

## **IMPACT 2020**

NARRATIVE BUDGET















# FROM THE GENERAL PRESBYTER

REV. JOHN MOLINA-MOORE



#### The Challenges this Year

As we prepared for our budget in 2020, we asked each of our committees to use the opportunity of recrafting our mission budget so that it fully fit into the vision of the presbytery. They looked at the work ahead through the lenses of being missional, pastoral, and prophetic. They had to have thoughtful conversations and make hard decisions. Once that work was completed, we had a budget for 2020 that everyone felt good about. Within weeks of that budget being finalized we found ourselves in the middle of a global pandemic. Many of the hopes and dreams we had for the work of the presbytery and how we were going to support our churches in sharing the vision of being missional, pastoral, and prophetic appeared as if they were turning to vapor right in front of our eyes. We are very aware we weren't alone. All our churches faced the same challenge this year. We all had to ask the same questions: What will the ongoing needs be during a global pandemic? How are we going to respond? What will our resources look like?

How We've Adapted

Our work as a Presbytery shifted to be predominately responsive in nature. After the Leadership Council of the Presbytery, decided to stop all in person gatherings throughout the presbytery and recommended that all our churches do the same our staff quickly positioned itself to respond to the needs and questions that would be coming in from our churches. We put in place a virtual weekly gathering for church leaders to share best practices and get up to date information. We launched a new section on our website, COVID-19 for churches to easily access helpful and needed information. We released resources on how to launch small group ministries. We helped take some of the

guess work out of how to move to livestreaming worship and provided both expertise and financial resources to churches to reach that goal. NCP staff made themselves available to preach at our churches, lead small and large group gatherings, meet with sessions and COVID response teams, and offer any other help that congregations found themselves needing.

#### The Opportunities Ahead

In the coming year, as we wait for more dust to settle, we will continue the adaptive and responsive work – as well as the ministries that are foundational to NCP. Through this narrative we introduce what we will accomplish together in 2021! This work is only possible with YOUR commitment to OUR shared vision. Our work together is funded in two ways: Per Capita Giving, which funds our operational budget, and Unified Mission Giving. Both sources of revenue are used for one purpose: helping our ministries grow.





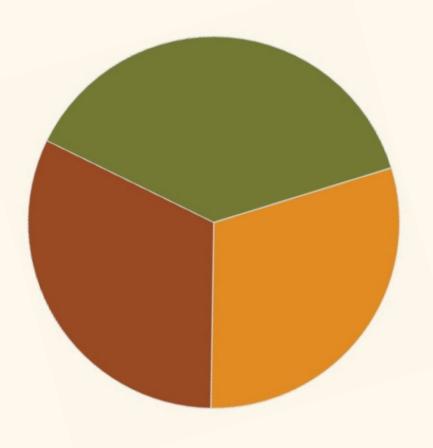
We measure our growth not by larger programs and bigger line items on a spreadsheet, instead and most importantly, by how many lives we are able to impact for the sake of The Gospel. Everything we do as a presbytery is ministry that no one church can do alone. It takes all of us. One thing this pandemic was able to uncover was how strong and connected this body is. My hope is that we build on that and discover how powerful we truly can be.

Together We Can Make A Difference!



## 2021 BUDGET

We have two budgets at NCP. The Operational Budget and the Unified Mission Budget. Both exist for the same purpose: to fulfill the ministry goals of NCP to be Missional, Pastoral, and Prophetic. What we have put together below is a helpful visual to see how all of our resources are used to live into our shared identity. Your per capita giving and your unified mission gift help complete the picture of the work we can do together as a presbytery.





Missional is based on the Latin "missio" which means sending. A missional church is an outwardly focused church. A Missional church understands that its ministry is not to bring people IN to a church building, but rather to "Go ye therefore into the world" and to meet people where they are. But that explains how churches are Missional. How can a Presbytery be Missional? The Presbytery isn't Missional... however it does empower its congregations to become more outward focused. It does so by being a catalyst and providing tools and trainin. The Presbytery is also Missional when it enables new worshipping communities.



*Pastoral* is the way in which we care for our clergy, educators, congregations and assist in crisis situations.



Prophetic refers to calling out the status quo. In response to this focus we continue our work through our Dismantling Racism Team and through our networks – Earth Care, Israel–Palestine, Refugee Ministry and the Affordable Housing Network.

### **ARISE CAMPUS MINISTRY**





#### AT GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

Arise Campus Ministry has found its calling as a campus organization intent and committed to building community, intentional listening, creative engagement, and inclusive service. When the pandemic hit, we were months into an exciting, and beautifully effective, on-campus ministry of making space for sincere conversation, community, faith



formation and service, led by many of our students and both facilitated and empowered by Emilee and Drew. While the pandemic has made community-building initiatives more difficult, it has also made them exponentially more vital: we are called to do life together and to model for our students what showing up faithfully looks like. And, through National Capital Presbytery, our other ecumenical partners, donor support and community aid, this we have done.

Starting in mid-March, we began creatively showing up for our students in a variety of ways. With the loss of on-

campus living came, for many, the loss of stable housing, the loss of on-campus jobs, and the loss of income. Our focus shifted from facilitating on-campus events to assisting students in high-need situations: expanding our networks to provide housing, procuring donations and reallocating funds to provide housing, procuring donations and reallocating funds to provide grocery and gas gift cards, helping our

students job search in a time with seemingly few possibilities, and checking in weekly with our 75 students at Arise. Coupled with this, we have shifted our community-building from on-campus and in-person to virtual. In so doing, we are tasked with being more creative and ever faithful in showing up. Our Senior Celebration was a Celebration of Rising. We are committed to forming disciples who see possibility, who confront suffering with hopeful action, and who make space for others as space has been made for them.

ARISEGMU.ORG

## **UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRY**





#### AT UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

#### A beacon of hope for young adults during critical years.

"I'm so sad that commencement is cancelled, and we are remote for the rest of the semester," was a text message Chaplain Holly Ulmer received in March from one of United Campus Ministry's graduating seniors. Loss, and for some despair, came unexpectedly for young people at the University of Maryland. College life as they knew it changed overnight with COVID-19. The 2020 spring semester was a difficult adjustment period at University of Maryland for students, faculty and staff adapting to an exclusive on-line learning environment. United Campus Ministry (UCM) helped students stay spiritually grounded and maintain a sense of community and normalcy during COVID-19 by quickly moving



our regular in person programs on-line using Zoom. A student shared, "During this time of isolation, one thing I have missed is a schedule in my life. Having to balance school and home life without any kind of structure was very difficult at first. . UCM's L3 program gave me back that structure in my schedule. . .the L3 community has been really helpful in maintaining my social connections to College Park and my spirituality."

Before the second pandemic of racial injustice was internationally recognized through the horrific death of George Floyd, UCM L3 Student Interns already had been focusing on Race and Religion. Interns Jennifer and Samantha created a critical space for students to discuss the intersectionality of faith with the impact of COVID-19 on the African American Community, and the rise of Xenophobia. Through virtual Protestant worship, spiritual practices and discussions UCM helps students explore: What it means to have faith, cultivate spiritual resilience, and live out our callings as disciples of Christ in this time. "Being a part of UCM's L3 has led me to find calm during this time of chaos." – UMD student

# STEWARDSHIP COMMITEE

The purpose of the Stewardship Committee is to provide interpretive resources and develop and present programs to congregations and members, of the Presbytery. One of the many ways this committee resources our congregations is through planned giving, annual campaign, and roundtable events.

With COVID-19 not allowing in person gatherings, the committee needed to provide a format in which churches could carry out these gatherings virtually. The committee has hosted 2 webinars during this period. One was a survey to access the financial health and wellbeing of our congregations. This survey was completed by 69 congregations and the information gathered is being used by staff and other committees of the presbytery to better resource our congregations during this pandemic and moving forward. The second webinar was "Virtual Campaigns", led by the NCP'S stewardship committee chairperson, Karl Mattison and Olanda Carr, Presbyterian Foundation, East Region. The committee is also developing a step by step resource tool on virtual campaigns. Replay of webinars can be found here.









# GERMANTOWN GLOBAL CONNECTIVE

The Germantown Global Connection (GGC) is a New Worshiping Community of National Capital Presbytery, (under the umbrella of the Church Development Commission) that gathers unchurched school-aged families from the diverse populace of Central Montgomery County and offers opportunities for fellowship, service in the community, and pathways toward personal and spiritual growth. In the COVID era, for those who do have their health, employment, and the basics covered, a non-threatening opportunity to join a group of trusted friends and give back to their neighborhood can be a real gift, especially for those disillusioned with the institutional church.

Cindy Majane, Director of Germantown HELP, says: "We love working with the GGC. Their volunteers run deliveries for our food pantry and the Latino Health Initiative's effort out of the Germantown Hub. They consistently collect items needed in the pantry, pick up donations, and shelve food. However, they can help, they readily do. The GGC has been a great resource to Germantown HELP, especially during the pandemic, and we are most appreciative."





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GERMANTOWNGC.ORG



## **RIDGETOP**

Ridgetop Coffee and Tea, an outreach ministry of Riverside Presbyterian Church was a place that provided more than just a space to buy a drink; it was a place to connect and belong. When Covid closed the doors of the coffee shop, the calling to continue to offer people an avenue to connect and serve the community remained. The church was also committed to the coffee shop's employees, our partnerships with the day laborers at Lunch for the Soul, Trinity Presbyterian, Sugarland Elementary and the families in

our community.

Addressing food insecurity and rent assistance provided new opportunities to serve. We reached out to the presbytery, our members, and coffee patrons and introduced Ridgetop









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#### RIDGETOPCOFFEEANDTEA.COM

Kitchen as a place that sustains employment for our staff and repurposes space for the benefit of the community by preparing and delivering meals daily.

Grants from the presbytery and Loudoun Hunger Relief, along with partnership with Trinity PC of Arlington, enable us to increase the number of days we can serve and deliver meals.

As we enter the 6th month of this endeavor, we are grateful to have witnessed the impact this has made to those in the community who see these meals as God's love and presence among them. As one of the recipients told me, "You have not forgotten us. The meals are always well prepared and fresh. God is good." We are grateful for your partnership and for trusting us to carry out this mission work on behalf of the Kingdom of God.

## **BRIDGES**

In a year that would have allowed Bridges ministry to move forward in truly interacting with those in the community and building meaningful relationships, Covid-19 slowed what should have been a ramp up year for us. It's hard to build relationships when you're forced inside, and the only way to meaningfully engage is through platforms that many are already overwhelmed with and fatigued.

Nevertheless, we have used the resources given, specifically financially, to adapt the focus. We have realized through this year that Bridge ministries cannot function in a vacuum, but instead must reach people where they are. LGBTQ+ people in this country are hurting, but moreover LGBTQ+ people of color are hurting more than ever. With the horrific events that have happened this year that have received national, and international, attention, we cannot ignore the murder of nearly 30 transgender





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individuals, many of whom are people of color.

We cannot ignore the policies and overall attitude of the current administration that negatively impacts the LGBTQ+ community. Instead we must stand up, step in, and speak out. This year our team worked closely with the Racism Task Force of Oaklands Presbyterian Church to increase visibility and connection in Laurel and Prince George's County, to begin discussions and work to raise voices so that much neglected needs can be met. We are fortunate to have the support of New Things of the Congregational **Development Commission (CDC) of National Capital Presbytery** to be able to use this ministry to be creative in terms of outreach and for the understanding that this work is hard but worth the perseverance.



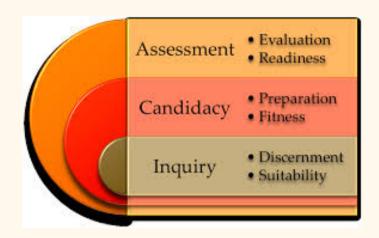
# COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION FOR MINISTRY (CPM)



G-2.06 from the Book of Order provides the basic mission of the Commission on Preparation for Ministry (CPM) in and for the presbytery. Its primary work is nurturing potential Church leaders who are pastoral and prophetic.

CPM work enriches members' understandings of Presbyterian polity, reformed theology and the evolving mission of the Church in changing times. The <u>CPM Annual report on the NCP website</u>- provides additional details about the work of CPM.

Since March 2020, CPM has adapted its ministry in response to COVID-19 and the need for social distancing. The commission's plenary and small groups meetings are held via Zoom. In response to restrictions on travel, examination of candidates and support for ordination services are conducted remotely now. In a season of many challenges, CPM continues to support the Inquirers and Candidates under its care.



# COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY (COM)





COM provides direct care, oversight, and accountability for teaching elders, educators, and sessions. The <u>COM</u> <u>Annual Report on the NCP website</u>, provides additional details about the work of COM.

COM has adapted its ministry in response to COVID-19. The commission's meetings for coordinating, smaller committees and exams are held via Zoom. With support from the NCP staff, COM continues to work with Pastor Nominating Committees as they coordinate remote meetings with candidates. COM also provides recommendations to sessions and congregations for installation of officers and ministers via remote platforms. In this time of many challenges, COM continues to equip church leaders with resources needed so that congregations in our presbytery are well-poised to carry out their unique mission calling.