

ANNUAL REPORT – December 2009

Senior Warden's Report: As I draw near to the end of my two year term as Senior Warden at St. Luke's, I continue to be impressed with the ample presence of parishioners who are qualified and willing to perform any task and to fulfill any need. The sense of community is certainly present here.

I am still not sure of all the responsibilities of the office of Sr. Warden and I would be hard pressed to write a syllabus for this position. However, I am pleased to report that the Vestry and the congregation have been very supportive and involved in —outreach ministries, —care and nourishment of church family, —stewardship of time, talent and financial resources, —programs and support of youth development.

We are truly blessed at St. Luke's to experience Christ's love in our worship and daily lives of the parishioners. *Don Baucom*

Junior Warden's Report: During the past year, there have been both improvements & significant maintenance accomplished at St. Luke's. The majority of the ground floor fluorescent lights have been replaced because of malfunction and/or improved energy efficiency. All private meeting rooms now have entry doors with fire rated glass windows. This improvement puts the Church in compliance with mandated guidelines. The Men's Group tackled the project of adding a gravel sidewalk and steps to the rear of the sanctuary. Construction has begun on the Chapel to add an entry roof over our new front door. The Congregation generously participated in the recent workday to ready the Church for the Fall Season. Future work in the planning stage includes replacement of some of the flooring on the first floor and an entry sign at Councill Street. *Jett Murphy*

Deacon's Report: I helped lead a team to investigate, purchase and install a sound system in the sanctuary using Hugh Sturgill as our consultant. I felt a strong call to pastoral care early in 2009. During Cyndi's sabbatical, I guided our supply priests through worship services and filled in as the lead pastoral caregiver and other duties. When we heard about Community of Hope, I knew this was right for me and helped get our center and the training started and am on the leadership team. It has been a year of personal growth. I am blessed to be at St. Luke's. *Deacon Greg Erickson*

Stewardship covers a broad area and is a meaningful part of the lives of St. Luke's parishioners. After all, stewardship is what we do with all that God has given us, which is everything! Much of this work is self-directed and comes from the heart and hands of individuals. Some of it is communal such as our yard sale, the fall festival, the hunger basket, a trip to Honduras and the partnership with the Lenca in Opalaca, and the list could go on and on.

Of course, one of the main tasks of the stewardship committee is to conduct the annual giving program where we pledge our gifts of time, talent and treasure. This year our committee included Karl Doege, Jacob Matovu, Jim Shine and Cyndi Banks. Karl and Jim presented a dialogue to highlight different approaches to giving. We handed out copies of the book *Giving - the Sacred Art* by Lauren Tyler Wright to help facilitate a discussion about giving and generosity. We also started a discussion board on the internet. *Jim Shine*

The Finance Committee met four times this year- to review the 2008 finances and make recommendations for the 2009 budget; and to review the quarterly finance reports for 2009. Great thanks to the committee members: Janet Richardson, Cheryl Piracci, Annette Pacilio, John Higby, Karl Doege, and Tom Jamison. We also thank Treasurer David Sprague for his leadership in this process. *Pat Geiger*

Music and Liturgy: The liaison person for Music and Liturgy works with the Rector to assure that the services go smoothly. This past year, the focus was on acquiring, installing and working with the new sound system. Training of readers continued as needed. *Annette S. Pacilio*

St. Luke's Women's Group: The Women's Group has met monthly (1st Sunday evening) for dinner, fellowship, fun and programs. Women in the group share the responsibility for program presentations. Programs focus on topics that deepen our relationship with God, with each other, and with others with whom we share life's pathways. Fun and playfulness is a top priority in our own renewal and nourishment. Our service and outreach activities are chosen by the group and have taken many forms this year: tea and refreshments (compassion baskets) for grieving families as they gather prior to funerals/memorial services;

cards to people going through rough or joyous times; shopping for and wrapping the Christmas care packages for college students; as well as activities we undertake as individuals. All are welcome. *Denica Joyce*

Adult Formation: This year Adult Forum offered a wide range of topics including:

- a 2 part series on science and religion
- a 4 part series on forgiveness
- a 3 part series on cosmology and consciousness
- a report from one of our young people on her service in Honduras
- a political update on Honduras
- a sharing from the St Luke's dream group
- the Emerging Church
- report from the Hunger Coalition
- alternate gift giving-stewardship
- the Christmas story from a Jungian perspective
- reports from the National annual convention, the diocesan convention, and the St Luke's annual meeting
- a presentation about Wine to Water a new local non profit, whose director was recently nominated by CNN as one of the top heroes in the world today!

There is more excitement coming in 2010! *Judith Phoenix*

Pastoral Care: A program called Community of Hope was implemented this year. This program originated at St. Luke's Hospital in Texas. It is a 14 module training program in pastoral care for lay people.

In addition, the pastoral care committee is continuing to provide services for people in need in our congregation. Some of these include: providing meals, helping with medications, card-writing and anything needed. *Susan Beasley*

Communications Committee. The primary accomplishment of the communications liason/committee was actually a negative. An outcome of the Vestry retreat was a desire to investigate new ways of church communication. For example, blogging and social networking (e.g., Facebook). While the St. Luke's Facebook group took form organically, a prototype St. Luke's blog was developed but assessed by the committee to be unnecessary at this time. The St. Luke's Newsletter and webpage suffice. The Committee may continue to explore new forms of communication. *John Whitehead*

Children & Youth Formation. This year, we changed the teaching ratio in Godly Play. We were fortunate to have enough volunteers to have at least three teachers, with plenty of back ups, so that teachers could take a week off if needed. We have a great mixture of talented teachers! Cyndi trained the teachers by giving them a Godly Play lesson. In August, we changed and updated the classrooms, allowing more space in the bigger classroom for our burgeoning K-3 class. The music director is working with the children in Godly Play once a month. The YAK group also volunteers with the three Sunday School classes and their help and leadership is appreciated. The 4-7 grade class is growing and Linda has graciously volunteered to work with them again. Cyndi also trained the 4-7 & J2A kids to be crucifers and they are already doing a great job. Jim and Susanna continue to head the J2A group and they had a fabulous time and good bonding experience in Washington, DC, this fall. They are looking forward to their pilgrimage next summer. The search for a part time Christian Education Director is active, and we hope to fill this position soon. Our youth meetings have slackened this fall, but we have someone who wants to work with the teenagers and hopefully, we can get that going again after Christmas. *Robin Lowe*