

AND YET...

Early in 2020, the tornado ripped through our East Nashville neighborhood wrecking devastation on our neighbors' homes and businesses. And just weeks later, the pandemic numbers had increased to the point at such that Woodland (and almost every other church in the city) suspended in-person worship. And yet...

The resilient saints of Woodland have remained rooted in worship, witness, and life together. 2020 has not been the year we expected, but we have held to each other and continued, amazingly, to move forward in a time when it felt like the winds of circumstance were against us. As we move into 2021, this annual report provides a picture of our Woodland family in order to help those who contribute so generously know how their gifts are being invested.



2020 IN REVIEW

- Developed new ways to foster community and worship during COVID-19.
- Increased our digital footprint in sustainable ways.
- Welcomed two seminary interns to the East Nashville Training Hub.
- Launched “Lean In” ministry to focus on our “Matthew 25” and “More Light” commitments.
- Gathered in a service of lament around issues of racial injustice.
- Welcomed 8 new Members to our church family.
- Welcomed over 210 first time visitors to our worship services.

WORSHIP

Despite the disruption of 2020, worship remains vital to our life and work. To that end, we invest 34% of our annual budget in worship, innovating new ways of sustaining a worship life that holds us together in community:

- Developing the Woodland tradition of the “Virtual Passing of the Peace.”
- Enjoying preaching from inspiring pastors, many of whom would only have been available virtually
- Uploading our worship services on YouTube
- Establishing “The Hope Dispensary” Instagram page to ground Woodland as a beacon of viral hope
- Hosting Zoom discussions about the Bible, books, and movies. Creating a church-wide GroupMe
- Training, commissioning, and welcoming the leadership of young adults in the East Nashville Training Hub who preach, prepare liturgy, print bulletins, lead in-depth book studies, and care for the day-to-day management of our building.

In 2020, we also welcomed the irrepressible Jo Schornikow as our Music Coordinator. She has creatively experimented with the best ways of providing virtual worship music and has introduced us to a delightful array of Nashville musicians to join us in worship leadership.



An inclusive community of faith

210

first time visitors were welcomed to the worship of Woodland

FUFILLING OUR MISSION

Nourishing the body and soul of those within our church and our community is a vital component of Woodland, and we devoted 14% of our 2020 budget doing just that.

Even though most of the year was marked by a global pandemic, we were also able to provide meals, refreshments, and community during special events like:

- Saturday Suppers
- Room in the Inn
- Our rebuilding disaster relief work days.



COMMUNITY BEACON

In addition to providing a space for the Woodland family as a base for worship, fellowship, and service, our building has become an important Third Place for our neighbors. It is not surprising that almost 34% of our budget is devoted to ensuring Woodland is a fixture within our community:

- We welcomed a new local Boy Scout troop to the Woodland family.
- We continued our partnerships with Ashtanga yoga studio, Eastminster Presbyterian Church, and El Jardin preschool.
- We have provided a home base for 8 different recovery groups, a number of which are just beginning to find ways to gather again in person.

SPOTLIGHT MOMENT

"As a kid you're always asked the question, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" I never really had an answer then and I'm still not sure I do today. But what I am sure of is that my journey with Woodland and the training hub has been God nudging me towards whatever greatness lies ahead. This community has allowed me to grow in every aspect of life - personally, professionally, and spiritually. I am forever grateful for skills I have learned and the family I have gained.

-Sara Staats
Communication Coordinator
East Nashville Hub Member

KEEPING OUR PROMISES

Almost 18% of our total expenses in 2020 were dedicated to faithfully honoring our financial obligations, including making timely payments on our capital fund loan, consistently contributing to presbytery, and promptly paying those who have aided us in responding to natural disasters.



2020 at a Glance

- Facilities: \$41,028.49
- Personnel: \$39,605
- Loan Payment: \$12,450.83
- Program | Administration: \$17,278.70
- Presbytery Contribution: \$4,800
- Disaster Relief \$4,294.66
- Received a generous one time \$50,000 capital campaign gift and a \$78,400 SBA loan
- Created a "Flourish" interest earning investment account.

STEPS IN 2021

Woodland 2021 BUDGET

Anticipated Income

- Regular Giving.....\$98,100
- Building Fund: Paying Down Loan.....\$15,000
- Space Sharing.....\$44,650

TOTAL Income.....\$157,750

Anticipated Expenses

- Personnel.....\$60,260
- Program Budget.....\$11,750
- Facilities.....\$49,200
- Finance & Admin..... \$17,640
- Presbytery Commitment: \$5,400
- Loan Payment: \$13,500

TOTAL Expenses.....\$157,750

You can participate in this year's stewardship effort online or by completing a 2021 pledge card, available online at <https://woodlandnash.org/2021commitment/>