

FLORIS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

PREPARED FOR: Church Council

PREPARED BY: Executive Director

DATE: 4/06/18

APRIL COUNCIL REPORT

MEMBERSHIP & ATTENDANCE

	March 2018	March 2017	March 2016
Weekly Worship Attendance (average for month)	1,401	1,369	1,596
New Members	0	11	3
New Members YTD	24	33	29
First Time Guests	46	20	57
Unique Attenders	2,095	2,159	2,771
YTD Weekly Attendance	1,331	1,310	1,371
Avg times attending	2.15	1.75	1.89
Restoration weekly worship attendance	126	117	141
Restoration YTD weekly attendance	132	111.5	123.6

KEY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS BY MINISTRY AREA

Worship Ministries

- The entire worship team was part of launching Restoration Worldwide on March 11. The initial Sundays have had some challenges but also good success. We continue to work with challenges on the technological side and will continue to pursue a better connection. We are also fine-tuning the sensitivity towards and interaction between the online and onsite congregations.
- Holy Week and Easter was an enormous team effort to achieve our goal of creating God honoring, Spirit filled worship experiences for all who attended. We had over 4,700 people who attended onsite and those who attended online. We will be gathering for a review of all services and interactions in the coming week, in an effort to make the experience next year even better.

Traditional Music

- The Cantata choir and orchestra put together a moving and excellent Good Friday Lenten Cantata.
- The choir and orchestra offered several moving pieces during Lent and Easter.
- The children's choirs will lead the worship on April 22.
- The choirs and orchestra will continue conducting rehearsals and will lead the worship through the second week of June.

Contemporary Music

- The Holy Thursday service was filled with beautiful music, creative spoken word and sacred communion thanks to the dedicated work of the Full Circle and worship teams.
- FCB will soon be holding a workshop with an outside professional to further develop creative and organizational skills and talents.
- FCB members are actively working on "platform presence."

AV

- Mentored a new student in A/V.
- Working with the *Dream* campaign to create a unique experience for one of the upcoming congregational meetings.
- Continuing to work with the Restoration Worldwide team to eliminate technology issues and create ways to consistently provide the desired outcome for the online congregation.

Care and Concern Ministry

- Carol Benson is contacting all of our Care and Support Group leaders as well as touching base with our Care Support teams in an effort to discover their needs and wishes for providing effective ministry.
- Carol has been working with MaryBlair Fabry to determine the best way to use data in Fellowship 1. We are experimenting with a new way of entering information and assigning attributes. This process will take a few months to refine but should allow us to have better information for providing care and for measuring care given.
- Our Congregational Care Ministers have taken on two new care receivers this month.

Restoration Worldwide

- The new online ministry, Restoration Worldwide, successfully launched on March 11. Other than viewers from the US, we have people attending online from Albania, South Korea, UK, South Africa, France, Ghana, India, Puerto Rico, and Cyprus.
- The average worship attendance on line has been 196, and we look forward to seeing this number further increase as more people join us in worship.

Serve and Connections

- The Easter Basket Ministry collected and distributed 984 Easter Baskets to local agencies and organizations with the help of more than 60 volunteers. This was our largest volunteer effort with the Easter Basket Ministry in recent history.
- Our ESL Ministry ended for the school year at the end of March. Unfortunately, the annual celebration and graduation event was cancelled due to inclement weather. Our ESL leaders are looking forward to the fall and plan to implement improvements to the ministry such as using a texting program to encourage attendance.
- Over 90 volunteers from the parking lot ministry, shuttle ministry, ushers, greeters, and Welcome Desk provided radical hospitality during Holy Week and Easter. Shuttle busses were offered during the Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday services and saw record ridership, with about 100 shuttle riders. Connections ministry assisted lay leaders in recruiting and scheduling volunteers, including confirmands and mentors working to complete required service hours.
- Information compiled from the Fellowship One database is in the process of being summarized and presented by Connections ministry to the church staff. Information sharing is expected to increase understanding of church demographics in relation to volunteer engagement and improved guest experiences. The primary goal of this new internal system is to provide ongoing, accessible information that helps address ministry concerns as needed.
- Upcoming Ministries and Events:
 - Hutchison Listening Sessions and VOICE Herndon/Reston Caucus: April 6 and 10
 - Rebuilding Together: April 28
 - Rise and Shine Open House: May 1
 - Summer Happenings Fair: May 6
 - Help Hungry Kids Ministry Celebration Dinner: May 20
 - Hurricane Irma Mission Team: May 24

Serve Ministries By the Numbers:

Ministry Activity	Dates	Volunteers	Volunteer Hours	People Served
Grace Ministries	3/2 & 3	97	278.50	435
Embry Rucker	3/17 & 24	7	24.00	145
SOME	3/17	5	20.00	370
FACETS	3/6	11	52.00	100
ESL	3/1,6,8,13,15,20 & 22	30	193.00	160
Hypothermia	3/6, 13, 20, 27	27	78.00	100
Hutchison PALS	Daily	28	42.00	56
Hutchison Volunteers	Daily	1	2.00	2
HHK Jobs & Packaging	Weekly	47	122.50	180

Easter Basket Return	3/18	62	156.00	984
Totals		315	968	2,532

Wesley Fellows and The Harbor Young Adult Ministries Highlights:

- As the year-end approaches, all three current fellows are seeking or have already received offers for job opportunities in Northern Virginia, meaning they will stay in the area for the foreseeable future. As of April 6, we have one confirmed fellow and three outstanding acceptances for the 2018-2019 fellows class.
- Our leadership team has approved several curricular changes for the 2018-2019 fellows' year, including changing our partnership with Wesley Seminary to no longer require fellows to take seminary level classes and allowing service leadership opportunities to be more customizable to fellows' interests. We anticipate charging each 2018-2019 fellow \$4000 for their experience, compared to \$5000 this year, due to the reduced costs associated with the Seminary courses.
- The Harbor continues to build momentum, hosting another potluck event on March 23. A total of 10 people attended the last event, including two who previously had not connected with young adult ministries. Our next event is pub theology on April 27.

Grow Ministries

FUMC Preschool

- The Preschool participated in the national “Read across America” campaign by honoring Dr. Seuss February 26 – March 2. Each day was a different theme such as “Hats Off Day”, “I Can’t Get Up Day” and “Mismatch Day”. The children had a great time.
- One of our favorite weeks happened March 9-13 – “Pizza with Pop”. Our preschool dads came and enjoyed lunch with their preschoolers. The children sang and gave their dads a gift that they had made. We had over 96% participation. The children were so excited and we had a fantastic time.

Children’s Ministries

- In Kid Nation, we learned what happened each day of Holy Week, from Palm Sunday, to Jesus teaching in the temple, through Peter’s denial, Jesus’ washing of the disciple’s feet, and more. Older kids drew maps of Jerusalem labeling where each event took place. They were also given the opportunity to wear a crown of thorns and to try carrying a large wooden cross.
- On Palm Sunday during the 9:15 and 11 a.m. services, 170 children paraded through the Sanctuary as part of our annual Palm Processional. This event is always a highlight for the children and those in the congregation.
- Our F.I.S.H. (Fifth In Service for Him) event in March was our family March Madness Event. Fifth graders brought their parents and siblings and together we worked on and completed 6 different service projects. Organizations which benefited from our projects included the Ronald

McDonald House, INOVA Hospital, foster children in Virginia and Maryland, and a Floris UMC mission trip to Cuba.

- Children's Ministries hosted a 4th grade Green and Gold event with 18 fourth graders in attendance. We played games, ate green cupcakes, learned about St. Patrick's Day, and the highlight of the evening was our glow-in-the-dark hunt. This event was something special for 4th graders and a way to engage them as they prepare to become 5th graders and members of FISH (our 5th grade service oriented group).
- Our amazing volunteers served a total of 437 hours in the month of March.
- Upcoming spring events will include:
 - Family BINGO Night, April 13
 - FISH Movie and Parent meeting on April 27
 - Kid Nation Returning Teacher cards distributed on April 15

Student Ministries

- Middle school retreat had the highest participation that we have seen in over three years, with 37 student and leaders attending the Rockridge retreat center for a weekend of fun and worship.
- Confirmation small groups concluded in March culminating 9 weeks of learning the confirmation curriculum, which was based on the Apostles Creed. We had 42 confirmands complete the groups.
- Held an interest meeting for the HS Mission Trip to FL with Tim Wells who provided details about the trip and answered questions from students and parents. As of April 5, we have a total of 21 students who are currently registered for the trip and about 10 adults.
- On March 11, Krew focused on "We are what we eat," which dealt with personal formation by highlighting the significance of what we consume, e.g. food, entertainment, ideas, etc. Ultimately God desires we be shaped into his image, but what we consume can support or hinder that formation. Our student worship team led Krew for the first time.
- Continued our plans to revamp the current SIM program. Employed a survey to current SIMs to get a better read on their participation in Student Ministries outside the SIM program. Designed a new service and leadership program called "The 4:10'ers" with Grow team members.
- Preparation continued for the upcoming Confirmation Retreat working through schedule and music and activities.

Adult Ministries

- Held our first ever silent retreat at Trinity Episcopal Church in Upperville, VA. Starting at 10 a.m. and continuing through 4 p.m., 16 adults participated in various forms of spiritual growth activities such as lectio divina in nature, journaling, art, and silent prayer and meditation, music and more. It was a great success and based on feedback we will be planning for a quarterly event.
- Creed Lenten groups continued throughout the month with very positive feedback regarding the structure of the study and the content.
- Development of online groups continued with 2 new groups that will launch in April.
- Applicants for the grow coordinator (the vacancy left by Donita Dickerson) continue to be interviewed with the target of a hiring decision by mid-April.

Restoration

- Restoration held a Holy Thursday Supper and Communion at Forest Edge. In addition, Restoration provided the stations of the cross at Lake Anne Plaza for local folks to experience the last moments of Jesus' life and held two Easter services and an Easter Festival. More than 500 people attended the Easter Festival and 348 in worship. This is Restoration's highest Easter attendance to date.
- The Reston Patch covered the Easter Festival and Egg Hunt. Please read the article here: http://m.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2018/apr/03/easter-egg-hunt-reston-offers-more-candy-filled-eg/?templates=mobile&mc_eid=e99ea3688f&mc_cid=d1ae7c9bf3
- Restoration has been working diligently on completely the restructuring of leadership. The new structure has just been finalized and a new leadership team has been selected.
- Tim Ward met with the principal of South Lakes High School to begin talking about a more formal relationship with South Lakes. The goal of this conversation is for Restoration to connect with its local high school where the majority of Reston students attend.
- Pour Theology was held on March 27 with 37 people attending. Dr. Brian Blase as the speaker and the topic was Healthcare. Next month's topic is "Mental Illness – You Can't Catch It", and the speaker will be Dr. Michelle Mullany.
- Restoration is also conducting a Dream Campaign. To see the areas of focus of Restoration's campaign, use this link: <http://restorationreston.org/dream-enewsletter>

FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

March

- Total Income: \$357,345
- Expenses: \$330,672
- Net Ordinary Income: \$26,673
- Loan balance: \$6,452,196
- Reserves: 2.25 months

YEAR-TO-DATE COMPARISON

	2018	2017
General Fund Receipts	\$1,090,047	\$976,615
Net Income	\$49,540	\$(1,574)
Building Fund Receipts	\$85,851	\$266,821
Reserves (Avg)	2.36 months	2.15 months
Indebtedness	\$6,452,196	\$6,828,500

COMMUNICATIONS

Social Media

- Floris UMC

- The Floris UMC Twitter account is up two followers, and the Floris UMC Facebook page is up 25 fans.
- We posted an Easter Basket Ministry update which was the most popular post on our Facebook page for the month. It reached 1,038 people, 86 reactions (likes, loves and wows), and 34 post clicks.
- Floris UMC's Instagram account posted a collage of pictures of Easter baskets throughout the office with Megan hiding between the baskets. The picture received 61 likes.
- Restoration Reston
 - Restoration's Facebook page is up 16 fans.
 - Restoration's Facebook page posted a weather update detailing the school closure and online service available that reached 912 people and received 32 reactions, 6 comments and 6 shares.
- Restoration Worldwide
 - Restoration Worldwide launched their Facebook page March 2. Since the launch, they have gained 62 followers.
 - The most popular post this month was a promotional post about the official launch. It received 36 reactions, 6 comments and 3 shares.

Blog

- The blog, Today I Saw God, reached 841 views for the month with the most popular post, "Not Your Parents' Brick & Mortar Church: Welcome to Restoration Worldwide," reaching 139 unique views.

eNote

- Floris UMC
 - Floris UMC eNote open rates for the month averaged 40.8 percent with an average click rate of 12.2 percent.
- Restoration Reston
 - Restoration Church continues to post their eNote to The City.

Website

- Floris UMC
 - Floris UMC Website was visited 8,953 times with 24,962 page views. The website was visited by mobile users 2,936 times. Restoration Worldwide, Holy Week and Easter Sunday were the most visited web pages.
- Restoration Reston
 - Restoration Website SEO was not available for the month of March which prevented the total number of visits from being tracked; however, the Easter Service and Egg Hunt, Pour Theology and Good Friday Walk were the most visited pages from what could be gathered.