



Annual Report of the Congregation 2020

Annual Report respectfully compiled,
Tai McGee, Church Administrator
January 2021

Table of Contents

Staff

Senior Pastor	Mark Inouye
Church Administrator	Tai McGee
Director of Children and Family Ministries	Sarah Jones
Director of Children and Family Ministries	Hollyn Martin
Director of Student Ministries	Mark Mueller
Director of Student Ministries	Tracy Mueller
Big Wood School Director	Kim Piggins
Music and Worship Leaders	Sean Martin
	Mark Mueller
Technical Ministries	Jay Cutler
Treasurer	Deb Dimant
Receiving Treasurer	Josette Stellers

2020 Annual Report Table of Contents

Mission Statement	2
Pastor's Letter	3
Session	4
Adult Ministries	5
Affiliates	5-6
Big Wood School	6-7
Building and Grounds	7-8
Children and Family Ministries	8-9
Deacons Ministries	9-10
Design Team Report	10-11
Finance Report	11-12
Missions	12-14
Personnel Committee	14-15
Student Ministries	15-16
Worship and Music	16-17

Church of the Big Wood Mission Statement

We are a community of people,
from every walk of life
and every part of the country,
called together through the love of God
and the grace of Jesus Christ.

Through the enabling of the Holy Spirit
we are pursuing the purpose of
making disciples
in authentic community
for the sake of the world.

Pastor's Annual Report 2020

Dear Church of the Big Wood Family,

Some of you might find the title of this document less than exciting:

*Annual Report
of the Congregation
2020*

For one, the last line, "2020," refers to what has been a year many of us want to forget and it is possible this reference alone might cause you to avoid reading it. In addition, the first line, "Annual Report" might sound a little corporate, and in a sense it is, for what you'll find in it are things like financial information, our 2021 budget, membership statistics, and committee and staff reports - stuff that might seem less than riveting.

What I want you to know is that while this document's title could use some work, it is anything but uninspiring or unexciting. Instead, what you will find as you read it is a testament to how God has worked through this church as we seek to live out our vision of being a church where the unchurched can find Jesus.

You'll read about how this year (despite the pandemic) God enabled us to open up *The Commons*, our South Valley ministry space in Hailey, and how most weekdays find many young people gathering (appropriately socially distanced and masked, of course) to study, do homework, and to have some much needed social time. You'll read about how our two youth groups (Junior High and Senior High Fuel) continue to flourish and grow. You'll read about how our preschool teachers have gone the extra mile to serve our community by keeping the preschool open, even at the risk of their own infection. You'll hear about the church helping meet the needs of twenty elementary students through two distance learning groups meeting here at the church five days a week.

You'll be reminded of how we were able to move our services online when we needed to, and how we were not only able to provide an opportunity to worship for many who felt it best not to join us in person, but also how today many are discovering our church through our online presence. You'll read about our children's ministry activities like a Redfish Day and fishing day. You'll read about how more than \$70,000 was given to different mission and service groups both here and abroad - from an orphanage and university in Zambia to the Hunger Coalition in its mission to end food insecurity here in the valley - and on and on. In addition, you'll read about how over \$50,000 was given to our Agape Fund, and how this money is now being used to support those in need in our community.

See what I mean? Anything but unexciting. And the truth is this - all these are really just some of the ways God is working through this church in ways that point the unchurched to Jesus.

So praise God for the ways He continues to work in our midst - and may he continue to use us to draw people to Jesus.

Peace,

Mark

2020 Annual Report of the Session Church Officers

ELDERS

Class of 2021

Todd Harmon
JoAnne Morrical
Ed Northen
Steve Sofro
Cheri Watson
Gary Peterson (for final year of Cheri Watson, who moved)

Class of 2022

Dave Bjerke
Chrissy Field
Jeff Howes
George Kirk

Class of 2023

Hollie Bearce
Katey Dahlstrom
Jennifer Halverson
Penny Thayer

DEACONS

Sharon Bockemohle, Cassie Jones, Cindy Kirk, Chrissy Field, Carrie Kotara, and Suzan Stommel

Thank you to all of you for serving.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership - December 31, 2019	174	97 Women, 77 Men
New Members	0	
Losses:		
Letter of Transfer	0	
Death	5	
Removed from Rolls	0	

Membership - December 31, 2020 169 95 Women, 74 Men

Baptisms: 1

Respectfully submitted,
JoAnne Morrical
Clerk of Session
January 2021

2020 Annual Report for the Adult Ministries

Adult Ministries was interrupted this year, however as soon as we can resume a more normal church agenda our goals will remain the same.

A retreat for session was planned in April that needed to be postponed. These retreats are essential for session. Session discusses short and long term goals, we get to know each other a little better, and work more smoothly with each other. Staff is also invited so that they get a feel for what session is thinking. Prayer and reflection are the most important part of this retreat. Very difficult to accomplish on a Zoom call. We will plan a retreat as soon as wisdom allows.

Initial plans were made for a women's weekend retreat. Rev. Beth Allin, the ECO Gathering Coordinator and Communication Strategist, was approached to lead this retreat. I attended a retreat she led for Carmel Presbyterian titled, *The Joy of Belonging*, and thought she would be perfect for CBW ladies. When the time is right, maybe this fall I will start a conversation with the women of CBW and possibly Beth on a retreat for us.

One of our major ministries, is the promotion of small groups. The goal: EVERY ONE IN A SMALL GROUP. We have several small groups that have been active using different means. These groups were established. Forming new small groups over Zoom or social distancing did not seem like a good idea. A small group has a special connection that needs personal interaction. The need for small groups became apparent not only for spiritual growth, but to maintain connections with the needs of others during a time when members were in isolation.

Adult ministries needs a team. It is a big and very important ministry. If you are interested, please let me know. I guarantee you will be blessed.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Halverson
Elder for Adult Ministries
January 2021

2020 Annual Report for the Affiliates Ministry

Like every other part of our ministry, the year 2020 presented immense challenges to the Affiliate Member ministry. Many of our efforts centered on how to maintain relationships and communication in the age of social distancing, especially given the fact that many of our affiliates are in the more vulnerable age groups.

We discovered that some of our affiliates responded to the pandemic by deciding to shelter in place at their permanent residences. This meant that even absent the restrictions related to Covid, in-person contact was impossible. Out of necessity we had to cancel the annual summer dinner party, which affected everyone and is normally a highlight of the Affiliates ministry.

Helping to offset these losses was the church's decision to live stream our Sunday worship and to create a catalog of past services for online access. Some of our small groups began meeting by "Zoom," which had the wonderful effect of allowing a number of affiliates to participate in regular small group meetings from their permanent residences.

We continued distributing a quarterly newsletter and also attempted to reach everyone on our roster by phone and with notes, email blasts and Christmas cards. While these are relatively modest efforts they did result in some very valuable connections. We were able to identify and offer pastoral support to several affiliates who were dealing with serious cases of Covid, and to

those grieving the loss of family members -- two of which were spouses. We grieved with Bob McCollum in the loss of his wife Sue and with Ross Wood in his wife Ileana's passing.

The affiliates are Kingdom work for CBW as they travel back to their home church. It has been my pleasure to work with them this year.

Humbly submitted,
Dave Bjerke
Elder for Affiliates
January 2021

2020 Annual Report for the Big Wood School

Our mission statement, ***"The Big Wood School is a community of welcoming and nurturing educators, dedicated to ministering Christ's love and grace as we encourage each young person in his/her spiritual growth and provide professional guidance to develop each child's cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development. With the school, home and church working together, we become the anchor for effectively preparing students for life."***, continues to be at the core of all we do. But boy did 2020 challenge our ability to carry out this mission!

We started the school year, business as usual, with full enrollment and a vibrant, rich, full-bodied Christian/Academic curriculum in place and thriving. However, come mid- March, all of that came to a screeching halt. As we closed our doors to go into community lockdown, our staff quickly jumped into action to find ways to stay connected with our students and their families and continue to educate from a distance.

We participated in classroom Zooms, read stories online, recorded lessons to post on social media, dropped packets and goodie bags on doorsteps, held a Drive By and Wave Hi event in our parking lot that was featured by the Boise news, and coordinated a socially distanced pre-K Graduation Ceremony for all of our students heading off to Kindergarten. One of our teachers coordinated an effort to show appreciation to our first-responders while supporting local businesses by providing meals to the hospital workers, school building maintenance departments, grocery store workers, fire and sheriff departments, and postal workers. Many of us also jumped in to assist with the pizza giveaway held at *The Commons*. Throughout the isolation, Big Wood School managed to maintain impactful connections between our staff and our extended school family.

We welcomed students back to school at the beginning of June for Camp Big Wood 2020, with changes in place affecting almost every aspect of our operations. We offered curbside drop-off and pick-ups and a "no touch" check-in system. We instituted health checks for all staff and students upon arrival. We adjusted class sizes to maintain pods of tens students or less that would remain distanced from other pods throughout the school day. We amped up our cleaning and sanitizing efforts and began utilizing a disinfectant spray on toys, play equipment, and surfaces between uses of the pods. We revamped the entire daily schedule and routine to accommodate the many new restrictions and to exceed the guidelines recommended by the CDC. All in all, our efforts were tremendously successful and we were able to provide a fun, enriching, active summer camp program for our students which allowed them to feel a sense of normalcy once again.

We then transitioned right into the school year, keeping all of the above measures in place. In addition, we adopted a new app, Brightwheel, for parents to conduct their own morning health assessments and to check in and out from their phones. And with the very generous donation in honor of Lynn Bockemohle and the efforts of elder Steve Sofro, a new warm entry was con-

structed so that we are able to continue to offer curbside drop-off and pick-up during even the frigid Winter months.

Another COVID adaptation that Big Wood School has made has been the development of our two Extended Learning Centers, one for Blaine County Kindergarten students and one for 1st - 4th graders. The Church, Sean Martin, Youth Ministry and Children's Ministry have graciously allowed us to expand into their spaces to enable us to provide a program for the elementary students that are only attending school two days a week while the District operates under their hybrid model. These centers offer tutoring, facilitate virtual learning, give students the opportunity to socialize with their peers, but mostly create a safe, loving, nurturing environment for these children while their parents have to work. We are unsure how long we will need to provide this service and await the School Board's decisions on the matter.

Despite all of the changes, some things remain in tact. Miss Kim, Miss Hollyn, and Miss Sarah continue to teach weekly Bible lessons to all classes. We continue to offer Keystone Gymnastics on campus once a week for all of our three, four, and five year old students. They receive three weeks of acrobatic and gymnastics instruction, followed by one week of soccer clinic every month. We also are still able to offer Pizza Fridays and now get our pizza from Smoky Mountain, with the closure of Rico's. Big Wood Little Spuds Bus is running all winter to transport our little skiers back to school from Dollar Mountain. And our bus service to and from Hailey is in full operation, now even making home drop-offs in the afternoons.

Speaking of bus services, the Hoehn Family graced us with a tremendous addition to our transportation fleet, a Mercedes Sprinter van. With social distancing and pod separation, having this third vehicle at this particular time has been such a blessing. The timing could not have been better.

Thanks to Tai McGee's technology expertise, Big Wood School Enrollment for Summer Camp and Fall '21 is opening ONLINE on March 1. With so many new families migrating to the valley and judging by the amount of interest inquiries we have received, we anticipate filling up quickly. So, having this process streamlined electronically is going to be enormously helpful.

God continues to do amazing things here and makes the impossible possible. With the grace of God and the overwhelming generosity of many of our congregation, we have been able to continue our efforts to fulfill our mission in this valley. We strive to keep Him at the center of all we do and trust the rest will fall into place.

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Piggins
Big Wood School Director
January 2021
(Katey Dahlstrom, Big Wood School Elder)

2020 Annual Report for Building and Grounds

It is no surprise that 2020 was an unusual year. Because of the Covid outbreak we had some unusual expenses. We had to make some changes to the church physical plant due to the Covid pandemic.

The largest single expense and one that we will continue to incur is the increase in janitorial cost. We have had to sanitize the school with the normal cleaning and have had to fog the building every school evening. Also, we have had to fog the sanctuary, the lobby and office on a regular

basis. We purchased fogging machines and chemicals to make sure everything was safe. This expense will continue until the pandemic is over.

Because the school lobby was too small to social distance the check in and out of the children, we had to construct a new entrance in the gym. It is designed to move out of the way if the need for it goes away. Until then it provides the ability to check children in and out safely.

In keeping with the need to social distance, we made a change to our parking lot. As most of you know it is now directional with one entrance on the north and one exit on the south. This has allowed parents to drop the kids off and still social distance. It is working very well.

Other than the usual maintenance, we have not used our emergency funds for major repairs. Thanks Be to God.

We still need a new parking lot and a flat roof over the entrance, but as of now we have put these on hold.

Please continue to pray that we do not experience any new emergencies. That said, rest assured that we have planned ahead in case one should occur.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Sofro
Building and Grounds Elder
January 2021

2020 Annual Report for Children and Family Ministries

This year was unprecedented. We had no idea what was coming but did our best to continue to keep our students involved and support their families.

Church at a Distance

- Negatives
 - Cancelled Ignite, Vacation Bible School, Family Olympic Day
- Positives
 - Zoomed with Ignite
 - Zoomed for Birthdays
 - Easter Challenge
 - Ideas to support parents (used Big Wood Kids Facebook page A LOT)
 - Gifts of devotion books to families

Relationship to Big Wood School

- Tried to support
- Bought some toys for the school with surplus budget as we did few events

Socially Distanced Events

- Redfish Day
- Family Fishing Evening
- Progressive Bike Dinner
- Great Pumpkin Chase
- Children's Christmas Video

Sunday School

- Closed from March to June
- Reopened until November
- Closed through the holidays
- Reopened in January with masks and social distance

We had to rethink many of our programs and events this past year and are still continually thinking about new ways to serve our community and reach out to the many new people who have moved to the valley. While there were quite a few things that disappointed us (cancellation of events and closing of Sunday School), it has given us a great opportunity to be creative and think outside the box.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Jones and Hollyn Martin
Children's Ministry Directors
January 2021
(Hollie Bearce, Elder)

2020 Annual Report for the Deacons

Although, the Deacons Ministry had a challenging year, we tried to provide opportunities for connection with church members and others in our community.

The list of Deacons are as follows: Cassis Jones, Cindy Kirk, Carrie Kotara, Sharon Bockemohle, Chrissy Field, and Suzan Stommel.

The Meal Train was put into action as many people were experiencing illness in the spring. Cindy Kirk and Sarah Jones helped to coordinate with many people in order to prepare and deliver meals to those in need. This system seems to be an efficient method to provide care and assistance to members of the community.

To maintain connection while we were not able to have church in-person, a phone tree was organized and calls were made to all members, both local and affiliate, in the spring and fall. This was organized with the assistance of Sarah Jones and Tai McGee. Volunteers dedicated their time to reach out and check in with our church family. This effort was appreciated by many.

Due to COVID-19 precautions, we were not able to host weekly coffee hour after church on Sundays. We are looking forward to assisting with this ministry in 2021 when possible.

In late August, the Deacons assisted with the coordination of a memorial service for Lynn Bockemohle. The team was exceptionally supportive and the service was beautiful. It was a privilege to have been a part of honoring a wonderful member of our congregation.

For most of the year, we have not been permitted to offer communion to shut-ins and residents at our local senior care facilities. Hopefully, we can re-start this practice in the coming months. However, we received a request to have help with a resident at Silver Creek Care Center. Cassie Jones, volunteered her time and compassionate nature to visit with a woman in need of companionship, which gave her family and nursing staff a needed respite.

At the end of the year, as an additional effort to create connection, Cindy Kirk, Carrie Kotara, Dave and Lisa Bjerke, Penny and Emily Thayer sent Christmas cards to all church members. It is hoped that this outreach was well received and we plan to send cards next year as well.

Moving forward, we are always looking for ways we can provide compassion and support to those in need. Please send any requests to me. Also, if you know of anyone that would like to be a member of the Deacons Team, please send me their contact information and I will reach out to them. We have lots of room to grow this ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Penny Thayer
Deacons Ministry Elder
January 2021

2020 Annual Report for the Design Team

The primary focus for the Design Team this year was the creation of *The Commons*. For years, the Session of Church of the Big Wood has had a vision and desire for a south valley campus. 2020 was the year this vision was realized. The Commons is located at 131 N. Main Street in Hailey across from the Liberty Theater and between LL Green's Hardware Store and the Big Belly Deli, close to KB's Burritos.

The Design Team was tasked with facilitating and creating the vision that Mark and Tracy Mueller, Youth Ministry Directors, and Sarah Jones and Hollyn Martin, Children's Ministry Directors, had of how they wanted the space to look and to function.

The 1500 square foot space has access to its own restroom and has a large storage closet. It has beautiful concrete floors, a high ceiling and a distinct urban feel. The Design Team enlisted the help of Hailey based designer, Jen Goitandia, who volunteered her services at no charge because she believed in the project. Thank you Jen!

Upon entering the inviting space, you will find six high top café tables with four stools each in a variety of fun colors. There is a kitchen area with a refrigerator, sink, microwave, coffee and espresso machines and cabinetry filled with drinks and snacks.

In the center of the space there is a television, a band/music area, ping pong table, bean bags and a bookshelf filled with a variety of classic games, art supplies and books.

The rear portion of the space has a living room style seating area, desks for office work or student's studies and a play area for little kids.

The space has been used for Middle and High School youth gatherings, Bible Studies for adults, meetings for the Big Wood School, Parent's groups with little kids, Mom's groups, tutoring and just hanging out.

In last month's Session meeting someone put it like this...'Who would have thought that renting a space in Hailey...in the middle of a pandemic...would have become such an important and valuable asset for our church?' To that we say Thank you Jesus!

The Design Team also provided the summer and fall outdoor flowers and decorations in coordination with the Big Wood School. We also worked with the Worship Team to decorate the church for Christmas.

Respectfully submitted,
Chrissy Field
Design Team Elder
January 2021

2020 Annual Report for the Finance Committee

Financial Health

Thanks to the generosity of those who support our church and its outreach to our community and missions, CBW continues to be in good financial health.

2020 Donation Income

Total operating donation income for the year (January through December) was \$723,063 which was \$42,063 more than the budgeted \$690,000. In addition the church received separate gifts of \$53,308 for the Agape Fund and \$43,375 for the operation of The Commons in Hailey.

2020 Expenses

Expenses for the church for the year were \$758,669 which was \$3,639 more than the budgeted \$755,030.

The school had an annual income of \$709,937 and expenses of \$878,929. Projected school deficit is due to Covid-19 related issues. The school fiscal year runs from September through August each year.

2021 Budget

Session has adopted a budget which anticipates the same operating donation income as projected in 2020 of \$690,000.

Session would like to express our deep appreciation for the support that our church received in 2020. This financial support has allowed the church not only to provide our usual services to our community, but to also fully support our Missions outreach, the Agape Fund (much needed in this year of Covid-19), the Commons in Hailey (a great benefit to our outreach to youth), and to the Big Wood School.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Howes
Finance Committee Elder
January 2021

Church of the Big Wood 2021 Budget

	2020 Budget	2020 Actual	2021 Budget
Income			
Operating Donation Income	690,000.00	732,063.41	690,000.00
Adult Ministry	1,228.00	0.00	500.00
Building Rental Income	3,000.00	2,250.00	0.00
Youth Ministry	1,080.00	745.00	0.00
Children's Ministry	2,840.00	176.00	3,000.00
Coffee Hour Donations	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
Interest Income	9,316.93	3,031.09	0.00
Agape Fund Donations	0.00	53,307.50	0.00
Flower Fund	534.00	0.00	500.00
Misc (Reimb)	0.00	50.00	0.00
Hailey South Campus	33,000.00	43,375.00	30,000.00
Total Income	741,998.93	835,998.00	724,000.00
Expense			
Administrative Expenses	506,569.79	491,696.78	508,761.19
Adult Ministry	1,500.00	195.99	1,500.00
Building & Grounds	81,780.00	92,955.43	95,484.00
Children's Ministry	21,500.00	8,174.70	16,500.00
Hospitality/Cong Care	10,100.00	2,617.98	7,100.00
Missions/Outreach	69,000.00	83,251.38	69,000.00
Worship/Music	13,141.00	12,089.60	18,970.00
Youth Ministry	31,550.00	29,543.36	31,550.00
Hailey South Campus	30,000.00	38,143.98	31,904.00
Total Expense	765,140.79	758,669.20	780,769.19
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(23,141.86)	77,328.80	(56,769.19)
 * Rolling Fund: Agape	 0	 \$49,318.90	 0

2020 Annual Report for Church Missions

The Overseers of the Missions at CBW are tasked with the privilege of "Touching the World for Christ". We accomplish this with our support of local, national, and international missionaries. This past year, we were blessed by the generosity of the congregation and given a budget of \$69,000. This is based on prior giving levels and equates to ten percent of the total CBW budget. We, as a committee, also established a "reserve" fund. This was to be available to support any missionaries that feel God calling them after our budgets were set and to have available in the event of a shortfall. Last year, with the generosity of the congregation, we were able to support the following missions:

Locally

1. **Youth Ministry (\$5,512)** This fund supports our youth missions over and above the Youth Ministry Budget.

2. **SONDance Retreat Center (\$1,000)**
This donation was used for helping maintain Mike and Teri Higgs' retreat center that helps ministers and missionaries heal, restore, and reignite their passion for the calling the Lord has placed on their hearts.

3. **Global Community Partners in Boise: (\$4,800)** Nick and Laura Armstrong (son-in-law and daughter of John and Jan Newcomb) work to build a bridge between the Church and the Nations at our doorstep in Boise, Idaho.

4. **The Big Wood Pre-School (\$10,000)**
This money was used for scholarships to the preschool for families that cannot afford the entire tuition. For some families in our community this is the only exposure to Christ their child may have and financially they were not able to afford the tuition.

5. **The Agape Fund: (\$17,582)** George Kirk and Jennifer Halverson manage this fund. It goes to help people who are in need of immediate financial aid (i.e. housing, utilities, food, medical treatments and medicines) to alleviate short-term cash flow strains due to illness, layoffs, medical issues, etc. This amount is about double what we've distributed in prior years, for obvious reasons, and your generosity towards this fund (2020 donations totaling over \$53,000) have led us to seek out community partners to more effectively put this fund to work.

6. **The Hunger Coalition (\$7,000)** The money is used to help feed the hungry in Wood River Valley. Obviously, 2020 has seen a huge increase in the need and we were able to increase our support from \$2,000 contributed in 2019.

7. **Ketchum Community Dinners (\$2,600)** This money was used to help stock and support our community's efforts to feed our food-challenged with free meals served on Wednesday nights.

Nationally

Campus Crusade for Christ: (\$1,250) 2020 was Rob and Kristen Hamm's final year working on the University of Oregon campus through bible studies and outreaches. The donation helps to cover costs of evangelism materials, discipleship materials, salary, and health benefits etc.

	Jan - Dec 20
5500 · Missions/Outreach	
5500.2 · Outside Missions	
5501 · Cole Missions (Armstrongs)	4,800.00
5504 · Mapalo Orphange	10,250.00
5505 · SONdance Retreat Center	1,000.00
5508 · CRU Ministries (Kristen Hamm)	1,250.00
5509 · Hunger Coalition	7,000.00
5510 · Living Water	5,400.00
5511 · Life Water	5,400.00
5521 · Northrise University	10,250.00
5524 · Free Wheelchair Mission	500.00
5526 · Miscellaneous/Reserve	5,052.00
5506.3 · KCD Expenses	2,588.73
5527.3 · Agape Expenses	17,582.45
5960 · Missions - Youth Ministry	5,511.96
Total 5500 · Missions/Outreach	76,585.14
Ending Balance in Rolling Funds	
Agape Fund	49,318.90

Miscellaneous Fund

Reserve Account: (\$2,300) This account was established to be available for missionaries seeking support throughout the year or new missions that might arise. Due to your generosity, we have spent **\$5,052** on other missions such as Wood River Hospice, Suicide Prevention Hotline, and the Orphan Network.

Internationally

1. **Northrise University: (\$10,250)** Located in Zambia, the money was used to sponsor four students for one year at this Christ Centered University and to help with Campus construction.
2. **Mapalo Orphanage (Give Hope for Life): (\$10,250)** The money went for the general fund of the Orphanage and Academy to help with meals, teachers, and providing basic healthcare for approximately 350 students.
3. **Living Water International: (\$5,400)** Currently at work in eighteen countries around the globe, partnering with communities to provide critically needed clean water, along with sanitation and hygiene training and education. In addition to clean water, LWI focuses on "Living Water", provided only by Jesus Christ all with and through the local church, transforming lives both physically and spiritually.
4. **Life Water Ministry: (\$5,400)** This amount will help sponsor a Village Water Project for an underserved community in rural Africa. This would include sustainable water source serving up to 300 people as well as sanitation and hygiene training with an emphasis on sharing the Gospel through partnerships with local churches and church planting organizations.
5. **Free Wheel Chair Missions: (\$500)** \$79 gets one manufactured and delivered wheelchair to over 91 developing countries.

As a missions committee, we want to encourage those whom the Lord has placed a call on their heart, to join us in prayer for these amazing servants of God, and their success in their missions. To find out more information about these missions, please contact anyone on the missions committee: Jennifer Halverson, Pastor Mark Inouye, George Kirk and Tedde Reid.

Respectfully submitted,
George Kirk
Missions Elder
January 2021

2020 Annual Report for Personnel Committee

I was asked to rejoin Session as the Personnel Elder when Cheri Watson moved from the valley in March 2020. I was formally voted onto Session in late June when the congregation was finally able to attend church in the sanctuary and approve my personnel role on Session.

Due to the Covid-19 sequestering, my personal contact with the staff was minimal for the first three to four months. During that time, I was involved with the Finance Committee and Pastor Mark regarding employee contracts, salaries, staff "end of year" bonuses and health insurance policies. It was recommended and approved by Session to maintain the 2020 salary and benefit levels through 2021. Further the "end of year" bonuses were also approved by Session.

Overall, in spite of the uncertainties and ambiguities in the school environment, the staff and preschool teachers absolutely took command of the situation and performed at a marvelous level of excellence during the sequestering period.

Further, due to the Idaho Covid-19 mandates, we had to reduce our student attendance by fifty percent during the current school year and minimize student and personal collaboration in the school area and playground. Further, we continue to have a full waiting list of future students when the virus mandates are removed. So overall, the staff and preschool teachers and aides' performance were admirable and greatly appreciated by the parents and Session!

Another very positive event was the opening in June of our valley's student recreational and spiritual center in Hailey. The name of the facility is *The Commons*. The attendance has been very encouraging given the restrictions on social gatherings and concerns regarding transmitting Covid-19. Special thanks go to Mark and Tracy Mueller for leading the students' experience and to our Session member's whose contributions were invaluable in the planning, construction, financial support and furnishings in the space.

We also had one staff member accept a full-time position as Associate Pastor in North Carolina. Karis, Randy and family have followed the Lord's invitation. We miss them and wish them the very best in their new Christian journey.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary Peterson
Personnel Committee Chair
January 2021

2020 Annual Report for Student Ministries

"The Curveball Called 2020"

We kicked off 2020 with momentum and high hopes. The Junior and Senior High groups were invested and growing. Youth were bringing new friends. We were seeing faith flourish and more youth get connected on Sunday mornings and Youth Nights alike. Turn out at our winter events, the Senior High Ski Trip to Grand Targhee and the Junior High Retreat to Camp Perkins was more than encouraging. Our dream of a youth space in Hailey was becoming a reality - things weren't just good...they were great!

We were preparing to take a dozen youth to a Worship Retreat in Hume Lake, CA, when COVID-19 crippled our nation. Everything was about to change. What did this mean for The Commons? For the coming summer events? For Sunday Worship and Fuel Nights? How will we minister to youth and families when we can't gather together? It forced us to think about ministry differently. We took Fuel online, meeting twice a week via Zoom. We found online ministry resources like Jackbox games, Download Youth Ministry, and Grow Ministries. This curriculum helped us better connect on social media and provide material to grow remotely. It was hard and challenging, but God continues to be faithful.

The CBW design team continued to work on the youth space in Hailey. What a blessing it has been! We couldn't be more grateful for such a fun, inviting and purposeful space. Although our Grand Opening and Parent Night was not able to take place, we managed to have a soft opening of The Commons amidst the pandemic in late spring. We were able to serve the community by giving away pizzas during the lockdown, inviting the community to pick up a pizza in drive-by fashion outside The Commons. It was a unique outreach that gave us an opportunity to

bring food and joy to our neighbors as well as a sense of purpose in serving alongside one another.

The Commons quickly became a place for small groups to meet. Youth can come to get homework done when not in school, connect with other youth and staff - and have a place to belong outside of the house. We are able to meet in smaller numbers and dig deeper in conversation and discipleship. This is also an opportunity for us to raise up student leaders and we have been blessed to have a 2018 graduate, Jhon Yallico, working with us at the Commons.

In July, we held a Summer Evening event and had an unexpected turnout of 30+ youth! It gave us hope and the idea that if we could meet outside masked and social distanced, the youth would have a chance at being able to gather together come fall.

Our Fall Fuel program kicked off at Hop Porter park in Hailey, where we could accommodate for social distancing in larger numbers and stay outdoors. When it became too cold, we moved Fuel night to the church to provide a warmer indoor space for our lessons while still social distancing. We continue to use the back outdoor area for games, fires and hang out time.

The remaining months of 2020 provided opportunities for us to get creative. We teamed up with the Children's Ministry for The Great Pumpkin Chase. We also held The Christmas Open, a family friendly socially distanced mini golf course throughout the church designed by the youth.

As we have been reflecting on this past year, we are reminded of the words from Proverbs 16, "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps." We would be lying if we said 2020 was easy, painless or went as we had planned. Yet we believe that God has been at work. We see his hand making beauty out of brokenness. God has been teaching us and the youth connected at CBW to be more reliant on Him. We are entrusting the Lord with this work, excited for what He has in store for 2021.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark and Tracy Mueller
Directors of Student Ministries
January 2021
(Todd Harmon, Student Ministries Elder)

2020 Annual Report for the Worship Committee

2020 and the response to Covid brought many changes to worship at Church of the Big Wood (CBW).

In 2020, the Worship Leader position was being shared by, Karis Kemp, Sean Martin and Mark Mueller.

In October, Karis Kemp took a call as Assistant Pastor at Bethel Presbyterian Church in North Carolina, so presently Sean Martin and Mark Mueller are sharing the responsibility of the staff position of Worship Leader. We are thankful for their hearts and passion to continue to lead us in meaningful worship.

In late March due to the Covid, we were no longer able to meet in person for Sunday services so we had to quickly adapt and put together a plan to provide a worship service to our community at CBW in another form. While challenging, this was truly a team effort by all of the staff and some volunteers to get this task accomplished. This required staff and volunteers to research, evaluate and learn new technologies, adapting them with our existing equipment to meet present and future needs. The result being, we were able to provide streamed services

each Sunday, with the option of fellowship on Zoom after the service. All those who participated and invested many extra hours of work have my gratitude.

Recognizing live streaming of services was not just a passing need, but a future reality, we made financial investments in purchasing and installing equipment which would allow us to live stream services, even when we were once again allowed to gather together for worship.

On May 31, we were again able to meet in person at the church for worship services but with many precautions and constraints. We adhered to CDC policy and set up the church to accommodate people with proper social distancing, wearing of face mask, hand sanitizing stations and temperatures being taken before entering the church. The services at this time were also live streamed so those more vulnerable members of our congregation could be part of the service from distance location online. Thankfully we have been able to continue meeting for the remainder of the year.

In order to have Christmas Eve Services and accommodate for safety during a critical Covid stage, we held four Christmas Eve Services, two family and two traditional. Registration was required for each service with a maximum number set for attendance, people unable to attend were able to participate with us online. The staff, worship team and volunteers did an amazing job in putting together a wonderful service, which provided a centering of Christ for all of us during Christmas. Easter of 2021 will probably follow the same format depending on what happens with Covid.

We presently are holding only one service, which is a modern service held at 9:30 AM. The attendance numbers are low and fluctuate, especially depending on the ability to safely hold children's church, however the online attendance is up. A positive result of live streaming is affiliate members (people who do not live in the valley full time but attend CBW) and others are able to participate with us each Sunday, for this we are grateful.

The Worship team is always looking to build a skilled, deeper pool of musical and audio/visual talent. Please keep this need in your prayers, if you know of individuals who might be a good fit, please contact the Worship Leaders or Pastor Mark Inouye.

Ushers continue to provide for a welcoming presence to those who attend our services. This aspect of our ministry continues to be noted for the warmth of community it helps create. That said, with Covid, the Usher roles have changed and the number of Ushers who feel safe attending live worship has declined, so we are looking for new people to participate in this important ministry. If you wish to serve as an Usher, please contact Tai in the church office and you will be directed to the appropriate person.

The Worship leaders, Pastor and Worship Elder formally meet monthly to continue to engage on conversations around worship; with continual conversation and interaction in between the time of these meetings.

The Worship ministry will continue to evolve as needed and we are open to new ideas and thoughts which will help us to connect and engage in our relationship with God and one another in community.

Respectfully submitted,
Ed Northen
Worship Elder
January 2021