



2020 Annual Reports

Crossroads United Church of Christ

2436 Croton Road
Melbourne, Florida 32935

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Crossroads Church Leaders

Randy Pitts, Senior Elder - 2021
Kim Fortman, Clerk - 2023
Marylin Peckron, Treasurer - 2023
John Fox, Financial Secretary - 2021
Randy Pitts, Buildings and Grounds - 2021
Diane Merlino, Senior Deacon - 2021

Annual Meeting Agenda

January 31, 2021

1. Call to Order and Opening Prayer Randy Pitts, Senior Elder
2. Announcement of Quorum
3. Minutes of 2020 Annual Meeting
4. Reports of Leaders and Staff
5. Affirmation of Leaders – No new leaders to be elected
6. Financial Reports
7. Budget for 2021
8. Members Questions and Comments
9. Adjournment
10. Closing Prayer Rev. Frank L. Lamson, Pastor

2029 Annual Meeting Minutes

Senior Elder Randy Pitts called meeting to order. Pastor Frank Lamson led opening prayer. Randy made announcement of quorum reached.

Minutes of the 2019 annual meeting were reviewed. Jan Bates moved to accept the minutes as printed. Jackie Jansen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Reports of Leaders and Staff – Reports were reviewed. Nancy Wilson moved to accept the reports as written. John Fox seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Affirmation of Leaders - There were no new leaders to be elected.

Financial Reports – There was a \$2,500.00 shortfall in this year's budget. There is an anticipated \$7,960.00 shortfall in the proposed budget for 2020. This shortfall is after Pastor's compensation was reduced by 25% at his request.

A suggestion was made to have congregational meetings periodically throughout the year to inform the congregation how the budget is doing. John Fox reminded everyone that Council meetings are open to all every month.

Randy reported on repairs done to the sound booth and sanctuary lighting.

2020 Budget – The proposed budget was reviewed and discussed. Lenny Farias moved to accept the Financial Reports and adopt the proposed budget for 2020. Laurie Ross seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Members Questions and Answers – A question arose regarding grand piano and monies spent to refurbish. Randy informed the congregation that the offer to accept the piano was brought before Council and was discussed and approved. The piano and the funds to refurbish were gifted.

Sandy Mullins moved to adjourn. Lenny Farias seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Fortman, Clerk

Senior Elder and Building and Grounds Report

Another year has passed and it sure was not our typical year. I have reached the end of my 3-year commitment to lead the church. I will be stepping down as Senior Elder and we will be looking for another member to step up and lead for the next 3 years.

Given the pandemic that has limited our in person worship I'm pleased to say that overall our church had a good year both financially and the physically for our building and grounds. The leadership team was able to acquire a \$10k grant from Brevard County to help with Covid related issues. Our property is in pretty good shape. We have a few issues with our sign, water bill, and our night lighting. Pat Renaudette and Kim Fortman stepped in to take over church cleaning and are doing a great job. We have been able to keep the grounds looking good. However, we could use some additional volunteers to pitch in.

We still do not have an official building and grounds person to be on the Council. I'm concerned that there are no members stepping up to join the leadership team. Despite the Covid closure of the Thrift Store Kim Fortman and Robin DeCoux kept up the fundraising by selling donated goods on the internet. The giving of our members does not cover the basic expenses of the church and we should all be concerned about this. While we scoped out the cost to renovate the kitchen, we put the project on hold as we deal with the limited usage of Fellowship Hall.

We are hoping for a much improved 2021 as we exit the pandemic.

Respectfully submitted,
Randy Pitts, Senior Elder

Pastor's Report

This has been an unusual year. Everything we have known and come to take for granted has been uprooted and disrupted and changed – perhaps never to be the same again. We have faced challenges that affected our living, our work, our leisure, our health – both physically and emotionally. It's been a hard year for many of us.

Serving as your Pastor has also been challenging. Leading worship from home for some weeks and then from our almost empty sanctuary for the past months is not the way I believe we are to be together. This new reality meant I had to learn new skills and learn them fast.

Connecting with you by email, text, and phone has helped ease our separation – and I'm thankful for the technology we have available to us and for the skills of our own tech people like Dave Speer and John Fox. The Worship Info and Bible Study Notes that I prepare each week and Carol Briggs sends out also help us keep together. Yet, we all yearn to return to what we know and love – being together in church every Sunday. We pray that day will come soon.

I am so thankful for our Council which continues to meet – masked and distanced! – and to do the work of our church. Our building and grounds are in excellent condition thanks to their efforts and with the support of some of our good members. Randy Pitts has served us well as Senior Elder. I have worked closely with him through the ups and downs of this strange time. Randy will continue to serve on Council as head of Buildings and Grounds.

Diane Merlino, our Senior Deacon, has had a much reduced role since we are unable to worship together in person. I understand her frustration and appreciate her patience. We will be back! John Fox continues as Financial Secretary and Marilyn Peckron as Treasurer. You know that that our finances are secure and in excellent order. Kim Fortman, our Clerk, has kept us on task and has called us to keep our eye on future possibilities for our church and the good that we can do together.

Most of all, I am thankful for you. Through this long and trying time, you have stuck with us – and with me! Your prayers and good thoughts are obviously with us. Good things continue to happen for us. You tune in and watch our Service broadcast each week live on our Facebook page. You have been generous in your appreciation for the Worship Info and Bible Study Notes I prepare each week. And, finally, you have continued with your generous financial support for our life and work.

When I received my first Covid vaccine shot on January 2, I was thankful for the protection it would provide me. I was also thankful for the sign it was that better days are coming – and coming soon. In a few months, most of us will be vaccinated. Then, we'll be able to be together again – still masked and distanced probably, but together.

Thank you for your support and for allowing me the honor of being your Pastor. Thank you for being faithful to this church we love throughout this unusual time. God blesses us all and God continues to bless our Crossroads Church.

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Frank Lamson

Senior Deacon's Report

January, February, and part of March were busy months for the greeters and Communion deacons. I thank everyone who ministered to the congregation. God did an awesome work through all and many showed true faithfulness to our Lord as they served him and us no matter their circumstances.

Crossroads Church has been enjoying online services the rest of the year. One month the church had a trial reopening. We were able to greet through social distancing and partake in Communion together with individual Communion packets. This year will be remembered for Covid-19 which affected our world including the church. Yet God is working all things for our good and his glory.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Merlino, Senior Deacon

Thrift Store Report

What a whirlwind of a year we had had. With our first full year behind us we were excited for the New Year to begin. By the end of last year, we had established a name for ourselves within the community. We were eager to utilize everything we had learned through the previous year.

We began the year with record setting sales in January and February. By mid-March as you know we had to close due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Faced with not making budget we developed a plan to continue the online sales. Robin Decoux thought of a way to sell by appointment which allowed us to proceed more safely and efficiently.

We found many ways to help others such as monthly monetary donations to a local charity. We donated clothing, books, school supplies and many other items to those in need. We donated children's and adult clothing to a village in the Philippines, Joe's Club, and animal rescue. We sent monetary donations to Canine Commandos and set up a small fund to assist with necessities at a substance abuse facility. We donated shoes to Soles4Souls sponsored by the Suntime Rotary Club. Our year's supply of stuffed animals went to Santa Claus to distribute to children.

If we weren't selling items, we were making masks to keep people safe. We are very appreciative of the donations received for masks. There were enough donations to replenish mask-making supplies and create a fund for the food pantry which will help with increased demand during these hard times. We also made children's masks for Santa to disperse to special needs children.

We are so thankful to everyone for assistance in reporting items for us to pick-up. Bob Lewis, Randy Pitts, and Bill Decoux stepped up to help pickup items. Randy was instrumental in finding an entire house full of treasures to donate. Laura Hagerstrom kept us supplied with electronics and many other items. There were times when all we had for sale were very small items from the thrift store but we feel God really blessed us all the way. Of course, it would have been better without the pandemic and with the thrift store open, but we made it through safely and learned so much.

I am elated to report not only did we make our proposed budget we surpassed it. At the end of November, the thrift store total is \$5,425.50 and online sales is \$18,479.51. This is \$1905.01 over the budgeted amount of \$22,000.00 with December ahead of us. We are hopeful there will soon be an end to the Covid-19 pandemic to facilitate a safe reopening of Crossroads Thrift Store.

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Fortman

We give thanks

for the lives of those we lost through death in the past year:

John Wilson
Emma Burnett

Food For Families Report

Food for Families (F4F) is our Crossroads Church food assistance program for elementary school aged children and their families to help meet their weekend food needs. In the past this program was targeted to students who received low or no cost meals at school. In this year of pandemic school closures and at-home learning, we encouraged the school to use the assistance we provide as they saw fit.

The gift cards have been a blessing especially this pandemic year. We provided gift cards for six families to Dollar stores which stock foodstuffs. We increased the amount for Thanksgiving and Christmas and also provided a Wal-Mart gift card. Pattie Kelly at Croton Elementary has said several times how wonderful it's been to have some way of helping families in need of food, school supplies, and extras – clothing, shoes, and hygiene products.

Thank you for your generous support.

Respectfully submitted
Martie Fox

2020 Membership Report

Membership as of January 1, 2020: 70

New Members: 0

Moved back to Active Status: 0

Deaths: 2

Moved to Inactive status: 0

Transfers: 0

Membership as of December 31, 2020: 68

Treasurer's Report

Crossroads began 2020 with \$73,893 Opening Balance Equity (which included 2019 interest of \$365) and ended the year with \$79,027. This equates to a 2020 YTD net profit of \$5,134.

Total actual income for 2020 was \$115,003 as compared to \$137,950 for the prior year. Total actual expenses for 2020 were \$109,869 as compared to \$133,750 for the prior year. Please note our mortgage balance at 2020 year end was \$159,589.

With a projected balancing income needed of \$7,960 (this amount is included in \$109,150 anticipated income) Crossroads was still able to increase income by \$5,853 over budget while increased actual expenses amounted to \$719 over projected expenses.

In summary, \$5,853 amount of income over budget (\$115,003 - \$109,150) less \$719 amount of expenses over budget (\$109,869 - \$109,150) equals \$5,134 YTD actual net profit over 2020.

Respectfully submitted,
Marylin Peckron, Treasurer

