

**FLORIS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

PREPARED FOR: Church Council

PREPARED BY: Executive Director

DATE: 12/07/18

**DECEMBER COUNCIL REPORT**

**MEMBERSHIP & ATTENDANCE**

	2018 November	2017 November	2016 November
Weekly Worship Attendance (average for month)	1,295	1,260	1,327
New Members	11	2	8
New Members YTD	121	153	190
First Time Guests	24	53	28
Unique Attenders	1,935	2,063	2,186
YTD Weekly Attendance	1,268	1,249	1,235
Avg times attending	2.03	2.03	2.10
Restoration Reston weekly worship attendance	129	117	100
Restoration Reston YTD weekly attendance	127	114	108
Restoration Worldwide weekly worship attendance	174	-	-
Restoration Worldwide YTD weekly worship attendance	151	-	-
Celebrate Recovery weekly worship attendance	33	15	23
Celebrate Recovery YTD weekly worship attendance	31	21	22

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

**Worship Ministries**

**General**

- Advent is upon us and most of our energy is focused on helping the congregation enter into the season.

- We hired a new team member, Tiara Alexander to join the team as our Worship Administrator and Pastoral Administrator to replace Leah Ross. Tiara brings great enthusiasm and a lovely spirit.
- We had 23 persons help decorate the Sanctuary and Gathering Space on 12/1, with volunteers helping to keep it looking nice through Christmas.

### **Traditional Music**

- The Christmas cantata choir and orchestra have been practicing faithfully for the Cantata.
- The Christmas Cantata final dress rehearsal will be on Dec. 8, and the Cantata will be presented on 9 at the 8, 9:15 and 11 a.m. services. The children's choir, handbell choir, orchestra, the adult choirs and narrators will all be participating.
- The Sanctuary choir will have a caroling concert at Dulles Airport on Dec. 20 at 6:30 p.m.
- The children's choir will sing on December 24 at the 5 p.m. service.
- The Sanctuary choir and orchestra will lead on December 23 at the 7 p.m. service, December 24 at the 9 p.m. service, and the Chamber choir will lead on December 24 at the 11 p.m. service.

### **Contemporary Music**

- The contemporary choir has now lead worship twice with positive feedback.
- The women's conference is continuing to move forward at an encouraging rate. We filmed a video to promote the conference and have begun to communicate the event.
- Our third songwriting session took place this month. We have now mapped out an entire outline for Holy Thursday and writing has been assigned to small groups. Our plan is to write all music this year, which is an ambitious goal.
- Celebrate the Season was great! We had a 15-member band, brass section, xylophone, choir, and drum line. This was the largest band we have had for this worship service, and it seemed to help having a week in between Thanksgiving and the event to allow for more involvement.
- We are now in preparation for Darkness to Light and Christmas Eve.

### **AV**

- Providing AV support for a very busy December; services, events, community groups.
- An annual "thank you" Christmas party was held for all AV volunteers.

### **Care and Concern Ministry**

- Care Ministries held an Adoption/Foster Care meeting to assist those interested in adopting or fostering children.
- Care Ministries held training for new Family Support Ministry (FSM) Volunteers and added two new volunteers to the ministry.

- Care Ministries held an “All Things CCM” meeting and welcomed two new members to our Congregational Care Ministry (CCM). These individuals will go through training next spring.
- We held one memorial service with a reception.
- Care Ministries had 5 groups participating in the Winter Happenings Fair, (NAMI, FSM, Divorce Care, Insight Memory Care and Adoption/Foster Care)
- 32 Floris members/friends received multiple cards from our card ministry throughout the month.
- 46 Floris members/friends received follow-up, (calls, visits, coordination of assistance), from Floris Pastors and Care Ministries staff.
- 5 Floris babies received a pastor signed Beginner’s Bible and handmade baby blanket or quilt courtesy of our New Baby Ministry.
- 8 individuals in difficult life situations received prayer blankets courtesy of our Prayer Blanket Ministry.

### **Connections**

- A five-church group Charge Conference was led by Cathy Abbot at Floris on Saturday, November 17. Connections ministry was responsible for providing refreshments and hospitality support as about 100 guests experienced a worship segment, group activities and breakout meetings by church. A team of 5 volunteers helped direct guests through the building and cleanup after the event.
- Due to a three-week recruitment effort Sunday Hospitality volunteers, Connections ministry has added one new shuttle bus driver, over ten greeters, four ushers, one parking lot attendant and a Welcome Team member. Once the new volunteers have been trained, they will be scheduled for service during special Cantata and Christmas eve services as well as future Sundays. An ongoing call for worship support volunteers is underway for December. The objective of this short-term recruitment is to attract college students and out-of-town family members interested in serving during the holidays.
- A walk through meeting has been scheduled for the annual Bi-District Training Day, which will be held at Floris in January 2018 and 2019. This year’s theme is “Engaging Our Community.” The Arlington and Alexandria districts expect between 500 and 600 guests to register for the day-long event. Refreshments will be offered to the participants, along with educational workshops. Connections Ministry will work with District office staff, the A/V team, and facilities to provide support for all aspects of the event.
- The annual Advent Celebration, Celebrate the Season, took place on Sunday, December 2. The three-part event concluded with a Soup Supper coordinated by Connections Ministry. Utilizing about 8 volunteers, Connections collected soups, chili and desserts from the congregation, collaborated with KidNation and facilities and provided hospitality support for guests. About 315 guests attended the soup Supper and a total of 23 soups were served.

## **Diversity Ministries**

### **South Asian Fellowship**

- This continues the reach out to new families in the community and who have recently visited Floris.
- Over 60 in attendance at the Monthly Worship and Fellowship.
- Approximately 30 Children and their parents are planning and preparing for the December 8 Christmas Musical and Fellowship

### **Latino Fellowship**

- Monthly Praise and Worship included a Thanksgiving Meal and a time of Communion presided over by Pastor Bob, with over 50 in attendance.
- Latino Ministries remains consistent in supplementing Sunday worship through translation, musicians, Scripture reading, volunteer ushers and AV.
- Latino ministry volunteers continued to supplement the Grace Ministries Saturday morning program this month.

## **Young Adult Ministries**

- Continuing relational evangelism, peer counseling, and leadership recruitment and development.
- Harbor Fellowship Night on November 30 had 6 attendees, 3 of them for the first time. The good news is that the core is building and there is a desire to be in one another's presence.
- Upcoming Events: Harbor Christmas Open House and Brunch December 8, January Monthly Gathering, StrengthsFinder Small Group Invite, Jubilee Faith and Work Conference February 21-24.

## **Celebrate Recovery and Restoration Worldwide**

- Celebrate Recovery continues to welcome newcomers each week. We are recruiting and equipping new leaders in preparation for 2019. There are presently 57 unique attenders to CR with an average of 33 in attendance each week in November. A men's step study and Newcomers 101 small group will be added to the 2019 small groups.
- Restoration Worldwide has seen an increase in worship attendance over the last month. On November 11 we celebrated 209 in worship and had an average of 174 each week for November. Small groups continue to be an effective connector of our Restoration Worldwide congregation. A roadmap for online small groups has been set through Easter with continued planning to implement an online discussion board and a live video feed component to Sunday worship.

## Serve

<b>Ministry Activity</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Volunteers</b>	<b>Volunteer Hours</b>	<b>People Served</b>
Grace Ministries	11/2 & 3	67	215.00	624
Embry Rucker	11/17 & 24	8	27.00	160
SOME	11/17	6	24.00	325
FACETS	11/6	11	44.50	114
ESL	11/6,8,13,15,20,22,27 & 29	31	269.00	125
Hutchison PALS				
Hutchison Volunteers				
HHK	November	10	31.00	180
Florida Mission Team	11/8 - 13	9	432.00	-----
NC Mission Team	11/8 - 13	6	288.00	-----
<b>Totals</b>		<b>148</b>	<b>1,330.50</b>	<b>1,528</b>

### **Serve Ministries Coordinator Highlights:**

ADVENT GIVING Angels displayed 1,475 ornaments on Christmas trees in November which were turned into gifts when returned by Floris members and friends on December 2.

PALS started off the Hutchison school year with 40 Mentors from Floris that will be working with and nurturing approximately 80 students.

### **Mission Teams:**

11/8 - 13 Florida Disaster Response Mission Team of 9

11/8 - 13 North Carolina Disaster Response Mission Team of 6

## **Grow Ministries**

### **Grow Ministries**

- The grow team celebrated Thanksgiving in various ways and hosted retreats, dinners and other leadership appreciation/development opportunities. We began to assess and dive deeper into our respective individual and team talents as part of the beginning of the church-wide StrengthsFinder initiative. We are striving to learn how we can better lean into our talents and use the understandings to maximize our interactions and work-flows.

### **FUMC Preschool**

- The preschool invited church staff members to help the preschoolers participate in our Fall “Helping Hungry Kids” events on November 8 and 9. Over those two days, we packed 330 meals for the children in need at Hutchison Elementary. It is always amazing to hear the children explain why it is important to do this for others. We are helping to raise kind children.
- The preschool staff was thrilled to be able to participate in the annual NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) Conference in Washington, DC on November 15 and 16. We joined thousands of other educational professionals “to support the mission of promoting high-quality learning for all young children and to advance a profession that is vital to the future of our country.” The staff had an incredible time and we are already implementing techniques that we learned over those two days.
- To celebrate Thanksgiving, we had feasts on November 13 and 14. Multiple classes joined together to eat turkey with all the trimmings. It was a lot of fun!

## **Children’s Ministries**

- In Kid Nation we continued learning about the books of History, reviewing previous stories and seeing how they continue to relate to each other. We learned about the kindness and friendship of Ruth and Naomi, the kings of Israel (how they were different and similar) and the trials and tribulations in Ezra and Nehemiah.
- Our grade 5 F.I.S.H. (Fifth In Service for Him) Bunco Night took place Friday, November 16. Students each brought a brand new game to be donated to the Ronald McDonald House as part of our Birthday Boxes service project. We had 4 first-time visitors join the group this month.
- For the preschool, we are continuing our weekly chapel lessons. Sara Holl teaches the chapel lessons Tuesdays and Wednesdays and is quickly building relationships with the children. She is in the process of planning a parent chapel time in December to meet some of the families and let them enjoy a morning of chapel with their children.
- On Saturday, November 17 we held our 4<sup>th</sup> annual Father/Daughter Autumn Ball. Dozens of girls and their dads or grandfathers joined us for an evening of dancing, great food, and a special message by Pastor Bob Riggles. Several dads and daughter were visiting the church for the first time!
- On Sunday, November 18 our 4:10ers (teen service group) met to film scenes from the Nativity story. These pictures will be put together in a power point and showed to the children at our December 16 Happy Birthday, Jesus party during Kid Nation. The teens had a great time dressing up and acting out the various scenes.

- On Sunday, November 25 we held our large group Kid Nation session. Our volunteers were given the day off for the Thanksgiving break and all children met in large group sessions. That morning each child made a Christmas ornament to be put on the tree in the Fellowship Hall during the Advent season.
- Upcoming fall/winter events will include:
  - FISH Christmas Party, Sunday, December 9
  - Happy Birthday, Jesus! Party, Sunday, December 16
  - MOPS meetings, December 3 and 17
  - 4:10ers Christmas Party, December 14
  - Christmas Eve Children's Service, December 24

### **Student Ministries**

- Met for Bright Life Sunday Large Groups on November 4 and 11 with a special "Bright Life Gives Thanks" on November 18 where we had a special dinner to celebrate Thanksgiving. We spent time reflecting on gratitude, sharing memorable Thanksgiving experiences and reasons why we're thankful among our breakout groups.
- CrossRoads celebrated the second annual Thanksgiving Feast for Families. This was a dinner where middle schoolers cooked with senior adults and served a traditional thanksgiving dinner with their families. We had 10 senior adults, 4 parent volunteers, with most of our leaders in attendance, and we served 200 for dinner.
- Retreats were hosted for both Bright Life and Crossroads during November. Crossroads went on their retreat November 9 – 11 and celebrated the theme of "Extra Ordinary Love" with 22 students and 5 leaders in attendance. Bright Life had their retreat with a total of 31 students and 7 adult leaders who enjoyed a weekend at the Concord Retreat Center in WV and explored the theme of "Rest: Re-Creation," emphasizing God's desire for us to experience and guard rest in the midst of our roles and responsibilities. That was our largest High School retreat in over 4 years.
- Hosted another Renovation Team meeting with our volunteers and Ministry Architects. Reviewed completed goals such as a concrete student ministry communications strategy, attendance reporting and follow-up procedures for students "mission in action." Also discussed challenges such as low volunteer numbers prohibiting long-term growth opportunities.
- Prepared for Confirmation 2019. Hosted a Parent Info Meeting, launched the registration process, made edits to the curriculum/content, secured venues for the two Confirmation Retreats and began recruiting small group leaders and additional mentors.
- Met with Mike Fee to begin collaborative efforts between Serve and Student Ministries to identify and provide relevant, meaningful service opportunities for the youth.
- Held several dinner meetings with different high school volunteer leaders to build relationships and leadership coaching.
- Explored a number of potential ministry opportunities for students in 2019:
  - Financial Peace University
  - A screening of the indie film "Angst," a film designed to facilitate conversations around youth anxiety
  - ASIST/Suicide Awareness training
  - StrengthsFinder small groups for students
- Secured dates for the 2019 High School Summer Mission Trip, July 6-13, 2019.

## **Adult Ministries**

- November is all things StrengthsFinder. November 13 was the staff was training by Alison Malloy. Each ministry area has been given a grid detailing team talents. A weekly message is being sent that encourages us to think about the use of our talents, how they can benefit not only us individually but the community as well.
- Small group leaders have been invited into the StrengthsFinder process and so far, the response has been positive. Training is being developed for January 6. December 9, Bill Gray will be available throughout the day to meet with leaders and those interested in leading to detail more about the program and leadership responsibilities.
- The entire Grow team attended training from Keri Rafter and Dylan Nichols on how to film more video and take pictures in order to support our ministry areas in better ways in social media.
- Carol Edwards has joined the team as Adult Ministry Coordinator. She will be fulfilling many of the responsibilities formerly being completed by Annetta Kronz who had to significantly reduce hours due to her primary caregiver role.

## **Restoration Reston**

- Dream Campaign Update: Restoration has brought in \$130,000 of the committed \$300,000. Restoration has purchased 6 classroom libraries for Forest Edge Elementary School and purchased a new truck to replace the previous truck and trailer.
- Restoration is cultivating a relationship with South Lakes High School. In November an official partnership was formed with Fairfax County between Restoration and South Lakes High School. Restoration collected supplies for the South Lakes Food Pantry. Restoration is the largest partner of the SLHS Food Pantry. In addition to this Restoration fully outfitted 4 teen moms with diapers, wipes, formula, toys, and clothing for their babies.
- Restoration packaged meals for 125 children at Forest Edge.
- Restoration hosted a well-attended (40+) Pour Theology event on November 27. Pour Theology will start again in March.
- Restoration had a Friendsgiving lunch with more than 100 people in attendance. This was a great way for people to invite their friends and connect across the church.
- Restoration held its third breakfast with Santa. There were 30 new families in attendance at the event and at worship. This drove Restoration's attendance with kids to 215 on December 2.

## **Restoration Loudoun**

- Restoration Church held its third preview service and Friendsgiving meal on Sunday, November 11 with 90 people in attendance, with 68 in the service.
- Relational work in November included meeting new families, volunteering at A Place to Be, meeting individuals and staffers from organizations such as OAR, FCA and YoungLife, and attending a volunteer orientation at the Adler Center. We also met with LCPS officials and the principal of Mercer.



- Plans are being made for a Sing Along with Santa on December 16 in South Riding and plans for January include a student service project, a goal setting and vision casting meeting with the launch team and one more preview service in late January.

## **FINANCIAL OPERATIONS**

### **November**

- Total Income: \$368,027
- Expenses: \$350,400 (94% of budget)
- Net Ordinary Income: \$17,627
- Reserves (Avg): 2.5 months

### **NOVEMBER YTD COMPARISON**

	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	\$4,012,437	\$3,699,547
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	\$138,294	(\$1,768)
<b>Reserves (Avg)</b>	2.62 months	2.39 months
<b>Indebtedness</b>	\$6,331,472	\$6,613,267

## **Communications**

### Social Media

- The Floris UMC Twitter Account gained 5 followers this month.
- The Floris UMC Facebook page is up 16 fans.
- We posted a photo promoting Celebrate the season, which reached 1,161 people, received 117 reactions, including 106 likes/loves, 7 comments, 4 shares, and 255 post clicks.
- The Floris UMC Instagram account has 559 followers, an increase of 11 this month.

### Restoration Reston:

- Restoration's Twitter gained 1 follower this month.
- Restoration's Twitter received 2,625 impressions this month.
- Restoration's Facebook page gained 12 followers this month.
- Restoration's Facebook page shared a post about donations to Forest Edge Elementary. It reached 751 people and received 71 reactions, including 62 likes/love, 6 comments, 3 shares, and 127 post clicks.
- Restoration's Instagram has 114 followers, which is an increase of 12 this month.

### Restoration Worldwide:

- Restoration Worldwide's Twitter gained 8 followers this month.
- Restoration Worldwide's Twitter received 984 impressions this month.
- Restoration Worldwide's Facebook page gained 2 followers this month.

#### Restoration Loudoun:

- Restoration Loudoun's Facebook page gained 6 followers this month.
- Restoration's Facebook page shared a video to encourage people to vote. It reached 409 people and received 54 reactions, including 52 likes/love, 1 comment, 1 share, and 67 post clicks.
- Restoration Loudoun's Instagram has 76 followers, which is an increase of 13 this month.

#### Tom Berlin Facebook Page:

- Tom's Facebook page gained 1,129 followers this month.
- We shared a photo about the first snow at Floris UMC. It reached 721 people and received 152 reactions, including 150 likes/love, 2 comment, and 187 post clicks.

#### Blog

- Today I Saw God posted no blog posts in November.

#### eNote

- Floris UMC
  - Floris UMC eNote open rates for the month averaged 41.8 percent with an average click rate of 33 percent.  
Click rate info breakdown:
    - November 1
      - 222 Clicks
      - Most on – Tom's vNote (Vimeo Link)
    - November 8
      - 271 Clicks
      - Most on – Tom's vNote (Vimeo Link)
    - November 15
      - 331 Clicks
      - Most on – Tom's vNote (Vimeo Link)
    - November 21
      - 292 Clicks
      - Most on – Tom's vNote (Vimeo Link)
    - November 29
      - 271 Clicks
      - Most on – Tom's vNote (Vimeo Link)
- Restoration Reston
  - Restoration Church continues to post their eNote/vNote to The City.

#### Website

- Floris UMC

- Floris UMC website was visited 8,162 times with 21,098 page views with 2,198 mobile views. Restoration Worldwide was the most visited web page, followed by events and the sermon archive.
- Restoration Reston
  - Restoration Reston website was visited 670 times with 1,240 page views and 256 mobile views. Breakfast with Santa and the sermon archive were the most visited pages.