



WE TRUST
IN THE NAME OF THE
LORD OUR **GOD.**

Psalm 20:7

**Evergreen Baptist Church
2020 Annual Reports**

PASTOR'S PAGE

Writing a report about 2020 is like reviewing a toothache! It has been a tough year for us all, but Christ is still building His church! Thankfully, He does not reveal everything to us ahead of time.

Of course, COVID-19 and politics dominate our memories of 2020. We had to make major adjustments very early in the year and have not had many ministries since March. I am very thankful for all the adjustments and adaptations made by Brian Volckmann, Steve VanderWerf, and Nate Nettrouer to make streaming of our services possible. What had seemed like a voluntary addition before this year became a principle tool of survival! I do not anticipate ever going back to not streaming our Sunday morning worship.

Personally, I had the opportunity to minister the Word of God 72 times in internal church ministries this year. With the limitations upon us, I began a "daily" (usually 5 days per week) video presentation of the Word on our Facebook page and group. These run 10-15 minutes and I created 181 of them in 2020. This has been a major investment in time and energy. They seem to be viewed 30-60 times on any given day.

We have been blessed by special ministries from Brian Volckmann, Nate Nettrouer, and David Webb. The pandemic has limited travel by our missionaries.

I had the privilege of conducting 7 funerals during the year. The pandemic restrictions hindered funeral gatherings and hopefully let us feel how important those events are! Katie Kubsch died just after the restrictions began in March. Katie was a 'virtual' charter member. She was part of Evergreen when it started in 1937, but was not yet old enough to be a member. Maurits VanGemeran and Jean Benz departed, leaving us without two vibrant nonagenarian (look it up) ministers of joy! Gloria Wright was only with us a few months at the end of her days, but she was a blessing.

Lew Elzey left us in December and will be greatly missed. He came to Evergreen during some dark days in his life, but never stopped serving the Lord among us. Preparation for teaching his class consumed a lot of time, but he still invested in lives of people one on one diligently. He loved the Lord, loved the Lord's people, and also brought joy on a consistent basis.

This year an ad hoc group was formed by the Deacons which we called the Transition Study Group. In light of my plans to retire by January 1, 2022, these folks have been meeting to study the issues involved in calling a new Pastor after 33 years. Their study, consideration and input have been a source of advice to the Deacons who will now have to conduct the actual search for a candidate, as mandated by the church constitution. Please be praying for God's man all year! The track record of ministries after long term pastorates is not good. We hope to buck that trend!

Please pray for Nona and me as we transition as well. We have purchased a house in Lafayette, IN and go down once a week to work on it. We will spend the year marking many "last" times with you. My greatest joy will be if Evergreen moves forward with a new pastor to heights we have not seen in my years with you. Change and growth are the name of game – get in the game!

Pastor Rumley

DEACON REPORT – 2020

The year 2020 has ended, and many are referring to it as the year of the pandemic. Changes were imposed upon just about everyone. Many of us had to change the way we work, teach/learn, socialize, shop, dress, travel, exercise, (etc., etc.), and even worship. We had to change many things at Evergreen. I truly miss so many of those who are not able to attend due to health reasons. I am looking forward to a time when more of us can gather again and worship in person. However, many positive changes have been made at Evergreen that will stay in effect even after the pandemic. Thanks to Pastor Rumley and some church members, we are now preaching the Word worldwide!

God is Great!

Romans 8:28

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

The following represents the assignment of responsibilities for 2020:

- Chairman: Keith A. Casey (elected by the congregation)
- Vice Chairman/Missions Committee Chairman: Steve VanderWerf
- Secretary/Treasurer: Keith Jackson
- Medical Approval: Jim Vance
- CE Team Representative: Dave Allen
- Finance Committee Chair: Keith Casey
- Building and Grounds Committee Liaison: Pete Volckmann

Deacon caring lists were distributed in January. Discussions of ministry opportunities and needs were conducted at each monthly meeting. In some cases, financial assistance was approved and provided by the Deacons via the Deacon Fund, and as always and most importantly, prayers. Much thanks to the congregation for providing their gifts to the Deacon Fund and also their trust in the Deacons' discretion concerning the proper allocation of the funds. A formal appeal to please continue to inform the Deacons of anyone who is in need of *“any”* ministry assistance (not just financial). I love the way this congregation has stepped up so many times to help others in need. Some have given gifts, and others have assisted by donating their precious time and efforts. In numerous instances, I have personally witnessed these ministry opportunities being served in a very tireless and cheerful fashion. Thank you for your Christ-like behavior.

The financial status of the church was reviewed at each Deacon meeting. Early this year the congregation also approved the establishment of an endowment fund for memorials/bequeathments. In January of 2021, the finance committee met to perform the financial inspection of the church's books for 2019 and 2020. The committee was happy to report that we found no errors or irregularities (report on file at the church office). We thank Carol Rowley (our Treasurer) for all her competent and professional efforts. We will always strive to be good stewards of the resources that God puts in our custody.

Pastor Rumley told of his plans to retire, and a transition team was formed which was led by Brian Volckmann. The team included all the Deacons and several members of the congregation. The final meeting was completed in January 2021. Very much was accomplished! All the information is being summarized and will be presented to the Deacons. We plan to begin the formal process of calling a Pastor in March. Please pray that we call the Pastor that God wants for us. Also, please pray for Pastor Rumley and his family as they transition into their new lives.

If any of you have any concerns, questions, or comments, please feel free to contact the Pastor, your Deacon, or me. We cannot always agree with whatever you may desire, but we will certainly listen and discuss.

In Christ,

Keith A. Casey
Deacon Chairman 2020

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS TEAM REPORT – 2020

It has been a trying year for all of us in one form or another but God has been good nonetheless.

The remodel of the church offices is ongoing and the offices have seen great changes. It will certainly improve our ability to serve the Lord. Blinds have been ordered to replace the curtains.

Most of you who have attended services have noticed that we have taken steps to ensure everyone's safety during the pandemic. If anyone has concerns you feel we have not addressed, please feel free to contact any of us on Buildings and Grounds.

Replacement of the HVAC units is ongoing. We are on track to replace at least one unit per year. We have already replaced two and eventually will have all of them replaced.

Restroom doors have been replaced with steel doors, which will be much better in the long run and last for years to come.

The parsonage septic system has been replaced. Thank you to all who participated in landscaping in the aftermath of the installation.

Many improvements have been made to the building and we continue as God blesses to maintain and improve even more in the future.

Assignments:

Chairman – Mike Mackey

Deacon Representative – Brian Volckmann

Grounds and doors – Ron Gettys

Custodial – Pete Volckmann

Electrical – Shawn Zuk

Painting and HVAC– Mike Mackey

Plumbing/maintenance

– Dennis Biggerstaff

Recycling/storage/table & chairs – Jon Sissons

As always yours in Christ,

Dennis Biggerstaff

Secretary, Buildings & Grounds

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT - 2020

Sunday School met for the first 10 weeks of 2020. During that time, average attendance was 57, the high being 64 and the low being 40.

A special thanks to all teachers and substitutes for your service in this ministry.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Runion
Superintendent

2020 ANNUAL REPORT - CHURCH CLERK

Members Added

Members Removed

Richard (Rob) Hunt

Members Deceased

Kathleen Kubsch
Warren (Mac) Thurman
Evelyn Miller
Gloria Wright
Maurits VanGemeran
Jean Benz
Lewis Elzey

Membership as of 1/1/18	128
Members added	0
Members removed	1
Members deceased	7
Membership as of 12/31/18	120

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah Volckmann

USHER'S REPORT

4th QUARTER REPORT – 2020

A.M. Service	538
Devices connected	232
High A.M. Service	63
High Devices connected	29
Low A.M. Service	32
Low Devices connected	15
Average A.M. Service	45
Average Devices connected	23

ANNUAL REPORT – 2020

January 5 - March 15

A.M. Service	1,034
P.M. Service	281
High A.M. Service	107
High P.M. Service	41
Low A.M. Service	72
Low P.M. Service	20
Average A.M. Service	94
Average P.M. Service	31

May 24 – December 27

A.M. Service	1,536
Devices connected	351 (August 23 – December 20)
High A.M. Service	72
High Devices connected	28 (August 23 – December 20)
Low A.M. Service	16
Low Devices connected	15 (August 23 – December 20)
Average A.M. Service	49
Average Devices connected	22 (August 23 – December 20)

36 attended the Ruth Reader's Theater in October. 38 attended the Christmas Eve Candlelight Carol Sing.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Runion
2020 Chief Usher

JUNIOR WORSHIP REPORT – 2020

During the first couple of months of 2020, Junior Worship took place on Sunday mornings during the message. It was for children who were ages two through the fourth grade. The children were divided into groups by age, with the goal being that each child would receive developmentally appropriate Bible teaching.

In the first quarter of 2020, the primary class averaged four students, the pre-primary class averaged two students, and there was one toddler. All three groups utilized the Regular Baptist Press curriculum and the primary and pre-primary groups also used the Hands-on Bible curriculum published by Group. Junior worship teachers and helpers included Kyle Casey, Richard D'Arcangelis, Jillian Nettrouer, Megan Pugh, Mac and Leann Thurman, Aubrey Volckmann, Denise Volckmann, and Sarah Volckmann. They are all much appreciated.

Traditional children's ministries were suspended mid-March, 2020, in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Since then, five families have received weekly Sunday School material via either U.S. mail or "church" mail on a regular basis, and one family with four children is meeting regularly with a volunteer teacher during Sunday services for child care and lesson. It is hoped that another child from a different family will start attending on Sunday mornings, as there are several other volunteers who are willing to work with her.

If you know of any children who are not receiving Sunday School material regularly, but would like to, please contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Rowley
Junior Worship Director

MISSIONS TEAM REPORT – 2020

The Missions Team only met four times during 2020 due to COVID-19 concerns. Team members are Pastor Rumley, Steve VanderWerf, Matt Melendez, Thom Nelson, Madison Keller, Pam Sissons, and Darlene Hunt.

In January Heather Rumley gave a report regarding searching for another missionary position which would involve working with children.

In February the Baptist Children's Home food drive was discussed and was held in April.

In October Kezia Rumley gave us updates regarding her missionary activities. Heather Rumley informed us of her new job, which will not be in the missionary field. Trunk or Treat was cancelled due to COVID-19 concerns. Mission Christmas was held October 11; envelopes were handed out to the congregation to submit donations. Operation Christmas Child was in November.

In December the Missions Team worked on the new budget to be submitted to the congregation. The Budget was approved by the congregation December 16.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Hunt, Secretary
Missions Team

AWANA REPORT - 2020

Awana had a promising start in the fall of 2019.

We had Cubbies, Sparks, Girls and Boys T&T, Trek and Journey clubs all meeting on Wednesday nights.

As we all know, things changed drastically in March of 2020. Due to the pandemic we cancelled in person Awana clubs.

Many club directors worked at keeping in touch with clubbers by dropping off special gifts, zoom meetings, or mailings. Thank you!

We also had some parents request Awana materials which they were able to use in their homes with their children.

Please continue to pray for our Awana clubbers and families!

In Christ,

Megan Pugh
Awana Commander

JOURNEY YOUTH MINISTRY - 2020

The teen ministry at Evergreen certainly struggled throughout the year due to COVID-19. We were meeting regularly in the early months on Wednesday nights, but when restrictions were enacted in March, we ceased all in-person meetings.

We had a few meetings through the end of the school year via Zoom and had a socially distanced get-together at our home outdoors to celebrate the graduation of John Paul Bruning. By that time, everyone was excited simply to be able to talk and catch up. Our typical summer activities were also cancelled, including camp at Twin Lakes. We were able to have a fun time at the newly re-opened Flip's Cascade Mountain since we could be outdoors the whole time.

Once the school year started back up, we were able to have our meetings in two forms, Zoom calls and recorded lessons. We did our best to try and alternate the format weekly. Ultimately, it was hard to tell if the video lessons were being viewed and keep everyone accountable for their time in the word. The teens do not communicate online in the same way we do. Attendance was down especially in comparison to in-person meetings.

At the end of the year, after much prayer and consideration, Sarah and I decided that we were going to step down as the leaders of the Teen Ministry at Evergreen. We began to see that we were being pulled in too many directions to be our best at any of them. And we also have come to realize that a teen ministry should not be done as a secondary commitment. We advised that our opinion was that no leaders should be nominated to fill this position at this time. Our hope is to help facilitate a group of parents to lead the ministry until such a time as the Lord brings another leader for this important role. This will be a great challenge.

The Lord has blessed us by giving us an opportunity to serve in this ministry for over 8 years. We've had tons of fun. We've made great relationships with teens and parents. We've grown in the Lord as he has challenged us with difficulty. We've learned to adapt and strive to find new ways to minister. God is to be praised for any success we've had in this ministry. And we hope His will can be followed as we learn as a congregation to adapt to a new normal.

From Him, through Him, and to Him,

Brian and Sarah Volckmann

GROVE FAMILY MINISTRY REPORT – 2020

The purpose of Grove Family Ministry is to bring together family units of all stages of life to fellowship with one another with events throughout the year. Whether you are single, just starting out, in the trenches of parenthood or empty nesters, we invite you to join us.

Please be in prayer for this ministry as we are looking to build this beyond an event ministry. We do not know how, but we have a burden to truly build family relationships inside and outside of Evergreen.

One Event was held in 2020

March 6th- Family Game Night, we had 55 adults, teens, and children attend. We started the evening with a pizza dinner in the fellowship hall and then headed to the sanctuary to play games. There were 11 games to choose from and 3 rounds of playing time.

Thanks to Rich and Denise D’Arcangelis for the idea and for partnering with us to pull off a great night!

No events are planned for 2021.

Thank You,

Nate & Jillian Nettrouer
(Genevieve & Clara Nettrouer)