

Pastor's Report 2021

Dear Friends,

Another year of COVID has come and gone, yet we are still God's Church in the world.

Your session has been hard at work this year in prayer and discernment about the future of OPC, and while there is still no clear answer, we trust in God's perfect timing and provision.

This year I have been blessed by your faithfulness and support. I have been able to start my Doctor of Ministry degree in Reformed theology. Though my classes have been over zoom so far, I have already grown in knowledge and understanding of my ministry and call. I was also able to participate in CREDO, a conference on sabbath hosted by the PCUSA.

This past year has also been on filled with transitions and needed flexibility. We have had to go from online to in-person worship more than once. I know this is frustrating, but I am also glad we are doing what we can to keep each other safe. I pray we will be back in=person again soon.

Your session will continue to be hard at work in prayer and discernment this year. Please take time to read in this packet ways we have been at work for God.

Grace and peace be with you all,

Pastor Rebekah

Communications Team Annual Report 2021

Background

The Communications Team is responsible for both internal and external communications for OPC. The team administers a blend of traditional and new media. The team includes: Ralph Graves (Team Leader), Rebekah Tucker-Motley (Pastor), Chelsea Holt (Get Vie account representative) and Jeff Norberg (Webmaster).

The team maintains and creates content for the church's social media channels. It also provides publicity information to the Orange Review.

Changing needs

In 2021 there were times when the congregation could gather safely together to worship and meet. And times when we couldn't. The team strove to be consistent in our communications throughout these shifting circumstances.

The monthly newsletter was phased out in 2020. Towards the end of the run, the newsletter consisted of just three articles: the Treasurer's report, Session highlights, and a history article. No other committees or groups were submitting articles.

The series of history articles finished with the 175th Anniversary in November. The Treasurer's report and Session highlights moved to the Tuesday memo, along with calendar updates.

Tuesday Memo

This weekly e-mail continues to be our primary form of communication. The open rate remains about 68%, as it did at the end of 2020. Members of the team will be attending a digital communications workshop offered by Union Presbyterian Seminary this February. One of the courses will be in e-mail best practices. We're expecting using these will make the Tuesday Memo more effective.

Facebook

In 2021, we decreased the number of boosted posts (paid ads) on Facebook. Even with less paid placement, the number of followers continued to grow. Of greater importance is that the number of people engaged with our posts grew, too.

Engagement is defined as either opening a post (clicking on "read more"), reacting to a post ("liking"), or following a link in a post. In other words, more people were actively reading and reacting to our content than before.

In January 2021, our Facebook page had 206 followers.

In January 2022, it had 233.

Website

This past year we transitioned away from video services, though we continue to post audio versions. This year we added “OPC News and Views,” which serves as a blog for the church. It was here that the weekly history articles were posted. Traffic numbers were consistent with the previous year’s figures.

In 2020, we had 3,884 visitors viewing over 9,900 pages.

In 2021, we had 4,172 visitors viewing 9,896 pages.

Podcast

OPC launched a podcast in 2020, “Church Work Orange.” In this podcast, the pastor and music director discussed what went into a weekly service. The podcast posted five episodes in its first season, with 45 subscribers.

Instagram

In 2020 the team also launched a church Instagram account. Facebook owns Instagram, and they made it easy to post cross-platform. The number of followers is small – about a 36 – but we expect this to grow with consistent posting.

Twitter

Our Twitter account experienced modest growth in 2020. The team developed a content calendar to ensure consistent posting. This is an essential tool for maintaining and growing audiences. Our Twitter feed currently has 147 followers.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph Graves
Communications Team Leader

Mission and Congregational Care Committee 2021 Annual Report

The work of the Church is never done! We work year-round to help be disciples in our community and to extend warm expression of our church's care to all members. This goal is to strengthen bonds of community and fellowship.

This year we hosted 6 blood drives for the American Red Cross. The average was 30 pints each time. Great thanks to Joanna Davies for heading this up.

The OPC Pandemic Notes and cards program ran from March 2020 until April 16 2021. Many thanks to all the writers.

This year Jennie Hill Robinson was in charge of the Yard Sale. All proceeds (\$1885) went to the Christian Emergency Council.

We awarded a scholarship from the Elinor and Jean Preschool Scholarship.

We decided not to do the Bazaar this year but plan to do so again in 2022.

The scarf, hat and glove and socks Blessing Line were huge successes.

The Blessing Box continues to be visited almost daily.

The committee worked with Session to provide a one year scholarship to the Shady Grove Academy, a private Christian preschool school and school in memory of Pat Stewart; To provide art scholarships at Orange Art Center in Memory of Joyce and Syd Palmer and concert Funding to the Community Chorus in Memory of Lavinia Philips.

We continue to support local, national, and International Mission work. We send funding to the Local Love Outreach Food and Clothes Closet, Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands, Medical Benevolence Foundation, SAFE.

We celebrated our graduates in June and gave a goodbye gift to Erica Nelson.

We continue to supply devotionals to those requesting them. Birthday cards, Easter cards and Christmas cards were sent to the congregation. Our members at Dogwood Village received a visit and an amaryllis for Christmas.

Cindy Corelle Missionary to Haiti spoke with our congregation in the fall.

We mourned the death of Nancy Crowder on Oct 3, 2021. A reception was held in the Fellowship Hall on Oct 11.

We continue to be hopeful that our world will heal and so that we can come back together in greater numbers to do things face to face and to continue to reach out God's Hand to our world.

Respectfully

The Mission and Congregational Care Committee

Covenant Review OPC Annual Report 2021

The following changes staff changes occurred in 2021:

- Feb, 2021 Emily Manuel resigned for personal reasons related to Covid
- Melanie Rose was hired as a book keeper. She returned to the office one day a week for 4-6 hours/week.
- Clerk Ralph Graves and Pastor Rebekah Tucker Motley temporarily assumed all the non financial office responsibilities.
- Design by Vie was hired to create the newsletter and weekly memos. Rebekah has continued to perform all the office duties not covered by Design by Vie. At this time with all the Covid restrictions and uncertainties, a new Office Administrator has not been hired. Once the church can be open full time, we will look at hiring an Office Administrator.
- Chelsea Holt's job title was changed from Interim Music Director to Music Director.
- The church continues to be cleaned by the Safety Committee and volunteers. When the church opens up to more organizations on a routine basis, we will look at hiring someone to clean on a regular basis.

The Movement of the Spirit Committee Annual Report for 2021

Reorganization and name change

Early in 2021, the committee structure was reorganized. The Worship and Music Committee merged with the Christian Education Committee. This created a new committee overseeing all aspects of Christian worship and study. The Communications Team was also placed under the supervision of this committee.

The new committee chose Movement of the Spirit as their new name. The committee defined itself as follows:

The Movement of the Spirit Committee coordinates worship services. It also helps our growth in our understanding of the gospel. The committee aids the pastor with providing Christian education opportunities for all ages.

It also keeps the congregation informed of activities that affect the life of the church. And it helps spread the word of God to the local community and the wider world as well.

Lent and Easter

We were limited in the number of times we could safely gather in person to worship. Ash Wednesday activities were sent to the children of the church. Lenten devotionals were mailed out. The pastor sent out weekly devotional activity kits to OPC's children during Lent.

Our Maundy Thursday service was held via Zoom. The Safety Team determined it was safe to meet in person for the Palm Sunday and Easter services.

Ordinary Time

At the beginning of summer, the committee recommended moving worship to 10:00 AM. This was approved by Session. There was no significant change in attendance moving from 11:00 AM to 10:00 AM. So in the fall, the committee recommended to Session that worship remain at 10:00 AM.

Fred Holbrook, Interim General Presbyter for the Presbytery of the James led us in worship on August 1.

In October, the church held an outdoor Blessing of the Animals service. There were more people than animals attending, but only by a small margin.

Advent and Christmas

We were able to worship in person during this season. The pastor prepared devotionals for each Sunday in Advent.

We held a Blue Christmas service on Wednesday, December 15. This is a healing service for those who are suffering or want to remember loved ones during this season.

The Christmas Eve service was celebrated at 5:30 pm. The following Sunday, December 26, we held a Service of Lessons and Carols.

Christian Education

In June and July, OPC offered a book study. “Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the United States” by Rev. Lenny Duncan was the topic. In the study, participants looked at worship from a different perspective. The discussion centered around how OPC, as a Matthew 25 congregation, can work towards racial justice locally.

In August, a Matthew 25 Study Group started. This group explored what it meant to be a Matthew 25 congregation. Originally, the study was to last just two meetings. But the discussions proved so lively that the group kept meeting monthly through December!

In December we held a Christmas Bible Study on December 22. This study looked at the Christmas Story and the traditions that grew up around it.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph Graves,
Committee co-chair

The OPC History Covenant Group Annual Report for 2021

Since Covid spoiled any and all plans in 2020 to celebrate Orange Presbyterian Church's 175th Anniversary, I decided to write something every week about the history of our church starting in 2021.

I had no idea when I started where it would take me. I was amazed and entertained by all that I found as I dug thru notebooks and numerous "histories" that thankfully had been stored in the church record room. I read Session minutes....very very old Session minutes. They were handwritten in elaborate script which I found painful to read, but I persevered.

I created a temporary "wall" in the Narthex so I could post every week something of interest. That turned out to be challenging but rewarding.

The stumbling block was writing about the Holladay family and getting everything right. The family included several generations of devoted saints of this church....some with identical names! Letters were found in my grandmother's desk that explained how the hymnal boards hanging in the sanctuary, dedicated to Leland Lord, were designed and fabricated. What a treasure to have that information in writing.

I used the Facebook page "You are probably from Orange, Va. if you remember" to hopefully get answers to questions about our church and made several exciting connections...two being our pastor (1954) Dick Taylor's daughter and son. The articles I wrote were posted online thru the church's website and a few more people reached out to me from there.

I stopped writing at the end of October and knew my work was not done. OPC has been rich with members and their families who have been dedicated to serve...I could have gone on much longer. I signed off with a letter of gratitude exactly one year later....November 8, 2021...our 176th anniversary.

Anne Somerville and I are now in the process of sorting thru all we have collected in the past few years and putting things in order so anyone at anytime can find our church history and enjoy it.

Jennie Hill Robinson, OPC History Covenant Group

OPC PROPERTY COMMITTEE/ SAFETY TEAM 2021 Annual Report

The Property Committee consists of Gene Whitaker, Lloyd Parcell, Buckshot Clements, Robert Kendall, Ted Haberland, Lynn Clements, and Pastor Rebekah Tucker-Motley.

This year the Property Committee combined efforts with the Safety Team to form one group.

The purpose of this committee is to care for the church physical assets both inside and outside and create a comfortable and safe environment for the church staff, church members, all visitors, and other community groups. Also, the Safety Team constantly reviews the status of the pandemic and recommends appropriate safety measures to protect our congregation, the Preschool, and outside groups.

Among the tasks associated with these goals are weekly cleaning and sanitizing of the usable portions of the church, weekly cleaning of the outside debris and mowing the grass, monthly testing of the fire extinguishers and exit signs around the entire church, frequent checks of the doors, heat and air systems, lighting, and plumbing.

We also completed some major construction projects in 2021.

Safety items included adding four smoke detectors around the church, repaired the exit signs and emergency exit lights, changed the exit door locks and handles, and fixed the exterior lights.

The brick wall at the intersection of Main Street and Caroline Street was replaced and the Fellowship Hall brick walls were repointed.

Inside renovations included repainting the Preschool rooms, installed new LED ceiling lights, cleaned and waxed the Preschool floors and Fellowship Hall, cleaned the carpet in the Sanctuary basement, and Lloyd built a new organ bench.

Outside renovations included the roof replacement over the Kitchen, East Room air conditioner replacement, new parking lot signs, concrete parking curbs repaired and repainted, and the exterior doors repainted.

Monthly, the Committee reviewed and approved multiple requests to use our facilities by public groups.

Throughout all of this work, God has led us with vigor and enthusiasm to make OPC a better place and a safe place for all God's children.

Orange Presbyterian Church, Endowment Committee Report for Annual Meeting
(January 2022)

Members of the committee: Carol Hebrance, Susan Southard, Lynn Clements, Jim Reid, Cindy Reid, Rebekah Tucker-Motley, Robert Kendall (chair)

Narrative: during 2020 and 2021 the committee considered some issues and options concerning the future management of OPC's endowment. The endowment is currently with Merrill Lynch and is managed by Martin Harar at Merrill's Charlottesville office.

A report was presented to the session at its August meeting. The session decided not to make any changes in the management of the endowment at this time, but may revisit these issues in the future.

The next meeting of the committee will be at 5pm on Wednesday February 2nd via Zoom.

Totals for the endowment are as follows for the past two calendar years

	December 31, 2020	December 31,2021
Total	531,358	600,845.37
Bailey		14,404.36
Benevolence		103,488.45
Building-Property		81,125.35
Hamilton		9,687.03
Hazard		270,512.40
Hebrance		43,062.21
Reserve Fund		78,565.57

Respectfully reported on behalf of the committee,

Robert Kendall, chair

January 26, 2022

ORANGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - 2022 BUDGET

Account #	Account Name	Annual Budget
<i>Income</i>		
400.100	Undesignated (Pledges)	73,210.00
400.350	Facilities Use	1,000.00
400.400	Loose Cash	1,500.00
400.430	Expected Income	60,167.00
	Total Income	\$135,877.00
<i>Expense</i>		
500.371	Cong Care - Kitchen Supplies	75.00
500.372	Cong Care - Devotionals	115.00
500.377	Cong Care – Graduate Gifts	50.00
500.378	Cong Care – Discretionary Fund	250.00
500.700	M&O - Work of Larger Church	2,760.00
500.742	M&O – Food Pantry	200.00
500.743	M&O – Medical Benevolence Fund	200.00
	Total CC & M&O	\$3,650.00
500.620	W&M - Supplies	250.00
500.621	W&M - Supply Pastor	1,400.00
500.625	W&M - Substitute Organist	600.00
500.800	Spiritual - Adult Ministry	300.00
500.810	Spiritual - Youth Ministry	200.00
500.845	Spiritual – Nursery Supervisor	1,200.00

500.850	Spiritual – Nursery Supplies	35.00
500.855	Spiritual – Confirmation Recognition	50.00
500.400	Comm – Facebook Testing	100.00
	Total Movement of the Spirit	\$4,135.00
500.210	Admin - Office Supplies	1,300.00
500.220	Admin - Copier Maint./Supplies	650.00
500.240	Admin - Emergency Assistance	400.00
500.260	Admin - Software Support	425.00
500.275	Admin – Web Design	3,000.00
500.280	Admin - Postage	600.00
	Total Admin	\$6,375.00
500.520	Property - Maintenance	2,500.00
500.530	Property & General Insurance	6,000.00
500.540	Property - Electricity	6,500.00
500.550	Property - Heating Oil	4,000.00
500.560	Property - Water & Sewer	1,500.00
500.570	Property - Telephone	1,500.00
	Total Property	\$22,000.00
500.900	Pers - Pastor's Salary (cash)	26,370.00
500.901	Pers- Pastor's Sal (housing)	21,630.00
500.902	Pers - Pastor's SECA	3,672.00
500.903	Pers - Pastor's Continuing Ed	3,000.00
500.905	Pers - Pastor's Mileage	1,000.00

500.906	Pers - Pastor's Annuity/Ins	17,760.00
500.910	Pers - Admin Asst Salary	7,000.00
500.912	Pers - Admin Asst FICA	541.00
500.918	Pers – Bookkeeper Salary	3,214.00
500.920	Pers – Custodian (Contrator)	3,248.00
500.985	Pers – Director of Music/Organist	11,330.00
500.986	Pers - Director of Music/Organist FICA	877.00
	Total Personnel	\$99,642.00
500.100	Disc - Stewardship	75.00
	Total Discipleship	\$75.00
	Total Expense	\$135,877.00
	Difference	<u>0.00</u>