

**President's Report**  
**2021 Annual Congregational Meeting**  
**Jennifer Whittaker, President**

I want to start my report off with a thank you to Church Council. I continue to be impressed by the level of care and concern that they put into making decisions. The pandemic has radically altered not only how we “do” church, but also how we all connect with one another.

Church Council started their year off on a virtual retreat, where our Annual Vision of Ministry was created. We created the following goals for the year:

- Provide safe opportunities for attending worship.
- Increase total income to sustain staffing levels.
- Support the Poor People's Campaign by offering awareness-raising opportunities and sponsoring activities with the congregation.
- Improve internal and external communication.

These goals have helped guide us through another difficult year.

While we started the year off separated, Church Council looked toward a time we'd all start gathering again. This meant supporting the Worship Team and the Minister in creating hybrid worship. We also made plans to re-open the building, first to small groups, and eventually to worship. A Covid Safety Plan was adopted, which included requiring anyone 12 and older to be vaccinated and safety measures such as masking and social distancing. A Tech Support person also needed to be hired, to help the Worship Team with the huge task of hybrid worship.

As we head into the last few months of the year, Church Council is busy preparing for Reverend James's sabbatical. We are also working to find ways to help foster connection to the church, both virtually and in-person.

Church may look and feel different now than it has in the past, but our care and love for one another continues.