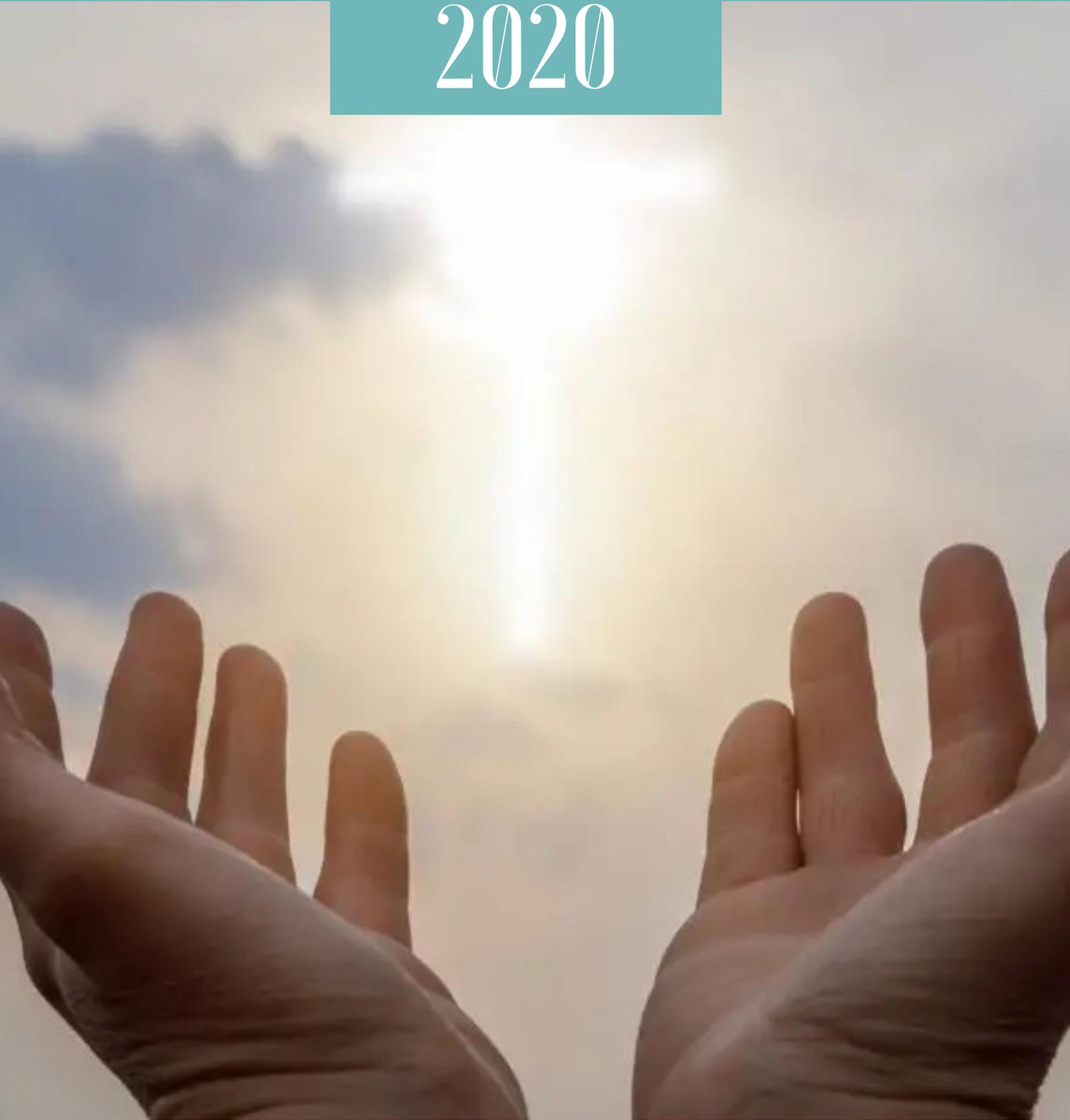


# ANNUAL REPORT 2020



Front Royal Presbyterian Church

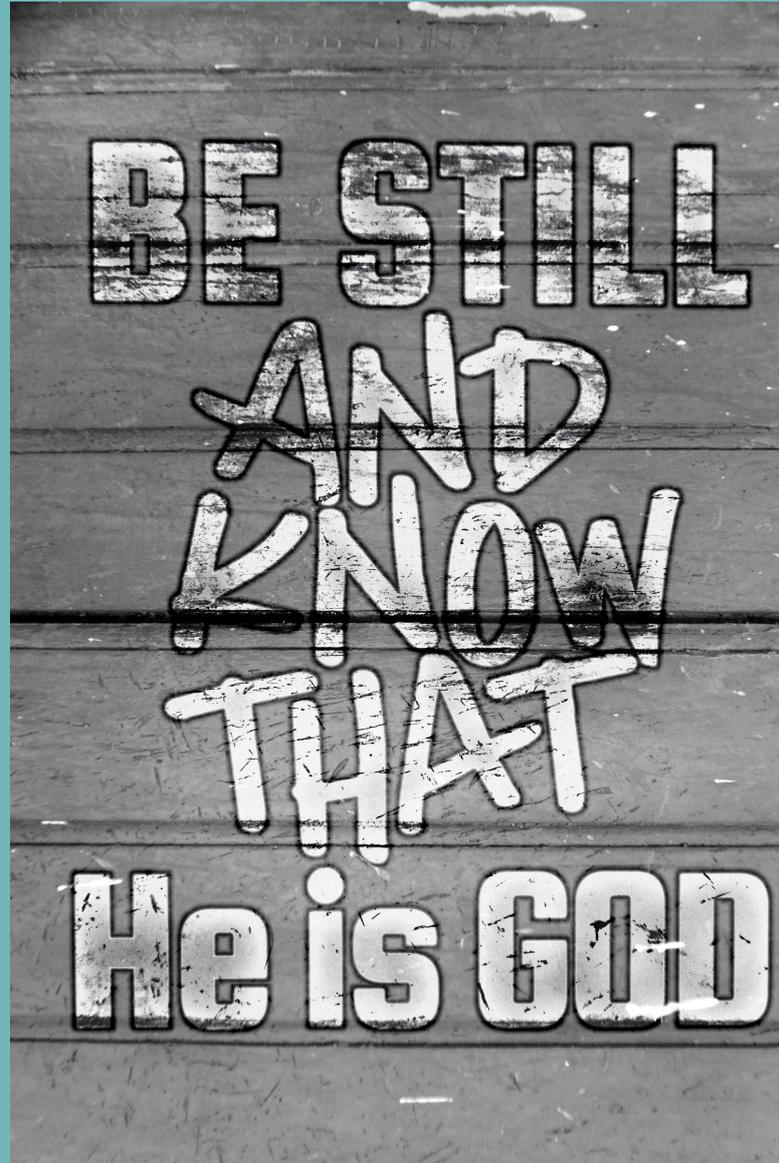


By now, we are all tired of being still, staying home and no doubt wearing masks. For the past year we have lived into Jesus' words "Love your neighbor" and we have felt the self-sacrifice it has taken on us.

Thankfully, God is good, God is constant, and God is present.

Our church has changed drastically. We have expanded worship and have increased attendance through our virtual platform. We have stretched our technical knowledge and used it to glorify and serve God within our community.

As we gather back within the walls, may we remember the lessons learned and appreciate the community around us. And may we continue to know that the church has never been closed... it's been deployed.

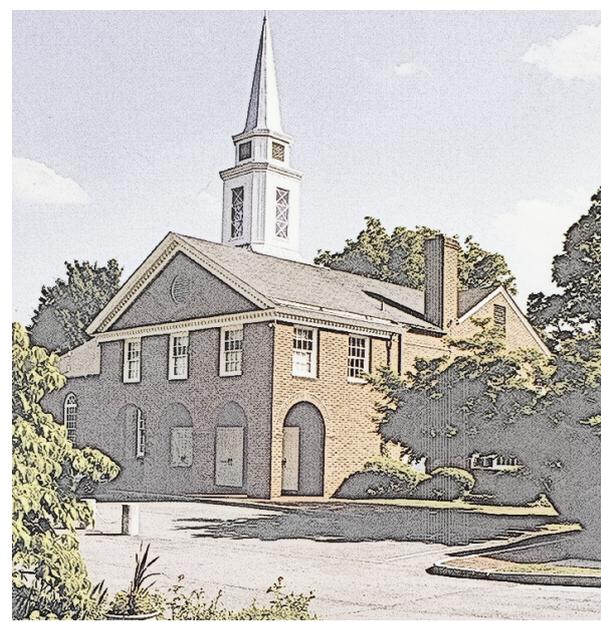


*Pastor Carrie*

# BUILDING AND GROUNDS OVERVIEW

Lee Bowen, Moderator

Committee Members: Larry Good and Clayton Downs



## Hope Lives Here.

In March of 2020, the world came to a halt as social distancing and quarantines became our new standard. The church seemingly closed its doors as we lived into loving our neighbors. But the work of the church continued. As we hosted the thermal shelter for the area homeless in a safe and clean environment, we also cleaned and disinfected the building following COVID guidelines. With the addition of the HOPE lights on the church exterior we sent a positive message of love to our community.

As COVID continued across the world, we added a vibrant virtual worship service in place of our traditional 11:00 worship.

But the Building and Grounds committee remained vigilant over the church property. We added a secure mailbox for those wanting to drop off confidential material and checks at the church.

The AC/Heating units in the church parlor and main office were replaced.

A Ring doorbell/security system was installed.

A virtual classroom was created to offer options for meetings, study and fellowship for those wishing to remain at home.

During Advent, the words "Joy, Love, Peace, Hope and Love" adorned our front lawn. And while taking advantage of a quiet church, we began renovations that included bathrooms, painting, cleaning and making the church a welcoming place to call home.



**With a generous donation from the family of long-time member Fern Perry, playground preparations began as a playset was chosen by members: Heidi Rutz, Lyndsay Pheister and Zach Logan.**

**Leveling of the property and installation will begin in summer of 2021.**

# PERSONNEL OVERVIEW



Debbie Hunter, Moderator,  
Committee Member, Deanne McVey

It has been a year of changes as we celebrated the many years of service with Renee Perry as Administrative Assistant and welcomed Misty as Communications Manager. Our long-time member and staff Dee Sparger resigned in order to finish her Master's program and we welcomed Jillian Smedley to our church team. We contracted with No Doubt Accounting to manage finances under the close supervision of Church Treasurer - Deanne McVey.

The FRPC staff have worked diligently and creatively during the time of COVID utilizing virtual worship as our primary tool of praise and worship.

Staff was trained by Ruling Elder Tracey Ramey and certified in CPR and First Aid.

- Misty brought with her an immense skill set in website building, use of social media and communications skills.
- Heather has expanded the choir during COVID and has utilized a program titled "Garage Band" to continue to bring the voices of praise to worship.
- Tonya's attention to detail and painting skills have brightened the church grounds immensely.
- Jillian brings a passion for mission, clear organizational skills and significant experience in training and coordinating volunteers.

**Pastor Carrie Evans**

**office hours: M,T,Th,F, Sunday**

**[pastor@frontroyalpres.org](mailto:pastor@frontroyalpres.org)**

**Misty Bordner, Communications Manager**

**office hours: T,W,Th,F**

**[admin@frontroyalpres.org](mailto:admin@frontroyalpres.org)**

**Jillian Smedley, Missions Coordinator**

**office hours: W,Th**

**[missions@frontroyalpres.org](mailto:missions@frontroyalpres.org)**

**No Doubt Accounting, Accountant**

**Kyle Bordner, Landscape and Yard Maintenance**

**Tonya, Custodian**

**office hours: M-F**

**[nkrbrnd@gmail.com](mailto:nkrbrnd@gmail.com)**

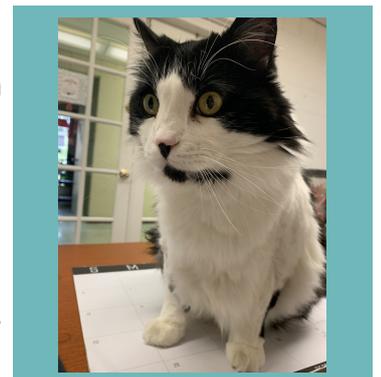
**Heather Ankerbrand**

**office hours vary**

**Rita Sparger, Child Care Provider**

**Sunday**

...and the most welcome addition of Monty, the church cat.  
office hours 24/7



# WORSHIP OVERVIEW

Co-Chairs: Ruth Younk and David Edwards Donna Jordon, Gloria Harris, Heather Ankerbrand, Marta Steane, and Donna Edwards.

Pastor Carrie Evans oversees the Committee.



The year 2020 started off as normal until March when COVID hit! As we charted a new path forward using technology and virtual worship, our online presence increased dramatically. We found new ways to spread the Gospel that built fellowship when so many felt isolated.

A generous donor contributed to our worship services and purchased a camera, speaker and tripod that enhanced worship.

As online church became the only option, we began including videos of members and friends into the service. Videos were sent in for everything from Father's Day, Passing the Peace, Pentecost, Palm Sunday as well as to thank our front-line workers.

Lent proved to be a challenge yet using David Edwards artwork as devotions on Good Friday and adding an Easter sunrise parking lot service, everyone rose to the challenge.

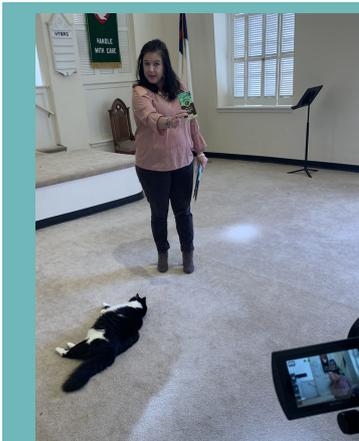
In April, we introduced "Together but Apart" Communion, as approved by the General Assembly of the PC(USA). As we charted this new path, we were reminded of the beauty and strength of being Presbyterian and remembering that we are reformed and always reforming.

During Advent, we collected stories, devotions, prayers and artwork to put together our first Advent devotional. This was distributed to the congregation and delivered to those remaining at safe at home.

Our hearts were heavy as the elders and Worship Committee opted to not hold Christmas Eve services. The choir presented a service of music and Advent hymns on Dec. 13 that brought music of the season into our homes. Our Christmas Eve service was virtual, and Pastor Carrie recorded a message for the youth of all ages by the telling of the Christmas story in a barn. And once again the congregation was generous as we raised over \$1000 through the 5 cents a meal which was sent to Ethiopia to aid in COVID relief efforts.

Special thanks to Rev. Mark Jordon and Rev. Nancy Yao for assisting with preaching while Pastor Carrie attended to her family.

We at FRPC continued to be active in service and devotion to our Lord despite the restrictions, inconveniences, and concerns about the Pandemic. We learned that a building was not necessary to continue our ministry and worship, and that despite our physical separation, technology provided creative ways to connect spiritually. All glory to God.



Our regular worship responsibilities are preparing schedules for Greeters, Communion Preparers, Communion Servers, and Worship Leaders for 2020 as well as preparing the sanctuary for Advent and Lent and special services.

Our average virtual attendance remained constant in the 65 - 70 viewers each week.

As the Spirit moved throughout 2020, we were reminded each week that "God is Here" there, and everywhere.

# VISITORS AND NEW MEMBERS OVERVIEW



Moderator Donna Jordon

As 2020 progressed and we moved to a virtual online worship model we offered different options for visitors on our online platform.

As we gathered to worship together, a chat section offered opportunities for visitors to make themselves known. The congregation was found to be warm and welcoming as people introduced themselves.

Through careful examination of attendance and correspondence to the church, we discovered that many of our Sunday attendees were indeed visitors, and some new to church in general.

Attendees ranged from local community members to friends of members as far away as California. We quickly learned that the virtual service offered a new and innovative way for people to worship in the comfort of their own homes.

In September of last year, we welcomed into membership Sally Kilpatrick. She and her husband moved to the area from Colorado in mid-March. She brings with her a wealth of volunteer experience and a passion for the Matthew 25 vision.

As we gather again in worship, we will continue to welcome first time visitors with a welcome packet of local goods such as honey from our beehive, area information, as well as a church magnet and information on FRPC.

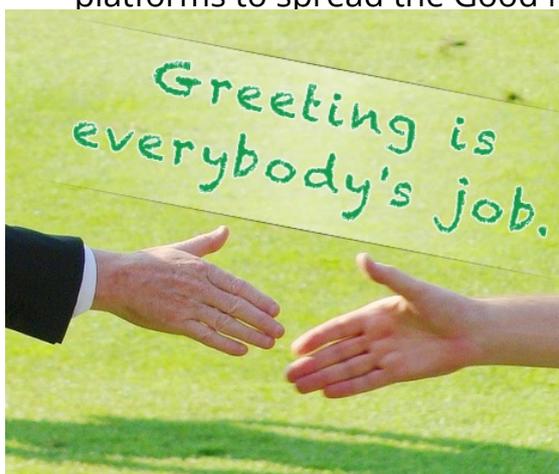
On an average, we have approximately 10 non-members watching virtually each week.

In this age of social media, we would like to encourage you to utilize Facebook and other media platforms to spread the Good News of what FRPC is doing. Evangelism has never been easier!

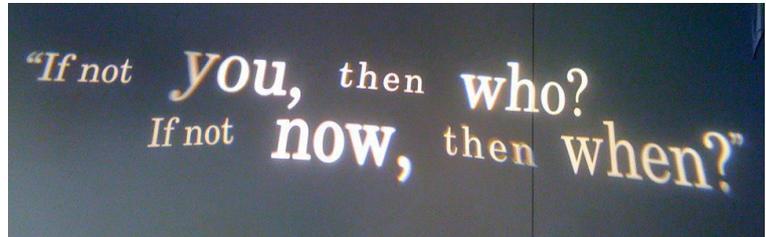
We are indeed blessed with a warm and welcoming congregation and as we continue to preach, teach and serve we ask that you invite your family and friends to church.

## Each One Bring One

What a wonderful way to share the Good News and widen the circle of fellowship and love here at FRPC.



# MISSION AND OUTREACH OVERVIEW



Jill Smedley, Outreach Coordinator.  
 Committee Members: Heidi Rutz,  
 Randy Wertz and Lisa Venable

## You are Remembered: A Story of the Impact of Community Involvement on the People We Serve

As we said goodbye to our long-time mission coordinator Dee Sparger. We continue to learn and grow in spite of the pandemic. New information and research have allowed us to begin planning for missions' programs that either had to cease operation or change drastically to maintain safety and wellness of all involved. While not all of these programs will look quite the same in the near future, our church will continue to serve the community through the missions' programs in new and creative ways.

I was approached by a regular guest of Dinner Together in March. Whenever this sweet lady would come by to pick up a meal, she would often take it upon herself to help the flow of the line of people. Telling her acquaintances to not take too much of the volunteers' time as they grabbed their carryout containers. As she often did, the women stopped to thank the volunteers and ask about how each of their weeks had been. She went on to meet up with the acquaintances eating their meal in the parking lot. As she started to walk away, she stopped, started to walk back, and then we asked if we had forgotten to give her utensils or water. She waved her hand and said,

"I have to ask you something."

"Of course, what can we help with?"

"Now I have always gotten dreams of people in need of prayer when something big is happening or about to happen in their lives. Good or bad, God lays it on my heart. Do you know the British couple at church?"

I ran through the list of members that I knew, hoping I was referring to the right ones because I was still very new at the time.

"Will you ask around for me? They were the sweetest couple and they always took time to build relationships with the people they took food to? Until you find out why God laid it on my heart, I will keep praying."

The moral of the story is that when you volunteer you blossom a relationship with a community member that is special. Something that may never be forgotten even when the time comes to conclude your service.

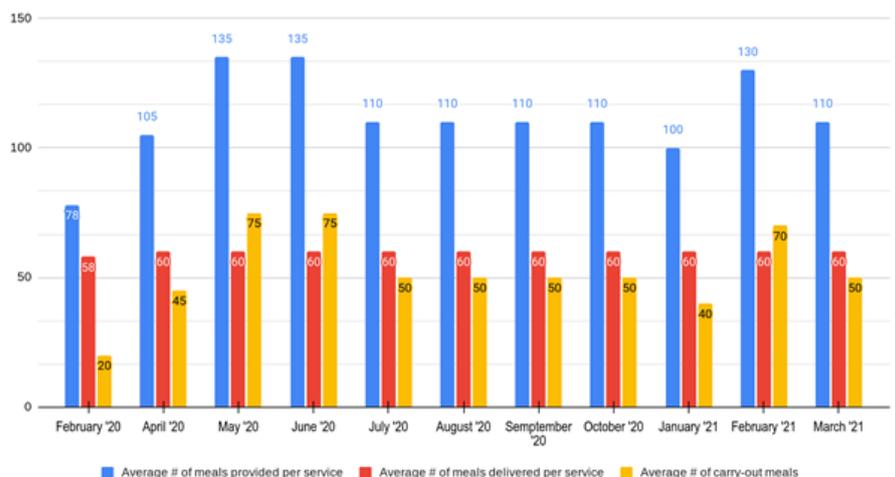


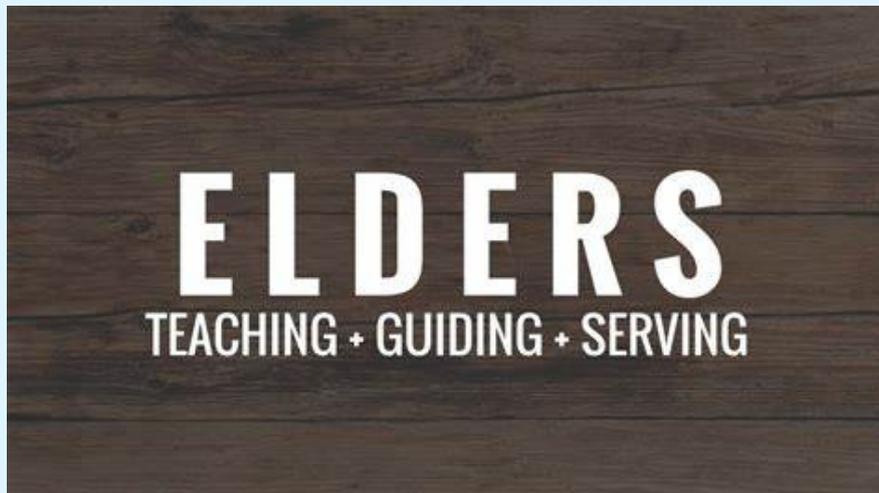
The REACH program served between 11-24 grocery bags to homebound community members each month.



MATTHEW 25

Dinner Together Service Statistics for FEB 2020-MAR 2021





## Class of 2021

Sherry Downs  
David Edwards  
Ruth Younk  
Debbie Hunter

## Class of 2022

Lee Bowen  
Donna Jordon  
Heidi Rutz

## Class of 2023

Tracey Ramey  
Lisa Venable  
Randy Wertz  
Deanne McVey

### Moderator

Pastor Carrie Evans

### Clerk of Session

Adrian Burt

The Session of Front Royal Presbyterian meets on the second Monday of the month at 7:00.

All are welcome to attend the zoom link is available from Pastor Carrie. We are currently seeking an assistant clerk of Session, if you are interested, please contact Pastor Carrie.

welcome  
back

# Join us for our Sunday Service

Worship service times...  
10:30 live worship every Sunday,  
11:00 virtual worship

We will take all precautions to protect one another. If you choose to attend in-person worship, please follow these guidelines:

- Wear a mask.
- Come early so that we can appropriately social distance.
- Don't come if you feel sick, have a fever or have been exposed.
- Follow the ushers, seating is different – be patient, your regular seat may be changed.
- If after attending worship, you test positive for COVID within the two-week time span – please alert the church office so that we can do our part in contact tracing and let other worshipers know.

Jesus said “love your neighbor”... so that is what we will do. With love, praise and excitement – see you at 10:30 Sunday mornings.



As we welcome everyone back to in-person worship and as outside groups begin to meet again, we want to keep you up to date on how we are keeping everyone safe.

- sanctuary pews are marked and properly distanced
- any space used is sanitized before use again
- outside groups follow a new procedure and report attendance to the Communications Manager
- If a case of COVID is reported on church property, contact tracing will be carried out and the group will quarantine per CDC guidelines
- masks must always be worn on church property
- individual Communion packets are distributed in lieu of a common loaf
- in place of a paper bulletin, you can scan the code on your smartphone or tablet to access the worship order
- until the CDC and Presbytery deem it safe, we will not sing hymns or have the choir present in worship
- in person services will be approximately 30 minutes in length