

**FLORIS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

PREPARED FOR: Church Council

PREPARED BY: Executive Director

DATE: 3/09/18

**MARCH COUNCIL REPORT**

**MEMBERSHIP & ATTENDANCE**

	February 2018	February 2017	February 2016
Weekly Worship Attendance (average for month)	1,280	1,329	1,327
New Members	9	3	11
New Members YTD	24	22	26
First Time Guests	28	38	28
Unique Attenders	1,995	2,075	2,151
YTD Weekly Attendance	1,297	1,284	1,271
Avg times attending	2.22	2.19	2.16
Restoration weekly worship attendance	131	111	108
Restoration YTD weekly attendance	135	108.8	115.8

***KEY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS BY MINISTRY AREA***

**Worship Ministries**

**General**

- The entire team is working towards the launch of Restoration Worldwide on March 11. We will continue to train staff and volunteers on how to interact with a growing on-line congregation.
- We are actively working on sermon series through the remainder of 2017.
- The Dream campaign will be woven into worship following Easter.
- Barbara is creating a 28-day devotional for the congregation for use during the campaign.

### **Traditional Music**

- The Hallelujah Children's Choir (grades 3-6) sang with about 100 children from 8 churches in a festival worship service on Sunday, February 25, at 7 pm, at the Lutheran Church of St. Andrew in Silver Spring, MD.
- The Cantata choir has been rehearsing on Wednesdays and Sundays for the Good Friday Lenten Cantata.
- The Lenten Cantata Dress rehearsals will be held on March 24<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> with the Symphonic orchestra, narrators, soloists, and choir.
- The choir and orchestra will lead all Easter morning worship services.

### **Contemporary Music**

- Open Mic Night is occurring this Friday, March 9. We have a few new people signed up as well as the Hallelujah Choir.
- Care packages were sent to our college students, and we've received several notes from excited students who have received the gifts. FCB members had a great time putting these together amidst the snow/slush storm. We also packaged forty "Better Day" bags for those without housing. FCB members took these with them to pass out to those they might come across in the community who could benefit from the contents.
- FCB added three new members, including a violinist.
- FCB members are actively working on "platform presence."

### **AV**

- Demos for special lighting in the Sanctuary took place in February.
- Four new volunteers have been recruited.
- A student is being mentored in A/V.
- Work continues in preparation for the launch of Restoration Worldwide.

### **Care and Concern**

- We are pleased that Carol Benson joined the team as the new Care and Concern Assistant for Floris UMC. She is in the process of contacting all Care and Support Group leaders as well as touching base with the Care Support teams.
- Care and Concern participated in the Happenings Fair to invite people to participate in Family Support Ministries and Angels on Call. The Prayer Blanket Ministry was also present.
- The Funeral Team provided a beautiful and meaningful service and reception for the family of a young man who recently took his own life. Floris is becoming known in the community for the care and attention we offer grieving families.

### **Serve and Connections**

- The Help Hungry Kids Ministry leadership team has transitioned to be fully responsible for the ministry starting in March and April. The team will still have Serve Ministries support but will take on the responsibility of leading events, communications and volunteer management. This ministry and the changes we made in 2017 have been very transformative in how we serve the community and engage our congregation in that work.
- The Easter Basket Ministry began in earnest in late February with our congregation taking more than 1000 Easter Basket tags. Each year, we provide Easter Baskets to children and teens living in transitional housing, shelters, and other supportive social programs.

- The Spring Happenings Fair took place on Sunday, February 18 and resulted in over 40 unique sign-ups for 12 ministries. Two new ministries that are entirely volunteer-led, the Prayer Blanket ministry and the Racial Reconciliation Initiative, were featured for the first time. A post-event de-brief followed the event to streamline the Happenings brochure production process and increase efficiency in coordinating the fair.
- Upcoming Events and Ministries
  - Easter Sunday Services Volunteer Recruitment: April 1
  - Rise and Shine Open House: April 3 and May 1
  - Hutchison Parent Coffee/VOICE Action: April 6
  - Rebuilding Together: April 28
  - Spring Against Hunger: a Help Hungry Kids Weekend: May 18-20

Serve Ministries By the Numbers:

Ministry Activity	Dates	Volunteers	Volunteer Hours	People Served
Grace Ministries	2/2 & 3	95	279.50	588
Embry Rucker	2/17 & 24	9	27.00	155
SOME	2/17	6	24.00	400
FACETS	2/6	14	50.00	100
ESL	2/6,8,13,15,20,22 & 27	33	320.00	160
Hypothermia	2/6, 13, 20, 27	29	85.50	100
Hutchison PALS	DAILY	24	53.00	48
Hutchison Volunteers	DAILY	3	8.00	6
HHK Weekly Jobs	2/7,11,14,21, & 28	12	33.00	----
HHK Packaging	2/25	38	83.00	800
<b>Totals</b>		<b>263</b>	<b>963.00</b>	<b>2,357</b>

**Young Adult Ministries and Wesley Fellows Highlights:**

- After more than six months of relational discernment work, young adult ministries have relaunched and rebranded as The Harbor Young Adult Ministries, with the purpose of helping young professionals find a place to belong at Floris UMC and equipping them to live out and share their faith in their everyday lives.
- We held our first monthly event, a potluck dinner, on February 23 with 25 people attending, about half of whom had not connected with young adult ministry events at Floris before. We discussed The Harbor ministry plan and received encouraging and helpful feedback.

- Our three fellows are currently preparing for their program experience to end, going through numerous professional development opportunities including resume and job readiness workshops. All three are considering staying in the area and remaining connected to Floris UMC.
- Recruitment is underway for the 2018-2019 class, with two applications received already and others expected by the March 15 deadline. We hope to enroll 6-8 fellows in our next class.

### **Grow Ministries**

#### **Floris UMC Preschool**

- The preschool conducted its registration for the 2018-19 school year. It was successful with the 9 morning classes at capacity. The 4 afternoon classes have a few spaces open, but we are rapidly filling them. We had a 95% return rate of those children eligible to return.
- During the last 2 weeks of February, the preschool conducted its “Spread the Love” campaign. We collected over 500 non-perishable items for the Hungry Kids campaign and one of the food shelters in the area.
- The preschool continues to have an excellent reputation amongst the area elementary schools. We have children with learning disabilities who receive services from Fairfax County. Their teachers constantly recommend us to their clients and tell us what a great job we are doing.

#### **Children’s Ministries**

- On Sunday, February 11, fifth graders as part of our FISH program volunteered in the Fellowship Hall by serving, cleaning, and helping in other ways during the Shrove Pancake Brunch for both the 9:15 and 11:00 a.m. services. Events continued with a Mardi Gras party where kids learned about Mardi Gras and Lent through games, making masks, and enjoying Kings (cup) Cakes. Students also assembled 1,000 organza bags filled with Hershey Hugs (and kisses) with a special note enclosed.
- On Sunday, February 18 fifth graders after the 9:15 and 11am services gave out the Hershey Hugs bags that had been assembled the week before. Congregants were so happy to receive these bits of love from the children.
- Family Potluck and Games Night for families was celebrated on February 23 with over 100 people in attendance. All enjoyed wonderful foods and an evening of family-style games. It was definitely a success and we’ll be hosting another similar event in the fall.
- In Kid Nation, we learned about the Parables of Jesus, people who work in our church, and what it was like to live in Bible times.
- Upcoming spring events will include:
  - March 9 - FISH Missions Madness (for 5<sup>th</sup> graders and their families)
  - March 9 - Kids Night Out (KNO)
  - March 16 - Fourth Grade Green and Gold event
  - March 25 – Palm Sunday Processional in Sanctuary
  - April 13 - Family BINGO Night
  - April 15 – Sign-ups for Fall Kid Nation Teachers begins
  - April 27 – FISH Movie Night and Parent Meeting

#### **Student Ministries**

- Confirmation small groups are continuing, and retreat planning is also in progress. Todd Harris has been secured as our Music and worship leader. Todd has years of experience as a

confirmation leader in the Alabama conference and we are excited to have him as a volunteer and church member.

- CrossRoads began Great Expectations series in the Orange curriculum. This month's focus was valuing what God values, focus on you before who, and wise money handling. Evening attendance continues to average about 40 students while Sunday morning small groups are averaging approximately 31.
- MS summer mission, Jeremiah Project, spots are full while MS retreat, Journey, are still open.
- Dan Yoon our new director led Krew for the first time and focused his message on "Who am I?" and "Whose am I?" 16 students signed up for student leadership opportunities the first round of meetings was held to vision for future plans.
- Dan continues to meet with key leaders, parents and students to gain background and understanding of why and how things are what they are. He is working with Drew Ensz to continue to explore new opportunities and structural changes. The first of these is the SIMs program which is under review for potential changes to better meet the mission of creating disciples of our students.
- HS mission trip will be to Jacksonville Florida for hurricane relief. 10 students have signed up so far and we will be hosting interest meetings and other opportunities to publicize the mission. This year the mission opportunity is more focused on service than on an international destination. This results in a slightly lower interest but will offer a potentially more transformational service experience.

#### **Adult Ministries**

- February was all things Lent. We concluded our book sales and group sign-ups with approximately 530 books being sold and nearly 800 in groups including two new online groups. Early feedback has been positive regarding the choice of *Creed*.
- Developed a companion bible reading list that allows Lenten group participants the opportunity to experience a more daily devotional theme as Creed does not have a daily reading or reflection component. This was distributed to all small group leaders to share.
- Discussions continue with a prospective consulting group regarding the possibility of engagement regarding student and family ministry architecture. First phase would be the completion of a baseline study of the congregational attitudes and desires that will allow for a gap analysis of the actual practices and participation those attitudes and desires currently produce.
- A Silent Retreat was created and planned and will be led by a trained lay leader, Susan Gonzalez, who has her Spiritual Formation training from Shalem Institute. The retreat will be held in early March.

#### **Restoration**

- Emily Boccia has worked with Forest Edge Elementary School to provide a summer basketball and cheerleading camp. In February, she attended the Reston Expo for summer camps and shared the camp with the entire Reston community. She has already secured all of the basketball and cheerleading coaches as well as the location. Forms for camp have been sent home with every child at Forest Edge Elementary through the school.
- Lenten Life Groups were launched with 113 people signing up for groups. Restoration is doing the Lenten study Creed along with Floris UMC.
- On February 14 Restoration provided *Ashes to Go* at Lake Anne Plaza. Ashley Allen graciously filled in for Tim Ward who was in Honduras on a mission scouting trip.

- Restoration hosted a Love of Chocolate event after worship on February 25. Many people provided chocolate items in addition to our hot chocolate bar. Restoration’s attendance was higher and there were 40 kids in worship that day.
- The first Pour Theology of the year was held on February 27 at the Lake Anne Brew House. 45 people were in attendance. The speaker, Sathi Clarke, discussed Christian and Muslim relations. The next event is on March 27 and Brian Blase will be speaking about healthcare.
- Throughout the month of February Restoration collected desperately needed donations for the Embry Rucker Shelter and provided servers for 2 meals each week at the shelter. In addition to this Restoration provided the full meal at the Reston Hypothermia shelter on February 23.
- Attendance for February:

Date	Worship	Kids	Total
Feb 4	141	29	170
Feb 11	124	15	139
Feb 18	128	15	143
Feb 25	133	38	171

Restoration had (in total) 84 additional people attend in February 2018 than February 2017.

## **FINANCIAL OPERATIONS**

### **February**

- Receipts/Income: \$333,149
- Expenses: \$359,619
- Net Ordinary Income: (\$26,470)
- Loan balance: \$6,465,961
- Reserves (Avg): 2.31 months

### **FEBRUARY YEAR-OVER-YEAR COMPARISON**

	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
<b>General Fund Receipts</b>	\$328,199	\$321,009
<b>Net Income</b>	\$21,268	(\$13,435)
<b>Building Fund Receipts</b>	\$15,193	\$193,850
<b>Reserves (Avg)</b>	2.31 months	2.10 months
<b>Indebtedness</b>	\$6,465,961	\$6,868,500

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

- The Floris UMC Twitter account is up seven followers, and the Floris UMC Facebook page is up 12 fans. Restoration’s Facebook page is up four fans.
- The blog, Today I Saw God, reached 609 views for the month with the most popular post, “Facing Our Shadows,” reaching 41 unique views.
- The blog, Today I Saw God, has a total of 71 subscribers.

- We shared a Commission on a Way Forward post which was the most popular post on our Facebook page for the month. It reached 616 people, 2 likes, and 110 post clicks.
- Floris UMC's Instagram account posted a picture of our weather update graphic, notifying members about an office delay. The picture received 12 likes.
- Restoration's Facebook page posted Super Bowl Sunday reminder that reached 571 people and received 6 reactions, comments and shares.
- Floris UMC eNote open rates for the month averaged 43 percent with an average click rate of 19.25 percent. Restoration Church continues to post their eNote to The City.
- Floris UMC website was visited 4,991 times with 24,045 page views. The website was visited by mobile users 2,517 times. Creed, preschool registration and Employment were the most visited web pages.
- Restoration Website was visited 178 times with 489 page views (Note: Restoration Reston new website was launched mid-February and new analytics were not reported). The website was visited by mobile users 178 times. The Big Game, employment and Believe were the two most visited pages.