



ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

“Belong • Believe • Become”



**The Church of the Good Shepherd
Rocky Mount, North Carolina**

Sunday, February 3, 2008

2007 ANNUAL REPORTS

Table of Contents

Administration Commission Report	Page 1
Christian Education Commission Report	Page 2
Congregational Development Report	Page 3, 4
Day School Commission Report	Pages 5, 6 ,7
Finance Committee Report	Pages 8
2008 Budget	Page 9, 10
Music at Good Shepherd Program Report	Page 11, 12
Outreach Commission Report	Pages 13, 14, 15
Parish Life Commission Report	Page 16
Pastoral Care Commission Report	Pages 17, 18
Stewardship Commission Report	Page 19
Stewardship Trust Report	Page 20
Worship Commission Report	Page 21, 22

**Administration/Buildings and Grounds Commission
2007 Accomplishments**

- Celtic cross and iron gates with panels were installed in columbarium, given by Boo White, in memory of Bob White.
- Electric carillon was installed in Bell Tower, given by Nancy Thorp, in memory of Lewis Thorp.
- Parking lot landscaping was completed.
- Brick wall at entrance to Parish Hall was repaired.
- Two new bathrooms have been constructed in the Day School.
- Carpet in Parish Hall and Nave have been cleaned.
- Security system with keypads has been installed at entrance to Parrish Hall and Day School access to play ground.
- The main roof of the 1924 building is in serious need of replacement; leaks occur with almost every rain we have
- Stephen Anderson and John Bonner continue to work countless hours at the church on various projects; their skills and generosity are greatly appreciated.

Christian Education Annual Report 2006

The Christian Education Commission continues its goal of offering classes and forums that focuses on theology, bible, current events and opportunities for mission.

We began the year with a series of open forums to look at the places where faith and society intersect. These forums helped us to explore the place of faith in the context of current challenges to modern society. The forums covered the following topics:

The Separation of Church and State
The American Health Care Crisis
Immigration and the Way of Jesus
Punishment and the Way of Jesus
The Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion
The Millennium Development Goals

These forums were followed by a three-week series led by our own Lawrence Goering on the place of music in the life of faith. The series was titled, A Window into Heaven: The Spirituality of Music. Lawrence led the group through the wide ranging ways in which music is a means of our relationship with God.

The following Sunday was an inter-generational opportunity for families to come together and prepare for the season of Advent through an Advent Wreath Making Workshop.

Lastly, the Vestry held a church-wide forum to share with the congregation their priorities and challenges in the past year and in the coming year.

In January of 2008 the Rector led a series of forums that focused on the theological and biblical themes of the season of Epiphany. There was also a special presentation from the area coordinator of Stop Hunger Now:

The Wise Men: Who Were They?
Baptism: Jesus and God
Baptism: Jesus and Us
Stop Hunger Now: A Parish Commitment

During the season of Lent, Judy Clayton will lead a study on the Gospel of John and the particular signs that John offers in his gospel that point us to Jesus as the chosen one of God.

Our Wednesday Evening program in Lent will be led by The Rev. Dr. Mickey Efirid, professor of bible studies at Duke Divinity School.

Our year will conclude with additional opportunities for study and with forums to deepen our faith.

Meanwhile we begin to look forward to our 2008/2009 seasons. Our prayer is to continue our goal of providing both biblical, theological and discipleship offerings. We also hope to secure a trained theologian for at least one semester during the year and for our Lenten evening series

Congregational Development Commission Annual Report 2007

The Congregational Development Commission educates the congregation on the importance of being a welcoming body and oversees ministries that will attract, nurture and incorporate new members. Our mission is also evangelism. We are trying to develop our congregation by making our church more welcoming to continuing members as well as newcomers. In addition, we want to make sure that Good Shepherd is known in the community.

Our goals for 2007 were to:

- Evaluate the location and appearance of exterior and interior church signs as well as visibility, legibility and condition
- Revise the visitor response card
- Create a welcome brochure
- Update the newcomer bags
- Work as a liaison with the Vestry to host the Magnetic Church Conference weekend at our church
- Update website using ACS
- Create new bumper/window stickers
- Establish greeters for the 9:00 and 11:00 services
- Online time and talent survey
- Establish picture and informational bulletin boards

The commission worked very hard in 2007 with many items on our agenda. The first six months were spent updating the newcomer bags, surveying our property for exterior and interior signage, discussing the possibility of adding bulletins boards, becoming familiar with the website using ACS, and media review.

The newcomer bags have been updated to include a Good Shepherd Church and Day School notebook with pen and a tape measure with either a telephone number of the church and/or the church website and the insertion of a welcome brochure. This is in addition to the existing church DVD, sample bulletin, brochures on different commissions, music at Good Shepherd brochures, and the Time and Talent Sheet.

For signage, the exterior wind damaged sign has been restored and a new summer sign added. Interior signage has been added to indicate the parlor, library, parish hall, kitchen, library, offices, nursery, Day School and for the Sunday School area. Banners have been added outside for special events. ACS Training was given to the commission members by Sheryll and Scott in March so that commission heads can go into a small group section to send e-mails, print mailing labels or to print an on-line directory. Others will be able to use this database to sign up for available sections such as Foyer groups, Flower Guild, Pastors' aids, etc. In addition, the Large-Print Ministry to help the visually impaired has been ordered and printed and is available in the Narthex.

The second half of the year was spent primarily on the preparation needed to host the Magnetic Church weekend in September with Andy Weeks. We also revised the pew card, created a welcome brochure, created new bumper/window stickers, discussed how to develop bulletin boards, and how to add better exterior signage.

The pew card has been revised to make the card easier for visitors to read, comprehend, and complete. More information has been added to describe our three services and to get the visitor to check information of interest. Hosting the Magnetic Church weekend was a major project for our commission, which included developing subcommittees for preparing the food, marketing to internal and external participants, getting chairs, backup equipment, staffing and all the participant materials ready for a two-day conference.

New round bumper and window stickers were created and will be on sale to parishioners soon and our welcome brochure has been finalized. Preparation is in the works to design and build new bulletin boards, one with pictures of those with leadership positions and one holding commission brochures and other matters of interest.

More work is also underway concerning exterior signage.

Next year will be spent on trying to establish a greeting ministry for the 9:00 and 11:00 services, reviewing the time and talent sheet, designing and completing the bulletin boards, working with the city and others to find ways to better enhance our exterior signage, and developing a process for tracking newcomers..

Those who are interested in joining this exciting ministry are encouraged to contact Janie Johnson at johnson332@embarqmail.com.

Day School Commission Annual Report 2007

In a tradition that begun 51 years ago, the Good Shepherd Day School continues providing quality, full day care to families in the Rocky Mount and surrounding areas. At capacity our program now serves 50 children between the ages of 6 weeks and kindergarten. We recently were re-licensed by the state Division of Child Development under the North Carolina Star Rated License system and were awarded a “4 Star Rating” out of a “5 Star” system. Congratulations to our staff who work so hard each day to make this happen!

Highlights 2007

What had previously been used as a “break/resource” room for staff on the 2nd floor was cleaned out, painted, fitted with new lighting, furnished, and now is a new classroom that is bright, cheery, and full of educational toys, equipment, and children.

A new bathroom has been added upstairs between the first two classrooms on the left side of the hall at the top of the stairs. Each classroom has direct access to this bathroom so children do not have to go out of the classroom to use the bathroom.

A child’s size sink was installed in each of these classrooms as well so children can now wash their hands more often during the day without having to line up and go down the hall to the old existing bathroom to do so. The bathroom also has its own sink.

One of these two classrooms was completely repainted after the construction job was completed.

On the opposite side of the hall (hallway next to the Sunday School Wing), a door was cut through the wall of the existing classroom into the existing bathroom so children could go directly into the bathroom. This leaves us with only one classroom that does not have direct access to a bathroom.

Many thanks to D.J. Rose Construction Co., Dillon, and Dillon, Jr. for a job well done!! They worked around the children’s schedule, were neat and quiet when necessary and the completed project was on target, exactly what we wanted and could afford. Thank you. And thank you to those parishioners and parents who contributed funds and volunteered hours and hours to move furniture, clean out, clean up, and paint.

With the grant awarded us by the Down East Partnership for Children, we were able to completely furnish and outfit a new toddler room downstairs allowing us to take 5 additional toddlers. The furniture and equipment in the old room was moved upstairs into the “new” classroom.

We are grateful for the many ways our parents share their talents and time with us. Our newsletter is produced by a parent each month. They help with fundraising, serve on the Day School Commission, have work days where they come to the school and clean, paint, volunteer for field trips, as well as help teachers with little projects in the classrooms as they arise. If a “need” is posted and a parent is able to fulfill that request or at least assist in “making it happen”, our parents always try to go that extra step!

We now have all of the parents on the draft system for tuition payments except for our scholarship students. This will facilitate the paperwork for our Day School staff as well as for the church staff. Because of the way the scholarship payments are made, it is not feasible at this time to put them on a draft system.

We have completed a revision of our Parent Handbook. New copies are being printed and will be given to parents.

Upcoming 2008

We plan to hold two seminars for parents during 2008:

* “What parents should expect when their children move from the toddler to the preschool rooms/ preschool to kindergarten”

*Not determined yet

We currently have 3 staff going to school with 80% of the funding for this supplemented by TEACH scholarship program.

We are constantly exploring ways to make health and other benefits more affordable for our staff. This continues to be the hardest challenge we face as a commission year after year.

Later this year, as part of our on-going pursuit of excellence, we will become actively involved in the “self-study” phase of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). This is the first step of a 4 step process that will look at our program to determine if it meets the “

10 Standards of High Quality Early Childhood Education” listed below:

- Promote positive relationships for all children and adults to encourage each child’s sense of individual worth.
- Implement a curriculum that fosters all areas of child development: cognitive, emotional, language, physical, and social
- Uses developmentally, culturally, and linguistically appropriate and effective teaching approaches.
- Provide ongoing assessments of a child’s learning and development and communicate the child’s progress to the family.
- Promote the nutrition and health of children and protect children and staff from injury and illness.
- Employ a teaching staff that has the educational qualifications, knowledge, and professional commitment necessary to promote children’s learning and development and to support families’ diverse needs and interests.
- Establish and maintain collaborative relationships with each child’s family

- Establish relationships with and use the resources of the community to support the achievement of program goals.
- Provide a safe and healthy physical environment.
- Implement strong personnel, fiscal, and program management policies so that children, families, and staff have high-quality experiences.

There are 400 criteria to prove that a program meets the NAEYC standard. That's 80% of the criteria to meet standards. It's a lot of hard work, dedication, and commitment by the Day School staff as well as our church staff. It also takes the nurture and support of our Day School Commission and Vestry. We are extremely grateful for their commitment to our program as an outreach ministry and the encouragement they give in support of our mission.

If you have an interest in serving on the Day School Commission, volunteering in our Day School program, or know of someone needing full day childcare, please contact Alice Thorp at 937-7717 or via email bing78@suddenlink.net.

Finance Committee Annual Report – 2007

The Finance Committee is appointed by the Vestry. The current members are Flo Alston, (Convener), Winston Lea, Louis Weeks, (Treasurer), Virginia Grochowski, (Assistant Treasurer) and Bill Bullock, (Vestry Liaison). Mary Ann Crawford, Parish Bookkeeper and Sheryll Barnes, Administrative Secretary assist the Committee.

2007 Budget as compared to 2007 Actual:

Total actual revenues were approximately \$40,000 *less* than total budgeted revenues in 2007.

The good news is that a substantial portion of the deficiency represents a reduction in the amount the General Fund needed to utilize from other church reserve funds. The Vestry raised the \$10,000 that was budgeted as Operations Fundraiser, but the funds were not needed to cover 2007 operating expenses and are in reserve. The same is true for Stewardship endowment income transfers. Of the \$57,000 budgeted, \$45,000 was needed to cover 2007 expenses, so \$12,000 is in reserve for future years.

New asset management procedures implemented in 2007, including the drafting program for pledges, resulted in *increased* expected revenues of over \$5,000.

Total tithes and offerings were under budget by \$12,003, not including pledges restricted by parishioners for use in other funds which totaled \$13,000.

2007 actual expenditures were *under* budget by \$41,199, primarily from personnel expenses not incurred for the new Assistant Rector, who will begin in mid 2008.

Budget Process:

The Church's annual operating budget is based on analyses of operating and program support expenses and requests submitted to the Finance Committee by each Commission. Personnel staffing and compensation requests are submitted by the Vestry. The Finance Committee then prepares a proposed budget to present to the Vestry for review and approval. The Vestry approved the 2008 operating budget at its January 15, 2008 meeting.

2006 Audit

An audit of the 2006 financial statements of the Church and the Day School was conducted by an independent CPA firm during 2007. They issued a clean unqualified opinion on the financial statements, which is the best opinion possible. Copies of their report are available upon request.

The Church of The Good Shepherd - 2007 Budget to Actual

REVENUES – 2007	2007 Budget	2007 Actual
Tithes and Offerings		
2007 Pledges	400,079	385,274
Prior Year Pledges	4,000	0
General Fund Unpledged	22,000	30,973
Plate Offerings	11,000	8,795
Miscellaneous	3,500	3,535
Total Tithes and Offerings	440,579	428,576
Less: Restricted Pledges	0	(13,000)
Total Tithes and Offerings to General Fund	440,579	415,576
Other Revenues		
Book Shop & Reimbursements	1,000	416
Operations Fundraiser	10,000	0
Special Offerings	0	1,035
Donations to Jenkins Fund	0	1,000
Interest Income	0	5,151
Total Other Revenues	11,000	7,603
Transfers from Other Funds		
Endowment Income Received	57,000	57,000
Less: Amount available for future years	0	(12,000)
Endowment Income Transfers to General Fund	57,000	45,000
TOTAL REVENUES	508,579	468,178

EXPENDITURES - 2007

Personnel Expenses	316,000	261,474
Less: Day School reimbursement	(12,000)	(12,000)
Net Personnel	304,000	249,474
Church Commissions		
Buildings and Grounds	20,000	20,732
Christian Education	2,500	2,851
Worship	11,100	10,328
Parish Life	1,000	2,458
Stewardship	2,000	800
Outreach	13,500	13,487
Pastoral Care	-	61
Congregational Development	1,500	2,953
Total Church Commissions	51,600	53,670
Operating/ Program Support		
Insurance	24,700	26,755
Utilities	48,200	44,245
Telephone	7,000	6,012
Solid Waste/Recycling	1,500	1,755
Audit Fees	0	5,760
Vestry Retreat & Convention	1,150	2,482
Advertising	2,500	3,034
Office Expenses and Equipment	16,650	21,529
Miscellaneous Expenses	1,006	2,389
Total Operating/ Program Support	102,706	113,960
Less: Day School reimbursements	(20,570)	(20,570)
Net Operating/ Program Support	82,136	93,390
Diocesan Asking (100%)	70,843	70,843
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	508,579	467,377
<i>Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>801</i>

The Church of the Good Shepherd – 2008 Budget

REVENUES - 2008

Tithes and Offerings	
2008 Pledges	396,416
Prior Year Pledges	0
General Fund Unpledged	31,000
Plate Offerings	8,800
Miscellaneous	3,600
Total Tithes and Offerings	439,816
Less: Restricted Pledges	(15,483)
Total Tithes and Offerings to General Fund	424,333
Other Revenues	
Book Shop & Reimbursements	500
Operations Fundraiser	0
Special Offerings	1,100
Donations to Jenkins Fund	1,000
Interest Income	5,200
Total Other Revenues	7,800
Transfers from Other Funds	
Endowment Income Received	57,000
Add: Prior Year Reserves	10,072
Endowment Income Transfers to General Fund	67,072
Transfer from Other Funds	5,000
Total Transfers from Other Funds	72,072
TOTAL REVENUES	504,205

EXPENDITURES – 2008

Personnel Expenses	297,105
Less: Day School reimbursement	(12,400)
Net Personnel	284,705
Church Commissions	
Buildings and Grounds	21,000
Christian Education	3,000
Worship	13,800
Parish Life	3,000
Stewardship	2,250
Outreach	11,800
Pastoral Care	500
Congregational Development	1,000
Total Church Commissions	56,350
Operating/ Program Support	
Insurance	28,000
Utilities	44,300
Telephone	6,100
Solid Waste/Recycling	1,800
Audit Fees	5,800
Vestry Retreat & Convention	1,250
Advertising	3,000
Office Expenses and Equipment	20,500
Miscellaneous Expenses	1,900
Total Operating/ Program Support	112,650
Less: Day School reimbursements	(21,700)
Net Operating/ Program Support	90,950
Diocesan Asking (100%)	72,200
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	504,205
<i>Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures</i>	<i>0</i>

Good Shepherd's Music Program, 2007

More than fifty parishioners make musical offerings as members of the Cherub Choir, the Alleluia Choir, the Good Shepherd Choir and the Good Shepherd Funeral Choir—with an age span of seventy-nine years among participants. The Cherub, Alleluia and Good Shepherd choirs rehearse weekly September through May and the Good Shepherd Choir maintains a lighter rehearsal schedule throughout the summer months.

We always welcome new members in any of our choirs. To join a choir, call Lawrence Goering at 442-1134, or simply attend a rehearsal.

The **Cherub Choir** is open to all children four years old through first grade and rehearses on Wednesdays from 4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. This choir sings in worship several times each year and at the Mother's Day Dinner Theatre. Fellowship and refreshments follow each rehearsal.

The **Alleluia Choir** is open to all children in second through sixth grades (first grade with excellent reading ability) and rehearses on Wednesdays from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. This choir sings in worship about fifteen times each year and at the Mother's Day Dinner Theatre. Fellowship and refreshments follow each rehearsal.

The **Good Shepherd Choir** is open to adults and high school students. This choir rehearses on Wednesdays from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and on Sunday mornings at 10:15 a.m. and sings at the 11:00 a.m. service each week. During the summer, the choir rehearses on Sunday mornings prior to the service. The choir also sings at additional services throughout the year such as Thanksgiving, Lessons and Carols, Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Choral Evensongs.

The **Good Shepherd Funeral Choir** is open to adults who are interested in helping lead hymns and service music at funerals. The choir usually rehearses for twenty to thirty minutes about an hour prior to funeral services.

Music At Good Shepherd is a series of special services and concerts offered throughout the year. The series is supported by **The Friends Of Music At Good Shepherd**—a group that has grown to seventy-nine members. During the past several years, highlights of the series have included evensongs sung by the Good Shepherd Choir, the annual Service of Nine Lessons and Carols sung by the Alleluia and Good Shepherd choirs, the annual Mother's Day Dinner Theatre, the Rocky Mount Flute Choir, the Adult Chorus of Rochester Cathedral (England), the Tar River String Quartet, the premiere of our newly commissioned musical *A Song Of Saints* by our children and youth, St. Augustine's College Choir, the choir of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Greenville, award-winning soprano Dorothea Taylor in *The History of the Negro Spiritual*, internationally renowned organist Dorothy Papadakos, the Carolina Brass, and classical guitarist Gordon Kreplin. The 2007-2008 series has included concerts by teenage prodigy Juilliard students Yeeren and Yeeray Low and the New Century Saxophone Quartet and continues with a concert by Maureen Kroncke and Lawrence Goering, an organ recital by East Carolina University students before their organ study tour of Germany, an evensong, and the Mother's Day Dinner Theatre. At the 2006 and 2007 services of Nine Lessons and Carols, the offering was designated to fund need-based scholarships for members of the Tar River Children's Chorus. The 2006 offering

provided eight scholarships and the 2007 offering will provide as many as thirteen scholarships.

The generous sharing of time, talent, and treasure by many parishioners makes our music program possible. In addition to those who are members of the choirs and the friends' organization, others contribute by playing instruments in worship, helping publicize musical events, providing refreshments and dinners after choir rehearsals, and providing receptions after musical events.

Every member of the Congregation is a part of the music program through the singing of hymns, psalms, and service music. Thanks to all who help us sing God's praise at Good Shepherd.

“When in our music God is glorified,
and adoration leaves no room for pride,
it is as though the whole creation cried Alleluia!”

- F. Pratt Green
(Hymnal, #420)

Outreach Commission 2007

For the year 2007, the Outreach has tried to adopt the eight Millennium Goals of the National Church. As we enhance or add programs we will categorize within these national goals National Church's Millennium Goals.

Current Activities: Below are the programs/activities that are related to the eight national goals.

Millennium Goals	The Church of the Good Shepherd Programs/Activities
1. Poverty and Hunger	Meals-on-Wheels Community Kitchen Bassett Center Souper Bowl Thanksgiving Offering Sunday "pantry" collections Christmas Stars Christmas Offering
2. Primary Education	Day School Liaison with Smart Start
3. Empowering Women	My Sister's House Support Lex Mathews Scholarship Tuition Aide a financial support of Katrina family
4. Child Mortality	Pharmacy Assistance Katrina assistance
5. Maternal Health	Pharmacy Assistance Katrina Assistance
6. HIV/AIDS	Pharmacy Assistance
7. Environmental Sustainability	Coffee Sales (Shade grown, Organic, Fair-trade)
8. Global Development	Costa Rica Service Projects Coffee Sales (Shade grown, Organic, Fair-trade) Operation Christmas (4,825 Shoe boxes distributed)

Future Activities: The Commission is currently working very hard to put together several hands on activities that will allow us to become more actively involved in our outreach. The hope is that these upcoming activities will develop into new sustaining programs as well as increase our Outreach Commission membership and level of activity. The Commission will continue to examine the Millennium Development Goals in light of our community's needs. Specifically, we look at existing community programs to see how the Church and its members may become more active in promoting the health and well being of families in our area.

Good Shepherd Outreach has a wide variety of programs geared to reaching out to our community and we welcome new volunteers. Call the church office to find out more or visit our website, www.goodshepherdrmt.org.

Souper Bowl- Our young people demonstrate God's love by loving their neighbors through the "Souper Bowl of Caring". It's a simple, yet significant act of caring for

others. They collect money in soup pots as parishioners leave worship on Super Bowl Sunday.

Thanksgiving Food Drive- Each Thanksgiving we give thanks for all our blessings by asking parishioners to provide a Thanksgiving dinner and all the fixings to a family of four in need.

Christmas Stars - The Christmas Star Program is an Outreach project that was designed to help children and adults in and around Rocky Mount who are less fortunate have a Merry Christmas. Our gifts are given to families who are enrolled in the Bassett Center program or through Department of Social Services.

Flood Relief/Red Cross - As an outgrowth of our Hurricane Katrina efforts, plans are underway to establish ongoing relief for individuals and families that receive help from the local Red Cross chapter. The details of our involvement are still emerging.

Operation Christmas Child - Our church is an area collection site for these shoeboxes that contain toys, games, and personal items for overseas youngsters. Volunteers are needed to repackage and organize shoeboxes into shipping boxes as they are brought to the church in mid-November. There is heavy and light work; teenagers are welcome in the afternoon.

Pharmacy Assistance Program - References to our elderly having to "choose" between buying food and buying medicine is not an exaggeration! Good Shepherd, with several other churches, are creating and staffing a Prescription Search Volunteer Service Center in Rocky Mount. Volunteers will be trained to help local elderly people access discount cards and other programs to reduce their cost of medication. Time commitment is a minimum of one four-hour afternoon a month at the Volunteer Service Center.

Meals on Wheels - This program provides a hot noon meal to those who are homebound and need nutritional help in order to stay at home. Volunteers are asked to deliver a route once a month on either the third Monday or Tuesday, at 10:30AM. The routes usually take about 45 minutes to an hour. High school and college-aged drivers are needed during the summer as substitutes.

Habitat for Humanity Our church has been involved in building four houses in Rocky Mount. Habitat is an effort for people of faith to put their faith into action to help eliminate substandard housing. Currently, there is not a Good Shepherd house under construction. There is still however, a need for volunteers to help with Habitat work in Rocky Mount. We need a Good Shepherd coordinator and volunteers.

Migrant Ministry - There have been several projects to assist migrants in our area. At present we are assisting with migrant students in Nash County. There is a great need for additional help. Volunteers are needed to identify and coordinate our church's effort to reach out to the migrants in Rocky Mount.

Community Shelter Soup Kitchen - Volunteers serve meals at UCM's Community Kitchen Monday -Saturday, 10:30 to 11:30 and Sunday, 1:00-2:00. In the Pantry, volunteers stock, label and prepare food boxes. Both jobs are especially suited for families with children. We collect supplies for the kitchen at our services.

Literacy Assistance Project - There is a real need for people who are willing to teach adults to read. This project is not yet established at Good Shepherd. Although considerable research has been done regarding the organization of this program, we need a coordinator and volunteers to start the program.

Bassett Center-House the Children - This transitional home for single-parent families has an urgent and immediate need for volunteers to help with childcare, crafts, homework and tutoring. Help is also needed in the following areas: general maintenance/landscaping, general office work and in the computer lab; help with chapel services and Bible studies for all ages; and kitchen help on Fridays 8:30 am-10:00 am for Senior Breakfast.

Narcotics Anonymous - We provide support to this organization by letting NA use the Good Shepherd basement.

My Sister's House - This program provides outreach and shelter services for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. There are volunteer opportunities for helping with children, helping in the retail shop, "A Second Season", or helping to improve the facility by painting or doing repairs.

Parish Life Commission - 2007

The Parish Life Commission once again had a busy year. Our commission made Foyers Groups assignments, hosted a Mardi Gras family dinner, coordinated the Lenten dinners, set up the Easter Egg Hunt with eggs provided by the ECW members and other parishioners, provided a birthday cake during Coffee Hour on Pentecost, hosted the annual Picnic and Carnival on rally day, as well as provided a reception after the confirmation service with Bishop Gregg. Our group is also responsible for Coffee Hour after each Sunday morning service.

The most pressing need for the Parish Life Commission is Coffee Hour volunteers. We need additional volunteers to bake cookies (this can be done at your convenience at the church and 12 dozen cookies can be baked at the time with our convection oven!), volunteers to do the preliminary Coffee Hour set up on Friday or Saturday, as well as additional volunteers to serve as Coffee Hour hosts. Coffee Hour hosts replenish coffee, lemonade and cookies. The 11:00 hosts are responsible for cleaning up. None of these tasks are hard, and training will be provided for new volunteers. You may call the church office to volunteer or ask questions, and your name will be forwarded to the appropriate person for training or to answer your questions.

Pastoral Care Commission Annual Report - 2007

Our Mission:

The Pastoral Care Commission of the Church of the Good Shepherd is a ministry of caring for one another. This is carried out by the clergy and a number of lay ministries. These pastoral ministries are intended to provide comfort, love, and support for those who are homebound, suffering from illness, mourning the death of a loved one, recovering from childbirth, or in any way unable to partake fully of our communal life together.

History:

The formation of the Pastoral Care Commission was called for by our rector, Scott White, at his first annual meeting in December, 2004. Judy Clayton and Susan Brooks were appointed Co-Conveners of this new commission and are continuing to serve in this capacity. Current members are Laurie Ezzell, Deborah Burnette, Boo White, Judy Kornegay, Nancy Ferguson, our Vestry Liaison, Louise Anderson, our Deacon, and Scott White, our priest.

Current ministries within this commission are:

Daily Prayers – coordinated by Sheryll Barnes

Clergy Visitation – Scott White and Louise Anderson

Sage Ministry – coordinated by Judy Clayton

Flower Delivery Ministry – coordinated by Susan Brooks

Lay Eucharistic Ministry – coordinated by Louise Anderson

Pastors' Aide Ministry – coordinated by Laurie Ezzell

Encouragement Ministry – coordinated by Boo White

Summary of Activity Within Each of the Ministries:

In 2007, we had a total of 89 volunteers involved in these ministries. This includes 21 in the various Prayer Ministries, 8 in the Sage Ministry, 13 in the Flower Delivery Ministry, 9 in the Lay Eucharistic Ministry, 30 in the Pastor's Aide Ministry, and 8 in the Encouragement Ministry.

The Ministry of Prayer. The first element of any ministry of pastoral care is the ministry of prayer. Parishioners on our prayer list are remembered during Morning Prayer which is offered 4 days each week and Compline which is read 5 days each week. In addition, our 2 Wednesday services and our 3 Sunday services remember these parishioners in prayer. While it is impossible to calculate the number of prayers offered for persons on our prayer lists and in our hearts during our services and in private devotions, we feel our prayers are of immeasurable importance.

Through the **Pastor's Aide Ministry**, calls, visits, and meals are provided when families are experiencing the stresses of normal life events such as illnesses, births, recovery from surgery, death, and other special circumstances. In 2007, parishioners provided meals for 7 individuals suffering from illnesses, 6 families who had new births, and 7 families who had deaths in the family. In addition, 3 funeral receptions were provided at the church. A total of 30 volunteers are involved in this ministry.

The Sage Ministry involves lay pastoral visitors who focus on the needs and care of our senior parishioners who are homebound or in nursing homes and cannot take part in the regular life of the parish. Volunteers are matched with specific individuals to support through regular visits and calls. In 2007, 8 volunteers ministered to at least 26 parishioners.

The Flower Delivery Ministry has delivered altar flowers weekly (except for the penitential seasons of Advent and Lent when we don't use flowers on the altar) to approximately 84 people who are in the hospital, temporarily homebound, shut-in or sick. This ministry enables people who are not able to attend services to appreciate and enjoy the beautiful arrangements created by our own Flower Guild each week as well as to receive a short visit which helps them continue to feel connected to our church community.

The Lay Eucharistic Ministry is an ancient ministry, revived from a common practice in the early church of taking the consecrated bread and wine home to those who could not be present at corporate worship. Lay Eucharistic Ministers are sent out from the Sunday services, taking the consecrated elements, prayers and readings for the day to parishioners unable to attend and who wish to partake in our Eucharistic life. In 2007, 9 Lay Eucharistic Ministers have taken the Holy Eucharist on at least 79 occasions to parishioners identified by the Rector. A total of 221 individuals (including family members and friends who were present) received communion during these private services. These services have taken place in homes, hospitals, rehab centers, and nursing homes.

The Encouragement Ministry is a group of parishioners who provide encouragement and support for any individual and their loved ones on our church's prayer list through prayer, calls, and correspondence. In 2007, 8 volunteers have written, on average, 40 letters per month to people on our prayer list and have made occasional contacts by phone. These contacts let recipients know about our prayers on their behalf and of our concern and support for their current needs. The feedback from recipients of this ministry has been exceptionally positive.

Meetings:

The clergy and two conveners of this commission have telephone conferences as needed to review needs of the parish and plan for appropriate responses. The Commission meets on the first Tuesday afternoon of each month.

Submitted by Susan Brooks and Judy Clayton, Co-Conveners

Stewardship Commission Annual Report 2007



The Gifts of God For the People of God

*Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit;
And there are varieties of services, but the same Lord.
(1 Corinthians 12:4,5)*

On behalf of the members of the Stewardship Commission, including Ken Barringer (Vestry Liaison), Kate Arroyo, Bruce Daughtry, Ron Sowers, Kim Sparks, and Stokes Suiter, I want to thank you for your response to the Every Member Canvass. Friends, we asked you to give prayerful consideration to the challenge that we face of rising costs at the church and the rising need for our inreach and outreach service, and you did. We asked you to consider how you could make a difference, and you did. We asked you to take a moment out of your busy lives to reflect on God's gifts to you and to discern how you could return a portion of those gifts in thanksgiving, and you did.

We are so proud to report that the stewardship campaign for 2008 raised the same amount of money as it did in 2007. If you have ever participated in fundraising yourself, you may be asking, "Why are you proud of having no increase?" The answer is because we had no decrease. In a year when we lost 24 pledges due to persons leaving Rocky Mount or unable to pledge this year for other reasons, it would be logical to be concerned about our ability to maintain our level of stewardship. But, who is really surprised that our members, after praying over all the facts presented and after asking God what He wanted of them, recognized what they each needed to do to insure the continuance of the Church's ministries? You answered the call. As the Commission members said to you in a letter that you received during the campaign, "Your being a member of the body of Christ, in particular at Good Shepherd, is a blessing to us."

It really speaks to the strength of our Church and our members' feelings for what this Church means to them that this campaign had such positive results. Seventy three percent of the pledges returned committed to an increased level of giving. Equally significant was the fact that the severe decrease in pledges which we experienced in 2007 was not repeated for 2008. We thank you for recognizing the negative impact of such an action and maintaining or increasing your gift of treasure to the Church.

We would also like to thank the forty volunteers who gave of their time and talent to run the campaign efficiently. As the scripture above indicates, we all have our strengths, and thank God they are not all alike. That's how the whole job of running Good Shepherd is accomplished. We are thankful that the campaign's Neighborhood and Area Captains were willing to use their particular talents to glorify God, but we also want to thank all the members who served the Lord in some way in 2007 through the Church's ministries. Whether you arranged flowers, sang in the choir, polished silver, baked cookies, taught Sunday School, or served on the Vestry, whatever you did, the members of Good Shepherd thank you.

Millie Walker
Chairman, Stewardship Commission

Stewardship Trust Annual Report 2007

The fund is continuing to be managed by the Trustees of the Stewardship Trust following the Standard and Poors Investment Policy Committee portfolio recommendations using Exchange Traded Funds and Certificate of Deposit. The trust is operating on a September 30th Fiscal Year in order that the Trustees can make the appropriation for the coming Calendar year for use by the Vestry in determining the new budget. During the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2007 the Trust had a total return (income plus appreciation in value) of 13.09%.

The 2008 distribution to the Vestry is \$57,000.00. This sum is to be paid to the Vestry in quarterly installments. The following values reflect the January 2008 payment of \$14,250.00 to the Vestry.

The most recent values on January 4, 2008 were:

Endowment	\$ 804,596
Spruill Fund	321,174
Music Fund	20,306
TOTALS	\$1,146,076

The Trustees of the Stewardship Trust have been charged with the duty of implementing a planned giving program for the Church of the Good Shepherd. To begin the process the Trustees met in December of 2007 and adopted a gift acceptance policy for the Stewardship Trust. The formation of a legacy society is the next step with input from the Vestry and other interested parishioners,

Worship Commission Annual Meeting Report 2007

Members of the Worship Commission in 2007 included the following:

Reverend R. Scott White, Rector, Lawrence Goering, Organist and Choir Director, Mrs. Louise Anderson, Deacon, Gail Jenkins, Fay Mayo, Frank Meadows, Hal Peck, Jim Thorp, Bill Walker, Howard Weeks, and Kathy Wood.

The purpose of the Worship Commission is to establish and direct the times and manner in which the people of the Church of the Good Shepherd worship God. Sunday morning Eucharistic services are held at 8:00, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Daily Morning Prayer is offered at 7:30 a.m., four days a week. A number of persons have recently been added to this liturgical schedule, for a total of about ten lay readers. Wednesday morning Communion services are celebrated at 7:30 a.m. and 12:10 p.m. Compline is read Monday through Friday at the home of the reader.

Throughout the year, special services, such as the service of Meditations with Carols on Palm Sunday evening, the celebration of St. Francis Day, with the blessing of the animals, a Eucharistic service commemorating All Saints Day and a Thanksgiving Eve service are held. The Church of the Good Shepherd offers the traditional observances on Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and some years, the Easter Vigil service. This year we did not have the Easter Vigil service. The services of Holy Baptism, Confirmation, the Celebration and Blessing of a Marriage and the Burial of the Dead are performed as needed.

The combined service of Morning Prayer and Eucharist, instituted during 2005, continues on the second Sunday of the month, at the 11:00 a.m. service. We are also maintaining the practice of reading two Lessons at the 9:00 a.m. service: the Old Testament reading and the Gospel. In addition, the Prayers of the People used at the 8:00 a.m. service are the same as those used at the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services.

This year the Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols was held on Sunday, December 16, at 5:00 p.m. This service followed the original one from King's College, Cambridge. It included the choir's singing of "The Shepherds Sing," an anthem composed by K. Lee Scott and commissioned in memory of Lynn Kroncke.

In general, members of the Worship Commission are responsible for every aspect of worship at the Church of the Good Shepherd. The upcoming services are discussed at the monthly meeting. The Altar Guild representatives see to it that the altar, the chancel and the nave are adorned with the proper accoutrements, hangings and flowers. The organist and choir director lines up appropriate music, and he insures that the musicians and choristers have thoroughly rehearsed the pieces. A member of the Worship Commission organizes liturgical schedules and issues them to the volunteers one month in advance. The acolyte master helps the well-trained acolytes during the service, when necessary.

As questions regarding worship arise from people in the congregation, members of the Worship Commission discuss the issues and decide on the correct protocol for the situation. The Worship Commission strives to maintain the rich Episcopal traditions of the past while looking to the future.

Right now plans for 2008 include singing a Good Shepherd Sunday Evensong on April 13, at 5:00 p.m. Since honoring God is an ongoing, living commitment at the Church of the Good Shepherd, new ideas for worship will continue to emerge as the year 2008 progresses.