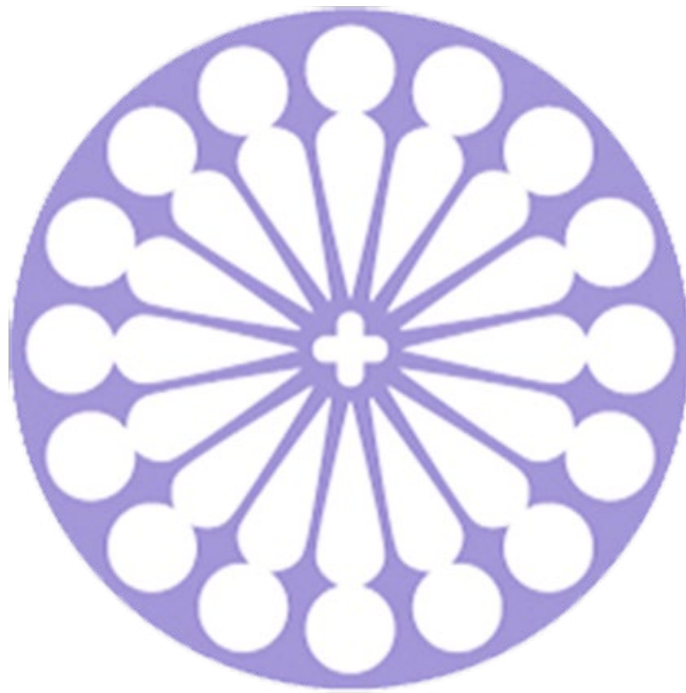


# **2022 Annual Congregational Meeting**

Sunday, February 27, 2022



2035 Highland Ave S  
Birmingham, Alabama 35205  
205.933.0790  
[www.southhighland.org](http://www.southhighland.org)





Dearest South Highland,

What a year we have experienced! And we have done it together, whether together physically or through technology. We have been the Church together, the Family of God, the Servants of Christ together. Through masks and social distancing, we have yet been there for one another and for all whom we can touch with the love and grace of Jesus Christ.

Paul writes in his First Letter to the Corinthians, (12:27) "Now you are the Body of Christ and individually members of it." This Body that is South Highland is a living pulsating whole being, Christ's Body, in all our wonderful diversity, with so many varied gifts and interests individually. Yet, coming together we form one United Body that is God's Presence – the gem in the fiberglass - the salt and light in the staleness and the darkness - bringing hope and healing. You will read in these amazing reports some of the many and varied ways God has used us and stretched us and enabled us to be there for one another. It is such a privilege to serve as your Pastor. I thank you for your love and your trust.

This sense of the Body Together becomes apparent when you review here the incredible ways we have been able to serve together using our gifts. I want to say a hearty thanks to the wonderful staff God has gathered here, the incredibly committed officers, and the leaders in so many areas who have called forth the creative gifts of the Spirit for growing us together. And thanks to every one of you who call South Highland your Faith Family and your Spiritual Home.

It is good to be reminded and to experience through South Highland that the real work of the Church gets done in the local congregation, not in some distant administrative office. This Body here of which you are a part is where the action is! We are continually being nurtured by those attributes in the local Church that Luke describes at its inception in Jerusalem after the coming of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost. (Acts 2:41-42)

"So those who welcomed Peter's message were **baptized**, and that day about three thousand persons were added. They devoted themselves to **the apostles teaching and fellowship**, to the **breaking of bread** and the **prayers**."

Giving evidence to their belief in the Risen Lord, repenting of their sins, they received the physical sign of **Baptism**, marked for life, and claiming God's covenant promises. Then they continued in these ongoing practices – which are the foundation stones of South Highland.

**The Apostles Teachings** - the testimony in Holy Scripture, the story of the coming of God among us. We continually through 2021 have turned again and again to God's Word for hope, guidance, encouragement, comfort, correction. In Sunday worship, in classes and fellowship gatherings in our beautiful facility and in our homes, in restaurants, and in offices, we have turned to the Teachings.

**The Fellowship** – gathering together, sharing our lives, encouraging and being encouraged, opening up to one another where we are hurting and needing prayer. The pandemic has, if anything, made all the more apparent our need for one another and stretched us to find creative ways we can get

together from zooms to back yards. We have found fresh appreciation of our need for one another in Fellowship.

**The Breaking of Bread** – unable through much of this year to gather for regular meals together we have sensed when we have been able to share a meal through Joe Whitley’s wonderfully prepared boxed dinners and through the communion meal itself – even when it comes in a little plastic package - the importance of being fed together physically and spiritually.

**The Prayers** – our lifting up one another in prayers before the heart of our Heavenly Father, trusting that God hears and answers even when we don’t always see the way clear. Prayer continues to be such a need and a strength among us. Through prayer we have made our way along together. I am grateful for your prayers and continue to remember you in mine. I thank God for you all.

In Georges Bernanos’ book, The Diary of a Country Priest, the young priest looks over his congregation and says,

“This morning I prayed hard for my parish... I know that my parish is a reality, that we belong to each other for all eternity; it is not a mere administrative fiction, but a living cell of the everlasting Church. But if only the great God would open my eyes and unseal my ears, so that I might behold the face of my parish and hear its voice... The look in the eyes... those would be the eyes of all Christianity, of all parishes – perhaps of the poor human race itself. Our Lord saw them from the Cross.”

That is what we are talking about in our own South Highland Church. Not a “mere administrative fiction” but that place and that people where we are linked together as Christ’s Living Body with one another and with all saints who have gone on ahead of us, becoming an outpost for the Kingdom of our Lord.

With Gratitude and Appreciation,

Ed Hurley





## **Our Vision**

To be fully alive with the passion of Christ

## **Our Mission**

To **Seek** the indwelling Christ

To **Share** the living Word

To **Grow** in the wisdom, knowledge, love, and  
grace of the Triune God

To **Help** people become Disciples of Jesus Christ

To **Serve** with the passion of Christ

## Session 2022 Officer Assignments

**Ed Hurley**, Moderator & Senior Pastor  
**Jody Gilchrist**, SHC Chair  
**Ramey Harrell**, CDC Chair

**Lee Cleveland**, Clerk of Session    **Cort Gatliff**, Assist. Minister of Discipleship  
**Larry Michael**, Parish Associate    **Abby Gatliff**, Assist. Minister for Youth & Families  
**Jeannie Jones and Bill Thornton**, Deacon Co-Chairs  
**Laura Ray**, Finance Chair

*updated 02/02/22*

### **Class of 2022**

Wende Berryhill  
Janice Cotton  
Jim Harpeneau  
Larry Harper  
Daniel Hightower  
Bart Lloyd  
Joey Miller  
John Morris

### **Class of 2023**

Kelly Blighton  
Lee Cooper  
Mark Garner  
Wilbur Holaday  
Linda Lehe  
Debbie Perkins  
Kathy Tracey  
Karen Weeks

### **Class of 2024**

Harold Deason  
Roy Glover  
Laura Ray  
Jan Stephens  
Bill Stribling  
Kelly Troiano

### **Administration Ministry**

Staff Liaisons  
Ed Hurley  
Brad Hale

### **Elders**

**Joey Miller, Chair**  
Wilbur Holaday  
Linda Lehe

### **Deacons**

Earv Stapleton  
Nicholas Okai

### **Congregation**

Richard Barr

### **Discipleship Formation**

Staff Liaisons: Larry Michael  
Cort Gatliff  
Katya O'Leary  
Abby Gatliff

### **Kathy Tracey, Chair**

Larry Harper  
Bart Lloyd  
Bill Stribling

Anna Finkel

Jeannie Jones  
Anne Stansell

Carolyn Ashworth

Todd Snyder

### **Outreach Ministry**

Staff Liaisons  
Ed Hurley  
Cort Gatliff

### **Debbie Perkins, Chair**

Lee Cooper  
Harold Deason  
Kelly Troiano

Jody Gilchrist  
Kevin Hubbard  
Rachel Mathisen  
Sarah Keb

See Annual

Meeting

Outreach Report

### **Personnel Ministry**

Staff Liaison  
Ed Hurley

### **Mark Garner, Chair**

Jan Stephens  
Laura Ray  
John Morris

Bill Thornton

### **Shared Life in Christ Ministry**

Staff Liaisons  
Larry Michael  
Abby Gatliff

### **Janice Cotton, Chair**

Daniel Hightower  
Karen Weeks

Mark Ezell  
Glenn Ross  
John Yeilding

Tim Chandler

Isabeth Gannon

### **Worship Ministry**

Staff Liaisons  
Ed Hurley  
Matthew Grauberger

### **Kelly Blighton, Chair**

Wende Berryhill  
Roy Glover  
Jim Harpeneau

Sharon Benton  
Casey Blighton  
Barbara Hayslip  
Sue Koch  
Bo Monroe

Elsa Holaday

Mary Beth Newbill

### **Board of Deacons - 2022:** Jeannie Jones and Bill Thornton, Co-Chairs; Larry Michael, Staff Liaison

### **Class of 2022**

Sharon Benton  
Barbara Hayslip  
Jeannie Jones  
Rachel Mathisen  
Earv Stapleton  
Bill Thornton

### **Class of 2023**

Casey Blighton  
Mark Ezell  
Jody Gilchrist  
Kevin Hubbard  
Sue Koch  
John Yeilding

### **Class of 2024**

Anna Finkel  
Sarah Keb  
Bo Monroe  
Nicholas Okai  
Glenn Ross  
Anne Stansell

**Commissioners to Presbytery:** Principals: Lee Cooper & Kathy Tracey    Alternates: Bill Stribling & Lee Cleveland

Trustee Class 2022 Glenn Davis

Class Of 2023 John Goff

Class of 2024 Tom Buck

## **SHPC FOUNDATION**

### **Annual Report to the Congregation**

The Foundation operates/reports on a fiscal year calendar that ends annually on September 30. The year ending September 30, 2021 marks the Foundation's 33<sup>rd</sup> anniversary. The market value of the Foundation's assets as of that date was \$8,206,276. This value represents a 27% increase from last year's value.

The Foundation's annual reports regularly cite the consistency the Foundation's earnings contribute to SHPC's programs. This support was again evident with the allocation of 2021's earnings which totaled \$209,199, a new high for the Foundation. The allocations were:

		% of total
Missions	\$88,074	42
SHPC's general operating budget	55,421	27
Scholarships	34,550	16
Music	3,390	2
Other	2,587	1
CDC	<u>25,177</u>	<u>12</u>
Total	\$209,199	100%

One will note an allocation, CDC, not seen in prior annual reports. The Foundation's Board met October 21, 2021 to approve the allocation of 2021's earnings. During the allocation discussion a comment was made that the CDC was in a position that its money might run out by year end and the question was asked if there was any way the Foundation could help CDC. A study group was formed to study the question. The group met October 27 and determined the ability of the Foundation to provide a significant amount of financial help to CDC was limited because the use of earnings in most component funds was specifically directed by the document establishing the fund. The group did identify four component funds that could provide financial assistance to CDC. These were presented to the Session at its December meeting and the Session concurred with the Board's allocation of \$25,177 to CDC and the Board's stipulation this was a one-time allocation.

As a follow through in late December Mike and Gillian Goodrich contributed \$100,000 to a Foundation component fund, CDC Endowment Fund, "to help the CDC transition to the first-class child-care facility it once was". If a SHPC member desires to provide financial support to CDC the established Fund is a convenient way to do so.

If one would like more information or has any questions about the Foundation please contact a member of the Board: Dr. Ed Hurley, senior minister, Dr. Dana Waters, minister at the 1988 founding of the Foundation, Tom Buck, Lee Cooper, Glenn Davis, Mark Ezell, John Goff, Mike Goodrich, Jan Lansford, Linda Lehe, Kathryn Michael, Laura Ray, Mel Robinson and Bill Stribling.

Respectfully submitted,

John Goff, Board President

## **Events of 2021**

### **Annual Report to the Congregation**

<b>January 10</b>	Officer Installation
<b>January 12</b>	Annual Congregational Meeting via live stream
<b>January 20</b>	WNL – Dr. Graham
<b>January 23</b>	Officer Retreat via Zoom
<b>January 27</b>	Virtual Prayer Service led by Larry Michael
<b>January 31</b>	Witness Season/Dr. Doug Tilton
<b>February 3</b>	Witness Season by Sarah Koch via livestream
<b>February 14</b>	Witness Season Rev. Richard Haney
<b>February 17</b>	Ash Wednesday Services & Communion
<b>February 24</b>	Lent service led by Cort
<b>March 3</b>	Lent service led by Abby
<b>March 10</b>	Lent service led by Daniel
<b>March 17</b>	Lent service led by Ed
<b>March 24</b>	Lent service led by Matthew
<b>March 28</b>	Palm Sunday
<b>March 29 - 31</b>	Holy Week Services
<b>April 1</b>	Maundy Thursday – Tenabrae Service & Communion
<b>April 2</b>	Good Friday Service led by Ed
<b>April 3</b>	Easter Egg hunt & Easter Vigil – Fresh Air Farm
<b>April 4</b>	Easter Sunday
<b>April 14</b>	Delores Hydock
<b>April 21</b>	Bible Trivia Night via zoom
<b>April 25</b>	Social Justice Book Club



<b>April 28</b>	Colin Hansen
<b>May 5</b>	Cookout in Courtyard and Vespers
<b>May 16</b>	Youth Sunday
<b>May 23</b>	PW Gathering on Chapel Steps
<b>June 16</b>	New member ice cream social
<b>July 21</b>	WNL/Let My People Go-Go
<b>July 25</b>	Social Justice Book Club
<b>July 26 - 29</b>	VBS
<b>August 1</b>	VBS Sunday
<b>August 8</b>	8:30am service resumes
<b>August 11</b>	Outreach Ministry and Global Outreach Event
<b>August 22</b>	Rally Day
<b>August 25</b>	John Archibald Presentation
<b>September 8</b>	Wednesday Night Vespers
<b>September 22</b>	WNL/Zach Hicks
<b>October 3</b>	World Communion Sunday
<b>October 13</b>	WNL
<b>October 17</b>	Organ rededication
<b>October 27</b>	WNL
<b>October 31</b>	133 <sup>rd</sup> Church Birthday/Reformation Sunday
<b>November 3</b>	WNL
<b>November 7</b>	All Saint's Sunday
<b>November 17</b>	WNL
<b>November 28</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

<b>December 4</b>	Rise Against Hunger
<b>December 5</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent Christmas Together
<b>December 8</b>	Advent Concert
<b>December 12</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent
<b>December 15</b>	Advent Concert
<b>December 19</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent
<b>December 24</b>	Christmas Eve services at 4:00 & 6:00pm

**Rev. Dr. Larry J Michael**  
**Pastor for Adult Ministries and Parish Associate**

“You have as much laughter as you have faith.”— *Martin Luther*

As we look back at 2021 and look forward to 2022, we look back with thanks and look forward with faith. Faith brings joy along with it. Even when things don't look good, we know they will get better. Let's pray that we can laugh and be more confident in the days to come.

We were so glad as a church to get beyond 2020 with the Covid-19 pandemic behind us, but it lingered and festered along the path of 2021 which hindered many of our regular programs, limiting access to food gatherings and masking in worship for the better part of the year. We were, however, able to get some respite, with the oversight of our SHPC task force, to open up more from July till the end of the year. This enabled us to have more in person studies, meetings, and occasional meals together. One of the highlights on Wednesdays was our **“Let My People Go-Go” 60's Party that was held on the 25<sup>th</sup> of July**, with 75 garbed and enthusiastic participants. We had several competitions, some spirited dancing and enjoyed so much the music of Pocket Change. Even more so, the culinary spread that Chef Joe Whitley and his staff laid out for us was beyond our wildest expectations (including Tiny Tim tiptoeing through the tulips!).



I, along with the strategic help of Cort and Abby Gatliff, had the opportunity to write some of the eight original Sunday School lessons under the title “Roads to the Resurrection” for the season of Lent. These lessons coordinated with the Sunday sermons and many folks appreciated the participation in nine adult classes through Zoom (Making a Home for Faith, Upper Room, New Covenant, Young Adult, Marketplace, Builders, Inquirers, Connected in Christ, Faith Foundations), during that time leading up to Easter, and one week beyond with the Damascus Road calling of the Apostle Paul, which launched the spread of Christianity throughout the Gentile world.

The studies we offered were The Wilderness Road – Road of Temptation (Matthew 4); The Narrow Road – Road of Decision (Matthew 7:13-14; The Jericho Road – Road of Helping Others( Luke 15); The Samaritan Road – The Road to Witness ( John 4); The Bethany Road – The Road Back to Life (John 11); The Jerusalem Road – Road to Suffering (Matthew 21:1-11); The Emmaus Road – Road to Resurrection (Luke 24); The Damascus Road – Road to Mission (Acts 9). Sunday School

continued in the Summer as usual, but a number of classes came together for a unified Coffee Pot class that helped to include new attendees as well as regular members.

Other Wednesday offerings included First Wednesday Vesper services, Zoom prayer meetings, special lectures via Zoom/and/or in-person --Dr. Graham Michael (via Zoom) "The End of Creation: Becoming Fully Human in the Rest of God," Sarah Koch (DIG video), Bob and Kristi Rice (South Sudan), Dolores Hydock, Storyteller "Dishing the Dirt: Stories from the garden" (live stream with persons present), **Dr. Zach Hicks "How the Lord Shapes Us Through Congregational Worship,"** Dr. A.B.Sutton (Stewardship) "Word of Encouragement".



It was a special blessing to proclaim God's Word on five different occasions during the year -- (Surely, Not I?) Ash Wednesday, (Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea) July 11, **(The Armor of God (VBS) August 1 with special guest Rahab,** (Death Do Us Part? Looking for Loopholes) September 19, and Wednesday Vespers (Heaven Is More Than You Know, Bible Trivia Night via Zoom, etc.

Other ministries I participated in during the year -- Spousal Loss Grief group -- commencing for 10 weeks, Wednesday Sept 22, 10:00-11:30 am, Asbury

Methodist Church, on Rt 119, in conjunction with Community Grief Support; Taking communion to shut-ins per request; Visiting hospitals, counseling in office, leading worship, home visitation, etc. I was also invited to lead a Wednesday Zoom session on grief for Holy Apostles Episcopal Church in Hoover. **In October we celebrated the Feast of St. Francis with our annual Blessing of the Animals.** Then in December, many of us gathered in the Davis Family Hall to put together 15,000 meals for Rise Against Hunger. These are some of the activities that I shared with many South Highlanders as we sought to serve with the Passion of Christ in 2021. **God be praised!**



Warmly in Christ,

Larry J. Michael, PhD.



## **Assistant Minister for Discipleship Annual Report to the Congregation**

As I began to reflect on the ways God has worked in our congregation this past year, I had a difficult time remembering when certain events took place. Was that Sunday school series through the Gospel of Mark in 2020 or 2021? Did I lead an Old Testament overview last January, or was that during the summer? I had to pull out my old calendar to jog my memory.

Perhaps you've had a similar experience. The pandemic has warped our sense of time. For the second year in a row, our regular rhythms and routines have been disrupted, and it's messing with how we normally measure the passing of time. That's because we think of time with what the Greeks called a *chronos* mindset. Chronos time is linear (think of the word chronological). It's how we mark our days, weeks, months, and so on.

So, with the help of my calendar before me, here's a chronos summary of 2021. The 8-week Old Testament overview class, which I held on Zoom, did indeed take place in January and February. This was a highlight for me personally. I love remembering and teaching the promises that God has made to our fathers and mothers in the faith, and how those promises are fulfilled in Jesus and applied to us today. It led to some rich discussions. Early in the year, Abby and I also regularly hosted in-person young adult men's and women's fellowship and Bible study nights, which helped us continue to grow in our faith together, despite the challenges of the pandemic.

In the summer, our young adult class did a series called Summer in the Psalms, where we studied the prayer book of the Bible and reflected on how this ancient library of poems and songs can help us encounter the living God afresh today. In the fall, we did a series on Faith and Work, which helped us to see how the gospel changes everything, including how we think of work, rest, and the purpose of life. I've also continued to serve the church in various ways through preaching, joining the CDC Board, helping Abby with the youth group, building discipleship-focused relationships with current and new young adults, and working closely with my colleagues to help their ministries flourish. Matthew has even convinced me to pick up a guitar from time to time.

That's the chronos report. But the Christian faith provides another view of time: *Kairos*. Kairos refers to an appointed or opportune moment or season. The Bible is full of Kairos time. In Mark 1:15, Jesus announces, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" He's talking about kairos. A kairos understanding of time invites us to view events through the lens of what God is up to in the world.

One of my favorite uses of kairos comes from Galatians 6:9: "Let us not get tired of doing good, for we will reap at the *proper time* if we don't give up." This past year, it's been easy to get caught up in the breaking news, which is often disheartening. But the Holy Spirit is at work—usually in subtle ways—at South Highland and in our world. My prayer this year is that we would be a church that learns to live in kairos time. May we keep watch for ways God is on the move and wait with hopeful expectation for the harvest.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cort Gatliff

## Music Ministry Annual Report to the Congregation

The Music Ministry of South Highland Presbyterian Church serves to enable and equip worship that is fully alive with the passion of Christ. Worship through song has long served as a primary means of worship in the Christian tradition. The Music Ministry serves as a place where all generations of worshipers may gather together and offer a collective song of worship to God.

South Highland Presbyterian Church has developed a great tradition of music ministry. This great tradition of effective worship leadership is attributed the volunteers and church members that serve the congregation on a regular basis. These volunteers and church members create a hospitable environment that allows our congregation, our guests, professional musicians, student musicians, and other appointed worship leaders to worship and lead others in doing likewise.

Our Music Ministry leads us in worship on Sunday mornings, helping us more deeply experience who God is and more fully know what God has done for us. We have a passion for training and equipping worship leaders because music plays an important role in equipping our families to be worshipers. Our role is to help the church worship God not just on Sunday mornings but in all of life.

Though 2021 was not a return to normal, we were able to resume many of the most vital aspects of our Music Ministry. Our worship leaders and volunteers have demonstrated an exceptional ability to adapt during these trying circumstances.



**Chancel Choir:** We were thrilled to welcome our Chancel Choir back into regular worship leadership in the Choir Loft this past summer. The Chancel Choir has continued to safely make music and lead God's people in worship despite the recent waves of the pandemic. The members of the Chancel Choir meet faithfully each Sunday morning and most Sunday afternoons to prepare to lead the congregation in worship through

song, performing works such as Antonio Vivaldi's *Magnificat*, John Rutter's *Angel's Carol*, Cesar Franck's *Psalm 150*, and Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Old Hundredth Psalm Tune*. Our music making is accompanied with communities of support and encouragement. Our rehearsals, events, and seasonal celebrations are not just about music making but are times of fellowship and prayer.

**Chancel Ensemble:** We started the Chancel Ensemble in 2020 to overcome the challenges of music making and music ministry in a pandemic. Despite the return of the Chancel Choir, this small group of singers and worship leaders has continued to lead us in worship, typically, at our 8:30am worship service and occasionally at other times throughout the year. We are incredibly grateful for Kirsten Heiser, Heather Batey, Abigail Grauberger, Virginia Barr, Kelsey Wade, Mary Margaret Yielding, Casey Blighton, Rick Atkerson, Garland Stansell, and Leland Keller who have all sung in the Chancel Ensemble.



**Children's Music Ministry:** Under the direction of Virginia Barr, the South Highland Presbyterian Church Children's Music Ministry meets most Sunday mornings to prepare to lead all generations in worship. We were thrilled to see our children again have the opportunity to regularly make music together in 2021. This culminated in our children helping lead worship at the 4:00pm Christmas Eve service.



**The Highland Ringers:** Our Handbell Choir, The Highland Ringers, began meeting regularly again in May 2021 and picked up right where they left off in making beautiful music, leading us in worship, and forging a vibrant community of fellowship. The Highland Ringers regularly meet on Wednesday evenings to rehearse and prepare music and pray with and for each other. Ringing handbells has proven to be a uniquely safe way to make music while weathering the pandemic. For the first time in decades, The Highland Ringers presented a concert as part of our Annual Advent Concert Series.

Performing alongside Dr. Jim Dorroh in recital, The Highland Ringers rang Kevin McChesney's *Now the Green Blade Riseth (Sing We Now of Christmas)*, Michael Helman's *In the Bleak Midwinter*, Martha Lynn Thompson's *Parade of the Tin Soldiers*, and *Gloria Hodie* arranged by Julie Turner and Kevin McChesney.

**No Longer Strangers Band:** The No Longer Strangers Band was commissioned at the request of Rev. Dr. Ed Hurley for the celebration of South Highland Presbyterian Church's 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Our resident gospel bluegrass and folk band leads us in Sunday morning worship on a biannual basis in addition to playing numerous events and services throughout the greater Birmingham community. Band members include the likes of church congregation members and those who have been connected to the life and worship of South Highland Presbyterian Church over the years.

**Organ Restoration Project:** In May 2020, we announced a project that would restore our historic Moeller Sanctuary Pipe Organ made possible by a most generous and anonymous gift to South Highland Presbyterian Church in memory and honor of Bob and Carolyn Hunter. Probably everyone reading this today knows of the incredible love for God and God's children that Bob and Carolyn exhibited. It is fitting that such a gift be made in their honor and memory.



This incredibly generous gift made possible not only needed repairs, but also new ranks of pipes and improvements which has made our Sanctuary Organ all it can be for many years to come. Our Organist, Dr. Jim Dorroh served as our primary consultant, working in close partnership with our organ builder, Kenny Lewis.

The project included much needed restorative work such as the installation of a new Computer Control Processor, Swell Shade Motors, Manuals, Pedalboard, and Chimes. New additions to the instrument included new Pedal Voices and a signature *Trompette en chamade*. The project was completed in July 2021. We had the privilege of holding an Organ Dedication Concert on Sunday

afternoon, October 17, 2021, with the Hunter family in attendance. Dr. Jim Dorroh and Kenny Lewis played a spectacular recital, Rev. Dr. Ed Hurley offered a word of remembrance, the Chancel Choir led us in worship, and we dedicated our restored instrument.



**Wednesday Evening Vespers:** Our Wednesday Evening Vespers services give us the opportunity to develop new liturgical rhythms that are designed to shape the worship of our lives. Much of these services are crafted and curated by Matthew Grauberger. We concluded last year's series *Lost and Found: The Story of God's People in Exile* and began our new series this year titled *Worship As a Way of Life*. Our Music Ministry has introduced a new songs, styles, and combinations of instrumentation during this year's Wednesday Evening Vespers services. Matthew Grauberger, Casey Blighton, Cort Gatliff, and Gracie Groves have joined together to lead us in worship with an acoustic collection of instruments and voices, singing familiar hymns and some new songs. This group also led us in worship at our 4:00pm Christmas Eve service.

Matthew Grauberger, the Director of Music Ministry, proudly directs the Chancel Choir, Handbell Choir, works regularly with Rev. Dr. Ed Hurley to select the music used in worship on Sunday mornings, and coordinates and leads our Wednesday Evening Vespers services. He is grateful for the opportunity to serve with such a fine and committed group of volunteer worship leaders. It is a distinct privilege to work with our Organist, Dr. Jim Dorroh, who celebrated his second year of service here at South Highland this past summer. Together we look forward to further enabling and equipping our congregation to worship more fully alive with the passion of Christ.

Respectfully submitted,  
Matthew Grauberger



## **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY REPORT: 2022**

### **by Katya O'Leary**

It is incredible to believe that I will have been Director of Children's Ministry for eight years this coming July. The years have been mostly joy filled and have been ones that have strengthen my personal faith. I love working with the children and families of South Highland. My goal is to increase the number of intergenerational activities that we have at SHPC, strengthen and develop Catechesis of the Good Shepherd in the Level I and Level II atriums, and continue our strong commitment to the Child Development Center as a mission the church.

We have an active Sunday School program where attendance can ebb and flow. Our nursery (birth to age 3) is busy with new babies and toddlers. We only have one paid nursery worker at this time and congregants volunteer during services to help her in the nursery and during Enrichment. I have been very grateful for this help AND volunteers remark how fun it is to work with the young children and get to know the parents as well. Consider volunteering for this important ministry in 2022!!

#### Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program for three-year olds through fifth grade has been a wonderful thing to behold. We opened the program in January of 2018 in G22. The Level II atrium opened in September with first through fifth graders. Please feel free to stop by and check out these spaces.

Our catechists are Elsa Holaday, Kirsten Heiser, Jackie Giovanelli and myself. I am continually on the lookout for new people to begin training. We will need increased volunteers for this program to grow. I have had a wonderful response from church members to build, paint and devise and purchase materials for both levels.



#### Feed My Sheep Ministry

Our children continue to help out monthly in this ministry. They love packaging up toilet paper to give to our participants!!

#### Vacation Bible School at SHPC (July 26-29)

Our VBS theme this year was "Knights of South Highland". Ken Laney came up with a castle design which was implemented by Joseph Riley. We also had turrets, dragons and even a draw bridge! Dina Glass and her daughter, Anna, were our wonderful leaders for music and drama. Dina had a group of youth who performed the songs and skits. Ellen Jenkins was the voice of our head dragon, Sparky. It was an amazing week filled with Bible stories, songs, art and science. We had a smaller number of campers and volunteers due to covid. The CDC children aged four and up participated. This year our 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders did separate activities including their shopping expedition at Dollar General for the Feed My Sheep Ministry, a pool party, and a special talk on weapons and battle tactics by Lee Cleveland. We had a great service Sunday after VBS with Larry

Michael preaching and his wife, Kathryn, playing Rahab. Thank you again to all our wonderful youth and adult volunteers and supporters. Without you all, it would be difficult, if not impossible, to pull off this week.

### Rise Against Hunger

In early 2021, pre-pandemic, we held our first Rise Against Hunger event where the whole church was invited to come together and fill bags of a rice mixture for people in need. We planned to have our second event during Awesome August in 2020, but we had to postpone till December 4 when covid numbers were low. Even with the holidays so close, people traveling, and a dreary day, we had a great turnout with more than 80 folks making enough food for 15,000 meals in less than 2 hours!!

### Additional Events in 2021:

- We continued delivery bags for Valentines and for Holy Week. My faithful drivers also delivered out special Advent gifts—a new book, “Twas the Season of Advent” by Glenys Nellist and a CD we put together for our children to learn the familiar Christmas carols and hymns.
- Brown Bear, my beloved childhood friend, continued to make regular visits to Sunday morning services.
- Children’s Ministry hosted several CDC partnership events. We held a small Ash Wednesday service for CDC parents. We started back having weekly Chapel where I teach stories and lead songs for the 2, 3 and 4-year olds.
- This past year, we had 8 infant baptisms: Eleanor Gatliff, Hendrick Buck, James Holland, Henry Mize and Kelly Hurley, Ann Hollis Morris, Annie Vick and Amelia Blighton.
- The Easter Egg Hunt was held at the Fresh Air Farm. We had a wonderful turnout with over 100 church folks and friends. The kids hunted eggs, people played games and jumped in the bounce house; everyone shared dinner. The service following was led by Cort and Abby Gatliff.
- Our Fall Festival was held on a drizzly October day at the Fresh Air Farm. We had a great turnout of 80+ folks who enjoyed bounce houses, yard games, and socializing.
- For Christmas Together, we again invited the Presbyterian Children’s Home to join us. With crafts, Advent wreath making, chili dinner, a performance by our little musicians, Blessing of the Babies, a brief service and lighting of the tree we had a packed evening.

What a different, but still wonderful, 2021 we had at South Highland!!

Joyfully submitted,  
Katya O’Leary



**2021 Annual Report for Youth Ministry**  
**Abby Gatliff**  
**Assistant Minister for Youth and Family Discipleship**

I am writing this annual report in my office, having just recovered from my second bout with Covid which cancelled our first Youth Retreat of 2022. In a low moment, I might be tempted to say, “Well, that pretty much sums up my first year in Youth Ministry!” But that would not be a fair or accurate description of the Lord’s work. In fact, reflecting on my first full year in this position brings up a multitude of emotions ranging from frustration to pure joy. Thankfully, our God can handle my various feelings.

Pandemic aside, youth ministry is already the wild west of church life. The unpredictability can be unsettling and honestly, youth ministers rarely see the fruit of their labors. Thankfully, we serve a God who brings beauty and fruitfulness and order out of chaos. Chaos is God’s specialty. So, it follows that youth ministry must hold a special place in our Lord’s heart.

Last January, I began meeting with students individually to build relationships. By February, March, and April, we were able to meet in various homes on Sunday nights for youth Bible Study. The pandemic limited our options, but the Spirit was at work creating and deepening my relationship with the youth.

The month of May brought many changes for the Gatliffs that allowed our ministry to flourish. First, I graduated from Beeson Divinity School and began working at the church fulltime as our Assistant Minister for Youth and Family Discipleship. We held Youth Sunday later than usual in May, sending off our sweet seniors with God’s Word in their hands.

Second, in May, Cort and I bought and moved into our first home, which we prayed would become an extension of our South Highland building. All summer long, our house was bursting on Wednesday nights for Youth Bible Study. We ate dinner together, often provided by members of our church family, and we studied Psalm 63 in great detail. “Lord, your love is better than LIFE!” we proclaimed together.

In July, a small group of us went to Montreat and enjoyed the retreat from the Birmingham heat. We loved spending time together in our rental home at night, reflecting on God’s word and his faithfulness to us. Having an all-girls group (plus Rick Atkerson of course!) allowed us to go deeper together and spend time having real conversations.

By the time the school year started, we were ready for Sunday night Bible Study. We began going through the New Testament on Sunday nights, and we studied the catechism during Sunday School. We hired a new intern, Dallas Knight, who jumped right in relationally with our guys and helped with teaching. Dallas and I spent our morning today planning the Spring, and we can’t wait for the good things coming. A cancelled Winter Retreat will not stop us from praising God for the work he is doing in the lives of his students!

As Christians, God doesn't call us to "look on the bright side" or "stay positive," nor does he call us to "dwell on the negative" or "wallow in self-pity." The Lord simply calls us to be honest about our emotions and the state of our hearts. He can handle whatever we throw at him: bitterness or elation, frustration or praise, despair or joy. This is good news for a youth minister beginning her job with a one-year-old in the midst of a global pandemic. My prayer is that this will be good news for you too.

Respectfully submitted,

Abby Gatliff



## Yearly Administration Report Administration 2021

Members: Staff

Ed Hurley

Brad Hale

2021 Members

Earv Stapleton

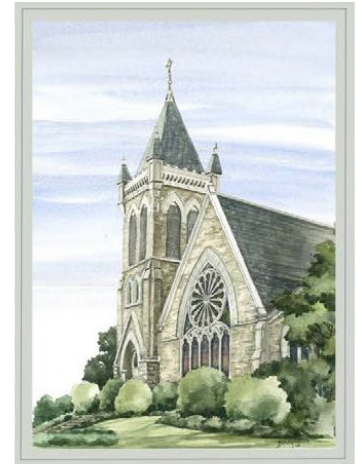
Ramey Harrell

Wilbur Holaday

Linda Lehe

Joey Miller

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### I

Warren Gibson, the contractor who has been doing work on the church for years, has health issues. We are in the process of finding another to take his place.

### II

There are repairs and maintenance needed for the church.

A committee of Brad, Earv, Wilbur made an Inventory finding various issues needing repair and maintenance beyond the budget.

Wilbur Holiday discovered damage to the coping near the porté cochere of Education Building inspection of the church.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Estimate was nearly \$100,000 to repair and needs to be done as soon as possible.

During our Executive Council Meeting it was decided to use the interest from The Foundation Account to pay for the coping repairs. This was to have been voted on in The Jan. 2022 Session meeting, now will be voted on in Feb. 2022 meeting.

We will have to have a Capital Campaign Fund Drive to replace these funds and to pay for the other items on the repair and maintenance list.

### III

Finish the Columbarium

There are dollars set aside to complete the Columbarium, the space has enough room for 2 more.

The west Columbarium is almost full.

MTTR Engineers are providing Davis Architects a survey of the rear portion of the Church where the Columbarium addition will go.

Once Don Cosper with Davis Architects has that he can provide a scope of service and budget for the design of the addition.

### IV

Had negotiations with Barber about the parking lot lease on the western parking lot.

We could not come to an agreement both sides could live with.

#### IV

In May, Brian Hurst President of the CDC brought us news the playground needed major repairs, and that the CDC had obtained a grant to fund the repairs.

The CDC asked that the \$ spent be applied to the current debt owed SHPC.

SHPC is the landlord and is responsible for the playground. There was some discussion about this issue and it was decided the Finance Committee needed to weigh in

The Budget and Finance Meeting in June 15<sup>th</sup> unanimously decided to approve the CDC Proposal to credit their grant repair funds to their debt.

#### V.

Received SHPC Scholarship Recommendations in March.

Larry Harper has served SHPC faithfully chairing this Committee for years.

We voted to unanimously approve the recommendations of the Scholarship Committee.

#### VI.

Laura Ray is to be commended for here tireless work on Finances and Budget for Admin.

Respectfully submitted

Joey Miller, Chair Administration



**South Highland Presbyterian Church  
2022 Budget**

Inflows -		
Pledge Income	\$	1,300,000
Other Giving		129,858
Total Other Income		<u>154,503</u>
Total Inflows	\$	1,584,361
Outflows -		
Administration and Capital	\$	295,402
Personnel		1,048,681
Worship		33,660
Discipleship Formation		35,994
Outreach		153,962
Shared Life in Christ		15,662
Publicity		<u>1,000</u>
Total Outflows	\$	1,584,361
Net Income (Loss)	\$	<u>-</u>



**South Highland Presbyterian Church  
December 2021 Financial Summary**

	Prior Year Actual		As of December 31, 2021		
	12/31/2020		Budget	Actual	Variance
Inflows -					
Pledge Income	\$	1,196,192	\$ 1,250,000	\$ 1,315,651	\$ 65,651
Other giving		271,098	227,253	126,977	\$ (100,276)
Total Giving		1,467,290	1,477,253	1,442,628	(34,625)
Other Income		32,199	57,108	42,594	(14,514)
Total Inflows	\$	1,499,488	\$ 1,534,361	\$ 1,485,222	\$ (49,139)
Outflows -					
Administration and Capital	\$	300,708	\$ 282,402	\$ 332,217	\$ 49,815
Personnel		994,467	1,011,681	1,007,644	(4,037)
Worship		41,293	33,660	39,700	6,040
Discipleship Formation		15,368	35,994	25,920	(10,074)
Outreach		131,972	153,962	137,966	(15,996)
Shared Life in Christ		2,730	15,662	5,021	(10,641)
Publicity		1,637	1,000	2,711	1,711
Total Outflows	\$	1,488,175	\$ 1,534,361	\$ 1,551,178	\$ 16,817
Net Income (Loss)	\$	11,314	\$ -	\$ (65,956)	\$ (65,956)



**Budget, Benevolence, and Witness Giving  
2021-2020**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>% of Total Giving</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>% of Total Giving</b>
Witness Season	\$ 59,885		58,224	
Designated Giving	329,282		439,508	
Total Benevolent Giving	389,167	21%	497,732	25%
Total Budget Giving	1,442,628	79%	1,467,290	75%
Total Giving	<u>\$ 1,831,795</u>		<u>\$ 1,965,022</u>	



# 2021 Year In Pictures









## **Discipleship Formation Annual Report to the Congregation**

**Members:** Carolyn Ashworth, Laura Chapman, Abby & Cort Gatliff, Larry Harper, Jeannie Jones, Dallas Knight, Bart Lloyd, Heidi Messier, Larry Michael, Robyn Nichols, Katya O'Leary, Todd Snyder, Kathy Tracey

The year 2021 was one of baby steps forward from and within the pandemic, with hope and prayer for our community and its discipleship in a new world. 2021 started as a time of zoom, live-streaming, masks and social distancing. One bright spot was on January 24 when the **Social Justice Book Club** sponsored 25 Zoom participants for discussion of *The Color of Compromise* by Jemar Tisby, led by Charles Fowler. **Matthew 25 Initiative met on February 23 via Zoom** for discussion and planning for future activities. 18 Ambassadors planned activities and to collaborate with the Outreach Ministry on many activities.

By March we were starting to worship together gingerly; one service with childcare for kindergarteners and younger, roped off pews, and masks.

**Adult Classes** have continued through all this. **Old Testament Study** had about 20–25 people live on the Zoom, and then an average of 10 or so folks watch the recording later. **Connected in Christ** split into a men's group and a women's group, meeting every other week in homes. This has been a fantastic arrangement that has most weeks the groups studying the same passage so the couples can discuss them together. **Young Adult Class** met regularly in homes, averaging ten people each time. Come summer, these classes combined and met at the church. Our longer established classes found their best practice for their class and continue to find ways to meet, study, and support each other. By the fall, two classes were Hybrid – G16 **Making a Home for Faith** and G17 **Inquirers**. In person only were on the Chapel steps **New Covenant, Marketplace in Marketplace**, and G14 **Builders Class**.

Youth started meeting in March. Because of the vaccine availability, the Confirmation class moved their Session meeting and Presentation to the Community to April and Pentecost. The three youth participating this year are Caroline Angel Garza, Douglas Brett Turnbull, and Meier Paul Tracey. After completing the classwork, attending retreats, and working with their mentors, Melinda Harden, John Morris, and Steve Messier, they were confirmed before the community on Pentecost, May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

In April, we were able to have **Holy Week** bags for families at home and an **Easter** Egg Hunt and Vigil at the Fresh Air Farm. The **Social Justice Book Club** met via Zoom on the 25<sup>th</sup> for a discussion of *The Story of More: How We Got to Climate Change and Where to Go from Here* by Hope Jahren. The discussion was led by Jerry Tracey with 22 participants. **Matthew 25 Initiative Guest** Collin Hansen spoke on Wednesday April 28 about Birmingham Civil rights history.

In May, **Youth Sunday** was May 16<sup>th</sup> and declared a success by everyone. Thank you, Abby, and all the volunteers who pour their hearts into these youth. By Pentecost, we were supporting two services on Sunday with childcare and some of the adult classes having a hybrid quality, with some meeting in the church.

During the summer, we had a full Sunday morning of childcare, supporting two worship services and Adult Sunday School as people started to return to the church cautiously. The children experienced a **One Room Schoolhouse** approach to Sunday School. We equipped and stocked a Level II

**Catechesis** class as the Level I children grew into a new space, making room for younger children to experience Catechesis.

On July 11 – 17, an all-girls group went to Montreat this year. The Gatliffs are hosting the youth for Wednesday night fellowship until school begins.

The **Social Justice Book Club** met in-person for the first time since January of 2020. Thirty people gathered on July 25 as Isabeth Gannon led a discussion of John Archibald's book *Shaking the Gates of Hell: A Search for Family and Truth in the Wake of the Civil Rights Revolution*.

We held **Vacation Bible School** this year! *Come to the Castle* was held July 26-29 with 69 children with plenty of volunteers for staffing, prepping, and supporting. August 1, with Rev. Larry Michael giving the message, the children participated with singing and drums. It was a joyous celebration! We ended the summer with a Blessing of the Backpacks on August 22.

**Youth Group Sundays** at the Gatliffs continue the summer tradition, with splitting Jr. High and Sr. High. We play games with the jr. highs, then sing songs and do a Bible Study. The high schools join for dinner, but there's not much intermingling. Once the jr. highs leave, high schoolers do Bible Study and hang out. We plan an overview of the New Testament for the school year. Through all this, we are keeping in touch with the recent high school graduates.

This fall, the **Matthew 25 Ambassadors** sponsored a field trip to a tour of The 16th St Baptist Church on Saturday, September 18, attended and appreciated by 23 people. This tour led to our Lunch and Learn opportunity with Sarah Collins Rudolph on Thursday, September 30 at 11:45 in the courtyard. 25 people joined us.

We started the school year with the opening of the Level II Catechesis. Music is back for the kids with Virginia Barr, worship bags are back for the kids during the 11:00 service, and the Fall Festival occurred on October 30<sup>th</sup>. The Confirmation class met on October 23<sup>rd</sup> in person and will continue the classes in person and with zoom. Presently the class consists of Arden Turnbull, Bart Goodrich, Grayson Rogers, John Bart Lloyd, and Patrick Watts.

SHPC is again participating in providing meals for the **UKirk** ministry to local college students! We sponsored meals for three evening services (*September 28, 2021, October 26, 2021, and November 30, 2021*). Thanks to Todd Snyder for his organization skills with this ministry.

**Social Justice Book Club** had a successful Zoom meeting on **October 25** with discussion of *The Hospital* by Alexander with Rebecca Heaven leading the discussion and Stuart Hurley joining us with his recent endeavor in managing a rural hospital.

Avent activities almost seemed to return to almost normal. Children Advent Devotionals were distributed to our families. After being postponed at least twice, we offered an intergenerational opportunity in **Rise Against Hunger** on December 4<sup>th</sup>, a Saturday morning. Then, on Sunday the 5<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated **Christmas Together**, with an Advent Workshop, Blessing of the Babies, a Joe Whitley catered dinner, and a gathering around the Chapel Circle Christmas Tree. The children celebrated **Jesus' Birthday** on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

During the year, we sponsored WNL programs and supported Rev. Michael in his efforts; the Matthew 25 Ambassadors presented "Moment for Matthew 25" in the worship services and opportunities to gather; Laura Chapman and Polly Edwards are organizing a special display of books in the church library area including book club books that are available for check out; Cort started a monthly newsletter of happenings at SHPC for young adults and young families; one Wednesday night a month is a young adult fellowship hour/happy hour, likely at one of the breweries in town,

with a focus on fellowship/outreach; Rev. Michael has sponsored Grief Support groups, attended the home-bound and hospitalized, and pursued ideas to re-invigorate our Senior ministry.

If this is what we do as a Discipleship Formation Ministry during a period of pandemic and cautiousness, I, for one, can't wait to see what we do this year!

- Kathy Tracey, Chair



## **Outreach Ministries Annual Report to the Congregation**

In 2021, the members of the Outreach Ministry were: Beth Atkerson- Chair, Lu Mahon, Debbie Perkins, Lee Cooper, Kevin Hubbard, Jody Gilchrist, Rachel Mathisen, Anna Kate Weeks, Pam Buck and Marty Keller. Staff Liaison: Cort Gatliff. Other church members regularly attend our meetings and contribute to the planning of our Outreach activities and programs.

Outreach consists of approximately forty-two individual ministries, which were active in serving God through serving others as able during the Covid -19 virus pandemic both locally and internationally in 2021. Some of our local programs were adapted to be able to continue to serve in a safer manner.

Some examples of our activities in 2021 are as follows:

In September we were able to help with the orientation reception at Horizons School by providing student gift bags and refreshments for the 20 students and their parents.

We met via Zoom with new Global Outreach partners, George and Jeanne Haugen, who are serving in the Middle East as they begin their work related to displaced people living in refugee camps. They have begun learning the regional language and hope to begin their jobs soon through the Science Tech Language Institute.

The Good Samaritan Ministry continues to serve the local Birmingham community by assisting individuals with payments for utilities, rent, and medical bills to church members and local residents.

Our Feed My Sheep Ministry continues to serve our neighborhood by distributing groceries to those in need on a weekly basis and also delivering some bags to the homebound who cannot come to the church.

This fall we were again able to participate in Habitat for Humanity with church volunteers and funding to build a house for a low-income family.

The complete list of our Outreach Ministries follows. The name of a church member, who can be contacted for more information about each ministry, is included.

Respectfully submitted,  
Beth Atkerson, Elder

## **Outreach Ministries**

### **12/31/2021**

#### **LOCAL OUTREACH**

1. **Alcoholics Anonymous** – South Highland provides a place for their regular meetings. - David Thames
2. **Bridge Ministries** – Faith-based organization which focuses on preventing homelessness by assisting people in crisis situations to pay their rent or utility bills or to secure temporary emergency housing. – Jack Smith/Gary Harden
3. **Brighter Day Fund** – Provides birthday gifts, school uniforms, prom dresses, school tuition and assistance with Christmas gifts for young children who live in poverty. – Jeannie Burton
4. **Feed My Sheep** - A food ministry that distributes bags of groceries every Wednesday at the church to our neighbors in need, and delivers the bags every other week to the elderly and homebound who can't come to the church. - Kevin Hubbard, Kelly Troiano.
5. **Evangelism** – Seeks to share the Christian Faith with others, to establish and foster relationships among people and God, and to help people become Disciples of Christ – Cort Gatliff
6. **Family Promise of Birmingham (FPOB)** - In the past we have provided shelter and meals at South Highland for homeless families, for one week, each quarter, but we were unable to do that this year. FPOB is now focused on a homelessness prevention program assisting people in preventing evictions. Joey Miller
7. **Fire House Shelter** – Shelters and serves more homeless men than any agency in Alabama, and operates the broadest, most comprehensive continuum of services for Birmingham's homeless. Fred Esleck
8. **Good Samaritan** – Provides assistance with utilities, rent, medical and dental care, medications and food for Church members and community members. – Jeannie Burton
9. **Greater Birmingham Ministries** – Provides emergency human and justice services for those in need, and engages poor and non-poor together in building a more just society. – Marty Keller
10. **Habitat for Humanity** – Provides volunteers and funding each year to help build an affordable house for a low-income family. – Don Koch
11. **Highland Manor Bible Study** – Facilitate group bible study and promote a healthier lifestyle through a holistic approach.
12. **Horizons School** – Located 1 block from South Highland, promotes successful transition to independent living for young adults with learning disabilities, autism spectrum and developmental disorders. – Marty Keller

13. **International Programs with UAB – Let’s Talk** – A bi-weekly Wednesday night opportunity at SHPC for dinner and conversational English with UAB internationals, sharing friendship and promoting understanding. Included a Christmas zoom gathering with over 30 participants in USA and China. – Lere Harper
14. **Kairos Prison Ministry International** – Sharing the transforming love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ to impact the hearts and lives of incarcerated men, women and youth as well as their families. – John Heiser
15. **Living River** – A Presbyterian retreat center on the Cahaba River which fosters stewardship of creation and nourishes faith, by offering summer camps, retreats for youth and outdoor education programming. – Marty Keller
16. **Lovelady Center** – Provides mentoring for children of mothers going through a residential rehabilitation program for addictions, abuse or homelessness. – Ross Eustis
17. **Mercedes Marathon** – Interactions with runners through a booth at the packet pick-up expo, worship leadership before the race and an official water stop during this annual charitable fund-raising event. – Polly Edwards
18. **Mother’s Day luncheon** – Partners with Christian Service Mission to serve lunch to over 100 women who are in crises, and those who work with them. – Debbie Perkins
19. **Presbyterian Home for Children** – Provides homeless children and their female caregivers a home, school, and job skills; and provides residential care, transitional job training, and housing for at-risk girls. – Al Hill
20. **Sav-a-Life (Pregnancy Resource Center)** – A faith-based pregnancy resource center with comprehensive programs to meet the health, emotional and spiritual needs of clients, by providing free doctors, nurses and trained peer counselors. – Pam Buck
21. **Simon Cyrene** – Helping residents of the Rosedale community reclaim abandoned properties, maintain a community garden, maintain housing and participate in an art academy. - Terry Slaughter
22. **South Highland Center** – An adult day care center which serves persons with dementia. Provides a safe and stimulating environment for clients and gives caregivers a much-needed break. – Alison Walker
23. **South Highland Child Development Center (CDC)** – Provides quality, Christian, full and part-time care and a learning environment for children, ages six weeks through five years, of working parents. – Brian Hurst
24. **South Highland Mental Health Outreach Project (SHOP)** – A high-quality faith-based program to improve quality of life, social connections, health and job readiness for people living with mental illness. – Rob Staffen

25. **STAIR** – Volunteers tutor first and second grade students in reading, Tuesdays or Wednesdays, in an after-school program at Hayes K-8 School. The first half of 2021 was done virtually with Glen Iris Elementary students. - Lu Mahon

## **GLOBAL OUTREACH**

1. **Democratic Republic of Congo** – Operates a hospital and clinics to care for sick and wounded, constructed school buildings and housing for teachers. – Dean Vandegrift
2. **DIG: Development in Gardening** – Teaches and develops sustainable and nutrition-sensitive agriculture in Africa and Dominican Republic, enabling vulnerable and HIV- affected communities to meet their own needs. – Sue Koch
3. **Finding Hope Foundation** – Rescues homeless boys from the downtown streets of Harare, Zimbabwe, and gives them a home, education, clothes medical attention, religious education and love. – Lee Cooper
4. **Frontier Fellowship/Bihar Province, North India** – Shares the Gospel in culturally honoring ways throughout the world, and encourages the Body of Christ to engage more deeply in God’s mission to the unreached. SHPC’s focus is in Bihar Province, North India. – Cody Watson
5. **Honduras Eye Health Project** – Provides first-world eye care to the poor at very little cost in a supportive Christian atmosphere, in Honduras, San Pedro Sula. – Dr. Jim Kimble
6. **Liaison with Missionaries** – Provides partial salary support for and maintains contact with seven mission co-workers/couples serving in Congo, South Sudan, Madagascar, Middle East and Asia. – Marty Keller
7.  **Lovemore Boys** – Enables orphaned boys in Harare, Zimbabwe, to complete their education. Lee Cooper
8. **Madagascar** – Provides support to mission co-workers, Dan and Elizabeth Turk and their projects in community health and agriculture. – Marty Keller
9. **Middle East Endeavors** – Supports the work of Presbyterian churches in Syria, Lebanon, and Iraq that are ministering to refugees of wars. – Marty Keller
10. **Mission Networking** – Engages our congregation in partnering with South Sudanese and Congolese Christians in ministry among their people. – Dr. Eleanor Wright/ Dean Vandergrift
11. **Outreach in Muslim Context** – Impart knowledge and develop informed, ethical and responsible citizens who are prepared and committed to learn, lead and serve, through Forman Christian College in Pakistan. – Marty Keller
12. **Presbyterian Education Board, Pakistan** – Offers quality elementary and secondary education to individuals of all religious backgrounds, who choose to study at missionary institutions - Marty Keller



13. **Short Term Mission Trips** – Provides interested persons an opportunity to visit specific SHPC outreach locations and participate in the ministry. – Marty Keller
14. **South Sudan** – Supports educational capacity building, including teacher training and trauma healing training, in partnership with the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan. - Dr. Eleanor Wright
15. **Tete Province Mozambique** – In Mozambique, brings indigenous people to Christ through the use of the Jesus film. Public health and new church construction in Tete Province. – Lee Cooper
16. **The Outreach Foundation (TOF)** – An international mission of connecting and supporting Presbyterians to build the capacity of the Presbyterian Church to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ around the globe. – Dr. Ed Hurley
17. **Witness Season/Global Mission Education** – Provide opportunities for better understanding by South Highlanders of how they can be involved in responding to the Great Commission. - Debbie Laws

## **Personnel Ministry Annual Report to the Congregation**

**Elders:** Don Miley, Braxton Goodrich, John Morris, Mark Garner

**Deacons:** Bill Thornton, Jeannie Jones, Heidi Messier

**Staff Liaison:** Rev. Ed Hurley

### **Staff Changes**

- Brenda Keith resigned as Administrative Assistant
- Jeannie Jones hired as Administrative Assistant. After joining the staff, Jeannie moved from the Personnel Ministry to the Discipleship Ministry, and Heidi Messier moved from the Discipleship Ministry to the Personnel Ministry
- Abby Gatliff promoted from Interim Youth Director (part-time) to Assistant Minister for Student and Family Discipleship (full-time)
- Dallas Knight hired as Ministry Intern for Youth Discipleship

### **Staff Liaisons**

Ministry members continued to meet with assigned staff members to keep in touch with them and to discuss any issues they may encounter.

### **Staff Compensation**

The budget allowed the ministry to approve an increase in compensation for the staff effective January 2021. All staff members received the same percentage increase.

The ministry and the Session approved a change in the terms of call of Rev. Dr. Ed Hurley to increase his compensation the same percentage as the rest of the staff. Per section G-2.0804 of the PC(USA) Book of Order, this change was presented for approval at the January 24, 2021 congregational meeting. The motion passed, and the terms of the change were reported to the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley for their records.

### **Assistant Ministers**

Abby Gatliff was promoted to Assistant Minister for Student and Family Discipleship upon graduation from Beeson School of Divinity in May. Cort Gatliff continued in his role as Assistant Minister for Discipleship. The presbytery, at their August meeting, approved Abby and Cort to move from Inquirer status to Candidate status. This is the final step in the process before call and ordination as Minister of Word and Sacrament in the PC(USA).

### **Family and Medical Leave**

The ministry reviewed the church policy on extended family or medical leave for employees. After researching the policies of other organizations, the ministry approved substantial changes to the SHPC that will benefit all employees. These changes were reviewed with the staff and incorporated into the Employee Procedures Manual.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Garner, Chair

## **Annual Report of the Shared Life in Christ Committee 2021**

It has been a year of return to activity with modifications as to how and which activities we could have.

Our first attempt at Give Love/Get Love was very well received. Members communicated via note, phone call or personal visit with other members assigned to them. The stories that members shared indicate the desire for more personal communication and this is a program the committee would like to expand.

The church picnic was a little different this year with Joe and the kitchen providing boxed meals. We socially distanced outside but had good attendance, and despite no grilling we had a great time.

Our first Ice Cream Social in 2 years honored all new members from 2019 and 2020 and was the first indoor event that was allowed by the Covid task force. Many gallons of ice cream were enjoyed by all in attendance.

We managed to have 3 in person Discovery classes this year and welcomed 9 new members to our SHPC fellowship. It was great to meet and interact with the new members in person instead of via zoom. All quickly became active in the life of SHPC.

Larry Michael restarted Wednesday Night Live in person programming with "Let my People Go Go". The event included a live band, costumes, food and games. Prior to live events, he had speakers of community interest that were viewed via zoom or livestream.

Bob's Tigers, our SHPC softball team, continued under the awesome management of Wilbur Holaday with help from Drew Bonner and Nick Goudreau in recruiting players. As usual, the cheering section was well attended and this year was an especially welcome outside event for those who were tired of COVID restricted activities.

As outside activities seemed to be the safest type of gathering in this continued pandemic, the committee offered fans an opportunity to attend a Baron's Baseball game during summer and a Legion soccer match in the fall.

During the brief period when food and mask restrictions were lifted, Sunday celebration following the 11:00 service resumed.

One pop up lunch was held at Surin West with 10 members and 1 guest attending. We enjoyed great food and fellowship.

An especially big thanks goes out to the members of the committee: Tim Chandler, Janice Cotton, Karen Weeks, Daniel Hightower, John Yeilding, and Mark Ezell who did a lot of outside the box brainstorming this year to allow us to fellowship. Thanks too to Isabeth Gannon who faithfully maintained and continues to update all the membership statistics for the church.

Respectfully submitted.

Cathie Bonner

# Church Membership Statistics

## Annual Report to the Congregation

<b>ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP</b>	<b>12-31-20</b>	<b>617</b>
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### ITEMS FOR 2021

<b>ADDITIONS</b>		<b>+8</b>
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Professions of Faith	0
Reaffirmations of Faith	5
Transfers of Church Letter	2
Rejoin	1

<b>LOSSES</b>		<b>-18</b>
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Death	7
Deletions	5
Transfers to Other Churches	6

<b>ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP</b>	<b>12-31-21</b>	<b>607</b>
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Residents	514
Non-Residents	93
Females	350
Males	268
Non-confirmed Children	94
Affiliates	5
Active membership (607) + Children (94) =	707

### **ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP + NON-CONFIRMED CHILDREN**

607 Active Members + 94 Non-confirmed Children	<b>12-31-21</b>	<b>701</b>
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### **BIRTHS**

04/20/21	Amelia Jane Blighton, infant daughter of Kelly and Casey Blighton
05/24/21	Ann Hollis Morris, infant daughter of John and Fran Morris
07/31/21	Anne Margaret Vick, infant daughter of Josh and Mary Margaret Vick
10/23/21	Marjorie Elaine McGill, infant daughter of Max and Mary Martin McGill



**BAPTISMS**

02/14/21 Hunter James Buck, infant son of Hardie and Rachel Buck  
06/20/21 Annie Vick, infant daughter of Josh and Mary Margaret Vick  
07/04/21 Henry Hunter Mize, infant son of Hunter and Catherine Mize  
07/04/21 Kelly Gray Hurley, infant son of Stuart and Tracy  
10/21/21 Amelia Blighton, infant daughter of Kelly and Casey Blighton  
11/07/21 Annie Hollis Morris, infant daughter of John and Fran Morris  
11/21/21 Roy Glover

**WEDDINGS PERFORMED AT SOUTH HIGHLAND**

05/29/21 Meghan Levant and Jeff Burke (NM)  
07/31/21 Carden McCoy and Jackson Hauser (NM)  
09/17/21 Alexis Bartlewsky and Jack Byers (NM)  
12/04/21 Adair Moody and Colin Winkler

**DEATHS**

02/09/21 Martha Cowan  
04/29/21 Katherine Parker  
05/19/21 Martin (Mac) Edwards  
06/20/21 Pat Smith  
11/03/21 Jane Wilson  
11/13/21 Mary Katherine Stringfellow  
11/25/21 Madeline Burr

## **2021 Annual Report Worship Ministry**

The Year of 2021 has been rather difficult for most people, which includes the South Highland Worship Ministry. Our existing live stream services has allowed us to continue presenting each service to the entire congregation, even though we are now allowed to have in-person services. We began live streaming in March of 2021 and to this date have been met with minimal complications. Many thanks to John Heiser for his faithfulness in coordinating this live streaming and keeping it up to date. The live streaming has been a blessing in maintaining a chance for each of us to view our services in the comfort and safety of our own homes. This gives those of us who choose, because of Covid, to not attend the in-person services a chance to worship with everyone.

Since the beginning of this year, we have had many faithful people including church staff and members, who have stepped up to help make our Sunday services, required meetings, and circle groups continue. Members of the worship ministry have continued to do their part in making the church Sanctuary safe for those who have started back to in-person services. Matthew Grauberger has continued to stay updated on how the choir can safely sing with the congregation in the sanctuary. Dr. Jim Dorroh has continued to provide us with his faithful playing of the organ to accompany our choir. He has also made use of the organs recording system, so that we could be blessed with his music, even when he is not actual present. This was accomplished with the help of Kelly Blighen working the controls.

The worship ministry had to make some changes as to how we worship, especially with the ushers and the serving of the communion elements. In our attempt at making communion safer, we have continued to purchase the small communion chalices, which contain both a bread waver and juice on opposite ends. We are continually making use of the directional signs, which were made by Wendy & Steve Berryhill. We did have a moment of relief with the virus and was able to remove the pew dividers. However, this did not last for very long and we are back to allowing seating in every other pew. Garland Stansell has continued with his scheduling of the Lay Readers, so that someone is always present for the reading of God's word during each service. Jack Featheringill continued to see that ushers were present when needed for each service and other special events. Jack made certain he had ushers scheduled throughout the year for both services.

Wendy Berryhill, Jack Featheringill, and I served on the Church Reopening Task Force Committee, as representatives of the Worship Ministry. We have met most Wednesday evenings through ZOOM and continually watched the increases or decreases of the Covid Virus numbers. This committee has allowed the reopening of several group meetings and the restart of the 8:30 and 11:00 services, however both services are currently being held in the Sanctuary for the safety of everyone attending. The committee will continue to watch the effects of the different viruses within our community, while being mindful of our church and its needs for our congregation.

I also wish to thank all the others on the worship committee and members of our church congregation, who were not mentioned, but have been very helpful with making this year a success in reaching out to our congregation and making our services each Sunday alive with the spirit of Christ.

I have agreed to serve an additional year on the Worship Committee, filling Jack Featheringill's vacancy. I am happy to announce that Kelly Blighton will be the upcoming Chair for the Worship Committee.

Respectively Submitted:

Worship Ministry Chair

Jim Harpenau

## **Martha's Guild Report**

Operation Budget:

Members:

Elizabeth Ezell

Debbie Laws

Janet Perry

Lilette Robinson

Kay Smith

Mary Margaret Yeilding

Chair:

Elsa Holaday

Work of the Committee:

- \* To serve in Joy and Love

- \* Cleaning of the Communion linens each month throughout the year for the Chapel and Sanctuary, in preparation and celebration of the Holy Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.

- \*All silver is cleaned and polished, all paraments and linens are repaired, restored and properly stored.

- \*New linens are given as a gift from committee members.

- \*Cleaning of the Sacristy throughout the year.

- \*Coordinate with Worship Ministry for upcoming Liturgical Seasons.

Respectfully,

Elsa R. Holaday

**Board of Deacons**  
**Annual Report to the Congregation**  
**Calendar Year 2021**

The deacons continued to minister on behalf of South Highland Presbyterian Church through various outreach activities to help address the needs and situations of our members, our homebound members, and community individuals in the greater Birmingham area.

Phone calls and cards were especially important again this year, as we continued to be challenged by the COVID-19 pandemic. Regular contact was made with the homebound, and with those who experienced illness, death(s), births and other life events. Cards were sent as appropriate expressing sympathy, congratulations or encouragement. Sue Koch coordinated the card ministry throughout the year.

The “Casserole Posse” met a few times throughout the year to prepare casseroles in order to stock the church freezers to be used to minister to members throughout the year as needs arose. During the second half of the year approximately 40 casseroles were delivered to members and others. Barbara Hayslip coordinated this ministry.

The deacons made sure that a rose was purchased and placed on the chancel during the Sunday service for births to members of the South Highland family immediately after each birth. The rose was delivered to the family, along with a casserole, in the days immediately after. Barbara Hayslip coordinated this recognition and ministry.

We were glad to be able to hold the *All-Saints* Luncheon on Sunday, November 7. Joe prepared a nice boxed lunch and soup that the deacons served to the family members of those who had lost loved ones during the previous twelve months. There were 35 family members who attended the luncheon and heard a presentation from Larry Michael on dealing with grief. Garland Stansell worked with Joe, Dina and Jeannie to coordinate the luncheon.

Heidi Messier coordinated the Angel Tree ministry again in 2021. It was another big success due to the generosity and caring of South Highland Members in ensuring that both children and adults in Birmingham had a nice Christmas. In total, 46 children and 43 adults, representing 17 families, were provided gifts for the holiday.

The majority of the deacons met in early December at the home of Barbara and Vic Hayslip to assemble gift bags to be delivered to the 36 South Highland homebound members. The bags contained hand cream, books of word puzzles and games, mints, a deck of playing cards, and homemade cookies prepared by each deacon.

For the second consecutive year we were unable to hold the luncheons for members who reside at Kirkwood by the river, Galleria Woods and Brookdale due to limited access at these facilities because of the pandemic and risk of transmission of the virus.

We pray for God’s blessing on SHPC and our members in the New Year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Hayslip and Garland Stansell  
2021 Deacon Board Co-chairs



## **Presbyterian Women Annual Report to the Congregation**



### **Presbyterian Women at South Highland**

We completed the PW 2020-2021 study *"Into the Light: Finding Hope Through the Prayers of Lament"* by Lynn Miller. Circles met primarily via Zoom, with some meeting outside weather permitting. This was an important study for this place and this time. Considering that many of the PW members in two of the four circles have little experience with technology, the consistent participation for the majority of members was amazing and humbling. Currently, we are studying *"What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus"*.

Offerings for both local and national efforts continued throughout the year and include items for the South Highland Center, a financial gift to Bridge Ministries, and the Birthday Offering. In front of the chapel after the 11:00 service on Pentecost, PW celebrated our perseverance throughout the past year, the Birthday offering, and recognizing our Life Member Awards; Sue Keith and Jane French. Robyn Nichols will be Moderator beginning this summer, with Diane Cleveland, Holli Garner, Kathy Tracey, and Pam Buck continuing in their current roles. Throughout the fall and into Advent, our circles found ways to meet, study, and do mission. We look forward to the new year!

## **South Highland Center Annual Report to the Congregation**

As of April 12, 2021, the South Highland Center reopened after 13 months of being closed due to, of course, Covid 19. Initially, we had a slow start as we require all staff and clients to be fully vaccinated. Throughout the remaining 8 ½ months of the year we served a total of 38 clients. We currently have 22 clients on caseload who attend different days during the week.

We are very thankful for the support that we receive in the form of scholarships from South Highland and Alzheimer's of Central Alabama. Currently, 14 of our clients receive ACA scholarships. The SHPC scholarships are given monthly based on family need. SHPC and ACA are great allies of The South Highland Center. Church members not only participated in the Annual Alzheimer's Walk but donated on an individual basis above and beyond their participation in the fundraiser held here at the church. This year our team had a total donation to the walk of over \$4000.00.

As I always say, this Center could not be as successful a mission if it were not for the Congregation of this Church. Thank you for all you do.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Alison Walker







