

5441 SE Belmont Street • Portland, Oregon 97215 • (503) 234-6493 • www.mttaborchurch.net

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

The Story of Our Year

Submitted to the Session & Congregation March 8, 2015 (revised 2/27/2015)

MISSION STATEMENT

Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church, as people called by God, experiences God's unconditional love through Jesus. We know that the Holy Spirit is at work in our world ahead of us.

We worship together, and follow Jesus by: opening our doors, sharing sacred space, listening, serving, creating, learning.

All this we do in the hope that God's shalom will be made real and tangible for the healing of our neighborhoods and the nations.



We are in Relationship with God through

❖ **SPIRITUALITY AND WORSHIP** ❖

Our Historic Building is

❖ **SACRED SPACE** ❖

For us Community is

❖ **AN EXPERIENCE OF BELONGING** ❖

We are Stewards of

❖ **GODS GIFTS OF TIME, TALENT, & TREASURE** ❖

Our Support System is rooted in

❖ **A COOPERATIVE SPIRIT** ❖

Psalm 139

*O my Beloved, You have searched me and known me!
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
You discern my innermost thoughts.*

**You find me on the journey and guide my steps;
You know my strengths and my weaknesses.**
*Even before words rise up in prayer, Lo, You have already heard my heart call.
You encompass me with love where'er I go, and your strength is my shield.
Boundless gratitude is my soul's response.*

*Where could I go from your Spirit? Or how could I flee from your Presence?
If I ascend into heaven, You are there!
If I make my bed in darkness, You are there!
If I soar on the wings of the morning or dwell in the deepest parts of the sea,
Even there your hand will lead me, and your Love will embrace me.*

**If I say, "Let only darkness cover me, and the light about me be night,"
Even the darkness is not dark to You,
The night dazzles as with the sun; the darkness is as light with You.**
For you formed my inward being, You knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise You, for You are to be revered and adored.
*More than I know myself do You know me; my essence was not hidden from You,
When I was being formed in secret, intricately fashioned from the elements of the earth,
Your eyes beheld my unformed substance;
In you records were written every one of them, the days that were numbered for me,
When as yet there was none of them.*
*How precious to me are your creations, O Blessed One!
How vast the sum of them!*
**Who could count your innumerable gifts and blessings?
At all times, You are with me.**

*O that You would vanquish my fears, Beloved;
O that ignorance and suffering would depart from me –
All that separates me from true abandonment, to surrendering myself into your Hands!*
**Yet are these not the very thorns that focus my thoughts upon You?
I yearn to come to You in love,
To learn of your mercy and wisdom!**

*Search me, O my Beloved, and know my heart!
Try me and discern my thoughts!*
**Help me to face the darkness within me;
Enlighten me, that I might radiate your love and light.**

Nan Merrill translation

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MAEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership as of January 1, 2013 89

Additions:

New Members 3

Losses:

Removed from the rolls 1

Deceased in 2013 6

Membership as of December 31, 2014 85

Roll of Church Members who died in 2014

Gladys Reed (d. 1/11/2014)

Charles Bates (d. 4/23/2014)

Jack Elmer (d. 4/30/2014)

Joyce Blessing (d. 5/1/2014)

John Kaegi (d. 8/31/2014)

Jean Shirley (d. 9/10/14)

Worship Information

Average attendance:

Sanctuary Service 34

Coffeehouse Service 35

Good Friday 35

Easter (1 service) 175 (estimate)

Christmas Pageant 130

Christmas Eve (2 services) 105/35

CHURCH OFFICERS

Elders

Class of 2015

Diane Grohs
Iva Sue Elmer
Carol Moore

Class of 2016

Jim Longstreth
MaryLouise Ott
Michael Gnat

Class of 2017

Margaret Anderson
Linda Natale
Carl Neidhart

Deacons

Class of 2015

Vivian Poon
Michael Miller

Class of 2016

Class of 2017

Deacons serving without terms:

Gloria Bullock
Alice Campbell
Eleanor Hilderbrand
Connie Jewell
Kathy Wrisley

Nominating Committee July 2014 – June 2015 (One Year Terms)

Linda Natale (Session), Chair
Alice Campbell (Deacons)
Gary Howarth
Paul Johnson
Gloria Bullock
Pastor Carley (Ex Officio)

COMMITTIES

Finance (Meeting Schedule TBD)

Carley Friesen, Carl Neidhart, Vacancy

Buildings and Grounds (1st Wednesday, 4:30 – 5:30 PM)

Linda Eggiman, chair

Tim Merrill, Michael Gnat, Mike Vogel, Diane Grohs, Nic Bentley, Shelly Ridder, Jim

Longstreth, Jim Day (staff)

Personnel (Meets as Needed)

Margaret Anderson, chair

Diane Grohs, Carol Moore, Jan Reed, Iva Sue Elmer

Stewardship (Ad Hoc)

Mary Louise Ott, chair

Scott Hanson, Jim Longstreth, Carl Neidhart,

Budget/Mission Task Force (Completed work April to June 2014)

Mary Louise Ott, chair

Carol Moore, Mike Vogel, Scott Hanson, Carl Neidhart

Foundation (Meets as needed)

Margaret Anderson, chair

Carol Moore, secretary-treasurer

Greg Phillips, Iva Sue Elmer, Marilyn Morrison, Bob Hall, Marsha Johnson

Mt. Scott Meals

Kathy Wrisley, Bob Hall, Eleanor Hilderbrand, Lindy Rautio

Second Saturdays (Homeless Shelter Dinners)

Jim Longstreth, Lead

TaborSpace Task Force (Completed work July 2014)

Lauren Moomaw, Diane Grohs, Michael Gnat, Jessica Taylor, Eli Eichenauer, Madi Goldsmith,

Ashley Marcu

TaborSpace Steering Team (To Be Appointed in 2015)

Carley Friesen, chair

Vacancy (Church), Vacancy (Church)

Vacancy (Community), Vacancy (Community)

Lauren Moomaw (Ex Officio)

Note: Pastor is ‘ex officio’ on all committees

PASTOR'S REPORT – 2014

The completion of 2014 seemed to mark the end of an era, for me and for our congregation. We have become a one-pastor church. It is natural to look at 2014 backwards through the difficult endings we experienced in November and December - the loss of Pat & Doris Thompson, the loss of our church secretary, custodian and security person, Charm Lauritzen. When we lose people who are so deeply embedded in our community, it is a big shock to the system.

My work with the divorce recovery group over the years, has led me to recognize the grief process when I see it. Grief is a complex of emotions which most everyone experiences, but not in the same order: shock/denial, anger, bargaining, depression, acceptance. Each of us can probably find ourselves somewhere in this group of emotions even now. I know that I have found myself at each of these emotional points.

Along with many congregations across America that hope to build a strong future, our image of ourselves as a church is shifting. While we honor and build on the past, we have to also be willing to embrace change and challenges to old expectations in order to survive and thrive. 2014 was a year of changes, which were stressful for everyone.

At the same time, some wonderful ministry continued through 2014. We continued to have beautiful worship services, adding new worshipers and saying goodbye to others. I worked primarily with the Coffeehouse service, and found it deeply rewarding to sense the spiritual growth and community growth occurring there. Because of the discussion format, we can all get a window into what the growth points are in each others' lives. In this way, a strong Jesus-following-seeker community is born.

I supported Pastor Pat's leadership of the Sanctuary Service by helping to plan and participate in various elements of the service. Through Pat's recovery and after his departure in November, I began leading all the worship services. This gave me an opportunity to unite the themes of both services each Sunday. In the fall we began studying the book, *We Make the Road By Walking*, by Brian McLaren. This book is designed to help us look at the whole story of Scripture from beginning to end in one year. Both services were reflecting on this grand story of our faith.

The worship highlights for me continue to be the beautiful special services we offer during Lent and Advent, Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Christmas Eve, these services are designed to enliven all of the senses to the presence of God. Candlelight, beautiful visual centers (thank you, Mary Louise Ott!), illustrations (thank you, Jim Longstreth!), beautiful, awe-inspiring music (thank you, Jim Day, Peg Baker Gnat and crew - I can't possibly name everyone, since so many have brought their gifts to this effort!), even the smell of coffee (thank you Diane Grohs!), candles (thank you Bill Preston & Gina Hahn!) and the beautiful touch of Parlor coffee arrangements (thank you, Lindy Rautio!). Our congregation and our community have welcomed these expressions. I hope to build on what we have learned through these services as we plan our regular worship going forward.

I continued to facilitate the book group, Wine and Cheese & Goodreads. We meet in homes of different readers, to create a casual atmosphere for conversation. We have had anywhere from 6-12 participants. This year we read five thought-provoking books:

Zealot: the Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth, by Reza Aslan
Immortal Diamond, by Richard Rohr
The Great Emergence, by Phyllis Tickle
Celebration of Discipline, by Richard Foster
Still Here: Embracing Aging, Changing, and Dying, by Ram Dass

In 2014 I spent a lot of time with the session on the work of defining the church's uniqueness, what we have called our DNA/Code. We have discovered many things we all have in common, which draw us together - particularly this historic, beautiful, and deeply spiritual building. We are such a diverse community that sometimes it seems like this is our only common thread. This year I've re-oriented myself to this as a positive, not a negative. I used to think that churches that were strongly building focused were shallow spiritually, or had somehow missed the point of following the way of Jesus. But that has completely shifted for me this year. Now I view our common love of this building as a holy stewardship. In this second decade of a new century, we have been entrusted with a beautiful building that has been a labor of love for prior generations. Now it is our resource, perhaps our primary resource, to connect with God and our community. This building is, by its very architecture, a bridge between God and people. As we open the doors every day, we offer our congregation and the wider community an opportunity to connect with the sacred and with each other.

We added the candle-lighting station in the back of the sanctuary this year. This has been a powerful experience for many and invitation to pause and pray. There are almost always candles burning there, with the heart-petitions of some pray-er in our space. Sometimes prayer requests are put in the box on the usher's table to invite our congregation to join the prayers. While it is a simple thing to do, it has brought a beautiful focus to the space for everyone who walks through the sanctuary (which is a lot of people, since the bathrooms are on the other side from the entry).

I have visited you in your homes, sat at the bedside of members facing their last days, celebrated life events with you and your families. And at the end of the year, I began to take on a partnership with the Deacons in caring for our shut-in's. After ministering to you for nearly 14 years, I know so many of your stories, I have walked with you through the highs and lows of life, I hold you in my heart and in my prayers.

Although I am sure there is more to say, these words are probably enough to give you a feel for what 2014, a year in the life of a pastor at Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church, was like. Thank you, each one, for being part of it!

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Carley

BOARD OF DEACONS – 2014

Gloria Bullock
Alice Campbell

Eleanor Hilderbrand
Kathy Wrisley

Connie Jewell
Mike Miller

The year 2014 ended sadly for the Deacons as they said “good bye” to our Senior Pastor Pat Thompson who served us for two years. He answered a call to serve a church in California. The shut-in members were so impressed with Pastor Pat and truly appreciated having their Pastor visit, call on the phone or just drop them a timely note. We say “well done good and faithful servant” we love you and appreciate all you did for the members of Mount Tabor Church.

Deacons meet at 1:00 P.M. on the first Tuesday of the month, excluding July and August. A Deacon can be contacted by calling the church Pastor.

To date we have 25 church members that we serve with six Deacons and one precious volunteer by the name of Peg Baker.

Deacon responsibilities include:

1. Visitation, phone contact and birthday cards.
2. Flowers are delivered on special occasions such as Easter and Christmas and meals are often taken to those in need of a little special love.
3. The Deacons pray for and with each shut-in they visit and also pray daily for them lifting up to our Heavenly Father the needs of their “special friends”.
4. Deacons may also be called on to serve communion to those they visit.
5. Deacons try to be present at funerals and memorial services of members to offer their support to families.
6. Flowers from memorial or funeral services are often donated to the Deacons whom then deliver bouquets to the shut-ins thus serving two purposes.
7. Memorial service receptions are usually handled by Deacons, but as of the present time we are in dire need of two or three more people to help in that area.
8. Taxi script and financial assistance as needed.

The Deacons are financially supported entirely by designated gifts which are used at the Deacon’s discretion unless otherwise noted by the donor. We are exceedingly grateful to those of you who donated to the Deacon’s Fund throughout the 2014 year. GOD BLESS YOU!

We ask each of you to prayerfully consider being a Deacon. Just as Christ was a servant to all, he calls on us to serve one another.

2014 Visits 294 Phone Calls 787 Cards 424 Memorials 29

Respectfully Submitted: Connie Jewell, Deacon

Count it all joy, my brethren, when you meet various trials, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. James 1: 2-4

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – 2014

New Elders and returning Elders for the class of 2017

Margaret Anderson, Linda Natale, Carl Neidhart and Carol Moore were elected at the Congregational Meeting on June 29, 2014. Carl Neidhart is a newly ordained Elder in this class.

Since our By-Laws state that “There shall be nine Elders, divided into three equal classes, one class of whom shall be elected each year at the annual meeting for a three year term...” it was decided that the nominee from the floor, Carol Moore, be placed in the vacant spot in the class of 2015.

Nominating Committee for 2013 – 2014

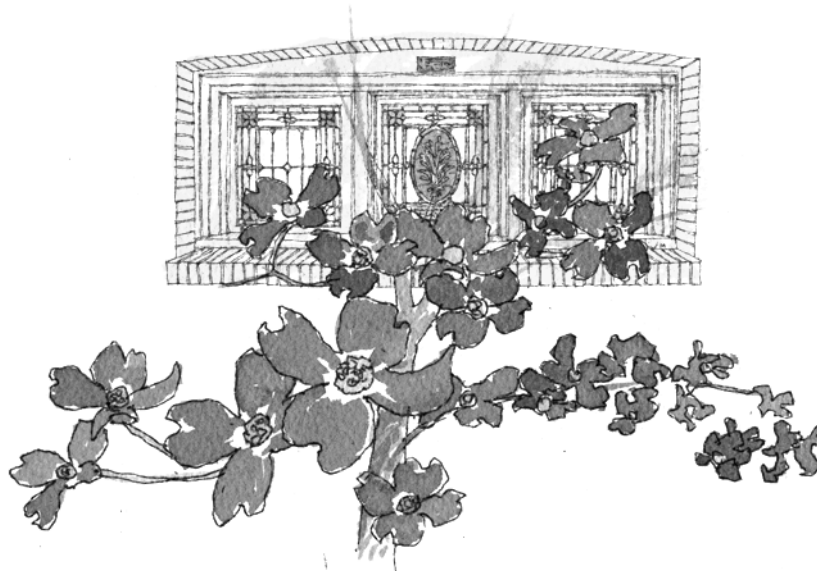
Peggy Monroe, Doreen Gatley, Bill Richardson - elected by the congregation
Alice Campbell, Deacon Representative
Jim Longstreth, active Elder appointed by Session
Linda Natale, chairman and active Elder

At the Congregational Meeting on June 29th, Pastor Pat Thompson released the Nominating Committee with the thanks of the congregation. No new Nominating Committee was formed.

Board of Deacons

No new Deacons were ordained. See Connie Jewell’s report.

Respectfully Submitted: Linda Natale, Chair



BUILDING & GROUNDS – 2014

Team Members:

Linda Eggiman, Chair

Tim Merrill, Michael Gnat, Mike Vogel, Diane Grohs, Nic Bentley, Shelly Ridder, Jim Longstreth, Jim Day (staff)

Meetings: 1st Wednesday, 4:30 – 5:30 PM

Building & Grounds team members are a “roll up your sleeves and get to work” group of dedicated volunteers. They have put in countless hours on projects that keep our building and grounds beautiful, clean, and functioning well.

Projects and Accomplishments in 2014:

- Light bulb replacement in the Commons and Coffeehouse – Lighting needs were evaluated with help from the Oregon Energy Trust (OET) and Pacific Lamp Wholesale. Energy efficient LED bulbs were purchased and installed by volunteers. A rebate for approximately half the purchase cost was received from OET.
- Loading zone designation and sign for parking space at the foot of the ramp on 54th.
- Debris clean-up at the north end of the property. Tilled soil and added compost to the garden.
- Relocation of bike racks on 55th that blocked the handicap parking space.
- Established grounds-use policy and monitor use.
- Russell Wing fascia repair in September (coordinated by Mt. TaborWorks).
- Recommendation to review weddings as a way to generate income for the building. May require improvements to the dining room for receptions.
- Recommendation to move building opening and closing to TaborSpace and use the rental house to generate income for building expenses.
- Researched fire and burglar monitoring systems to replace existing out of date and malfunctioning systems. Selected a contractor to upgrade existing fire system.
- Built wall separating Room 5A/5B on the lower level. Completion in 2015.
- Support for Mt. Tabor works repair projects.
- Sprinkler repair, weeding, planting, watering, and general grounds upkeep.
- Additional plantings – east side of church, lower Belmont and 54th street border.
- Certification of the church kitchen for the cooking classes.

Future Projects:

- Volunteers will clean, repair, and paint the interior of the rental house and spruce up the landscaping by March 1st (accomplished).
- Replace electrical panels and wiring in the Parish House.
- 54th Avenue entry beautification. Preliminary work in 2014.
- Finish repairs and painting of Russell Wing exterior.
- Establish building color standards for painting projects.
- Clean up 53rd street slope, west end of the parking lot, with the help of the neighbors.
- Clean up and renovation of the east side of the Russell wing landscape.
- Repair and re- stripe the parking lot and replace light pole.

MT. TABOR WORKS – 2014

Mt. TaborWorks was created three and a half years ago to accomplish two primary needs. First, to regenerate our church facility, bringing it into compliance with city, county and state codes. Secondly, to focus on solving daily facility needs. This allows individual ministries and gifts to be shared more freely with our guests and our community without the constant distraction of facility problems.

Close to five hundred *Work Request Forms* have been submitted and solved through the *Mt. TaborWorks* office. This has been accomplished by church staff, the Building and Grounds Committee, professional contractors and faithful volunteers from both the church and community.

In 2014 *Mt. TaborWorks* participated in the organization of the Russell Wing fascia repair, upgrade of fire security system, purchase of a new lawnmower, rebuilding of the dining room/annex sliding door framework, and several dozen routine maintenance repairs. We've been fortunate to have the carpentry assistance of Roger Gallacci on several of these repairs.

In recent months, with our facility in good working order, the number of *Work Request Forms* has diminished. Most work forms received now are requesting minor repairs (plumbing, door adjustments, minor electrical, etc.). These projects are much simpler than the earlier projects like furnace and venting problems, fascia replacement, door and window updates, toxic material recycling, security system updates, etc. I believe most of our facility needs are now standard maintenance repairs, however, daily attention is just as important as always.

During the three and a half years of *Mt. TaborWorks* there have been two positive, major developments in caring for our facilities. At first there was no Building and Grounds Committee. We now have a fine, dedicated B & G Committee caring for several needs, including landscaping and updating of the rental house. Also, the presence of MaryLouise Ott, our Interim Operations Administrator, has been a remarkable help in administering our building needs.

With an effective staff administrator, a dedicated B & G Committee and a facility in good condition, I believe *Mt. TaborWorks* has accomplished it's original goals. I'm willing to continue looking after basic daily needs, but now feel it's time for me to direct my attention to our developing musical resources. This is my primary gift and passion.

Respectfully: Jim Day

MUSIC MINISTRY – 2014

I am pleased to report that there is an increasing interest in music within our congregation! When I returned to Mt. Tabor Church four years ago my interest and focus was organizing and updating facility needs. My lifelong career as a church musician was basically “retired”, though I played the piano once in a while at the Coffee House Service. Heidi, the church organist, handled the majority of our church music program. When she resigned I began playing again after a thirty-year break from the church organ. Having been *Director of Music* in large churches I began finding a few players and singers, little by little, within our own congregation.

Here is an example of our musical development. During Advent/Christmas 2012 our seasonal music was accomplished by Heidi, Jane, JP, Cynthia, yours truly, and a few bell ringers. Musician honoraria totaled \$1,275.00. Advent/Christmas 2014 is an indication of our progress. The majority of our seasonal music was created by our own musicians, totaling over twenty, with our music honoraria dropping to \$625.00. Our Monday night music rehearsals now include up to fifteen musicians from our congregation.

We are a creative and exciting church community. I believe our musicians are finding an inspired vision and voice, and I hope you are finding our musical offerings balanced, well rehearsed and meaningful. Creativity in our music and art is a vital key to our future!

Sincerely: Jim Day

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The Personnel Committee meets as needed, with no regularly scheduled meetings. However, we have been meeting two to three times a month in recent months on no particular days of the week.

The members of the team are:

Margaret Anderson, Chair

Diane Grohs

Carol Moore

Jan Reed

Iva Sue Elmer

The Personnel Committee serves the church and its employees as the volunteer committee of the Session that oversees the paid personnel, involved in the hiring and establishing policies regarding employees working in the church.

We work with the pastor and serve as a back-up committee if there is a question or problem regarding individual employees. However, it is not our role to administer policies and staffing.

We have no budget. Any funds needed come from the administration budget.

We met several times regarding staffing, including formulating our recommendation to the Session about the pastoral plan for the future.

STEWARDSHIP TEAM – 2014

Members:

Scott Hanson
Jim Longstreth
Carl Neidhart
MaryLouise Ott

The Stewardship Team met in October to plan a month long campaign for November focused on gratitude and sharing of our gifts of time, talent, and treasure.

MTPC Stewardship Plan November 2014 Schedule:

November 2nd - Combined Service

- A short (4 minutes) slide show introduction to stewardship of time, talent, treasure, and what it means related to God's work in our diverse worshipping community was presented (it is one of our pieces of DNA). The slides were taken over the past few years during worship, the DNA retreats, music, etc. A small group of musicians, Laura Van Horn, Mike Martin, Paul Johnson, and Dave Baker accompanied the slides with live music. This was a great opportunity to build unity/community and it fit well with Pat's last Sunday. November was a time for each of us to prayerfully consider our role in the future of our worshipping community in 2015.
- Letter & Pledge Card – We sent out a mailer during the first week of November that told the story of MTPC and how our gifts of time, talent, and treasure support the mission (included volunteer opportunities). We focused on themes such as unity in community, reaching out to families, caring for our historic building, etc. and asked people to prayerfully discern their role in that mission.
- Facebook Post & Website

November 10th - A time was offered between services for the congregation to ask questions about the budget and plans for 2015.

November 10, 17, and 24th - Both Services

- Individuals told stories about their journey at MTPC (one person each week): Margaret Anderson, Scott Hanson, Carl Neidhart,
- Bulletin insert with more stories: Hank & Muriel Ernstrom, Betty Masciocchi, Jeff, Alisa, Colin & Morgan Brummer, and Tom, Alexa, Amelie & Mark Heinike.
- We posted stories on Facebook and Web.

November 24th - A reminder sent to those who have email and a letter posted to those who don't.

November 30th - A blessing of the pledges of time, talent, and treasure. We need to find ways to say thank you over and over all year long.

A follow-up letter was sent in the middle of January 2015 to those who had not yet responded. 44 pledges for 2015 were received. Thank you notes were sent early in 2015.

Submitted By: MaryLouise Ott

BUDGET/MISSION TASK FORCE – 2014

Task Force Members Appointed by the Session: Scott Hanson, Carol Moore, Carl Neidhart, MaryLouise Ott, Mike Vogel

Statement of Task Force Purpose Approved by the Session 3/18/2014: The purpose of the task force is to recommend balanced budget options that will allow Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church to accomplish our mission and operate as good stewards within projected income as we move forward in 2015 and beyond. This work will necessitate an in-depth review of all income and expense categories as well as major building maintenance required in the next three to five years. A report to the Session is due by May 27, 2014.

Guiding Questions: *What is the nature of God's work in this place? How does the "Transforming Church" and "Holy Conversations" process inform budget/mission decisions for this diverse community? How do we prepare for the church that is yet to be? What is our vision/plan for the future?*

Process: The task force spent hundreds of hours during April and May conducting interviews, processing surveys (see attached results), researching, reviewing budgets & invoices, consulting with Presbytery, meeting together to report on progress, preparing documents, and presenting to the Session. The Session devoted 25+ hours of meetings in June and July to a thorough review of recommendations, in-depth discussion, and thoughtful decision-making.

Background Research: MTPC 10 Year Membership/Attendance, and Income Charts (see attached); Life Cycles of Congregations; and Neighborhood Demographics.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS – Income Categories:

Stewardship

- Prepare a budget for the following year by the end of October and organize an aggressive stewardship campaign each year in November. Explain the benefits of a pledge and use member stories to encourage giving.
- Keep the congregation in the loop by sharing needs and successes.
- To sustain existing programs and staff, a substantial increase in the number of pledges is required. One way to achieve this is to grow the worshipping community.
- Encourage donations to special projects and giving to restricted funds for missions such as food for homeless.

Foundation

- Ask for matching funds to support the historic building and other special requests depending on vision and strategic plan.
- No more than \$35,000 to \$40,000 can be spent in one year (depends on earning status of investments).
- Increase donations to Foundation from bequests.

Fund Raising

- Short term and long term fund raising projects will be required to cover operating expenses, building maintenance, and staff salaries.
- Partner with TaborSpace and Parish House Partners to organize major annual fund raising event to support the historic building.

Property Development and Rentals

- Property development should be mission related, will involve Presbytery and City approval, has tax consequences, requires neighborhood support, and could take 5 to 10 years to realize. This should not be pursued until a vision and strategic plan is in place.
- Conduct annual review of TaborSpace donation and Parish House Partner rent to stay current relative to market rate. A review of building costs over a ten-year period with and without TS/PHP showed that rather than receiving subsidy from the church the addition of these two mission partnerships is a net positive.
- Review of the rental house arrangement requires more research.
- Weddings and other special events could produce income, but serving of alcohol, catering, dining room décor, and coordination will require more research and consideration.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS – Expense Categories:

Administration – 8% of 2014 budget: Expenses in this category are reasonable. There is a possibility of cost savings on telephone/internet that requires more research. Telephone/internet could be moved to the separate historic building fund account because these expenses benefit all building users.

Music & Art – 2% of 2014 budget: Music & art are essential to worship and spiritual development. While volunteers can make a valuable contribution to this ministry, a professional organist, music coordinator, and occasional paid musicians are necessary. Expenses in this category have already been cut to the minimum. All visual art projects have been carried out by volunteers.

Building & Grounds – 26% of 2014 budget:

- The category includes insurance, garbage, water/sewer, electricity, building maintenance and repair. A better rate for insurance has been negotiated. Energy saving recommendations from the Oregon Energy Trust for LED lighting should be implemented ASAP.
- A separate historic building account is recommended to make it easier to solicit contributions from the wider community.
- Large building maintenance/repair projects are not included in the annual budget. An additional \$50,000 to \$100,000 per year over the next 5 to 8 years is needed to pay for Russell Wing exterior repair, Parish House electrical upgrade, security system, interior and exterior painting, energy upgrades, sanctuary carpet replacement, parking lot resurfacing, bell tower repair, water damage repair, and a new roof.

Staff – 64% of 2014 budget:

- This category, which includes pastors, facility manager, custodian, organist/music coordinator, and secretary, is by far the most costly. Staff interviews and an online staff survey revealed potential for improvement in the area of job descriptions, performance reviews, communication, and assignment of duties. This work is ongoing.
- The pros/cons and costs of several staffing options were researched including continuation of full time senior pastor and associate (status quo); two $\frac{3}{4}$ time pastors; one full time pastor with a $\frac{1}{2}$ time administrator; or two equal co-pastors. In the interest of unity and a desire to move forward with planning for the future the Session voted unanimously in favor of two equal co-pastors.
- A review and expansion of committees (ministry teams) is recommended so that volunteers can find ways to use their gifts to support the staff and the work of the church in the areas of worship planning, music & art, hospitality, stewardship/finance, building & grounds, personnel, etc.

SOUND SYSTEM SUPPORT – 2014

Meeting schedule: There are no regular meetings of this group.

Members and contact information:

- Primary technician: Bill Preston
 - Taborspace evening hosts: Alex Ries, Frank Canepa
 - Taborspace scheduler: Madi Goldsmith

Job Description for this Group:

- Support worship services, weddings, memorial services, and special events in the sanctuary.
- Support TaborSpace activities via training and phone support for questions / problem solving.
- Maintain and repair sound system equipment on an as-needed basis. Insure an adequate supply of microphones and cables to support the above mentioned activities.
- Provide tapes of Sunday worship for shut-ins, per request from Pastors, Deacons or individuals.
- Prepare audio recording of congregational meetings for permanent record.

Financial Report:

- This group had no budget in 2014, but some budget has been discussed for 2015.
- All expenses incurred in 2014 were covered by donation.

Summary of the year's activities:

- Provide sound tech support for Sunday worship services, as well as Christmas Eve services.
- Provided sound tech support for several memorial services
- Provided sound tech support for several concerts in sanctuary.
- Replaced power amplifier that feeds the Commons/Chapel area, as well as one monitor channel. A used QSC model CX302 (same as sanctuary amplifiers) was purchased through ebay.
- Replaced microphone boom stand that disappeared. This is particularly important when a pianist is also singing at the piano.
- Purchased a new digital projector, as our old projector was no longer working. New projector is much brighter, and supports HDMI as well as VGA inputs (will work with newest laptops).
- Applied labels to all microphones and cables that did not already have labels. This was in response to suggestion from Taborspace. Thanks to Jim Day for providing the labels.
- Began transition from cassette recording of worship services to a digital recording program. Thanks to Peg Baker Gnat for the loan of her digital recorder to launch this project. I have purchased a similar digital recorder, and have been using it since Christmas. This allows easy access to digital (MP3) audio files via a Google Drive, or potentially easy creation of audio CDs. Potential exists for Pastor Carley to use clips of sermons, etc. on the churches website. Guests (musicians, pastors) can have access to recording. This effort is just getting started, so we will be experimenting over this next year.

Plans/Goals for 2015, in order of priority:

- Continue to support worship services (including special music), special events (such as concerts in the sanctuary), and Taborspace staff (consultation for events, additional training as required).
- Continue work on the digital recording program.
- Perform sound system maintenance activities as needed.
- If funds are available:
- Possibly purchase a new handheld wireless microphone.
- Possibly purchase additional microphone stands.
- Train additional people to operate the sound system on Sunday mornings. No candidates are currently available, but any interested persons would be welcomed.
- Project to add phantom power capability to microphone circuits in dining room that was intended for 2014 got sidelined. Will look at trying this project in 2015, but it is low priority. This project would also include rewiring dining room microphone connections to match standard configurations for easier sharing of equipment between sanctuary/commons and dining room. Supplies have been purchased, but time to work on this has been limited.

Submitted By: Bill Preston

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT – 2014

The 2nd Annual Traditional Children's Christmas Pageant was a success with 29 children participating, four of whom were from MTPC.

Directed by Marsha Johnson and assistant Linda Natale, the church once again provided a comprehensive program that included biblical education about the story of the birth of Jesus, singing, crafts, and weekly breakfast for the families.

April Parker and Laura VanHorn led the singing practice; Jim Longstreth, Michael Gnat, and Paul Johnson helped cook the breakfasts. Michael also assisted with cleaning up after the goats who came for the performance again this year.

The production took place on December 22nd at 2:30 pm and about 100 people attended, the children did an excellent job of singing, dancing, acting and portraying the beautiful Christmas story. The performance was followed by a lovely cookie party prepared by the church members. Over half of the children were returning from the first year's event, and several families who come to TaborSpace classes discovered the news of the pageant and joined in.

All in all, it was a very good second year for the pageant and we hope to produce again in December 2015.

Submitted By: Marsha Johnson

WOMEN'S CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY – 2014

Meeting Schedule:

We meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month, Sept-May at 10:00AM -noon in the dining room.

Who is in your team and how would we contact them?

Gloria Bullock
Kathy Wrisley
Alice Campbell

What does your team do?

We meet for Bible study, fellowship and food. Kathy decorates and coordinates the treats that we all bring and Alice, Peggy and others assist in this and the cleanup. It is our purpose and mission to facilitate fellowship and friendship and encourage each other.

Financial Report:

We contributed \$20 in 2014 to the Presbyterian Least Coin Fund that contributes about \$10,000 a year to children's food and education needs and various other ministries.

Summary of the year's activities:

In Jan-May we continued studying selected Psalms using "Great Psalms of the Bible" with other resources as well. We covered Psalm 51, 63, 73 and 90.

Since Sept we are studying the Horizon Bible Study "Reconciling Paul: A Contemporary Study of 2 Corinthians". Paul's writings are some of the most influential in Christianity. Revisiting the struggles Paul faced and the authenticity and integrity of his theology is an essential task for churches today in the midst of great change, Paul, like us, wrestled with and questioned his faith as he tried to live as authentically as possible in an ancient world, like ours, was also in the midst of great change.

At our Dec and May meetings we have luncheons too. Our regular group consists of:

Margaret Anderson	Betty Masciocchi
Gloria Bullock	Peggy Monroe
Alice Campbell	Linda Natale
Iva Sue Elmer	Kathy Wrisley
Eleanor Hilderbrand	

Plans and Goals for 2015:

We enjoy meeting together and I find great pleasure in teaching the, study, and the interaction between the group which is open to one and all. These women are a treasure and an inspiration to me. I love meeting with them and hope as our health allows we will continue to meet and grow together.

Respectfully Submitted By: Gloria Bullock

MTPC OUTREACH SERVICES – 2014

Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church began a partnership with The Portland Food Project in Feb. 2012 starting with 2 local food pantries, providing 237 lbs. from 12 donors. Now thanks to that initial help and support from Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church, the Portland Food Project is now crossing Bridges & Burnside collecting 18,000 lbs. from over 1,000 donors in Dec. 2014.

They now serve 15 pantries and have two affiliate Food Projects; Milwaukie and Hillsboro, working to end child hunger.

Neighbors donate a bag of food every two months. It's incredibly easy, because donors like the church, supply the bag...and we pick up the food! This provides food pantries with a steady, year-round supply of food...and provides donors with the ongoing satisfaction of making a real difference. They also get to know their neighbors, which builds a powerful sense of community.



Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church also continues to look for other ways to help the homeless from providing meals and or food through community outreach services.

Submitted By: Michael Gnat

Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church, as a people called by God, experiences God's unconditional love through Jesus. We know that the Holy Spirit is at work in our world ahead of us. We worship together, and follow Jesus by:

- opening our doors
- sharing sacred space
- listening
- serving
- creating
- learning

All this we do in the hope that God's shalom will be made real and tangible for the healing of our neighborhoods and the nations.

MT. SCOTT MEALS – 2014

The Mt. Scott Meal Program has gone through several changes since July of 2014.

Currently:

MTPC Crew

- Cooks once a month on the “Last Wednesday” at 10:00 AM in the MTPC kitchen.
- Quantity we cook for is 20 – 30 people.
- Food prepared above is delivered to Mt. Scott Church on Thursday at 10:00 AM.

Mt. Scott Crew

- On “Each Friday” food is reheated and prepared for 2:45 PM and then served to needy attendees at 4:00 to 5:00. Clean-up done by 5:15 PM.
- Alma Meirs at Mt. Scott has run this program for well over 20 years. At 85 years old she has had to try to get others trained and switch times and dates accordingly.

Funding:

As of January 8, 2015 I show the Mt. Scott fund has \$677.77. An additional check has been received from a special friend for \$500.

Many thanks to the Mt. Scott Meal Crew:

Bob Hall, Eleanor Hilderbrand, Kathy Wrisley, and Lindy Rautio

Plus Special Volunteers:

Bonnie Finch, Barb Erlich, Annee McCarthy, Helen Muchow, Linda Raveau, Karen Bauseke, Linda Seigle, and Sue Yount

This program is an important way to see that all of God’s children are cared for and fed. Everyone is blessed.

Submitted By: Kathy Wrisley



ANew DIVORCE RECOVERY PROGRAM – 2014

(www.meetup.com/anew-divorce-support)

The Divorce Recovery program has been part of our life in this place since January, 2006 – nine years now! I have not kept strict track of how many participants we have had, but here are several things I can tell you about 2014:

- we have about 30 people each week divided between the Tuesday and Wednesday groups;
- besides me, 4 people who have been through the group program, continued to share the facilitation, two have moved on and two new facilitators have joined in;
- we have currently 803 members of the online Meetup Group and since being part of Meetup.com (July 2007), we have hosted 569 group gatherings,
- we have had 1,424 people who have been members of the Meetup group at some point;
- we have a second Meetup group for social activities - “Club D” - and two Facebook pages: Divorce Recovery Portland, and Divorce: The Beginning at the End.
- all of these numbers do not include the many folks who have found and joined the group from flyers in TaborSpace, finding information online, or being referred by a therapist or friend;
- a few of these people have, through the group, found their way to participation in our congregational activities and worship;
- many people have found that the soul-level work we do in the group has led them to rediscover their own spiritual lives;
- we received a large donation from one participant in 2014 which we hope to use toward writing curriculum and being able to plant the program in other communities.

A few quotes from the group in 2014:

- “I found the divorce support group so healing and inspiring that I created a women's support group that will be meeting on a weekly basis on Tuesdays from 7-8:30. Tonight is the first meeting!”
- “I was told of your program by a Portland area therapist while searching for a divorce support group I could join.”
- “I just wanted to let you know how much you mean to me, how much of a conduit of God's love you've been in my life. I can't imagine my life without you and the Divorce Recovery Group. I was a man broken by divorce. Now, nearly 5 years after the marriage at which you officiated, I am transformed. I share my life with a wonderful woman, so loving and beautiful in every way. I wake up next to her every morning and I thank God for bringing her into my life. But without the wonderful work of your incredible group, I never would have been ready for her. I met her at a time when I was ready for a future. Before that I was drowning in the past. You gave me a hope that has become a reality.”
- “I just want to thank you for what you do, sharing your experiences and taking your time to help to heal people who really need it. Divorce is horrible, but is worst when you deal with it by yourself. To me it has been great to find this group and get help to get back on my feet. Thank you for being there!”
- “I was divorced after rebound about 5 yrs ago. Attended one full cycle of your divorce support group. Since I attended the group I have learned that peace of mind is my most prized possession.”

Submitted By: Pastor Carley

TABORSPACE – 2014

*The mission of the TaborSpace Program is to create connected community,
by providing a welcoming and nurturing gathering place,
as a collaboration between the church and the neighborhood.*

Staffing: Our dedicated personnel is the foundation for running this welcoming and dependable program. Although we said goodbye to many wonderful employees in 2014; Ashley Marcu, Thaddeus Bradley, Janie Page and Sarah Moore, we happily welcomed many new members to the team. In September 2014, Joshua Weinberg joined as Coffee House manager, Frank Canepa and Alex Reis both joined as Event Hosts. Madi Goldsmith continues to serve as our Community Events Manager and Lauren Moomaw continues to serve as Program Director - the two of them rose to the challenge of keeping the organization running smoothly through all staffing transitions in 2014.

Coffee House: The coffee house business remained consistent throughout 2014. We did open Copeland Commons for quiet space in the evenings and have seen more and more individuals staying late reading and working. With the addition of Joshua Weinberg as the Coffee House Manager, our focus within the cafe is to improve the volunteer training program by turning it into a highly regarded job training opportunity. We've implemented a new training manual, increased one-on-one training time, added more educational opportunities and begun supporting the volunteers process in finding employment within the coffee industry. All of these improvements are leading to increased likelihood of employment for the volunteers upon their completion of our 6 month Barista training program.

Community Events: The demand for community space continued to grow in 2014. We had over 5,000 events last year. The majority of events here fall into three categories: childrens arts and education, support groups and nonprofits. A few examples include:

- PDX Writers offers affordable workshops for all writers in the Library on Saturdays.
- Music Together continues to be one of our longest standing partners, utilizing Room 05 since 2009, offering their wonderful music and movement classes to infants, toddlers and preschoolers.
- Multiple home school groups utilize many of our rooms as their inspiring alternative classrooms.
- Dozens of support groups meet here on a regular basis providing their services to our community on a donation basis. This includes Portland Women's Support + Empowerment group & Al-Anon Young People's Meeting.
- Over a 100 Nonprofits partner with us, one example is NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, who hold their peer support trainings quarterly.

We support all of these groups, and many many more, by providing them accessible community space so they can better serve the community at large.

General: One of our largest accomplishments for 2014 was the creation and launch of our new TaborSpace website. It is beautiful, user friendly and has greatly improved our marketing.

Sincerely: Lauren Moomaw, TaborSpace Program Director

PARISH HOUSE PARTNERS – 2014

The Parish House Partners are the people who rent in the Parish House for exclusive use of space. Each Partner is interviewed and evaluated to see how they contribute to the mission. In 2010, the session adopted a Building Use Mission Statement, which outlines the uses which are encouraged in our building. Here is a summary:

It is our calling, as followers of the way of Jesus, to be open and hospitable to neighbor, stranger and member alike, and to call together those who help us to build a community of love and healing. Groups who use our space, help us make visible the Kingdom of God, and particularly in one or more of the following ways: 1) Healing work; 2) Creative work through art, music, movement, etc.; 3) Education; 4) Stewardship of earth; 5) Service to the poor and vulnerable; 6) Developing sustainable livelihoods.

Each partner has responded to how their work furthers these goals. These partners have helped to fill our space with creative, healing activities, as well as giving back to the church through their participation in activities, fundraising, and building care. They meet together quarterly to plan how they can work together towards these goals. Together these partners contribute about \$50,000 to our church's annual budget.

The partners are as follows:

Lower Level

Youth Center - Mt. Tabor Co-operative Preschool - our longest partner, in continuous operation since 1951

Room 4a - Vibe of Portland, a nonprofit providing art and music education for children

Main Floor

Room 11 (Berean Room) - Earthtones Music Therapy (also Rooms 07,08)
- DeeDee Simmons, Interfaith Spiritual Director

Room 18 (Tate) - Annalisa Tornfelt - Violin studio

Room 13 (new this year) - S&A Carbon, a start-up greenhouse gas advisory firm that works with companies and organizations to understand and manage the risks associated with climate change. Much of their work this year is happening in Africa, and this is their home-base address.

Upper Level

Room 21 - Eli Benjamin Eichenauer, certified Rolfing and Massage

Room 22 - Capacity Builders, Ann Blaker - Grant Writing
- Maggie Maggio Studio - Artist and TaborSpace Art Coordinator

Room 23 - International Feldenkreis Foundation, Allegra Heidelinde

Room 24 - Via Artistica, a collaboration of 4 teaching artists

Room 25 - Confluence Environmental Center - an AmeriCorps program

Room 26a - WebLively, a collaborative wellness network

Room 27 & 28 - Singing Crane Acupuncture, Cynthia Hoff

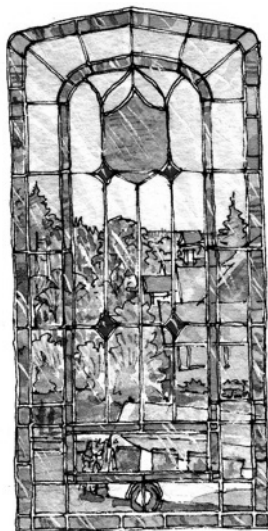
Here are some highlights of the year from some of our Parish House Partners:

Singing Crane Acupuncture: The big news for the year has been finding the right group of people to share my office space. Two nurses from the VA joined me: Judy Ulibarri, a Nurse Coach Practitioner and Maria Loebach, a Reiki practitioner. Together we are helping people become healthy, physically, emotionally, and spiritually. - From Cynthia Hoff

The International Feldenkrais Federation's Distribution Center, or IFF DC (which has a big name for such a little place) had a busy 2014. Our tiny office saw the birth of a new baby boy, and a subsequent staff change as Sarah Moore, who also works for TaborSpace, left our employ to care for her son Jasper. The IFFDC is in the process of creating a new website, which is a major undertaking. We are delighted to be working with Jessica Taylor, who developed the TaborSpace website, and Ashley Marcu, former TaborSpace staff. The point being that we're delighted to experience the fruitful cross pollination that being a Parish House Partner provides. The International Feldenkrais Federation's Board met in Portland in December 2014. They hail from Australia, Austria, France, Argentina, Germany and the USA. They were pleased to visit the Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church, enjoy it's beauty, and observe how it opens it's arms to the surrounding community. As a business, we continue to produce materials for Feldenkrais practitioners and students, working extensively with volunteers around the world to do so. What is the Feldenkrais Method? If you have aches and pains, or simply want to move more easily, try a class held in the "music together" room on the lower floor, Monday evenings at 6pm, taught by Kraig Mead. Or drop by the IFF DC office on the third floor to learn more. -From Allegra Heidelinde

In addition, Earthtones has added to their music therapy program a new program in horticultural therapy. Confluence Environmental Center has added a whole new program with added staff, so their room is becoming "cozier" by the moment. Eli Eichenauer, through Web Lively is launching a whole new network for natural care-givers in Portland.

Wonderful things are happening around us! Through our Parish House Partners, our outreach is being felt far and wide. Remember to thank them when you see them in the building!



MT TABOR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FOUNDATION, INC. – 2014

The Foundation is a tax-exempt Oregon corporation organized under the authority of the Session in 1971 to receive gifts and grants of money and to administer, invest and reinvest the same. The income derived from earnings, or principal, shall be distributed in accordance with the wishes of the contributors for exclusive charitable, educational and religious purposes. The corporation has two major responsibilities – the prudent investment of the funds and a strict adherence to the wishes of the donor.

Gifts may be made for a multiple of purposes, such as to create a continuing contribution to the Church's general operating fund, for the support of a particular Church program, or if desired, a life income with the principal reverting back to the Foundation. Being a tax exempt corporation, gifts are deductible on federal and state income tax returns.