

TRUE

BELONGING

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

GRACE
CHAPEL

*"So in Christ we who are many form one body,
and each one belongs to all the others." Romans 12:5*

BEARING FRUIT IN A CHALLENGING YEAR

Like many churches and Christian organizations, we are experiencing cultural, financial, and religious changes that are affecting the way people engage with church. Those challenges have driven us to prayer, reflection, and a re-imagining of how Grace Chapel can continue to fulfill our mission of helping more people *discover life with God for the good of the world*.

Even with these challenges and changes, we have seen God at work throughout the ministry this past year, as people have come to faith in Christ, made Grace their church home, and taken their next steps toward greater engagement in the life and mission of our church. We will be baptizing a couple of dozen people on three of our campuses and at our partner church in Amherst, NH, this June alone!

A YEAR OF BELONGING

In keeping with this year's theme of belonging, our teaching and our ministry efforts have been focused on inspiring and enabling deeper connection with one another in the Body of Christ.

Our teaching journey focused on the idea of *True Belonging*. In the fall we explored Paul's letter to the Romans, where we learned that the deep and fundamental human need for belonging can ultimately only be fulfilled in relationship with Jesus Christ and His people. Our winter series, *True Belonging: Home Edition*, was designed to bring our Christmas visitors back to learn more about how to strengthen and deepen our family relationships by inviting Christ into their lives, and by belonging to the family of God. We will finish the teaching journey this spring with a look at *True Belonging: Church Edition*, applying biblical principles to our life together as a community of faith.

Along the way, we explored the biblical concept of hope in our Advent series, *Hope to the World*, and dug deeply into prayer during our Lenten series, *Unfiltered*. As a follow up to the Easter services, we invited people to come back and learn more about *Life Beyond*, which led us to an intriguing and in-depth look at the concept of eternal life. On several of those Sundays we saw many people respond to the invitation to receive Christ!

In addition to the teaching journey, all of our staff and ministries focused their efforts this year on building community – helping new people to connect more easily, and helping regular attenders take

the next step toward belonging by joining a group and/or serving on a team. And we engaged thousands of people, many for the first time, through Christmas and Easter services, and through outreach events like HarvestFest and Easter Egg Hunts.

A NEW MINISTRY MODEL

After many months of prayer, reflection, conversations, and deliberation, we have arrived at a new model for doing ministry that we believe will enable us to reach and disciple more people for Christ in the coming decade. It is a model built around three Core Ministries – Sundays, Groups, and the Next Generation, and empowering our five campuses for growth and impact.

This shift in model and strategy involved the phasing out of four central pastoral positions, as well as some ministry support positions. These decisions were made painfully and prayerfully, with deep gratitude and respect for the pastors and staff members who have served us so faithfully and effectively. We also experienced the departures of a few other pastors and staff members in response to God's call on their lives. As Senior Pastor, I want to both acknowledge and express deep gratitude for Bill Burke, our Executive Pastor, who retired after 15 years of faithful and deeply impactful service to our church.

Understandably, these staff transitions and ministry changes have been unsettling for all of us. We are grateful for the faithfulness of the congregation and the Lord through this challenging year, as we have continued to enjoy inspiring worship, solid teaching, warm fellowship, Kingdom impact, and a steady stream of newcomers. Thanks to the incredible faithfulness of the congregation, and the prudent financial management of the staff, we were able to close the fiscal year with a balanced budget, even though we fell short of our projected giving.

More than ever, the world needs the Church to be all that God intended it to be – a place where people of all ages and all walks of life find true and eternal belonging in Christ.

With a grateful and expectant heart,



Pastor Bryan
Senior Pastor

When I think of who we have always been as a church and who I hope and pray we will always be, I think of my new friends Shaun and Jenn. They are a young couple with first grade twins who live in the same town as Dori and me. These folks are literally our neighbors.

Shaun faithfully attended church with his family but walked away from church after high school. It was the tragic loss of a very close friend and the deep grief and even anger that was associated with that loss that started his path back to God. At the same time, Shaun told me that their kids were starting to ask questions about God and he and Jenn did not know what to tell them. Parents want to be able to answer questions for their kids, especially when some of the questions little ones are prone to ask are about faith and God.



Shaun and Jenn have told me that a friend of theirs encouraged them to come to Grace Chapel and they decided to give it a try but to be frank, they were quite nervous and a little anxious about what they might encounter. In typical Grace Chapel fashion, they were met warmly by a greeter at the door who walked them over to a pastor who was able to sit with them during the service and then have coffee with them after the service. We, who are comfortable in church, need to remember that not everyone who walks through our doors feels that way.

Shaun told me later “I felt a contagious passion through the music. I felt like the message was just so applicable to my wife and me. And for a second, I felt like we were being set up! All of it, everything was intentional with God overseeing it all. We have a long road back, but we have taken a step on that journey and I am so glad we did.”

Sometime later Shaun and Jenn came to the Good Friday service with their twins. Shaun again was concerned about the seriousness of a Good Friday service and leaned over to explain to his kids that the death of Jesus on Good Friday was not the end of the story and to his shock and joy, one of the twins looked up and said, “I know dad, because Jesus comes back to life!” Shaun realized, in that moment, that the folks in Kidstown at Grace were teaching their kids about God and helping answer some really tough questions!

Isn't this the church at its very best? We, as people of faith, help families answer the questions they don't feel equipped to answer. We, people of faith, get to minister meaningfully to a hurting family and help play a part in bringing them closer to a God. Sometimes, it's folks who have never heard the gospel and sometimes it's folks who just need to be reminded how much our great God loves us.

In my over 30 years of being a pastor here at Grace Chapel – it is the stories like Shaun and Jenn's that inspire me, encourage me and help me, with determination, to focus on how we can reach more and more of folks with the hope of the Gospel. Who are your neighbors, who might you invite to church? You too might find that ministering to folks like this will inspire and encourage you to keep sharing the hope of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, maybe even with your neighbors.

-Richard Rhodes, Lexington Campus Pastor

CAMPUS UPDATE: WILMINGTON



It has been a very good year for Grace Chapel's Wilmington campus – one that has been deeply shaped by this year's theme of *True Belonging*. We have leaned heavily into the idea that, at its core, the church isn't an institution or an event, a building or a program, but a community of people who find our deepest belonging in Christ. This year, as we have leaned into this theme, we have discovered our identity in Jesus, our relatedness to one another, and a desire to include more and more people in all that God offers to each and every one of us.



We began the fall with a Vision Gathering. We wanted to come together as one to ready ourselves for a year of rich ministry. Everyone from group leaders to welcome team members, Next Gen teammates to Worship and Tech people gathered to be reminded of the part we each play as we work together as the body of Christ. It was a great way to launch the year, and we have seen this spirit carried throughout the year.



As the year has progressed, we have enjoyed watching our newly energized Welcome Team meet new people and help move them from being first time guests to becoming a part of our community. New leaders have taken new steps of faith to lead in ways that required a deeper dependence on God and a willingness to use the gifts God has given them. Children and students have grown in their faith as they have been mentored by caring adults and shaped by great friendships.

A few snapshots of what it looks like up close: I think of a family from Stoneham who cautiously kicked the tires of church in the winter and now are often the last to leave the lobby on Sunday afternoon. I think of a twenty-something daughter who came to church with her mom and aunt, made their way through Alpha, and are having their lives radically transformed by Je-



sus. I think of the moment during the service when we prayed for our high school graduates and the platform was flooded with adults as Adam, our pastor of student ministries, invited all those who had invested in the life of any of the kids to come and join them. I think of a man who stepped forward to lead a new group for men on Tuesdays with a desire to share his love for the scripture's power to change a person's life. I think of about 20 people who raised their hands in a service this spring, indicating their desire to say "yes" to following Christ. I think of two young families with a family member battling a serious health issue being deeply loved by their church. I think of a worship leader who has served and led us for six years and a community celebrating him as God leads him into a new season of life and new things ahead. It was summed up recently by a young woman who said to me, "I honestly had no idea that church could be like this!"



Thank God for His presence among us!

"So in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others."
Romans 12:5

- Tom VanAntwerp, Wilmington Campus Pastor

CAMPUS UPDATE: WATERTOWN



Dear Friends,

One of my hopes has been that our community would feel we are FOR them.

One of our local neighbors was walking by Grace Chapel, Watertown, and happened to see families and children flocking to our Easter Egg Hunt, one of our Watertown Gatherings, where we invite folks who are disengaged from church. She mentioned to me, "Thank you for making our communities better."



I've discovered that our investment in kingdom work is creating goodwill in our community. Recently I was taking a moment to thank Deanna Phipps, who is new to the Watertown Campus, and explained that I was thankful for her presence and willingness to serve. She said she is so glad that she can, and that "being here I feel like I'm able to give more and contribute more to God's work in the world."

Our Easter Egg Hunt event engaged over 80 volunteers and served over 900 people in the greater Boston area. They were able to meet Christ followers while experiencing a fun family-friendly event. We have found people at these events discover that we are FOR them before they discover that God is FOR them, which has been our first step to engage people far from God.

Lisa Cerci, pictured with her husband, was one of our lead volunteers for Spring Serve. She led



over 50 Watertown folks to serve in several local organizations, including the Watertown Boys and Girls Club, Watertown Police Department and Communities United. At Spring Serve they spent the entire morning working with various projects, painting, gardening, moving heavy equipment, packaging and delivering encouraging Teacher Appreciation gifts.

Sylvia Dandrata, the Director of Education and Child Development for Communities United, said "Words cannot adequately express my gratitude. Whenever we have community involvement it validates the work we do and inspires us to do more."

Wow! It's amazing to see the local church live out its mission and Christ's invitation to be salt and light in this world. Thank you, friends, for making Grace Chapel your church home, so together we can reach people so they can discover life with God for the good of the world!

- Stephen Nyakairu, Watertown Campus Pastor

Every faith journey needs to start somewhere. Jason, Juli and their six year old son, Oliver started visiting the East Lexington campus occasionally 2 ½ years ago. They attended the Marriage Course, which was very helpful for them. It helped stabilize their family life, and after that they began attending regularly on Sundays. They subsequently joined a young families Life Community, and along the way my wife Edna and I became good friends with them. While helping them move and visiting – they said they were



ready to receive Christ, we prayed and they both trusted in Christ for forgiveness and eternal life that day. What a joy! Continuing on their family journey, they recently dedicated their son Oliver in Child Dedication, and have talked about a Marriage rededication. We gave Jason a gift of a bible which he is reading for the very first time and has lots of questions. What a wonderful story of the church at work in our community and in the lives of this family. In many ways the story of this family illustrates how many people today *belong* to a community of faith before they *believe* in Christ and then learn how to *behave* like Christ. We praise our great God for what He is doing in the lives of Jason, Juli and little Oliver and we look forward to more stories like this family's story.

While the East Lexington campus has had some wonderful stories of transformed lives, we have had a challenging year with a number of key leadership families and individuals transitioning away from the campus because of work relocation, church and/or campus transfer, family stress including burnout, long-term military deployment, and life threatening sickness. Through these challenges God showed us His love and faithfulness through His people. The practical wisdom of meeting in and belonging to a Life Community Group creates a caring and loving community when times are good and when times are challenging. Through this past year, we saw the body of Christ active in reaching



out, supporting, praying, delivering meals, and coming along side many who were hurting. We have been so blessed by the many new families who have joined us along the way.

Student Ministry led by Kate Fox and our intergenerational ministry model has been a real highpoint for our East Lexington campus. Kate and her dedicated team of volunteers which



includes her new husband, Josh, pioneered the Monthly Sunday Retreats for combined Middle School and High School, then separated Middle School and High School house groups for two meetings monthly and sabbath – while creating seasonal fun and projects. Cross-Cultural Learning Experiences were huge too as Middle School students went on “the Boston Project” and many High School students went on “The Philadelphia Project”. In addition – Kathryn Baldanza led our Sunday morning worship bands in inspiring and soulful worship starting in the fall, and she skillfully integrated our musically talented and trained students. The East Lexington students have participated in piano, drums, vocal, viola/flute.

Kidstown made strides this year as a number of teachers served two-month rotations, during service hours, giving students the relational connection and familiarity that make learning and teaching a joy. Family Ministry was enhanced by our apple picking in the fall and our Sunday Funday, a precursor to next year’s East Lexington campus version of the Lexington campus Family Experience (FX).

East Lexington leaders are also in long-term planning for the future of the East Lexington campus in terms of location and how to best implement the new ministry model that capitalizes on our unique size, proximity, and gifts. Your prayers are coveted and all gratitude goes to God for the way He is working in and through the East Lexington campus.

-Thomas Lee, East Lexington Campus Pastor

CAMPUS UPDATE: FOXBORO

It has been a really special year for the Foxboro campus - one for which we are immensely grateful. People have taken new steps to experience belonging in community and with Christ, including nine people who were baptized. Many folks have joined Life Communities, started serving on a team, and joined us for special events like the 75 people who came to our Leader Vision Gathering, the first anniversary celebration of our grand opening in October, and our women's Christmas tea.

Worship & Prayer: Our Sunday services have been encouraging times for our community to come together in a welcoming environment. In addition to Sunday mornings, we had a Thanksgiving themed night of worship, and three prayer nights that brought people together to deepen their connection with Christ. Our Christmas Eve service included a creative presentation from many of our children and teens. In March, we welcomed Bryan Picher to join our staff to lead our Foxboro worship team. Our Easter Sunday services were vibrant and joy-filled; accompanied by our children singing with the worship team.



Kidstown: Our Kidstown ministry continues to grow through the leadership of Rita MacKinnon and an amazing team of volunteers. Our first Kids Weeks saw 50 children from the Foxboro community supported by 25 volunteers throughout the week. Kidstown has also hosted special



events for the community such as a Pumpkin Carving Party, Christmas Around the World, our first campus FX (Family Experience), and the Easter "Eggstravaganza", for which we had 275 guests join us! This year, we were also able to come alongside several families to dedicate their children.

Student Ministry: Blaire Telford and our volunteer leaders provide a nurturing space to explore what it means to know and love God. The first season of Fried Fox summer events created lots of great memories. Our students connect through weekly times of gathering, on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. Our parents have been able to connect through Next Gen Parenting nights each month. A few other highlights include faithful student participation in CCLE's, and the winter retreat at Camp Berea.

CAMPUS UPDATE: FOXBORO



Groups: We have seen many people connect in groups, building to 12 groups in total with over 100 people participating. Our group leaders are well supported by Tom and Barbara Herrmann. In addition to ongoing regularly meeting small groups, we hosted a four-week marriage group that was attended by 19 couples, a Starting Point group for seekers and new believers, and special group events like Art & Culture, a Men's Fellowship, and a group for single adults.

For the Good of the World: Our first Spring Serve as a campus provided the opportunity for us to connect with the Hockomock Area YMCA, Gillie's House for those in recovery, and a handful of area families. Through our partnership with the YMCA, families from the Foxboro campus were able to volunteer at a PGA Golf event over Labor Day Weekend. In the fall/winter, we had the opportunity to connect with two of our mission partner families who serve in Thailand. One special highlight was a woman who opened her home to offer a Starting Point group for those in her neighborhood. Great memories were created when members of our Welcome and Worship Teams played a significant role in the Foxboro Holiday Tree Lighting; serving as musicians, guides, and MC's for the event.



It is with a deep sense of gratitude to our great God that we celebrate the fruitful ministry of the Grace Chapel Foxboro campus. To God be the glory!

-Tom Boisclair, Foxboro Campus Pastor

Nominations for Elected Church Offices

Nominating Committee for 2019

Priscilla Seuss (elder co-chair), Cynthia Fantasia (elder co-chair), Susan Corbett (LEX), John Dorr (WIL),
Bonnie Doremus (WIL), Craig Lillehei (WAT)

Recommendations for the Four Open Elder Positions

Eric Bergstrom (WIL), Andrea Dacayanan (LEX), Brenda Messervy (LEX), Victor Roman (FOX)

Two Elder Renewals

Priscilla Seuss, Cynthia Fantasia

Nominating Committee

Current team for 2019-2020: Priscilla Seuss, Cynthia Fantasia, Craig Lillehei

New nominations: Kent Morsch (LEX), Susan Maina (WIL), Don Vinh (ELX)

Audit Committee

Renato Zeppi (returning) - proposed Chair

Russ Ayan (returning) - appointed in 2018

Lucy Marchese - new nomination for three years

Moderator

Amy Warfield (three years returning)

Clerk

Sandy Smith (three years returning)

Grace Chapel's Board of Elders Unanimously Recommend Mark MacDonald for Executive Pastor

Mark grew up locally in Arlington MA, and as a result has always loved New England - especially the local sports teams. Mark moved from the area, living in seven states across the country, and although he enjoyed many parts of the country he needed to come home to be closer to all the championship parades. He and his family returned to the area 12 years ago, settling in Newton, and became members of Grace Chapel.

Mark has been an active member and servant-leader at Grace Chapel for over 10 years, first in Lexington and now in Watertown. Mark has served in the Welcome Ministry at both campuses, engaged in many groups, and has been on the Campus Leadership Team in Watertown from its inception. Mark has served on nominating and search committees including the Watertown Campus Pastor search.



Mark grew up in a Christian home where God and His Church were an integral part of life. As they moved around the country, their new church families quickly helped them feel at home and welcome in a new city. Those dedicated people who made them feel at home are why he has a strong passion for welcoming new people and driving outreach.

In Mark's own words: "I am so humbly blessed to be able to leverage what I have learned through my life experience to support the congregation and staff at Grace Chapel, as we help more people discover life with God for the good of Boston and beyond."

Vocationally, Mark spent nearly 30 years in the business world; 20+ years with Brady Corporation in a variety of customer engagement and managerial roles, ultimately as Global Director of Sales, Marketing and Support. More recently, Mark was the founder and CEO of HeroK12, an Education Technology company helping students and families succeed in school. He and his team grew the company from \$0 to several million in sales, serving over 300 school districts in 40+ states.

Mark, his wife Susan, and his three children, Jack, Marisa, and Gavin, are active on the tech team and in kids and youth programs at the Watertown campus.

The Executive Pastor Search Committee consisted of the following:

*Brenda Messervy (Chair); Donald Jin (Elder); Paul Bodet (Elder);
Ruthie Seiders (Pastor of Central Ministries); Bryan Wilkerson (Senior Pastor)*

New Members in 2018-2019 Fiscal Year

Ablorh, Akweley	Daniel, Jordan	McCrevan, Milena	Roman, Victor
Ablorh-Bryan, Dudley	Darmancheva, Tamara	McCulloch, Debra	Salisbury, Linda
Ahn, Sung Ho	Dourian, Anna	Medard, Mireille	Salvant, Donaldy
Alletag, Daniel	Dourian, David	Meisenheimer, Katherine	Scerra, Matthew
Alvarado, Eugenia	Getchell, Kristen	Mendez, Gabriela	Scott, Alexander
Au, Ada	Gourdet, Daphkar	Messervy, John	Scott, Valerie
Aucoin, Jennifer	Grand, Carla	Messervy, Peter	Seo, Kwang
Aucoin, Kirsten	Han-Danforth, Corinne	Mills, Barbara	Shetler, Timothy
Barton, Susan	Hennessy, Julia	Nabaweesi, Betty	Smith, Tyrone
Bobb, Susan	Hwang, Eun Ha	Nabulime, Sharline	Stasior, Janine
Bohler, Lori	James, Glory	Navarro, Elsa	Stone, Ellen
Bohler, Robert	Jean-Baptiste, Marie	Nelsen, Rachael	Svarczkopf, Anthony
Bragg, Linda	Jimenez, Deborah	Nicolan, Kenneth	Svarczkopf, Karen
Brewer, Denise	Jimenez, Frank	Nygren, Joel	Tan, John
Brockman, Sandra	Johnson, Julie	Nygren, Rachel	Vinton, Amy
Chastain, James	Kazlas, Melanie	Olson, Lauren	Vinton, Daniel
Chastain, Lisa	Keeler, Rachel	Owen, Joan	Watson, Lori
Christopher, Michael	Kernizan Adelson, Naomi	Page, Adam	Wheeler, Felicitas
Chugani, Gunish	Kilty, Jodie	Page, Catherine	Wheeler, Mark
Clark, Daniel	Kumar, Frances	Park, Paula	Whitehouse, Laura
Clark, Jamie	Lam, Lui	Park, Robert	Wood, Grete
Clark, Katherine	Lee, Younghee	Pugh, Lisa	Wood, Stephen
Cocozza, Eduardo	Lewis, Cassandra	Rabouin, Shante	Yoon, Jane
Crawford, James	Lim, Youngshin	Ramirez, Alberto	Yu, Lily
Crook, Stephen	MacDonald, Emily	Ramirez, Linda	
Cross, Deborah	MacDonald, Kevin	Redmond, Eck	
Cross, Robert	Manning, Lynn	Redmond, Shawn	
Danforth, Todd	Mayhugh, Donna	Rhodes, Doris	
Daniel, Courtney	McCrevan, Bernard	Richards, Gavin	

Membership Summary

Church Membership as of April 30, 2018	1686
New Members: May 1, 2018 - April 30, 2019.....	111
Reinstated:.....	5

(Transferred/Dropped by Request)(33)

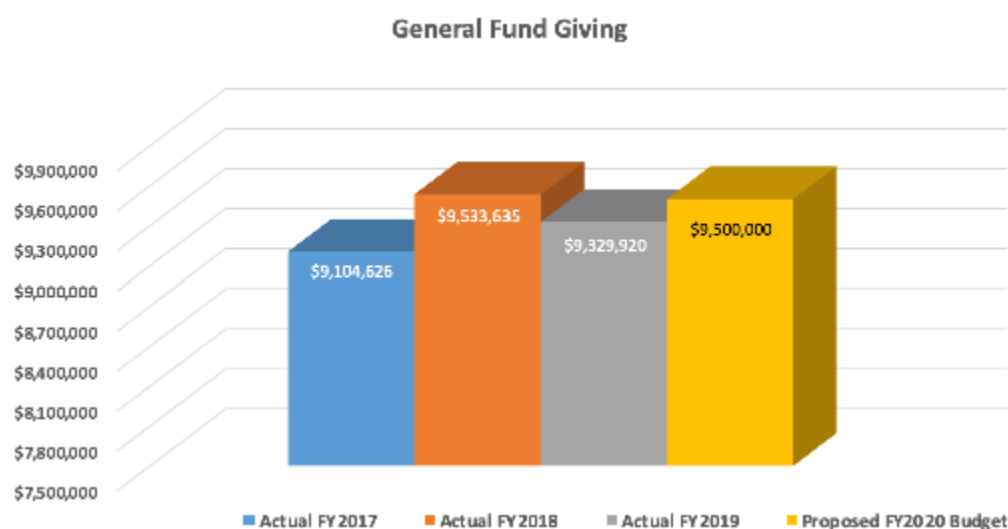
(The following Members went home to be with the Lord) (11)

*Jeff Bishop, Paul Geick, Jean-Andrew Genece, Mary MacKinnon, Blanche Cote, Peter Vassilev,
Joan Whitley, Mary Quan, Eleanor Kalem, Richard Shattuck, Stanley Wallace*

Church Membership as of April 30, 2019	1758
Baptisms: May 1, 2018 - April 30, 2019	45

With Gratitude to our great God and a faithful Congregation

Fiscal Year 2019, while down ~2% from the prior year, was another year of generous and faithful giving by the people of Grace Chapel. Including 340 new first time givers, our General Fund contributions totaled over \$9,300,000. As you know, in addition to being down from the prior year we were also below the budget targets for the fiscal year. It is with gratitude to our great God and you that we can report that we are ending this fiscal year with a balanced budget. This was accomplished through a combination of strong year-end giving and diligent cost management on the part of the staff. Our total expenditures for the fiscal year were approximately \$9,900,000 (2% less than budgeted). This figure includes gifts to support our regular church ministries, fund our global and regional missions partners, and the staff to support our five campuses. (Note: Our final and fully audited financial statements for the Fiscal Year ended April 30, 2019 will be published and available later in the summer.)



In addition to the General Fund giving, you our congregation, provided over \$244,000 in special gifts and Benevolence Fund offerings to help meet the critical needs of folks in our congregation, our neighbors here locally and people serving Christ around the world. Specifically, your generosity provided:

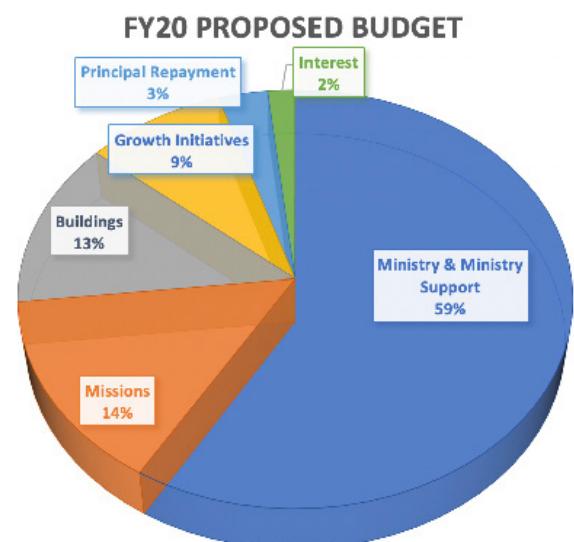
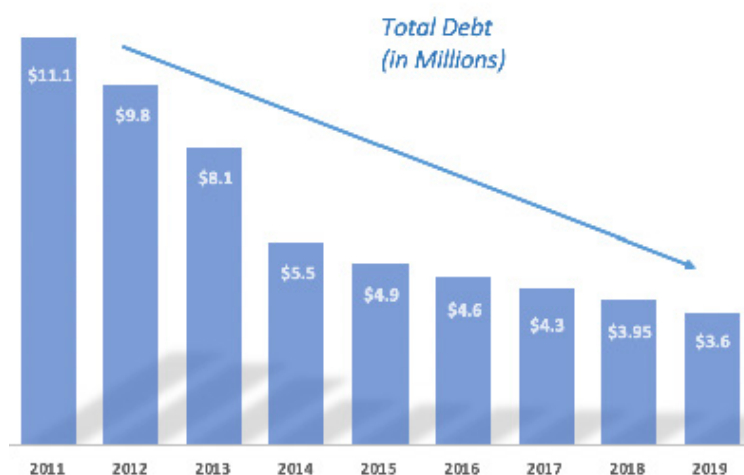
- \$148,453 in Benevolence Fund gifts to meet the local needs of our congregation and community
- \$31,147 for The Boston Project and Potter's House Support received from the Global Awareness Week Offering
- \$65,286 for World Relief Malawi for efforts to end childhood marriage received from the Christmas Eve offering

2019-2020 ANNUAL BUDGET

***"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.
Behold, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?"
- Isaiah 43:18-19***

Looking Ahead to the Future

As we look to 2020 and beyond, we believe, as a church, that we are not only poised but well positioned for growth at every one of our five campuses. It is important to note that, over the past several years, as we have expanded our footprint in greater Boston, we have radically reduced our total debt from \$11.1 million in 2011 to \$3.6 million in 2019. The board of elders is proposing an FY20 operations budget which assumes total General Fund giving of \$9,500,000. This is 1.8% above actual general contributions from FY19, and we believe this is a reasonable giving target to achieve. This modest but proposed growth in giving will continue the important Kingdom work of engaging a growing community of seekers and believers who are discovering life with God for the good of greater Boston and the world. In the coming years, we hope and pray to engage even more people every year on their journey of faith, launch new locations in under-served communities, and partner with agencies and churches serving greater Boston and the world. In these challenging times for the big "C" Church as a whole, we celebrate the faithfulness of God to Grace Chapel for over 70 years. It is our hope and prayer that God continues to show favor on us as a church committed and called to serve greater Boston and beyond for His Kingdom purposes and for His glory alone!



2019-2020 ANNUAL BUDGET

Statement of Revenues and Expenditures For Budgeted Activities For The Fiscal Years ending April 30th										
	FY2018		FY2019		FY2020					
	Actual	Budget	Forecasted Actual	Proposed Budget	\$ Change over		% Change over			
					FY19 Actual	FY19 Actual	FY19 Actual	FY19 Actual		
Revenues and Transfers										
General Contributions	\$ 410,805	\$ 420,000	\$ 420,000	\$ 420,000	\$ 10,000	\$	\$	\$	2%	
*GO Reserve	\$ 428,000	\$ 223,000	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	0%	
Contributions for Growth Team & other Missions	\$ 182,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ (1,000)	\$	\$ (1,000)	\$	-1%	
Program registration and other Income	\$ 135,381	\$ 151,000	\$ 135,041	\$ 150,000	\$ 939	\$	\$ 939	\$	1%	
Other Income	\$ 245,316	\$ 190,000	\$ 244,512	\$ 210,000	\$ (22,512)	\$	\$ (22,512)	\$	-11%	
Total Contributions and Other Income	\$ 10,106,154	\$ 10,336,000	\$ 9,910,077	\$ 10,052,000	\$ 141,923	\$	\$ 141,923	\$	1%	
Expenditures for:										
Operating Activities-All Composes										
Ministry	\$ 5,244,748	\$ 6,623,218	\$ 6,536,157	\$ 5,803,319	\$ 1,670,838	\$	\$ 1,670,838	\$	-11%	
Buildings	\$ 1,290,901	\$ 1,372,758	\$ 1,358,910	\$ 1,291,843	\$ (84,970)	\$	\$ (84,970)	\$	-7%	
Missions	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,600,000	\$ 1,640,000	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 240,000	\$	\$ 240,000	\$	2%	
Ministry Growth Initiatives	\$	\$	\$	\$ 900,000	\$ 900,000	\$	\$ 900,000	\$		
Interest Expense	\$ 162,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ (5,000)	\$	\$ (5,000)	\$	-4%	
Total Operating & Other Expenditures	\$ 9,218,558	\$ 9,775,976	\$ 9,596,739	\$ 9,732,162	\$ 135,423	\$	\$ 135,423	\$	1%	
Non-Operating Activities										
Mortgage Principal Repayment	\$ 334,555	\$ 331,024	\$ 313,788	\$ 313,838	\$ 6,050	\$	\$ 6,050	\$	2%	
Total Expenditures for Non-Operating Activities	\$ 334,555	\$ 331,024	\$ 313,788	\$ 313,838	\$ 6,050	\$	\$ 6,050	\$	2%	
Total Expenditures	\$ 9,553,123	\$ 10,111,000	\$ 9,910,527	\$ 10,052,000	\$ 141,473	\$	\$ 141,473	\$	1%	
Surplus (loss)	\$ 553,031	\$ 225,000	\$ (490)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$		
*NGL Fund Reserve for Capital Projects	\$ (553,031)	\$ (225,000)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$		
Net after Reserve	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$		

GRACE CHAPEL ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

June 10, 2018

CALL TO ORDER & PRAYER – Cynthia Parker opened the meeting with procedural instructions and prayer at 12:38 PM at the Lexington campus. The meeting was simulcast to the satellite campuses in East Lexington, Foxboro, Watertown and Wilmington. A recording will be available online on or about June 12, 2018. Participants can ask questions and submit questions via text through the campus pastors.

VOTING SUNDAY (June 17, 2018) - Voting will take place during all worship services on all campuses by paper ballot. Members must be present to vote. For those unable to vote on June 17, they can vote on Sunday, June 24, 2018.

ELDER REPORT – Victor Gerdes presented the Elder's Report. Victor explained the elders' responsibilities, which include providing oversight of the church's vision and mission and reviewing both opportunities and challenges. They also approve the hiring of new pastors. They meet regularly (typically twice a month) and often serve in other volunteer capacities as well. Over the past year, they focused on topics such as the church's multi-campus strategy, how to best support the staff as the church adds locations, and how to help people get/stay engaged and "find their Go."

Victor gave thanks for the many volunteers who serve, for the staff, for the elder board, and for senior leadership. Retiring elders Dan Post and Ken Fong were recognized for their individual strengths and contributions to the elder board.

SENIOR PASTOR REPORT – Pastor Bryan Wilkerson presented the Senior Pastor Report. The ministry focus this year was *Being and Going with Jesus*, which aligns with the theme of *reaching wider: mobilization*. "We grow as we go." Sermon series included:

- The Divine Invitation (Gospels)
- Advent: Peace Be With Us
- Your Place in God's World – Helping people find their Go (Ephesians)
- Lent: Broken (Minor prophets)
- Easter: Unbroken (2 Corinthians)
- Neighbor (Gospels)

Ministry highlights

- Foxboro Campus Launch (fully staffed, 200-300 people worshipping there each week)
- Go! Course and the GPS tool online (Gifts, Passion, Season)
- Global Awareness Week – Theme: Safe & Secure
 - 24 missions partners attended
- Strong Holiday Outreach
 - 7000+ on Christmas Eve
 - 6000+ on Easter
 - East Lexington and Watertown combined Good Friday service

- Outreach Events
 - HarvestFest, Watertown & Wilmington: 1800+
 - Easter Egg Scramble, Watertown: 500+ children
 - WinterBlast, Lexington: 3000+, with invitations to Easter & KidsWeek
- One Church Worship Nights (2)
- FX: Family Connection
- 10,000 people a month on social media
- Internship (~12 college students per summer)
- *Greater Things for Greater Boston*
 - Weekend gathering of 50+ ministry & workplace leaders
 - New initiative: The Boston Collaborative, a missional workplace network
 - A 2nd Generation Steering Team of emerging urban leaders is rising up
- Ministry staff transitions
 - Andrew Breton – Pastor of Staff Development
 - Taylor Graffum – Middle School Director, Lexington
 - Kurt Drescher – Pastor of Stewardship, will start this summer
 - Judi Gale (Controller) -- Resigned
 - Mike Powell – FIRE/Contemporary Worship, Lexington
 - Erin Martin – Creative Arts Director/Worship, Watertown
 - Bill Burke – transitional year (will be scaling back throughout the calendar year)

Pastor Bryan expressed gratitude to Bill Burke for his ongoing service, to the elder board for their leadership, and to the congregation for serving together and being a welcoming church.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Troy Stanfield presented the Treasurer's Report. We are blessed as a church; we continue to see growth in annual giving, including almost 5% growth this year. Our debt continues to decrease. Even with the addition of new staff and facilities, we were able to pay down another \$335,000 of mortgage principal. The proposed FY19 budget includes a 3% increase in annual giving. The three largest budget items are ministry, missions and buildings.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT – Cynthia Fantasia and Priscilla Seuss presented the Nominat-

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Board of Elders Class of 2022 (four-year term)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jimmy Su, Lexington (returning Elder)• Sandy Shen, East Lexington• Rob Stutzman, Lexington• Audit Committee (one-year term)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eric Bergstrom• Renato Zeppi• Russ Ayan | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moderator (one-year term)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amy Warfield• Nominating Committee (one-year term)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Susan Corbett, Lexington• Bonnie Doremux, Wilmington• Craig Lillehei, Watertown• John Dorr, Wilmington• Clerk (one-year term)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sandy Smith |
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QUESTIONS & ANSWERS – Cynthia Parker moderated a time of Q & A, reminding campus pastors at the satellite campuses to text questions to Bill.

1. **What are the plans for expansion at the Wilmington campus?** Wilmington is at capacity and needs more space for worship, Kidstown and student ministries. A feasibility study has been done. Some money was raised through the NEXT initiative. The church will look to raise additional funds through a new generosity initiative next year.
2. **Are there plans for another all-church Sunday?** The idea is discussed often, but there are no plans yet. Challenges include finding an ideal location, cost and date. In the meantime, the congregation is encouraged to attend other all-church events (worship nights, Ash Wednesday, etc.).
3. **Membership counts show a recent 15% decrease. Are we tracking why people are moving on?** Over the past year, the membership database was “cleaned up,” with inactive records being removed. So, it’s not truly a 15% decrease over a year; instead, a new, more accurate baseline.
4. **We’re expanding campuses, but membership and attendance numbers haven’t increased. Do we know why?** Churches like ours are also seeing flat or declining attendance. It’s possible that more people are watching online, or it may be due to lifestyle changes, e.g., people who used to attend each week now only attend 1-2 times a month. Grace Chapel continues to be missional/strategic about encouraging people to come consistently. To help encourage commitment, a new membership process has also been implemented this year, led by Cynthia Fantasia. We’ve welcomed 112 new members since January.
5. **How does Grace Chapel plan for years of lower giving (e.g., an economic downturn)?** Both our giving forecasting and cost estimates are always very conservative. Outside auditing provides comparison of other peer churches for our review. We also have cash reserves in place each year that exceed benchmark recommendations.
6. **How can we extend ministries such as SHINE or CR to other campuses?** We’re not necessarily trying to replicate each ministry on each campus, as some of these require significant infrastructure. We don’t want to overreach until if/when it would be sustainable.
7. **Is the proposed budget increase 2%, as is it says in the printed statement in the annual report, or 3%, as Troy mentioned?** The 3% that Troy mentioned, a number that comes from the Finance Committee, includes more than what is in the treasurer’s report.

8. **Why don't we have more calls for invitations/commitment at the end of services?** Most decisions to follow Christ aren't made on Sunday mornings, rather at retreats, Alpha class, or other non-Sunday events. Even so, each teaching series has a commitment Sunday built into it, with a call for commitment based on the series topic.
9. **What is Pastor Bryan's vision for the next 10 years?** Roll out a fresh vision next year, including upgrades on campuses. Continue to be a mobilizing church, going out into the community, bringing the gospel to people rather than waiting for them to come here. Continue to drive missional mindset (in addition to offering quality Sunday experience at the church). Address challenges of every stage of family life, be it marriage, parenting, next gen, aging, etc.
10. **What is our digital strategy for connecting to people who engage only online, through online sermons or Social Media?** The conversation has begun for some type of online community, but it needs to be sustainable before committing to it.

CLOSING – Cynthia Parker closed the meeting with prayer at 1:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Smith, Clerk