

**St. John United Church
Annual Team Reports of Mission and Ministry**

Ministry Year:	January 2020 - December 2020
Ministry Team Name:	BRYANT WOODS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEAM
Name of Ministry Leader(s)/Coordinator(s):	Karen Randall
Ministry Leadership email(s):	karenrandall1@gmail.com

1. List the names of the members of your team:

Dr. Lisa Cooper Mary Ka Kanahan Andrew Love, Jr. Karen Randall Mary Lou Shippe
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2. List your team's accomplishments over the past year in the following mission and ministry areas. Briefly describe how each accomplishment is measured.

a. Support for the Wider Global Mission of the Church

N/A

b. Service to Our Community

Purchased and assembled 50 desks for the home use of students at BWES, which were distributed in cooperation with the staff of the school on 12/11 and 12/12/2020.
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Participated in Boys' Night Out on February 20th and the "Guest Reader Day" at BWES on February 21, 2020.

Supplied school supplies in advance of school opening (on August 28 th).
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Dr. Lisa Cooper chaired a virtual parent workshop in the evening to support our families titled "Mental Health/Managing Stress During Difficult Times" on 29 October.

The BWES team organized the collection of over \$1000 for hats, coats and mittens for the students (funds already provided to the school) and collected funds for the purchase \$10 gift cards for the staff.

c. Worship

BWES choir and string orchestra performed at service on January 12, 2020, with school staff recognized along with the BWES team, followed by fellowship with the BWES visitors. A copy of "All Are Welcome" <https://www.amazon.com/All-Are-Welcome-Alexandra-Penfold/dp/0525579648> was also presented to the school.

d. Spiritual Formation

N/A

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e. Foundational Support of the Church

N/A

3. Briefly describe and explain the ways your team's ministry and mission was adaptive during the 2020 year, especially in response to COVID 19 pandemic restrictions and protocol. (e.g., use of technology, changes in curriculum, etc.)

Covid 19 disrupted all our original plans for 2020, in particular, postponing what was to be a biggest project, supporting and outfitting soccer teams for the students at BWES. We were able to get approval from the Presbytery to use the funding originally intended for the soccer project for use in the desk project instead.

Other adaptations include the shift of the usual "clap-in" at the beginning of the school year being shifted into a virtual "Welcome to the School" video played for the students on opening day, conversion of the "Hat and Mitten tree" into a collection of funds provided to the school so that they could purchase winter clothing for the students, and in the coming year, "virtual" reading and career days.

Ministry Year:	January 2020 - December 2020
Ministry Team Name:	COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY
Name of Ministry Leader(s)/Coordinator(s):	Tony Powell
Ministry Leadership email(s):	Powelltony1@gmail.com

1. List the names of the members of your team:

Guy Moody, Chris Robinson, Nigel Green, Yvonne Barner, Alvin Thompson, Charles Dyer

2. List your team's accomplishments over the past year in the following mission and ministry areas. Briefly describe how each accomplishment is measured.

a. Support for the Wider Global Mission of the Church

Maintaining Facebook and SJU Websites. Facebook views up 38%.
 Established a You Tube channel. Services are regularly viewed both locally and abroad.
 Started and began to experiment with Twitter

b. Service to Our Community

St. John United Church Annual Team Reports of Mission and Ministry (cont'd.)

c. Worship

d. Spiritual Formation

e. Foundational Support of the Church

Delivered the Church Photo Directory

3. Briefly describe and explain the ways your team's ministry and mission was adaptive during the 2020 year, especially in response to COVID 19 pandemic restrictions and protocol. (e.g., use of technology, changes in curriculum, etc.)

Began the year with plans to use 3 minutes of a Sunday service to promote navigating the SJU website/Facebook page from cell phones. Within a week of the pandemic closing, under the leadership of Chris Robinson, Yvonne Barner and later Alvin Thompson:
 Learned the basics of Zoom and managed our 1st Sunday service.
 Class led by Susan Moody assisted members with navigation.
 Monthly NewsFlash became a weekly, providing the church bulletin and Zoom access reminders.
 Camera donated by Nigel Green enhanced Pastor Mary Ka's views.
 Slide show to entertain the congregation dialing in before service.
 Round robin format for the new hospitality meet and greet after service .
 YouTube added to reach viewers far away or those who couldn't access the Zoom format.
 Integrated live, prerecorded and licensed music into the weekly service.
 Handled liturgy from the sanctuary.

For other endeavors:
 In December, we finally took our 1st steps with using Twitter.
 Setup a 2nd Zoom account to allow multiple ministry meetings at the same time.
 Provided input to the Wilde Lake Interfaith Center Board for technology enhancements and will begin utilizing the new streaming capabilities in room 4.
 To acknowledge additional responsibilities, now known as Communications/Technology Team.

Ministry Year: 2020	January 2020 - December 2020
Ministry Team Name:	CONGREGATIONAL CARE COMMITTEE
Name of Ministry Leader(s)/Coordinator(s):	Andrea Barnes, Evelyn Chesnutt
Ministry Leadership email(s):	Awbarnes00@aol.com

St. John United Church Annual Team Reports of Mission and Ministry (cont'd.)

1. List the names of the members of your team:

Andrea Barnes, Evelyn Chesnutt, Judy Douds, Joy Buckingham, Evann Ridgeway, Karol Hess, Leora Broady, Lavonne Jerkins, Caroline Evans, Harriett Tootle, Ann Worley, Eudora Barnes, Pamela Love, Mary Lou Shippe, Betsy Hudson, Lynn Pakulla

2. List your team's accomplishments over the past year in the following mission and ministry areas. Briefly describe how each accomplishment is measured.

- a. Support for the Wider Global Mission of the Church

- b. Service to Our Community

- c. Worship

- d. Spiritual Formation

- e. Foundational Support of the Church

Congregational Care has a mission to support the Pastor, provide support and nurturing for members and friends and to assist those in need of God's love, guidance and support. In response to COVID 19, CCC set in motion calls or sending cards to all members to check on their physical and mental health every 2-3 weeks. The Birthday Card Ministry was continued throughout the year. We did try to visit our "Friends at Home" during Christmastide providing them with a self-administering communion kit with a liturgy, masks and poinsettias.

3. Briefly describe and explain the ways your team's ministry and mission was adaptive during the 2020 year, especially in response to COVID 19 pandemic restrictions and protocol. (e.g., use of technology, changes in curriculum, etc.)

We adapted to COVID 19 by holding our meetings on ZOOM. Communication by email was more frequent to keep members aware of changing situations. Phone calls and cards were more frequent to stay in touch with the congregation. Prayer concerns were made known to the committee membership in case additional support was needed. A chart was developed and placed in the NEWS BLAST each week with names of volunteers that could be called if help was needed by a member.

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Ministry Year:	January 2020 - December 2020
Ministry Team Name:	COUNCIL
Name of Ministry Leader(s)/Coordinator(s):	Debbie Parker
Ministry Leadership email(s):	rparker-temp@comcast.net

1. List the names of the members of your team:

Mary Ka Kanahan	Gayelle Sama
Debbie Parker	Jordan Randall
Andrew Love	Lisa Cooper Green
Bob Lynch	Patsy Nwagbaraocha
CJ Buche	Vincent Niba
Debra Snow	
Dean Randall	

2. List your team's accomplishments over the past year in the following mission and ministry areas. Briefly describe how each accomplishment is measured.

a. Support for the Wider Global Mission of the Church

- Committed to identify SJU as a "Matthew 25 Church" in the Presbyterian Church.
- Committed to identify SJU as an "Anti-Racist Church" in the United Methodist Church.
- Established anti-racism as a key SJU initiative to guide ministry team plans through 2021.

b. Service to Our Community

- Had the \$6,000 Community Engagement Grant from Baltimore Presbytery extended, increased to \$7,000, and re-purposed to assist with more immediate pandemic-related community needs.

c. Worship

- Provided feedback to Worship Team on virtual worship user experience throughout the year as use of technology evolved

St. John United Church Annual Team Reports of Mission and Ministry (cont'd.)

d. Spiritual Formation

Encouraged formation of small groups to address issues related to the pandemic and racial justice/anti-racism, resulting in 3 book studies/discussions:

- Unafraid – Living With Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times, by Adam Hamilton – 12 participants
- Be The Bridge, by Latasha Morrison, about the history of racism and use of biblical principles to produce a restorative response to racism and racial division – 17 to 19 participants
- How to be an Anti-Racist, by Ibram A. Kendi – 13 participants

e. Foundational Support of the Church

- Approved consolidation of all building investment funds allocated to Mid-Atlantic Methodist Foundation, Royal Alliance, and Howard Bank into a single account at Royal Alliance, managed by Lee Financial to achieve higher returns and reduced management fees.
- Approved having all SJU staff continue to be paid their budgeted salaries during the pandemic shut-down.
- Approved securing an SBA CARES Act Paycheck Protection Program 2-year 0.5% loan to help cover decreased giving to maintain staff and ministries. The loan is forgivable if staff and payroll are maintained at pre-pandemic levels.
- Monitored financial results and year-end income/expense projections to ensure SJU's financial stability
- Approved transfer of unused funds from 16 escrow funds into the operating fund.

3. Briefly describe and explain the ways your team's ministry and mission was adaptive during the 2020 year, especially in response to COVID 19 pandemic restrictions and protocol. (e.g., use of technology, changes in curriculum, etc.)

- Council meetings switched from in-person at the Interfaith Center to virtual via Zoom beginning March 16 with the closure of the building.
- Council meeting frequency increased from monthly to weekly for the first few months, then to twice monthly, to maintain connection with the congregation and each other, as well as denomination and government guidelines and restrictions on in-building activities, to respond more quickly to events and issues as they occurred during the evolving pandemic.
- Approved securing a forgivable SBA CARES Act Paycheck Protection Program loan.
- More frequent monitoring of year-end income/expense projections for early warning signs of financial distress.
- Approved transfer of unused funds from 16 escrow funds into the operating fund.
- Supported continuation of virtual worship in lieu of in-building services through the end of 2020 and January 2021 in compliance with CDC, regulatory, and denomination guidelines. Continued assessment and discernment will guide SJU's return to the building in 2021 to ensure the safety of congregants and staff; however, virtual worship will continue to be offered to those who either are unable or do not feel comfortable returning to in-person worship and meetings during the re-entry transition.
- Determined that the annual congregation meeting will proceed on January 31, 2021 with an all-virtual format via Zoom. Meeting materials will be emailed to members with email and mailed via USPS to members who do not have email access.

St. John United Church Annual Team Reports of Mission and Ministry (cont'd.)

Ministry Year:	January 2020 - December 2020
Ministry Team Name:	FINANCE COMMITTEE
Name of Ministry Leader(s)/Coordinator(s):	Susan Moody
Ministry Leadership email(s):	susanmoody822@gmail.com

1. List the names of the members of your team:

Roy Ferguson, Dean Randall, Alvin Thompson
Mary Ka Kanahan, Debbie Parker (regular participants, do I count y'all as team members?)

2. List your team's accomplishments over the past year in the following mission and ministry areas. Briefly describe how each accomplishment is measured.

a. Support for the Wider Global Mission of the Church

b. Service to Our Community

c. Worship

d. Spiritual Formation

Starting each meeting with a devotion. This has provided an opportunity for various members to share things in their spiritual journeys.

e. Foundational Support of the Church

Secured PPP loan to provide funds to continue staff salaries at the same level.
Created electronic repository for Finance meeting notes and policies.
Revised financial job descriptions to clarify roles of Treasurer, Financial Secretary, and Finance Committee.
Audit committee conducted a financial review and provided recommendations to the Finance Committee for improving processes.

St. John United Church Annual Team Reports of Mission and Ministry (cont'd.)

Revised vouchers and identified ministry leads for each budget line to provide clarity and increase accountability for expenditures.
Consolidated Investments into a single account at Lee Financial for ease of management an improved performance.

3. Briefly describe and explain the ways your team's ministry and mission was adaptive during the 2020 year, especially in response to COVID 19 pandemic restrictions and protocol. (e.g., use of technology, changes in curriculum, etc.)

Added Givelify as an additional method for on-line giving.
Providing regular financial projections to the church council, making sure that our finances stay positive.
Identified dormant escrow accounts in order to release those funds to support the ministries of SJU.
Adapted counting process to remote operations.
Eliminated numbered giving envelopes for 2021.
Began monthly meetings with the Investment Trustees. Tracking our cash balance in the Investment account prepared us to respond in case of financial emergency.

Ministry Year:	January 2020 - December 2020
Ministry Team Name:	INVESTMENT TRUSTEES
Name of Ministry Leader(s)/Coordinator(s):	David Douds
Ministry Leadership email(s):	Dmdouds31@gmail.com

1. List the names of the members of your team:

Debbie Parker, Dr. Lisa Cooper, Rev. Mary Ka Kanahan, David Douds

2. List your team's accomplishments over the past year in the following mission and ministry areas. Briefly describe how each accomplishment is measured.

- a. Support for the Wider Global Mission of the Church

By maintaining a minimum cash balance of \$100K, per Church Council direction, the Investment Trustees provided a financial underpinning for the SJU Operating Budget, including items supporting the wider global mission of the church. This cash reserve may be drawn upon by the Church Council as needed, in the event of an unexpected financial shortfall.

- b. Service to Our Community

By maintaining a minimum cash balance of \$100K, per Church Council direction, the Investment Trustees provided a financial underpinning for the SJU Operating Budget, including items supporting service to our community. This cash reserve may be drawn upon by the Church Council as needed, in the event of an unexpected financial shortfall.

St. John United Church Annual Team Reports of Mission and Ministry (cont'd.)

c. Worship

By maintaining a minimum cash balance of \$100K, per Church Council direction, the Investment Trustees provided a financial underpinning for the SJU Operating Budget, including items supporting worship. This cash reserve may be drawn upon by the Church Council as needed, in the event of an unexpected financial shortfall.

d. Spiritual Formation

By maintaining a minimum cash balance of \$100K, per Church Council direction, the Investment Trustees provided a financial underpinning for the SJU Operating Budget, including items supporting spiritual formation. This cash reserve may be drawn upon by the Church Council as needed, in the event of an unexpected financial shortfall.

e. Foundational Support of the Church

In addition to the above specific elements of church activities, the entire balance of the SJU Investment Fund, which has increased from \$1,027,739 to \$1,157,503 during 2020, is available to support capital spending in support of worship, outreach, and other SJU activities, as directed by the Church Council.

In order to improve the performance of the SJU Investment Fund, the Investment Trustees proposed, and the Church Council approved, the movement in March 2020 of \$410,656 from another Investment Management Account, which had underperformed consistently, back to the main Investment Management Account, which is overseen by a local broker.

3. Briefly describe and explain the ways your team's ministry and mission was adaptive during the 2020 year, especially in response to COVID 19 pandemic restrictions and protocol. (e.g., use of technology, changes in curriculum, etc.)

The above-described cash reserve, as well as the remaining balance of the SJU Investment Fund, was available, as needed, to support adaptive activities during the COVID 19 pandemic, particularly in the audio-visual equipment-related area.

Ministry Year: 2020	January 2020 - December 2020
Ministry Team Name:	MINISTERING IN THE COMMUNITY
Name of Ministry Leader(s)/Coordinator(s):	Lisa Cooper Green, Mary Lou Shippe
Ministry Leadership email(s):	lisa.cooper@jhmi.edu; propertyqueen13@gmail.com

St. John United Church Annual Team Reports of Mission and Ministry (cont'd.)

1. List the names of the members of your team:

Dr. Lisa Cooper Green, Mary Lou Shippe, Harriett Tootle, Patsy Nwagbaraocha, Izetta Cooper (retired at the end of 2020)

2. List your team's accomplishments over the past year in the following mission and ministry areas. Briefly describe how each accomplishment is measured.

a. Support for the Wider Global Mission of the Church

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, most of our activities were only financial in nature. We contributed to the One Great Hour of Sharing and the Christmas offering which was divided between our two denominations (Methodist and Presbyterian groups.)

We also provided donations to the Aurora Foundation and Osligi Hope, ministries in Liberia and Kenya, respectively.

b. Service to Our Community

We contributed financial contributions to PATH, Grassroots, More Light and Reconciling Ministry, as well as the Aurora Foundation. We also contributed rotisserie chickens to Grassroots to supplement their meals.

We worked with the Bryant Woods Education Team to support collection of gift cards and supplies, although the activities were handled by the BWES team and not our group specifically.

We supported the virtual parent workshop to support BWES families titled "Mental Health/Managing Stress During Difficult Times" on October 29, 2020. Dr. Cooper worked in partnership with Miss Ashley Armstead from BWES to plan the workshop. The panel discussion was moderated by Dr. Cooper and included experts in pediatrics and psychiatry from Johns Hopkins Medicine (Drs. Denis Antoine, Alexis Hammond, and Nakiya Showell) and the Social Emotional Learning Teacher at BWES (Mrs. Candace Beasley). Approximately 20 people attended.

One third of the One Great Hour and Christmas offerings was distributed to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund to help local families in our congregation.

c. Worship

N/A

d. Spiritual Formation

N/A

St. John United Church Annual Team Reports of Mission and Ministry (cont'd.)

e. Foundational Support of the Church

Dr. Lisa Cooper and her colleague, Dr. Chidinma Ibe, gave a presentation at a webinar hosted by the Baltimore-Washington Conference of The United Methodist Church, entitled, Accessing Health Care and Health Advocacy in a COVID-19 Era on May 12, 2020.

3. Briefly describe and explain the ways your team's ministry and mission was adaptive during the 2020 year, especially in response to COVID 19 pandemic restrictions and protocol. (e.g., use of technology, changes in curriculum, etc.)

As mentioned earlier in this report, due to the restrictions on meeting in person, our activities were generally limited to financial contributions, except for the actual delivery of chickens to Grassroots. Our meetings were all virtual. We worked with the finance committee to determine what funds were available to distribute to the various budgeted groups.

Ministry Year:	January 2020 - December 2020
Ministry Team Name:	STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE
Name of Ministry Leader(s)/Coordinator(s):	Richard Parker
Ministry Leadership email(s):	rparker-temp@comcast.net

1. List the names of the members of your team:

Rev Mary Ka Kanahan, Connie Lynch, Patsy Nwagbaraocha, Dawn Barnes, Erich Schoch, Wendy Abong, Richard Parker

2. List your team's accomplishments over the past year in the following mission and ministry areas. Briefly describe how each accomplishment is measured.

a. Support for the Wider Global Mission of the Church

b. Service to Our Community

c. Worship

St. John United Church Annual Team Reports of Mission and Ministry (cont'd.)

d. Spiritual Formation

e. Foundational Support of the Church

1. Recommended to Council that the staff continue to be paid for the remainder of the year due the Corona Pandemic.
2. Worked with the pastor on setting 2021 goals and periodically reviewed the pastor's progress toward meeting her goals for 2020.
3. Due to the Pandemic, prepared a truncated annual evaluation of the pastor.
4. Prepared a truncated Congregational Profile for the Baltimore Washington Methodist Conference.
5. Provided 2021 salary recommendations to the Council for the pastor and staff during the annual preparation of the church budget.
6. Coordinated the holiday "Love Offering" for the pastor and staff.
7. Provided support for the pastor as needed throughout the year.

3. Briefly describe and explain the ways your team's ministry and mission was adaptive during the 2020 year, especially in response to COVID 19 pandemic restrictions and protocol. (e.g., use of technology, changes in curriculum, etc.)

Ministry Year:	January 2020 - December 2020
Ministry Team Name:	SUNDAY WORSHIP EXPERIENCE TEAM
Name of Ministry Leader(s)/Coordinator(s):	Ingrid Sampson Mary Ka Kanahan
Ministry Leadership email(s):	iasamps@gmail.com pastorkanahansju@gmail.com

1. List the names of the members of your team:

Ingrid Sampson and Patty Hammer, Music
 Judy Brown, Altar Guild
 Andrea Barnes, Liturgists
 Evann Ridgeway, Ushers
 Rich Parker and Alvin Thompson, Sound
 Chris Robinson, Recording

2. List your team's accomplishments over the past year in the following mission and ministry areas. Briefly describe how each accomplishment is measured.

St. John United Church Annual Team Reports of Mission and Ministry (cont'd.)

a. Support for the Wider Global Mission of the Church

Create worship which raises awareness of United Methodist and Presbyterian Church USA worldwide missions, collects for Special Sundays, and promotes issues facing the global church.

b. Service to Our Community

Offered worship experience to celebrate our BWES partnership—inviting leadership, families and staff to attend. Collections for food that goes to the Salvation Army Thrift Shop

c. Worship

Celebrated liturgical Christian calendar honoring major holidays. Created multicultural worship representative of the congregation. Upgraded technology, projection and streaming capabilities in Room 4.

d. Spiritual Formation

Celebrated Vacation Bible School week with music, contributions from children and youth and preaching by Jen McClurg.

e. Foundational Support of the Church

Working with the Communications team we adapted worship to online. Working with the Administrator, we prepared weekly worship and electronic news items to be delivered weekly to congregants.

3. Briefly describe and explain the ways your team's ministry and mission was adaptive during the 2020 year, especially in response to COVID 19 pandemic restrictions and protocol. (e.g., use of technology, changes in curriculum, etc.)

Worship shifted quickly to online platform of ZOOM in March and worked with Christ UMC for a few weeks. Worship then continued with ZOOM and YouTube Live coming from pastor's and liturgist's homes. For Advent and Christmas, we worked with the WLIFC and Communications team to pre-record worship music and liturgy in Room 4 so congregants would have a familiar backdrop for the holiday season. Leading up to the Sundays in Advent and Christmas, we recorded preludes and anthems in room 4 with Patty Hammer and guest soloists Karen Randall, Debbie Parker, Jean Weller, and Ingrid Sampson.

Ministry Year:	January 2020 - December 2020
Ministry Team Name:	VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
Name of Ministry Leader(s)/Coordinator(s):	Jen McClurg, CJ Buche
Ministry Leadership email(s):	jenmcclurg@gmail.com cjraybob@gmail.com

St. John United Church Annual Team Reports of Mission and Ministry (cont'd.)

1. List the names of the members of your team:

Donna Hayman
Karen Hopkins
Mary Ka Kanahan
Guy Moody
Susan Moody
Patsy Nwagbaraocha
Mary Lou Shippe

2. List your team's accomplishments over the past year in the following mission and ministry areas. Briefly describe how each accomplishment is measured.

a. Support for the Wider Global Mission of the Church

- Conducted Virtual Vacation Bible School that connected with 14 families/24 children. This is an approx 25% increase from 2019.
- VBS provided opportunities for learning and worship in an inclusive environment with specific attention to social justice (tied to the Bible stories, science/craft activities, and the mission offering to two community organizations).
- VBS included:
-- 10 families/18 children of SJU members/regular attendees/grandchildren
-- 4 families/6 children who do not worship regularly with SJU
-- 4 families/8 children were new participants in 2020 – all were regular attendees/grandchildren of SJU.
-- 9 leaders participated daily with several others participating intermittently

b. Service to Our Community

- We offered VBS to community members outside SJU including SJERCC, BWES, and Columbia neighbors through email and direct invitations.
- VBS included opportunity to participate in mission offering to support two local community organizations. Families of VBS participants, VBS leaders, and SJU congregation provided financial offerings of:
-- \$1035 to Columbia Community Care which provides food through distribution sites and other support to those in need in Columbia. Additionally some food was donated via the collection box at the Wilde Lake Interfaith Center.
-- \$1035 to Youth Rising Coalition (Baltimore Presbytery) which provides support for youth entrepreneurship and enterprise in Baltimore allowing young people to create opportunities for themselves and their families, and to be a model for other youth in the city.
- VBS's choice to support these organizations highlighted their work to SJU congregation and to VBS families not affiliated with SJU thus increasing awareness of the two organizations.

c. Worship

- Jen McClurg, VBS leader, conducted the Sunday worship service following completion of VBS (August 9, 2020). This service highlighted and expanded on the themes from VBS to connect the whole SJU congregation with what the children and their families had experienced during the week.
- Participating in the mission offering for VBS provided the opportunity for the SJU congregation to express support to groups working for social justice.

St. John United Church Annual Team Reports of Mission and Ministry (cont'd.)

d. Spiritual Formation

- VBS provided leaders an opportunity to learn and grow spiritually while preparing material to present to the children
- VBS provided children with age-appropriate stories, activities, and information to help them understand more about God's love for them and their responses to that understanding.
- The virtual VBS format provided an increased opportunity for families to engage with the VBS curriculum and share in the activities with their children.

e. Foundational Support of the Church

- VBS planning, resourcing, and completion supported each component of SJU's mission:
 - To worship God – with stories, songs, offerings, and activities/artwork
 - To support and nurture each other – especially among the leaders in the planning and resourcing stages
 - To provide a foundation for our spiritual life – for the leaders during preparations to deliver the curriculum and to the children and families interacting with the program
 - To empower our members in ministry – by encouraging members of the congregation to share their diverse gifts (for teaching, acting, singing, motivating, fund-raising, driving, crafting, etc.) and by encouraging the children and families to share what they learned with others
 - To celebrate our diversity and promote inclusiveness for all – by adapting the VBS basic curriculum to include specific references to inclusion and highlight instances of exclusion and by encouraging participation by all children at their comfort level
 - To partner with and advocate for victims of social injustice - by providing financial support and publicity to Columbia Community Care and Youth Rising Coalition organizations as they both work to support victims of social injustice
 - To share the good news of Jesus Christ and invite others to do the same – by providing a fun, engaging, age-appropriate program to children and their families

3. Briefly describe and explain the ways your team's ministry and mission was adaptive during the 2020 year, especially in response to COVID 19 pandemic restrictions and protocol. (e.g., use of technology, changes in curriculum, etc.)

- VBS was conducted virtually via Zoom. The published curriculum was modified to fit the virtual format including timing, activities, and logistics.
- Using the Zoom format allowed several families who would not have been able to participate otherwise to be part of VBS. Children participated daily from Chincoteague and Sandston Virginia and also from Albuquerque, NM on one day. It also likely allowed children whose parents would have had transportation and/or child care issues with in-person VBS to participate as well.
- We shortened the daily sessions to a length of time which we felt was age-appropriate for online (approximately one hour) and manageable by leaders.
- We selected specific program elements from the basic curriculum which could be presented on screen vs in-person. In some cases, we substituted alternate craft/science activities, materials, or interactions for those recommended as part of the in-person curriculum.
- Supply kits for each child were packed then isolated for approximately 7 days before being delivered or mailed. Deliveries were timed so that families could isolate the materials for an additional 3-5 days before the beginning of VBS.
- Due to the limited time available, in many cases, activities were started during the session and then finished after the Zoom meeting ended. A photo drop box was set up online to allow families to share pictures of completed projects. This photo drop box was also made available to our "Worship Administrator" who was able to include pictures in the presentation for Sunday worship.
- VBS Certificates were delivered concurrently with pick up of food/financial donations to Columbia Community Care and Youth Rising Coalition.