

Annual Reports

2011

CHRIST CHURCH  
CHARLOTTE



# Rector's Report

*Submitted by The Reverend Chip Edens*

It has been a remarkable year of spiritual growth and service at Christ Church! We have seen many lives transformed through the numerous ways we serve our nearly 5,000 members and hundreds in our community, nation, and world.

This year marks the fourth full year of implementing our strategic plan to make Christ Church a spiritual home for all people. For these past several years we have been guided by a clear road map of implementing ministry to all ages. We have grown stronger and more efficient in our work together. One key thing to consider is that while we have been implementing this ambitious plan, we have realized an operating surplus in the worst recession since the great depression! During this same time, our congregation has grown by over 1,800 members.

Now that we have nearly completed our ministry plan developed in 2007, we must now turn to the question of what God is calling us to next. In the winter and spring of this year our vestry began to lay the foundation for a new visioning process entitled Leap of Faith. This process is rooted in the belief that if we listen to the deepest hopes and dreams of the members of our community, we can best determine the direction we are being called to as a congregation.

This coming January, we will begin a deep process of conversation and listening to each other. In the spring, we will take what we've learned from our members and begin to ask what faithful responses we can offer. Our response will become our new ministry plan, which will help us to become an even more compassionate, generous, and inspiring spiritual home.

Thank for your extraordinary commitment to Christ Church. Because of your faithfulness and the creative, hard work of our remarkable staff, we are in a strong position to carry out God's mission here in Charlotte and beyond.

With love and prayers,  
Chip

## **The Reverend Martha Hedgpeth**

In 2011, I went to Botswana, Costa Rica twice, and to tornado-damaged parts of Wake County. All of these trips are a part of the growing ministry of mission at Christ Church and it is very exciting to see the wonderful ways that people of all ages are transformed by mission trips. In Microfinance several loans have been made and are on schedule for repayment and we are close to making a loan to a group of women in the Diocese of Costa Rica. In the Diocesan NetsforLife campaign, we are far from our goal, but we are ahead of most other parishes.

Outreach continues to thrive with our Micah Initiatives (Rama Road Elementary School, Partners in Prevention, and the Mission Commission) as well as our ongoing work with the homeless through Room in the Inn, Family Promise, and the Salvation Army. After a couple of years of not finding enough people to participate, we were delighted to have a Poverty Simulation in mid-October. At Rama Road, we now have about 60 tutors (we need at least 100!), a burgeoning Girl Scout Troop, a book club, a bike outing group, and other events that all are changing the lives of some children in Charlotte, as well as Rama Road. In previous years, the PTA regularly had 5-6 participants; in September of this past year, 27 parents were in attendance!

Worship at Christ Church is constant and growing. I helped create and oversee two special services this fall – our Parish Day Service on 9/11 and the 125th Anniversary Service for Thompson Child and Family Focus. They were totally different and yet both deeply moving.

What I do is only done because of the extraordinary people with whom I do it, especially staff members Aimee Norman, Christine DeLia, Sarah Brincefield, and Michael Grant; and parish leaders Ann Tabor, Nancy LeDonne, Joe Kenny, Bill Stokes, Bill Lowry, Peggy Horne, Bonnie Benedum, John Cowan, Scott Cox, Ginger Garner, Melissa Burns, Eric Locher, and Margaretta Leary. But beyond these fine leaders, I am grateful to all who take leaps of faith each and every day to serve Christ and all of God's people in all sorts of ministries. I thank God for the honor and pleasure of serving with you. May 2012 bring more and more of the same.

## **The Reverend John Porter-Acee**

As most of you know, Lauren Robbins, our youth minister for the past three years, enrolled at General Theological Seminary this fall and is no longer with us. We spent two years interviewing to find the right people to continue her wonderful ministry here and we found those people in Betsy Zarzour, Director of Youth Ministries, and Drew Courtright, Youth Minister. I do not think the transition in leadership could have been any smoother, nor could we be any happier with the way Betsy and Drew have taken over the reins of our youth programs and begun to lead us in new and terrific directions. Anne Ratcliffe and Christine DeLia complete this dynamic staff team who are more than blessed to work with our adult volunteers and our increasingly effective Youth Council made up of our own High School students. We are reaching more teens in more meaningful ways than ever before.

Our Children and Family Ministry programs continue to thrive under the staff leadership of Director Anne Cullen, Assistant Director Lindsay Full, and Administrative Assistant Emily Kalmbach. Lindsay Full has taken on some additional responsibilities with fourth and fifth grade ministries as well, hoping to maintain a strong connection with our children from birth to graduation. Many thanks to the Children and Family Ministries Commission and all of the hundreds of volunteers that provide the leadership needed for our children to build a meaningful relationship with God.

In the classroom, worship, and even at the hospital bed, I am constantly in awe of the tremendous skills and wisdom I am surrounded by. The most important thing about these gifts is not the way they have been used in the past, but the way each of you continue to choose to parlay the gained wisdom and skills into your future endeavors with God and the Church. It is a privilege to try to fan the flames of the Holy Ghost in a furnace as hot as Christ Church. May God grant us the guidance needed for our passions to be used to heal the hurts of the world.

# Associate Rectors' Reports

## **The Reverend Verdery Kerr**

This past year has been marked by major transitions personally and professionally. A number of major adjustments are now complete or are under way. First, after months of decline, in early August my mother died in her 75-year old home in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Her death marks a departure from 140 years of my family there. That transition is far from over. Parishioners and staff have been strong, present and caring with words, messages and mail. Being among those who've been down this familiar life path is a big boost. I carry tremendous gratitude daily.

Throughout the year, leaders and commission members with the Sages and Parish Life Commissions, Hospitality Committee, Ambassadors and parking teams have extended themselves to honor well their respective callings and responsibilities. Now there is fresh leadership in all of these areas and new participants too. Their combination of competency and commitment is awesome. What a joy to rise up and work alongside these men and women. There is relief that a solid 'pipeline' is in place to identify and develop leaders. There is energy throughout our congregation for this too. All these areas have been strengthened and solidified. This professional transition has been wonderful. Christy Letanoksy, fellow staff member, continues to be the glue that holds us all together.

This year, a greater concentration was given to the discipling and development of men. Following attendance at a seminar last March, I made contact with some parishioners who are currently involved in non-parish venues for the building up, challenging and care of men. Several are instrumental in a morning outdoor workout group. Exercise is strenuous and held every weekday morning before 5:30 AM. Their effort is nicknamed F3 for "Fitness, Fellowship and Faith." Another man is an experienced spiritual director. Together, we comprised a steering group who conferred over five months to craft a men's discipling effort entitled "Men of Purpose." With the blessing of both Chip and Jenny Beaumont, our first official offering was in October with a Sunday morning series held in the Chapel. Attendance was such that we ran out of room. Another series is being offered in November and December called "The Holiday Road." Beyond this one, the next emphasis is the 2012 annual Men's Weekend set for January 27th – 29th at Valle Crucis Conference Center near Boone, NC. Support for and the challenging of men is a next step for the strength and deepening of Christ Church.

I rejoice in being a part of this grace-filled parish and in the understated, steady ways men, women, teens and children are following the paths and teachings of Jesus in their public and private lives. An important addition I look forward to incorporating into congregational life is the return of monthly dinner groups for adults. This is a priority for the new year.

## The Reverend Lisa Saunders

It continues to be a privilege to work in this parish. Our staff is dedicated, creative and compassionate, and our rector has extraordinary gifts for leadership. I like that not only am I encouraged and supported by my colleagues on staff, but I learn from them as well.

Here are some highlights of the past year:

- Twogether was what we named our marriage support programming. Twogether 1.0 included three Sunday morning classes and five conversation guides that couples could access online – one a week for five weeks. This was a new way to give couples an opportunity to enrich their marriage on their own timeline.
- Care Teams at Christ Church continue to be a vital and effective way for parishioners to support one another during times of challenge. Two care teams that had served for three years or more concluded their work this year. Four new care teams were organized in the year.
- A Care Team for a Rama Road Elementary family was organized at the end of 2010. This care team has enabled a young immigrant family to navigate the healthcare and government support programs available to them, attain skilled training for work, save money, learn how to cook, drive and speak English, prepare for job interviews and understand American customs, and in the meantime a wonderful friendship has been created between the family and team.
- Hope for the Hardest Hurt was a Sunday morning adult education offering this fall by the Congregational Care Commission. For four weeks, parishioners and local professionals advised parishioners on how to reach out to friends and family affected by grief, illness, mental illness and addiction. Parishioners who were willing to share their own stories proved to be the heart of this offering.
- The Bereavement Ministry Team at Christ Church continues to give tangible support to members of our congregation who are grieving the death of a loved one. Nearly every week I receive a letter or comment from someone who is grateful for this ministry.
- The Inner Journey Retreat led by The Reverend Pittman McGehee was brought to Christ Church this year, and managed beautifully by Jenny Beaumont. I was delighted to be a participant in the retreat along with 15 other Christ Church members, as well as participants from Boston, Denver and Atlanta. The retreat provided rich food for my mind and comfort food for my soul.
- The Women's Bible Study on Thursday mornings and the Bodybuilders Class (reflecting on intersections of faith and life as we build up the Body of Christ) on Mondays both provide me the opportunity to teach and learn and be blessed by the faith and journeys of those participating.

I am fortunate to work alongside my dynamo associate, Christy Letanosky, and Lynne LeBlanc, our warm and capable parish nurse. The primary work of pastoral care at Christ Church takes place one on one, parishioner to parishioner. The clergy encourage that to happen, and we are delighted and humbled.

# Senior Warden's Report

*Submitted by Wellford Tabor*

Following tradition, the Vestry began the year with our retreat. As expected, these sessions were thought provoking and purposeful as we determined our areas of focus for this year and beyond. We recommitted ourselves to the areas of stewardship, worship and the Micah Initiative. Importantly, we also committed to discovering the hopes and concerns of our congregation through essential conversations. We kicked off this effort in early spring with a pilot phase, the development of a leadership team, and a tremendous amount of work in defining the vision and execution plan for what we hoped to accomplish. More on this initiative will be addressed in the reports from our Rector and our Junior Warden.

Financially, Christ Church finished 2010 with a modest surplus, and thanks to the efforts of our EMC chairs Bruce and Mary Rinehart and Deborah and Eric Clark, we entered 2011 with a modest increase. The Vestry adopted a balanced budget for 2011, and we have continued to monitor our books regularly throughout the year. During 2011, the Vestry has elected to utilize a small portion of the built up surplus to cover several one-time expenditures. Even so, pending the fulfillment of our remaining outstanding pledges, we expect to finish 2011 with a minimal surplus.

In the Spring, we reconstituted a Stewardship Commission at Christ Church. Suzanne Bledsoe, Bill Blue, Alan Dickson, Bob Dooley, Doug Ey, Ted Garner, Ned Hardison, Joe Kluttz, Bill Lunsford, Dank Pinckney, Robert Schleusner, Anne Carter Smith, and John Stedman generously agreed to join Kimberly Mize, our Director of Stewardship, and me as we took on the challenge of critically assessing the effectiveness of Christ Church's efforts in this area. From this process, we made some alterations to how we will approach our stewardship efforts going forward. Several of these adjustments are in place this year. I want to thank the commission for its thoughtfulness and dedication, John and Julie Stedman for their tremendous creativity and leadership with this year's Annual Campaign, and Kimberly Mize for her tireless efforts, graceful persistence, and management of this important initiative throughout the year.

Summer brought a well deserved Sabbatical for our Rector. During Chip's time away, the Wardens got an invaluable glimpse into just how much is accomplished each week by our Clergy and Staff. We marveled at how everyone on the team cheerfully picked up extra work so that nothing was left undone. Our admiration goes out especially to Wendy Mauney, our Parish Administrator, for all her efforts, her communication with us on issues, and her consistency and competence in everything she does.

Our Fall has been filled with work through our commissions and with a strong focus on developing and bringing forward our *Leap of Faith* initiative and the essential conversations that will help the 2012 Vestry and church leadership chart the strategic path forward for our church.

In addition, in an effort to create greater transparency around the business of the church, we held a Sunday School class to discuss the Church's financial budget and controls. We intend to offer this class again next year as well.

Throughout the year, the Vestry's deliberations about issues have been lively, candid, and thorough. It reminded me that one of our Vestry's strengths is the diversity of perspectives that are brought to a discussion married with a unity of purpose to do what is in the best interest of Christ Church and its people.

It has been an honor to serve these past three years with my fellow members of the Vestry Class of 2011: Jim Clardy, DeeDee Dalrymple, Blanton Hamilton, and Winston Paschall. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to serve alongside DeeDee as your Senior Warden. I leave this post in awe of all the things that our clergy and staff do for others every day.

Thank you for this opportunity.

## *Submitted by DeeDee Dalrymple*

The Junior Warden typically works with the church staff in managing the property owned by the church. This year the Rector asked the Junior Warden to oversee the development and launch of Leap of Faith. Serving with the Junior Warden has been a Vestry Steering Committee, including Bill Grier, Jim Clardy, Perry Lucas, and Winston Paschall. Also participating were Parish Administrator, Wendy Mauney and the Rector, Chip Edens.

Leap of Faith began with the Vestry's acknowledgment that Christ Church is nearing the end of an incredibly successful five-year strategic plan to establish Christ Church as a Spiritual Home; a community where we love God, care for each other and serve the world. As a Spiritual Home, Christ Church is a central and sustaining force in the lives of our people. Christ Church and the world that we serve have changed a lot in five years and it's time to consider where God may be leading us. Leap of Faith will invite and challenge our parishioners to consider God's direction for us individually and as a community.

On September 18, 2011, Leap of Faith was launched with the Rector's Sunday School class which was followed by the Rector's Faith Forum series and the Clergy Sermon Series with the purpose of exploring faith in many aspects of our lives. On January 15, 2012, the second season of Leap of Faith will be launched with questions that our parishioners will be invited to answer in one-on-one and in small group conversations. The answers to these questions will help shape the future for Christ Church and for our people. In the spring, summer and fall of 2012, the Vestry, joined with church leadership, Clergy and staff, will develop a plan and will consider the resources needed. It will be a plan that is sure to inspire and challenge us. It will be our Leap of Faith.

As the Junior Warden led Leap of Faith, the care and oversight of our facilities and grounds was led by our Facility Manager, Van Hill, and the Parish Administrator, Wendy Mauney. Van also oversees a staff of sextons including Clayton Pride, Sedrick Roberson, Nikki Rushing and Greg Young. This group does a tremendous job preparing our facilities for worship and meetings.

Over the past several years, the Buildings, Grounds & Memorials Committee (BG&M) has greatly assisted in the care of our grounds and facilities. With David Kern as Chair, the BG&M members include Catherine Browning, Scott Cox, Suzi Hemingway, Van Hill, Eric Locher, Sara Lowe, Lulie Mallard, Bill Nichols, and Fred Paschall. The Junior Warden is an ex officio member of this committee.

BG&M works with families whose departed loved ones included the church in their planned giving. Many people include the church in their wills, and also ask that gifts in their memory be made to the church. Kimberly Mize has joined the church staff to help parishioners to include Christ Church in their plans. Church members are encouraged to contact Kimberly at the church office with any questions.

Facility projects completed in 2011 include the following:

- Thanks to the generous donations to Buildings Grounds and Memorials, in memory of loved ones, funding was provided for pewter communion set for All Saints' Hall, magnetic locks for 3 sets of doors, trees and shrubs for the grounds, fair linens, new signage/map at entrances, and cassocks.
- Thanks to a generous gift in memory of a parishioner, a new sound system was installed in the sanctuary.
- In a process expertly led by Eric Locher, Bill Nichols, Van Hill, and Wendy Mauney, we installed new HVAC systems and roofing for the St. Francis/Administration Building. The 12 systems replaced were 21 years old and typically last around 15 years. The majority of the funding for this work came from the Property, Plant and Equipment Fund of Christ Church Foundation.
- Exterior painting and repair was done in two areas, the alley side of the building and the parking lot side of the St. Francis/Administration building.
- New carpet and curtains were installed in the Parlor.

In 2008, the church purchased four homes along Providence Road, between our far parking lot and Portland Avenue. The homes have remained leased. As we discern God's direction through Leap of Faith, we will be exploring the use of these properties and the resources needed.

Christ Church has been blessed with outstanding facilities, which are used daily and nightly for ministry and outreach. We offer many thanks to the parishioners and staff who see that the buildings and grounds are maintained for future generations.

As Junior Warden, it has been a privilege to work with the Leap of Faith Vestry Steering Committee, the Vestry, the Rector and Senior Warden, and with the Clergy and staff. I have been inspired daily by all of the people at Christ Church who in ways too numerous to list, demonstrate their love for God, their devotion to each other and their commitment to serve the world. We are blessed with people who are ready and eager to embrace all that God is calling us to be as His people.

# Treasurer's Report

*Submitted by Dick Parkhurst*

It is a pleasure once again to provide a review of our financial results for 2010 and report on the financial position of Christ Church. Please join me in thanking Wendy Mauney, Joyce Sellers and Jo Ann Linker who deserve credit for the ongoing management of our accounts and the health of our finances.

Below are the financial results for the past several years along with the budget for 2011. Please note that the financial presentation now reflects the interest associated with the debt on the four properties along Providence Road. To date, the interest on this debt has been funded primarily through generous gifts received for this purpose, bequests and surpluses generated in recent years. Beginning in 2012, however, we will be including the full amount of this expense (approximately \$220,000) in our annual operating budget as we do not expect additional gifts available for this purpose.

	2008 Actual		2009 Actual		2010 Actual		2011 Budget	
Operating Receipts	\$4,214,156		\$3,994,517		\$3,901,513		\$3,941,705	
Funds from Debt Service Reserve	\$126,890		\$178,349		\$195,837		\$208,000	
Total Receipts	\$4,341,046		\$4,172,866		\$4,097,350		\$4,149,705	
Personnel & Admin	\$2,455,387	61%	\$2,399,572	63%	\$2,464,513	64%	\$2,562,573	65%
Diocese of NC	448,645	11%	502,308	13%	502,308	13%	460,103	12%
Buildings & Grounds	383,081	9%	322,587	9%	322,586	8%	325,974	8%
Outreach	370,036	9%	363,794	10%	363,324	9%	376,000	10%
Programs	387,625	10%	196,139	5%	206,708	5%	217,055	6%
Operating Expenses	\$4,044,774		\$3,784,400		\$3,859,439		\$3,941,705	
Property Interest	\$126,890		\$178,349		\$195,837		208,000	
Total Expenses	\$4,171,664		\$3,962,749		\$4,055,276		\$4,149,705	
Annual Surplus (Deficit)	\$169,382		\$210,117		\$42,074		\$0	
Use of Surplus	\$0		\$0		(\$100,000)		(\$81,000)	
Accumulated Surplus (Deficit)	\$1,631		\$211,748		\$153,822		\$72,822	

I am happy to report that we ended 2010 with a surplus marking the third consecutive year with an operating surplus. For the year, receipts were \$11,843 ahead of budget while expenses were \$30,231 below budget combining for the annual surplus of \$42,074. The surpluses generated in 2008, 2009 and 2010 have provided funding for a variety of needs, including the property interest, staffing and retirement of deficits. Given the challenging economic environment, these results reflect a continuing commitment to stewardship within our parish and the diligent management of expenses by our staff and commissions. Despite meaningful growth in our membership and our ministries, expenses have remained essentially flat over the past several years with the exception of personnel expense, where we have added eight much needed staff members, to help support our numerous new programs and other strategic plan goals. I continue to be amazed at how our staff and volunteers do more and more with limited resources each year in carrying out the expanding ministries at Christ Church and in our community.

After allocating \$100,000 of our accumulated surplus to the debt service reserve in support of the debt associated with the properties along Providence Road, we entered 2011 with surplus funds of \$153,822. During 2011, an additional \$81,000 was allocated to personnel costs, leaving a remaining surplus of \$72,822 available to meet other needs as they arise.

With respect to the property debt, we negotiated a favorable extension of maturity earlier this year, but we will continue to think strategically about how best to manage this obligation in light of the overall financial position and capacity of Christ Church. The inclusion of the related interest in our operating budget reflects the vestry's commitment to meeting and communicating openly about this obligation. Although it is everyone's desire to repay this debt, the vestry continues to view that as an objective best evaluated in conjunction with other long term goals for Christ Church. Until those goals become clear and a plan developed for meeting them, the interest should be viewed as fixed expense funded within our annual budget.

Although I can make no predictions on how we will end 2011, we have been largely on budget throughout the year. As is the case every year, December pledge receipts account for 25% of the budget and, thus, will determine our full year results. As of November 30th, a total of \$1,008,000, in unpaid pledges were outstanding. With expenses in line with budget, receipt of these pledges should enable us to complete the year in balance.

Although the economic environment continues to be challenging, Christ Church remains financially healthy thanks to our commitment to stewardship and the tireless efforts of our staff and volunteers. It has been a pleasure to serve another year as your treasurer.

*Submitted by Jenny Beaumont and John Cashion*

The Adult Spiritual Formation Commission seeks to offer programs to meet parishioners where they are and offer programs in a variety of settings and styles to help them on their Christian spiritual journey.

Education For Ministry (EFM), a formation program for adults who want to dig deeper into the Christian faith, study the Bible, Church history, theological ideas, and reflect on connecting faith with life experiences, continues to have a full and vibrant group mentored by Lois Ann Partridge. Two new groups formed this year and meet on Monday morning and Monday evening. Linda Bomar and Jenny Beaumont are mentoring these new groups.

Wednesday Night programming continued with dinner and fellowship, followed by diverse offerings including Art through the Bible, Parenting Teens Classes, Beginners Bridge and Bible Workbench. One parishioner tells the story of how her life has been transformed by the offerings on Wednesday night. From the children's choir program to the weekly dinner, fond fellowship to the adult offerings, her family is nurtured and fed. Our hopes for Wednesday night are blooming!

On Sunday mornings, The Reverend Chip Edens continued the dynamic Faith Forum which focused on The Leap of Faith with Brian McClaren, Tad Roach, Dr. Ned Hallowell, Bob Chapman and Shane Claiborne. Studying, learning and growing did not stop on Sunday, but continued in offerings throughout the week. The Woman's Evening Bible Study Group read Joan Chittister's book "Becoming Fully Human: The Greatest Glory of God" and Rob Bell's "Love Wins". The Thursday Morning Bible Study Group studied Steven Smith's "Soul Shaping" and learned about Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam from three guest speakers in connection with Mecklenburg Ministries.

Our formation programs, on Sundays and through the week, seek to bring faith into our everyday lives. Our commission welcomes your thoughts and reflections as we seek to meet you where you are on the Christian journey.

Adult Spiritual Formation Commission: John Cashion – Chair, Deborah Clark - Vestry Liaison, Lisa Mateboer, John Stedman, Lewis Tabb, Tere Ey, Tom McMillan, Mark Riopel, Jennifer Bennett, Gene Bowles, John Crehore, Jim Horton, Maggie Loselle,

Staff Members: Jenny Beaumont, Emily Kalmbach, The Reverend Chip Edens - Clergy Liaison

# Children and Family Ministries

*Submitted by Anne Cullen*

In his book, “Will Our Children Have Faith?” John Westerhoff notes “persons have turned for solace to teaching children what the Bible says, what happened in the history of the church, what we believe, and what is right and wrong... But there is a great difference between learning about the Bible and living as a disciple of Jesus Christ.”

Children and Family Ministry continues to look for opportunities to extend our learning about the Bible and create chances for our children and their families to practice living as a disciple of Christ.

Here are some highlights of these opportunities from the past year:

- Share A Book, Share the Love- During our Christmas Pageant in 2010 we asked our families to donate books. In early February, we hosted an evening of family fun and dinner in All Saints’ Hall. The families gathered to make bags for every classroom at Rama Road – over 30 bags were made, decorated, and filled with the books we collected at the pageant and a fresh set of school supplies. Unfortunately, only a few of us were able to experience the smiles on the faces of the teachers and students as we delivered the bags, brimming with goodies, to the individual classrooms.
- Vacation Bible School- When Jesus was A Kid – Our theme this year helped our children imagine what life might have been like for Jesus as he was young and growing, just like them. VBS always provides us with an opportunity to care for others. Our children (and their parents) collected \$1,908 which enabled us to make a donation to NetsForLife; a program sponsored by the Episcopal Relief and Development fund and purchase 159 mosquito nets. Our parish has been challenged to donate one net per parishioner, so the children attending VBS chipped away at that challenge. Our 4th and 5th graders had a service project of their own. During VBS, this group of children spent the majority of the week offsite learning about different agencies around Charlotte. Before VBS this year, the children were asked to raise money, which would be used to help with some of the special needs of the Ronald McDonald House. We were hoping they would not just ask their parents for some extra funds but would engage in some extra chores or other tasks to raise funds. As usual, some extraordinary things happened. Kiley Copps and Lindsay Jones, two of our VBS participants, sponsored a lemonade stand and bake sale in their neighborhood which generated over \$200. They raised money to buy games to stock the family room at the Ronald McDonald House and purchase grocery store cards to help the families staying there feel a little more comfortable. What a sense of pride they had when they were able to present the games and gift cards to the Ronald McDonald House.
- Camp SOS – Learning to Serve OtherS – This was a new camp we offered in August. It was created and led by parishioner Shana Plott and Alicia Gagnon. This camp engaged 30 campers in a week full of service projects, loads of fun and a little Zumba dancing. The children learned about how to take care of our environment, some of the needs of the children in Liberia, and caring for animals. One of the many highlights of the week was the day they spent with a group of developmentally disabled adults. The adults came to Christ Church where they enjoyed making a flower vase with the campers and sharing a wonderful dessert our campers made earlier in the day. The adults even joined the campers in the Zumba dancing at the end of the day.
- Advent Festival- We included a new dimension to our 2011 Advent Festival. Not only did the families have a chance to make some child-friendly nativity sets and ornaments but many of them took time to wrap some of the gifts the parish purchased for the children of Duff, Tennessee. Although the gifts may not have been wrapped with precision, they were definitely wrapped with lots of tape and love.

Children and Family Ministry Commission: Laura Baughan, Sean Bird, Anne Bowman, Parmele Calame - Chair, Dee Campbell, Ginny Cobb, Laura Copps, Laura Fahrney, Bill Grier – Vestry Liaison, Tripp Rudisill, David Stedman, Boo Viser, Will Warlick, Sally Wyche

Staff Members: Anne Cullen, Lindsay Full, Emily Kalmbach, Stephanie Brimigion, The Reverend John Porter-Acee

*Submitted by Ed Dalrymple*

The Christ Church Foundation was founded November 21, 1962 by the Vestry as a separate trust within the parish to receive, manage and distribute funds for “religious purposes,” a term defined to include “education, charitable, missionary and other purposes.” The trust was incorporated as a non-profit North Carolina corporation on November 14, 1969. The trust administered by the Foundation now consists of the following distinct funds: a general “Outreach Fund,” a “Property, Plant and Equipment Fund,” a “Clergy Housing Fund,” two “Scholarship Funds,” a fund dedicated to support for Habitat for Humanity, and an “Unrestricted Fund.”

The management and administration of Foundation assets are directed by nine Trustees appointed by the Vestry, each eligible to serve two, three-year terms. In addition, the Senior Warden, Junior Warden, and the Chair of the Outreach Commission serve as ex-officio Trustees, and the Rector and a representative of planned giving are welcome participants at all Trustee meetings.

The Foundation accepts both unrestricted contributions and restricted contributions for such purposes as are designated by donors and the Trustees. In 2011, the Foundation established an “Unrestricted Fund,” to allow for greater Foundation flexibility. Undesignated contributions will be deposited into the “Unrestricted Fund.” The allocation of funds available for distribution from the “Unrestricted Fund” may be allocated to any one or any combination of the other existing funds, may be allowed to accumulate in the “Unrestricted Fund” for future distribution or may be distributed as requested by the Rector and Senior Warden for unusual, extraordinary and/or unforeseen needs of the congregation or the larger community, or any combination of these.

To improve coordination of overall outreach giving by the Church, the Trustees of the Foundation consider recommendations from the Outreach Commission for distributions from the Foundation’s Outreach Fund. The Foundation encourages parties seeking grants from the Foundation’s Outreach Fund to submit their requests to the Outreach Commission.

As of December 31, 2010, the Foundation’s total assets were \$3,369,577. Since delivery of the 2010 Annual Report, the Foundation has made the following grants from the respective funds:

Outreach	\$20,500
Habitat	\$11,000
Scholarships	\$ 9,250 (10 recipients)
Overall Total	\$40,750

The Outreach grants consisted of the following: Southminster Foundation - \$4,000, Pastoral Counseling Ministry at St. Peters - \$6,000, RAIN - \$6,000, Hope Haven - \$2,500, Society of St. Andrew - \$2,000

In addition, \$27,250 was allocated to the Property, Plant, and Equipment Fund for future needs.

The Foundation continues to work with Joe Kluttz and the planned giving committee to encourage the congregation to make gifts and take advantage of planned giving techniques, thereby becoming “Oak Circle” members and helping enlarge the corpus of the Foundation.

Foundation Members: Ed Dalrymple, President; Ben Lucas, Vice President, Suzanne Bledsoe, Secretary; John Chanon, Treasurer; Nancy LeDonne (Outreach Liaison); DeeDee Dalrymple (Junior Warden); Wellford Tabor (Senior Warden); Tere Ey; Scott Stevens; Mary Rinehart; Travis Hain, Catherine Browning

# Christ Church Kindergarten

*Submitted by Amie Hutchinson*

The 2011-2012 school year began in September by introducing our vision for the future, the CCK Strategic Plan. This process helped to identify and prioritize a set of policy goals for CCK over the next 2-3 years. The Strategic Planning process was an opportunity for CCK to accomplish two important objectives in advancing our school. The first, and arguably more important, is the involvement of the school community in a process that brings them together to focus on the direction and priorities of CCK and build consensus around those priorities. It is the process of discourse among constituents – Vestry, church members, teachers, administrators, school board members, parents, and donors – that builds mutual respect and a stronger sense of community and shared purpose. This is the glue that holds effective schools together.

The second was the product of the Strategic Planning process. This is a blueprint for action drawn by agreement of diverse members of the school community, which offers the school's leadership a focal point for decision making and communication.

CCK will be joined with the Children and Family Ministries and the Nursery Commission for our annual Christ Church Kids 2012 FUNraiser. Our annual FUNraiser benefits the children programs of Christ Church.

CCK has a current enrollment of 211 children with 170 families. CCK has a staff of 46, with many lead teachers holding a teaching certificate or similar credentials within a related field. The students enjoy a variety of classroom activities designed to facilitate “whole brain” development, stimulating as many areas of the mind as possible. Among these diverse tools students learn from are: the Lippincott and Phonics methods for language and reading, Physical Education, The Learning Center, Christian Education, Science, Spanish, and Music. Early ethical and spiritual enrichment is a priority with daily devotionals, Bible stories and age appropriate religious songs prevalent throughout the curriculum. Twice monthly, a member of the clergy leads a chapel service for the four and five year olds. Field trips, seasonal performances for parents, and graduation ceremonies for Kindergarteners reward students and aim to give a feeling of accomplishment. CCK is fully funded by annual tuition and registration income fees, gifts to the CCK Fund and through our annual fundraising campaign. The Kindergarten is governed by a Board of Directors, which meets at least monthly.

Board of Directors: Beeland Voellinger - Chair, The Reverend Chip Edens - Clergy Representative, Rob Vaughn - Treasurer, Amie Hutchison - Head of School, Tracy Jackson - Assistant Head of School, Barbara Finn - Teacher Representative, Kathy Upton- Parent Representative, Garrett Mosley - Vestry Liaison, Alice Adams, Brian Boone, Emily Harry, Brad House, Greg Jones, Perry Marshall, Haley Poole

*Submitted by Carol Morano*

The Congregational Care Commission continued to offer opportunities to nurture the souls of parishioners by providing care and support in various ways. Fostering support and encouragement of others through spiritual growth in real-life issues was the focus of programs developed this year. An online series entitled Together offered tools to grow and strengthen marriage. A series of Sunday morning classes entitled Hope for the Hardest Hurts addressed the hurt, loss, and grief associated with death, extended illness, addiction, and mental illness. This series, which featured personal stories of parishioners along with professional input, was delivered with a constructive and God-centered approach. Feedback has been positive with examples given of new bonds formed, facing old wounds, renewed sense of hope, and ability to focus on steps toward healing. Brian Clark, a 9/11 survivor, also came to speak of his experiences and God's presence in such a crisis.

Additionally, this year eight care teams have assisted parishioners in need of support, ranging from driving a parishioner to weekly doctor appointments to regular visits providing companionship to a homebound parishioner. For the first time, a care team was established for a non-member, a refugee family at Rama Road Elementary. This experience has been transforming for both the family and the care team. The annual All Saints' Day Eucharist and luncheon on November 1st offered support to those remembering loved ones and an opportunity to share lunch with others who have mourned the loss of someone in the past year. The Commission also participated as a group in hosting the Room in the Inn ministry and looks forward to participating again next year.

Ongoing ministries include:

- Bereavement Ministry
- Friendly Freezer
- Lay Eucharist Ministers
- Prayer Shawl Ministry
- Phoebe Guild
- Special Delivery
- Sunshine Guild
- Support of Parish Nurse, Lynne LeBlanc

Congregational Care Commission: Carol Morano - Chair, Sophie Allen, Pam Anderson, Hontas Bidgood, Leigh Bowles, Ann Gelting, Ellie Lindemann, Mary Lunsford, David McGuire, Otis Northington, Peter White, and Lisa Cashion -Vestry Liaison

# Episcopal Church Women

*Submitted by Patty Lambert*

Time flies when you're having fun...or serving others...or learning from others...or sharing life experiences...or raising money for those in need in your community, your state, your world. The Episcopal Church Women (ECW) of Christ Church have had a busy year engaging in all of the above.

In January, we kicked off the year with a full board meeting of 2010 and 2011 chairpersons reporting of past successes and future endeavors. That day was followed by a beautiful brunch in the Blue Room for all the Past Presidents of ECW. What a gathering! We had twenty-six women attend the event who held terms dating back to 1973. Stories were shared, memories abounded, lessons were learned and an endearing, meaningful time was had by all. In this same month, ECW held an Annual Meeting during Sunday School for all the women of the church. It was a time to learn about the year's activities and how everyone, women of all ages, can get involved. This incredibly busy month concluded with the ever-so-anticipated Mission Funding Meeting where the committee decides which agencies receive our 2010 profits from the Christmas Bazaar and Good News Shop. The ECW mission funding focuses on organizations that support and aid women and children. We were able to give \$52,250 to 35 agencies. Job well done to the women of 2010!

Throughout the year, the ECW Executive Board met once or twice a month for administrative purposes and to host non-profit agencies that are of interest to our mission funding goal. We also hosted monthly gatherings (alternating mornings and evenings) titled "Perk Up" – ECW Coffee Stop and "Wind-Down" – ECW Sip & Share in the Parlor and Blue Room. This provided a venue for all women of Christ Church to experience fellowship and sharing in a casual environment.

Springtime found many women searching for peace, balance and renewal. In April, Rev. Patty Willet, Associate Rector at St. Michael's and All Angels Episcopal Church in Dallas, TX, graced us with her wisdom at the Friendship Feast. A record-breaking 226 women enjoyed her message of "Finding Balance in a Chaotic World". Later that month, 50 women travelled to DeBordieu Beach, South Carolina for the ECW Women's Retreat. The Rev. Marty Hedgpeth led the group in study and reflection about "Life on the Edge...Risks & Rewards". This inaugural weekend would not have been possible without the gracious and generous hospitality of nine Christ Church families who allowed the women of Christ Church to use their beautiful beach homes. From Friday – Sunday, the women had time to learn from Marty and each other, share stories and experiences, study passages and find relevance, laugh with each other, bask (or sleep or talk) under the sun's warm rays, pray, walk along the shore, shop, eat, reflect and rejuvenate.

The fall and winter ramped up with another full board meeting recapping and assessing the year. We hosted a Staff Appreciation Luncheon in October, Advent Luncheon in November involving members of our parish speaking about their personal centering disciplines, Rev. Lisa Saunders' reflections and a special closing by Anne Ratcliffe and Drew Courtright. The grand finale was a spectacular Christmas Bazaar on December 3rd filled with treasures of gifts, greenery and food for the community to purchase with proceeds benefitting non-profit agencies that support women and children in need. 2011 was a year of growth, renewal and inaugural ideas that will, hopefully, bless and aid many for years to come.

*We All Belong... Women of Every Generation.*

ECW Executive Board: Patty Lambert - President; Jessica Fallis - 1st VP; Kaky Cassada - 2nd VP; Katie Bates - Secretary; Heather Bonner - Treasurer; Nancy Targart - Asst. Treasurer; Cindy Nicholson and Liz Ritchie - Fellowship; Sally Cooper - Vestry Liaison, The Reverend Lisa Saunders - Clergy Liaison

ECW Board Chairs: Advent Luncheon, Terry Wolfe/Jane Showalter; Art Gallery, Murray Parker/Margaret Salisbury; Bazaar, Mary Lunsford/Elizabeth Langston; Bulletin Board, Eileen Griggs; Devotionals, Syble Carson; Friendship Feast, Ellen Holland/Sarah Lathrop; Good News, Peggy Horne/Lynne McAdams; Guild Coordinator, Laney Lay; Mission Funding, Mary Katherine Black; Nominations, Jane Bolt; Women's Retreat, Catharine Pappas/Ann Tabor/Lisa Williamson; UTO, Jane Novak

*Submitted by Michael Grant*

The Liturgical Commission is made up of members who represent the various areas of worship and music in the life of Christ Church. Bill Lowry, who is the coordinator of the Ushers, is the Chairman of this committee. Peggy Horne and Bonnie Benedum are the representatives for the Altar Guild. Ginger Garner is the representative for the Acolytes. Melissa Burns and Eric Locher are in charge of Chalice Bearers and Lectors. Dallas Reese is the Musician Leader for the 8:45 AM Contemporary Worship service and Margaretta Leary serves as the representative on the commission for that service. Scott Cox and Judd McAdams are At Large Representatives. Van Hill reports on the facility and Jim Clardy represents the Vestry. Lisa Lashley is the Music Leader for the 11:15 AM Discovery Service and Lise Hinton is the representative. Lisa Lashley also serves as the Children's Choir Coordinator. Budd Kirby is the Musician Leader for the 5:00 PM worship service. Marty Hedgpath is the Clergy on this commission. Michael Grant, Interim Director of Music and Organist, also serves on this commission.

The St. Francis Choir is made up of first and second grade boys and girls. The St. Cecilia Choir is composed of third through fifth grade girls, and the St. Nicolas Choir is composed of third through fifth grade boys. The older girls make up the Christ Church Singers, and the Parish Choir and the Christ Church Choir are made up of young and older adults.

Upcoming events for the Liturgical Commission are:

- Advent Lessons and Carols, Sunday, December 4th at 5:00 PM.
- Outreach Christmas concert by the Christ Church Singers at Southminster, Sunday, December 11th at 5:00 PM.
- Christmas Eve services at 3:00 PM, 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM, and 10:30 PM.
- The Christ Church Choir will be singing the Vivaldi "Gloria" as the prelude music before the 10:30 PM Christmas Eve service.
- Christ Church Singers will be singing at the Episcopal Church of Christ and St. Stephen in New York City on Sunday, January 15, 2012.

Liturgical Commission Members: Bill Lowry – Chair, Peggy Horne, Bonnie Benedum, Ginger Garner, Melissa Burns, Eric Locher, Margaretta Leary, Scott Cox, Judd McAdams, Van Hill, Jim Clardy – Vestry Liaison

# Mission

*Submitted by Bill Stokes*

The Mission Commission is dedicated to serving those in need both globally and in the US (outside of the greater Charlotte-Mecklenburg community). Our service and work typically involves initiatives or aid in communities and countries where parishioners can be of service and hopefully make a meaningful impact on the quality of life of individuals and communities in great need who have experienced lasting poverty, lack of funding, inadequate knowledge and skills, setbacks after natural disasters, etc.

With the renewed emphasis on Mission as a direct outgrowth of The Micah Initiative, 2011 has been marked by service both in locales whom we have worked with for several years, as well as by successful new initiatives. Examples of these new and continuing initiatives in 2011 are:

- Christ Church's first mission trip to Botswana in February with 10 parishioners going and helping in the minor refurbishing and painting of a small town church.
- Three mission trips to Costa Rica helped to build a new Hogar Escuela in Heredia and began a series of healthcare lectures to local residents lacking vital healthcare information.
- Mission's Microfinance subcommittee has been hard at work identifying those in need of a lending hand outside of the US (particularly Costa Rica). \$1,400 in loans have been made to date. Christ Church High School Youth have become directly and intimately involved in identifying, approving, and following several candidates for our microfinance assistance.
- Christ Church made its first mission trip to a hurricane damaged locale in eastern NC where parishioners helped to rebuild a home in Wake County near Raleigh.
- Our new Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) liaison team helped to focus our attention on other areas in the world that need our help (e.g., NetsForLife program; Gifts for Life catalog; natural disaster, tornado and hurricane relief, etc.).
- A final trip to Bay St. Louis, MS was made early in the year, but as there are no longer any permanent local relief partners with which Christ Church can coordinate work, no future trips are planned at this time. Unfortunately, several US natural disasters (particularly tornadoes) during 2011 leave other locales in great need of assistance. Also, Christ Church's 30+ year relationship with the Appalachian children in Duff, TN continues with the annual gifts made in December of each year.

For the coming year of 2012, our plans include the following:

- A second mission trip to Botswana to the same town as we build local relationships, probably taking place in late April.
- Continuing to build strong and lasting relationships with the people served by the Episcopal Diocese of Costa Rica and the Hogar Escuela in Heredia through trips to Costa Rica with probably three trips as in 2011.
- Continue to identify and help domestic locales in need due to disasters through "USA Reconstruction" trips, particularly those affected by natural disasters such as hurricanes and tornadoes.
- Expand Microfinance lending throughout the world, but particularly to needy individuals and families in Costa Rica. An example is the Microfinance Subcommittee's work with Fundación Mujer to help identify needy and qualified women in Costa Rica. For Christ Church High School Youth, a broader roll-out is planned to offer more youth classes in order to put more money to work.
- Grow and strengthen our ERD participation through initiatives where Christ Church can make a meaningful impact (e.g., NetsForLife), and a continued focus on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Mission Commission: Bill Stokes – Chair, Michael Beaumont, Scott Cox, Scott Griffin, Reuben Hufham, Adair Kenny, Jon Kocmond, Pete Krug, Mark Landers, Laura McLean, Chris Morris, Geoff Peters, Lewis Tabb, Dany Williams, Fletcher Gregory – Vestry Liaison

Staff Members: Sarah Brincefield, Christine DeLia, The Reverend Marty Hedgpath, Aimee Norman

*Submitted by Nancy W. LeDonne*

Christ Church is committed to being a loving community of support and spiritual growth, being faithful stewards of God's many blessings and using God's gifts to serve the needs of our community and world. The Outreach Commission plays an important role in leading our parish to live these core values through its long-standing tradition of effective outreach and servant leadership following the teachings of Jesus Christ. The Commission is comprised of 15 parishioners\* who serve a 3-year term. Each year 5 members are added while 5 members roll off the Commission. Each member is assigned as a liaison to one or two of the agencies supported by the Commission. The Commission is charged with being good stewards of the Christ Church outreach budget, which totaled \$345,000 in 2011 and supported 21 local agencies.

In an effort to be strategic about the support it provides and to focus on areas of community need and the potential to make a greater impact, the Commission finalized the work begun last year to develop better guidelines for the distribution of grant monies. These guidelines, which are set out below, will be reviewed each year to confirm they continue to provide helpful guidance:

Financial grants from the Outreach Commission of Christ Episcopal Church are made in response to the call of Jesus to share all we have and to be good stewards of the gifts we have been given. Seeking to be faithful and responsible disciples, the following guidelines have been established as ideal, not absolute criteria to help us focus our ministries in the community.

The Outreach Commission will support organizations associated with Housing, Poverty Prevention, and Children.

- Each organization we support should provide an opportunity for Christ Church parishioners to volunteer.
- The Outreach gift to the organization should not exceed 10% of the agency's overall budget.
- The Outreach gift to the organization should not exceed 10% of the Christ Church total outreach budget unless it is a core church initiative with strong parishioner involvement (*e.g. Rama Road, Habitat.*)
- The Outreach gift to the organization should be greater than 1% of the total Outreach budget.
- The organization should allocate at least 80% of its total budget to programming.

The Commission accomplished another one of its long standing goals with the help of Crisis Assistance Ministry to sponsor a Poverty Simulation. Through an evening of role-playing, parishioners were able to experience firsthand challenges that those living in poverty face every day. The participants wholeheartedly agreed that the simulation had a tremendous impact on them and provided them with a much greater appreciation for the difficulties families in poverty routinely confront.

Another goal of the Commission this year was to investigate the potential of capturing information about the volunteer hours donated by our parishioners. A Subcommittee on Volunteers was formed, and great strides were made to develop a strategy to capture the skills, interests and capabilities information needed, and to determine how this information could best be accessed and used. More to come on this in 2012!

The Commission also continued to incorporate the Micah Initiatives into its work for 2011 through funding and volunteer opportunities, both on a regular basis and in one-off activities, such as the Thanksgiving Turkey Drive. Updates were provided to the Commission each month on these initiatives.

Outreach Commission: Nancy LeDonne – Chair, Joe Kenny – Vice Chair, Marjorie Bray, Mary Katherine Black, Sue Breckenridge, Eric Clark, Gorrell Cheek, Roger Cobb, Christy Howey, Ralph Hunter, Pete Krug, Arrington Mixon, Lois Ann Partridge, Anne Ranson, Greg Seaton, Mary Davis Smart; Dank Pinckney - Vestry Liaison.

Staff Members: Sarah Brincefield, Christine DeLia, The Reverend Marty Hedgpeth, Aimee Norman

\*This year there are 16.

# Parish Life

*Submitted by Danby Donlan, Chairperson*

The Parish Life Commission is committed to providing multiple events throughout the year, offering members of Christ Church opportunities to gather and connect in casual social settings. The sponsored events appeal to everyone and are designed to foster fellowship among members.

Hospitality/Newcomers (Page Gatewood): The Hospitality Committee continued to be an integral part of Parish Life. Events such as Vespers in the Garden and the Advent Lessons and Carols reception created warm and inviting occasions. This committee was also responsible for the parking teams that have eased the parking dilemmas that can occur on Sunday mornings, as well as the volunteer ambassadors, which welcomed and directed newcomers. This summer, the committee hosted several outdoor gatherings where parishioners enjoyed refreshments and conversation after Sunday morning services.

Easter Egg Hunt (Mary Richard McCoy): The annual Easter egg hunt is a very popular tradition at Christ Church. Many children and their families enjoyed the festivities that occurred during the afternoon of Easter Sunday.

Hot Dog Sundays (Penn Lawrence and Geoffrey Mize): These six informal outdoor luncheon events were a summertime favorite for many members. The occasions provided opportunities for members to enjoy both a delicious meal and fellowship.

Parish Weekend at Kanuga (Tim O'Brien, Todd Dixon, Kevin and Sarah Ryan, Spencer and Elizabeth Langston): This August, 88 people participated in the annual parish retreat at Kanuga, an Episcopal center in the NC mountains. This event offered fellowship and a place to reconnect with family and friends. Events such as the Friday night campfire with s'mores, family scavenger hunt, outdoor BBQ dinner and live music, as well as multiple opportunities for spiritual growth, provided participants an incredible weekend.

Fall Parish Day (Hunter Saussy and Cannon Thomas): This year Fall Parish Day coincided with the tenth anniversary of September 11th, and the parish honored the event as a time of remembrance, hope and survival. Following a special Parish Day Eucharist, all were invited outside to enjoy a wonderful meal as well as several outreach opportunities to support communities, locally, nationally and worldwide. Activities included the collection of canned goods, shooting hoops for NetsForLife, packing meals for STOP HUNGER NOW, and the writing of letters of gratitude for the men and women of our nation's armed services. Local first responders were invited to celebrate the day with us as well.

Commission Members: Page Gatewood, Mary Richard McCoy, Penn Lawrence, Geoffrey Mize, Tim O'Brien, Todd Dixon, Kevin and Sarah Ryan, Spencer and Elizabeth Langston, Hunter Saussy, Cannon Thomas, Perry Lucas - Vestry Liaison, and Danby Donlan

Staff Members: The Reverend Verdery Kerr and Christy Letanosky

*Submitted by Kimberly Mize*

## **Stewardship**

In March 2011, a stewardship working committee was convened by Senior Warden, Wellford Tabor. After a number of working sessions, it was decided to reinstitute the Stewardship Commission, with approval from the Vestry. The Stewardship Commission has worked hard to examine all aspects of the Annual Stewardship Campaign, including this name change (formerly the Every Member Canvass).

The 2012 Annual Stewardship Campaign was launched October 17, 2011, with 1,800 packets mailed to parish members. The theme of the 2012 campaign is "Let Your Light Shine." A cover letter and brochure were included in the all-parish mailing, outlining the greatest financial needs of Christ Church. Three key areas of focus for the 2011 EMC are:

- Clergy for Pastoral Care
- Outreach and Mission
- Youth and Children
- Annual Stewardship Campaign 2012 Co-Chairs are John and Julie Stedman. Kimberly Mize is the Director of Stewardship. The 2011 Vestry Stewardship Liaison is Wellford Tabor.

Stewardship Commission: Suzanne Bledsoe, Bill Blue, Alan Dickson, Bob Dooley, Doug Ey, Ted Garner, Ned Hardison, Joe Kluttz, Bill Lunsford, Dank Pinckney, Robert Schleusner, Anne Carter Smith, John Stedman, Wellford Tabor.

## **Planned Giving**

Presented by the Oak Circle and organized by the Planned Giving Committee, the second annual Legacy Sunday was celebrated on March 27, 2011. All services throughout the day included sermons dedicated to the meaning of legacy in the Bible. A Sunday School class focused on "Celebrating Generosity" attracted a packed-house in the Blue Room, with slides from the past 60 years of Christ Church and moving stories from parishioners of all ages.

The Oak Circle is pleased to report that there are currently 94 completed estate commitments on the books with 18 additional estates in process. Continued marketing efforts are in the works.

Planned Giving Committee: Joe Kluttz - Chair, Amanda Anders, Bob Dooley, Ned Hardison, Frank Horne, Eric Locher, Bailey Patrick, Jim Preston, Pinkney Rankin, Robin Rogers, Skip Smart, Zach Smith, Dick Thigpen, Bo Thomas, and Anne Tomlinson. Ex Officio: Ed Dalrymple - Chair of the Christ Church Foundation and The Reverend Chip Edens, Rector.

# Youth Ministries

*Submitted by Betsy Zarzour*

What a blessing it is to be a part of such a joy filled spiritual home! It has been a delight and privilege to join Christ Church, alongside Drew Courtright, and be a part of the fantastic ministries led by John Porter-Acee and Anne Ratcliffe, assisted by Christine DeLia.

2011 has been a healthy and transitional year for Youth Ministry. Lauren Robbins accepted a call to seminary after serving as Youth Minister for three years, and left the program filled with wonderful volunteers and youth leadership.

- The Youth Council is thriving in its second year by continuing the microfinance ministry as well as serving in a leadership role.
- Middle School EYC began the fall with great enthusiasm and is studying the Book of Mark.
- High School Life Groups are growing into strong communities with faithful leadership.
- Sunday School continues to be a place of fellowship, learning, and spiritual formation.
- A Regional Summer Middle School Mission opportunity was created with 10 middle school students serving on a weeklong mission trip in western North Carolina called Glory Ridge.

It is with gratitude and awe that I am reminded each week that 65 adult volunteers spend time nurturing, teaching, and shepherding our young folks in the 6th through 12th grades. They are the everyday saints that make youth ministry possible. As we prayerfully consider what to “leap into” next, we want to express gratitude for a church that is so invested in the lives of the young people.

Youth Commission Members: Ainslie Wall, Lee Cooney, Gene Hicks, Patty Funderburg, Lucy Stephens, Leigh Edwards, Ellen Smith, Sloan Crawford, Miller Nicholson, Jim Shoff, David Johnston, Betsy Heynen

Youth Council Members: Hannah Weiss, Woody Lay, Robby Lucas, Mary Carlisle Crehore, Hannah Walters, Ellison Sherrill, Taylor Cullen, Charlie Rogers, Alec Lambert, Ashley Fox

## *Christ Church Charlotte Core Values*

We are a Christ-centered Episcopal church

- rooted in scripture, tradition and reason
- respectful of and strengthened by our differences

We are committed to

- being a loving community of support and spiritual growth
- being faithful stewards of God's many blessings
- using God's gifts to serve the needs of our community and world

We are inspired by the belief that with God's help we will accomplish whatever God calls us to do.

*ADOPTED BY THE VESTRY, 2007*

### *Vestry Members*

Bird Anderson	Youth
Bill Blue	Stewardship
Lisa Cashion	Congregational Care
Jim Clardy	Liturgical
Deborah Clark	Adult Spiritual Formation
Sally Cooper	ECW
DeeDee Dalrymple	Junior Warden
Fletcher Gregory	Mission
Bill Grier	Children & Family
Blanton Hamilton	Personnel
Perry Lucas	Parish Life
Garrett Moseley	CCK
Winston Paschall	Sages
Dank Pinckney	Outreach
Wellford Tabor	Senior Warden