



## Leadership Council 2021 End of Year Church Report

Greetings to you in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior! As the chairperson of the Leadership Council, I am excited to share with you the “2021 End of Year Council Report” so that you can see how God is moving at Baylake UMC. Each ministry team leader has compiled a report to share how the work that the team is doing is helping us to live into our vision to connect with the Shore Drive Community by Praying, Asking (Inviting), Worshiping, and Serving (PAWS) so that lives can be transformed through knowing the love of Jesus Christ!

While 2021 continued to present challenges to us with peaks of the COVID-19 virus, we have been resilient with adapting our ministry as needed. God has been faithful to us and has blessed this church with new opportunities for ministry, bringing sixty plus unique visitors to us, many families through a new pre-school in Baylake Academy, connecting with people through technology, and praying together without ceasing so that we can touch the hearts of those living in our community through God’s love! It is an exciting time, and a time for each of us to consider our spiritual gifts and strengths to see how we may want to use them to serve in God’s Kingdom! I hope that you will join me and the other faithful leaders in ministry. The contact information is listed for each ministry leaders should you feel called to serve in that area.

Blessings, Jan Taylor ([jtaylor225@cox.net](mailto:jtaylor225@cox.net) or 757-685-3289)

**Lay Leader: Bob Howard ([roberthoward72@aol.com](mailto:roberthoward72@aol.com) or 757-373-6433).**

While the year 2021 was dominated with the impact of COVID-19, most people have been vaccinated to protect themselves and others from the virus and the best news is that the ministry of Baylake UMC and fulfilling the mission that God has called us to on Shore Drive continues to be healthy and strong. I often wonder why certain things happen and then in time, I usually see God’s divine handiwork and love. We have had to pivot on many fronts in 2021 and were disappointed to have to cancel Upward Soccer twice during 2021 but with ingenuity and hard work Vacation Bible School was still held in July and focused on the families. We saw the re-start of Sunday Schools and the continuation of on-line committee meetings and Bible studies, hybrid (some folks on-line and some in-person).

Our worship services continue to be “both/and”, both in person and on-line. As we saw a spike in COVID cases in late 2021, we saw that our members and constituents still worshipped with us on-line. The best fruit of these efforts has been the 68 unique, in person visitors to our worship services and the large attendance at our two Christmas Eve services. The Christmas cantata, led by Corbin Pinto with piano accompanist Grace Holdren, was incredible. The whole Advent season was spectacular from the 240 families that we touched on the Christmas Tree lot and shared our Advent Devotional. The theme based on the book, The Heart that Grew Three Sizes: Finding Faith in the Story of the Grinch, hit a sweet spot for Pastor Clark and the learning from this study was unique and stimulating. The Worship Committee worked hard all year to coordinate with Pastor Clark on our theme of “Walking with Jesus” in 2021. The capstone to the Advent season was hosting Winter Shelter for 50+ guests and partnering with the PIN Ministries (People in Need) with approximately 25 members assisting with this outreach, what a blessing! Our Endowment funds continue to support that church and our members. Twelve (12) college students received scholarships in 2021 totaling \$13,500 for the 2021-22 school year and they all

attended a worship service in July to thank the church; it was awesome to see the talent and the affect that Baylake has had on so many young people.

Our strategic partners continue to thrive. Despite the pandemic, Troop 67 continues to thrive and find ways to host and hold scouting activities and events at Baylake UMC. Our scouts are an important component of the success of the Christmas Tree lot, and we are thankful and appreciative of the friendships and comradery that we have forged with this partner. Some of the families have also started to attend Baylake as well, praise be to God! Baylake Academy completed their renovation of the Educational Wing of the church and invested \$250,000 in our facility. Even with a late start of enrollment, they had 60+ children for the fall term and are confident that their school will continue to grow. The families who have children attending the school participated in Operation Christmas child and other missional opportunities that we sponsored, and we expect this partnership to continue to grow.

In 2021, we streamlined the administrative function of the church through the formation of a Leadership Council made up of 10 people plus Pastor Clark. The Leadership Council combines the Trustees, the Finance Committee, and the Staff Parish Committee together. The goal of this new structure to simplify decision making while still providing a high level of accountability and freeing up time from committee meetings to allow the church to have more time for service and witness.

The members of Baylake continue to support the church with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. Our prayer team, led by Janet Baker, “meets” with God and each other on a daily basis with prayer requests, praises, and concerns. I have noted our presence above and want to note that of the 68 unique visitors, 8 of them offered an Estimate of Giving (aka pledge) card for 2022! Our gifts can also be seen in the COOL-2 capital campaign wherein \$128,872 was given in 2021 toward the new elevator and new bathrooms in the educational wing and the other projects to modernize the church. Many thanks to all who have contributed to this “second mile giving”. In 2021, \$ 433,079 was spent on this investment with an additional \$ 99,918 to be paid in 2022 (we still need to raise the \$99,918 and we hope that all of our members will prayerfully consider this). This is an investment that will pay dividends to building God’s kingdom through Baylake UMC for many years to come. I have also noted some aspects of our service above. Our witness continues as we strive to be a beacon on Shore Drive and to let our community know that God loves them and we love them too!

In 2020, when our theme was “Seeing Jesus with 2020 Vision” we confirmed our MISSION is to “Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World”! Thus, we developed an acronym “PAWS” to focus us on executing our VISION to connect with our community by Praying, Asking, Worshiping, and Serving others (**PAWS**). In 2021, we began to implement this vision and my sincere hope for 2022 with our theme of “Touching Hearts” we will leverage PAWS to allow us to touch the hearts of our congregation and our community. On a personal note, I am thankful to each of you at Baylake, the Leadership Council and each member; you are all family and I cherish our relationships and our collective love for God and our community. Baylake definitely really cares and so do I! May each of our hearts be “touched” in 2022 and “strangely warmed” with the passion and motivation to spread the Good News!

**Staff Parish Chair: Mary Mattice ([mattice.mary50@gmail.com](mailto:mattice.mary50@gmail.com) or 757-589-5468)**

- Filled Accompanist position
- Approved retaining Pastor Clark
- Approved a new position: Director of Family Ministries

- Completed Job description for Director of Family Ministries position and are beginning process of filling

**Trustee Chair: Russ Fink ([rfinklegal@gmail.com](mailto:rfinklegal@gmail.com) or 757-288-1339)**

First, Baylake UMC entered into a 60-month lease dated February 9, 2021, with Baylake Academy for a new preschool. The lease has 4 renewal options of 5 years each. The first 5-year term and rent started Sept. 1, 2021. For the first 12 months the rent is \$1,041.67/mo. (\$12,500/yr.) plus an operating charge of \$1,083.34/mo. (\$13,000/yr.). After the first year, the rent increases to \$25,000/yr. plus the operating charge. The rent increases by 5% for each renewal term.

A UV air purifying system was installed in the Sanctuary in January to help protect people attending services from COVID. As part of Baylake Academy requirements, the outside of the church was power washed to clean all surfaces including sidewalks. A large, decayed oak tree was removed from the playground and the resulting hole in the playground surface was filled with play surface by Syntec.

Capital projects were prioritized as follows:

1. Rebuild second floor bathrooms to ADA standards
2. Replace flooring to match new preschool flooring
3. UV air purification for education wing
4. Replace church boiler with two modern, high efficiency boilers
5. Replace education wing air conditioning
6. Replace Roof Section E
7. Install elevator for education wing second floor ADA access
8. Replace Roof Section F
9. Cooling System Replacement for fellowship hall, kitchen and welcome center,

The first 7 projects were started during the year, with 2-6 being completed. Projects 1 and 7 are in progress and nearing completion. Projects 8 and 9 have been delayed pending availability of capital funds.

Otherwise, various repairs and upgrades were accomplished, including installation of a Knox Box for fire department access, replacement of window glass in door and transom at end of second floor hallway, and replacement of exterior entrance lights at north entrance of education wing.

**Finance Chair: Clay Curry ([Charles.c.curry13@gmail.com](mailto:Charles.c.curry13@gmail.com) or 757-270-9568)**

**Apportionments-** All apportionments in support of our connectional denomination for the year have been paid.

**2021 Summary and Highlights-** This year was planned as one of renovations, improvements, and outreach. Below are some of our accomplishments:

1. Our audio and visual system was upgraded to include the WiFi, Cameras and Large Screen display monitors. This dramatically changed our outreach via social media and on-line ministry.
2. Much needed repairs and upgrades were able to be completed such as:
  - a. Renovation of the upstairs bathrooms (\$87,400)
  - b. New flooring (\$9,713)
  - c. New Boiler (\$81,500)
  - d. Replacement of the Education Wing Air Conditioner (\$35,445)
  - e. Multiple roofing repairs (\$25,000)
3. This congregation was able to support our community through these designated Ministries and Missions with ease.
  - a. Beach Bags (\$14,583)
  - b. Holiday Families (\$1,323)
  - c. Missions (General) (\$3,301)
  - d. Sudan (\$13,267)
  - e. Winter Shelter (\$1,125)
  - f. Baylake Elementary (\$620)
  - g. UM Men (\$9,530)
  - h. UM Women (\$115)
4. Last but not least, we were blessed with having our Payroll Protection Plan loan forgiven (\$55,580).

Overall, it was a good year and I look forward to seeing how 2022 enriches our congregation and the community we live in.

**Congregational Care Chair: Anne Austin ([asaviriniabeach@gmail.com](mailto:asaviriniabeach@gmail.com) or 757-646-7412)**

Our Congregational Care team started 2021 by continuing our "care calls" to our shut-ins and those living alone needing a little extra care and concern. Every other month the Upper Room devotionals were delivered to Westminster Canterbury for our members.

In February Valentine cards were sent and in April Easter blessing cards and palm crosses were sent to our Baylake family. During the summer when some assisted living facilities opened up, we began visiting again and continued making calls, sending cards as needed and delivering "goodies" to some members with health issues. In September our team met and compiled a revised older adult and shut-in list to better serve our Baylake family. In October, as part of BUMC 2021-2022 Goals, under Missional Outcome to reach boomers in our community, we made and delivered pumpkin baskets filled with candy to Overture (62 + community) and Baylake Retirement Community. In November we helped with transportation to doctor's appointments and delivered meals. In December 35 Christmas cards were sent and we delivered 20 Christmas bags filled with candies and a Christmas Angel to celebrate our Lord's birth. We sent over 225 cards in 2021. Our "Gift of Love" committee prepared four funeral receptions for members who lost loved ones this year.

**Community Outreach & Missions Chair: Cindy Wilkins ([edciwi@yahoo.com](mailto:edciwi@yahoo.com) or 252-475-0652)**

As the year began, we were in the height of the pandemic with school closures and people waiting for vaccinations to begin. Then in February we started back with our Beach Bag packing and deliveries to Bayside Elementary School. Our Mission team continued to meet via zoom.

Also, our team voted to do the Holiday Baskets quarterly and had donations and volunteers from the church to pack approximately 40 Family Baskets which were delivered to school with the help of the guidance counselor and cafeteria manager.

This year UMCOR decided to let the churches give their donations to local organizations which we did. Donations of school supplies were given to BES for students and staff.

Upward Soccer was cancelled this year due to COVID concerns but Dusty is hopeful we will plan to have the games next year--2022. The Jail ministry golf tournament was another casualty of the virus.

Meals were supplied to JCOC by individual small groups in the church in addition to cooperation with Bobo's restaurant on Shore Drive with additional help in supplying food.

Blood drive volunteers continued to help organize and assist the Red Cross in donations of blood.

Vacation Bible school was held this summer under the leadership of Liz and her volunteers. It, too, was impacted by COVID protocol and was held on 3 days for a shorter period. Parents were asked to attend with their kids and so it was possible to keep the groups socially distanced while having fun.

Youth mission week was July 19-23 in cooperation with several local churches. They worked on projects in the community, and it was a great outreach to those in need.

Ellen Cummings had a fundraiser again at Shore Break for South Sudan. She made a trip over to the orphanage and school taking supplies and donations to the community there in Tereka, South Sudan this past fall.

Operation Christmas Child was a great success this year. Our congregation packed 73 boxes in person and 30 boxes online.

As the year came to a close we hosted winter shelter. There were 50-55 folks each evening from Dec 19-21. There were an additional 9 guests who were housed in hotels. Sunday school groups and the Boy Scouts/UMW helped with preparation of the morning and evening meals. Food also was generously donated from the Navy Base and there were new as well as former volunteers who graciously helped this year. There were approximately 25+ volunteers who helped in the morning and evening and who also helped PIN in the cleaning of the sleeping and eating areas. There were also board games available for the folks to play. The remaining food was donated to the next host church.

The Christmas Tree Lot organized by the UMM was also very successful this year and sold all the trees in a short period of time. Help was donated by UMM, Al Will and his group of volunteers, and the Scouts who helped to put up and take down the tree lot in addition to loading the trees on the cars and spreading our mission to those who bought the trees and wreaths.

All in all we were happy to be able to continue our ministry in the community even in the midst of an ever mutating, devastating, and deadly virus. To God be the glory.

**United Methodist Women Chair: Gayle Reske ([gaylereske@cox.net](mailto:gaylereske@cox.net) or 757-650-7735)**

**The Baylake UMW gave to the following Mission Projects for 2021:**

\*ERD UMW: \$1,000.00 - pledge. \$130.50 - A&MD dues. Legacy Fund - \$100.00. Rainbow Giver - \$60.

Operation Christmas Child: \$100.00

Beach Bags: \$1000.00

Wesley Community Service Center: \$500.00

Agape Children's Center: \$500.00

ODU Wesley Foundation: \$300.00

**Technology and Communications Chair: Wendy Howard ([wendyraehoward@gmail.com](mailto:wendyraehoward@gmail.com) or 757-672-5496)**

**Technology**

**COVID-19:** As we continue to be in uncertain times that necessitate changes to ministry, we continue to seek ways to leverage technology to do ministry and spread the Gospel message. Ministry in 2021 has continued as follows:

**Worship Service / Sound & AV Systems – Phase 1 – Equipment & Installation – Week of December 28th**

- Phase 1 install included the installation of the cameras, controllers, sound board for stream integration, and dedicated input for piano.
- The integrated stream was used for worship on both Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> that provided a much better experience for those who worship with online. The stream is fully integrated with sound, music and ProPresenter slides.
- Several tests have been done to determine the best image and most stable stream. More testing will need to be done on Sunday, Jan 17<sup>th</sup> as we are still getting minor steam interruptions.
- The Audio-Visual Team is still learning how to utilize and optimize the equipment, so we ask for your patience and grace during the process.

**Phase 2 – Equipment & Installation – January 12<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>**

- Phase 2 – The new mixer and microphones have been installed in the sanctuary. Band and Choir members will be introduced to the new system on Jan 14<sup>th</sup>. The iPad will also be set up for controlling the mixing of the inputs of the new system.
- Worship on Sunday, Jan 17<sup>th</sup> will be delivered using the new microphones and inputs.

**Phase 3 – Replacement of Sanctuary Projectors**

- As with most upgrade projects that require integrating old equipment with new, there are often additional challenges that surface. We have discovered the quality of the image projected with the new cameras, though the old projectors, is very grainy and not readable from a distance. To resolve this issue, the projectors will be replaced with 85in TVs and the old projector system will be removed. We anticipate having it completed by the end of January.



## **Worship Service Enhancements**

- *Internet Connectivity* – We have connected with Verizon to establish service to the church building. The lines that run from the street to the building are scheduled to be completed by September 7, 2021. We will then begin the conversion process to establish the WiFi connection and change out any equipment that is necessary. Mike Horton will assist with this process. Once Verizon is installed and working, the service with Cox Communication will need to be terminated including the return of any equipment by staff.
- *ProPresenter* – The Finance Committee has approved the purchase (\$300) of the web-based version of ProPresenter that use for worship. We are waiting for the staff to make the purchase so that we can transition the worship content to the new version. This will allow Kim Curry to prepare the worship presentation remotely with downloading capability to the worship laptop in the sanctuary.

**AV Technician** – Mike Patten has been hired to oversee the Sunday morning AV and streaming process. He is assisting with and refining the sound transmission of the praise band through the stream utilizing the mixing application on the iPad. The connectivity challenges with Cox Communications continues to impact the quality of the music transmitted through the stream. We are also searching for additional volunteers for Sunday morning as it requires 2 people to run everything.

**Christmas Tree Lot:** We supported the Christmas Tree Lot by providing the capability to process credit / debit card sales on the lot. Approximately, 50% of the trees sold are credit card sales. The funds collected have been recorded, reconciled, and submitted to the Church Treasurer.

**Flatscreens & Media** – We continue to work with Mike Horton to switch out the media boxes on all three flat screen TV's so that we can get them back in service. We continue to strive to ensure that information on the flatscreens is current and relevant information.

**Computer Hardware and Maintenance** – The new Dell laptop for the Receptionist Station has been configured and setup. It can also be used for Sunday School if needed. Additionally, a monthly maintenance agreement was approved by the Leadership Council that will go into effect in January 2022.

**Daily Devotionals** – The Daily Devotionals at noon continue to be streamed by Pastor Clark and Steve through Facebook Live, and Corbin and Liz via a pre-recorded message. This has become a vital part of our weekly ministry so it will need to continue post COVID-19.

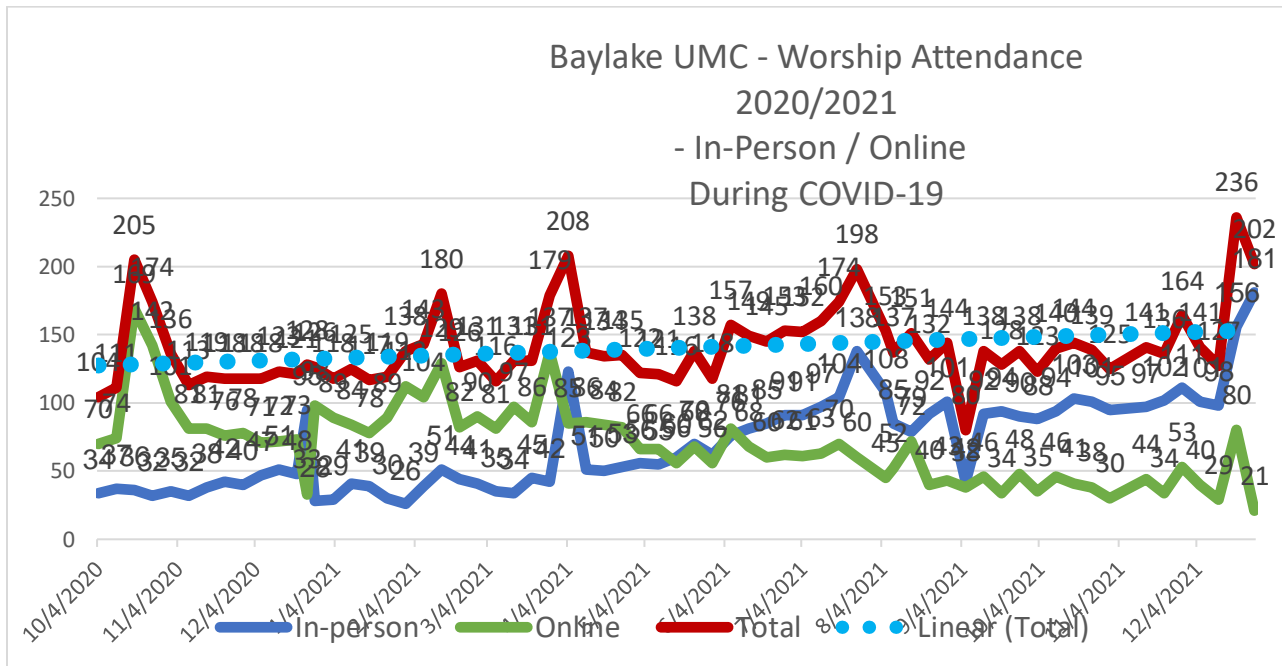
**Zoom Video Conferencing** – Through the *Zoom* platform, ministry at Baylake UMC has continued through small groups, committees, and staff meetings. The following is happening through Zoom:

- Small Groups – “Fill Your Cup” Bible Study, LIFT & Faye Bennet UMW Circles, UMW Missions Team, Wednesday Night Youth, Tween and Grace-Based Parenting Classes.
- Committees – Church Council, Finance, Lay Leadership, Trustees, Stephen Ministry, Missions, and Reaching New People.
- Pastor & Staff Meetings – Weekly

**Social Media (Facebook & Instagram) – Lenten Photo a Day Challenge** – We have been participating in the United Methodist Lenten photo a day challenge during lent through our daily posting on Facebook & Instagram. Each day a photo is posted that is representative of the daily word along with an invitation to share a reflection, photo or poem. Our Lay Leader, Robert Howard, is also providing a photo and reflection on his personal Facebook page where he can reach many folks living in our community.

**Online Worship Attendance** – The battle for weekly church attendance, online and in-person, continues to be challenged as we move in and out of COVID-19 surges. The year-over-year total attendance numbers indicate that our average trend (see trend line) is slightly up. This is good news given the many challenges that we have had this year. We will continue to explore ways to “live” with the virus and continue to advance our mission and live into our vision to improve the quality of life of others through Jesus for those living in the Shore Drive area.

The breakdown of online & in-person worship is captured in the following graph:

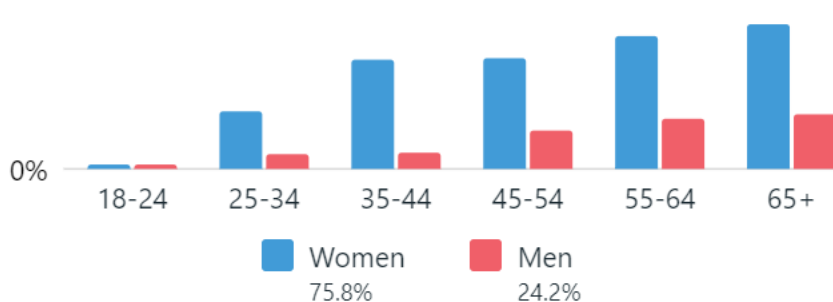


**Audience**

**Facebook Page Likes**

505

**Age & Gender**





## Website Updates -

- **COVID-19 Website Page** - A page on the website has been created for easy access to all of the Healthy Church Plans and related forms. This information can be easily accessed from the site landing page. [Home - Baylake United Methodist \(baylakeumc.org\)](http://baylakeumc.org)
- **Newsletter** - The bi-monthly newsletter is now available for download on our website at [Newsletter - Baylake United Methodist \(baylakeumc.org\)](http://baylakeumc.org)
- **Worship** - Weekly, worship recorded through our live streams is posted to the website. This provides access to worship for those who choose not to have a social media account. The recordings can be found at [Sermon Series - Baylake United Methodist \(baylakeumc.org\)](http://baylakeumc.org)
- The Message with Pastor Clark is posted to the website weekly and can be found at [Vine Series Commentary - Baylake United Methodist \(baylakeumc.org\)](http://baylakeumc.org)
- **Prayer Calendar** - Monthly, the prayer calendar, created by Janet Baker, is posted to our website. The calendar may be found at [Prayer - Baylake United Methodist \(baylakeumc.org\)](http://baylakeumc.org)

## Communications

**Simplified Accountable Structure** - We have provided support to the newly formed Leadership Council with gathering and presenting data for their leadership retreat held on Saturday, August 28, 2021. The data presented included an update from Mission Insite indicating that our top 4 demographic groups in our community are Baby Boomers. We have also summarized the accomplishments during COVID-19 as follows:

## Shifts We Made in Response to the Pandemic

### Worship

- Online- Streaming with New Format (New Equipment Purchased & Installed)
- Launched YouTube Channel
- In-Person - Modified Format
- Video Music Ministry (Recorded for Worship & Special Music Events)
- Worship Streamed at WestminsterCanterbury via YouTube

### Discipleship

- Video & Live Streaming Daily Devotionals
- Weekly Video Sermon "The Message"
- New Small Groups via Zoom- Lenten Studies, Diving Deeper, Youth
- Small Groups Converted to Zoom- Bible Study, UMW, Parenting
- Video Children's Ministry / Backyard Vacation Bible School
- Prayer Calendar Delivered Electronically

### Administration

- Zoom Committee Meeting (Council, Trustees, Finance, SPR)
- Weekly Newsletter
- Baylake Academy
- Healthy Church Team / ReEntry Team
- C.O.O.L Capital Campaign
- Payroll Protection Plan Funding
- Simplified Accountable Structure

### Service

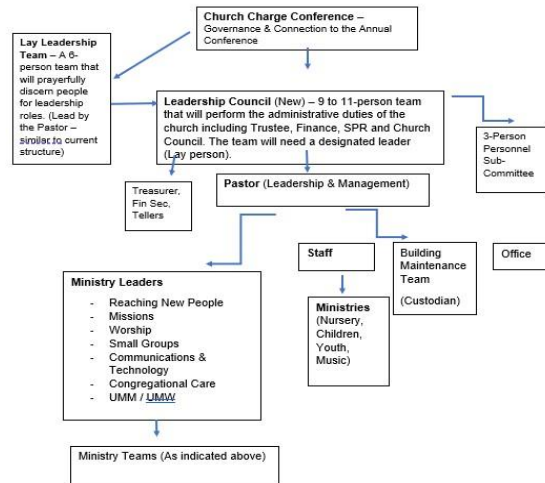
- Beach Bags Packing by the Congregation
- Online Samaritans Purse- Operation Christmas Child
- Food Ministry- JCOC / PIN/ Other

### Strategic Partnerships

- Baylake Academy - Weekly Children's Church with Pastor Clark
- Scouts - Enabled Scouts to Meet at Church in a Safe Environment

**Simplified Accountable Structure** - The Simplified Accountable Structure has also been created and communicated as follows:

# WHAT does the Simplified Accountable Structure Look Like?



**2022 People Directory** - We will be working on making edits to the ACS Technology Database so that a new and accurate directory can be distributed both digitally and in print. We hope to have the People Directory available in the first quarter of 2022.

**Missions & Community Outreach** - We have actively been supporting the Missions and Community Outreach Team with the Winter Shelter and Beach Bag Projects.

**Boy Scouts of America (Pack 67)** - We support Troop 67 with their Christmas Wreath sales on the tree lot. The team promoted the organization through the wreath sales and enjoyed building relationships with them on the tree lot.

**Ministry** - All of our channels of communications (MailChimp, Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, Website, Flatscreens & Next Door) are used weekly to ministry content and information.

**Community Engagement Chair: Wendy Howard ([wendyraehoward@gmail.com](mailto:wendyraehoward@gmail.com) or 757-672-5496)**

During 2021 to better align with Baylake UMC's Mission and Vision, the Reaching New People Team restructured itself as the Community Engagement Team. Given that there are already several groups that our church community engages with, the goal was to leverage the relationships that have already been established.

**WHY (Mission):** To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

**HOW (Vision):** By connecting with our community through praying, asking (inviting), worshiping, and serving.

- *Connect* - with the Military, Families, Millennials, Boomers living in our community by:



**PAWS -**

- **Praying (P)** - Undergirding everything in Prayer
- **Asking (A)** - Asking the disconnected to join us in ministry
- **Worshiping (W)** - Worshiping God on a regular basis
- **Serving (S)** - Serving to meet the needs in our Baylake community

We would like to have a team member, who recruit additional people) to focus on engagement with the community groups listed in the Vision Statement as follows:

- Military – Jan Taylor
- Families
  - o Boy Scout America
    - Julie Ferland; Vonda Gray – They have been connected
    - Rebecca Barrett; Dusty Gray / Jeff Waller
  - o Upward Soccer
    - Wendy Howard
    - Dusty Gray
  - o Baylake Academy
    - Amy Townsend
    - Pastor Clark
  - o Bayside Elementary
    - Tonya Craig
    - Cindy Wilkins
- Millennials
  - o Beth Howard
  - o Cole Trower
- Boomers
  - o Robert Howard
  - o Sid Savoy
  - o Mary / Mike Patton
  - o Howard Tant

To support the groups that have been identified and to help grow their faith, intentional discipleship pathways should be created that offer both intergenerational and generational experiences.

- **Pray** - How do we pray as a church (Breakthrough Prayer), how do we teach individuals to pray, how do we pray for each other and our community?
- **Ask** – How do we invite people in each group to enter into, or grow their relationship with Jesus Christ? (Knowing the Needs in our community, Identifying and Utilizing Spiritual Gifts, Small Groups, Bible Studies, Faith Formation – In-person and Online)

- **Worship** – How do we create meaningful worship for each group and corporately? (Liturgy, Contemporary, Micro Groups – In-Person & Online). How do we integrate music and other interactive elements into worship?
- **Serve** – How do we serve our community that meets their needs and allows for us to form relationships with people in the various groups? What “Signature” service and ministry to do want to be known for in our community?

### Things that we accomplished:

**Visitors** – Over the last several months, we have had 60 unique visitors, many that have had repeated attendance. Our visitor demographics include military affiliated, family with older elementary school kids, married millennials, boomers, and seniors. All visitors have received a welcome email from Robert Howard. We have also had success integrating new people into our ministries with some helping with Winter Shelter, Beach Bags, Christmas Tree Lot, Decorating the Sanctuary and attending Sunday School. We will plan more targeted efforts to integrate the new folks this winter / spring.

**Families** – We helped to pack Bayside Elementary School Beach Bags and Food Bags in December in our effort to support families. We also sold wreaths on the Christmas Tree Lot for Troop 67 and enjoyed building relationships with the young people and families.

**Financial Peace University** – Robert Howard & Allen Cheek will be offering Financial Peace University Virtually starting on January 30<sup>th</sup> for 9-weeks. We will be supporting the group as the FPU coordinator. An invitation is extended to folks of all ages to participate.

One of the things that we considered was to create an alternative worship experience for those who may not be willing to invest an hour into worship but would still like to hear the divinely inspired word of God. Pastor Clark recently created “**The Message**” (18-20 mins) as an alternative to the streaming worship. In just two weeks, he is already getting 20 views a week on YouTube. You can find him on our YouTube channel at Baylake United Methodist Church. Subscribe – It’s Free!

### Intentional Connections

**Families** –Invitations were extended to the families to participate in Beach Bags, Family Food Bags, Advent activities and Christmas Tree Lot.

#### Boomers:

- i. Sid Savoy will begin to form relationships with new Boomer attendees from East Beach. This is include making phone calls to them, along with attending the 9am worship service to meet them in-person.

#### Intergenerational:

##### ii. Advent Study / Christmas Tree Lot

1. Pastor Clark selected Advent study of “The Heart That Grew Three Sizes: Finding Faith in the Story of the Grinch” by Matt Rawle. There are resource materials for adults, youth and children.
2. Wendy & Clark established small groups to do the study (Adults- Sunday School, Fill Your Cup Bible Study, and Diving Deeper). Youth and Children will also be encouraged to use the curriculum. A meeting of all small group leaders will be set-up with connectivity established on a regular basis.

3. Wendy initiated the Baylake UMC Advent Devotional Process including identifying devotional writers. There were 11 new contributors to the devotional this year!

#### Discipleship Pathways:

- b. Foundations - Pastor Clark & Wendy are working to create content for a Foundational class to be delivered via Zoom.
- c. S.H.A.P.E - As follow up to our Lenten Study that encompassed the S.H.A.P.E tool, Pastor Clark & Wendy will work to find a group leader, review content, and create a study via Zoom.