As we gather to celebrate the ministries of the past year and the ways in which God has worked in our midst, I am grateful for the opportunity to serve such a faithful and loving congregation as Pastor of Administration! For the past twelve years, I have been blessed to share with you in God’s work in Santa Barbara, and I continue to be thankful for the care and support which this church provides, allowing me to serve you more fully. It is a joy to share in the pastoral care of this congregation through visitation and preaching.

Administration

- Our property and finance board is very responsible and takes great care to ensure that our financial practices and our decisions are wise and responsible.
  - They worked carefully last year to oversee the church finances during COVID-19, and I am pleased to be able to report that we ended the fiscal year in the black.
  - They approved several large maintenance projects last year:
    - Painting the lower level inside of the church and office building
    - Repainting Millie’s house,
    - Replacing our backflow
    - Installing Earthquake safety film on all of the windows where children/youth are present
- Our administrative staff have organized and blessed the church this year.
- Maddy Schulte has capably taken over communications for the church, keeping our website, social media, and print communications up-to-date and consistent. She has also edited a lot of video footage during COVID-19, helping us continue to worship and learn from a distance.
- Cara Emerson has continued as our Administrative Assistant, working on a wide variety of projects varying from volunteer coordination to making sure we all have the Sunday bulletin each week.
- Ron Inman continues as our Bookkeeper, ensuring donations, bills, and student payments are all processed correctly.
- Allison Smelley has continued to provide a few additional bookkeeping hours each week for specific projects and monthly bookkeeping tasks.
- Phil Guenthart has continued in his role managing our property maintenance. He does amazing work helping us research maintenance for decisions and completing a wide variety of tasks.

Cliff Drive Care Center

- Jenny Yznaga continues to capably direct our children’s programs, guiding our staff, students, and families through the difficult times of COVID-19.
- Our teaching staff has transitioned well to the new procedures necessary for COVID-19 and are working hard to make sure our students still have a positive experience, develop friendships, and learn the academic, social, and emotional skills to be successful in the rest of their schooling.
• Our Cliff Drive Care Center board has been working diligently to expand our children’s programs to include children under the age of 2. The construction has been completed, and the team is now working on the many additional tasks which must be completed prior to opening.

• We have finally received approval for the permit for the playground replacement. The construction is scheduled to begin this spring.

• After closing for three months at the beginning of the pandemic, the preschool reopened with reduced enrollment in the summer. We opened our capacity back to full enrollment in the fall and once again have full classes of bustling children every day.

• We transitioned our after school program to a full day care program assisting elementary school students with their zoom school classes and independent work. This program has been vital to our families and challenging as we coordinated 32 students in three school districts and 10 different schools.

• We transitioned our full day remote school program to a hybrid full day/after school program with the return of elementary schools to a hybrid model on March 1.

• We are looking forward to summer camp again this summer with students already enrolled. The program will be modified for COVID-19, but we look forward to providing care and connection for our students, as well as time outdoors.

• We have welcomed several new staff members. Lily Wiley is in our second prekindergarten class. Miguel Portagal Barron and Ryan Marden have joined our school age students. We also brought Kolap Denueville on board as a substitute teacher.

I ask that you would thank God with me for the ways he has blessed the administrative and Cliff Drive ministries of the church. Please also pray for wisdom to address whatever challenges we will face in the coming year, asking God to bring his solutions to light and to help us reach into Santa Barbara with his love.