was very popular with almost all of the cookies sold out. After all the bills were paid we profited \$2600 for our missions and ministries.

We have used these monies to support Camp Bethel, Mylinda Baits, Sarah Jean Matos, our White Cross quotas, and local ministries.

At our February meeting we made fleece tie blankets for the Foster Care Clothes Closet. Janice Holcomb did all the prep work on the fleece blankets so we were able to do the tying of the two sides together and Eva Davis made a number of soft, satin edged baby blankets. The blankets were displayed in church on a Sunday morning and "blessed" before being given to the Clothes Closet.

Even though our meeting times have ended for now, the women have continued to serve the church and community. One of the most significant ways was to help with the making of 10,033 masks for Wheaton College, a project presented to us by Sarah Jean Matos. I do not have a count as to how many masks our women made, but I know it was a significant number. Thank you to all who participated in this project.

This summer we hosted a "drive through Wedding Shower" for Sarah Jean and Luis Matos! It was a new experience for everyone, but seemed to be a well received event. We celebrated Sarah and Luis' marriage and got to "safe distance" and "mask visit" with friends from the congregation.

Despite Covid, we have continued to keep in touch with each other, reach out to those in need and remember the women we have lost this year. As always, thank you for your support of Women's Ministries!

MISSION BOARD

Gary Baits, Chair

The Mission Department promoted local and global mission as we seek to be the hands and feet of Christ.

We have worked to keep you up to date about the missions and ministries we support. Just recently we have been able to share mission moments during Sunday worship with video resources from International Ministries and our American Baptist partners. We're thankful for the trustees and the tech team who have made this possible. We promoted the four major American Baptist offerings. These offerings express our solidarity with our ministry partners and those facing the crisis of covid, fires, and hurricanes.

Covid certainly put a damper on many mission efforts, but we seek to remain faithful to mission and ministry.

MISSION TEAM ON HOLD

A team from Oly First had every intention of going to Puerto Rico in September to continue hurricane recovery efforts. While we couldn't make the trip, we continue to follow updates from our Puerto Rican partners. A group of us have been doing informal Spanish classes together, hoping for the day we can make another trip.

GLOBAL SERVANTS

We continue to support our global servants, even though they have had to make significant shifts in their ministries because of the pandemic.

Sarah Jean Nash-Matos' ministry in Bolivia has been affected by covid and political unrest, and she was forced to return to Olympia for the time being. Sarah stays in touch with ministry partners via technology, encouraging them and the ministry of House of Hope. She also continues to work on curriculum for a program for vulnerable and underserved girls. The program provides tutoring, discipleship, and empowerment, encouraging the girls to be who God created them to be. These clubs help prevent human trafficking, abuse, and pre-adolescent pregnancies.

Sarah Jean's 16-month mission journey has been a roller-coaster, with all the excitement, but little of the fun. However, she has remained faithful to the call, and we are blessed to have her and Luis with us for this time, living at Emmaus House and sharing our community. Luis continues to work, continue his college studies, and learn Spanish to prepare for life and ministry in Bolivia. Luis and Sarah's wedding in July was a joyful celebration, proving that Baptists do indeed dance, and that parking lots can be beautiful.

I'm sure the ABW report will mention the win-win that was the 10,000 mask project. ABW continues to faithfully and generously support mission and ministry around the world.

*Mylynda Baits was giving trainings in Cuba in March, working with ministry leaders and using expressive arts tools for trauma, grief recovery and community building when covid was blowing up.

Myllinda was lovingly nagged by her grown children to cut her trip short and get home. Thankfully, she did. Myllinda stays in touch with Cuban ministry leaders as they continue to use art practices like drawing, movement, storytelling, and music-making to heal, serve, and build community

The Cuban Baptists are resourceful and resilient, and Myllinda misses people like Ernesto and Marisol, though they all stay in touch with the help of technology. Sadly, Myllinda has not been able to travel for her ministry.

It's been frustrating for Myllinda not to travel and see her ministry partners in person. However, she has been able to spend more time in town, and has been facilitating an Expressive Arts in Transition Group via zoom with a group of women that came out of a pilot group that began Panorama Retirement Community. The group has created a close community as they find artistic ways to share their stories, grieve their losses, and discover how to stay connected during the pandemic.

The Williams family has been serving in Thailand (for about a year now). The Williams are training and supporting Southeast Asian leaders to build bridges across tribal lines in the Mekong region of Thailand. Together they are combating human trafficking which affects so many ethnic minorities.

CAMP BETHEL

Our spending plan supports the ministry of Camp Bethel, and several volunteers from Oly First and Emmaus House have done a tremendous amount of work to improve the camp and maintain it. Due to the pandemic, summer camps were offered virtually.

REGION LIFE

Since voting to become a member of the Evergreen Baptist Association at the annual meeting in November of 2019, we have been welcomed by the association. Executive Minister Doug Avilesbernal was helpful in our process of calling Mark as our senior pastor, and has continued to consult with us during the transition. Pastor Mark enjoys the support of ministry colleagues, meeting regularly with a group of Evergreen pastors. Vern Blair and Jodi Honeyset are participating in an online Anti-Racism Network group facilitated by Evergreen leaders. We are scheduled to use our gifts of hospitality by hosting next fall's Evergreen annual gathering.

TABLE GRACE and DEBUT OF THE ART SPACE

Table Grace continues to faithfully serve meals every Sunday afternoon. Please pray for our guests and our serving teams, and please consider volunteering. I'm afraid to list the volunteers because I know I will forget someone. Thanks for all you do.

A group of creative, determined women worked to create an open art space in the Emmaus House basement for Table Grace guests. Six to ten guests were showing up regularly to work on mosaics, painting, and handcrafts, before enjoying the meal across the parking lot. Thanks to all members of the Mission Department for their faithful work and prayers.

Shalom/Peace/Paz

Gary Baits/Mission Department Chair

TABLE GRACE
Freda Spaulding

Because of the Covid-19 pandemic we have returned to making sandwiches to hand out to our needy. We started our Feeding Ministry 28 years ago by handing out sandwiches.

From March 15th through October 4th we have handed out 6,601 lunches—an average of 220 a Sunday. If we have left-overs, we share them with First Christian Church and the Salvation Army.

We couldn't do this without the help of all the volunteers from our church and other area churches. These people make sandwiches, pack lunches and hand out lunches and personal items

We thank all of you wonderful cookie bakers, and Dorothy who provides items from the Nancy Room. These items are necessities for many of our guests.

We are blessed by the volunteers who pick up donation from Safeway, Panera and Target.

And Thank you church members for the use of the church facilities and for your prayer and support.

THE NANCY ROOM

Dorothy Zee

The Nancy Room is cherished both by those who serve and those who benefit from it. It operates exclusively through the generosity of donations from church members, others, and by retail establishments such as Target. Other retailers such as Panera Bread and Safeway donate perishable goods. We also get toiletries from AAA under their Soap for Hope Program. Due to less travel this year, we may receive a smaller quantity of items.

The Nancy Room has typically been open all but the first Sunday of the month from 4 p.m. until 5:15 p.m. at the same time the Table Grace meal is served. Workers consist of an order taker, “runners” (order fillers) and backroom personnel, such as re-stockers. A Board displays available items in categories such as food, personal, household, pets, and babies/children. Due to the pandemic the room has largely been closed since March. Details about the room’s current use are set forth below.

Typically the shelves are currently restocked on Mondays or Thursdays. This includes refilling plastic bottles with such items as dish soap, laundry detergent, fabric softener, and hand wash. Items such as baby wipes and dryer sheets are bagged, and toilet paper piles are replenished. Food and toiletries are also restocked from backstock.

Items are most frequently received Thursdays from Target. (Occasionally, they are delivered on Friday or Saturday.) They are sorted and organized. Expiration dates are marked on food items. From these items a whiteboard is marked with available items from which people may request needed items. Again these procedures have changed due to the pandemic and are outlined below.

Previously on Sundays, workers usually assembled between 3 and 3:30 p.m. Working with the homeless and working poor is life-affirming and life-transforming. One is likely to find that those who are served by the Nancy Room are polite and grateful. Exceptions are rare.

A whiteboard on the wall is located outside the Nancy Room. A container is located below the sign for people to drop off donations. The whiteboard itself is updated regularly with a list of needed items for those wishing to donate. In addition, anyone with unused blankets, sleeping bags, tents, coats, gloves, socks, umbrellas, or toys may drop them off. They are so welcome to protect our guests from the elements in fall and winter, and to give joy to the homeless community children. Always needed are 8 – and 12 oz empty plastic bottles with lids.

This year, the pandemic has caused special issues for the Nancy Room as it has for everyone. We have been closed on Sundays since March. Nevertheless, we still process donations during the week, and prepare a minimum of two large “grab boxes” for the guests who receive the sack lunches prepared by Table Grace on Sundays. One consists of various food items, including coffee and tea. The other box consists of personal, household, and pet items. Pet food is bagged and separately made available for distribution to the Sunday guests. We appreciate the opportunity to serve, and appreciate those who contribute to the mission of the Nancy Room, either through service, donations, or prayers. For those looking to donate a new item, the Dollar Tree is an excellent and affordable resource for household goods, socks, gloves, toys and personal household items. Should you be interested in working or donating items, please contact Rev. Sam Hochstatter at samfh@comcast.net or deerzee2@comcast.net.

**Olympia First Baptist Church Unified Fund
Income and Expense Statement
January 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020**

	ACTUAL		PLAN	% OF PLAN
INCOME				
1 Unified Income	\$ 182,518		\$ 237,092	76.98%
2 Parking Rental Income	19,980		22,950	87.06%
3 Facility Usage Income	2,900		6,019	48.18%
4 Miscellaneous Income	-		-	<u>0.00%</u>
5 TOTAL INCOME (*Electronic Gifts \$42,387.08)	\$ 205,398		\$ 266,060	77.20%
EXPENSES				
6 Mission Board Expenses				
7 Camp Bethel	\$ 6,750		6,750	100.00%
8 Everegreen Region	1,250		750	166.66%
9 Thurston County Jail Ministry	375		375	100.00%
10 Mylinda Baits Ministry	3,000		3,000	100.00%
11 Sarah Nash Ministry	7,200		7,200	100.00%
12 Kyle & Katrina Williams Ministry	750		750	100.00%
13 Mission Outreach Projects & Discret Exp	-		825	<u>0.00%</u>
14 Total Missions (9.24% of Total Expenses)	-	\$ 19,325	\$ 19,650	98.35%
15 Emmaus Ministry				
16 Worship & Discipleship	\$ -		563	0.00%
17 Print/Visual/Music Media	250		375	66.67%
18 Mission Opportunity Projects	-		563	<u>0.00%</u>
19 Total Emmaus	\$ 250		\$ 1,500	16.67%
20 Staff Compensation				
21 Pastoral Staff Compensation				
22 Senior Minister Compensation	\$ 63,051		\$ 75,515	83.50%
23 Senior Minister Mileage & Misc	3,750		5,882	63.76%
24 Associate Minister Compensation	27,397		36,182	75.72%
25 Associate Minister Mileage & Misc	3,349		4,235	79.10%
26 Minister of Visitation Compensation	4,016		4,033	99.59%
27 Minister of Visitation Mileage	-		729	<u>0.00%</u>
28 <i>Sub-Total</i>	\$ 101,564		\$ 126,574	80.24%
29 Music Staff	\$ 16,752		\$ 17,389	96.34%
30 Administrative Staff	18,255		17,865	102.19%
31 Custodian	17,763		16,883	<u>105.22%</u>
32 <i>Sub-Total</i>	\$ 52,771		\$ 52,136	101.22%
33 Christian Education (Includes Child Care Prof)	\$ 440	\$ 440	\$ 5,175	\$ 5,175 8.49%
34 Worship and Service				
35 Music, Music Equip Repair, Choir	\$ 1,615		\$ 2,625	61.53%
36 Worship Supplies	21		300	<u>7.00%</u>
37 <i>Sub-Total</i>	\$ 1,636		\$ 2,925	55.94%
36 Administration				
37 Office Expense	\$ 2,646		\$ 5,768	45.87%
38 Executive Council	1,010		8,464	<u>11.93%</u>
39 <i>Sub-Total</i>	\$ 3,656		\$ 14,231	25.69%
40 Facilities				
41 Maint. & Repair incl Fire Alarm	\$ 5,901		\$ 9,183	64.26%
42 Custodial, Maint & Kitchen Supplies	1,343		2,625	51.17%
43 Insurance	5		5,100	0.10%
44 Licenses/Taxes	5,613		6,263	89.62%
45 Telephone	1,512	TG & Reality	1,530	98.79%
46 Utilities - Church & Emmaus Bldgs	16,166	(3,150)	16,488	78.94%
47 Facilities Improvement 1%	2,054		2,672	76.86%
48 <i>Sub-Total</i>	\$ 29,443		\$ 43,861	<u>67.13%</u>
49 TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 209,084		\$ 266,061	78.59%
50 NET EXPENSES OVER INCOME	\$ (3,686)			

PRESIDENT OF THE CORPORATION

Hans Stoker

Cover memo for First Baptist Church of Olympia Spending Plan for 2021

Greetings fellow congregants of First Baptist Church.

As we gratefully begin the closeout of 2020 and prepare for 2021, remarkably little has changed in our spending plan during this tumultuous 2020.

That said, here is a summary of the significant changes in the 2021 spending plan compared to the 2020 plan:

- The Executive Council budget for Transition/Renewal is \$4,000. This is reduced from \$10,000 in 2020 which allowed for travel and moving costs for a new senior pastor. Fortunately we have Pastor Mark now as the Senior Pastor. While we don't have moving expenses we still want to have a proper installation of Pastor Mark and celebration when we get past the pandemic. This line item funds that.
- A part-time pastoral position is being maintained as an item in the budget. When and how this position will be filled will be determined by appropriate committees and boards respecting our actual income.
- All salaries have been kept the same from 2020.
- Minor increases in Worship & Service as well as Administration.

Overall the 2021 spending plan represents a decrease of \$4,577 compared to 2020. Please maintain your steadfast faith that most church budgets are "aspirational".

As we have always done in the past, we manage our actual spending to what we have actually available during the year. Some line items are place holders, not certain if they will actually be needed or not.

I am grateful, during these trying times that we can produce a spending plan that we can all agree with. It's very stable compared to last year.

We all need to continue our faith in the collective wisdom of the Trustees to guide us as they have always done before.

Hans Stoker, President of the Corporation, First Baptist Church.

PROPOSED 2021 SPENDING PLAN

	2020 Spending Plan	Proposed 2021 Spending Plan	% Chg from 2020 to 2021	% of Plan for 2021
<u>CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</u>	\$ 6,900	\$ 6,900	0.0%	2.0%
Curriculum, Supplies, Educational and Roosevelt Outreach Ministries				
Discipleship resources, Camp Scholarships, Nursery Attendant & Library				
<u>WORSHIP AND SERVICE</u>				
Music - Supplies, Guest Artists, CCLI	1,400	1,635	16.8%	
Organ/Piano Maintenance	2,000	2,000	0.0%	
Choir Get Together with Food	100	100	0.0%	
Total Music Ministry	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,735	6.7%	1.1%
Publications (Secret Place), Communion Supplies	\$ 150	\$ 150	0.0%	
Worship Supplies	250	250	0.0%	
Total Worship and Service	\$ 3,900	\$ 4,135	6.0%	1.2%
<u>EXECUTIVE COUNCIL'S BUDGET</u>				
New Pastor/150 years Celebration	10,000	4,000	-60.0%	
Special Events/Christmas Decorations/Giving Envelopes	1,285	1,285	0.0%	
Total Executive Council Expenses	\$ 11,285	\$ 5,285	-53.2%	1.5%
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE (Church Home)</u>				
Office Supplies, Postage, Outside Printing, Bank Chgs/Electronic Deposit Fees	3,090	4,278	38.4%	
Office Equipment Maint & Supplies, Capital Equipment	4,600	4,600	0.0%	
Total Office Expenses	\$ 7,690	\$ 8,878	15.4%	2.5%
<u>FACILITIES (Church Home)</u>				
Maintenance/Repair:				
Building Maintenance	\$ 10,244	\$ 10,244	0.0%	
1% of Total Spending Plan for Facilities Improvement	3,575	3,575	0.0%	
Supplies:				
Custodial, Maintenance, and Kitchen Supplies	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	0.0%	
Insurance:				
Building Insurance	\$ 6,800	\$ 6,800	0.0%	
Taxes, Licenses and Fees:				
Property Taxes	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	0.0%	
Income (Parking Lot Rental) Taxes	3,100	3,100	0.0%	
Licenses & Fees	250	250	0.0%	
Telephone	2,040	2,040	0.0%	
Utilities (includes Emmaus House)	21,984	21,984	0.0%	
Fire Alarm Monitoring/Maintenance	2,000	2,000	0.0%	
Total Facility Expenses	\$ 58,493	\$ 58,493	0.0%	16.7%
RECAP				
Mission/Outreach	\$ 26,200	\$ 26,200	0.0%	7.5%
Emmaus	2,000	2,000	0.0%	0.6%
Salaries and Benefits	238,280	238,280	0.0%	68.0%
Christian Education	6,900	6,900	0.0%	2.0%
Worship & Service	3,900	4,135	6.0%	1.2%
Executive Council	11,285	5,285	-53.2%	1.5%
Administration	7,690	8,878	15.4%	2.5%
Church Facilities	58,493	58,493	0.0%	16.7%
TOTAL	\$ 354,748	\$ 350,171	-1.3%	100.0%

PROPOSED 2021 SPENDING PLAN

	2020 Spending Plan	Proposed 2021 Spending Plan	% Chg from 2020 to 2021	% of Plan for 2021
<u>MISSIONS/OUTREACH</u>				
Camp Bethel	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	0.0%	
ABC - NW Regional Ministries	1,000	1,750	75.0%	
ABC Mission Program (Mylinda Baits Ministry)	4,000	4,000	0.0%	
ABC Mission Program (Sarah Nash Ministry)	9,600	9,600	0.0%	
ABC Mission Program (Kyle & Katrina Williams Ministry)	1,000	1,000	0.0%	
Thurston County Jail Ministry	500	500	0.0%	
Mission Outreach Projects	1,000	250	-75.0%	
Discretionary Fund	100	100	0.0%	
Total Mission Board	\$ 26,200	\$ 26,200	0.0%	7.5%
Emmaus				
Worship and Discipleship	750	750	0.0%	
Missions and Outreach	500	500	0.0%	
Mission Opportunity Projects	750	750	0.0%	
Total Emmaus	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	0.0%	0.6%
<u>SALARIES AND BENEFITS</u>				
Senior Pastor				
Base Salary (includes Housing and SS)	\$ 58,827	\$ 58,827	0.0%	
M&M Retirement (16%)	9,412	9,412	0.0%	
Medical and Dental Insurance	32,076	32,076	0.0%	
Industrial Insurance - Estimated	371	371	0.0%	
Total Senior Pastor	\$ 100,686	\$ 100,686	0.0%	28.8%
Additional Ministerial Staff				
Compensation including Benefits	\$ 48,242	\$ 48,242	0.0%	
Total Additional Ministerial Staff	\$ 48,242	\$ 48,242	0.0%	13.8%
Minister of Visitation				
Salary (Includes church's exp - SS and L & I)	\$ 5,377	\$ 5,377	0.0%	1.5%
Total Pastoral Salaries & Benefits	\$ 154,305	\$ 154,305	0.0%	44.1%
Music Ministry Salaries				
Choir Director Salary (Inc church's exp - SS and L & I)	\$ 12,820	\$ 12,820	0.0%	
Organist Salary (Inc church's exp -SS and L & I)	10,365	10,365	0.0%	
Total Salary and Benefits	\$ 23,185	\$ 23,185	0.0%	6.6%
Administrative Salaries				
Church Secr Salary (Inc church's exp - SS and L & I)	\$ 16,655	\$ 16,655	0.0%	
Treasurer Salary (Inc church's exp -SS and L & I)	7,165	7,165	0.0%	
Caretaker Salary (Inc church's exp -SS and L & I)	22,510	22,510	0.0%	
Total Salary and Benefits	\$ 46,330	\$ 46,330	0.0%	13.2%
<u>PASTORAL EXPENSES</u>				
Senior Pastor				
Car Allowance 2018 \$.545; 2019 Per IRS	\$ 7,092	\$ 7,092	0.0%	
Education and Professional Exp	750	750	0.0%	
Total Senior Pastor	\$ 7,842	\$ 7,842	0.0%	
Additional Ministerial Staff				
Car Allowance & Professional Expenses	\$ 5,646	\$ 5,646	0.0%	
Total Additional Ministerial Staff	\$ 5,646	\$ 5,646	0.0%	
Minister of Visitation				
Car Allowance 2020 \$0.575 per mile	\$ 972	\$ 972	0.0%	
Total Pastoral Expenses	\$ 14,460	\$ 14,460	0.0%	4.1%
TOTAL CHURCH SALARIES AND BENEFITS	\$ 238,280	\$ 238,280	0.0%	68.0%

First Baptist Church of Olympia
Fund Balances
As of September 30, 2020

Fund	Beginning Balance 1/1/2020	*Income YTD	Expenses YTD	Money in Banks 09/30/2020
1 Unified Fund	\$ 68,531	\$ 204,432	\$ (167,107)	\$ 105,856
2 General Memorial Fund	\$ 29,643		\$ (696)	\$ 28,947
3 Dedicated to Music	\$ 269	\$ 550	\$ (259)	\$ 560
4 Madge Ellis Memorial		\$ 2,740		\$ 2,740
5				
6				
7				
8 Concert Fund Sound/Organ	\$ 1,976	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ 1,976
9				\$ 200
10 Deacon's Fund	\$ 2,904	\$ 1,885	\$ (1,355)	\$ 3,434
11 Facilities Improvement Fund - Unspecified	\$ 17,916	\$ 10,398	\$ (4,578)	\$ 23,736
12 Kitchen Equipment Fund	\$ 3,481	\$ 450	\$ -	\$ 3,931
13 Spiritual Growth Fund (Available)	\$ 493	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 493
14 Spiritual Growth Fund	\$ 3,289	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,289
15 Youth Fund	\$ 128	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 128
16 Christian Community Credit Union Checking Acct	\$ 100			\$ 100
17 Christian Community Credit Union 15 month CD	\$ 76,544	\$ 966	\$ -	\$ 77,509
18 First Citizens Bank Checking Account	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100
19 Heritage Bank (Church Funds)	\$ 53,644	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53,644
20 Total Church Funds	\$ 128,623	\$ 220,655	\$ (173,996)	\$ 175,282
21 Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)	Loan Proceeds	Uses	Amounts	Total
22		Salaries	\$ 32,976	
23		Healthcare	4,681	
24		Retirement	879	
25		Utilities	3,604	
26	Received April 23, 2020 into Heritage Bank		\$ 42,140	\$ (163)
27 Table Grace Total (Heritage Bank)	\$ 9,876	\$ 22,657	\$ (7,966)	\$ 17,029
28 Food & Milk			\$ (6,188)	
29 Paper Expenses			\$ (900)	
30 Utility Expenses			\$ (450)	
31 Kitchen Equipment Fund			\$ -	
32 Other:			\$ -	
33	There is \$477.35 available for the Nancy Room. Paycheck Protection Program is a loan designed to provide a direct incentive for small businesses to keep their workers on the payroll. The Small Business Administration will forgive loans if all employees are kept on the payroll for eight weeks and the money is used for payroll including Healthcare, retirement, rent, mortgage interest, or utilities			

Electronic Deposit Destinations	Sep 2020 Electronic Deposits	YTD 2020 Electronic Deposits
Unified	\$ 6,236.14	\$ 37,172.45
Emmaus House	1,500.00	5,214.63
Parking Fees	-	-
Other Facility Usage	-	-
Special Gifts	-	-
America for Christ	-	1,000.00
World Mission	-	50.00
OGHS	10.00	415.00
M & M	-	-
Sarah Nash	-	-
My linda Baits	-	-
The Williams	-	-
Camp Bethel	40.00	180.00
Table Grace	50.00	370.00
Memorial Fund	-	-
Music Fund	-	-
Facilities Impr Fund	45.00	1,197.50
Deacons	-	-
Emmaus House Utilities	225.00	450.00
Total	\$ 8,106.14	\$ 46,049.58

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE
OFFICERS 2021**

President of the Corp.
Hans Stoker

Moderator
Jean Heidal

Clerk
Marlyne Fulton

Treasurer
Carolyn Adams

Financial Secretary
Maxine Hallmeyer

Asst. Financial Secretary
Rex Comstock

Sunday School Clerk
Wayne Hallmeyer

BOARDS

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Sandi Swarthout

Class of 2022
James Mackison
Pat Luhr

Class of 2021
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Emily Blair

Class of 2022
Kat Stoker
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Board of Missions

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Pastoral Relations Committee

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Nominating Committee

Class of 2023
Jan McCormick
Freda Spaulding

Class of 2022
Janice Holcomb

Class of 2021
Pat De Neui

Submitted by 2021 Nominating Committee: Pat De Neui, Julie Comstock, Janice Holcomb; Wayne Hallmeyer, Chair.