



# Red Clay Creek *Presbyterian Church*

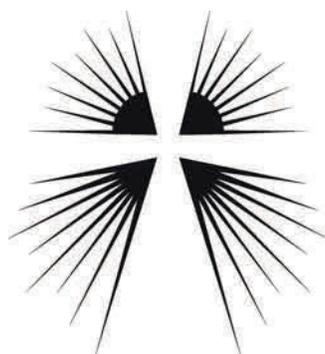
## 2018 ANNUAL REPORT





# Table of Contents

Agenda.....	5
Rev. Dr. Randall T. Clayton.....	6
Rev. Emily J. Schwenker .....	7
Jeffrey Miller, Director of Music/Organist .....	8
Session .....	9
Deacons .....	10
Leadership .....	11
Belong.....	12-14
Community Partners .....	15
Finance .....	16-17
Home.....	18
Lawton Trust .....	19
Memory Garden .....	20
Nurture.....	21-25
Personnel.....	26
Reach.....	27-31
Rejoice .....	32-33
Wellness Center.....	34
Annual Congregational Meeting 2018 .....	35-38
Special Congregational Meetings.....	39-41
Membership .....	42
Staff .....	44



**We belong to God.**

**We nurture faith in Christ.**

**We reach out to others in the power of the Holy Spirit.**

**We rejoice in the Good News.**



Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church  
*Annual Meeting Agenda*

January 27, 2019  
Founders Hall

1. Call to Order & Declaration of Quorum
2. Opening Prayer
3. Approval of Congregational Meeting Minutes
  - January 28, 2018
  - May 6, 2018
  - September 9, 2018
  - October 28, 2018
4. Recognition of Elders & Deacons
5. Clerk of Session Report
6. Staff Reports
7. Exploration of Interim Time
8. Finance Team Report
9. Consideration of Designated Associate Pastor
10. Nominating Committee Report
  - Election of Elders
  - Election of Deacons
  - Election of Congregational Nominating Committee
  - Election of Financial Review Committee
  - Election of Designated Associate Pastor Nominating Committee *(if the way be clear)*
11. Other Committee Reports
12. Closing Prayer & Adjournment

*The Cemetery Corporation will meet immediately following the Adjournment of the Congregation's Annual Meeting. All members of the Church are voting members of the Cemetery Corporation.*

## Rev. Dr. Randall T. Clayton

For nearly 300 years Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church has been a beacon of hope and love. During these years, the church has known some good times as well as difficult times; we have experienced conflict as well as healing; we have journeyed through seasons of significant financial stresses and also seasons when the resources seemed almost adequate to meet the needs. Through it all, this church has been resilient. It is the resilient nature of this congregation that stands Red Clay in good stead as the church embraces the future.



Since I began as your Interim Pastor in June, I have discovered many aspects of Red Clay's life that fill me with joy and bear witness to the vitality of this congregation including :

- strong lay leadership
- a Session that is functioning well and which seeks to be faithful and transparent
- a dedicated staff
- a facility that is beautiful and in good shape
- worship that is vibrant
- members engaged in Bible study and prayer groups
- a heart for mission and large numbers of people involved in hands-on mission activities
- many members using their gifts to serve God through Red Clay in a multitude of ways that impact members individually and the congregation as a whole.

As we journey through an “interim time” together, this church is not sitting and waiting. Even in an “interim time” Red Clay Creek is engaging in faithful mission and ministry, which is as it should be. As we continue to serve, worship, study, pray, and reach out into the world beyond our walls, we are also doing the things that need to be done in order for the church to move toward tomorrow. I believe that the interim work in which we are engaging now will help insure that the person the church calls to serve as its next installed pastor will have the particular gifts and skills needed to continue to lead the congregation toward the future God envisions and that the congregation will be ready to begin the next season of its life when that person is called.

I am glad to be journeying with Red Clay through this interim time.

Shalom,

*Rev. Dr. Randall T. Clayton*  
Interim Pastor

## Rev. Emily J. Schwenker

How quickly the year has passed since January 2, 2018, when I became the Transitional Pastor for Pastoral Care at Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church. It was at a time when Red Clay's congregation was entering a period of transition and discernment, having experienced the effects of a significant loss to its already-thin pastoral staff.



The first quarter of 2018, was a period of time during which emotions were particularly raw, and feelings of anger and sadness, grief and uncertainty were clearly present. Yet, despite the turmoil, the life and work of ministry at RCCPC continued. For me, the year has been both challenging and very meaningful as I've had the privilege of walking alongside the congregation as it began the healing process, while helping to provide a measure of continuity and stability in the areas of pastoral care and spiritual formation.

The week I started saw the deaths of three long-time and beloved members of the congregation. And, as is the case with any large congregation, we continued to lose folks who either had planned to have their memorial services at Red Clay or whose families requested Red Clay pastoral support for their loved one's memorial service or interment. By the end of 2018, I had conducted or participated in 14 memorial services, interments and/or scattering of ashes.

In addition to visiting many Red Clay members and friends in the hospital and in their homes, the difficult circumstances surrounding the departure of Red Clay's previous pastor and the trauma it precipitated called for a number of informal conversations with church members both in my office, as well as at sites away from the church. Hopefully all of these visits and conversations provided some sense of pastoral care and support, and led to a measure of healing.

Throughout the year, I acted as staff liaison to both the Board of Deacons and the Stephen Ministers, attending most of their monthly and bi-monthly meetings. In addition, my pastoral involvement in the life and ministry of the congregation included in part: presenting several offerings to the Stephen Ministers on the subject of prayer and spiritual formation, teaching the confirmands about Holy Communion, preparing and leading a worship service the night the confirmands presented their Statements of Faith, leading two Ash Wednesday services, creating a Care Team to coordinate the ministry to homebound members, participating in two baptisms and conducting one wedding, facilitating a Nurture Group, and preaching several times throughout the year.

One of my greatest joys during the past year has been the ability to offer opportunities for spiritual growth and formation. It became clear shortly after starting at Red Clay that people felt the need for a prayer ministry. In response to that need, Prayer Cards were created and placed in the pews, a Prayer Team was initiated and meets at regular intervals to pray for the needs and requests of the congregation, the practice of Centering Prayer was taught and Centering Prayer groups were formed and continue to meet on a weekly basis, a four-week Healing Prayer class was held; and an Advent Quiet Day was planned and held on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

Clearly, it has been a busy year here at Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church, one that has been steeped in God's guidance and grace, and one that has, hopefully, nourished the congregation for their continued walk in the world as much as it has nourished me and the ministry to which I have been called.

With great gratitude and in Christ's love,

*Rev. Emily J. Schwenker*  
Transitional Pastor for Pastoral Care

## Jeffrey Miller

The Music Department continues to work closely with Rev. Clayton and Rev. Schwenker to prepare worship services. Our music program has been a stabilizing force through the many changes at Red Clay for the past 19 years. It has been especially visible during the past year through supply pastors. Rev. Schwenker has been here for all of 2018, and Rev. Clayton arrived in June. Through it all, we never missed a beat.



We continue to stream our services via Livestream. Several suggestions have been made to improve the quality of the broadcasts. We will experiment with camera placement, and camera focus in the future. Currently the huge speaker blocks the screen, making it difficult for people to read the responses, and the current placement of the camera eliminates the possibility of viewing the choir in the transept.

Nancy James is leading Cornerstone, and has organized a wonderful band, all members of our church. Thanks to Nancy, Ron, Chris, Mike, Amy, and Jacqueline for all their dedication and hard work.

Chancel Choir and Lauda groups continue to lead services on a regular basis. We combine to form a Festival Choir once a month, with professional singers to augment the choir, thanks to the generosity of the Naylor Memorial Fund.

Barbara Vanderkraats continues to be our resident soprano for all choirs, and continues to do a splendid job leading our Reach and Rejoice Singers, who sing at local retirement and nursing homes every month.

The Sunday Noonday Concerts continue to be a great success. The musical diversity of the programs and the convenient time seem to draw the very large crowds! This year, Ben Wager, bass; Jose Sacin, baritone, and Ben Andrews playing the marimba were a highlight. The Festival Choir also performed in a memorial concert to choir member Bill Trexler. We will pay honor to Ray Nichols with a Bell Choir concert in February 2019.

The Bell Choir leads worship once a month, and is under the leadership of Lisa Nichols, who also assists in conducting Festival Choir anthems.

I feel honored and privileged to work with so many faithful volunteers in our music program here. They do so much more than merely sing or play. They are all true missionaries in spreading the love of Christ throughout the community here and throughout the world at large. May we continue to give all honor and glory to God in everything we do.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jeffrey J. Miller*  
Director of Music



# Deacons

A Deacon is someone who loves the Lord and acts upon that love with gifts of service through a variety of ministries. Deacons are elected by the congregation and serve 3-year terms. The Deacons' purpose is to care for and serve the congregation.

Please contact the church office if you are interested in helping out with any of these ministries.

## Congregational Care

The Deacons worked closely with the Stephen Ministers, the Red Clay Care Team and Rev. Emily Schwenker to support members of Red Clay.

## Celebration and Care Notes

Cards were sent to members celebrating senior birthdays, confirmations, baptism, graduation, new members and over 50-year anniversaries. Sympathy, get well and thinking of you cards were also sent.

## Flower Delivery

The Deacons reached out to our congregation by delivering the chancel flowers each week after services to church members in need of comfort or to recognize a family celebration. At Christmas and Easter, the Deacons delivered flowers that had been donated for shut-ins.

## Hospital Visitation

A weekly schedule for hospital visitation was generated for volunteer visitors. Church members were visited at least once per week. Volunteers were encouraged to take classes when available for training. In addition to hospital visits, a procedure was developed for regular visits to the homebound or those in rehabilitation centers. Members of the congregation also helped with this caring ministry.

## Coffee Hour/Special Events

Coffee and cookies were served following each worship service during a fellowship hour. The Deacons also helped provide and serve food at special events such as a Presbytery meeting, Senior Saints luncheon and the advent dinner.

## Funerals and Weddings

Aside from offering comfort at the time of grieving, Deacons served lunch or refreshments following nine funeral services.

Deacons coordinate any wedding held in the church. They make certain the bride, bridal party and their families are familiar with the church practices, and on the day of the wedding the Deacons help things run smoothly.

## Congregational Outreach – Medical Closet

Deacons maintained a medical closet with items such as wheelchairs, walkers, commodes, and crutches to be loaned out to church members or friends who have a need. We also have a few less common items including adaptive equipment for activities of daily living. Many thanks to all who donated equipment this year and to Red Clay office personnel and volunteers who have been helpful in assisting members of the congregation who have equipment needs.

*Sue Gleason*

Deacon Moderator



## THE SESSION

The Rev. Dr. Randall T. Clayton,  
*Moderator and Interim Pastor*

Rev. Emily J. Schwenker,  
*Transitional Pastor for Pastoral Care*

Sandra Sarjeant, *Clerk*

### Class of 2019

Ken Comegys

John Gast

Pat Gioffre

Anne Hawley

Mike Hawley

Marcia Kelly

John McNamara

Stu Ross

### Class of 2020

Dave Aument

Suzanne Courter-Jann

Nancy James

Sandy Sarjeant

Curtis Tompkins

### Class of 2021

Joan English

Kim Eppheimer

Donna Reilly

John Schubel

Debbie Williams

## THE BOARD OF DEACONS

Sue Gleason, *Moderator*

### Class of 2019

Bob Bocherdt

Pat Clark

Darlyn Green-Kocher

Judy Hahn

Chris Long

Sally Rada

Vicki Smith

Jayne Townsend

### Class of 2020

Sue Anderson

Lee Ann Comegys

Jean Derickson

Susan Gleason

Valerie Kratunis

Pei-Yi Lo

LaRetha Osborn

Elaine Ramsey

Susan Welsh

### Class of 2021

Amy Jones

Susan Kissell

Pam Meyer

Jane Moore

Annie Riblett

Shirley Tielleman



# Belong

Members - Committee chair, Kim Eppheimer, and members: Suzanne Courter-Jann, Amy Jones, Linda Hanna, Ellen Grise, Edna Hein, Jackie Kacmar, and Barbara Tostrup

BELONG focuses on bringing the community together through onsite activities and being proactive regarding introducing potential members to our worshipping community.

Tuesdays Together is held at noon the 2nd Tuesday of each month in Founders Hall, bringing together many people including the Reach & Rejoice Singers. They gather for fellowship and enjoy a home cooked lunch, organized by Jayne Townsend.

Member Exploration classes were held in September, replacing new member classes, and included the opportunity for new and current members to take part and learn about the church and Presbyterian history.

Guests are asked to fill out a form with their name, address, former church - the usual type of information required for church records and so that new members can be integrated into the church family more easily. We had 10 new members join in 2018.

R.O.M.E.O.'S, Retired Old Men Enjoying Lunch & Fellowship, continues to meet the 3rd Thursday of the month at Anthony's Coal Fired Grill.

Visitors to our church who leave their information on our pew cards are mailed a welcoming letter and called or emailed by the Pastor and a Belong Committee member. This is an opportunity for them to get to know our church a little better, ask questions, and learn about the process for joining the church if they are interested.

The annual Spring Easter Egg Hunt was held on March 25 and organized by Gail Eden and Annie Riblett. Children collected candy on the lawn and donations of toothpaste and toothbrushes were collected for those in need.

Our PerMission Fair was held on April 29. This fun and informative fair was a great way for members to learn about all we do here at Red Clay and what opportunities there are to get involved and "Do Awesome Things".

On June 3, the church gathered for the annual Celebration Picnic following usual Sunday morning service. We enjoyed delicious fried chicken from Lettie's and delicious spread of food and desserts provided by the congregation. Thank you to all who helped in set-up and clean-up. It was a great time of fellowship.

We hosted Sundae Sunday on August 26 held in Founders Hall, following church. Ice cream, with all the toppings, including fresh strawberries, was served and the event was well attended by the congregation. We played a get to know you bingo so that people could meet someone new!

Our annual Trunk or Treat event took place on October 14. This event was in the upper parking lot and organized by Michelle and Wayne Davis. Members decorated cars and handed out candy to many costumed kids of all ages. This event was open to the public and was well attended and loads of fun. What a wonderful opportunity for multi-age celebration.

The Senior Saints, faithful members of Christian congregations 50 yrs. plus, were recognized and celebrated during the worship service on November 4. This was followed by a lovely luncheon in Fellowship Hall. Many thanks to all who help make this a special, yearly event for our treasured seniors.

Attic Treasures & Crafts organized by Gail Eden, was held the weekend of October 11-13, in Fellowship Hall. In addition to crafts and treasures, the bake sale organized by Jayne Townsend was a big hit. A big thanks to all who helped us to raise about \$1500 for Red Clay.

On December 14, we had our Advent Dinner which was a greatly enjoyed by about 80 members and friends. Jeffrey Miller played carols for a traditional sing-along. We had an organized potluck, which everyone seemed to enjoy. There was a lot of food leftover. People who did not bring food were able to give a \$5.00 donation.

Submitted by

*Kim Eppheimer*  
Belong Committee Chair



# Belong, cont'd.



The Community Partners Committee of Session works with Red Clay partners that are significant users of the facilities to work towards an effective experience for both Red Clay and the Partners.

***Lifespan Daycare:*** Lifespan is entering its 6th year of residence at Red Clay and recently has agreed to a new lease expected to be in place for 3 years. They serve between 20-32 children daily providing a valued service to the community. Red Clay benefits with approximately \$25,000 going toward the annual budget yearly.

***Jazzercise:*** Jazzercise offers about 10 sessions weekly contributing about \$800 monthly toward the Red Clay budget. They have recently signed a new lease expected to run for 3 years.

***Adult Volleyball:*** Red Clay has hosted adult volleyball Church league play for several years and continued through this fall. Due to lack of Red Clay participation the league is currently meeting elsewhere. A new athletic use policy has been developed to promote the use of Founders Hall for compatible athletic activities. Red Clay encourages athletic use of Founders Hall as a Nurturing activity.

Submitted by

*John Gast*

Community Partners Chairperson

# Finance

- 2018 had a negative cash flow of \$9,886 which was much less than originally anticipated.
- Market conditions had a negative impact on investments in the last quarter of 2018.
- 2019 Pledged Income is projected to grow after several years of decline.

Going into 2018, the picture looked bleak due to declining pledge numbers and the severance package to be paid to our former senior pastor throughout 2018. We had critical staff roles to fill; Interim Pastor, Interim Associate Pastor and Christian Education Director. It became clear that we could not hire both an Interim Pastor and Interim Associate Pastor in 2018 so the Associate Pastor was postponed to 2019. Fortunately, we only had a loss of \$9,886 for 2018. There were several factors that contributed to this result. Operating Income for 2018 was \$728,711 versus the normalized budget of \$703,520 as shown below.

	Actual	Budget	Fav(Unfav)
All Giving	\$615,723	\$604,600	+\$11,123
Income from Investments	\$65,872	\$42,311	+\$23,561
Rental	\$13,143	\$12,540	+\$603
Lifespan Lease	\$21,125	\$33,000	-\$11,875
Other	\$12,848	\$11,069	+\$1,779

Withdrawals from the investment accounts were increased from 3.5% to 5% which provided \$23,561 more income in 2018. This was planned to help offset the additional costs of the severance package. The Lifespan lease expired at the end of August 2018. A new lease was negotiated but Lifespan had been struggling with enrollment and was unable to continue to pay the existing rent they had been paying. The rent was lowered with a provision to increase based upon enrollment.

Operating Expenses for 2018 were \$738,597 versus the budget of \$775,936. Expenses were favorable in most areas. Personnel costs were favorable to budget by \$24,207 due to delays in hiring an Interim Pastor and Christian Education Director. We hoped to fill these positions sooner, but the delay changed the financial picture for the year. Rev. Clayton was hired in June as Interim Pastor and Shelley Haines was hired in July as part-time Christian Education Director. Rev. Schwenker (Transitional Pastor for Pastoral Care), who was originally hired on a two month contract, willingly extended her contract for the entire year which gave us continuity between temporary pulpit supply and the Interim Pastor. There were unexpected repairs to the building in the fall that required immediate repair and the Livestream equipment had to be replaced. Some areas lacked staff support which also resulted in lower expenses. An audit of the 2017 books was completed in 2018 by the newly formed Financial Review Committee and an outside CPA firm conducted an audit of donor records and cash receipts. No major issues were found. Due to market conditions in the last quarter of 2018, our investments lost significant value, but we expect those unrealized losses will be recovered. The value in both investment accounts was \$1,178,957.69 as of 12/31/18.

For 2019, the outlook has improved although the budget is still unbalanced with a loss of \$23,229. Operating income is expected to increase \$43,930 over 2018. 2019 pledged income was \$531,859, an increase over 2018 of \$36,186 or 7.3%. This is an improvement but still not enough to cover projected expenses. Operating Expenses are budgeted at \$770,679 versus \$738,597 in 2018, an increase of \$32,082. We will have a full year expense for the Interim Pastor and Christian Education Director. There are staffing initiatives to hire a full-time custodian and a Designated Associate Pastor. Home expenses include \$18,000 for a capital expense reserve. We will continue to draw 5% from the Endowment and Monetized Asset Investments to provide extra income for 2019.

Submitted by  
*Nancy James*  
Finance Committee Chairperson

## 2018 Budget/Actual and 2019 Budget

OPERATING INCOME	2018 Actual	2018 Budget	Difference F/(U)	2019 Budget
<b>REGULAR INCOME</b>				
Pledges	495,473	495,000	473	531,659
Non-Pledge Giving	105,256	90,000	15,256	90,000
Loose Plate Giving	7,924	10,000	(2,076)	7,500
Per Capita pd by Members	7,070	9,600	(2,530)	6,825
Misc Other Income & Interest	77	(500)	577	84
Income Monetized Assets	10,393	6,899	3,494	9,545
Income from Endowments	55,479	35,412	20,067	49,440
Room Usage	13,143	12,540	603	16,597
Lifespan Lease	21,125	33,000	(11,875)	27,350
Non-budgeted/Misc	(340)	159	(499)	(1,200)
<b>Subtotal Regular Income</b>	<b>715,600</b>	<b>692,110</b>	<b>23,490</b>	<b>737,800</b>
<b>COMMITTEE INCOME</b>				
Belong	2,689	2,025	664	2,300
Nurture	6,058	5,960	98	4,150
Rejoice	4,364	3,425	939	3,200
<b>Subtotal Committees</b>	<b>13,111</b>	<b>11,410</b>	<b>1,701</b>	<b>9,650</b>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>728,711</b>	<b>703,520</b>	<b>25,191</b>	<b>747,450</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>				
Belong	2,254	3,804	1,550	3,084
Nurture	8,957	16,700	7,743	7,555
Rejoice	10,357	8,609	(1,748)	9,048
<b>Subtotal Committees</b>	<b>21,568</b>	<b>29,113</b>	<b>7,545</b>	<b>19,687</b>
Administrative	22,254	24,535	2,281	30,039
Home	111,941	118,269	6,328	113,920
Home - Building Repairs - Major	17,697	10,000	(7,697)	24,500
Community Partners Expenses	1,213	0	(1,213)	4,200
Per Capita Assessment	27,202	29,529	2,327	27,000
Personnel	476,081	500,288	24,207	486,053
Stewardship & Finance	10,641	14,202	3,561	11,280
<b>Subtotal Support</b>	<b>667,029</b>	<b>696,823</b>	<b>29,794</b>	<b>696,992</b>
<b>REACH</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>54,000</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>738,597</b>	<b>775,936</b>	<b>37,339</b>	<b>770,679</b>
<b>NET OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>(9,886)</b>	<b>(72,415)</b>	<b>62,530</b>	<b>(23,229)</b>
<b>Adjustments - Extraordinary Expenses:</b>				
Severance, Jan 18 Compensation		(141,237)		
BOP Vacancy Dues		(4,244)		
Removal of Interim Associate Pastor from budget		83,343		
Delay timing - Interim Pastor		46,579		
Add back cost of pupil supply, temp pastors		(22,500)		
Increase withdraws from Investments to 5%		23,561		
<b>Adjusted budget</b>		<b>(86,913)</b>		

# Home

This past year brought about many challenges to the Home Committee from lack of a full time custodian to several water leaks.

The major repair for 2018 was a water leak at the corner of the Sanctuary and Transept. Unfortunately it appears that the repairs done several years ago were incomplete. The repairs done in 2018 involved both a roofing contractor and a stucco contractor. The roofing contractor removed the clogged gutter and found a softball size hole in the Sanctuary wall behind the end of the gutter. The stucco contractor repaired the hole and an area down lower where the water penetration had loosened the stucco. The roofing contractor replaced the gutter with proper spacing, pitch and a new diverter on the roof to keep water away from the corner. The stucco contractor also repaired the plaster in the Sanctuary.

To help prevent damage like this in the future we have contracted with the roofing contractor to clean the gutters and remove leaves and debris from gutters and the flat roof areas three times a year.

Over the years many cracks had developed in the stucco around the church. These cracks were repaired in 2018.

The iron railing on the west side of the Narthex was in very bad shape. They were replaced with all new railings. Our thanks to the Quilt and Craft groups for their donations which made this possible.

Over the summer, it was determined that using two part time custodians was not working to our satisfaction. One part time contractor was terminated and Facility Cleaning Solutions, FaciliCare, was hired to clean the tunnel, social halls, classrooms and hallways. They have done a fantastic job and have been a pleasure to work with.

My personal thanks to the Phix-it team. The hard work of the team members not only saved the church a great deal of money, but improved the welcoming campus we strive to maintain. Some of the Phix-It projects were:

Memory Garden - Cleaned and maintained the fountain, repaired lights that were not working, repointed masonry joints along steps and installed a plaque in memory of Bob and Pat Faatz.

Railings - Prepared and painted the wrought iron railings leading from the lower parking lot to Fellowship Hall and the railings along the handicap ramp and east entrance to the Narthex.

Replaced very old light fixtures in the choir music library, Fellowship Hall and other rooms.

Installed a new ice maker in the Founders Hall kitchen.

Installed new water fountains throughout the building to replace units that were rented.

And many more.

Submitted by

*Dave Howarth*  
Home Committee Chair

Joseph Lawton and his wife Elizabeth (known as Andy) were extremely devoted and long-term members of Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church. Thanks to their extreme generosity, the “Lawton Trust” was established in March 1995. Joe and Andy’s gift demonstrated their true concern for people less fortunate than themselves. They felt comfortable that Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church would carry out their wishes regarding the disposition of “only the income from the trust” for the sole benefit to alleviate the suffering of needy people.

The purpose of the Lawton Trust Commission is to receive, maintain, invest and distribute the income from the Joseph R. Lawton Trust for the sole benefit of needy people to alleviate suffering. Priority is given to organizations providing services directly impacting needy individuals in Wilmington and New Castle County, but not excluding other areas.<sup>1</sup>

Since 1995, the Lawton Trust Commission has granted approximately \$1,505,500 to over 55 different agencies and emergency causes. During 2018, \$50,000 was granted as outlined below.

## Funds distributed During 2018

<i>Spring 2018</i>		<i>Fall 2018</i>	
<b>Organization</b>	<b>Amount received</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Amount received</b>
St. Vincent de Paul-St. Ann’s	\$4,500	Life Health Center	\$3100
Lutheran Community Services	\$4,500	St Anne's Food Pantry	\$5600
West End Neighborhood House	\$3,500	Family Counselling Center	\$2100
Latin American	\$3,600	Friendship House	\$5700
STEHM	\$4,900	Ministry of Caring	\$3500
Vincent de Paul-Prison Ministry	\$7,600		
Urban Promise	\$1,400		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>		<b>\$20,000</b>

Respectfully Submitted,

*Ian Croft*

Lawton Trust Commission Chair

<sup>1</sup> Additional information regarding the Lawton Trust can be found on the RCCPC website under Reach/Local.

# Memory Garden

During the year, the following were interred and plaques installed for:

*Shirley Forman Anderson*  
*Dorothy T. Archer*  
*William C. Trexler*  
*John H.C. Lassahn II*  
*Oleta Hood Lassahn*  
*John H.C. Lassahn III*  
*Patricia G. Bazzoli*

A plaque was ordered and installed to honor Robert and Patricia Faatz as founders of the Memory Garden. Late in the year, Bob Faatz died, and his ashes were interred. His plaque has been ordered from Cecil Vault and Memorial, who have indicated there will not be a charge, as they want to do this in honor of Bob Faatz. We thank them for this.

As of January 1, 2018, the Memory Garden Account held \$7,410.60. Income was \$3,000.00. Expenses were \$1,395.24. The balance as of the end of 2018 is \$9,015.36.

The Committee thanks all members and volunteers. Thanks to Pam Droke and John Schuyler and his helpers. We thank the Home Committee for their help with the Memory Garden.

There is more information on the church's website and there are Memory Garden brochures at the entrance to Fellowship Hall.

Submitted by,

*Jennie Banco*  
Memory Garden Chairperson



For the 2018 year Anne Hawley has continued to serve as chair of Nurture. Other committee members are Michael Hawley, Fred Crowley, Tracey Crowley and John Gast. We've also welcomed the addition of Shelley Haines, Director of Christian Education to our church staff.

### Sunday School

Our Sunday School was introduced to a new and energetic curriculum, Think Orange! It has been well received by parents, children and teachers. Our middle school students are working with a pre confirmation curriculum. We also have a small confirmation class. Our Senior high have helped in the Sunday morning worship service on a regular basis and have participated in many local mission opportunities as well as enjoyed a great mission trip to New Orleans last June.

### Small Groups

Several adult small groups continue to meet both Sunday mornings at 9:30 and throughout the week. There are Bible Study groups, art, quilting, Sarah Circle and craft groups. While some Nurture Groups have continued to meet we are no longer organizing new groups. The Feasting on the Word curriculum is available for any small group looking for a study guide and includes a complete set of reference books for deeper study available in the library.

We are working with the Boy Scouts to become more than a place to meet on Monday nights and are providing mentors for Scouts working to earn their God and Life award. There are currently 12 Scouts in the program. Bibles will be given to those completing the award. We have also presented Bibles to those achieving the rank of Eagle.

Submitted by,

*Anne Hawley*  
Nurture Committee Chair

## Annual Report from the Library Committee

Twenty-six new titles were added to the church library this year, including books related to our sermon series themes, the adult education class curriculum, award winners in religion and picture books for children. Five DVDs were added to the collection of DVDs, which includes documentaries, lectures from the Great Courses series, musicals, newer releases of current interest, and the children's series, Buck Denver asks what's in the Bible. The subscription for the magazine, **Presbyterians Today** was renewed.

At the request of the Stephen Ministry committee, shelf space has been created in the library to house books of particular interest to the Stephen Ministers. They will collect and share books of particular interest to their program. A list of library materials that also support the Stephen Ministers' work was created by the library committee, and can be found on their shelf.

A listing of the library collection can be found on the church website. (Click on the **Nurture** tab)

*Library report submitted by Sue Conway*

## Nurture - Scouts



The Scouts of Pack 29 and Troop 29 are grateful to Red Clay for their partnership and ongoing support. Red Clay's scouting program brings roughly 145 young families from the local community to our church and serves over 180 boys and girls between the ages of 5 and 18 years old. Scouting offers the youth of our community the chance to become physically fit, thoughtful citizens, and young men of good character.

On a broad level Scouting is an important community program for Red Clay whose maximum potential for community involvement has not yet been realized. The Scouting program meets Red Clay's desire to be invitational to young families in our community by offering an important introduction to faith and Duty to God to the youth involved. Over the past several years we have identified a disturbing trend in the youth of our program. We are increasingly finding that our scouting families are experiencing their only connection to God and faith is through the Red Clay scouting program. More and more Scouts are relating that their family has limited or no particular religious inclination. Red Clay needs to continue to lead these young men by offering them more opportunity to see and seek God making faith an integral component of their lives. We have a remarkable resource in our scouting program and need to continue to nurture and embrace the impact the program has on the children and families involved. We need to continue to build connections between our church family and those families of the community who visit Red Clay weekly through the scouting program.



### Boy Scout Troop 29:

A scouts' natural environment is the outdoors and in 2018 we offered 12 outdoor experiences for our scouts. The Troops 2018 program highlights include hiking, camping, canoeing, and a trip to Gettysburg for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Gettysburg Address. We unfortunately had to cancel our high adventure trek to Philmont scout ranch in New Mexico due to wild fires this summer. One of the highlights was summer camp in the Blue Ridge Mountains. About 65 boys took part in summer camp this year which also included a mountain man program. To support the program our boys held three fund raisers, and gave back to the community by contributing over 1,600 hours of service. In an effort to build connections to our church and the Troop we are offering a program called Duty to God, this is a program where 13 boys are meeting every Monday night for an hour with members of our church and learning and discussing religion. I would like to thank John and Leslie Gast, Kove Hudson and Anne Hawley for their time helping these boys out over the 10 week program.

Troop 29 is particularly proud that four of its scouts were awarded Boy Scouts highest honor - Eagle during 2018. Matt Hoopes, Tyler Suchi, Sam Freer and Kyle Lank have become Troop 29's latest Eagle Scouts and join the Troop 29 Eagle honor role that now tops 128 Eagle Scouts.



### Cub Scout Pack 29:

Pack 29 fills our church each Monday evening with laughter and excitement when over 85 boys and girls assemble to meet and discover that Cub Scouting is fun with a purpose! From building their own pinewood derby car to learning how to roast the perfect marshmallow our boys are active, learning, and engaged!

Our new program for 5-year old Kindergartners has proven both popular and a success. Our newest scouts and their parent partners are having a 'roaring' good time learning to be Lion scouts! Pack 29 has grown this year with the addition of about 20 girls into the Cub Scout program. We have leaders that have stepped up to provide a strong team to support these girls as they set off on their scouting adventure.

Pack 29 spent 2018 busy, engaged, and learning. We built and raced Pinewood Derby cars, slept with the mummies at the Penn Museum, hiked in White Clay, went to Gettysburg, camped, learned about our community, picked up the fundamentals of community service, and most importantly learned how to **Do Our Best** at being 'good scouts'.

This year Pack 29 had 14 scouts earn the Arrow of Light and advance into boy scouts. Good work!

Respectfully Submitted,

*Mike Hawley* - RCCPC Charter Organization Representative Pack 29 & Troop 29



## Nurture – Stephen Ministry

**Purpose:** Stephen Ministry at RCCPC is a distinctively Christian caring ministry where clergy and laity work together to provide quality one-to-one care to help meet the needs of people who are experiencing a wide range of difficult life circumstances.

**Activities:** Stephen Ministers (care givers) serve a two-year term that includes 50 hours of training provided by a team of lay people, each of whom has attended a one-week leadership training conference led by the Stephen Series National Staff. This leadership team facilitates peer support and continuing education throughout the year on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. After training, Stephen Ministers are carefully assigned a care receiver by the clergy and referral coordinators. All assignments are kept strictly confidential. Leslie Gast and Suzanne Courter-Jann continue to assume the responsibility for coordinating referrals.

As Red Clay is experiencing a time of transition, we felt it was important to continue to be present on April 29th for PerMission Sunday in Founders Hall. We wanted to maintain Stephen Ministry awareness in our congregation and answer any questions people might have regarding our ministry, Christ's ministry of care for all people.

On July 10th, Leslie Gast and Suzanne Courter-Jann met with the staff of RCCPC, including Rev. Clayton and Rev. Schwenker. We wanted to review with staff how we might best help one another ensure we are all working together to take care of our congregation and community on a daily basis. Stephen Ministry also put together a compilation of contact numbers and materials for various organizations which is now housed in the Administrative Office for easy access for office staff and congregation.

In August, the Stephen Ministers and their spouses met for a "Potluck" Brunch at Suzanne's home following a Sunday morning service. It was well attended, delicious and full of fellowship and laughter. Suzanne's husband, Paul, patiently showed us his amazing train layout which occupies most of the basement. Many thanks for hosting this gathering.

Stephen Ministry Sunday was held on September 30th. It was followed with a Stephen Minister reception of light refreshments for all Stephen Ministers and their families at Red Clay in Fellowship Hall. Leslie Gast put together a lovely display of pictures and continues to compile the history and legacy of Stephen Ministry at Red Clay. Thank you! We hope to make this another of our annual events.

Stephen Ministry organized and hosted a Service of Hope and Light on November 18th at 3:00 pm for people in the congregation and community who have experienced loss or feel anxious during the holiday season. Rev. Schwenker shared the message. Candles were lit in memory of a loved one or as a prayer request. Support materials and a calendar of support events for the season, provided by Delaware Hospice, were available and on display.

**Continuing Education:** Throughout the year Continuing Education is an important part of scheduled peer support meetings. We explored and discussed "Ministry to the Dying and Their Family and Friends". This included an informative presentation from Wendie Brost of Delaware Hospice to our Stephen Minister group. Rev. Schwenker has been the Stephen Ministry liaison in 2018. She has been a quiet, calming presence to each of our meetings. Rev. Schwenker has graciously shared her knowledge of Spiritual Formation and Direction, presented and lead discussions on the different types of prayer as well as different ways to pray, including "Coloring in Prayer". She has offered Centering Prayer and Healing Prayer as a tool for Stephen Ministers, and the congregation, to become even more grounded in our prayer lives. A gift to be

## Nurture – Stephen Ministry, cont’d.

carried by each of us both personally and as a church family. Thank you Rev. Schwenker! As part of our exploration of Spiritual Formation and Direction, we chose to read and discuss Paula D’Arcy’s book, “*Gift of the Red Bird*”. We reviewed the concepts of Peer Support over several meetings as well. The main objective of all of our Continuing Education segments is to provide the best possible care for our Care Receivers, each other and our church family while maintaining confidentiality.

### Other activities included:

- A caring listener is in the Crossan Lounge after Sunday services.
- Sending “Journeying through Grief” booklets with handwritten notes throughout the year (approximately 29 sets were sent out in 2018).
- Providing a small-group caring atmosphere for Stephen Ministers and Stephen Leaders in peer support
- A library shelf was set up in the RCCPC library. This is intended to be a growing reference source for both Stephen Ministers and the congregation on a variety of topics. A main addition to the library is a copy of Stephen Ministry founder Kenneth Haugk’s “*Cancer-Now What?*”.
- Stephen Leaders have been meeting with the Care Group every 3-4 weeks this year for the purpose of sharing information with the Deacons, Pastors, Office staff and Stephen Ministers. The focus is regarding the care that might be offered to our congregation, particularly those homebound. This is where we may discuss the need for flowers, homebound communion, cards, visits, calls etc. It is important to note: *at no time are any confidential Stephen Ministry relationships discussed or revealed.*
- This has been a year of listening to stories, practicing skills and building relationships. Relationships with each other, with you and with our Creator. Thank you for allowing us to take the journey with you.

### Statistics at the end of December 2018:

Active Stephen Ministers/Stephen Leaders during the calendar year: 13  
Stephen Ministers spend three hours or more each month in peer support and continuing education.

Should you have any questions regarding Stephen Ministry, please feel free to discuss with a Pastor or any Stephen Minister or Stephen Leader (Leslie Gast, 302-239-2006, [firstsib@aol.com](mailto:firstsib@aol.com); Suzanne Courter-Jann, 302-530-3468, [scjann89@gmail.com](mailto:scjann89@gmail.com)). You may also find additional information regarding Stephen Ministries at [www.stephenministries.org](http://www.stephenministries.org).

2018 **Stephen Leadership Team:** Suzanne Courter-Jann, Leslie Gast, Janie Hewitt, Lynn Moffett (consulting), Rev. Schwenker



## Personnel

The Personnel Committee in 2018 began the year comprised of Marc Legere, Ann Thomas, Suzanne Courter-Jann and Dave Aument (moderator). Donna Reilly and Linda Morgan joined the committee during the year.

The Personnel Committee is accountable to the Session to support the church's called pastors and lay staff, review compensation, support hiring and contracting, maintain Personnel Policies and Procedures, and provide guidance and feedback to the Pastor/Head of Staff.

The committee made these contributions to the life of Red Clay in 2018:

- Supported the Transition Team in securing the services of Rev. Schwenker as Transitional Pastor for Pastoral Care, and in arranging for Rev. Nona Holy and other guest pastors to fill the pulpit each week.
- Supported the staff in the absence of a Head of Staff by participating in weekly worship planning staff meetings until the arrival of Rev. Clayton.
- Led the hiring of Shelley Haines - Director of Christian Education.
- Supported the Interim Pastor Nominating Committee in securing the services of Rev. Clayton as Interim Pastor.
- Supported Rev. Clayton as he successfully assumed the responsibilities of Senior Pastor and Head of Staff and resumed administrative processes that had lapsed in recent years.
- Worked with Rev. Clayton and the Home Committee to consolidate the custodial staff.
- Completely overhauled the church's benefits offering, brought them into compliance with PCUSA Board of Pensions, and supported implementation with staff.
- Entirely revised and updated the church's Personnel Policies and Procedures, obtained legal review and Session approval.
- Reviewed congregational input on staffing priorities, developed a staffing plan to meet the church's needs and obtained Session approval to seek the concurrence of Presbytery.
- Provided a holiday luncheon for the staff in December.

The committee looks forward to supporting Red Clay as it builds momentum in its ministries in 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

*Dave Aument*

Moderator, Personnel Committee

The REACH programs of Red Clay support local, regional, and international missions. A key objective of each mission is to develop relationships to build community with those in need, with emphasis on participatory mission. Red Clay mission work connects more than 100 congregation members with more than 10 local, regional, and international mission partners enriching lives both within Red Clay and those we work to serve. In addition to our regular mission programs Red Clay significantly steps forward when unexpected needs arise.

While the impact of these efforts is sometimes hard to quantify, it is certain that Red Clay touches the lives of hundreds of people while providing our many participating members the opportunity to serve and act on their Faith. Please consider joining an active Mission program by calling one of the program leaders.

See below for some of the highlights of our 2018 programs. Thank you for your participation and support and please join us in 2019, it can change lives.

### ***LOCAL MISSIONS***

#### ***FOOD BANK OF DELAWARE - Leader, Lois Galinat***

The Food Bank of Delaware provides for the hungry in the entire state of Delaware. It solicits, collects, purchases and stores food then redistributes it to the nonprofit agencies that provide free food to the hungry.

Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Members volunteer organizing, packaging and sorting the donations. From September to June, we have a 15-person timeslot for a 2-hour shift per month (alternating between evening and day shifts.) In addition, we host a food drive during Lent. This past year, we collected food and money that was used to purchase Acme gift cards. This was a double benefit as the proceeds from gift card sales went toward the Mission to Maine trip. The church youth shopped for the most needed items at the Food Bank using the gift cards. Total amount of food donated was 1545 pounds.

Currently, there are 80 members (up from 64 in 2016 and the same number as 2017) who have expressed interest in volunteering at the Food Bank. In August, I emailed everyone with the scheduled time slots for Red Clay. Each month I send out a reminder email of the upcoming volunteer shift. From September through December we have averaged 14 members for our time slots (down from 15 in 2017). Due to the added interest in our efforts, a June date was added to our calendar, which was well attended.

The Food Bank is moving locations this Spring. Time slots beyond March are not yet available, but dates for January (1/15/19 6-8 pm) and February (2/20/19 1-3 pm) are set.

#### ***FRIENDSHIP HOUSE - Leaders, Meg Aument, Linda Neel, Kim Eppehimer***

- Three nutritious meals a month are provided by church members for Epiphany House, Stage One of FH Women's Transitional Housing program. Several special meals were provided to celebrate the program graduates and a Women's Holiday luncheon.
- 35 gift bags containing hats, gloves, scarves, socks and toiletries were donated to the men and women in Transitional Housing for the holidays.
- Several meals were provided for the Men's Stage One Transitional Housing, Andrew's Place.

## Reach, cont'd.

- Three Sunday breakfasts were provided, prepared and served.
- A Spring and Fall clothing drive collect items for the Friendship House Clothing Bank.
- In the winter of 2017-2018 Red Clay provided soup, PB & J sandwiches and volunteers for five nights of Code Purple in Wilmington. Friendship House provides Code Purple Winter Sanctuary, a warm, safe place for the homeless to gather until the Salvation Army opens as an overnight shelter on nights when the temperatures dip below 20 degrees.
- At the third annual Highmark Walk fundraiser in June, Red Clay had over 20 registered walkers and raised over \$3,470, plus a \$1,000 challenge donation for Friendship House programs.
- Meg Aument was elected the Board President of Friendship House, starting in January 2019.

### ***ADOPT-A-FAMILY - Leader, Meg Aument***

Donations given by Red Clay allowed us to buy gift certificates and groceries certificates for the holidays for 95 children in crisis, through the Adopt-A-Family program!

### ***URBAN PROMISE - Leader, Linda Reisor***

Support of Urban Promise this year continued with continued focus on the children at Camp Hope in the Southbridge section of Wilmington. Red Clay members participate in developing and leading special events and work weekly as adult participants. For our Christmas party in December we again provided dinner to over 35 children and their families, and were able to provide gifts to each child. We are committed to continue our relationship with Urban Promise Camp Hope in 2019, and are making plans with Camp Hope's director.

### ***MEETING GROUND - Leader, Leslie Gast***

Missions for homeless and abused women in Elkton, MD serving more than 100 in need daily by providing both temporary and longer-term shelter, counseling, and food and clothes closet needs for those in need in the community. RCCPC provides paper and food donations as well as financial support

### ***EMMANUEL DINING ROOM - Leaders, Beth Whipple, Leslie Gast***

- Continued monthly Chili preparation serving more than 100
- 10 Red Clay groups participate in rotation

### ***QUILTING MISSIONS - Cathy Byrnes and Anne Hawley***

Red Clay hosts 2 active and growing quilting groups, on Monday Faith, Hope, and Love (FHL) Quilters and on Thursday, Quilts for Comfort.

Quilts for Comfort (QFC) had an exciting 2018 with two new delivery locations. We now give quilts to infants through teens entering the foster care system in Delaware. Additionally, we supply families with a unique quilt for their baby in the NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit). These are a special size and design and fit over the incubators in the NICU at Christiana Care. We are able to expand our deliveries because of the many new people participating in the 1st and 3rd Thursday Quilts for Comfort group which meets here at Red Clay.

## ***MEALS ON WHEELS - Deb Behling***

*Serving meals to homebound and the aged about every 6 weeks.*

## ***REGIONAL MISSIONS***

### ***YOUTH MISSION***

The annual July mission workcamp brings adult volunteers and Senior High youth together for fellowship and mission. In 2018 the mission trip was to New Orleans, La. to support the Lakeview Agape Mission Project, a local Church mission. Kristen Reisor, a former youth group participant and recent University of Delaware graduate helped to arrange the mission trip through her internship in New Orleans. 13 youth and 7 adults participated having a great week with many new friends and experiences.

Red Clay's Mission to Maine in the Farmington, Maine area had been our youth mission trip focus for over 10 years and continues to be supported through REACH operating funds. Over the years a deep connection has developed with the local community and local housing mission that we hope to continue into the future.

### ***APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT (A.S.P.) - Leader, ASP Team, Mim and Ray Krout***

Annual mission trip for 10-12 Red Clay adult volunteers to Appalachia

## ***INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS***

### ***SOUTH AFRICA, SIBANYE - Leader, Ken Comegys***

The South Africa (Sibanye) mission team in the U.S. and on the Eastern Cape of South Africa had another successful year in 2018. We continued our efforts to feed the orphan children at the Seki Foundation. The number of children we are now helping to feed grew from around 80 to almost 150. We did not implement any new reading rooms this year, however we did purchase over 400 books from the local bookstore and sent them to three of the existing reading rooms to help to expand the selection of books available to the children. For the second consecutive year we sent a donation in care of Unathi to purchase Christmas gifts for the women at Seki who help Mrs. Bono every day. Planning is underway for a possible trip back to the Eastern Cape in early 2019. If you are interested in joining the Sibanye team, or would just like additional information on the Sibanye project, please contact Ken Comegys at 302-234-2996, or by email at [comegyskp@comcast.net](mailto:comegyskp@comcast.net).

### ***COSTA RICA - Leader, Meg Aument***

Red Clay continues to support missionary Lillian Solt and the CEDCAS Clinic. CEDCAS provides affordable health care to those in need in the local communities. A mission trip for March 13-22, 2019 is planned. We will return south to Biolley, a beautiful rural area bordering the mountains of La Amistad International Park, 6 hours south of San Jose. We will be painting, doing light maintenance and pouring a cement sidewalk near the Eco Lodge that was in the process of being rebuilt after a fire when we were there in 2014. We will be joining up with another team from First Baptist Church in Stockton, CA. The lodge helps support the women of ASOMOBI that own and manage a microenterprise coffee project.

## Reach, cont'd.

### *CDCA - Nicaragua*

Another international mission that Red Clay has made connections with is CDCA in Nicaragua. Sarah Woodward from The Center for Development of Central America has visited Red Clay annually now for 4 years bringing locally made items from Nicaragua. In turn Red Clay provides modest financial support and looks forward to future opportunities for a mission trip to the area.

### *REFUGEE Family*

In March 2017, a committee composed of approximately 25 people welcomed a Syrian Family to our community. Sponsored by the Jewish Community Services, the Islamic Society of Delaware, and our committee, our congregation supported the Hussains by furnishing and supplying an entire apartment's contents.

In 2018 the Father, Amin, completed a programming coursework at Delaware Tech as an update to his BS computer science degree from Syria. Many in the class were asking for his assistance so he provided weekly help sessions. He also completed online coursework and was able to attain full time employment as a computer programmer. This has allowed them to be financially independent. The mother, Samira, has gotten her drivers license and is pursuing a child care certificate. Their daughter Maha is now age two and is quite adorable.

Amin is currently traveling in Iraq to see members of his family he hasn't seen in over six years. The Hussain's are very grateful for all of the assistance provided by members of RCCPC. They have indicated that they would like to visit again. I'll arrange that once Amin has returned.

### *FUTURE NEW MISSIONS*

#### *Local Empowerment Center: -John Gast leader*

Red Clay is working with about 10 other local congregations and Friendship House to develop plans for a local empowerment center in the Kirkwood Hwy/Limestone Rd. area to serve a growing population of need. More about this as it develops

#### *Dreamers USA: -John Gast leader*

Red Clay is developing support options for college aged "Dreamers" or DACA participants who attend local colleges, especially Delaware State, with limited resource support and many roadblocks toward college attendance. DreamUSA, a national organization, is providing financial aid and support for these young adults looking to have a college education despite the many roadblocks in their path.

Submitted by

*John Gast*

Reach Committee Chairperson



# Rejoice

The RCCPC Rejoice Committee, formerly known as Worship and Music, is responsible for involving volunteers in all the support activities necessary for the smooth running of Sunday morning worship. These include Greeters, Ushers, Flowers, Communion Preparers, Communion Servers, Decorations, Parament placement according to the liturgical calendar, candles, and any other activities necessary to make Worship comfortable and organized.

Volunteers are always being sought to perform these necessary activities.

In 2018 the committee consisted of:

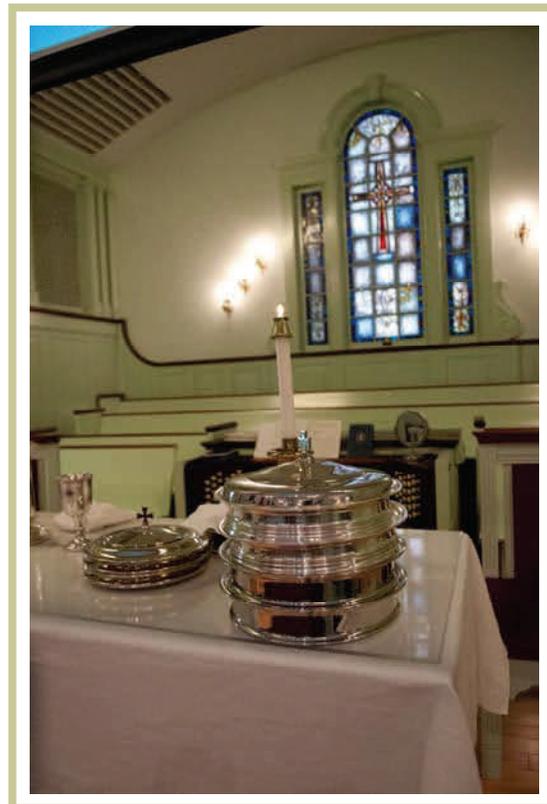
Marcia Kelly, Elder and Moderator  
Susan Kissell, Greeters  
Don Johnson, Ushers  
Vicki Smith, Flowers  
Marcia Kelly, Communion Preparers  
Marcia Kelly, Communion Servers  
Peggy Germain, Decorations  
Lisa Nichols, Paraments and Candles  
Al Leonhard, Audio/Visual

**PLEASE JOIN OUR TEAM!**

Contact Marcia Kelly, [mkkelfam@aol.com](mailto:mkkelfam@aol.com) or the church office.

Submitted by

*Marcia Kelly*  
Rejoice Committee Chairperson





# Wellness Center

It is a blessing to report that 2018 was a year in which the Wellness Committee continued to progress towards its mission of promoting wellness and healing of mind, body and soul for those who desire to maximize their own health. An annual survey is conducted in May of each year, which provides the Committee with direction and topics for the coming year.

## **Presentations and offerings for 2018 include:**

- Sing, Sing, Sing-Out presented by Jeffrey Miller and Barbara Vanderkraats.
- Helping Loved One presented by Wendie Brost, Medical Account Executive at Delaware Hospice.
- Diabetes and Nutrition presented by Mary Williams, RD, LCM, CDE, Christiana Care.
- Advance Directives - What Everyone Needs to Know presented by Dade Werb, Attorney/Partner of Giordano, DelCollo, Werb & Gagne, Attorneys at law, LLC.
- Autism 101 presented by Christina Rigney, Speech Language Pathologist and Elaine DeLuca, Physical Therapist both of the Brennen School, part of the Delaware Autism Program.
- Yoga, offered by Rachel Bland, member of Red Clay.
- Walking 4 Wellness, with participation by The Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church Members & their families.
- Spiritual Wellness presented by Rev. Schwenker, RCCPC Transitional Pastor for Pastoral Care.
- The Challenges of Hearing Loss presented by Gary Marencin, AuD, FAAA, CCC-A, Audiology Program Manager for Christiana Health.
- Towards an Understanding of Homelessness and Near Homelessness presented by Kim Eppeheimer, Executive Director of Friendship House and Member of Red Clay.
- Understanding Grief and the Holidays presented by Victor Volzone, Member of RCCPC.
- Personal Safety - It's the Mindset --Part 2 presented by Jason Baxley, Sergeant with the Delaware State Police.

Submitted by,

*Elaine DeLuca, Susan Fuess, Mary Norris & Van Sedita*  
The Wellness Committee

# Annual Congregational Meeting 2018

**ANNUAL MEETING:** The 296th annual meeting of the congregation of Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church was held in the Sanctuary on Sunday, January 28, 2018. The meeting was called to order with prayer at 11:32 a.m. by the moderator.

**THE CALL:** The annual congregational meeting of the Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church has been called for January 28, 2018 in the sanctuary immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service for the purpose of receiving the reports of Staff, the Clerk of Session, Session Committees, the Board of Deacons and other church organizations and committees, receiving and acting upon the report of the Nominating Committee for the election of ruling elders, deacons and members of congregational committees, reviewing the 2018 operating budget and any other business deemed appropriate for congregational consideration.

**QUORUM:** The moderator judged a quorum was present.

**REVIEW OF MINUTES:** A motion was made to approve the minutes of the January 29, 2017 Annual Congregational Meeting. Motion carried.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2017 Special Congregational Meeting. Motion carried

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2017 Special Congregational Meeting. Motion carried

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the July 30, 2017 Special Congregational Meeting. Motion carried

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2017 Special Congregational Meeting. Motion carried.

## **REPORTS OF THE PROFESSIONAL TEAM, CLERK OF SESSION, SESSION COMMITTEES:**

All reports were published in the Annual Report made available to the congregation. A motion was made and seconded to receive the reports. Motion carried. The Annual Statistics Report sent to Presbytery includes the following information:

### **Report of the Clerk of Session January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017**

		<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	
Communicant Roll as of January 1, 2017		938	(561 female)
<b>GAINS:</b>	Certificate of Transfer	0	
	Profession of Faith	13	
	Reaffirmation of Faith	18	
	Reinstated	0	
	Other	0	+ 31

# Annual Congregational Meeting 2018

LOSSES:	Certificate of Transfer	0	
	Inactive Roll	4	
	Deletion	4	
	Death	8	
	Other	0	- 16
Communicant Roll as of December 31, 2017		953	(568 female)

## BAPTISMS

Infant - 9  
Adult - 3

## IN MEMORIAM

Members who died in 2017

Betty Brustman  
Shirley Griffith  
Richard Wheat Harris  
Anita Lynn Hunter  
Dewey Allen Nelson  
Doris Simpson  
Dorothy Ochs Stetz  
Charles Andrew Tielleman

## YOUTH CHURCH SCHOOL

Total Students - 34  
Nursery - Kindergarten - 12  
Grades 1 - 4 - 13  
Middle School/Senior High - 9  
Teachers/Officers - 9

Sandy Sarjeant - Clerk of Session

**REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** Dave Rada of the Nominating Committee submitted the following slate for the office of ruling elder:

Class of 2019  
Mike Hawley

Class of 2020  
Suzanne Courter-Jann  
Curt Tompkins

# Annual Congregational Meeting 2018

## Class of 2021

Linda Neel  
Donna Reilly  
John Schubel  
Bill Singleton  
Debbie Williams

The moderator asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, a motion was made and seconded to elect the submitted slate of elders by unanimous approval. Motion carried.

The following slate was submitted for the office of Deacon:

## Class of 2019

Darlyn Green-Kocher

## Class of 2021

Susan Kissell  
Pam Meyer  
Jane Moore  
Annie Riblett  
Linda Sopkanich

The moderator asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, a motion was made and seconded to elect the submitted slate of deacons by unanimous approval. Motion carried.

The following slate was submitted for the Congregation-at-Large members of the Nominating Committee:

## Class of 2019

Donna Ralston  
Shirley Tielleman

The moderator asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, a motion was made and seconded to elect the submitted slate of Congregation-at-Large members of the Nominating committee by unanimous approval. Motion carried.

The following slate was submitted for the Financial Review Team:

## Class of 2021

Kove Hudson

The moderator asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, a motion was made and seconded to elect the submitted slate for the Financial Review Committee. Motion carried.

**REVIEW OF THE 2018 OPERATING BUDGET:** Nancy James, Chair of the Finance Committee, presented the 2018 Operating Budget (see Appendix A). Nancy shared a review of pledged giving for 2017 and the 2017 budget and expenses. We broke even. She then presented the 2018 budget. So far, we have had \$509,000 pledged for 2018. To meet our normal expenses, we need pledges of \$600,000+ in addition to non-pledged giving. Since this will not be a normal expense year, especially in Personnel, we expect to be

## Annual Congregational Meeting 2018

using an extra 1.5% of our endowment fund assets to cover expenses. Session encourages those who haven't already pledged to do so. A Motion was made and seconded to receive the Finance report. Motion carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** There was none.

**ADJOURNMENT:** It was moved and seconded to adjourn and convene the Cemetery Company Annual meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 p.m. with prayer given by Rev. Emily Schwenker at 12:05 after the Cemetery Company meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Brad Martin  
Moderator

Sandra C. Sarjeant  
Secretary

## Special Congregational Meeting, May 6, 2018

**SPECIAL MEETING:** A special meeting of the congregation of Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church was held in the Sanctuary on Sunday May 6, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 11:27 a.m. with prayer by the moderator, Rev. Emily Schwenker.

**THE CALL:** A special meeting of the congregation of Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church has been called for Sunday, May 6, 2018 to be held in the sanctuary immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service for the purpose of receiving and acting upon the Nominating Committee report on election of officers.

**QUORUM:** The moderator declared that a quorum was present.

**REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** Debbie Williams, Chair of the Nominating Committee, moved that the following person be elected to the office of Elder:

Class of 2021  
Kim Eppehimer

The moderator asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, the moderator asked for a vote for the nominee. Motion carried.

The Nominating Committee also moved that the following persons be elected to the office of Deacon:

Class of 2021  
John Graham  
Amy Jones  
Shirley Tielleman

The moderator asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, the moderator asked for a vote for the nominee. Motion carried.

The Nominating Committee also moved the following person be elected for a 1 year term as an At-Large member of the Nominating Committee.

Greg Smith

The moderator asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, the moderator asked for a vote for the nominee. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m. with the singing of Hymn 306 "Blest Be the Tie That Binds".

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Schwenker  
Moderator

Sandy Sarjeant  
Secretary

## Special Congregational Meeting, September 9, 2018

**SPECIAL MEETING:** A special meeting of the congregation of Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church was held in the Sanctuary on Sunday September 9, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m. with prayer by the moderator, Rev. Dr. Randy Clayton.

**THE CALL:** A special meeting of the congregation of Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church has been called for Sunday, September 9, 2018 to be held in the sanctuary immediately following the 9:30 a.m. worship service for the purpose of electing a Session member to fill a term in the Class of 2021, one Deacon for the Class of 2019 and one person to serve on the Nominating Committee.

**QUORUM:** The moderator declared that a quorum was present.

**REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** Debbie Williams, chair of the Nominating Committee, moved that the following person be elected to the office of Elder:

Class of 2021  
Joan English

The moderator asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, the moderator asked for a vote for the nominee. Motion carried.

Debbie Williams, chair of the Nominating Committee moved the following person be elected to the office of Deacon:

Class of 2019  
Vicki Smith

The moderator asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, the moderator asked for a vote for the nominee. Motion carried.

Debbie Williams, chair of the Nominating Committee moved the following person be elected to the Nominating Committee for one year:

Jim Murray

The moderator asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, the moderator asked for a vote for the nominee. Motion carried

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:38 a.m. with prayer by the moderator.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Clayton  
Moderator

Sandy Sarjeant  
Secretary

## Special Congregational Meeting, October 28, 2018

**SPECIAL MEETING:** A special meeting of the congregation of Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church was held in the Sanctuary on Sunday September 28, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 11:43 a.m. with prayer by the moderator, Rev. Dr. Randy Clayton.

**THE CALL:** A special meeting of the congregation of Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church has been called for Sunday, October 28, 2018 to be held in the sanctuary immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service for the purpose of allowing session to share information concerning the 2019 budget and needs of the church with the congregation.

**QUORUM:** The moderator declared that a quorum was present.

**REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE:** John Schubel and John Gast presented an overview of the 2019 staff needs, program needs and budget target. The budget is not finalized and will depend on the amount of pledges received. In order to meet budget needs we would need to see \$585,000 in pledges. We are a pillar of the community and would like to remain so. The members were asked to please prayerfully consider pledges for 2019 to Red Clay

The moderator asked for any questions. There were none.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m. with prayer by the moderator.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Clayton  
Moderator

Sandy Sarjeant  
Secretary

## Baptisms

April 8, 2018	Reidan Keen
April 8, 2018	Gwendolyn Sedita
September 9, 2018	Gavin Mackey

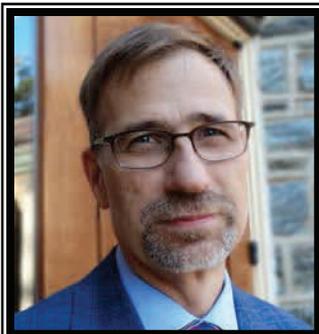
## New Members

Kate Ayars  
Elizabeth Brubaker  
Karen Caldas  
Amber Gangort  
Megan Garrison  
Bryan Janocha  
Tyler Kreps  
Emily Laird  
Daniel Ofori  
Evan Sharp



# Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church

## Current Staff



Rev. Dr. Randall T. Clayton  
Interim Pastor



Rev. Emily J. Schwenker  
Transitional Pastor for  
Pastoral Care



Jeffrey Miller  
Director of Music/  
Organist



Barbara Vanderkraats  
Director of  
Reach & Rejoice Choir



Shelley Haines  
Director of  
Christian Education



Julie Reeder  
Office Manager



Jane Putscher  
Finance Associate



Kelley Norton  
Administrative Assistant



Judy Lozier  
Nursery Supervisor



Leigh Sann  
Toddler Supervisor



Lisa Nichols  
Bell Choir



Richard Mason  
Custodian