



2021 Annual Report of Bethpage Presbyterian Church

January 30, 2022

6020 Mooresville Road - Kannapolis, North Carolina 28081

704-933-2209

website: bethpagechurch.org

email: info@bethpagechurch.org

"Bethpage . . . a family of faith in Jesus Christ, yesterday, today, and tomorrow."

Staff, Session and Church Officers - 2021

STAFF

Pastor – Rev. Valerie Hicks
Business Administrator – Donna Moore
Director of Music – Sterling Savage

Treasurer – Marsha Johnson
Assistant Treasurer – Jenny Linebarrier

THE SESSION

Class of 2022

Connie Goodman
Christel Josey
Dougie Kirkman

Class of 2023

Richie Goodman
Ed Kuser
Carrie Paxton, resigned

Class of 2024

Chris Ferguson
Hannah Jackson
Sherry Shifflett, clerk

THE OFFICERS OF BETHPAGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, INC.

President – Sherry Shifflett
Vice President – Christel Josey
Secretary/Treasurer – Richie Goodman

2021 Church Statistical Report

Church	Bethpage	PIN	20965
Presbytery	Charlotte		
Address	6020 Mooresville Rd, Kannapolis, NC 28081-8754		
Phone	704-933-2209	Fax	
Email	info@bethpagechurch.org		
Web Site	www.bethpagechurch.org		



Membership

Prior Active Members	126	Adjusted membership
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Gains

Certificate		
Youth Professions	1	
Professions & Reaffirmations	2	

Total Gains

3

Losses

Certificate		1
Deaths		7
Deleted for any Other Reason		

Total Losses

8

Total Ending Active Members 121

Baptisms

Presented by Others	1	
At Confirmation		
All Other		

Average Weekly Worship Attendance		35
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Female Members		67
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Friends of the Congregation		93
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Ruling Elders on Session		9
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Do you have Deacons?		No
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Age Distribution of Active Members

25 & Under	9	
26 - 40	20	
41 - 55	15	
56 - 70	30	
Over 70	47	

Total Age Distribution 121

People with Disabilities

Hearing impairment		5
Sight impairment		
Mobility impairment		5
Other impairment		5

Christian Education

Birth - 3	4	
Age 4	2	
Kindergarten	2	
Grade 1	3	
Grade 2	0	
Grade 3	3	
Grade 4	1	
Grade 5	2	
Grade 6	2	

Grade 7		1
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Grade 8		0
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Grade 9		0
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Grade 10		0
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Grade 11		0
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Grade 12		0
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Young Adults		0
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Over 25		41
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Teachers/Officers		10
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Total Christian Education 71

Racial Ethnic

Asian/Pacific Islander/South		
Black/African American/African		
Middle Eastern/North African		
Hispanic/Latino-a		

Native American/Alaska		
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White		120
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Multiracial		1
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Total Racial Ethnic 121

Financial Data

Annual Income	182,912	
Annual Expenses	229,547	

Mission Expenses		3,215
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Personnel Expenses		96,344
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Facilities Expenses		116,665
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Pastor's Report

I remembered my pastor friend, Fred Wood, when I called a member of Bethpage recently and asked for help with a mission project and she said, "Yes". Fred used to say that his favorite word was Yes and would always say it was very Biblical. Without this little word there would be no church. It is referred to in the second letter to the Corinthians, "For in him (Jesus) everyone of God's promises is a Yes". Another translation puts it this way, "Whatever God has promised gets stamped with the Yes of Jesus." The word 'yes' is often overlooked and yet it is essential to the life of faith and the life of the church.

You the members of Bethpage say Yes with your actions when you show up to worship. You said Yes when you made promises to become a member and then you say Yes again when you give of your tithes and offerings. Members say Yes when they pray, or read God's word. You say Yes when you pack a box of food for the Reverse Advent Calendar, or when you volunteer at Suds of Love. The church would not survive without people who say Yes, but surviving isn't Bethpage's goal. First and foremost, Bethpage is a church that is based on the promises of God. God has placed us in community and has promised to love us, to forgive us and to save us from the power of sin and death and meaninglessness! In Jesus Christ, God says to us Yes, which then frees us to respond to God in the affirmative.

In 2021, Bethpage said Yes to me, that you want me to be your new pastor and I said Yes to serving at Bethpage, seeking God's will and doing ministry together. We began this partnership in faith on November 1, 2021.

In a world that smacks of so much that is negative, in a world that expects a No, in a world that often has refused God and God's way, Bethpage is called to be a different voice, an affirming congregation, open to the Spirit, open to trying new things, and open to welcoming new people. There are so many needs to be met, there are so many who are unaware and oblivious to the gospel, there is so much loneliness and need for peace and justice, we don't have time for No!

Paul goes on to write in the Corinthian passage, "In him, this is what we preach and pray, the great Amen, God's Yes and our Yes together, gloriously evident. God affirms us, making us a sure thing in Christ, putting his Yes within us. By his Spirit he has stamped us with his eternal pledge – a sure beginning of what he is destined to complete." (II Corinthians 1:20-22)

Let us look forward to a 2022 of 'Yes', yes to God, yes to each other, and yes to loving others in Christ's name.

Grace and peace your pastor and partner in ministry,

Valerie Hicks

Stewardship Ministry Area 2021 Annual Report

Prepared January 10, 2022

Stewardship Committee Members:

- Richie Goodman
- Garrett Scarborough

2021 Stewardship Accomplishments, Updates, and Changes:

- Executed 2021 Stewardship campaign, "Are you IN?"
 - Wrote and published five separate Beth Page articles promoting each week's campaign theme.
 - Wrote and sent a letter to congregants promoting the annual Stewardship campaign in addition to brief reminder emails
 - Prepared and delivered a Sunday message in preparation for the annual campaign.
- Helped transition treasurer duties
- Provided input and cost/benefit analyses for personnel ministry area conversations
- Prepared 2022 annual budget

Looking Ahead to 2022, items coming from the Stewardship Ministry Area:

- Will implement an online giving offering for Bethpage
- Will consider fundraising opportunities for the church to supplement the annual budget
- Plan and execute the 2022 Stewardship campaign
- Prepare 2023 annual budget

2021 Total Offerings	
General Fund	161,562.68
10¢-A-Meal	2,764.50
One Great Hour of Sharing	431.00
Father's Day Offering	255.00
Memorials/Special Projects Fund	11,799.40
Long Term Maintenance Fund	1,135.00
Cemetery Fund	3,370.00
Pentecost Offering	145.00
Christmas Joy Offering	201.00
Miscellaneous Passed Through	196.75
Total	181,860.33

BETHPAGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 2022 GENERAL FUND BUDGET

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>ANNUAL AMOUNT</u>	<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>ANNUAL AMOUNT</u>
<u>MISSION/EVANGELISM</u>		<u>EDUCATION</u>	
TOTAL MISSION/EVANGELISM	\$0.00	6505 LITERATURE	300.00
		6515 SUPPLIES	<u>50.00</u>
		TOTAL EDUCATION	\$350.00
<u>NURTURE</u>		<u>PROPERTY</u>	
TOTAL NURTURE	\$0.00	6605 ELECTRICITY	11,000.00
		6610 GAS	5,000.00
<u>FELLOWSHIP</u>		6615 TELEPHONE AND INTERNET SERVICE	4,000.00
6151 MEALS FOR BEREAVED FAMILIES	150.00	6625 WATER	350.00
6152 KITCHEN SUPPLIES	<u>150.00</u>	6630 INSURANCE	12,900.00
TOTAL FELLOWSHIP	\$300.00	6635 PROPERTY MAINTENANCE & REPAIR	7,000.00
		6640 CLEANING SUPPLIES	200.00
<u>PERSONNEL</u>		6641 CLEANING SERVICE	12,500.00
6205 PASTOR SALARY	28,392.00	6645 LAWN MAINTENANCE	9,000.00
6215 INSURANCE/ANNUITY	14,139.20	6650 WASTE MANAGEMENT	<u>450.00</u>
6225 MEDICAL SUPPLEMENT	1,720.02	TOTAL PROPERTY	\$62,400.00
6230 CONTINUING EDUCATION	767.00		
6250 MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT	<u>774.00</u>	<u>WORSHIP</u>	
TOTAL PASTOR	\$45,792.22	6705 ADULT CHOIR	150.00
		6710 WORSHIP SUPPLIES	65.00
6305 BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR SALARY	26,974.53	6720 ORGAN/PIANO REPAIR	200.00
6310 BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR INSURANCE	1,980.00	6725 TECHNOLOGY	<u>400.00</u>
6335 DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	18,500.00	TOTAL WORSHIP	\$815.00
6345 PULPIT SUPPLY	600.00		
6350 ORGANIST SUPPLY	600.00	<u>STEWARDSHIP</u>	
6355 FICA (BPC'S ½)	3,478.80	6800 STEWARDSHIP	<u>250.00</u>
6360 PAYROLL SERVICE	<u>1,600.00</u>	TOTAL STEWARDSHIP	\$250.00
TOTAL STAFF	\$53,733.33		
		<u>COMMUNICATIONS</u>	
6405 OFFICE SUPPLIES	1,100.00	6910 BULLETIN BOARDS/POSTER SUPPLIES	50.00
6410 BULLETINS	500.00	6915 PHOTOGRAPHY & PRINTING	150.00
6415 POSTAGE	1,000.00	6930 WEBSITE/FACEBOOK	100.00
6425 COPIER EXPENSES	<u>2,500.00</u>	6935 UPGRADE AUDIO/VIDEO SOFTWARE	<u>200.00</u>
TOTAL OFFICE/ADMINISTRATION	\$5,100.00	TOTAL COMMUNICATIONS	\$500.00
TOTAL PERSONNEL	\$104,625.55		
		GRAND TOTAL	<u>\$169,240.55</u>
		BUDGETED AMOUNT/WEEK	<u>\$3,254.63</u>

ADDITIONAL APPROVED PROGRAMS TO BE
SUPPORTED THROUGH DONATIONS TO THE
MEMORIALS/SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND:

SOFTBALL
COMMUNITY GARDEN
SUDS OF LOVE
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
FIFTH SUNDAY LUNCHESES/WEDNESDAY EVENING MEALS

Approved by Session at the Stated Meeting on 12/21/2021.

Bethpage Presbyterian Church

Personnel Ministry Area 2021 Annual Report

Committee Members:

Jenny Linebarrier, Larry Riggs, Madison Scarborough, Sherry Childers

Personnel Ministry Area Responsibilities

Personnel Committee

- a) Collaborate with the pastor and evaluate jointly goal setting for all staff.
- b) Conduct annual staff evaluations with the pastor for all staff members, except for pastor, who will be evaluated by two representatives of the session and Personnel committee.
- c) Personnel committee and the pastor will collaboratively make recommendations concerning staff salaries with all recommendations going to the session for final approval.
- d) Manage/resolve staff conflict in coordination with pastor. If the conflict involves the pastor, the personnel committee will attempt to resolve and may seek guidance from the session or presbytery at the committee's discretion.
- e) Review, secure, and maintain office equipment.
- f) Collaborating with the pastor, personnel committee will develop personnel policies and job descriptions.
- g) Maintain personnel files.
- h) Evaluate and recommend bonding and workers comp insurance.

Recordings of 2021

- Submitted 2021 budget recommendations regarding staff compensation (as per the book of order G-2.0804) for the congregation's vote in the annual meeting.
- Received resignation from Bill Watkins.
- Worked with Session to discuss and enter a temporary part-time pastor contract with Valerie Hicks.

2022 Goals

- a) Work with Valerie to focus on the growth of the congregation not just in numbers but in relationships with the Lord.
- b) Work will with ADHOC committee and Session on the quest for a permanent pastor.
- c) Explore and encourage online giving.
- d) Grow the church with new members and young families.

If you have any questions or concerns for the Personnel Ministry Area, please feel free to reach out to any members. This year we have gone through a transition and some committee members have moved on to other committees. However, we are starting 2022 out strong with a couple of previous members returning. It is our desire to serve God through our dedicated staff, integrity of our processes, team orientation and an attitude of serving. If you feel the desire to serve God with us, we would love for you to join us. 2022 is going to be a wonderful year and we look forward to the great things that are coming our way.

Submitted by Sherry Childers, Personnel Ministry Area Chair

2021 YEARLY REPORT – COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Committee members: Hannah Jackson, Chair, Heather Goodman, Jean Brown

Even though COVID-19 continued to make church work challenging in 2021, our committee persisted in meeting through Zoom and to discuss matters using text and e-mail. We carried on with our work, helping our congregation feel connected during this time of physical separation. We understood that physical separation does not mean failing to communicate Christ's love and care to our sisters and brothers. It has been good to work alongside our sisters and brothers, in our efforts to love the Lord and do as He would have us do. We may be few in number, but we try to make up for that by being mighty in work.

Our chair, Hannah Jackson, has shouldered the bulk of the responsibility for weekly videos for worship services, and continues to post each weekly video of the service to our YouTube channel.

At a recent committee meeting, Richie Goodman was invited to make a presentation on social media, and advertising. His lengthy and extremely informative discussion touched on the uses of social media in reaching out to the public and to the membership. His knowledge and abilities encouraged us to delve further into possible broadening of the church's use of social media, visual connections using our Sunday morning programs, and exploring further the nuances of AV interaction in worship services.

We re-established our commitment to presenting our services and activities through increased use of our marquee in front of the church. We acquired new letters for the marquee, which will enable us to be more detailed in what we are doing. We hope to be able to intrigue casual passers-by, and let our community know what they could be taking part in by coming to Sunday mornings, or Wednesday night programming. We want to keep our fellow congregants informed and aware of events planned for churchwide participation. We also desire to reach out to neighborhood residents and online friends, so they may include themselves in our fellowship and BPC community.

Our Facebook page does let us make every effort to both inform, enlighten, and entertain our folks. We try to include photos of current activities, special services and events, and "coming attractions" so that BPC people may know what is happening and make plans to be part of the things they are interested in. Again, because of the severe curtailing of "events" that people may participate in as an individual, we promote the continuing activities of our committees to keep reaching out to our members and to our community in large. It is always our mission to spread the love of Christ to all who will receive it.

As always, if you have something you want the congregation to know about, contact Jean Brown or Hannah Jackson with your details, and we will make it part of our Facebook pages posts. Although our committee is perhaps not the most numerous of those doing the work of our church, we make every effort to seek the will of God in all we do. It is our mission to serve God and our congregation with our work, our prayers, and our devotion. We very much want to welcome anyone who may feel God's call to serve Bethpage as part of the Communications Committee, particularly in the Sunday morning operation of the AV program during worship. Please speak to our chair, Hannah Jackson, or one of the committee members, and we can surely find work for you to do!

Fellowship Ministry Area 2021 Annual Report

Committee Members: Linda VanPelt, Peggy Overcash, Steve and Sandy Gaskey.

The pestilence put the fellowship committee out of business for this year. We were able to resume the Lunch Out program every third Wednesday each month at Logan's Roadhouse. We were able to meet in October 2021 to discuss possible fellowship opportunities when it is safe for our congregation to get together. Until things improve, we will keep our health and safety as a priority.

Linda VanPelt

2021 Mission/Evangelism Report

Special Offerings

- Christmas Joy Offering
- Pentecost Offering
- One Great Hour of Sharing Offering
- Father's Day Offering

Fred L. Wilson Elementary School

- Reverse Advent Food Drive (15 boxes)
- Angel Tree Gifts (10 children)
- Lenten Food Box Drive

Cooperative Christian Ministry

- 1,000 Can Challenge (1202 cans)
- 10¢-A-Meal Offering (\$2,764.50)
- Mobile Food Pantry

Community Garden Ministry

"Suds of Love" Laundromat Ministry (August – December)

Red Cross Blood Drives

November, August, May

Girl Scouts (location provided)

Latino Ministry (location provided)

Chris Ferguson
Ministry Area Moderator

NURTURE MINISTRY AREA 2021

Chair: Ed Kuser

Members: Judy Petrea, Margaret Griffin

Due to Covid and resulting variants formal meetings have not resumed as of this time. Our members are all in the high-risk category, and word of mouth communication is used when needed.

- Wednesday night Bible study/G.I.F.T. programs have begun again.
- Communication through phone calls, cards and visits are ongoing with members who are unable to attend services
- Prayers are still being lifted for our congregation.
- Pastor is communicated with on specific needs of congregants.
(Congregation is asked to continue to communicate prayer needs to the committee as they are needed).

Moving Forward:

- Homebound Communion
- Resumption of the "Shepherd Program" in order to maintain closer personal contact with all Church members.

Property Ministry Area 2021 Annual Report

Fellowship Hall – Painted office entrance foyer, hallways, Session room, men's and ladies' restrooms and Fellowship Hall.

Kitchen – Replaced icemaker, after several attempts to repair, identified a leak in the condenser unit no replacement parts available, elected to replace the 27-year unit. Also replaced failing thermostat in refrigerator in the same time icemaker was installed. Pumped without the Kitchen septic waste tank due to grease buildup and leaching odors into the kitchen and Fellowship Hall. Servicing the gas pack unit to switch to winter mode, technician found holes in the heat exchanger tubes. Taken in consideration the unit is 15 years old along with other past repair issues found it was best to replace unit.

Office Area – Gas Pack unit was running erratic and shutting down during the day, technician found the heat exchanger tubes splitting. Replaced the 14-year gas pack unit supporting this area.

Old Session Building – Replaced roof and painted exterior of building. Scheduled to replace rotten sill plate on north side when weather permitting.

Old Manse and Presbytery Community Disaster Response Team – Continuation from 2020 pertaining to numerous concerns from the congregation and area neighbors of the unsightly appeal of the house and property. The Session made the decision to ask the Disaster Response Team to remove the trailers also demo the old manse and clean the property. Numerous items in the house were removed and sold to offset the cost of the demolition with some items repurposed for the garden green house.

COVID Cleaning, Sanitize and Organize – Continue to clean and sanitize all high traffic areas of the facility. As COVID numbers started to decline, the Session elected to revise the guidelines of worship in June. Pew cushions were cleaned/sanitized and returned to Sanctuary. Replaced signage on all entrance doors, removed designated seating chains from pews. As we all are aware the COVID numbers rose again in November and return to worship was revised once again.

Education Building - Rather than installing window dressing back on the windows first floor of the educational building, elected to tint all the window instead. The primary goal is to be more energy efficient reducing heating and cooling cost also to eliminate the dust caused by window blinds and dressing.

Sanctuary – Repaired and painted ceiling area in the balcony. Replaced all 57 incandescent bulbs with LED bulbs Sanctuary overhead ceiling lamps. Painted north/south, east/west hallway in Sanctuary basement area along with the narthex stairway.

Fire Marshall inspection and Boiler Inspection – Corrected all violations noted per FM inspection – replaced all emergency lights noted, reinstalled fire extinguisher back on wall and provided fire evacuation plans in rooms 200, 202 and 207 in the Educational Building. Passed the Boiler inspection with flying colors, we knew the location of the boiler along with the location of all the water shut offs and hot water heaters.

Playground – Our playground was identified unsafe by Ray Mullis CCS Playground Inspector in 2019. Not from abuse, but time (24years) and weather has taken its toll on the platforms and stairs leading to the slides. The playground was roped off most part of 2020 until repair pricing could be obtained and approved. Met with Eric Lowder w/ Peggs Recreation in July to evaluate our playground and provide options for repair or replacement. We agreed the only safety issues with the playground are the stairs, platforms, and the short slide, along with the Kevin Helms swing set recommending we replace the swings due to the wear on the chains above. With all the replacement parts identified also to include 95 cubic yards of wood fiber surfacing. The estimated total cost of labor and material came to \$24, 819.42, ½ payment was sent in November. If you are asking, the estimated cost to replace the entire playground with same equipment would have been \$44, 856.85.

Special Thank you to all who have supported Property Ministry area in 2021.

Cemetery Committee – Annual Report 2021

Reid VanPelt – Chair

Committee Members:

Jack Rankin, Linda VanPelt, Connie Goodman, Marcia Graybeal, Larry Riggs

Cemetery Fund:

Beginning balance	\$27,931.97
Deposits (Donations)	3,370.00
Withdrawals	2,380.00
Interest	<u>30.23</u>
Ending balance	\$28,952.20

WORSHIP COMMITTEE YEARLY REPORT 2021

Committee members: Marcia Graybeal, Cheryl Kusper, Sterling Savage, and Connie Goodman. Hannah Jackson attends the Worship Committee meetings to stay informed for the audio/visual needs.

The year of 2021 again was an epic year. Covid-19 is still a topic the church and the congregation must deal with it on a weekly basis. As such, services have been “tweaked” to insure safety to all members.

Communion has been served throughout the year, with bread, juice/wine served in individual cups. The committee is not ready to go back to bread being on a tray for each individual to pick up their bread serving. Elders did begin serving the trays in October as the congregation remained seated.

Each special service was celebrated with various fabric displays added to the sanctuary cross. Utilization of the red, yellow and orange fabric has added a wonderful visual display for all to enjoy. Cheryl Kusper has been instrumental in adding various displays on tables at the front to enhance the meaning of special services; Easter – the tomb of rocks, All Saints Sunday – candles for remembrance of church members, Veterans day – flags for veterans, Hunger table – foods and cook ware, World Communion Sunday – special cloth for communion table, various breads and food items.

On Easter Sunday, Sterling Savage’s nephew, Justin Vaden Page, a cellist played during the opening and offertory for this service. This was a pleasant musical interlude for the congregation.

The choir felt their comfort levels were high enough to begin practice around June 16, 2021. Sterling had arranged the musical selections for the rest of the summer. Singing was introduced on June 20th as the choir sang their first anthem. The congregation followed shortly singing the hymns on Sunday mornings.

There was an interim period where Supply Pastors were used for Sunday worship services. During this time, Sterling selected the hymns for the various guest ministers using both hymnals.

The choir was blessed with new choir members. Their voices have been a huge blessing to the joyful music coming from the choir. Christmas Eve was special this year, as more choir members were able to adjust their schedules and were able to attend.

Rev. Valerie Hicks signed a contract to be the Temporary Pastor at Bethpage on November 1st. She has embraced the Bethpage family with her enthusiasm for their needs and well being.

A huge thank you to the congregation is given for their assistance in decorating for advent. Many hands made the work go quickly, both putting up and taking down the advent decorations.

The same message from last year is still appropriate for this year, thank you to every committee member and church member who has stepped up to assist during this time of Covid-19 at the church.

Report submitted by:

Connie Goodman
Chair of Worship Committee