Knollwood
Annual Report

August 2020
April 2021
TO OUR PHOTOGRAPHERS

Thanks for sharing your work illustrating this year of challenges and safe solutions.
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LOOKING FOR GOD’S NEW DAY

Several years ago, I read a book about a chapter of history I knew almost nothing about: *Flu: The Story of the Great Influenza Pandemic of 1918 and the Search for the Virus that Caused It.*

The book was an engrossing account of the 1918 pandemic that killed more American soldiers than died in World War I. Worldwide, the “Great Flu Epidemic” took an estimated 40 million lives.

During my reading of the book, I often thought, “Those poor souls. How sad, how tragic, that they didn’t have the benefit of penicillin and all the other miracles of modern medicine!”

Then it happened to us.

Granted, the world fared far better during this once-in-a-century pandemic than during the last one. But it turned out that despite all the scientific advances in the intervening years, our state, nation, and world were a lot more vulnerable to the Coronavirus than I ever imagined we would be.

When our church, along with the rest of the culture, went into lockdown in March of 2020, I thought we’d be back to business as usual in 90 days. Now, more than a year later, we are still not back to “normal” and whatever the new normal turns out to be, it will not be the same as the old one.

Thankfully, our church’s lay leaders and staff rose to the many challenges the pandemic brought Knollwood in a magnificent way. In very short order, we learned how to Zoom, meet remotely, post our services and other offerings online, and more recently, to live-stream effectively. Meanwhile, some of us Luddites were pulled kicking and screaming into the Facebook world.

It’s hard to assess, much less write history, when you’re in the middle of it, but I believe this year’s annual report will prove more important than most. Why? Because it is an informal, anecdotal, almost accidental account of how our church survived, thrived, innovated, and morphed during this last epoch-making year.

Knowing I wanted this annual report to provide a “history” of sorts for future Knollwoodians, I asked Terry Oberle, a retired journalist in our church, to write a brief overview of this pivotal year at KBC. His most helpful article, “Knollwood’s Journey: A Year of COVID-19,” appears on the next page.

Then, beyond Terry’s overview, one will find a number of articles and reports that chronicle how various groups within our congregation met the unique challenges and demands of re-creating “church” during a pandemic. I am proud of what they did and as you read their stories, I believe you will be proud of them too.

At long last, we are beginning to see hints of the next chapter of Knollwood’s unfolding life with God. Under the able leadership of our Med-Team, and now the Re•Gathering Team, we are moving to safely and slowly re-gather and reconstitute our congregation on the Wooded Knoll. It is a relief and a joy to begin seeing one another in person again, even if for a while yet, handshakes and hugs still elude us.

But at least now, like a weary sentinel hungering for the dawn, we are able to anticipate God’s new day peeking over the horizon. And not just for us, but for the world.

It’s too soon to know exactly what that new day will look like and live like but this much we know: It won’t be the same as the old days but by the grace of God, this dawning of God’s tomorrow will be rich and full and good.

Whatever comes, I’m deeply grateful to be sharing and building this future at Knollwood with you.

Blessings,

Bob Setzer, Jr.
Knollwood Baptist Church has always been about people: church members and those we serve alongside in the community. Love and concern for people became the motivation for Knollwood’s response to the Coronavirus pandemic when government mandates banned in-person gatherings in March 2020.

Knollwood is not without astute leadership and people willing to follow its direction and supplement it. The Deacon Executive Committee called on church members who are physicians to form a Med Team to advise clergy and church leaders concerning the safest procedures for continuing worship, education and service. The first order of business was to find ways to maintain contact through worship, study and small groups – without meeting in person.

Thank God – literally – for technology and the people who understand how to use it. Video transmissions through the internet proved to be the best avenue, first for the Sunday worship services, then for the remainder of the church calendar. The Sunday service grew from smart-phone transmissions that seemed a bit disjointed, to well-edited video recordings, complete with inspiring music. Now, as we begin our gradual return to in-person services, the Sunday service is streaming live from our sanctuary.

In other areas of church life Zoom meetings have been beneficial, if not totally satisfying from a social standpoint. The Diaconate, in particular, can cover a myriad of topics in a short time, but we miss the camaraderie of an in-person gathering. The ministers serving KBC children and youth have used the internet to stay in touch with our young people, but the kids have missed playing together. With many of us confined to home, various members have uplifted us with regular devotional material on the KBC Facebook group. Bambi Setzer showed us original photographs with Bible verses, Melanie Wilkinson gave us a “hymn for the day” and Dan Knight played a different piano solo every day for over a year. These were treasured blessings.

KBC has tried to maintain contact among and with its people. Knollwood Cares has made a concerted effort, similar to a “wellness check,” to connect with members who have limited access to technology. In addition, teams have sent cards and notes to members who have been especially isolated during the pandemic, to those with short-term needs and to folks who have suffered the loss of a loved one. The Diaconate initiated a calling project to check in with all member households, both in the fall and again in the spring. And our amazing staff has kept us connected with regular emails announcing worship, study and service opportunities.

The need to retain personal contact as well as to serve within the larger community has led to some new projects and some adaptations for old ones.

To keep the Bolton Food Pantry viable in a year of greatest need, a dozen KBC members, led by Beth Fields, have partnered with Wesley Memorial Methodist Church and Trinity Presbyterian to distribute food to parents and families of students at Bolton Elementary. The former “grocery store” model had to change to a “drive through,” but the bi-weekly connections among community friends have been priceless.

In its third year, the Faith in the City discussion forum organized by KBC members continued via Zoom. In response to the unfolding health crisis, series leaders focused on how challenges during the pandemic have revealed significant educational inequities. Each month, community leaders described existing inequities and reported on current projects that are addressing the needs of students who have significantly fewer resources. This forum for educational change is attracting participants both locally and statewide, forging important community partnerships and informing our mission support decisions.

Project Mask originated with KBC congregants Marissa Joyce and Melissa Vickers and ultimately involved about 3,000 volunteers. The project produced 210,000 masks for the community, valuable support during the crucial early stage of the pandemic.

Remote Learning Centers became a major need in August through November when the local schools were restricted to on-line learning. Knollwood, in partnership with Imprints Cares, opened the doors of the Noffsinger Building to be used as an
RLC for children with limited access to technology and for students whose parents worked essential jobs away from home. Other remote centers were supported by KBC mission dollars and a Knollwood-sponsored school supply drive.

Our food ingathering to support Crisis Control, normally done in November after worship, became a drive-by weekend event in the fall, and a second food drive sponsored by our Boy Scouts in February filled the big truck again.

**Lessons learned:**

*Knollwood folks respond generously to the needs of our neighbors.* KBC’s financial commitment had been steady leading up to 2020, but it had never been tested by ten months without worship in the sanctuary. At year end when all the numbers had been crunched, the church had a surplus (above and beyond the $150,000 budgeted and spent on mission support). That $91,600 surplus was disbursed by MAAC to address crucial community needs.

*Knollwood also realized the creativity of its staff and congregation.* The Monday Men’s group brought lawn chairs and met on the campus grounds. The breezeway between buildings A and B became the setting for beautiful recorded music and for a Service of Memory in December. The Memorial Garden hosted a prayer group, a family drumming experience and a Lenten Walk. Our amazing staff kept finding new ways for us to be the church, safely and “socially-distanced.”

*KBC embraced new avenues of technology that will enable us to connect with even more people beyond the duration of COVID-19.* Zoom meetings and live-streamed worship are now accessible when we choose them.

Knollwood also confirmed that a *key part of our DNA is a commitment to the larger community we are a part of – forming partnerships, making friends and sharing our resources.*

Throughout the past year our congregation has gained a communal self-confidence as we responded to this pandemic. As Dr. Bob said in the KnollWord of August 2020, “Knollwood never closed.” That reality, that statement of pride, will be shared by members of all ages for their lifetimes.

And after all we have experienced, we are eager to gather in the narthex again.

*Terry Oberle*

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**REPORT FROM THE DIACONATE**

The Diaconate and Deacon Executive Council (DEC) continued to provide servant leadership to our church in the 2020-21 pandemic church year. Due to the pandemic, normal deacon activities like greeting, serving communion, and offering homebound communion did not happen. However, deacons of the week continued to read scripture for the Sunday morning service via videos recorded at home or by participating in the recorded services in the sanctuary. The monthly DEC meetings and bi-monthly Diaconate meetings continued via Zoom.

Instead of a leadership symposium on a Saturday morning in September, deacons, committee chairs and vice-chairs, ministry team leaders, and other church leaders participated in a series of hour-long Zoom workshops and discussions over a six-week period in the fall.

We re-envisioned and restructured the Knollwood Cares teams to serve the needs of the congregation in the pandemic. The teams will again be reconsidered for relevance and need next fall.

In October and November, the deacons, office staff (including Lisa Ehlers and Robin Spainhour), and other volunteers collaborated on a major product to call every KBC household to learn how members were doing in the pandemic, what their needs might be, and if their contact information in the church directory was up to date. Gail Anderson led this project, with additional leadership from Sandra Boyette as well as Trina Jackson and Debbie Pruitt as leaders of the Caring Connections Team. This calling project was repeated in late winter. The deacon goals of member engagement and racial equity continued for another year. See below for details.

The DEC continued to work closely with the Medical Team and is also working closely with the ReGathering ad hoc group.

*Steve Cramer, Diaconate Chair*

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**Deacon Executive Council (DEC) 2020-2021**

Chair – Steve Cramer
Vice Chair – Carol Danforth
Past Chair – Len Preslar
Secretary – Jon Churn
Director of Administration – Cliff Pennell
Director of Knollwood Cares – Sandra Boyette
Director of Spiritual Formation – Jamie Southern
Director of Worship & Service – Joe Long
DEACON GOAL TEAM: RACIAL EQUITY

Racial equity at Knollwood should not be and is not isolated or marginalized into one committee, task force, or a one-year deacons’ goal. Instead, racial equity permeates and is pursued by all relevant aspects of the church. We recognize that this wide-scale approach can result in a lack of coordination as well as a lack of awareness among church members of the racial equity work happening across the church.

Therefore, in October 2020, the deacons approved the “KBC Deacons Racial Equity Focus,” making the Deacon Executive Council (DEC) the official and ongoing coordinator of racial equity efforts at Knollwood. Building on the work and recommendations of the recent Racial Equity Task Force, this focus has the mission of making “racial equity a part of our Knollwood DNA as much as any social or missional position, not just a free-standing initiative.”

Our goal is to “continue to become educated about racial issues and support racial equity through action”. Faith Formations & Education, All God’s Children, Mission Affiliation and Allocation, Missional Support, and other Knollwood groups were noted as among the key players in racial equity for education and/or action activities. The reports from these groups below will highlight their specific accomplishments. However, the pandemic certainly affected what we were able to do this church year.

Each year, the DEC will oversee a year-end assessment and recording of accomplishments, including reporting each group’s progress in the annual report, updating the “Racial Equity Work Already Done at KBC” list and posting it publicly online, highlighting church allocations toward racial equity work, and, in consultation with the deacons, assessing this plan, our process, and our progress each year.

~ Steve Cramer, Diaconate Chair

DEACON GOAL TEAM: MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT STUDY GROUP

Our group considered various means of strengthening membership engagement, ultimately focusing on communication tools. Our primary recommendation was to set up a new advisory group to serve as a “sounding board” for staff for vetting communication ideas they have, or to help brainstorm new ideas. We suggested this new group be called the Communications Advisory Team (CAT). For the initial year the CAT will be an ad hoc group; thereafter the DEC will consider approval as a formal group. The DEC will appoint members and leadership to the CAT, and it will immediately begin its work. The CAT will have members from our KBC staff and from the DEC. One initial CAT activity will be to advise how to better manage our KBC website.

Len Preslar, Group Leader
Sandra Boyette, Cliff Pennell,
Marissa Joyce, Rebecca Wells,
Carol Danforth

DEACON GOAL TEAM: RACIAL EQUITY

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~ Steve Cramer, Diaconate Chair

KNOLLWOOD MEDICAL ADVISORY TEAM

The Knollwood Baptist Medical Advisory Team (“Medical Team”) was created at the March 2020 meeting of the DEC to advise the Senior Minister, the Personnel Committee and the DEC of the potential health risks of the COVID-19 pandemic and appropriate actions to safeguard our staff and members during the pandemic. All members except the Chair are Medical Doctors. Rebecca Wells also has a Masters’ Degree in Public Health. The Medical Team was a proponent of the recommendations to suspend in-person gatherings at Knollwood for the majority of the year 2020.

For over a year the Medical Team has actively monitored the pandemic and given thoughtful advice to our ministers and staff on whether, when and how we can safely regather in person on the church campus for worship and other activities. The members of the Medical Team know the church, its practices and our membership. The Medical Team is able to apply the more general advice of government, public health officials and cooperative church bodies with our specific Knollwood practices and needs.

Currently, as the vaccinations for COVID-19 are becoming more available and our adult members are being vaccinated at high rates, the ability to gather in person safely is becoming possible for some Knollwood activities. The Medical Team continues to support the church planning process for safe and welcoming in-person sanctuary worship, the return of in-person small group meetings on campus and programs for our entire congregation. This process will be gradual, taking into account the different ways the virus affects age groups and the rollout of the vaccinations. We will continue to rely on the advice of government and public health officials for guidance on safely regathering.

Medical Advisory Team
Chip Mims, David Ramsay,
John Roach, Rebecca Erwin Wells,
Joe Long, Chair
SLATE OF DEACON NOMINEES • Class of 2024

Lindley Curtis
Worship Care; Godly Play storyteller

Committees/Teams:
Faith Formation & Education, chair;
Women's Retreat Planning

Cyndy Jones
Committees/Teams
Recreation
Assisting Worship Committee

Karen Wilson Grippe
Deacon; Kids Cafe Tutor; Greeter

Committees/Teams: MAAC, vice chair;
Personnel, chair; Finance, chair; Mission Action Ministry, co-chair; Finance, Personnel, Bylaws, Nominating, Pastor Search, Medical Missions: Peru/Mexico

Kevin Mauney
Deacon, Tutor: Bolton School/ Syrian family; Usher; SS Teacher (5th/adult); VBS; Worship Care; volunteer for preschool kids

Committees/Teams:
Faith Formation & Education, chair, vice-chair; Children's Ministry; Constitution & By-Laws, chair; Finance; Recreation; Racial Equity Task Force

Chuck Hinson
Deacon, Youth Mentor & Trip Chaperone, Bus Driver

Committees/Teams
Finance, Personnel, Youth Pastor Search, chair; Marriage Enrichment Group Co-Leader; 50th Anniversary Celebration

Rachel Stinehelfer
Deacon, Bolton Backpack Volunteer, Cub Scouts, VBS volunteer, SS teacher for 1st & 2nd, Infant Worship Care

Katy Hites
Deacon, Bolton School tutor, VBS/ Music Camp volunteer, MS Bells

Committees/Teams
Blood Drive, chair; Meals on Wheels, chair; Advent Decorating chair; MAAC, Nominating, Bereavement, Usher, Hospitality

Dorothy Wagener
Chancel Choir, Music/Worship/Audio

Committees/Teams
Music & Worship, chair; Visual Identity Ad Hoc Team, co-chair; Women's Retreat Design/Layout: Music Ministry booklets, Lenten devotional; visitor packet, Women's Retreat materials

DEACON OFFICERS 2021-22

The Deacon Officer Nominating Sub-committee proposed the following slate of officers for the 2021-22 church year. These officers were approved by vote of the current deacons and will make up the Deacon Executive Committee (DEC) beginning Sept. 1, 2021.

Chair – Carol Danforth
Vice Chair – Beth Sanders
Past Chair – Steve Cramer
Director of Administration – Cliff Pennell

Director of Spiritual Formation – Joy Vermillion Heinsohn
Director of Worship and Service – David Winkelman
Director of Knollwood Cares – Sandra Boyette
Secretary – Rebecca Neiberg
Following the protocol established when the pandemic began, four Knollwood Cares teams were active during this period: Caring Connections Team (formerly Hospital Visitation); Vulnerable Members Team; Bereavement Team; and Visitors/New Members Team. The Memorial Receptions and Transportations Teams had to remain inactive. Each of the active teams reached out to members with cards and calls, and provided feedback to the ministers when appropriate. The anecdotal response to ministers and team members from those contacted has been overwhelming appreciation for the continuing connection to our church family.

The **Caring Connections Team**, chaired by Gayle Anderson, was comprised of 16 church member-volunteers who reached out to approximately 15 people with short-term needs during this period (hospitalizations, rehabilitation, etc.). Each person received 2-4 cards, for a total of 30-50 contacts. The names of members who were contacted come from the hospitalization list provided daily by the church office; the prayer needs list from Wednesday nights; e-mails from Ted Philpott; and Bob Setzer’s weekly deacon update.

In addition to these activities, the Caring Connections Team helped deacons make outreach phone calls to the congregation in fall, 2020. These calls were very well received and provided updated contact information for a number of members.

The **Vulnerable Members Team**, co-chaired by Debbie Pruitt and Trina Jackson, had 45 member-volunteers who, with cards and phone calls, made approximately 2800 contacts with Knollwood’s members who live alone, have chronic conditions, or have few family members. Beyond the regular contacts, volunteers sent birthday and holiday cards and made phone calls to ensure that these members had access and appointments for vaccinations.

The **Bereavement Team**, chaired by Debbie Pruitt, consisted of 26 Knollwood volunteers. When notified by the church office of a death, 3 team members were asked to reach out to families. During this period, about 36 families were contacted by the Bereavement Team, for about 108 contacts.

The **Visitors/New Members Team**, with 7 volunteers and temporarily chaired by Sandra Boyette, has sent e-mails and made calls to those who have joined Knollwood during the pandemic period. Eight new members have been welcomed. At Bob Setzer’s suggestion, the new members information was posted on KBC’s Facebook page, as well as being featured at the close of worship services and being announced in the newsletter.

For the coming year, we will examine the activities and responses from this year to determine how work of Knollwood Cares can best serve our congregation’s needs in 2021-2022. Some of the items to be discussed include:

- When full, in-person worship resumes, how can we best welcome new members who have joined during the pandemic?
- Will hospital visits be allowed as in the past and—beyond ministers’ visits—should they continue or be supplemented with cards and phone contact when appropriate (or visits by members who know the patient well)?
- How should we plan for memorial receptions?
- How will we gauge the need for transportation as we resume regular worship?

Sandra Boyette, Knollwood Cares Director
THE KNOLLWOOD/BOLTON PARTNERSHIP

Despite the pandemic, the Knollwood/Bolton Partnership continues its work to support the school faculty, students and families.

- Bolton faculty and staff were presented cupcake treats and handwritten cards of encouragement at the drive-by event at the beginning of the school year when everyone was still working remotely.
- Beautiful birthday cards handmade by Knollwood member, Carolyn Hurst, are given to each faculty and staff member on their birthday.
- Knollwood provided spaghetti supper dinner bags for everyone on the Bolton staff before the winter holidays.

We look forward to the time Knollwood volunteers can return to the school buildings to work with individual children again.

Janet Ray, Coordinator

THE BOLTON SCHOOL FOOD PANTRY

The food pantry has continued without interruption during the pandemic. Volunteers from the three sponsoring churches, Knollwood Baptist, Wesley Memorial United Methodist and Trinity Presbyterian, prepare grocery bags full of food for participating families. From the safety of their cars Bolton families have non-perishable items, frozen meat and fresh produce loaded into the back of their vehicles. An average of fifty-five families representing some two hundred fifty individuals receive food from the pantry each month. Pantry participants include white, brown and black families of Bolton students and staff. The pantry operation is supported by more than fifteen Knollwood members as well as members of the other participating congregations.

Many people are needed for the smooth operation of the pantry. Volunteers from the three congregations including some who speak Spanish call to remind pantry participants of their food pick up day each month. Sometimes during these conversations special needs of a family are shared and volunteers are able to help. Early in the pandemic the volunteers distributed homemade masks for all adults and children in each household. With the help of Knollwood youth and volunteers who created them, children of participating families were given Summer Fun Bags full of activities and games. The generous contributions from Knollwood members of toilet paper and bar soap, two items not available at Second Harvest, are appreciated by Bolton families. Each pantry day smiles and news are exchanged through the car windows between friends.

Beth Fields, Coordinator

TRANSITION/SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR THE FAITH FORMATION & EDUCATION MINISTER

The Search Committee for the Faith Formation and Education Minister has continued to meet throughout the year, although it was on “creative pause” for several months as the church better understood current realities of church life, resulting from the coronavirus pandemic. Major milestones in 2020-21 included:

- Completion of the congregational survey to assess priorities for this important aspect of our church’s work. More than 200 people responded to the survey and through in-person small groups. Key themes that emerged were:
  - Strong biblical and theological education, including support and resources for Sunday School teachers;
  - Providing opportunities for education about current issues in our community and the world, as well as guidance and support for community engagement; and
  - Overseeing a cohesive curriculum of faith formation and education.
- The decision to engage a consultant from the Center for Congregational Health, Chris Gambill, to help the committee in: a) interpreting these articulated needs and expectations, b) determining whether further assessment is needed after this year of transition, and c) better understanding larger trends in faith formation and education affecting similar-size, progressive congregations.
- Part of the committee’s assessment will include recommending the scope and scale of this position, in coordination with the Personnel Committee.

As this more in-depth analysis continues, the Faith Formation & Education Search Committee is starting to meet more regularly and expects to re-activate its search process by the fall of 2021.

The committee continues to appreciate the able leadership of Katharine Martin as our interim Minister of Faith Formation and Education.

Sylvia Oberle, Search Committee Chair
CHILDREN’S MINISTRY

During this challenging year, our Children’s Ministry has found ways to stay connected to one another as families. We began the year with a Doughnut Drive Through in August where families received devotional materials to use together at home, some special KBC swag to remind them of their church family, and of course some Krispy Kreme doughnuts. In the fall, we had safe, outdoor, distanced and masked gatherings like a Hot Wheels and Cool Treats party in the parking lot where kids rode bikes and scooters and a pumpkin carving contest and costume parade near Halloween. Before Advent, each family came to church to receive a box of materials to use each week of Advent. These included: materials for an Advent calendar, an advent candle, instructions and cookie cutters for salt dough ornaments, a picture book, an Advent devotional and more. Children performed a Zoom pageant - the telling of Cynthia Cotton’s This is the Stable - which was recorded and shared with the congregation. In January we began 2021 with a Zoom Noon Year’s Eve party where we counted down to the new year. There was another drive through event before Lent where children received another bag of materials for their Lenten journey and spiritual development at home. This included a devotional to use with hands on activities for each week that provided opportunities for kids to ACT and SERVE in response to the lectionary scripture. Our children have also done several mission projects during the year including providing dinner for the SECU Family House and a book drive for the Bolton Food Pantry families. We were so excited to be together for outdoor worship at Easter and are looking forward to more safe gatherings in the months ahead. In May, children and families will be visiting a butterfly farm together - a symbol of the new life ahead. The Children’s Committee is vaccinated and ready to take on more responsibility in the upcoming year.

Judith Kuhn & Chrissy Hardy

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

The Facilities Committee was extremely busy this year performing maintenance while the church premises were closed down due to COVID-19. On the grounds four large oaks trees and three other dead trees were removed. The committee plans to plant two replacements in the fall in the front of the Sanctuary. In the WCC building water leaks, elevator shut downs and monitor issues were addressed. In the Noffsinger building, gutter guards were installed and water runoff issues and a plumbing leak were also addressed. The educational building had COVID-19 issues. In the Sanctuary building a new pump motor for the chiller was installed, and lighting, doors, alarm, and elevator are being worked on. In the Memorial gardens much occurred including pressure washing all cement side walks; new gazebo roof; and painting of the gazebo, arbors and all benches.

Biggest accomplishment – Bipolar Ionization systems for all buildings at Knollwood.

Jack Davis, Chair

FAITH FORMATION & EDUCATION

A dedicated team of teachers, leaders, and facilitators kept our adult faith formation and education opportunities at Knollwood vital amidst the social distance necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic. In the 2020-21 church year, several Sunday School classes continued to meet virtually, and others stayed connected through videos, emails, notes, and phone calls. A Sunday School elective taught online by Diane Lipsett, “Vulnerable Bodies and Resurrection Hope,” enriched Sunday morning offerings during Lent. Wednesday evening programs were held on Zoom, and featured series such as “Parable Wisdom for Pandemic Times” in the fall, “Light in the Darkness” during Advent, and “Reflecting on Lent” in March. In January, Lindley Curtis and Kathy Stillerman of the Faith Formation committee planned a well-re-
ceived series of interviews exploring spiritual practices, “New Year, New Beginnings.” Opportunities to fellowship such as “Virtual Knollchat” were appreciated, as were explorations of pandemic life through John Harrison’s essay “When Things Fall Apart.” Knollwood’s commitment to antiracism education continued with “Racial Justice Book Reports” and programs on reparations and systemic racism in the federal justice system. Additionally, Racial Justice Book Study groups met via Zoom to explore I’m Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness, The Color of Compromise, and The Cross and the Lynching Tree. Adult small groups such as Tuesday and Wednesday Morning Women’s Bible Studies, the Evening Book Group, Monday Morning Men, All God’s Children, and Seasons/Women and the Word continued to flourish in 2020-21, staying connected through Zoom meetings and outdoor gatherings in homes and on campus. The Faith in the City series, coordinated by Sylvia Oberle, Dean Clifford, Diane Lipsett, and Spence O’Neill, shifted to a Zoom format and continued to offer informative and vital lunch-time programs on equity in education. Opportunities for spiritual formation included a six week Centering Prayer practice, an intergenerational Ash Wednesday service, and a guided prayer walk during Holy Week, all held in the Memorial Garden. Goals for the coming year include offering informative and vital lunch-time programs on equity in education.

FINANCE
The Finance Committee has been actively involved with our Church staff throughout the current year. Committee members meet via Zoom on a monthly basis to go over the church’s current financial position, discuss trends and needs in both giving and spending, and do our best to assure that KBC is on firm financial footing as we continue to navigate and deal with the effects of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

Despite the challenges presented by the COVID-19 situation, we have been able to achieve some very positive and impactful things this year:
- Recommending a flat budget to the prior year. This may not sound like a positive event, but due to the uncertainties presented by the pandemic, it was a necessary one. All the major committees and ministry teams responded positively in support of this recommendation.
- Funding our operating reserve - for the first time in a very long time, our operating reserve is fully funded. This reserve allows us to keep KBC and its ministries functional in extraordinary times of crisis, should they occur. This reserve has been recommended by our accountants, and is recognized as a Best Practice among non-profit organizations.
- Most notably, Finance was able to provide MAAC (Mission Affiliations and Allocation Committee) with an additional $91,600 for distribution throughout our community to those hardest hit by the pandemic and its economic effects. This money is above and beyond our regular mission support that happens every quarter, and which is still on track as of this report. These additional funds came as a result of the very generous contributions (above budget) throughout the year as well as savings realized during the shutdown of the church facilities.

Finance will continue to work closely to keep KBC in a good position going forward. We are blessed to have great leadership from our Ministers and staff, and we look forward to worshiping together again when the time comes that we can do so safely.

Roger Grippe, Finance Chair

2020 USES FOR RESTRICTED FUNDS
Each year the Mission Affiliations and Allocation Committee (MAAC) receives 4% of the market value of our Celebration Fund to distribute to mission causes. In 2020 $32,088 was distributed from this fund to support local community projects at City with Dwellings, SECU Family House, Love Out Loud, Apostolic Assembly of the Faith in Christ, and our Communion Benevolence Fund.

The Beavers-Hancock Fund also contributed $4,321 to the KBC Benevolence Fund. This fund helped several in our church family pay an essential bill.

KBC used $10,034 from our Major Maintenance Reserve to pay for a new boiler (essential for heating buildings A & B). This paid for the portion of costs not covered by insurance proceeds.

The church used $27,666 from undesignated memorial gifts to purchase a camera and video recording system that allows us to live-stream our worship services.

The Finance Committee oversees the investment and the distribution of these Restricted Funds.
MISSION AFFILIATIONS AND ALLOCATION (MAAC)

MAAC is responsible for directing the distribution of the church's missions funds. Each year, 10% of the church's total budget is set aside for missions. As usual, MAAC funded local, national, and international missions projects. A full listing of MAAC's mission partners can be found in the annual budget document on the website. During the past year, MAAC focused on contributing funds to organizations supporting COVID-related social welfare needs in Winston-Salem, as well as organizations pursuing racial equity. Due to lower operating costs during the pandemic and especially generous donations from last year, in January 2021 MAAC was charged with spending excess funds of greater than $90,000 in addition to the annual mission funds. The committee rose to the challenge of spending these excess funds by prayerfully and thoughtfully allocating them to local organizations in support of COVID-related immediate needs. The majority of these funds were disbursed to minority-led organizations. MAAC dispensed a total of $142,503 in mission funds from August 2020 through March 2021, including the overage from 2020. MAAC continues to keep the church informed about missions needs and projects as well as funds raised and spent. This communication appears in the newsletters, weekly emails, and the website.

Rebecca Neiberg, Chair

While last year proved challenging to many individuals and organizations, thanks to the incredible faithfulness of KBC members, along with lower operating expenses for the year, Knollwood found itself with a 2020 budget excess of about $90,000. In late January, the Mission Affiliations and Allocation Committee was asked to allocate these funds to the benefit of our community. For the following 90 days, our committee prayerfully and thoughtfully allocated funds to organizations focused on education, food insecurity, homelessness, family support, and community support. In line with prior recommendations from our Racial Equity Taskforce, our committee also intentionally sought to support minority-led organizations doing work with communities disproportionately impacted by racism.

In the following months, we hope our congregation will take time to learn more about the phenomenal work these organizations are doing and to reach out to our committee with questions and feedback. We celebrate the abundance God has given us and trust that through our shared abundance, God's Kingdom work continues, even in the face of unprecedented challenges.

2020 Excess Budget Update: Disbursing $90K in 90 Days

$91,600 Shared with Community Organizations

- **Food Support - 10.9%**
  Storehouse for Jesus $10,000

- **Homelessness - 12.6%**
  Family Promise of Davie County $5,000
greeNest $5,000
WSFCS Project HOPE $1,500

- **Education - 24.6%**
  YMCA of Northwest NC $10,000
  Best Choice Center $5,000
  T.U.R.N. $5,000
  Freedom School $2,500

- **Community Support - 26.9%**
  WSFCS Project HOPE $1,500
  El Buen Pastor $10,000
  SG Atkins CDC $9,600
  Whole Man Ministries $5,000

- **Family Support - 25.1%**
  Eliza's Helping Hands $10,000
  The Parenting PATH $5,000
  House of Hope Piedmont $5,000
  Just HOPE Women LEAD $3,000

Organizations Link:
MUSIC & WORSHIP
Like many committees at KBC, it’s “been a minute” since we met as a group due to the pandemic. However, that doesn’t mean that music has stopped or diminished during these challenging and unprecedented times. In fact, I would propose that its purpose was even more important while we could not worship in person.

Early in 2020, we met as a group and started a book review of The Singing Thing by John Bell. We were reminded that congregational song can unite the church in body, mind and spirit and engage a deep and profound connection to God. KBC is blessed to have the excellent leadership of Rozanna and Lauren who harnessed their talents to create new ways for us to worship together and uplift our spirits during challenging times. From virtual choirs, outdoor singing and handbells in the courtyards, and guest musicians, KBC has continued to worship in creative and inspirational ways this year.

We have always been “a singing people” and though we have not been present in body, the depth of musical gifts of this congregation were visible and auditory signs of God’s presence in our community over the past 12+ months. Easter Sunday was a promising sign of returning to gather for worship together as a church community.

Until then, I’m sure the Spirit will connect our community using music as the conduit of our shared worship.

Ben Heinsohn, Chair

PERSONNEL
The 2020/2021 KBC Personnel Committee continues to support our faithful staff during a year of COVID-19. We welcomed Michelle Anderson as our Finance Coordinator September, 2020. Michelle has done excellent work with Rob-

in Spainhour as well as helped with other administrative responsibilities. Both the Ministerial and Administrative Staff have responded wonderfully with new ideas and adaptations to keep Knollwood moving forward during COVID.

Given the bountiful financial blessings Knollwood has received, this allowed the Personnel Committee to work in conjunction with the Finance Committee not only to offer a bonus for all KBC staff but also to provide a 2021 cost of living increase to the entire staff as well.

We have had several work anniversaries for staff. Lisa Ehlers celebrated her 10-year anniversary in May, 2020. Chrissy Hardy as well as Ted Philpott reached their 5-year anniversaries earlier this year. The significant milestone is Demrice Hayes being 30 years with Knollwood from her beginning in April, 1991.

The newly minted Ad Hoc Committee charged with Re•Gathering 2021 will lead the Church in the process of returning to in-person activities in worship with guidance from the Medical Advisory Team.

Clyde Cash, Chair

RECREATION
Unfortunately, this past year provided many obstacles for the Recreation Committee. The WCC was closed for much of the past year preventing any indoor recreational opportunities. Due to the nature of the pandemic, we effectively had to cancel our normal activities that we had hoped to continue such as:
- Daily Walking Track
- Yoga
- Pickleball-open play, and KBC members
- Wake Forest Health Partners’ classes for adults
- Basketball-community & members

In future months we hope we can...
gradually return to our normal activities and allow KBC groups such as the youth group, Cub Scouts, Wednesday Night children, and the TTWS to regularly utilize the WCC. This spring we plan to open the Walking Track to KBC members by reservation only and will begin to introduce new, fun events for the congregation when we can participate safely.

Matt Tamer, Chair

STEWARDSHIP

When we started our journey of demonstrating our faith through our financial pledges for the calendar year 2021, we were unsure of the response in a year where the pandemic left many vulnerable. Our Stone Soup stewardship theme was chosen to emphasize our faith and community. We received significant commitments of time, talent, prayer and financial support for our church. Financially, the campaign garnered steadfast support. Knollwood received 195 pledges totalling $1,176,656 which covers 76% of our budget. As a result of the pandemic’s effect on our community, our giving commitments were down slightly from previous years. To put this in perspective, over the three previous years we received, on average, annual commitments from 210 families which totaled $1,205,000. The Stewardship Committee was very grateful for the continued support of God’s work, addressing the needs of both our Knollwood family and beyond our doors.

The Stewardship Committee continues its focus on the long-term financial health of Knollwood through education and encouragement of giving. The Legacy Giving campaign is supported through individual contacts and printed materials. While we continue to inform our members of methods of giving we are in the process of developing planned and recurring communications regarding our stewardship.

Joe Long, Chair

THROUGH-THE-WEEK SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD

The TTWS Advisory Committee held Zoom meetings in the Fall and Spring.

TTWS was closed between March and October 2020 and reopened in phases starting on Nov. 2 with 1 class per age group.

TTWS implemented safety protocols following the CDC safety guidelines for opening. The opening protocols were also approved by the KBC Med Team and include the following:

- Masks required for ages 3 and up
- Daily temperature checks and COVID survey
- Eating on yoga mats or outside (to maintain distance)
- No mixing age groups
- Using new cleaning products each morning and afternoon
- Installed an ion air purification system in the preschool building
- Deep cleaned the Preschool area in October and January

The board voted in February to approve tuition increases needed to support COVID protocols.

Camp Wooded Knoll will be open for 9 weeks of preschool camp this summer with 120 campers registered. Most classes are full.

Registration for 2021-22 is full with a waitlist in every class except Readiness.

The same safety and cleaning protocols will continue for Summer and Fall.

The board is thankful for Chris and her leadership. The COVID environment has been challenging, but children and staff have adapted well.

Lindsey Chan, Chair
Christine Ebert, Co-Chair

YOUTH MINISTRY

The 2020-2021 school year has been very different for our KBC youth. They have been attending online school for an entire year with very limited in-person contact with extended family or friends. This environment has been difficult for people around the world but has been especially hard for teens.

Resilience, strength, perseverance are words that come to mind when describing our KBC Youth Group. They were unable to enjoy our regular Sunday night gatherings and annual events such as our Labor Day beach retreat, broom hockey night, ski trip, and spring retreat. Instead, they have embraced gathering on Zoom to engage with one another. During their Zoom time they have had time to
reflect, learn, listen, pray, and play online games together. They even enjoyed a Secret Santa gift exchange via Zoom in December.

In addition to their Zoom meetings, they have found ways to give back to our community by making signs to thank first responders, making masks to send to Pico Escondido, and delivering a meal to the SECU family house, just to name a few.

In December we held our first ever KBC Youth Wreath Fundraiser to benefit our youth missions fund. These funds will help pay for our summer mission trip to PASSPORT in July and our next trip to Pico Escondido which was postponed until Summer 2022.

We have started some in-person small group gatherings and look forward to more in-person opportunities this Spring and Summer.

We are so thankful for how hard Josh has worked to keep our youth engaged and entertained through what has seemed like at times a never-ending Pandemic. Josh has delivered gifts to the front porches of our youth, checked in on them via phone calls and texts, and continued to pray for them through this most difficult time.

Cathy Larmore, Chair

BY-LAWS

The By-Laws Committee is led by Penn Broyhill. This year Penn assisted the Deacon Executive Committee in proposing an amendment to our KBC By-Laws which will allow the DEC to call for required congregational votes via Zoom meetings when in-person gatherings are not safe. The vote on this amendment will take place at the 2021 Annual Meeting on May 5.

Celebrating Halloween 2020

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

August 1, 2020 – 1,348 members • March 31, 2021 – 1,339 members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>Transfers Out</th>
<th>Gains</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Judy Oakley</td>
<td>Mike Cherry</td>
<td>Connie Harvey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vista Harrington</td>
<td>Jenny Archer</td>
<td>Don Harvey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nancy Venable</td>
<td>Page Archer Kral</td>
<td>Beppie LeGrand</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Marion Smith, Sr.</td>
<td>Kelli Adams</td>
<td>Morgan Fralick</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walt Barnhill</td>
<td>Laura Olson</td>
<td>Anne Tambling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miriam DeArmon</td>
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<td>Kim Barclift</td>
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<td>Sylvia Bell</td>
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<td>Jason Barclift</td>
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<td>Mindy Goodson Leonard</td>
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<td>Betty Holliday Bowman</td>
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<td>Daniel J. Hurst</td>
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<td>Don Hibbard</td>
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NOMINATING / LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Nominating / Leadership Development Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crystal Leathers, <em>chair</em></td>
<td>Beth Fields, <em>chair</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Libby Carpenter</td>
<td>Ben Floyd</td>
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<td>Matt Francis</td>
<td>Joe Long</td>
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<td>Phil Hendrix</td>
<td>Daniel Joyce</td>
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<td>Sarah Pennell</td>
<td>Kimberly Maner</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Wilkinson</td>
<td>John Roach</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lindley Curtis, <em>chair</em></td>
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<td>Mark Jensen</td>
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<td>Anne Harrison</td>
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<td>Misty Nichols</td>
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<td>Linda Walker</td>
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<td>Ben Wagener</td>
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<td>Andrea Anderson</td>
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<td>Judy Ginn</td>
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<td>Katharine Martin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff Liaison</td>
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The class of 2024 will begin their duties on Sept. 1, 2021.

Children’s Ministry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of 2022</th>
<th>Class of 2023</th>
<th>Class of 2024</th>
<th>Staff Liaison</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Jensen</td>
<td>Judith Kuhn, <em>chair</em></td>
<td>Joanne Ritter</td>
<td>Chrissy Hardy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tom Gale</td>
<td>Trevor Anderson</td>
<td>Victoria Tamer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pam Stallings</td>
<td></td>
<td>Diana Long, <em>vice chair</em></td>
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Facilities

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<th>Class of 2022</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Davis</td>
<td>Lindsay Yancey, <em>chair</em></td>
<td>Sylvia Marvelli</td>
<td>Robin Spainhour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbie Robertson</td>
<td>Don VonCannon, <em>vice chair</em></td>
<td>Rich Habegger</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pat Swann</td>
<td>Jeff Stallings</td>
<td>Whitney Preslar</td>
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Faith Formation & Education

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<td>Lindley Curtis, <em>chair</em></td>
<td>Anne Harrison</td>
<td>Ben Wagener</td>
<td>Katharine Martin</td>
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<td>Mark Jensen</td>
<td>Misty Nichols</td>
<td>Andrea Anderson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chip Mims, <em>vice chair</em></td>
<td>Linda Walker</td>
<td>Judy Ginn</td>
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Finance

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<tr>
<td>Allison Belton</td>
<td>Cathy Morrison</td>
<td>Ben Floyd, <em>vice chair</em></td>
<td>Robin Spainhour</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Boehme, <em>chair</em></td>
<td>Lucy Davis</td>
<td>Gary Herring</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret Mauney</td>
<td>Joy Vermillion Heinsohn</td>
<td>Carol Cramer</td>
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Mission Affiliations and Allocation

<table>
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<th>Class of 2022</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bill Davis</td>
<td>Daniel Joyce, <em>vice chair</em></td>
<td>Tom Ginn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corinne Causby</td>
<td>Mary Hix</td>
<td>Sylvia Oberle</td>
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*Staff Liaisons are responsible for providing the guidance and support needed for an assigned committee or mission team to fulfill its mission.*
The class of 2024 will begin their duties on Sept. 1, 2021

### Music and Worship

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beth Sanders</td>
<td>Judy Iannuzzi</td>
<td>Cliff Pennell</td>
<td>Rozanna Goocey</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Ben Heinsohn  | Janet Ray, 
  chair     | Kimberly Maner, 
  vice chair |                              |
|               | Frank Johnson       | Matt Jamison                   |                 |

### Personnel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of 2022</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Linda Massler</td>
<td>Becky Ball</td>
<td>Mark Curtis</td>
<td>Bob Setzer, Jr.</td>
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</table>
| Phil Hendrix  | Bill Leathers, 
  vice chair | Vicki Johnson                  |                 |
| Jerry Francis, 
  chair     | Kathryn Ashworth    | David Winkelman                 |                 |

### Recreation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of 2022</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Matt Francis</td>
<td>Chris Cutler</td>
<td>Laura Coker</td>
<td>Josh Godwin</td>
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</table>
| Cyndy Jones   | Peggy Haymes, 
  vice chair | Katie Fowler                 |                 |
| Matt Tamer, 
  chair     | Jerry Francis       | Danny Stinehelfer               |                 |

### Stewardship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of 2022</th>
<th>Class of 2023</th>
<th>Class of 2024</th>
<th>Staff Liaison</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Gayle Anderson, 
  chair     | Sandra Adams        | Donna Boswell                   | Bob Setzer, Jr. |
| Libby Carpenter | Zack Boyd, 
  vice chair | Norma Pearman               |                 |
| Joshua Goocey | Dee Hughes LeRoy    | Charles Maner                   |                 |

### TTWS Preschool Board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of 2022</th>
<th>Class of 2023</th>
<th>Class of 2024</th>
<th>Staff Liaison</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Christine Ebert, 
  chair | Lindsey Chan       | Amy Peverall                   | Chris Norman |
| Toby Hale     | Susan Edge, 
  vice chair | Larry Hewitt                 |                 |
|               | Sharon Underwood   | Mary Reynolds                  |                 |

### Youth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of 2022</th>
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<th>Staff Liaison</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jeff Nichols</td>
<td>Ted Dougherty</td>
<td>Bert Sanders</td>
<td>Josh Godwin</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Evan Sieges, 
  chair     | Marissa Joyce, 
  vice chair | Rachel Wiggins                 |                 |
|               | Roger Underwood    | Adam Neiberg                   |                 |

### Bylaws

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of 2022</th>
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<tr>
<td>Penn Broyhill</td>
<td>Bob Setzer, Jr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ministry Team</td>
<td>Staff Liaison</td>
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<td>-------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advent Decorating</td>
<td>Rozanna Goocey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agape</td>
<td>Chris Norman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All God's Children</td>
<td>Katharine Martin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Hearts</td>
<td>Chrissy Hardy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Audio Visual</td>
<td>Rozanna Goocey</td>
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<td>Baptism</td>
<td>Rozanna Goocey</td>
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<td>Communion</td>
<td>Rozanna Goocey</td>
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<td>Health and Wellness</td>
<td>Josh Godwin</td>
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<td>Historian</td>
<td>Katharine Martin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Library / Resource Center</td>
<td>Katharine Martin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Missional Support</td>
<td>Bob Setzer, Jr.</td>
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<td>Senior Adult Ministry</td>
<td>Chris Norman</td>
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<td>Sew &amp; So’s</td>
<td>Chris Norman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Events</td>
<td>Robin Spainhour</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ushers</td>
<td>Rozanna Goocey</td>
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<td>Wedding Consultants</td>
<td>Bob Setzer</td>
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<td>Wed. Evening Meal Service</td>
<td>Katharine Martin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s Retreat</td>
<td>Chris Norman</td>
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</table>

Staff Liaisons are responsible for providing the guidance and support needed for an assigned committee or mission team to fulfill its mission.
Knollwood Adapts

The children waving palms in their tradition procession for Palm Sunday.

Outdoor Communion

The Children’s Choir rehearses outside with Rozanna Goocey and Charlotte Brown.

Through-the-Week School Reopens

Masked ministers prepare to record Sunday Worship in an empty Sanctuary.
MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS

ADVENT DECORATING
Due to the pandemic there were no in person worship services or gatherings during Advent 2020. That eliminated the need for the traditional decorations although a few decorations were photographed for use in the online videos.

We look forward to a fully decorated campus for Advent 2021.

Sylvia Marvelli, Coordinator

ALL GOD’S CHILDREN
All God’s Children had a couple of zoom meetings to discuss reparations and racial justice issues. We have just decided to focus on 4 areas this year:

• Gayle Anderson will take the lead on housing issues.
• Judy Ginn will take the lead on bail policy and programs.
• Lisa Sykes will take the lead on reparations.
• Jeff Stallings will take the lead on Ashley School.

We will send a letter to AGC with specific plans for each area soon. We will also champion financial requests to MAAC for Black-led local programs.

Jeff Stallings, Coordinator

ARTS AND HEARTS
Objective: To encourage and educate the congregation and community to connect with the Creator and one another through artistic activities that deepen spirituality and by using individual gifts to create in a variety of ways.

Our beautiful space is well lighted and is easy to clean. The wide bank of windows provides natural light that allows God’s beautiful world to shine on and in us.

Our goal is to provide artistic activities to both our congregation and to the community at large and has been manifested in a variety of ways.

Unfortunately, our space within the Wellness Center was closed due to COVID-19 and we were unable to offer any events during the 2020 year.

Pam Stallings, Coordinator

AUDIO-VISUAL
The pandemic year has been mostly quiet for the A-V team.
Past duties have included managing sound for live services, copying sermons for on-line and CD distribution and maintaining hearing devices and microphones. The A-V team has had some increased activity with the start of filming and recording Sunday services. A state of the art 2-camera video recording system was installed in the sanctuary.

We anticipate new challenges as we move to live services and incremental live attendance. We are in need of more volunteers to serve as sound technicians.

John Roach, Coordinator

HEALTH AND WELLNESS
This team has been monitoring existing AED equipment in this pandemic year. As the pandemic recedes, the team hopes to be able to facilitate a blood drive and possibly classes for CPR.

John Roach, Coordinator

HISTORIAN
It has been a quiet year. Since almost all of our activities have been virtual, I have begun to explore best practices we might adopt to back up this content for better long-term preservation. I am focusing initially on the worship service videos.

Carol Cramer, Coordinator

LIBRARY/RESOURCE CENTER
The Library/Resource Center team has been largely inactive since our buildings have been closed due to the pandemic, thus limiting the use of the library. In the coming year we look forward to reopening the library, updating our resources and materials to meet the current needs of the ministries of the church, and being available to help members find relevant and challenging materials.

In our down time, we have reviewed updated library software and opted to wait until the library reopens for further consideration of it. We continue to take note of new materials becoming available. We welcome input from all the congregation, groups, and ministries as we prepare for resuming services.

Bonnie McCarson, Coordinator

NOTE: Several ministry teams were unable to carry out their traditional tasks due to COVID-19 and the required safety guidelines. These include the Agape Team, the Baptism Team, the Communion Team, the Senior Adult Ministry, Special Events, Wedding Consultants, Wednesday Evening Servers and the Women’s Retreat. They all hope to be active in the next year.
MISSIONAL SUPPORT

The Missional Support Team was formed to expand congregational understanding of our mission involvements and opportunities; to provide support, connections and coordination across all KBC mission efforts; and to encourage and facilitate reflection and learning from mission efforts, leading to faith-building and personal transformation.

Normally, the MST meets quarterly, with representation by Knollwood members involved in the following: All God’s Children, our involvement at Bolton School, CBF work in NC and beyond; Cub Scouts, Faith in the City, Habitat for Humanity; Kids’ Café Tutoring, Meals on Wheels, the Overflow Shelter, refugee work, and our global missions partnerships in the Dominican Republic, Kenya, Nicaragua, and SE Asia.

However, due to restrictions imposed by the pandemic and necessary reductions in some of the above work, the Team did not meet during the current fiscal year. Nonetheless, significant work continued in several of these mission and outreach efforts. Some of the highlights of this unusual year included the following:

Faith in the City continued hosting monthly conferences on strategies for increasing educational equity and reducing disparities in student achievement. Even though these meetings moved from in-person to a zoom platform, the audience remained steady, with usually 75 or more participants. We zeroed in on lessons to be learned as schools were forced to shut down during the pandemic, revealing increasing inequities in student access to online instruction. Our last session before the summer pause will feature the WSFC School Superintendent, Trish McManus, who will share her vision for moving the school system forward and addressing the many challenges that remain.

Knollwood was involved in and financially supported costs and scholarships for several Remote Learning Centers. These locations provided a safe place for many at-risk students during the day, with staff available to assist them in accessing their online instruction and to ensure completion of their assignments. We also surveyed many of the Remote Learning Centers to identify their successes, challenges, and overall impact.

Drive for School Supplies: Several of these Remote Learning Centers continue to operate, with students electing to remain there, rather than return to school. We invited both Knollwood members and the larger community to contribute school supplies for three of the centers that had been featured on Faith in the City (Best Choice, G.I.D.E and T.U.R.N.) The overwhelming response provided ample supplies not only to these centers, but additional supplies for a summer program to be held at Galilee Missionary Baptist Church.

Knollwood/Bolton Partnership continued to provide encouragement and support to the school staff. The Food Pantry continued without interruption during the pandemic. (See p. 10)

Kids Café was suspended because of COVID-19; however, our participants provided Christmas presents to individual students. Knollwood helped with the college expenses of a Kids Café graduate who has had a good first year at Salem.

All God’s Children continues learning and exploring strategies for racial reconciliation. (See p. 21)

International mission involvement:
The Christmas offering provided generous support for the work of Roy and Rebeca Clifford in the Dominican Republic, Eddy and Cindy Ruble in SE Asia, Africa Exchange in Kenya, Amos Health & Hope in Nicaragua. While the pandemic forced closure of classroom and group experiences, each of these partners expanded their efforts in other ways, using the time for constructing and/or improving facilities, providing health and nutritional services, addressing environmental issues, and maintaining supportive contact with youngsters and families.

The co-leaders of the MST plan to reconvene the team before summer, in order to expand and coordinate our many partnerships during 2021-22 and to develop plans for informing and engaging the congregation in these efforts.

Dean Clifford and Spence O’Neill, Co-Chairs
The Sew & So’s began 2020 with their usual enthusiasm, working with their heads, hands and hearts, creating and offering gifts to folks in need of a little comfort and warmth.

March 2020 ushered in COVID-19, which closed the Sew & So’s operation of meeting, planning and working together. Some of the members took home yarn and fabric to make masks, prayer shawls and lap quilts. The masks were given to family members, health care workers, early responders, maintenance workers and others.

In February 2021, the Sew & So’s were offered an opportunity to join with the KBC youth in making masks for Young Life in the Dominican Republic.

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In February 2021, the Sew & So’s were offered an opportunity to join with the KBC youth in making masks for Young Life in the Dominican Republic. The Sew & So’s were happy to help, working at home, with this mission project. The Sew & So’s hope to be back in their “sewing room” before long. They miss the joy, laughter, personal updates and camaraderie that being and working together provides.

Judy Owen, Coordinator

USHER TEAM

With the spring 2020 discontinuation of ‘on campus’ Worship Services, Memorial Services, Funerals, etc. the Usher Team at Knollwood has been inactive for almost one year. The only activities of the Usher Team were to provide a small group of ushers to assist with traffic flow and socially-distanced parking for the two ‘2020 Christmas Eve Eve’ services and the two ‘2021 Easter morning’ services, held in the KBC parking lot.

Goals for the coming year:

Conquer the pandemic to the point that we can resume socially safe ‘on campus’ worship services at KBC. We, as an usher team, are very much looking forward to the opportunities for service being made available to KBC membership in ‘Re•Gathering 2021.’ Owing to the fact that many members of the KBC usher team are seniors (the age group most at risk for serious complications from COVID-19, if infected) we will have to consider, discuss, and possibly restructure the roles and responsibilities of the usher team to ensure safety for all. This process began Sunday, April 11, 2021.

Charles Massler, Coordinator

WEDDING CONSULTANT

There were no in-house weddings at Knollwood during the 2020-2021 church year, another loss due to the COVID-19 protocols. Members have chosen destination weddings as an alternative. Hopefully in the very near future, we will again be able to assist couples with their weddings in our beautiful sanctuary. The team provides a form for the bride to complete with all the pertinent information the consultant needs to assist the couple at the rehearsal and then on the wedding day. A brochure is given to each couple covering the policies and procedures for weddings held at Knollwood. The consultant will meet with the bride to discuss details of the wedding to facilitate a smooth rehearsal, which then ensures a beautiful wedding day. We look forward to the time we once again have weddings in our church. We all miss the celebrations, hugs and being together in person!

Debbie Smith, Coordinator

WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVERS

The Wednesday Evening Servers are a steadfast group of Knollwoodians who show up to set tables, serve good food, collect money and provide warm hospitality to all. After the meal, activities and programing they stay to help clean up the kitchen and Fellowship Hall.

With the arrival of COVID-19 the decision was made that it was no longer safe for KBC to gather in person for meals, as well as for meetings and worship services. For a full year the Fellowship Hall has been quiet on Wednesday evenings. When eating together and activities can resume, the servers team will be ready, willing and able with their usual gracious hospitality.

Judy Owen, Coordinator

WOMEN’S RETREAT

We were unable to have the retreat for the PAST TWO YEARS because of COVID-19.

Our date for 2022 is March 18-20.

Melanie Wilkinson, Coordinator