

**ANNUAL SESSION  
REPORT  
for  
2022**

Cooks Creek Presbyterian Church

## Annual Report of the Pastor to the Congregation

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! 2022 turned out to be a year in which we experienced more stability and predictability in church and life as the year progressed. Our new patterns of “doing church” have smoothed out significantly. If you recall, we weren’t even able to meet in-person every week in 2021 and what each month brought seemed up in the air. In 2022, we have become more accustomed to how we can do the work of the church and the ministry of Jesus Christ in ways that meet the needs of more people.

While there were still typically fewer people attending in-person worship than in 2019, we were blessed with a robust and growing number of people in worship each week. We also have 25-40 people join us online for worship each week and we continue to send our communications, sermons, and devotionals to about 25 non-internet or homebound households. This all means that more people are reached by Cooks Creek’s worship and messages than were in 2019. It is a different way of thinking about worship attendance, but it is a powerful reminder that the message and worship of God in Jesus Christ is broader, deeper, and richer than one single mode of attendance.

We were also blessed with more ways to engage in education, formation, and prayer in 2022. We increased our adult education offerings from the pandemic years and launched a new and vitalized ministry for our middle and high school students. A special thanks to Becky Pierce for spearheading our youth ministry in 2022 and into 2023. We also launched mid-week prayer and bible discussion groups in the fall of 2022 that we look forward to continuing in 2023.

We also navigated significant building expenses – like replacing a 110-year-old roof and fixing burst pipes on Christmas Eve – and did so while remaining financially healthy. We have been very faithful with our time, talent, and resources these past years. Since 2019, we have replaced the roof, the sanctuary carpet, mold/asbestos remediation, upgraded the kitchen, made significant technology updates, and more all while keeping essentially the same bank balance that we started with in 2019.

We have also been faithful in helping those experiencing need in our community. We have hosted Open Doors, helped dozens of families through the Dick Miller Fund, and hundreds fed through the Food Pantry. On top of that, Cooks Creek does a remarkable job of taking care of the physical, health, economic, emotional, and spiritual needs of one another.

May 2023 be a year that sees us build on our strengths as we reach our community and world for Christ! I look forward to you joining us in Christ’s mission.

Blessings,



Rev. Dr. Seth A. Normington

**Cooks Creek Presbyterian Church**  
**Sessional Report to the Congregation**  
**Annual Report for Year Ending 2022**

In First Samuel, Hanna prays, “There is no one holy like the Lord; there is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God”. In times when the only constant appears to be change, it is great comfort to know that our God is firm, strong and unchanging. In its work, the Session of Cooks Creek Presbyterian Church is mindful that God is always present and will never fail us.

In 2022, Session gratefully accepted two new members into the congregation of Cooks Creek by letter of transfer. Session welcomes these returning members and is excited in the service to our congregation that they will contribute in the coming years.

Cooks Creek membership also saw the loss of nine individuals who have gone to their final, eternal communion with their Savior. Session is grateful for the years of service they gave to Cooks Creek and trust that those that loved them have found God’s grace and mercy in their time of sadness.

The Ruling Elders elected for the classes of 2023, 2024 and 2025 are:

2023

Kate Dudley  
Gerald Harper  
Jeff Heatwole  
Ray Heatwole  
Skip Wallace

2024

Brenda Moyers  
Don Myers  
Fran Smith

2025

Larry Hogan  
Brad Miller  
Beth Phillips

The time, talents and financial support offered by members of the congregation throughout the years, in 2022 in particular, have allowed Cooks Creek to continue to live out its mission of serving God’s children through the recent seasons of economic uncertainty in our nation and staffing changes here at the Church. In February, Session accepted the resignation of Sarah Graf as the Church’s Music Director. Session greatly appreciates the years of dedicated service Sarah provided in leading our music program and is grateful to Teresa Simmers and the Worship Team for their efforts as we continue to praise God in song while searching for our next music director. In August, Session accepted the resignation of Martha Shank as the Church’s Office Manager. Martha diligently maintained the financial records and lines of communication for the Church, for which Session is very grateful. Susan Browning has been hired by Session as our new Office Manager and is acclimating quickly to her new position. The Administration Team will be providing Susan support on the financial aspects of the position as she becomes more accustomed to the Church’s management software system. Session also eagerly anticipates the return of our beloved Custodian, Jeanie Will and hopes that she has felt the prayers and well wishes of the congregation during her time of recovery. Because of the Church’s strong financial position, in 2022, we were able to replace the roof over the sanctuary, complete a much-needed painting project to the outside of the Church, and install a beautiful new cross mosaic behind the pulpit. Session wishes to thank Jana Miller and David Weaver for the work and effort they put into the cross mosaic project. Lastly, Session would like to offer its appreciation for the efforts of Property and Ground Team in ensuring that the Church would be able to host our guests with Open Doors starting on December 26 after the Church experienced a water pipe burst on Christmas Eve.

On a personal note, I continue to be humbled and grateful that you, the congregation of Cooks Creek, and your Session have allowed me the opportunity to record the happenings of this Church over the last thirteen years as its Clerk of Session. The work done within and beyond the walls of this Church in the name of Jesus Christ is truly amazing and can only be done through the dedication of each of us, its members. May God continue to bless Cooks Creek Presbyterian Church in providing us with opportunities to serve all His children.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark D. Williams  
Clerk of Session

**Cooks Creek Presbyterian Church**  
**Administration Team**  
**Annual Report for Year Ending 2022**

Committee Members: Mark Williams and Brenda Moyers

The year 2022 continued to bring financial challenges locally, globally, and nationally as we adjusted to the “new normal” post COVID. Although our expenditures in 2022 exceeded our income by \$8,600, the congregation and staff of Cooks Creek Presbyterian Church have faithfully weathered the storm through their unceasing support of our church and its ministries. For this, the Administration Team would like to say “Thank You” for your generosity and support.

We continue to be blessed by the leadership of Rev. Seth and are grateful for his technology skills which have permitted us to worship both in-person and online. We saw some staff changes in our church throughout 2022 with the resignation of Sarah Graff as our Choir Director in March and Martha Shank as Administrative Assistant/Treasurer in August. Both individuals were an integral part of our church and will be missed. We appreciate their service to our church. The choir and Teresa continue to bring joyful music to our sanctuary, despite the absence of a director. We are actively searching for someone to lead our music program and have placed ads in the Daily News Record, Indeed, and the church website. We were fortunate to welcome Susan Browning in September as our new Administrative Assistant/Treasurer. Susan is mastering her responsibilities and has been a welcome addition to the staff. Also in August 2022, our long-term custodian, Jeanie Will, was involved in a car accident in which she was severely injured and her husband, Jeri, lost his life. We are prayerful for Jeanie’s continued healing and look forward to her returning to her position soon. Final Shine has been performing the custodial duties in her absence. .

We took on several projects in 2022 as we work to preserve our building and its beauty. Such projects included a new roof by Precision Roof Works (the prior roof was 110 years old), exterior painting around the sanctuary windows by Black Brothers, replacement of the cross behind the pulpit by Braithwaite Studios and the creation of a complete history book of Cooks Creek Presbyterian Church coming in the future, to be completed by Lot’s Wife Publishing Company. The financial support of our congregation has made these projects possible.

We remain strong financially and as a result, the Session has passed a balanced budget of \$324,500 for 2023. The budget includes a 4% raise for our long-term staff. The 2023 budget is included within these reports. In closing, our team is appreciative of the faithful support from the congregation. As the old adage says “There is no I in Team”.

Submitted by:

Mark Williams - Class of 2022

Brenda Moyers - Class of 2024

**Cooks Creek Presbyterian Church  
Congregational Care Team  
Annual Report for Year Ending 2022**

**Team Members:**

Lee Ann Biller, Pam Boccock, Sue Haley, Becky Hottel, Lynn McNulty, Gloria Miller, Jana Miller, Nancy Miller, Nancy Myers, Lou Pence, Becky Pierce, Susan Price, Dianne Reynolds, Donna Kay Ritchie, Patsy Scott, Phyllis Simmons, Fran Smith, Linda Smith, Carole Stilwell, Carole Weaver, and Winnie Williams. 2022 Session Members are Fran Smith and Becky Pierce

Congregational Care Committee serves the Lord through compassionate ministries and develops fellowship events that facilitate connections among members of our church with loving hearts and prayers.

**Highlights of Congregational Care Committee's Ministry Activities:**

Monthly

- ~Extended Outreach by contacting and praying for selected members of our congregation who are living in retirement communities or who reside in their homes.
- ~Monthly meals were provided for families experiencing ongoing medical treatments.
- ~Meals were provided for church members who experienced surgeries or health issues.
- ~Prayer Ministry where church members pray for our children, youth, and college students.
- ~Connect Table Host volunteers greet church members and guest every week.
- ~Welcome Ministry – Hospitality table and celebrations of newborns with a rose and a baby's Bible.

January – December

- ~Annual Congregational Meeting; served chili, baked potato bar, and dessert on January 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- ~The Sunshine Gang luncheons with programs featuring speakers or music.
  - Trail Talk* with Chad Brown and Laura Ruschak on April 10<sup>th</sup>
  - Antarctica in August* with Jerry Gutsin on August 17<sup>th</sup>
  - Christmas Luncheon & Gift Exchange, Music by *Hats N The Creek* on December 3<sup>rd</sup>
- ~Easter Breakfast was served during Sunday School hour on April 17<sup>th</sup>
- ~Museum of the Bible, a day trip on May 4<sup>th</sup>
- ~Medical Professions were recognized during worship service on May 15<sup>th</sup>
- ~VMRC visitation and communion was served on August 23<sup>rd</sup>
- ~Re-Connect Sunday celebration and luncheon was held in the Fellowship Hall. A video presentation of historical highlights was shown, and music was provided by The Dunns on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- ~Pastor Appreciation Sunday, Pastor Seth was given a gift certificate to Joshua Wilton House on October 9<sup>th</sup>
- ~Harvest Party social, with a bouncy house and crafts for children was held after worship service on October 30<sup>th</sup>
- ~Christmas Day Social was planned at 10:30 am – cancelled due to frozen waterlines.

**Heart Filled Thanks:**

- ~Congregational Care team members who contact members of the congregation so they feel connected and part of the church's congregation.
- ~Connect Table Host monthly volunteers: Nancy Miller, Becky Pierce, Phyllis Simmons, Fran Smith, and Winnie Williams.
- ~Prayer Ministry: 25 church members praying for 40 children and youth, and 3 church members praying for 3 college students.

~The Sunshine Gang's leaders Craig and Nancy Miller.

~Hospitality Hostesses: Pam Bocoock, Debbie Bosserman, Nancy Miller, Phyllis Miller, Nancy Myers, Patsy Scott, Fran Smith, and Winnie Williams.

~Providing meals: Lee Anne Biller, Pam Bocoock, Laura Ann Leftwich, Sue Haley, Lynn McNulty, Gloria Miller, Nancy Myers, Becky Pierce, Phyllis Simmons, Fran Smith, and Winnie Williams.

~Nancy Myers for creating a monthly bulletin board and displaying members' birthdays and anniversaries.

~Pastor Seth for his commitment to serve the Lord and guide us as we seek a deeper relationship with our Lord and Savior.

Thank you to members of Cooks Creek's congregation for reaching out to others so everyone feels connected, cared for, and loved.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Fran Smith and Becky Pierce

**Cooks Creek Presbyterian Church  
Property and Grounds Team  
Annual Report for Year Ending 2022**

Committee Members: Ray Heatwole, Jim Suter, Brad Miller

The Property and Grounds team preformed the following projects in 2022:

- Completed new oven installation in kitchen.
- Installed all new fire extinguishers.
- Installed new metal roof over the sanctuary.
- Installed new security camera in church nursery.
- Completed annual maintenance on the ice maker in the kitchen.
- Cleaned six of the oldest gravestones in the old cemetery.
- Commissioned and installed a new cross behind the pulpit in the sanctuary.
- Installed two windows into two Sunday School Room Doors.
- Installed a new mailbox.
- Hired Black Brothers to paint building exterior windows and trim.
- Continued normal grounds maintenance.

**Cooks Creek Presbyterian Church**  
**Mission and Outreach Team**  
**Annual Report for Year Ending 2022**

This year we have had another successful year helping with meeting some of the needs within our community. We want to thank the congregation for the support we have received in the many ways that Cooks Creek always contributes. Your prayers, financial help and being there in person for the different activities have blessed the lives of many. Mission Team members Terry Morris, Linda Smith, Bea Morris, Carol Stilwell, Dan Dalrymple, Adonica Miller, Tom Frye, Gloria Miller, Martha Showalter and Jeff Heatwole.

The following is a list of organizations/programs we helped financially this past year with budgeted funds:

- Roberta Webb
- Habitat for Humanity
- Camp Still Meadows
- HumanKind
- Our Community Place
- Weekday Religious Education
- First Step.
- Bridge of Hope
- Covenant Church with Massanetta Springs
- Mercy House
- People helping People
- Salvation Army
- West Rockingham Food Pantry
- UKirk Ministry (Presbyterian Campus ministry)

The Dick Miller fund continues to be one of our biggest ministries. After careful screening we assisted 43 families with various emergency needs including 20 with rent, 16 with electricity, 5 with water and 3 with miscellaneous needs that included help with burial expenses, windshield replacement and natural gas for heat. We had 12 requests that we denied. In total we disbursed \$20,657.92. We appreciate the ongoing donations to this fund so that we may help our neighbors in need. A special thanks to Bea Morris who fields requests and makes sure that we are being good stewards of this fund.

We hosted Open Doors at the old Red Front and again in December/January in our church. We also provided DHUB for Open Doors last summer. We continue to be blessed by many of you who contribute food, time and companionship that you give our guests. So much appreciation and gratitude go to Adonica Miller for her leadership in this program. She is a blessing to our homeless neighbors and to our congregation.

Thanks to those who have helped physically or monetarily with the West Rockingham Food pantry. There are many hands that go into helping the food insecure folks of our community.

Ringing the Salvation Army bell was another asset to our community that Cooks Creek congregation assisted in. We had volunteers on December 10 and December 17.

Cindy Corell, a missionary with PCUSA has done terrific work in Haiti in the Lord's name, we are asking for new and continued prayers for her while she provides God's love to a country who desperately needs it. We are so blessed to have her and we continue to support her.

Thank-you all for always showing how God works through us to help those in need. Whether by deed, word, action or other ways He works through you to show His love to all.



**Cooks Creek Presbyterian Church**  
**Worship Team**  
**Annual Report for Year Ending 2022**

The purpose of the Worship Team is to promote worship within our church throughout the year; encourage participation in our corporate worship, music program and taking part in readings and prayers during the worship hour.

Members of the Team are: Dawn Barnett, Natalie Bocock, Mary Etta Cornett, Jana Miller, Karen Moats, Skip Wallace, Gerald Harper, Kate Dudley and Don Myers.

We thank God and celebrate each of our congregational members who step up and assist with various elements of our worship hour to include taking part in readings, prayers, singing and ministry to the children and youth. Each of these activities strengthens our faith allows each of us the opportunity to personally demonstrate our faith. Special thanks to the young children in our church who serve as acolytes and so reverently bring the Light of Christ down the aisle prior to worship. This simple act of service sets the tone for the praise, prayer and adoration of our Lord.

Following the departure of our music director Sarah Layman, our team developed a comprehensive music survey which each of you were able to complete in hard copy or online. Because of your diligence and honest input, we are better able to discern which qualities of musical leadership and music genre you prefer and which elements of our musical program enable you to become closer to our Lord and Savior.

Special thanks also goes out to our lay pastors, Larry Hogan, Dick Travis and Gerald Harper who so ably shared their God-given talents by substituting for pastor Seth during his absences. Cooks Creek is so fortunate to have these servants who bring to us God's word in their own unique ways.

Even in the absence of a music director, our organist, Teresa Simmers, along with members of our choir and other guest pianists have carried us through the past several months with offerings of familiar anthems and hymns. Worship of God through music is essential and we solicit your prayerful support as we continue to seek the right person to lead our choir.

Pastor Seth has encouraged all of us through his series of special sermons, adult Sunday school studies, Bible discussion groups and lunchtime prayers. Each of these worship elements allowed us to grow, not only in our understanding of our heritage and scripture but has also helped us renew our faith.

The Team's report would not be complete without thanking all of those with special gifts who decorate our sanctuary and other parts of our church; prepare Communion elements, provide special meals, assist with Open Doors activities, Food Pantry distribution, morning coffee time and a myriad of other activities which bring us closer to each other and to God. As we proceed into the new year, we pray for the Holy Spirit's presence, provision, protection and blessing for each person who worships at Cooks Creek Presbyterian Church.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Don Myers, Chair

**Cooks Creek Presbyterian Church  
Christian Ed Team  
Annual Report for Year Ending 2022**

Committee Members: Kate Dudley and Gerald Harper

Our mission is to provide opportunities for all ages to grow in knowledge of the Bible and the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. This year Cooks Creek was blessed to do such in way of Sunday school classes/ programs/series and vacation bible school.

June brought a wonderful vacation bible school, exploring our own Jerusalem marketplace. A big thank you to Shelley Newman, Natalie Bocock, Kari Palmer, Kathy Lyons, Whitney Eberly, and Whitney Simmons for organizing, as well as a countless number of volunteers! The entire church helped make this an unforgettable educational experience, not only for our children, but the surrounding community.

Throughout the year we have many members of our congregation who have committed to being teachers. This role takes caring, creative, dedicated individuals who put in time during the week preparing lessons as well as teaching on Sunday mornings. And we, no doubt, are blessed with some of the best here at Cook Creek! Your knowledge and gifts that you share are very much appreciated! A special thank you goes to Becky Pierce and Pastor Seth for getting new classes and programs kicked off this year! Becky has done an outstanding job of recreating our middle and high school youth group! They are off to a fantastic start with class on Sunday mornings and many activities including mural painting, rock climbing, kickball games, hayrides and Christmas parties. All activities include fellowship emersed in God's word and love. Pastor Seth has done a wonderful job of preparing and leading our non-traditional, media and discussion studies and series during Sunday school hour and on Wednesday evenings.

Lastly, we would like to thank members of our congregation who have been so interested in and supportive of new ideas and take on "Sunday School"! Your participation is key for these classes and programs to continue and be successful!

"How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! And to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver!"  
Proverbs 16:16

**COOKS CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
PASTORAL CALL - 2023  
REVEREND SETH A NORMINGTON**

<b>A. Personal Compensation</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
1. Annual Cash Salary	\$31,930	\$33,205
2. Housing Allowance - Personally-owned housing	\$39,140	\$40,705
3. Deferred income (403b)	\$7,700	\$8,000
4. <b>TOTAL EFFECTIVE SALARY</b>	<b>\$78,770</b>	<b>\$81,910</b>
<b>B. Expenses</b>		
5. Reimbursable Business and Professional Expenses		
a. Automobile expenses	\$500	\$250
b. Books and subscriptions	\$500	\$250
c. Other expenses	\$0	\$0
6. Continuing Education Allowance	\$2,250	\$2,000
7. <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$3,250</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>
<b>C. Required Benefits</b>		
8. Major Medical	\$21,268	\$21,394
9. Pension and Disability	\$7,877	\$7,877
10. REQUIRED SECA	\$5,600	\$5,655
11. OTHER BENEFITS – DENTAL	\$1,449	\$1,449
12. <b>TOTAL BENEFITS</b>	<b>\$36,194</b>	<b>\$36,375</b>
13. <b>TOTAL COMPENSATION</b>	<b>\$118,214</b>	<b>\$120,785</b>

<b>Cooks Creek Presbyterian Church 2023 Approved Budget</b>			
		<b>2022 Budget</b>	<b>2023 Budget</b>
<b>INCOME</b>			
	Tithes & Offerings	315,000	323,000
	Sunday School collections	1,500	1,510
	Total Income	316,500	324,510
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
Salaries			
	Total Support Staff Salaries	191,992	196,110
Church Property Expense / Maintenance			
5001-003	Electricity	9,500	9,000
5001-004	Fire Extinguishers	250	300
5001-005	Fuel Oil	12,500	13,500
5001-006	Garbage Pick-Up	350	450
5001-007	Insurance (Fire, Liability, Workers Comp)	18,000	20,000
5001-011	Church Telephone and Internet	3,500	3,500
5001-014	Propane	3,000	7,000
5001-015	Elevator	250	1,250
5001-066	Improvements	750	2,000
5001-067	Maintenance	1,500	1,000
5001-070	Boiler Maintenance/AC Maintenance	3,000	2,500
5001-071	Sexton Supplies	1,000	500
5001-072	Kitchen Supplies	500	350
5001-073	Security System	1,000	800
5001-074	Mowing	7,000	7,400
5001-078	Unanticipated Property and Grounds	4,000	4,000
	Total Church Property Expense / Maintenance	66,100	73,550
Church Office Supplies			
5007-001	Postage & Stamps	1,400	1,200
5007-002	Equipment (Maintenance/Replacement)	1,750	1,250
5007-003	Paper/toner/etc.	3,250	2,000
5007-004	Advertising (DNR, Phone Book, Etc.)	50	75
5007-005	Auditing Records	50	50
5007-009	Historian Supplies	30	100

	Total Church Office Supplies	6,530	4,675
Denominational Support			
5012-106	Shared Mission Support / Per Capita	12,400	12,400
	Total Denominational Support	12,400	12,400
Congregational Care			
5004-015	The Sunshine Gang(Golden Fellowship)	1,150	500
5004-040	Hospitality Supplies	200	150
5004-045	Church Picnic (BBQ Chicken)	1,150	1,500
5004-052	Visitors Welcome Bags	100	-
5004-053	Church Activities	600	600
5004-055	Website	300	350
5004-056	Bereavement	500	300
5004-057	Roses for Newborns	100	50
	Total Congregational Care	4,100	3,450
Christian Education			
5005-044	Library	100	50
5005-045	Sunday School (curriculum & supplies)	2,750	1,500
5005-046	Senior High Youth Expense	500	500
5005-050	Children's Ministries	500	500
5005-051	Graduates Gifts	100	100
5005-054	Middle School Youth	250	250
5005-057	Vacation Bible School	1,500	3,500
5005-059	Technology/Improvements	1,000	750
5005-060	Miscellaneous (Seasonal Activities)	1,600	600
5005-061	Camps	750	500
5005-047	Nursery Supplies/Equipment	500	250
	Total Education	9,550	8,500
Mission Outreach			
5002-014	General Mission Exp.	5,500	5,500
5002-017	Local Missions/ Emergency Relief	1,950	1,950
5002-020	Roberta Webb	1,000	1,000
5002-021	Habitat	200	200
5002-022	Open Doors	1,000	1,000
5002-023	Camp Still Meadows	1,000	1,000
5002-025	HumanKind	1,000	1,000
5002-027	Our Community Place	1,000	1,000
5002-028	Weekday Religious Education	1,000	1,000
5002-030	First Step	500	500
5002-031	Bridge of Hope	500	500

5002-040	Covenant Church with Massanetta Sps.	500	500
5002-045	Mercy House	1,000	1,000
5002-047	People Helping People	1,000	1,000
5002-049	Salvation Army	350	350
5002-051	West Rockingham Food Pantry	500	500
5004-048	Ukirk Ministry (Presbyterian Campus Min.)	700	700
	Total Mission Outreach	18,700	18,700
Worship Program			
5009-001	Christmas Decorations	400	400
5009-002	Supply Pastors	300	300
5009-004	Lenten Season Materials	50	50
5009-005	Musicians/Music	2,000	2,000
5009-006	Music Copyright Fee	500	500
5009-008	Sanctuary Decorations	350	350
5009-009	Special Occasion Materials	500	500
5009-012	Supply Organist	1,200	1,200
5009-013	Funeral Expenses	250	250
5009-015	Media Systems (Audio/Video)	500	500
5009-010	Welcome Team	300	300
5009-014	Presentation Software	350	350
	Total Worship Program	6,700	6,700
Miscellaneous Expense			
5010-001	Miscellaneous (Unbudgeted)	250	400
5007-007	Legal Fees for incorporation	25	25
	Total Miscellaneous Expense	275	425
	Total Expenditures	316,347	324,510