

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

To Reach the Lost at Any Cost!

MIDDLE CHURCH

A LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Middle Church Family and Friends,

2020 was supposed to be the year that Middle didn't experience great change! The plan was to implement our completed revitalization process and begin to live out our mission - to touch the lives of people in our community with the love of Jesus! But as you all know, 2020 was a year of unexpected change and conflict. Once again, we had to learn how to do things differently. I never imagined doing **"Holy Week in a Bag"** and preaching to a tiny camera from my basement office for 13 weeks. But praise God, ministry didn't stop. Instead, God opened a digital door to ministry beyond our local community. *(I personally want to thank Don for the many hours he gave, to learn and implement new technology that allowed us not only to successfully pivot to online ministry, but has enabled Middle to continue to minister to those online now that we are back in the building.)* 2020 wasn't what anyone planned. But I saw God at work in you, as you reached out to those in need - with meals and phone calls and encouragement. As we faced the trauma of a pandemic and the turmoil of politics, we had an opportunity to examine our schedules, priorities, and where we find hope and security. There were constant reminders that we don't control life! Yet even during the darkest days, we experienced the comfort of knowing that God is sovereign! His extravagant love and grace are enough.

Even though my retirement wasn't announced until January 2021, I can't write this annual report without telling you how much I have loved being your pastor! As I think about your future, I am excited about what's to come. "For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland" (Is 43:19). God will continue to create rivers of ministry here, as long as you work together to do the hard work of reaching lost people. As you enter this season of prayer and discernment, preparing to call your next pastor, I believe your best days are still to come. Don and I will always pray for you and look forward to hearing great testimonies of God at work, through you, in Mt. Pleasant!



Pastor Linda

Holy Week in a Bag!

Ministry Highlights from 2020

- **3 baptisms** (2 by profession of faith/1 child baptism)
- **2 people gave their lives to Jesus Christ** (during lock-down, via our online ministry)
- **Major Sermon Series:** Parables, Road to the Cross, Life Together in Christ, Lessons from a Whirlpool (prejudice), Life Hacks (James), One Nation Under God, The Good News of Christmas
- **In person/Online Bible Studies:** Upside Down Living (Acts), You'll Get Through This (Joseph), Anxious for Nothing (Philippians)
- **Financial Peace University**
- **43 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes** filled and delivered
- **YouTube Channel** created



Middle Church - 2020 Annual Report



OUR FAITH GOALS

NEW DISCIPLES BY 2025

GOAL: 20 new disciples of Jesus Christ in the next 5 years

2 Baptisms by profession of faith/2 on-line professions of faith

20%

175%

TOUCHED WITH THE LOVE OF JESUS IN 2020

GOAL: 5,000 people touched with the love of Jesus this year!

MEMBERSHIP

- 47 - Current Covenant Partners (16 new since 2018 revitalization)
- 17 - MidKids
- 2 - Deaths

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, in-person attendance fluctuated greatly in 2020.

- 57 Average Worship Attendance (pre-COVID lock-down)
- 133 Average online worship views (during the 13 week lock-down)
- 34 Average Onsite Worship (since returning to the Worship Center)
- 77 Average Online Worship Views (since returning to the Worship Center)

DIGITAL/SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT



STATS FOR FACEBOOK PAGE - (3/22/20 – 3/9/21)

119 followers

105 people liked our page

19,998 reached (not the number of viewers, but the number of times content has been viewed)

8,327 engagements (any action someone takes on your page)



STATS FOR YOUTUBE CHANNEL - (4/7/20 – 3/9/21)

57 subscribers

2,101 views

409.5 hours watched

201 unique viewers (in the previous 90 days)



During a year full of risk and uncertainty, through your faithful stewardship and generosity, we were able to maintain sound financial health.

Even more important, we were able to reach people outside our church family with the love of Jesus.

In 2020, your tithes and offerings provided **\$14,994.48 in benevolence money!**

- **\$5,000.00** start up for *The Narrative* (Mars Church Plant from our presbytery)
- **\$2,860.90** for individuals in need of home/auto repair - clothing/shelter
- **\$2,133.00** - Good Samaritan Center
- **\$1,250.00** - to help Lilly Smith (MidKids attendee who is fighting cancer)
- **\$1,000.00** - Pine Springs Camp
- **\$1,000.00** - Westmoreland Food Bank
- **\$500.00** - Olson Family (whose daughter died in the Mt. Pleasant trailer fire)
- **\$500.00** - Heifer International
- **\$288.00** - Samaritan's Purse (shoebox shipping)
- **\$268.98** - Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University
- **\$93.60** - Little Dresses (shipping and supplies)

2020 INCOME

\$185,188.85

Including the following major categories:

- Tithes/Offerings** - \$60,096 **Trust Funds** \$61,398
- Rentals** - \$19,250 **Paycheck Protection Program** - \$20,000
- 981 Roundabout Project Stipend** - \$8,121.00
- Worship Center Technology Donation** - \$3,428.99
- Helpers' Guild Donation** - \$1,000

2020 EXPENDITURES

\$151,914.90

Program expenses were greatly reduced in 2020 due to COVID restrictions. The \$33,273.95 difference will pay for the ceiling repairs in the Annex and help defray PNC expenses in 2021!

Please continue to give generously. The PPP and Roundabout Stipend will not be income in 2021.