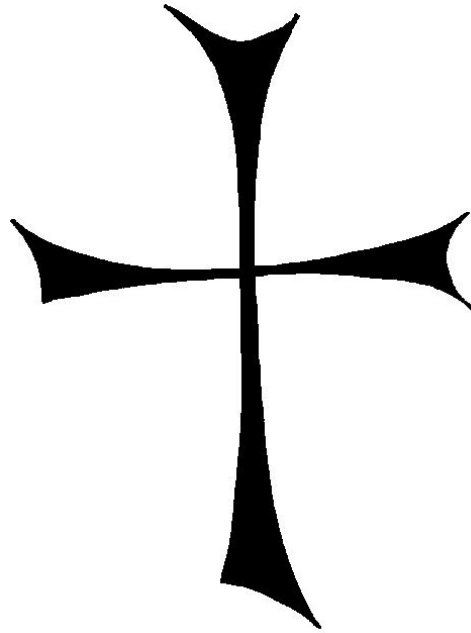


THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

2010 ANNUAL MEETING

“BELONG BELIEVE BECOME”



231 NORTH CHURCH STREET
ROCKY MOUNT, NORTH CAROLINA
27804

2010 ANNUAL MEETING

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BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMISSION REPORT

- New roof installation on 1924 building which was badly needed
- Repair of the hot water recirculation system in the school building and the rectory
- Repair and sealing of some of the old windows in the school building and the rectory
- Taking the rest of the pest control work in-house, eliminating those service contracts, at all but a small fraction of their expense
- Numerous repairs to pews and kneelers in the church
- In-house repair work on the heating circulation pump and valves of the church hot water heating system, saving service expenses
- Numerous repairs to plumbing and replacement of electrical system components such as switches and outlets
- Continuing replacement, through John Grochowski's generous gift of skilled labor, of the light fixtures in the school with new electronic ballast models, providing better lighting at a lower operating cost, working from the diocese's "green grant"
- Installation and breaking in of the new Web accessible climate control system for the church
- Purchase of a carpet cleaning machine in order to take care of as much work as possible in-house, resulting in a net savings last year of about five hundred dollars it otherwise would have cost to have the parish hall rug professionally cleaned
- Continuing gradual improvement in the buildings' interior air quality through careful attention paid to air movement and filtration, increasing cleanliness in the machinery and ductwork, and more efficient ventilation
- Improving appearance and health of the church with more attention given to pruning, suppressing of harmful insects, water drainage, and cleaning up Rocky Mount's infamously ubiquitous litter more often

- Replacement of the old, failing paper and soap dispensers throughout the buildings with better, more up to date devices that help reduce the usage and loss of supplies and consequently their expense
- Flag pole installation in front of church
- Installation of up lighting on exterior front of church

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMISSION

The Christian Education commission continues to strive toward its goal of offering classes focused in the areas of bible, theology and Christian practice. We seek to offer classes of no more than six weeks in length and classes where folks can participate without having to be present each and every Sunday. Interspersed through these offerings we desire to offer single, onetime forums for the whole congregation that address aspects of our lives together that highlight our ministries.

The first semester (September to December 2009) was a collection of forums that covered biblical, theological, and liturgical aspects of the Christian faith. As well, were three forums on Christian practice and a forum devoted to Vestry communication. The forums were:

- The Apostles' Creed for a New Millennium (Bible & Theology & Liturgy)
- Mission Matters: A View Into the Costa Rica Mission Trip (Christian Practice)
- Jesus Saves & God Recycles (Christian Practice)
- Vestry Forum (Communication)
- New Consecration Sunday: Stewardship Matters (Christian Practice)
- Hallelujah! A Study of Handel's Messiah (Bible, Theology & Liturgy)

Our offerings will continue in the same manner for 2010. And they are:

- Creating a Conversation with God: The Biblical Portrait of Prayer (Christian Practice)
- Mission Matters: The Episcopal Farm Worker Ministry (Christian Practice)
- A Lenten Journey with Nooma (Bible & Theology)
- The Acts of The Apostles (Bible)

We begin with a five week session led by the Rev. Gill Greggs titled, "Creating a Conversation with God: The Biblical Portrait of Prayer." This forum, focused on Christian practice, was very well received and attended. The Rev. Greggs continues to be a good friend to our church and his ministry is a blessing to many. On Sunday, February 14 we will hold a forum related to Christian practice where we will learn more about a mission and ministry of the

Diocese of North Carolina: The Episcopal Farm Worker Ministry. Our Sunday morning forum for the season of Lent will be an innovative program led by the Rector and Assistant Rector titled, "A Lenten Journey with Nooma." Nooma is a series of short videos (10 minutes) that invites us to consider biblical the theological aspects of our faith and how we put them into practice. The topics for this forum are titled, "Breathe" (The Holy Spirit), "Rain" (Where is God When it Hurts?), "Lump" (Grace), "Open" (Does God Answer Prayer?), Forgiveness (It isn't easy to forgive). Our final forum for the year will be a study of the book of the Acts of The Apostles'. This forum, focused on the Scripture, will open up for us the development of the Christian faith and the character of the very earliest Christian Communities.

Our Wednesday Evening Program, "Wonderful Wednesdays," has been very well received. The evening includes an educational offering for adults. We began with a program titled Christianity Explored. The class focused on the basics of the Christian faith. It was a 13 week session lasting from mid-September to early December. Our second offering is an 8 week offering titled Discipleship Explored, an in-depth study of the book of Philippians. Our Lenten offering will be led by the Rev. Nancy J. Allison and is titled "The Roots of Anglican Spirituality." We will review the whole process at the end of the year and explore other offerings for next year as well as the possibility that Wednesday Evenings be a time for small groups to meet.

As we look forward to the 2010/2011 year, our prayer is to continue our goal of providing both biblical/theological/liturgical/practical forums. We also hope to continue will securing a trained theologian to for at least one semester during the year and for our Lenten evening series.

CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The Congregational Development Commission is a ministry of evangelism and development for our parish in the area of welcoming, incorporating and

sustaining seekers who visit our community. We desire to be a place where all people, regardless of who they are or where they are in their journey of life. Our goal is that all may experience Good Shepherd as a safe place to belong, believe and become.

The Congregational Development Commission members spent the first part of the year on various items, but most importantly finishing the Photo Directory. A great deal of work by Sheryll Barnes went into the layout and organization of the directory and we thank her for her heroic service and dedication. We also have to thank Ivan Price for his outstanding layout of the front and back cover and for other help in arranging the project. We are pleased that the directory came out so well and is now in the hands of our members.

We spent a good part of the year recruiting and training hospitality hosts to greet people on Sunday mornings. Thanks to Stephanie Allen who took the lead in training. We are using a book we developed that includes guidelines on how to welcome guests to our church, listen and engage in conversation, gather information discreetly and respond to newcomer needs. A practice script was developed for use in the training and a newcomer tracking form was created. One of our challenges is providing hosts at multiple services and we have a good group of people serving as hosts, though we do need additional volunteers.

In the next year we will be working on a number of projects, including, but not limited to, revising the volunteer board in the lobby, updating the Vestry photo board, providing additional signage throughout the facility, strengthening our hospitality ministry and considering ways of getting the attention of people so they will visit. We have come a long way in welcoming people when they step through the doors but there are ways we have never used to help people get to the door.

One major project we would like to accomplish in 2010 is buying a new sign for the front of the church. We have a design and a model and a quote for a sign, but we don't have the money.

Those who are interested in joining this exciting ministry are encouraged to contact our Vestry Liaison, Jenny Baysden.

GOOD SHEPHERD DAY SCHOOL COMMISSION REPORT

As with the rest of our community, the Good Shepherd Day School has experienced a year of many joys and challenges. The Day School Commission, though charged with one of the most delightful tasks in the church...working with the staff and parents of the Good Shepherd Day School to ensure we provide high quality care for the children in our program, identified three challenges at our retreat last January which we would address during the year:

- 1) Older children leaving the program at an earlier age
- 2) Hiring qualified staff
- 3) Finding a way to expand our lower age population within the “grandfathered” Space.

During the year, we were faced with another issue that has affected the bottom line of our program, “low enrollment”. This has been a direct result of the economy and parents finding other, less expensive childcare options (which so often put children at risk) or parents keeping children at home because one of them has lost his/her job. Jackie and her staff have done an excellent job watching expenses and are to be commended for their creative ability and support while still maintaining the quality program we are known to offer. The Commission provides constant oversight of the budget, guidance and support for Jackie as we develop a long range plan for enrollment. We continue to support Jackie in her efforts to identify children for the program and look for ways to “redesign” our space and focus to meet the needs of the changing childcare industry.

Highlights of 2009

Project to replace / repair overhead light fixtures in all classrooms and hallways continues thanks to the vestry and the “green grant”. The classrooms and halls that have the new lights installed make the space feel like new space!
Our Parent’s group is organized and planning several fund raisers this year.

Completed Parent Surveys

Awarded NAP SACC (Nutritional & Physical Activity Self Assessment in Child Care) grant through the Down East Partnership for Children. We have been able to purchase additional playground equipment with the fund. Also, we are making our snacks, meals, party food “healthy” as prescribed on the plan.

Sponsored 2 Parents nights: had a speaker from DEPC on the “Creative Curriculum” and one on “positive discipline”.

Established a written Biting Policy.

We felt the time was not right to have a tuition increase for 2010 but did try to factor a 1-2% increase of staff salaries into the budget for merit raise.

STAY TUNED

In 2010 we hope to:

Hold a retreat to set short/long term goals
Complete marketing brochure (did not complete in '09)
Add a new baby room for 4 infants

We continue to be extremely grateful to the vestry for the new “roof” and for their continued commitment to our program as an outreach ministry and the encouragement they give in support of our mission.

We also are grateful to the parishioners who graciously support us and welcome us each day into our/your church. How quiet these halls and classrooms would be without us! Over the last 53 years, many children and families have come through these doors. As we continue to share our mission and outreach with them, they become our ambassadors of love and goodwill in this broken world. What better way to spread God's love.

If you are interested in serving on the Day School Commission, volunteering in our Day School, or know of someone needing full day childcare or has teaching experience and needs a job, please contact Alice Thorp at 937-7717 or via email bing78@suddenlink.net or Jackie Wilkins at 442-1092 or via email jwilkins@goodshepherdrmt.org.

NOTE: For a limited time we are accepting children on a half-day basis so spread the word.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Finance Committee is appointed by the Vestry. The current members are Bill Bullock, (Vestry Liaison), Winston Lea, Louis Weeks, (Treasurer), Virginia Grochowski, (Assistant Treasurer) and Scott McKellar. Virginia Turner, the Parish's Bookkeeper, and Sheryll Barnes, the Parish's Administrative Secretary, assist the Committee.

Five Year Financial Summary

Sources of Funds	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Tithes and Offerings	\$ 431,292	\$ 455,197	\$ 441,037	\$ 426,014	\$ 416,991
Endowment Income	\$ 15,766	\$ 50,000	\$ 45,000	\$ 57,000	\$ 54,000
Transfer from Prior Year Surpluses	\$ 12,170	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 33,267	\$ -
Operations Fundraiser	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,414
Other Revenue	\$ 8,517	\$ 3,400	\$ 7,898	\$ 11,322	\$ 6,582
Total Sources of Funds	\$ 467,745	\$ 508,597	\$ 493,935	\$ 527,603	\$ 487,987
Uses of Funds					
Personnel	\$ 248,656	\$ 260,572	\$ 247,165	\$ 279,206	\$ 309,633
Commissions	\$ 63,142	\$ 57,795	\$ 52,290	\$ 66,627	\$ 46,380
Operating Programs	\$ 93,952	\$ 96,669	\$ 107,812	\$ 109,588	\$ 91,303
Diocesan Support	\$ 61,995	\$ 61,135	\$ 70,843	\$ 72,182	\$ 27,307
Transfer for Future Years Deficits		\$ 32,426	\$ 15,825	\$ -	\$ 13,364
Total Uses of Funds	\$ 467,745	\$ 508,597	\$ 493,935	\$ 527,603	\$ 487,987

Balance Sheet

Cash Reserves	\$ 234,913	\$ 269,197	\$ 376,144	\$ 310,033	\$ 291,999
Stewardship Trust	\$ 1,078,139	\$ 1,099,497	\$ 1,173,745	\$ 976,120	\$ 1,054,083
Notes Payable	\$ 135,000	\$ 105,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 45,000	\$ 56,500
*Day School Reimbursement netted from operating expenses and other revenue	\$ 15,360	\$ 17,760	\$ 32,570	\$ 33,352	\$ 33,193

2009 Results to 2009 Budget

Overall, 2009 was a challenging year for the church as evidenced by the results noted in the table below. Pledges received were only 94% of pledges made, marking the lowest percentage in recent history for the church. When setting the budget this time last year, we realized that hitting our revenue targets would be a challenge, given economic challenges affecting the area and individuals.

Expenses were actively managed by the Finance Committee, Commissions, the Vestry, and Scott and his staff throughout the year, and ended up very close to budget. A great deal of effort and oversight went into this area of the budget in 2009, as we attempted to control expenses in a year when revenues would not

support our budget. In order to offset the decrease in revenue, the Vestry approved reducing our payment to the Diocese to \$27,307 and to reserve \$13,364 for future years. This will allow the Vestry to use the \$13,364 if needed to address economic challenges that remain in place as we move into 2010.

Sources of Funds	2009 Budget	2009 Actual	Over (Under) Budget
Tithes and Offerings	\$444,339	\$416,991	(\$27,348)
Endowment Income	\$54,000	\$54,000	\$0
Transfer from Prior Year Surpluses	\$0	\$0	\$0
Operations Fundraiser	\$6,616	\$10,414	\$3,798
Other Revenue	<u>\$7,800</u>	<u>\$6,582</u>	(\$1,218)
Total Sources of Funds	\$512,568	\$487,987	(\$24,768)
Uses of Funds			
Personnel	\$306,900	\$309,633	\$2,733
Commissions	\$51,300	\$46,380	(\$4,920)
Operating Programs	\$86,100	\$91,303	\$5,203
Diocesan Support	\$68,268	\$27,307	(\$40,961)
Carryover to Future Years	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$13,364</u>	<u>\$13,364</u>
Total Uses of Funds	\$512,568	\$487,987	(\$24,768)

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.

2008 Audit

An audit of the 2008 financial statements of the Church and the Day School was conducted by an internal Audit Committee, consisting of Kim Bayless and Marion Stoga. The Audit Committee's opinion is provided below.

To the Rector, Wardens and Vestry of The Church of the Good Shepherd
231 North Church Street
Rocky Mount, NC 27801

Subject: 2008 Audit of The Church of the Good Shepherd

We have inspected the statement of assets, liabilities and fund balances – modified cash basis of The Church of the Good Shepherd as of December 31, 2008, and the related statements of receipts and expenditures and fund balances - modified cash basis for the year then ended. Our inspection was made in accordance with the audit guidelines of the *Manual of Business Methods in Church Affairs*, and the financial statements are prepared on modified cash basis in accordance with principles adopted by the Episcopal Church and approved by its General Convention except as noted.

As described in Note 1, these financial statements were prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting. Buildings and land are recorded at their appraised value therefore no depreciation is recorded in the financial statements.

We have taken steps to see that the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, except as noted above, the financial position of the Congregation at December 31, 2008; and that the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended are in accordance with the principles authorized by General Convention of the Episcopal Church on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Our inspection and certificate are not meant to be construed as an audit and opinion rendered by a Certified Public Accountant.

Sincerely, Members of the Audit Committee

One of many beneficial results of our audit was that the Audit Committee noted that consideration should be given to changes in 13 areas of our existing procedures and policies. During 2010, the Finance Committee will develop an action plan, assign responsibility and set closure date targets for each recommendation. These will be tracked monthly until closed.

Please thank Marion and Kim for their hard work in providing the audit. They spent many hours, and the results of their audit were excellent and will benefit the church in years to come.

GOOD SHEPHERD'S MUSIC PROGRAM

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 eighty 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 ext. 224, or simply attend a rehearsal.

The Cherub Choir is open to all children four years old through first grade and rehearses on Wednesdays from 5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. This choir sings in worship several times each year and at the Mother's Day Dinner Theatre.

The Alleluia Choir is open to all children in second through eighth grades (first grade with excellent reading ability) and rehearses on Wednesdays from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. This choir sings in worship about fifteen times each year and at the Mother's Day Dinner Theatre.

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 nearly eighty 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 New Century Saxophone Quartet, the Adult Chorus of Rochester Cathedral (England), the premiere of our 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 in concert and improvising to two silent films, the Carolina Brass, and classical guitarist Gordon Kreplin. The 2009-2010 series continues with a concert by the St. Ambrose Jazz Quintet, a chancel opera sung by Maureen Kroncke and Mark Ream, evensongs sung by our choir and the Raleigh Convocation Choir, and our annual Mother's Day Dinner Theatre. The offering from our annual service of Lessons and Carols raised over \$600.00 for outreach in our community.

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 REPORT

Will we seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves?
Will we strive for justice and peace among all people, respecting the dignity of every human being? Baptismal Covenant, BCP

The Outreach Commission provides financial support, creates or identifies projects and coordinates these projects for our Church's involvement with our community. It was the volunteer efforts from our church membership, and the financial support from Good Shepherd's operating budget and special offerings that allowed us to help our local and world-wide community. Listed below is a summary of the activities of the Outreach Commission for this year. (The first five received our top priority. Also note the listing of "outreach" programs that are not specifically assigned to or established by the Outreach Commission).

A. Outreach supported projects

People of Faith Filling in the Gaps (FIGS) – This program was organized at Good Shepherd to provide a holistic approach to the people in need who come to Good Shepherd and other churches looking for help. FIGS uses resources available here in our community, i.e. government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and the business sector, with the faith community “filling in the gaps” where these resources are lacking AND advocating for enhanced services. This year Good Shepherd contributed \$2500 from the Outreach budget and almost \$5000 from other designated funds to this vital ministry.

The Tar River Mission Clinic – The TRMC is a private, non-profit, faith-based clinic which has identified access gaps within the community and seeks to fill these gaps through community volunteers. This project is an outgrowth of the Med Link project started here at GS and thus has been years of hard work in the making. It has non Good Shepherd members on the advisory board to help raise and distribute funds responsibly. This year Good Shepherd contributed \$2500 from the Outreach budget and over \$3000 from other designated funds to this vital ministry.

Community Shelter Soup Kitchen – A branch of United Community Ministries, this program was started in our basement almost three decades ago and then became a community nonprofit organization. We collect non-perishable foods every Sunday here at Good Shepherd on Sundays to help support this ministry. Our financial support of UCM was \$1783 from the Christmas Offering.

The Debbie Fund – The Debbie Kornegay Endowment Fund was developed here at Good Shepherd in 2008 to honor the life and ministry of one of Rocky Mount's most outstanding leaders in community ministries. This project facilitates leadership, workers, and resources from the community at large to provide an Art Sale in which proceeds go to community based nonprofit organizations. In the past two years a total of over \$22,000 has been raised.

Stop Hunger Now – SHN is a global organization that comes to groups such as us here at GS with the dry goods and packaging materials to package meals that will feed hungry families in our global community. We provide the funding and the volunteers for packaging. There are plans for a food packaging session in February 2010.

Meals on Wheels - Provides a hot noon meal to those who are homebound and need nutritional help in order to stay at home. Over 40 of our volunteers delivered a route once a month.

My Sister's House - MSH provides outreach and shelter services for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. Several of our volunteers assisted with crafts, playing games, and reading with the children in the shelter. We also provided \$200 for operational support.

Bag Lunches – In an effort to address those who come through the doors here at Good Shepherd on a daily basis in need of our help, the Outreach Commission has packaged many non-perishable lunch bags during 2009 that

have been kept in the office here at GS and have been distributed to those needy individuals. This ministry will be carried on in 2010 as well.

Narcotics Anonymous – Twenty-seven years ago the NA asked Good Shepherd for a meeting space. Today an average of forty people meet in the morning, noon, or early evening to re-nourish their lives or help others. We provide a meeting space for them here in our basement.

Habitat for Humanity - Habitat is an effort for people of faith to put their faith into action to help eliminate substandard housing. We used profits we received from the Michael Podesta art exhibit and sale held here at Good Shepherd to support a Habitat house. There is a great need for volunteers and a coordinator to help with Habitat work we at Good Shepherd can do here in Rocky Mount. We hope to have these volunteers available to build a house sometime in 2010.

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 in need. We provided more than 30 families Thanksgiving dinners in 2009.

Christmas Stars – An ongoing project of Good Shepherd, the Christmas Star program provided Christmas gifts for children in families identified by Nash County Department of Social Services as being the neediest of the needy. Christmas Stars has been a part of Good Shepherd Outreach for more than fifteen years.

Souper Bowl of Caring – 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.

B. The Church of the Good Shepherd supported projects.

Medical mission to Costa Rica - Medical and lay volunteers travel to Costa Rica to provide medical care and facility maintenance in communities.

The Needlework Group - Every week knitters provide their love and skills to make hats, scarves, sweaters, and blankets for those in need in the community and around the world.

Gate Keepers - Under the operational leadership of Lakeside Baptist, young people from many churches renovate low income houses as adults provide supervision and food preparation that is eaten at Good Shepherd. Teen workers pay for the food and clean up after the lunches.

We look forward to 2010 as we recommit ourselves to expanding our ministry with greater congregation involvement in order to enhance fulfilling our Baptismal Covenant within our broad Rocky Mount community. We also call for more volunteers for the Commission and projects. Please contact any member for information.

Respectfully submitted,

The Outreach Commission Members

Evelyn Sanders
Ginger Wells
Ron Sowers
Frances Gaither
Frank Sloan
Pat Sloan
Marion Stoga
Sharon Eikelberger
Victoria Sowers
Chet Mottershead
Ted Sherburne
Reid McAuley
Brack Townsend

Tom Stevens, Vestry Liaison

PARISH LIFE COMMISSION REPORT

The Parish Life Commission had a fun and exciting 2009. The commission put together Foyer group assignments. This is a great way to get to know fellow parishioners and to share a simple meal at each others home. Parish Life hosted a Mardi Gras celebration which has become a tradition at Good Shepherd complete with Louisiana cuisine, King cake and mask decorating. Following the Fat Tuesday celebration, Parish Life coordinated the series of Lenten dinners that led the parish into Holy Week. On Easter Sunday the

commission organized an Easter egg hunt for the children. The commission also provided a birthday cake to celebrate the birth of the church on Pentecost Sunday. In September, the Parish Life Commission hosted the annual Parish picnic which included activities for the youth. This year we had Bubbles the Clown attend who tied balloons for the kids. We also had face painting and a cake walk. This event kicked-off the formal Christian Education programs for the year.

Each Sunday at all three services Parish Life hosts coffee hour with fresh ground coffee, fresh baked cookies and lemonade at all three services. Thanks to all the Parish Life volunteers who make this wonderful ministry happen each and every Sunday. Parish Life is continually looking for new volunteers who would like to help out with this activity. Training is available for those unfamiliar with the church kitchen. Contact the church office for more information on how you can help.

PASTORAL CARE COMMISSION REPORT

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 Judy Clayton, Boo White, Ernest Wills, Pat Bohl, Pam Larimer our Vestry Liaison, Louise Anderson, our Deacon, and Scott White, our Rector, and Stephanie Allen, our Assistant Rector.

Current ministries within this commission are:

- Daily Prayers – coordinated by Sheryll Barnes
- Clergy Visitation – Scott White, Stephanie Allen, and Louise Anderson
- Flower Delivery Ministry – coordinated by Pam Larimer

- Lay Eucharistic Ministry – coordinated by Louise Anderson
- Pastors' Aide Ministry – coordinated by Judith Clayton
- Encouragement Ministry – coordinated by Boo White

Summary of Activity Within Each of the Ministries:

In 2009, we had a total of 118 volunteers involved in these ministries. This includes 18 in the various Prayer Ministries, 7 in the Flower Delivery Ministry, 8 in the Lay Eucharistic Ministry, 78 in the Pastor's Aide Ministry, and 7 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 2009, parishioners provided meals for 19 individuals suffering from illnesses, and 2 families who had deaths in the family. In addition, 2 funeral receptions were provided at the church. A total of 78 volunteers are involved in this ministry.

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 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 2009, 8 Lay Eucharistic

Ministers have taken the Holy Eucharist on at least 79 occasions to parishioners identified by the Rector. 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. Seven parishioners, at this time, participate in this ministry of encouraging those on our prayer list by writing notes and sometimes calling or visiting. In 2009, approximately 488 notes were written. The group meets once a month on the third Wednesday to divide the names on the prayer list and get addresses. Additional participants are welcome and encouraged. 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. Boo White, chairman

Meetings:

The Pastoral Care Commission met on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. For more information contact Scott White at swhite@goodshepherdrmt.org

STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION REPORT

The members of the 2009 Stewardship Commission include Fred Frohbose (Vestry Liaison), Kate Arroyo, Bruce Daughtry, Ron Sowers, Kim Sparks, Millie Walker and Scott White, Rector.

The responsibility of the Stewardship Commission is both education and process. In other words, our role is not specifically to raise money for the church, but rather to educate the congregation on Christian Stewardship and then to provide a system for members to give to the church. The annual Every Member Response process is the system we have put in place for members to give an annual gift to the church. Members of the Stewardship Commission do not ask for money, rather they provide the means for people to give money, time and treasure. The annual Every Member Response is only one aspect of the Commission's role and responsibility.

In 2006 the Stewardship Commission began a neighbor-to-neighbor process in administering the annual Every Member Response and we continued with the same process in the year 2007 and 2008 with similar results. One of the basic

rules in carrying out an annual Stewardship Campaign in a congregation is, "don't do the same thing every single year!" With this in mind the Stewardship Commission decided to change the method of our Annual Campaign for 2009.

We chose the New Consecration Sunday model, with modifications. The model envisions a particular Sunday upon which every member of the church (as much as possible) is present to hear someone other than the Rector and members of the commission share the church's theology and purpose when it comes to money. On that day the Commission has prepared a pledge packet for every household of the church and the packets are handed out at the end of each service. The day also includes a breakfast as a means of setting the thankful spirit of giving. We recruited the Rev. Nancy Allison to be our guest for 2009 and we held our New Consecration Sunday on October 18. We were able to hand out about half of all pledge packets we prepared on October 18. We allowed one month for pledges to be returned. The week following the one month mark we mailed a reminder letter to those who had not yet responded and two weeks following members of the Vestry and Commission placed a telephone call to non-responders to be sure they had received their packet.

This year, for the first time in a number of years, we experienced a significant decrease in the dollar value of pledges. Due to the specifics of this outcome, however, we consider this year's Stewardship Campaign a great success. How? We are approximately \$35,000 short of last year's pledge total. Yet, of that \$35,000, nearly \$28,000 comes from a very small number of pledges. After a review from the Treasurer, we believe that shortfall comes in the rapidly changing demographics of our congregation whereby a generation of participants are dying, retiring, relocating or dealing with severe illness. These demographic shifts are being experienced by every Christian denomination and every Christian Community. This coupled with the struggling economy has certainly made a difference in this year's annual campaign. The good news is that our shortfall does not represent a change of commitment from our members. Indeed the average pledge for 2010 increased!

We want to thank every person who worked to make our Annual Stewardship Campaign a success. Especially we want to thank Sheryll Barnes and Virginia Turner who performed above and beyond the call of duty to support the ministry of the Stewardship Commission.

	2009	2010	
Pledge Total	\$399,305	\$363,857	-\$35,447
Pledge Average	\$2255	\$2526	\$271
Total Pledges	177	144	-33
Number of Pledges Decreased			12
Number of Pledges Increased			73
Number of New Pledges			15
Last Year But Not This Year			33
Lowest Amount			\$100
Highest Amount			\$13,500
Top 10 Pledges Total	\$92,050	\$87,580	\$4470
Top 10 as % of Total	23%	24%	1%

STEWARDSHIP TRUST REPORT

The funds making up the Stewardship Trust continue to be managed by the Board of Trustees following the Standard and Poors Investment Policy Committee portfolio recommendations using Exchange Traded Funds and Certificates of Deposit. The trust operates 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.

The treasurer compared the closing Standard & Poors 500 Index for September 2008 (1164.74) with September 2009 (1057.04) and calculated the decline to be -9.25%. A comparable calculation of the Stewardship Trust Fund

shows that the Fund out performed the Market since it had a positive return of +4.90%.

The 2009 distribution to the Vestry from the combined Endowment and Spruill Funds was \$54,000.

The values as of September 30, 2009, the end of the fiscal year, were:

Endowment	\$ 702,758
Spruill Fund	286,016
Music Fund	19,313
Housing Fund	12,900
TOTAL	\$1,020,987

The Trustees of the Stewardship Trust approved and presented to the Vestry an Allocation Policy, based on the newly revised North Carolina statute governing the management of endowments and institutional funds. The Vestry has approved the Policies governing Allocations, the Disposition of Bequests, and Gift Acceptance.

During the year, the Board lent the General Fund \$30,000 to pay off a bank loan at a better rate. The loan has a definite repayment schedule and payments have been received in a timely fashion. The Board also lent \$34,000 to the General Fund to supplemental available funds for the roof replacement of the 1928 building. This loan is being repaid on a repayment schedule with an interest rate to match the annual interest rate of the Trust's investment fund that has a comparable maturity.

At its October meeting the Board approved an appropriation to the General Fund of the Church for 2010 in the amount of \$52,563 based on 5% of the three (3) year average value of the Endowment and the Spruill Fund.

WORSHIP COMMISSION REPORT

Members of the Worship Commission in 2009 included the following:
The Reverend R. Scott White, Rector, The Reverend Stephanie Allen, Assistant to the Rector, Lawrence Goering, Organist and Choir Director, Mrs. Louise Anderson, Deacon, Gail Jenkins, Fay Mayo, Frank Meadows, Hal Peck, Jim Thorp, 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. during the academic year, and at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. from mid-May to mid-September. Wednesday morning Communion services are celebrated at 7:30 a.m. and 12:10 p.m. There are about twenty-five readers and sixteen chalice bearers. Daily Morning Prayer is offered at 7:30 a.m. four days a week, and the office of Compline is read Monday through Friday at the home of the reader. There are about six persons who read Compline.

Throughout the year, 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 Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols continues to be held in the evening of the Third Sunday of Advent. The practice of holding Lessons and Carols in the evening has been very well received and seems to have become a tradition.

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/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.

YOUTH REPORT

The Youth Ministry of Good Shepherd exists to invite the parish youth to serve God and community with a sense of spiritual purpose and to gain greater commitment and passion for their faith.

In 2009 the youth ministry program continued to grow in faith and in participation. In our service events such as Souper Bowl of Caring, the Gatekeepers Work Camp, and our summer service projects, our youth connected their prayer to action. Souper Bowl of Caring raised over \$500 for local food donations, which the youth shopped and bought themselves, and for FIGS. 18 youth from Good Shepherd participated in Gatekeepers in July, our largest group ever to participate. The summer service projects allowed the youth to use their free time this summer to earn community service hours for school, and to participate in the life of the Rocky Mount community in new ways, such as working at the Habitat for Humanity store and assisting in delivering Meals on Wheels.

In addition to Christian Education time on Sunday mornings, both the Middle School Youth Group and the High School Youth Group meet for community and fellowship on a regular basis. Beginning in Lent of 2009, the high school youth meet Stephanie for breakfast, talk, and some quick prayer every Tuesday morning before school. The middle school youth now meet during our Wonderful Wednesday program, making good use of the youth room, including our newly donated "X-box" player and games.

Our fall kick-off event at Lake Gaston, graciously hosted by the Harrison-Green family, was a tremendous success, and lots of fun, as was the lock-in and ski trip in February and our day trip to Busch Gardens in May.

The youth greatly appreciate the support of the parish during our fundraisers, such as the car wash, the parish lunch that same day, luminary sales, and coffee sales. As well as the prayerful support offered while 5 youth participated in the Diocese of North Carolina's Happening retreat.