



waverly church of the nazarene

**Annual Report
2021**

**WCN is a sent community
embodying Christ-like transformation
throughout Humphreys County and beyond by
calling people to **Belong, Believe, and Become.****

John W. Adams

Distinguished Service Award

The DSA is the highest award given by a local Church of the Nazarene to a layperson. Our DSA is appropriately named after Rev. John Adams. Rev. Adams was the son of a sharecropper with a second-grade education who God called into ministry as an adult. His wife taught him to read in order to pass courses for ordination. He pastored WCN from 1959-1973.

Rev. Adams was a bi-vocational pastor. He worked during the week, and he pastored on weeknights and weekends. He physically built and remodeled our facilities. On Sunday mornings, he and his wife, Edith, would get in two cars and drive through the county picking up kids for worship. Many of those kids have grown up to become vital members of WCN. The Lord used Rev. Adams to impact many people in our church and in our community. Rev. John Adams was a model servant. His humility, his willingness to serve, and his dedication to the work of the church over a long period of time are traits of a Distinguished servant. It is fitting that this award be attached to his name.

Each year a recipient is chosen by a pool of past DSA recipients. It takes a servant to know a servant. Recipients of this award have committed themselves to a lifetime of service in the name of Jesus. It is with great honor and appreciation that this award is presented annually.

2001: Terry Langston

2002: Edith Adams

2003: Amy Crum

2004: Alton Hesson

2005: Lanelle Coleman

2006: John McGranahan

2007: Annetta Sykes

2008: Kay McGranahan

2009: Jane Langston

2010: Letticia Ladd

2011: Betty Hamm

2012: Laura Ham

2013: Pearl Jones

2014: Nancie Hesson

2015: Franklin Brawley

2016: Karen Woodside

2017: Jimmy Hamm

2018: Eugene Woodside

2019: Delilah King

2020: Brenda Palk

2021: Mary Ann Collins

WCN OUTPUT

*Churches are good at measuring what comes IN (members, money, headcount...).
While that is fine, we believe that Jesus is more concerned with what goes OUT.
While numbers don't tell the whole picture, here is a sampling
of our OUTPUT from the last 12 months.*

8 persons baptized and sent to serve
\$30,315 to world missions
\$20,764 for district missions
\$27,940 for local compassionate missions
\$11,680 to Trevecca
\$3,000 given for scholarships at TNU
\$11,680 to Pensions & Benefits
32nd Group Home Party (digital version due to COVID)
10 WES teachers were given \$150 each for classroom school supplies
2 WES teachers given a wish list gift during Teacher Appreciation Week
25 leaders served and shared their testimony through Celebrate Recovery
WCN hosted a meal for WES faculty and staff
1,056 boxes of cereal to Helping Hands
10,000 small cups to WES (kids could not drink out of water fountains)
11 individuals attended the Kaleo Luncheon
5 students enrolled in course of study to prepare for ministry
3 new individuals approved for Continued Lay Training (total of 6)
Two local licenses were given: JT Blue and Hunter Elliott
A Men's Prayer Breakfast met monthly
A Women's Prayer Breakfast began
Season of Emerging Preachers ministry began
Dozens of ladies and men disciplined weekly in the county jail (ministry provided by letters/cards)
Valentines Cookies and cards (from D-kids) sent to over 100 inmates and employees at the jail
25 newcomers participated in Celebrate Recovery
38 individuals served at the Camp Garner Creek Workday
10 servants from WCN served with Helping Hands food pantry (80% of servants are from WCN)
Partnered with Helping Hands for three major food distributions to our community
Dozens visited Humphreys County Nursing Home to place gel clings on residents' windows
Over 1,293 pounds of food given to needy families
\$3,000 given to Helping Hands to help families with rent and utilities
Dozens were sent out to sing carols to those who had been sheltering in place due to COVID-19
Helping Hands served 3,879 residents with our support
Partnered with Humphreys Homeless Coalition to serve 35 families in our community
Dozens of people from WCN partnered with WJHS and handed out bags of food during pandemic
WCN sent a teen to YES Conference to pray through answering a call to ministry

2020-2021 WCN ANNUAL CHURCH BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT

Your Church board meets the 2nd Monday evening of each month and prayerfully seeks God's will in decisions concerning WCN. The meetings are open for anyone to attend. Those you elected to serve on the 2020-21 Church board were SS Superintendent Robin May (21), NMI President Sarah Adams (21), Carla Anderson (23), Greg Field (23), Lloyd Ross (23), Betty Hamm (21), Brenda Palk (21), Rose Mitchell (21), Jana Brazzle (22), Marilyn Evans (22), Terry Langston (22). Parentheses denotes year term ends.

The new Church year began just as a large part of the world was shutting down due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. WCN established a Pandemic Preparedness Plan and became creative in adapting ways to continue being the Church! Although CDC guidelines halted us from gathering in large groups in person, WCN worshipped virtually with pre-recorded and live streamed sermons. Pastor Janice led a live weekly Facebook prayer session, Pastor Annetta hosted virtual Celebrate Recovery services and Teens connected by Zoom.

We put out bids for a general contractor for the new building and learned Covid pandemic had driven building costs up significantly, which meant our new building was now estimated to cost over \$5 million. After much prayer and many discussions, the Board selected Barger Construction as General Contractor for the building project with a \$3.2 million bid for a redesigned building to be built in 2 phases. We must continue to pray and seek God's direction and will for our property and building project!

Pastor Janice faithfully completed all requirements for ordination last May and is still waiting patiently for her ordination service which was postponed twice in 2020 due to the pandemic. The board approved the renewal of her District Minister's license. In June, we began regathering in person for Sunday Worship and it was wonderful to see familiar faces again! We celebrated 10 years of service with Kathryn McGuire who does an awesome job as our Church Administrator. Pastor Mary organized and updated all the previously adopted WCN policies; and the Board adopted the new revised version of the WCN Policy Manual. J.T. Blue and Hunter Elliott were granted local minister's license. The board voted to appoint Mac Anderson as Associate Treasurer. Pastor Mary was named Executive Pastor and will oversee organizational responsibilities. Dr. Tim Gaines led us in days of Renewal. Pastor Ryan Brown led our Homecoming service. You continued to be the Church in mission work locally as you helped feed, clothe and house those in need in our community. Many participated in several intergenerational missional projects like FUEL, Humphreys County Homeless Coalition and Helping Hands. Celebrate Recovery programs continued to be a blessing and many humbly volunteered to serve. We honored our wonderful pastors and showered them with gifts, cards, and love for Pastors' Appreciation.

We graciously and proudly shared our pastors with others as they were sought to lead revivals, train other pastors and assist with Pastoral Reviews. In addition to Covid pandemic, our own congregation experienced sickness, death and tragedy and weathered floods and windstorms, you were the Church as you loved, prayed, fed, and comforted.

We are blessed by obedient and faithful pastors, staff and lay persons who are humbled to serve and give as God calls. Together, by praying and serving, we are a stronger Church!

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Palk

Brenda Palk, Secretary

Treasurer's Report – 2020-2021

Despite what you might think, WCN ends the most recent church year in our best financial shape ever. Overall, donations exceeded the previous year. Your Tithes & Offerings for the year were spot on the forecast (developed pre-pandemic) and Building Fund Giving greatly exceeded expectations. In the meantime, expenses were well down due to both good cost control and a reduction in church-sponsored events.

We did experience a dip in donations during the Summer and Fall of 2020, however, that has rebounded nicely to pre-pandemic levels in recent months. With solid giving and a reduction in expenses, we have been able to grow our Savings to more than \$240,000 at the end of the most recent Fiscal Year. In the meantime, our Building Fund has grown to more than \$1,132,000. These are all-time high levels for both these accounts.

You should be aware that WCN requested and received one of the Payroll Protection Program (PPP) grants available to businesses in mid-2020 as a response to the pandemic. At the time, we did not know how long the pandemic would endure nor how giving would hold up while attendance remained mostly 'virtual'. You should know that our employee compensation has continued without interruption through the pandemic. Also, since donations remained strong, the \$46,700 PPP grant monies were directed in two way; about half toward media system upgrades to provide on-line streaming services and about half was given to individuals and business that were negatively impacted by the pandemic.

We have each of you to thank for your faithful giving. We can only continue to pursue Kingdom work in Humphreys County and beyond with your support and your financial support in the past year was tremendous!

I need to recognize our teams of 'Counters'. For the past year, our Sunday team was furloughed and the Monday team (Carla Anderson, Rose Mitchell, and Linda Story) has been providing all the counting services. We are grateful for their faithful service! Note: we hope to restart the Sunday counting team soon.

A reminder: In addition to placing cash/checks in the offering plate, we have other giving options you may want to consider. They include; bank-to-bank Direct Deposit and two On-line Giving options. You can find further information on our web site (wcntn.com), contact the Church Office, or ask me about giving options. The Staff and Board of WCN thanks you for your faithful and consistent giving. God Bless!

Don McGuire - WCN Treasurer

Income Category	FY2020-21	Expense Category	FY2020-21
Tithes and Offerings	\$ 520,944.58	Administrative	\$ 17,803.64
Building Fund	\$ 104,127.72	Church Ministries	\$ 36,560.67
Local Ministries	\$ 23,044.26	Compassionate Ministries	\$ 27,939.86
PPP Grant	\$ 46,700.00	District / Global Missions	\$ 73,252.73
Work and Witness	\$ -	Employee Compensation	\$ 272,001.48
World Evengelism / P&B	\$ 17,948.00	Facilities	\$ 85,475.71
Interest on Savings	\$ 23,501.89	Building Campaign	\$ 28,827.81
Total Income	\$ 736,266.45	Total Expenses	\$ 541,861.90

Current Assets	FY2020-21
Checking	\$ 41,178.33
Savings	\$ 240,090.06
WIF Investment Fund (BF)	\$ 1,125,142.33
Indebtednes	\$ -
Total Current Assets	\$ 1,406,410.72

WCN Worship Report 2020-2021

Well, that's different. That's been the theme for us this year. The Church of the Nazarene's Work and Witness program has two pillars; they are 'flexibility' and 'unity'. Flexibility and unity have also been the keys to us as a praise team managing through this COVID-19 pandemic. And I am proud to report we are both flexible and unified, even as we see the pandemic's end in sight.

Our Wednesday night routine is to identify new songs and prepare them for Sunday worship. Well, during a pandemic, that ain't happening. Having an entire praise team quarantined was an unnecessary risk, so we chose to be together without being together so much. And it was okay; not what we had envisioned or wanted, but not once did we miss worshipping together with you this past year. Some of us led worship in person and then headed directly home to hear the sermon. And we all wore (and still wear) masks and distance ourselves from each other as much as possible during worship. And through this, His name is still being lifted up. We indeed serve a great God!

I would like to thank the praise team members that use their hands to make music. My thanks go to Donnie Moran on acoustic guitar, JT Blue on bass, Sarah Baker and Katie Brown on keyboards, and Clint Rawls on drums. They are so talented, and I am grateful they offer themselves to worship. And thanks to Rose Mitchell, John McGranahan, Jordon Bohannon, Jane Langston, and Katie Brown for making music with their voices.

Thank you to Betsy and Anndee Hailey for beautifully adding your voices and guitar for special times like Lent and the Easter sunrise service. We are blessed that the Hailey's are here.

This pandemic started us down the path of providing a way to participate in worship remotely. And that was a huge technology challenge that I think has been very successful. Having the technology to make that happen is just one piece of the work. Pastor Mary identified a team and helped develop their skills. Many thanks go to Jason Batchelder and Hunter Elliott for their video work; they are truly professionals as you can see each week as you worship remotely. Thanks to Kay McGranahan, Vernon Costello, Lindy Dellinger, Don McGuire, Garry Stanley, Greg Field, Nick Forester, and Makayla McGranahan for their work with audio and graphics each week. I would like to thank Miss Macy Brown for helping us out on several occasions this year by running ProPresenter for praise team practice. Thank you, Macy!

Resurrection stories are an integral part of Easter season at WCN. I am grateful for those of you that courageously share your story of how God has worked and continues to work in your life. And thanks to Pastor Mary Forester for piecing these stories into an electronic form and into the fabric of God at work at WCN.

Lanelle Coleman has decided to step down as a key member of our Praise Team. She has faithfully served in music ministry for 32 years! We have been blessed by her gifts, and we have been more blessed by her presence.

Like you, I am ready for this pandemic to be over. But I am also excited to see how God is leading us into the future. It won't be the same as pre-pandemic, and it shouldn't be. But I am confident that we will head into this future flexible and unified. I give all the glory to our great God!

Terry Langston, Worship Leader

NMI (National Missions International) Report for 2020/2021

Dear Church Family,

Let me first thank you for allowing me to be your NMI President for another year. I want to thank Pastor Daron Brown and Pastor Mary Forester for the incredible amount of help this year.

This past year has been a strange year for the entire world. In March, our country became one of the many across the world which fell subject to the COVID pandemic. Churches all over the USA closed. However, the gospel still needed to be preached and Church became virtual (thank God for technology). Missionaries abroad continued to preach the gospel and needs continued.

We Support NMI with our gifts. WCN has always paid 100% of our World Evangelism Fund (WEF) obligation. Out of every dollar given through the offering 5.5 cents goes to resource global missions. This year WCN gave a total of \$30,315 to World Missions.

In addition to tithes, we have other opportunities to support missions throughout the year:

Alabaster: An offering we give twice a year (Feb and Sept) that goes to build buildings around the world (Churches, schools, hospitals, and homes for missionaries). WCN gave \$529.00

Faith Promise Sunday: (Usually in August) We gather to focus on missions. We are encouraged to promise to give a certain amount above our tithe throughout the year. Every Faith promise dollar goes to missions around the world. WCN gave \$15,997.00

Easter & Thanksgiving offerings for World Evangelism: Both special offerings go directly to the work of spreading the Good News around the world. WCN gave \$1,118.00

Other WEF giving \$12,671

Faith Promise Sunday was on August 16, 2020. Mission stories, memories, and laughter were shared. We heard stories from the global Church of the Nazarene and shared stories from WCN's own mission trips.

Missions, both global and local, are a large part of our calling. They both are a large part of who we are. (For info about local missions, contact Pastor Janice Rudolph).

We have resources that are available to you. One resource is a set of mission books. You may borrow them and return them. There are also brochures about Compassionate Ministries, and other local and global missions. Both brochures and mission books are available downstairs outside of Kathryn's office.

Our Missionaries are away from their families and other support groups for long periods of time. It is urgent we pray for them.

Thank you,



NMI President

WCN Family,

To say 2020 was an unusual year is quite an understatement! Because of the pandemic we had decided to suspend in person meetings for Sunday School out of an abundance of caution.

While the weather was warm and pleasant some classes continued to meet but outdoors to prevent spread of the virus. As Fall gave way to colder weather those classes also had to suspend meeting together. Thank you to all the teachers who found ways to keep in touch with their classes through many different ways (technology is a good thing).

We have one combined class that meets in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings, led by Trent Riley. Thanks, Trent for your continued commitment to teaching in the breach.

This time away has given us a chance to step back and see what we can do to "update" this ministry we call Sunday School. Meetings have been held, teachers, church board members and staff have all come together to envision how we can reach more of our community through our Sunday morning groups. Always keeping in mind our church's mission to Belong to the body of Christ, Believe in the person of Christ, and Become the mission of Christ, we are looking at ways to engage a larger circle of people.

As we begin a new year, may we all be aware of how blessed we are to have such a strong church family. One that has survived many years and now this pandemic. We all look forward to the time when we can again meet together. May 2021 be a year of recovery and renewal!

Respectfully submitted,

Robin May

Report of the Church Administrator

For over 10 years now it has been my honor and privilege to serve as WCN's Church Administrator. I am blessed to work with WCN's pastors and witness up close the passion they each bring to their calling and the love and compassion they feel for their church & community. I am grateful for the extra efforts Pastor Mary is taking to bring our staff into closer community with each other. I am thankful for Pastor Daron's leadership and vision. I am thankful for the leadership of our church board. And I am thankful for each of you.

In May of 2020, the church took the time to recognize my 10-year anniversary at WCN. I normally do NOT like a spotlight. But I knew I was among friends and you all made the occasion very special, meaningful, and not too embarrassing. Thank you for the cards, gifts, and gracious words. Again, I am blessed.

In last year's report, I said that I believe God is using difficult circumstances (the flood, windstorm, beginning of pandemic) to shape us into a resilient and compassionate people. Well, looks like He is still shaping us! This past year looked a little different for everyone including WCN as we strived to be missional people in very different times.

Many of our faithful but more vulnerable servants at WCN wisely chose to shelter at home. We were fortunate to have new people step in. I thank God for those who served on the front lines here at WCN, those serving behind the scenes, and for those of you who found ways to serve from home. I can't possible name all, but I'm going to tell you about and thank some here.

Terry Langston, Garry Stanley, and Mac Anderson spent a few days installing the new video equipment so that we could stream worship services. I thank God for them. I am thankful for Jason Batchelder for replacing the sanctuary lights with LED's. I thank God for sending Karen and Eugene Woodside to make our sanctuary more attractive by installing wood paneling features. I can always count on Garry Stanley or Richard Horner to help with maintenance issues that come up at WCN. I thank God for them. And I'm thankful for Richard organizing the storage room!

I am thankful for our hospitality, safety, and sanitizing teams and our virtual space hostesses for serving when we gather for services: Brenda Palk, Eugene & Karen Woodside, Carl & Jana Brazzle, Eugene & Tracy Cavness, Jimmy & Betty Hamm, Lloyd Ross, Buddy Bishop, Duane & Doris Pine, Trent Riley, Nathaniel Riley, Don McGuire, Karl Reynen, Greg Field, Sam Dellinger, Pastor Annetta, Fran Turner, Pastor Janice, Debbie Manor, and Kathy Traylor.

COVID didn't stop the Prayer & Care Ministry! In fact, they were more vital than ever. I am thankful for Lanelle Coleman, Sharon Baron, and Kay Webb for continuing to send cards and pray for people! The need was especially great this year!

When PPE supplies, including masks were in short supply even for medical workers, several people jumped in and made cloth masks to be distributed. They made some for us too. I am thankful for Dell Hooper, Katie Brown, Jana Brazzle and Debbie Manor. And thankful for Amanda Hite supplying us with cloth masks too.

I have a very special group of ladies who help me get the newsletter ready as well as other various office tasks. When COVID hit, because many of them were especially vulnerable, I suspended them gathering for their safety. Fortunately, some of our high school & college students were able to fill in for a while. Marilyn & Gary Evans folded newsletters from home for a while. Later, some new ladies started helping. They even came up with a name for the group, "The Golden Foldies". I'm thankful that many have been able to come back after receiving the vaccine. WE have missed them. They bring me joy and I thank God for all these ladies: Lanelle Coleman, Marilyn Evans, Betty Hamm, Dell Hooper, Virginia Simmons, Ellen Moran, Pat Rhyne, Linda Nichols, Glenda Davidson, Elaine Choate, Rose Mitchell, Linda Witbeck, Kathy Bennett Traylor, and Rhonda Moore.

Because I cannot name all the ways and people who serve here and in our community through the church, may I give a broad THANK YOU to you all for being WCN! I thank my God for you all!

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathryn McGuire

2020/2021 PASTOR OF LOCAL MISSIONS REPORT

WES PARTNERSHIP – WCN has completed 12 years of partnership with WES. Our service this past year has been severely limited due to Covid. WCN has, however, supported WES by gifting ten teachers with checks to help purchase needed items for their classrooms. WCN served the teachers and staff with a beautiful meal of appreciation on May 5th, and a letter of appreciation while maintaining social distancing guidelines. Thanks to Pastor Mary Forester for leading this partnership and to Kathryn McGuire for organizing the meal.

FUEL – The FUEL program has completed 15 years of service to local schools. This year WCN served 35 of the 130 students in the program. FUEL bags continued to be delivered to the students through the end of the school year after the schools closed due to Covid. WCN partnered with the other 3 churches to hand out FUEL bags each Thursday at WJHS. Thank you to Ellen Moran, Sarah Palk, Emily Palk, Wynona Gwin, Carla Anderson, Sarah Baker, Brooke Marek, Glenda Davidson, Jill Field, and Brandy Burns for their dedicated work and commitment to this vital ministry.

HELPING HANDS – WCN partners with our local food pantry to provide food and financial assistance to families in Humphreys Co. Ten people from WCN volunteer at Helping Hands every week. Helping Hands provided assistance to over 3,500 families. Thank you to Carla Vinkler for her leadership of this vital ministry and to everyone who faithfully volunteers and serves our community through this ministry.

GROUP HOME PARTY – The 32nd Group Home Party looked very different in 2020. We could not gather in the D-Zone to celebrate in person with our special friends, but, where there's a will, there's a way. Thank you to Buddy Bishop and friends for making a great Christmas video which was delivered to every Group Home and person along with gifts to say Merry Christmas through a different venue. We look forward to the next GHP in 2021 when we can hopefully be together again. Thank you to Buddy Bishop, Sheila Bishop, Kay McGranahan, Pastor Mary Forester and everyone who helped make this party happen.

HUMPHREYS HOMELESS COALITION – HHC is a new non-profit agency in our county which serves to help our homeless move toward a better future. HHC began serving the homeless in July of 2020 and has served 35 families by providing temporary shelter, utility and rent deposits, transportation, bus tickets, coats for cold weather, and connection through other resources. Thank you to everyone who donated to this much needed ministry. HHC looks forward to future growth as it continues to serve Humphreys Co.

STORM TROOPERS – Storm Troopers is a new ministry to WCN. The goal is to be prepared to serve our community and county in emergency situations such as storm and flood relief. Thanks to Jacen Davidson for organizing and leading this ministry.

2020/2021 PASTORAL CARE REPORT

I love Jesus and I love the people of this church and our community. I am blessed to partner with Pastor Daron in this part of my ministry.

This past year has been a great challenge in connecting with people due to the social distancing required by Covid-19 pandemic. I am grateful to have been able to connect with folks by phone.

I hope many of you were able to join in the Facebook Live weekly prayer meetings I led beginning in mid-April through the end of May 2020. I am grateful for the technology which enabled such a great connection.

Although life will probably be much different as we get back to a somewhat new normal, I look forward to getting back to doing life with you and *being all up in your business*. I can't wait to see what amazing things God will be up to in the coming year. I pray for each of you, and I thank you for the privilege of serving you and WCN.

Pastor of Pastoral Care and Local Missions

Pastor Janice Rudolph

Jail and Recovery Ministries – 3/1/2020 – 2/28/2021

From time to time, we hear about *creative access* countries where we have missionaries who can minister only “under cover” so to speak. For example, they have another position in the host country as an English teacher in the university. Through that means and on the side, they find ways to evangelize. Even so, we’ve had to be creative this year in continuing to stay connected while we haven’t had direct access as prior to the pandemic. Although it’s not ideal, we still see the faithfulness of God in mighty ways – at home and abroad.

One such example for us this past year has been the jail. Regretfully it was closed to our teams mid-March through the church year. For us, creative access meant taking them our Sunday School paper weekly, *The Standard*, along with personal communication by letters back and forth.

We all know that the power of prayer permeates any concrete walls! Our prayer team of 40 persons continued to receive specific prayer requests submitted by the inmates occasionally. When those requests weren’t available, they still prayed to the One who knows every need!

As a loving congregation, 23 of you again baked and sent cookies on Valentine’s Day even though we couldn’t distribute them ourselves. As you’re aware, we heard from quite a few inmates by mail of their deep gratefulness at being remembered and reminded that they are loved by us and by our God!

Linking our jail ministry, church congregation, and Celebrate Recovery, let me share one story. Year before last, Miranda was in the jail for drug use. Incarceration brought her to her knees before God. Our team - Betty Hamm, Jan Troxell, and I - ministered to her in our weekly services there. After she was released, she began attending our CR on Thursday evenings. She wanted to be so sure that she remained drug-free that she chose to go to a residential rehabilitation program in Portland, Tennessee even though she wasn’t court-ordered. She has called me a couple of times since she has completed the program and is making plans to return and be a part of our CR. No doubt the men’s jail ministry team – Charles Davidson and Dan Troxell – have similar stories they could share. As the chorus says, “There are no boundaries, no limits to what God can do; to what He can do through me and through you.” The Spirit of God always has access!!

Even with the months that we couldn’t have CR, we had access by the internet with our breakout groups, a series of sermonettes on our private CR website, and other means. Be that as it may, we were able in the eight months we met to complete our year’s curriculum. We welcomed 25 newcomers during those months. That was possible by our last year’s team for which I’m so thankful - Betty Hamm, Ellen Moran, Trent Riley, Marilyn & Gary Evans, Debbie & Troy Manor, Doris & Duane Pine, JT Blue, Rachel Reynen, Warren Patrick, Alice Ulman, Sharon Baron, Vernon Costello, and Chuck Ellis.

This past year we offered mentoring training, which was well attended, to provide personalized support to our CR participants. Also, the last two months of the church year, the CR Leadership team promoted a survey to determine the felt needs of our congregation and CR attendees. Subsequently, we revamped our CR structure to give more time for the breakout groups and to also offer more options for specific groups. One of the most requested groups was “Family Members of those with Chemical Dependencies.” Therefore, we scheduled that group for the very beginning of March as a six-month offer in CR. Others will follow in this coming church year as a means for broadening our ministry in meeting strategic needs. When it’s God’s will, there’s always a way!

Respectfully submitted, Pastor Annetta Sykes

Children's Ministry Annual Report for 2020-2021



In January of 2021, I began my fifth year of serving as Children's Pastor here at Waverly Church of the Nazarene. In the past few years, I felt the direction of my call changing. I now serve as Executive Pastor at WCN so this will be my last annual report as Children's Pastor. I will continue to provide oversight to our children's ministry. We have hired Kelsey Elliott, a recent graduate of Trevecca Nazarene University, as our Children's Ministry Director effective May 1, 2021. I am excited about the future of our children's ministry and the direction the Lord is leading us.

Covid-19 had a significant impact on the entire church and especially our children's ministry. WCN has always had a vibrant children's ministry. Our families would show up early for worship services/small groups and gather for service opportunities. Not being able to physically gather affected us. However, we are resilient. Our kids and families continue to return! We have had new families join us, and they are already becoming integral parts to the life of the church.

Our kids **belonged** by:

- Participating in a drive-thru ice cream social. Leaders and kids were connected as ice cream was handed out to our families.
- Gathering for worship:
 - There were a few months when the church was unable to physically gather. During this time, our leaders were intentional about keeping our kids connected through mail contact, Facebook, and recording kids' worship services and providing them online. Our leaders spent 4 hours participating in a Discovery Kids Parade. Vehicles were filled with leaders waving to our kids and chauffeuring the Easter bunny around to each home as he delivered Easter eggs.
 - We regathered for on-site worship at the end of May 2020. In order to meet distance guidelines, we used the Kids' Discovery Zone for families to gather instead of returning to Children's Worship in that space. We do believe it is important to provide worship on our kids' level. But I know those who gathered with the rest of their families during this time did grow as they opened their hands to receive the blessing, stood in chairs to sing with the gathered church, and opened their Bible as the pastor read the word of the Lord.
 - In October, we began bringing our tweens back for outdoor worship. We had a time of prayer and acknowledgment for our 6th graders who were transitioning to the youth group.
 - Finally, in November, we welcomed all kids/babies back into the D-Zone and the nursery!

Our kids **believed** by:

- Giving to Alabaster twice throughout the year.
- Hearing missionary stories from our own church and from around the world.

Our kids **became** by:

- Serving at Camp Garner Creek by painting and picking up sticks, and then they spent the afternoon swimming in the creek.
- Singing in the choir for Festival of Carols.
- Putting up snowflake gel window clings on the nursing home residents' windows.
- Caroling at our friends' homes who we had not been able to see in a while.
- Collecting 1,056 cereal boxes for Helping Hands!

We could not have made it through the past year without several key leaders: Sheila Bishop, Charles Davidson, Madison Young, Rachel Reynen, Betsy Haley, Sydney Ross, Tracy Cavness, Warren Patrick, Delilah King, Doris Pine, Rebekah Scribner, Kathryn McGuire, Carla Anderson, Lauren Blue, Barbara Brandon, Brittany Selph, Kelsey Elliott, BriAnn Selph, Heather Holmes, and Vernon Costello.

I am thankful for a loving church who believes in ministry to our children.

In Christ,

Pastor Mary

WCN NYI Annual Report (3/1/20 – 2/29/21)

The beginning of the new church year brought with it, a new virus, Covid-19. We quickly had to find new ways to do ministry. Our teens brought us into the new world of Zoom meetings (a big “Thank you” to Addie and Haley Irons!) Through Zoom, we were able to “meet together”

to catch up with one another, to have devotions, to “dive deeper” into Pastor Daron’s messages and even have a scavenger hunt!

Once we were able to return to in-person services, Pastor Mary has led us on Wednesday nights, along with help from Eugene & Karen Woodside, Rose Mitchell, Adriana Batchelder, Betsy Haley and myself. Eugene led us in “Diving Deeper” on Sunday nights. Thank you to all for supporting our teens!!

Many of our teens helped serve at workdays at our church and the campground, spreading gravel at the WES playground, doing yardwork at an elderly woman’s home and handing out coats to the homeless. Another group of teens did some work for Greg Field. It was a paid job, but the teens decided to donate the money to a family in need! Other acts of service were helping in the Hanging of the Greens service, decorating windows at the Humphreys County Nursing Home and singing carols to some who had been self-isolating. The teens involved in all these events were: Mateo Batchelder, Kendall Brown, Parker Brown, Brycen Davidson, Anna Davis, Parker Forester, Brianna Gwin, Dylan Gwin, Addie Irons, Haley Irons and Hayden Leming.

Haley Irons attended the Southeast Regional YES conference. She later taught her first Bible study to our teens, who encouraged her in her call to ministry.

In July, we were able to congratulate our four high school graduates: Eric Batchelder, Maggie Cotton, Kasey Mosley and Brandon Wallace with an outdoor celebration!

In August, teens along with some of our college students, enjoyed canoeing on the Buffalo River. There were a few tip-overs but only one lost canoe!

In October, our annual Bonfire, Paintball and Pumpkin Carving event was held at the Woodside’s home. We had 31 teens and adults in attendance!

Thank you to all the parents and other workers that support our church’s teen ministry!!

Jane Langston

NYI President

This is my first annual report serving as Executive Pastor. In November of 2020, the board voted to expand my organizational oversight to the whole church with emphasis on NextGen ministries. I am thankful for a board and staff team for walking through uncharted waters and allowing me to serve in ways that I feel called to serve. I am thankful for a lead pastor who creates space and invites me to share leadership responsibilities with him.

It is difficult to share what I do daily because my role is fluid. It changes as our church's needs change. As Executive Pastor, I have four broad ministry goals:

1. Empower Effective Leadership
2. Promote Productive Communication
3. Amplify the Vision
4. Demonstrate Initiative

It is a blessing to be able to walk alongside of those who lead in the church: Children's Ministry Team, Youth Ministry Team, Booth Team, Media Team, Hospitality Team, Stewardship Team, Properties Team, SDMI, and NMI. Each of these teams has leaders who are devoted to the Lord and to the spiritual growth of the church. We are blessed to have their voices in conversation as we discern the will of the Lord together.

As Executive Pastor, I have the privilege of working on the implementation of practices that will draw our staff team closer to one another and to the Lord. In the last year, we have grown in our understanding of sharing life together. We have been intentional about carving out space to share in a monthly meal together and a quarterly meal which includes our family members. We dove deep into a 3-month long book discussion which helped us understand how to work together better as a team whose center is the Lord. We are engaging in these practices not only for the health of our team but because we believe that we are called to model the practices that we want the church to engage in with one another.

One of my primary responsibilities is to ensure that the ministries of the church are aligned with the mission that we believe God has called WCN to faithfully live out in our context. I am certain that all of our ministry leaders have a deep passion for seeing our community Belong to the Body of Christ, Believe in the Person of Christ, and Become the Mission of Christ. I look forward to walking alongside of Pastor Daron and our leadership teams in the upcoming year.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Forester

Executive Pastor

Report of the Pastor

Church Family,

I bring you my twenty-first report at the close of twenty full years of ministry. Our Risen Lord is alive and moving in Waverly, TN. I find immense joy seeing God work through you. Katie, Kendall, Parker, Macy, and I are grateful to continue to serve as your lead pastoral family. We are blessed to be yours.

What a year it was! It was hard enough to live through. Even more difficult to lead through. But the Spirit empowered and guided us through the most challenging year in recent history. We did not just survive the year. We thrived. Thanks be to God!

Acts 8 offers a turning point in the life of the early church. Before Acts 8, Jesus declared that the church would witness in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). By the time we get to Acts 8, the church was still in Jerusalem. Stephen, a bold and godly leader, was arrested and put on trial. He turned the witness stand into a pulpit and preached the gospel. In response, the Jewish leaders stoned him to death. Because of that unfortunate moment, the world shifted. The church scattered. Acts 8:4 says, "Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went." God did not cause the persecution. But from it, Jesus's words were fulfilled. The church scattered into the world, living the gospel during the chaos. The early church was at least four things: *adaptive*, *undeterred*, *generous*, and *growing*. In similar fashion, our world shifted a little over a year ago. God did not cause the pandemic. But from it, the church lived in scattered mode. It gave us opportunity to live the gospel during the chaos. Like the early church, WCN has been *adaptive*, *undeterred*, *generous*, and *growing*.

Adaptive

In times of crisis, we learn how resilient we are. Resilience is not rigidity. It is about knowing when to adapt. The church is a nimble organism. It is not a stiff institution. We made difficult decisions about services, groups, cleaning, pastoral visitation, events, etc. Decisions did not come easy. We do not always get it right. We did our best, with the Lord's help. We adapted by upgrading media equipment and presence for our homebound folks. For ten weeks last spring we un-gathered with no in-person attendance. Virtual only. The church did not *close* because the church is not a *place*. Upon re-gathering, we implemented many protocols. We opened three distanced spaces for Sunday morning worship. The last year gave us plenty of opportunity to demonstrate how adaptive we can be!

Undeterred

Even though many things looked different, we continued to be the church! We were undeterred when it came to our mission! We continued to worship and share the gospel. We kept serving. In fact, we looked for new opportunities to serve those affected by the pandemic. We held a productive *Conversation About Race* with Dr. Chet Bush, in addition to local meetings and efforts to dialogue about healthy race relations. Our Blue Christmas service (in a very blue year) may have been the most important ministry event all year. Celebrate Recovery persevered, rebooted, and began a new group for families of those dealing with chemical dependency. We kept preaching. We kept reaching out. We kept serving. These things and many more add up to describe one undeterred local church!

Generous

This year, our community and our world needed us more than ever. Thanks to your faithfulness in giving, we made a difference. You mailed or hand-delivered tithe checks. You learned how to give online. You gave cereal boxes (a record number: 1,056!). Our teenagers were the most active group in the church through the pandemic. They remained in mission-mode. They had workdays. They cleaned and cleared and gave away coats. They led us in being the church. Through the Waverly Elementary School partnership (12 years strong!), you shared supplies, greeted, gave funds, worked on playground renovation, and hosted a meal for WES employees. At the beginning of the pandemic, we set a plan to help people who were financially affected. We had more people willing to help than we had need. That is called a spirit of generosity.

Growing

How did we grow in such a weird year? Our reach expanded through technology. People now regularly worship with us around the United States and in other countries. 8 were baptized. We received 10 new members. 2 new local minister's licenses. 3 new CLT (Continuing Lay Training) students. New families coming. Our weekly worship average was 153 onsite and 196 online equaling 349 total. New ministries like the *Season of Emerging Preachers* and *Women's Prayer Breakfasts* got off the ground. Several people prayed to receive Jesus. Many people made the most of the crisis by growing spiritually during a hard time.

After a year such as this, I am grateful for this team! Leading this church is a group effort. Kathryn McGuire (10 years of service!) is dependable and faithful. Mary Forester transitioned into the role of Executive Pastor smoothly. She is a fit for the job and she is a blessing to me. Janice Rudolph persists in providing great leadership in local missions and pastoral care. She truly is a pastor to this community. Annetta Sykes leads our Jail and Recovery Ministries with excellence. Her passion for those on the margins is unparalleled. Don McGuire, as Church Treasurer, exceeds expectations, providing sound leadership for our stewardship. Mac Anderson has come on board as Associate Treasurer. His character and competence make him a great fit for the job. And we welcome Kelsey Elliott to the team. It is so good to bring Kelsey home for children's ministry.

I am privileged to serve alongside outstanding leaders on our church board. Thanks to Jana Brazzle, Terry Langston, Lloyd Ross, Brenda Palk, Robin May, Greg Field, Marilyn Evans, Carla Anderson, Rose Mitchell, Sarah Shanks, Jane Langston, and Betty Hamm for serving on the church board. Thanks especially to Betty Hamm for completing many years of service on the board. Her impact has been immeasurable. I cannot tell to you how important it is to serve alongside a healthy, unified, missional group of leaders. I am confident in their character and their competence. They bring joy to my work.

We turn our attention to another year. We anticipate the great things God has in store. One great thing is set on the calendar. This year marks WCN's 75th anniversary. The tent meeting began in 1946. On October 23-24, we will gather to celebrate three quarters of a century of WCN. It will be a big event. More information will come. For now, save the dates!

Just like God took the unfortunate event of Acts 8 and used it for his purposes, we have only begun to realize the fruit from the challenges of 2020. As we move forward, we do so *adaptable, undeterred, generous, and growing*. Join me as we lean into another year. Let's see what God is up to!

-Pastor Daron