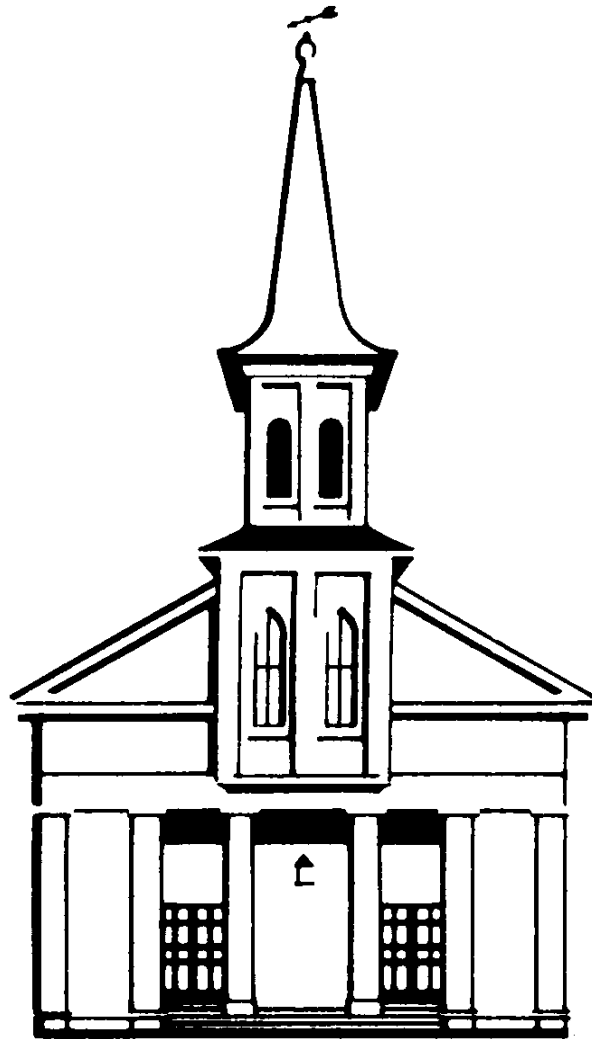


# THE LAMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



355 LAMINGTON ROAD  
BEDMINSTER, NEW JERSEY 07921

## AGENDA

### Annual Meeting of the Congregation and the Corporation of THE LAMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH February 24, 2019

1. Call to Order
2. Appointment of Clerk & Declaration of a Quorum
3. Report of the Pastor
4. Report of the Director of Music
5. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of April 22, 2018
6. Report from the Nominating Committee and Election of Officers.....Page 1
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  - i. Finance & Stewardship & Investment 7-9
  - k. Basket Day 9-10
  - l. Finance & Stewardship Budget Details *(back pages)*
8. New Business
9. Motion to Adjourn & Closing Prayer

## REPORT OF THE PASTOR

There's an old joke shared among those who know the Presbyterian Church well—although you can actually pull out our denomination's name and drop in just about any other: "How many Presbyterians does it take to change a light bulb?"

"Did you say...CHANGE?!?!"

By and large, churches don't handle change very well. That's because an important part of what we do in the church is preserving tradition. Everyone knows that. On any given Sunday, a significant portion of worshipers have chosen to come because they're dismayed at developments they've seen in the world around them, and are wishing to hold fast to time-honored beliefs and values.

Who can quarrel with that? I certainly wouldn't.

Sometimes, though, we confuse the packaging with the product.

Is it the tune of a familiar hymn that's truly important, or the spiritual experience it calls to mind? Is it the expectation that men will wear ties and jackets to worship, or is it their determination to approach God with respect and reverence? Is it using the same sort of offering envelopes our parents used, or is it using whatever giving method is most consistent with the way members manage money today?

A thirsty traveler rescued from the desert will accept a drink of water just as readily from a tin cup as from a crystal goblet. It's the water that's the thing, not the container that bears it.

It's all about discerning the difference between the container and its contents.

I've now been here at Lamington for just over a year. It's been a rich time, characterized by growing relationships. I've been doing a lot of listening, and will continue to do so. As I suggest changes of various sorts to our church leaders, I'm hoping we'll all attend to the difference between container and contents.

I've managed to speak individually with many of you—whether here at the church or in your homes—but there are still many members and friends of the church I'd like to know better.

In the coming months, I'm going to be doing some home visiting, and I would be very glad to come to your home to get to know you better. So please don't be surprised if you get a phone call or email from me, suggesting a time when I could stop by. Rest assured: I won't be prospecting for volunteers or financial contributions: just building the sort of relationships a pastor ought to have with his people.

I'm aware that we are a congregation with a distinguished heritage, and that we are blessed with a rural location that's not only picturesque, but also offers opportunities for deep connection with the land. One of the things I'm currently trying to wrap my mind around is figuring how we could—with buy-in from the congregation—most appropriately utilize the agricultural land across the street from the church. We all appreciate the green space, but perhaps there are ways we could exercise our stewardship of the land to enhance our commitment, as Christians, to caring for the environment and upholding rural values. I have a feeling that farm field—the gift of generous supporters of the church from years past—is an asset whose value is more than merely financial (although the financial security of owning land is of course important too). Let's do some dreaming together!

Thank you all for the wonderful support you've all shown me during my first year. I'm looking forward to many years to come!

***The Rev. Carl Wilton***

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

The 2018 calendar year has been a significant one in the musical life of our choir, bell choir, and for our children. After singing the final recitative, air, and chorus of Part I of George Frideric Handel's *Messiah*, HWV 56 on 11 February, we then proceeded from 11 March through 6 May to sing Parts II and III in consecutive Sundays – 158 pages of some of the most inspiring solo vocal and choral music ever written. The arc of singing the entire score of Handel's *Messiah* in worship service setting from Advent of 2017 deep into Eastertide of 2018 was a tremendous accomplishment of dedication, fortitude, and purposeful joy in bringing this magnificent work to life for our congregation in the context of worship. How our Pastor Carl Wilton masterfully interwove his sermons, choices of hymns, scripture, and responsorial readings, made for a memorable and deeply moving experience across liturgical time.

Growing together in faith as we rehearse, sing, and plan ahead in all our work in bringing music to worship at Lamington Presbyterian Church, we seek to develop an ever-richer understanding of how the art of music interacts most fully with the art, practice, and journey of faith. We are very proud that our own Ritika and Nivita Thomas, Emma, Owen, and Ivey Mistele, and guests to the church bring their individual gifts to us through solos, in addition to the generous participation of Lamington family members in the children's choir, bell choir, and the adult choir. Barbara Pereyra is our adult choir cornerstone, blessing us all with wisdom, grace, and countless years of rich experience and understanding. That Al and Heather Walker are always there for us in the choir loft, at the front of the sanctuary, and hosting us in their home, nurtures a very special family life and spirit for the adult choir. All of these gifts not only contribute, but also make possible our pursuit of having music bring beauty and sustenance to the lives of the entire congregation, while providing greater meaning to the worship experience.

2018 has been a year of some new beginnings for our music program. Continuing to be blessed by the presence and beautiful singing of Bess Ploener as one of our section leaders/soloists each Sunday, she is now also serving as leader of music for our Sunday school and director of our inter-generational bell choir. As of September, we have new soprano, tenor, and bass section leaders/soloists providing us with gifts of their talents each week. Yiran Zhao and Victoria Borrelli are sharing duties for the soprano section leader position; John Burke is our new tenor leader; and Bennett Spotts is our bass section leader. These changes are in light of Andrew Stack moving to Bloomington, Indiana for graduate study in voice at Indiana University, and bidding our farewells and expressing our great gratitude to Katie and John Cloys.

Having contributed across the past twelve years to the life and spirit of our choir in service to the congregation of Lamington Presbyterian Church, Katie also sang as soloist for numerous landmark events for members of the Church -- at weddings, funerals, holiday and special services, in addition to working with our children. Landmark events of her own life -- meeting John, their marriage, and the birth of their wonderful daughter, Emma, took place within those same years. The gift of John's presence in the choir over the past six years gave us all the opportunity to experience and fully appreciate the vitality and beauty of the tenor line in choral music. John and Katie's memorable solo singing was always a great blessing to us all, and continues to resound. The rich and inspiring contributions of Katie and John to the musical life of Lamington Presbyterian Church are lasting, and resonate in our gratitude and continued growth as musicians singing "in the assembly of the faithful." [Psalm 149]

***Jim Goldsworthy***

**Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation  
of the Lamington Presbyterian Church  
April 22, 2018**

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of the Lamington Presbyterian Church was called to order on Sunday, April 22, 2018 at 11:18 a.m. in the Sanctuary and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Carlos E. Wilton, Pastor and Moderator.

The Moderator declared that the call to the meeting was in order and that a quorum was present.

The Moderator noted that Elder Meridith Scott, Clerk of Session, would serve as clerk for the Congregational Meeting.

It was moved and carried to approve the minutes of the Congregational Meetings of April 30, 2017 and of December 10, 2017.

The Moderator called on Elders Alison Paine and Dorita Pawlikowski to present the report of the Congregational Nominating Committee.

Alison Paine placed in nomination the following names:

**Session, Class of 2019**

Meridith Scott

**Session, Class of 2020**

Valerie Fraser

Jim Grubel

Greg Halsey

Alison Paine (second term)

Georgie Schley (second term)

*Vacancy*

It was noted that, although the Congregational Bylaws call for there to be fifteen elders serving on the Session, the past practice of recent years has been to have twelve elders serving on the Session.

The Moderator asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There were none. It was moved and carried to direct the Clerk to cast a unanimous ballot for the nominees to the Session.

Dorita Pawlikowski placed in nomination the following names:

**Board of Deacons, Class of 2020**

Cindy Campbell

Monica Immanual (second term)

Sandi Ramsay (second term)

Laurel Rose (second term)

*Vacancy*

The Moderator noted that, because the Congregation's Bylaws call for there to be no fewer than nine and no more than 15 members of the Board of Deacons, this slate satisfies the requirements of the Bylaws.

The Moderator asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There were none. It was moved and carried to direct the Clerk to cast a unanimous ballot for the nominees to the Board of Deacons.

Alison Paine placed in nomination the following names for Congregational committees:

**Audit Committee, Class of 2019**

Hunter Lewis  
Fred Paine  
Rich Ramsay

**250th Fund, Class of 2019**

Warren Copeland

The Moderator asked for nominations of four church members to serve on the Congregational Nominating Committee, explaining that these at-large positions cannot be filled by anyone presently serving on the Session or the Board of Deacons. The following names were placed in Nomination:

Fred Paine  
Scott Campbell  
Debby Johnson  
Erin Misteale

The Moderator asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There were none. It was moved and carried to direct the Clerk to cast a unanimous ballot for the nominees to the Congregational Nominating Committee.

The Nominating Committee will work to fill the two outstanding vacancies: one Elder and one Deacon.

The Moderator directed the Congregation's attention to the 2017 Annual Statistical Report of the Session, as follows:

Communicant Membership Reported December 31, 2016	284
<b>Additions</b>	
By Certificate and Reaffirmation	3
By Confirmation	0
By Reactivation	0
Not Previously Reported	0
<b>Losses</b>	
By Death	1
Requested and Session Removals	0
Letter of Transfer	2
Previous Overstatement	10
<b>Total Communicant Membership December 31, 2017</b>	<b>274</b>
Child Baptisms	2
Adult Baptisms	0
Member Marriages	0

The Necrology Report contained just one name, that of Collister Johnson, who died in 2017. The Moderator led the Congregation in prayer, giving thanks for his life.

The Moderator directed the Congregation's attention to the reports of the church staff and of the various church committees and organizations. He opened the floor for questions on these reports.

The Moderator directed the Congregation's attention to the 2017 Financial Report, including expenditures of \$324,763 and the 2018 Budget, including projected expenditures of \$332,863. Because the Pastor's terms of call have already been approved at the Special Congregational Meeting held on December 10, 2017, there is no action required on that at this time. He called on Church Treasurer Lori Larsen to present these reports and to respond to questions on them.

The Moderator opened the floor to miscellaneous business. Barbara Pereyra asked about the vacancies in the Elder and Deacon classes. The Moderator advised that the Nominating Committee will continue to work on filling these two vacancies.

There being no further business, it was moved and carried to adjourn the meeting of the Congregation and Corporation at 11:32 p.m.

The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer.

Attest:

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The Rev. Dr. Carlos E. Wilton, Pastor

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Elder Meridith Scott, Clerk of Session

## NOMINATING REPORT

Scott Campbell  
Debby Johnson

Erin Mistele  
Alison Paine

Fred Paine  
Rev. Dr. Carl Wilton, PASTOR

This year the Committee was responsible for nominating seven Elders, six Deacons, three Audit Committee Members, and four All-Church Nominating Committee Members. Each nominee was considered based on their specific gifts and talents relative to the current leadership needs of our church.

Nominations are:

### **ELDERS CLASS OF 2020**

Immanuel Thomas

### **ELDERS CLASS OF 2021**

Hunter Lewis  
Patrick Palmer  
Duncan Rose  
Meridith Scott (clerk)  
David Smith  
Odesa Stapleton

### **DEACONS CLASS OF 2021**

Sallye Grubel  
Eleanor Halsey  
Mary Jenkins  
Melinda Nye  
Barbara Pereyra  
Joe Scott

### **AUDIT COMMITTEE (One-Year Term)**

Fred Paine  
Hunter Lewis  
Rich Ramsay

### **ALL-CHURCH NOMINATING COMMITTEE (One-Year Term)**

Cindy Campbell  
Dyanne Diaz-Piedra  
Fred Paine  
Shelley Ricco

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## **SESSION & BOARD OF TRUSTEES & DEACONS**

Rev. Dr. Carl Wilton, PASTOR

Meridith Scott, CLERK OF SESSION

### CLASS OF 2019

Lynn Carter  
Patrick Palmer  
Duncan Rose  
Meridith Scott  
Immanuel Thomas

### CLASS OF 2020

Valerie Fraser  
Jim Grubel  
Greg Halsey  
Alison Paine  
Georgie Schley

### OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION

Duncan Rose, PRESIDENT  
Lynn Carter, VICE PRESIDENT  
Meridith Scott, SECRETARY  
Lori Larsen, TREASURER

### **DEACONS**

#### CLASS OF 2019

Sallye Grubel  
Eleanor Halsey  
Mary Jenkins  
Joe Scott  
Hunter Lewis

#### CLASS OF 2020

Cindy Campbell  
Monica Thomas  
Sandi Ramsay  
Laurel Rose  
Etta Marshall



The church is grateful for the dedication of the elders serving on Session and for the deacons serving each Sunday morning in worship during the past year. A special thank you to those who are retiring in the Class of 2019—Elder Lynn Carter and Deacon Hunter Lewis.

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## 2018 ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT

Meridith Scott, CLERK OF SESSION

Communicant Membership Reported December 31, 2017	274
<b>Additions</b>	
By Certificate and Reaffirmation	0
By Confirmation	0
By Reactivation	0
Not Previously Reported	0
<b>Losses</b>	
By Death	3
Requested and Session Removals	3
Letter of Transfer	1
Previous Overstatement	0
<b>Total Communicant Membership December 31, 2018</b>	<b>267</b>
Child Baptisms	0
Adult Baptisms	0
Member Marriages	0

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## NECROLOGY REPORT

### MEMBERS

Ruth Reigle (\*)  
Harry Carpenter  
Neale Jenkins  
Carlton Durling

Note: (\*) Death of past member no longer on church membership rolls but funeral held at LPC.

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## WORSHIP

Valerie Fraser, CHAIR	Mary Jenkins	Sandi Ramsay
James Goldsworthy, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	Marlene Connors	Rev. Dr. Carl Wilton, PASTOR

The focus of the Worship Committee this year has been the following:

We have returned to the traditional manner of receiving the elements from the Elders and Deacons to congregants in the pews. Intinction has been restricted to summer worship. Both Deacons and Elders, as ordained leaders of LPC, help in serving Communion to the congregation.

Additional highlights in 2018 have included: a focus on Holy Week evening worship services of word and music for Maundy Thursday, Ash Wednesday and our superb music concerts—the Christmas Eve service was particularly well attended this year. This will continue to be the pattern going forward.

Each week the Deacons ably and faithfully serve the community by preparing the Sanctuary for worship and greeting those who come through our doors.

A wonderful way to give to the church and to participate in Sunday worship is through your time and talents. We continue to encourage all members to participate in ushering and serving as a liturgist—an ongoing sign-up sheet is available online in the weekly newsletter and on the bulletin board outside of the Church Office.

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### MISSION AND OUTREACH

Scott Campbell, CHAIR (until 4/2018)	Melinda Nye	Chris Smith
Lynn Carter, CHAIR	Patrick Palmer	Pam Smith
Eleanor Halsey	Meridith Scott	Rev. Dr. Carl Wilton, PASTOR

As in prior years, this report gives an overview of the mission projects undertaken in the past year. We support six projects, with time, money or both. The financials are in the Budget and Actuals.

**Elizabethport Community Center (E’port):** On July 7, the E’port yellow school bus showed up with 27 boys and girls, ages 5-15. Instead of gardening, we changed things this year by doing arts and crafts at LPC. All the children made tie-dye t-shirts (headed up by Lesley and Chad Fisher, Cindy and Bunny Campbell), friendship bracelets (headed up by Jennifer, Sophie and Madeline Peach), and seed bomb making using clay pinch pots, dirt and wildflower seeds (headed by Chris Smith and Pam Smith). Christie Whitman’s farm was next. We caravanned over and were introduced to baby goats, chickens, and other animals; we also collected eggs with Christie’s grandchildren. Lunch, games, and a pool party followed at Christie’s farm. We hired two lifeguards to supervise the swimming. Lunch consisted of pizza, farm fresh salad, brownies, watermelon, and ice cream, which were all donated by Lamington volunteers. Melinda Nye and Christie Whitman engaged the older guests in thoughts about their education, future, and current events.

On October 14, the E’port families joined us for worship, and Nancy Manigo (from E’port) sang a spectacular solo as she has done for the past 3 years. Everyone had lunch together in the Gladish Room (donated by Chris and Dick Smith), then all caravanned to Melick’s Orchard to go apple picking, enjoy a hayride, and take home a pumpkin. This was funded by Lamington Church mission funds. Many families from the congregation joined in the fun.

On November 19, several members of Lamington Church traveled to E’port to deliver Thanksgiving meals. They brought 25 turkeys and all the fixings, which were donated by Lamington families.

On December 9, donations were collected at coffee hour for an E’port Christmas celebration (\$420.00). Lamington youth “elves” helped to fill surprise bags with books, puzzles, socks, games, pencils, and other items that Alison Paine and Chris Smith bought for 60 E’port preschool children. On December 19, Lamington elves again traveled to E’port for a Christmas party with the preschoolers (four classrooms of 15 children each). Our “elves” read *The Night before Christmas*. We then did a craft project, decorating the stuffed surprise bags with felt snowmen, gingerbread men and Christmas trees. The children took the decorated bags home, to open on Christmas morning.

Another project this year at E’port involved turning the current library into a true lending library where books could be easily checked out by children, youth and adults. An online system along with barcode scanner was implemented to easily track the inventory of books. Additional books—especially Spanish language books—were purchased or donated. Finally, an ongoing program to engage parents and children in reading was developed and recommended. To launch the new lending library, a party is being planned by LPC for Saturday, February 16 for all E’port

families. Anyone from LPC is welcomed to join and help out! For questions, please contact Susan Scott at [susanscott823@gmail.com](mailto:susanscott823@gmail.com).

**Togo:** During the Fall of 2018, Susan Wingfield, a longtime friend and supporter of the Ayedze family in Togo, Africa, initiated a clothing drive for Sylvie and her sons. Susan shipped two large boxes of new and gently used clothing to the Ayedze family.

**The Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN):** The Interfaith Hospitality Network of Somerset County aims to provide a permanent solution to homelessness for local client families. This is possible when the approach to family crisis includes direct intervention services to specifically benefit children. Lamington Presbyterian Church is committed to being part of the IHN community of churches of all denominations that opens its doors to families in need.

Under the direction of Meridith Scott, our church hosted nine families with 14 children in February, May, and September 2018. Each hosting date was a week long and consisted of church volunteers helping with the care for the children and assisting with homework. The second-floor classrooms are transformed into temporary bedrooms along with a dining room setup in the downstairs classroom. Six volunteers were needed each day to provide home-cooked meals, evening support, and an over-night presence throughout the week. We contributed \$1,000 to IHN this past year.

Thank you to everyone for their involvement and support of our IHN families.

**The Lamington Giving Garden and Asia Trail:** The Lamington Giving Garden celebrated nine years in 2018. Six of the twelve large beds are used to raise produce for the Somerset County Food Bank. The total amount of produce given this year was 400 pounds. A group of LPC Sunday school children helped in the Giving Garden by planting, watering, and harvesting vegetables. The other six beds are rented to members of the community for \$50 a season. The garden fence needs to be repaired, as a bunny was able to get into the garden and cause damage to the pepper plants.

The Asia Trail remains a place for quiet reflection—stretching from the schoolhouse, from a stone bridge over a small brook, to the middle of the field directly across the street from the church. From the center of the field, one can see our church rising above the surrounding fields. We are in conversation as to how or if to move forward with the trail due to the high maintenance/weeding requirement.

**Local food banks:** This year, we did not provide our usual financial support to the two local food banks, The Flemington Area Food Bank and The Somerset County Food Bank. In past years, non-perishable foods and other items collected throughout the year from church members were delivered to the food banks. We need someone able to deliver collected food to either of the food banks. It is an easy way to contribute to the food banks and those in need in our area.

**Samaritan Homeless Interim Program (SHIP):** As they have done for over 20 years, LPC volunteers prepared and delivered meals on the third Friday of each month to SHIP. Six to eight volunteers serve meals to the homeless, hungry and poor people in the Somerville area, at Saint John's Episcopal Church. This is an easy way to get involved without a large commitment of time. In June, July, August and September a crew, this year headed up by Mary Jenkins, made bagged lunches at LPC and delivered them to SHIP offices in Somerville. Lunches were then distributed to those in need from there. October through May we prepared and served a hot lunch at St John's. The food was purchased using funds from the Mission budget—\$1551.99 was spent in 2018 which was less than usual thanks to the very kind donation of one of our church members who has been preparing a delicious home made main entree portion of the meal resulting in a huge savings. Another church member held a fundraiser for SHIP and donated directly \$1700.

**Common Threads Ministry:** We continue to meet in the Gladish Room two Tuesdays per month. We knit and distributed ten Prayer Shawls in 2018. We invite new members to join us or knit or crochet from home. If you want to learn how to knit, this is a way to do so under the tutelage of several excellent teachers.

**Youth Mission Trip:** After 23 years of great mission trips for our youth, we had our second year in 2018 with no weeklong summer trip due in 2018 to the lack of age appropriate kids. We hope to put together day or overnight trips in 2019 for the confirmation class.

**Looking Forward:** We plan on continuing the above traditions we have with E'port, and hopefully more, in 2019. Several Mission Committee members, including Rev. Carl Wilton, met in early April 2018 with Tom Eicher, who is Chairman of the Board of E'port. They discussed ways that we could expand our involvement with the families of E'port. This is an excellent opportunity for members of our congregation to reach out to others. Keep an eye out for announcements in the bulletin and other places for upcoming opportunities to join in our mission with E'port. And, do consider also pitching in with our other mission projects as well and/or putting forward other ideas for expanding our service to those in need.

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### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Alison Paine, CHAIR	Etta Marshall	Bess Ploener, CHILDREN'S CHOIR & BELLS
Dyanne Diaz-Piedra	Dorita Pawlikowski	Rev. Dr. Carl Wilton, PASTOR

**Sunday School:** Sunday School: We began our season with Dyanne being the anchor for our class and Dorita as her right hand support, as well as Alison pitching in. Bess Ploener, from our choir, has been a great asset in the classroom. She comes for a portion of the class time to teach songs to our group of children. She has taught them special songs to add to the church service, and to learn the songs for our Christmas Pageant. She also instructs the handbell choir. We continue to use "Feasting on the Word" as our curriculum.

We have been conducting our teaching as a one-room classroom format. Many of our children are 2<sup>nd</sup> grade thru 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grade. The older children can be a great help with the younger. We read passages from the bible and usually have a craft that relates to the lesson of the day. Last spring we again had an Easter egg hunt between the morning services. We do not have Sunday school for the summer but do have nursery care all year.

For fall kick off Sunday Dyanne and Dorita had the children make tie dye t-shirts. Games for the children were set up for fall harvest time. Also for the fall, we include a day at Melick's Town Farm with our friends from Elizabethport.

The children participated in a pageant for the congregation complete with songs and narrators to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

We continue to encourage volunteers to help in the classroom to lighten the load for Dyanne. It is always a joy to teach and be with the children of our congregation, and we consider it to be a privilege.

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### CONGREGATIONAL LIFE (FELLOWSHIP & MEMBERSHIP)

Debby Johnson, CO-CHAIR	Joan Lewis
Shelley Ricco, CO-CHAIR	Rev. Dr. Carl Wilton, PASTOR

**Fellowship:** This year The Spring Dinner became a Sunday afternoon reception celebrating the Installation of Carl Wilton as the new permanent pastor of Lamington Presbyterian Church.

Following the installation service and a short concert, a reception with food and fellowship was held in the Gladish room for family, friends and church members. Over 100 guests were in attendance making this a memorable event.

The Welcome Back Barbeque in September brought families and friends together after summer vacation. All were energized to begin the year led by our new permanent pastor, Carl Wilton. Thank you to everyone who contributed and came to celebrate.

The Big Band Concert was held for the second year in a row and again was a huge success. It included about 120 members and friends from the surrounding areas making this a community event. Harry Carpenter was recognized this night, as he was the founder of this wonderful evening. Fellowship committee was responsible for providing the food, setting up and helping to organize the event.

The Annual Chili Cook-off and Wreath Decorating was well attended as the congregation sampled the various delectable entries and then voted. The Chili Champion was once again, Monica Immanuel and the Brownie bake-off was a tie between the Immanuel girls and the Connolly girls. Julie Goetz was responsible for organizing the volunteers who created the gorgeous wreath for the front of our church.

Thank you to all who helped make 2018's Congregational Life Committee a success.

**Membership:** No new members have joined in 2018.

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#### **PROPERTY (BUILDINGS & GROUNDS, INCLUDING CEMETERY)**

Duncan Rose, CHAIR	John Gordon	Paul Murray	Rev. Dr. Carl Wilton, PASTOR
Valerie Fraser, CEMETERY	Nancy Hance	Dave Smith	

The Committee continues to be proactive in its efforts to inspect the three buildings – Sanctuary and Education Building, Minister's house and the Schoolhouse, as well as the properties, including the cemeteries. This allows planning in terms of repairs and other maintenance that are needed as well as how and when to address them. Such steps help keep a checklist of regular maintenance requirements and a timeline, as well as develop a financial plan for maintenance repairs and upgrades as needed within the existing context of the larger ministry and financial goals of LPC.

Overall, these ongoing actions by the Property Committee enable LPC to operate and maintain our buildings and grounds with higher efficiency, better maintenance, lower operating and repair costs, resulting in good stewardship practices and better resources for ministry.

#### **List of 2018 Major Maintenance and Repairs**

- Two new heating furnaces were installed in the Sanctuary beneath the floor.
- Several lampposts and lamp fixtures in the rear of the Church were repaired and/or replaced.
- Bat remediation was completed in the belfry, upper attic of the Sanctuary, and the crawl space above the Gladish Room and upstairs classrooms. The areas were also professionally cleaned and sanitized, eliminating the odor and any health risks.
- New slate pathways were laid from the Westside Church driveway to the larger and smaller front porches of the Church. A new brick walkway was laid from the Manse front porch to the Church driveway. The filling of potholes in the Church driveway is ongoing.
- A new snow plowing service was secured due to the retirement of Terry McNamara.

- The Gladish Room ceiling was repaired and painted due to leakage above from the heating/cooling system—which was also repaired.
- Two sump pumps that were not working were replaced in the Church basement.
- A new septic system was installed at the Schoolhouse. Repair work continues to the floors and bathroom on the ground level due to the damage done by the failed, old septic system. We are grateful for a major gift that made the new septic system possible.
- The restoration and clean up of the Lamington Black Cemetery is ongoing and continues. In 2018, it had some major refurbishing done thanks to the Boy Scouts, Rich Johnson, Dave Clark, Hunter Lewis and Dave Smith. The work done includes cleaning up debris, bringing in new soil to level off the depressed graves, planting Vinca vines on top of the graves, replacing the old crosses with new, white wooden ones, refinishing the bench inside, and installing a new sturdy railing next to the steps leading up to the cemetery.

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### PERSONNEL

Patrick Palmer, CHAIR  
Lori Larsen

Meridith Scott  
Immanual Thomas

Rev. Dr. Carl Wilton, PASTOR

On 2018 December 22, the personnel committee met with Rev. Dr. Carl Wilton, who began as our new permanent pastor on February 1, 2018. Carl has brought insightful and inspiring sermons to Sunday worship, and has helped make our newsletters more informative. The committee listened to Carl's insight on his transition, and then provided him with feedback from the congregation and next steps to assist with his transition.

On 2019 January 20, the personnel committee met with James Goldsworthy, the Director of Music. Jim continues to do an outstanding job in leading the choir in music and supporting the Congregation during worship. Jim is a passionate musician with insatiable curiosity, and a deep commitment to service to the congregation through his teaching, playing and music directing.

On 2019 January 25, the personnel committee met with Regina Morris, the long standing Office Manager. Regina has been a constant and invaluable resource to the church and its members of the congregation. She is studious and hard working, and has provided strong support during Rev. Dr. Carl Wilton's transition.

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### FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP & INVESTMENT

Angus Miller, CHAIR  
Lori Larsen, TREASURER  
Molly Falk

Mary Fazzini  
Hunter Lewis  
John Marshall

Gail Martin  
Greg Mistele  
Georgie Schley

Rev. Dr. Carl Wilton, PASTOR

The Finance Committee has two major focuses, to fully fund the current operating budget and to improve the investment income from our endowments.

**Our foremost initiative** is to increase pledges both in number and amount in order to provide full funding for the 2019 budget. Based on the recommendation of Pastor Wilton, the stewardship methodology in 2019 was changed to a Consecration Sunday approach, which successfully raised approximately \$254,000 from 73 church family units. The pledge rate was approximately 56% of church family units, which is consistent with 2018 but slightly lower than the 60% for 2017 and the 81% we achieved in 2016 (our all-time high).

The Budget for 2019 will primarily be funded from pledges, supplemented by income from current and prior year Basket Days. First and foremost, funds are needed to cover the basic core operating expenses including the pastor, office/administrative support, property maintenance, and

utilities required to staff and operate our three-building campus. Additionally, 2019 pledges are required to continue to provide for the wonderful worship, music, mission, education and fellowship programs serving our Church community. It is important to remember that a key underpinning of our stewardship charter is that we only budget according to received pledges and identified funding sources. Therefore, we are grateful for your continuous and generous support.

2019 will likely continue to be a challenging year financially with a decrease in pledges. We are not budgeting for any major maintenance projects given the large investment in 2018. In 2018 we had a tremendous amount of extraordinary expenses including replacement of the schoolhouse septic system, moving expenses for our new pastor, replacement of the heaters in the sanctuary, improvement of the walkways and relocation (we hope permanently) of the bats from the belfry. Additionally, investment was made of new computers for the pastor and secretary, a necessary improvement given the age of the existing equipment.

Again, we appreciate the support of the entire Lamington Community for the 2019 Stewardship campaign. It is important that Lamington is on a solid financial base to remain the *special place* it is today and for generations to come.

**Our second focus is to increase contributions to the endowment and enhance the investment of the Endowment funds.** We as a committee firmly believe a healthy endowment is needed to ensure long-term financial sustainability and support our fixed operating and capital costs. The Lamington Presbyterian Church General Endowment Policy was approved in 2009. The 2018 year-end balance of The Lamington Presbyterian Church General Endowment fund is \$212,352. The contributions during the year included generous donations from multiple people.

The Lamington Church General Endowment Fund:

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$ 181,225</b>
<b>Contributions</b>	<b>32,839</b>
<b>Interest</b>	<b>4,326</b>
<b>Change in Value</b>	<b>(6,038)</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 212,352</b>

#### **250<sup>TH</sup> FUND COMMITTEE**

Duncan Rose      Fred Katnack      Warren Copeland      Session Committee Chairs

In 1990, the 250<sup>th</sup> Fund was created to commemorate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our church. Its purpose was to provide an initial endowment of \$250,000 as a source of funds to be used for the future needs of the church. The use of these funds is restricted by and subject to the bylaws of the Fund, which the committee oversees. The investment guidelines of the 250<sup>th</sup> Fund contained in the Investment Committee and Related Policy have been modified to align with the investments of The Lamington Presbyterian Church General Endowment Fund. The funds are fully invested in CDs and Money Market Accounts. The Treasurer filed this Report. There was no change in investment policy or strategy agreed upon in prior years. The committee did not convene during the year.

As of December 31, 2018, the balance in the Fund was \$436,708.35 before the transfer of 75% of realized earnings per the Bylaws and with Session approval.

<b>Beginning Balance:</b>	<b>\$ 434,588</b>
Transfers from Prev Yrs	(8,091)
Realized Interest	8,124
Change in Value	(6,003)
<b>Ending Balance before Transfer</b>	<b>\$ 428,617</b>
Interest to Transfer (2018)	(6,093)
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 422,524</b>

## INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

Mary Fazzini

Hunter Lewis

John Marshall

Georgie Schley

Lori Larsen, TREASURER

Angus Miller, CHAIR

The LPC Investment Committee has been working hard during 2018. After many years of investing our endowment funds in CDs (Certificate of Deposits) on an ad-hoc basis, and with the low return we have been experiencing due to the current low interest rate environment, it was decided to outsource the investment management to professionals on a discretionary basis.

The committee met on numerous occasions over the Fall to first determine our long term goals, then ensure that our Investment Policy Statement (IPS) was up to date, and then worked towards determining a portfolio asset allocation that was inline with the goals of preserving capital and increasing income.

They put together a RFP (request for proposal) and met with 3 different Investment Managers with a view to managing the accounts professionally and in a fiduciary manner. (The 3 finalists were: Morgan Stanley [our current advisor], UBS Financial Services Inc. and New Covenant Trust Company of the Presbyterian Foundation). Each manager provided a detailed proposal, which included how they would manage the funds according to our requirements and the IPS, the extra services they can provide and the costs involved.

After careful deliberation of each proposal and interviews with each manager, the Investment Committee\* decided to hire UBS Financial Services Inc. to manage the LPC Endowment (including the 250<sup>th</sup> Fund). They presented the findings to Session who approved the proposal at the January 2019 meeting. Members of the committee will review the accounts with the managers on a quarterly basis, to ensure they are performing as expected.

(\*Please note: Angus Miller recused himself from the investment manager decision due to a conflict of interest).

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## BASKET DAY 2018

Meridith Scott, CHAIR

Rev. Dr. Carl Wilton, PASTOR

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS:** Kim McGeary (*Boutiques*); Shelley Ricco Debby Johnson (*Luncheon*); Melinda Nye (*Marketing*); Erin Mistele (*Patrons and Program*); Alison Paine, Chris Smith, Pam Smith, Cindy Campbell, Ritika Thomas (*Plant Tent*); Jansyn Tropea, Susan Wittpenn (*Preview Night*); Nance Hance (*Floral Decorations*); Emma Mistele, Ivey Mistele (*Preview Night Music*); Eleanor Halsey, Susan Scott (*Presbyterian Palate*); Nina Koven, Erin Mistele (*Promise Tree*); Carol Cummins, Valerie Fraser, Georgie Schley, Susan Wingfield (*Silent Auction*); Julie Goetz, Dana Miller, Ann Silk, Monica and Immanuel Thomas (*Treasure Tent*)

Basket Day was held on Saturday, May 12, from 9:30AM to 4:00PM to provide an opportunity for those who work and children and youth who attend school during the week to attend. Preview Night was on Friday, May 11.

Special thanks are extended to the talents of Julie Goetz, Dana Miller and Ann Silk for the creative staging of our Treasure Tent. We are especially thankful for the continuing support of our committee chairs; the vast majority of them have performed their duties for more than a decade.

Basket Day remains an important fundraiser to supplement the operational budget of LPC and its varied needs, ministries and programs. Yet, Basket Day also serves as a vital event in the life of



the Lamington Church congregation and our neighbors as we open our doors to welcome and serve others.

This year Basket Day raised \$ 25,438 after expenses—a 27% year-over-year increase.

Thank you to everyone involved in this work and ministry of this church event. Many hands, hearts, gifts, and talents make Basket Day a success.

THE LAMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2018 Financials

&

2019 Budget



# LAMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

	2018 Actual	2018 Budget	Difference	2019 Approved Budget
<b>Income</b>				
<b>ANNUAL GIVING</b>				
Pledges	256,261	304,963	(48,702)	254,009
<b>Total ANNUAL GIVING</b>	<b>\$ 256,261</b>	<b>\$ 304,963</b>	<b>\$ (48,702)</b>	<b>\$ 254,009</b>
<b>INTEREST INCOME</b>	6,844	7,500	(656)	7,500
<b>MISC. INCOME</b>				
building use donations	14,840	16,400	(1,560)	16,400
Non Budgeted Mission/Basket Day	7,028		7,028	
Big Band/Basket Day	4,029		4,029	
<b>Total MISC. INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 25,897</b>	<b>\$ 16,400</b>	<b>\$ 9,497</b>	<b>\$ 16,400</b>
<b>PLATE OFFERING</b>	3,107	4,000	(893)	3,500
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 292,109</b>	<b>\$ 332,863</b>	<b>\$ (40,754)</b>	<b>\$ 281,409</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
<b>EDUCATION</b>				
<b>Sunday School</b>				
confirmation	20		20	
Youth Group	82		82	
curriculum & books	115	500	(385)	500
<b>Total Sunday School</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>(283)</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>Total EDUCATION</b>	<b>\$ 217</b>	<b>\$ 500</b>	<b>\$ (283)</b>	<b>\$ 500</b>
<b>Christian Life</b>				
Events	148	-	148	-
<b>Total Christian Life</b>	<b>\$ 148</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 148</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>MISSION</b>				
<b>OutreachMission</b>				
Crisis Fund		250	(250)	250
EPort-	565	250	315	600
IHN	260	500	(240)	350
Other	33		33	
SHIP	1,552	1,900	(348)	1,600
<b>Total OutreachMission</b>	<b>\$ 2,409</b>	<b>\$ 2,900</b>	<b>\$ (491)</b>	<b>\$ 2,800</b>
<b>regional charities</b>				
EPort	-	1,000	(1,000)	
Flemington Area Food Pantry		2,000	(2,000)	
IHN		1,000	(1,000)	
SHIP		2,000	(2,000)	
Somerset Food Bank Network		1,000	(1,000)	
<b>Total regional charities</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 7,000</b>	<b>\$ (7,000)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Total MISSION</b>	<b>\$ 2,409</b>	<b>\$ 9,900</b>	<b>\$ (7,491)</b>	<b>\$ 2,800</b>
<b>OFFICE</b>				
Copier lease	5,355	5,355	-	5,355
Copier supplies	1,647	1,000	647	1,500
Maintenance	-	750	(750)	
Postage	876	1,000	(124)	900
Software/website	2,204	1,570	634	1,500

# LAMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

	2018 Actual	2018 Budget	Difference	2019 Approved Budget
Computers	3,050		3,050	
Payroll/finance sftware		780	(780)	1,320
Supplies office		-		
Advertising	722	750	(28)	750
Others	4,498	3,000	1,498	3,000
<b>Total supplies office</b>	<b>\$ 5,220</b>	<b>\$ 3,750</b>	<b>\$ 1,470</b>	<b>\$ 3,750</b>
<b>Total OFFICE</b>	<b>\$ 18,352</b>	<b>\$ 14,205</b>	<b>\$ 4,147</b>	<b>\$ 14,325</b>
<b>PCUSA (PerCapita)</b>	11,083	10,626	457	11,083
<b>PERSONNEL</b>				
Children Music Ministry	1,350	2,000	(650)	1,200
Christian Education	-	4,000	(4,000)	
Payroll	123,622	126,000	(2,378)	126,500
Payroll Taxes	12,997	11,340	1,657	12,650
Minister CE/allowances/travel	747	1,800	(1,053)	1,800
Pension/MM/death/disabiity	34,853	32,577	2,276	35,124
Expenses/travel	1,621	3,000	(1,379)	3,000
Book/Music allowance	257	1,000	(743)	
Nursery care	3,760	3,200	560	3,200
Workers Comp Insurance	1,829	2,250	(421)	1,900
<b>Total PERSONNEL</b>	<b>\$ 181,037</b>	<b>\$ 187,167</b>	<b>\$ (6,130)</b>	<b>\$ 185,374</b>
<b>PROPERTY</b>				
Insurance				
Prop. & Liability	17,221	17,000	221	17,000
<b>Total Insurance</b>	<b>\$ 17,221</b>	<b>\$ 17,000</b>	<b>\$ 221</b>	<b>\$ 17,000</b>
Maintenance				
Driveway/parking	350	1,000	(650)	1,000
Maintenance - Misc		1,000	(1,000)	
Exterminators	539	600	(61)	600
Furance & AC service	5,404	5,000	404	5,000
Grounds	130	2,000	(1,870)	
Maintence Supplies	521	200	321	500
Lawn mowing	6,780	8,000	(1,220)	8,000
Plumbing, Electric, Carpentry	6,336	2,000	4,336	2,000
Security	5,885	5,000	885	6,000
Snowplowing	3,014	3,000	14	3,000
Tree service	-	200	(200)	
<b>Total Maintenance</b>	<b>\$ 28,958</b>	<b>\$ 28,000</b>	<b>\$ 958</b>	<b>\$ 26,100</b>
Manse	1,999	1,000	999	
Property Taxes	99	200	(101)	100
Sexton/Cleaning	9,400	12,000	(2,600)	12,000
Utilities				
Comcast	2,273	2,400	(127)	2,300
Electric	9,635	7,000	2,635	10,000
Gas	21,350	15,000	6,350	20,000
Oil	9,412	7,500	1,912	9,500
Phone	84	115	(31)	100

# LAMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

	2018 Actual	2018 Budget	Difference	2019 Approved Budget
Refuse	1,956	1,800	156	2,000
Water Testing	1,033	900	133	1,000
<b>Total Utilities</b>	<b>\$ 45,743</b>	<b>\$ 34,715</b>	<b>\$ 11,028</b>	<b>\$ 44,900</b>
<b>Total PROPERTY</b>	<b>\$ 103,421</b>	<b>\$ 92,915</b>	<b>\$ 10,506</b>	<b>\$ 100,100</b>
<b>WORSHIP</b>				
Flowers	(604)		(604)	
Instrument maintenance	1,500	750	750	750
Music		-		
Special Music Expenses	300	500	(200)	
Sub. organists	485	400	85	400
Support voices	12,949	13,500	(551)	12,000
<b>Total Music</b>	<b>\$ 13,734</b>	<b>\$ 14,400</b>	<b>\$ (666)</b>	<b>\$ 12,400</b>
Pulpit supply	3,042	2,000	1,042	1,400
Worship/Session Expenses	6,955	400	6,555	400
<b>Total WORSHIP</b>	<b>\$ 24,626.23</b>	<b>\$ 17,550.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,076.23</b>	<b>\$ 14,950.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 341,294</b>	<b>\$ 332,863</b>	<b>\$ 8,431</b>	<b>\$ 329,132</b>
<b>Net Operating Loss</b>	<b>-\$ 49,185</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>-\$ 49,185</b>	<b>-\$ 47,723</b>
<b>Other Income</b>			-	
Septic System	40,000		40,000	
Basket Day	28,040		28,040	47,723
Insurance Payment	1,750		1,750	
Maintenance	18,699		18,699	
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>\$ 88,489</b>		<b>\$ 88,489</b>	<b>\$ 47,723</b>
<b>Other Expense</b>				
Recruitment Expenses	11,585		11,585	
Bat Removal	5,301		5,301	
New Heaters	15,796		15,796	
Manse Walkway/Church Walkway	9,000		9,000	
Septic	48,889		48,889	
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>\$ 90,571</b>		<b>\$ 90,571</b>	
<b>Net Operating Loss</b>	<b>-\$ 51,267</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>-\$ 51,266</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

# Lamington Presbyterian Church

## Balance Sheet

12/31/2018

### Cash

#### Peapack and Gladstone

Operating	42,985.01
Owed to Endowment	(32,839.00)
Interest Due from MS	8,091.00
Basket Day	104,032.98
Cemetery	26,822.88
Community Garden	3,625.18
<b>Total PPGS</b>	<b>152,718.05</b>

#### MS Funds

250th	436,708.35
Interest owed to Operating	(8,091.00)
General Endowment	179,512.96
Owed to Endowment	32,839.00
Abbey Starr Maintenance	102,018.49
Abbey Starr Music	101,043.16
<b>Total Endowment</b>	<b>844,030.96</b>

Prepaid Pledges	52,159.27
Land Use	1,706.53
<b>Total MS</b>	<b>897,896.76</b>

Total Assets **1,050,614.81**

#### Liabilities

Mission/Education Contributions	10,122.41
Cemetery	1,723.00
One Great Hour	1,136.57
Garden	30,997.69
Togo Bequest	20,910.18
Togo Other	3,121.73
Music Bequest	7,141.05
Flowers	1,881.23

**Total Liabilities 77,033.86**

Payroll and Other Liabilities 5,281.53

**Equity 968,299.42**

**Total Liabilities and Equity 1,050,614.81**

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