

# The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church



## **Annual Reports for 2009**

Prepared for the Annual Congregational Meeting  
February 21, 2010

1313 New York Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005-4790

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THE NEW YORK AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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## GENERAL

### Mission Statement

*The following is the Mission Statement of The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.):*

In thankfulness for God's infinite love, we, the members of The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, believe we are called as individuals to join our separate gifts together as a community of faith in the reformed tradition, connected to Presbyterians around the world, to undertake the tasks which Jesus Christ has set before us. We search to recognize God's gifts in others and in ourselves, to discover God's will for our lives, and to do it.

We come from across the metropolitan area to worship and witness for peace and justice as a downtown congregation in the center of the Nation's Capital because of the church's rich history and the challenges offered which help us to grow in our faith. We hear outstanding preaching and inspiring music, attend varied Christian education activities, and continue our commitment to inclusiveness, hospitality, nurture, spiritual growth, and visitation among our own members and our neighbors. We are willing to take risks in our decision-making as our faith guides us.

Listening to God's call to the future, members of The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church choose to be witnesses for Christ guided by these additional principles:

- We choose a broadening understanding of congregation which includes many people whose full value is not recognized in other systems.
- We make our first priority those who are vulnerable: people in crisis, the elderly, the children, the mentally ill, and the homeless.
- We strive to discover creative means to nurture our diverse, widely dispersed congregation with friendship and support.
- We see the city blocks around us in their midweek busyness as one of our frontiers.
- We continue to lead vigorously toward social justice and to use our building to promote it.
- We are called to take a leadership role in the shaping of our downtown neighborhood.
- We bring together people who, on other church paths, would never journey together.
- We value hospitality even when it lessens our own comfort.
- We will be a teaching church where the meaning of downtown congregational life and mission is continually being discovered and taught.
- We welcome all travelers who come to this church, particularly those who love church history and urban mission.
- We emphasize the leadership of our members, in partnership with clergy, as we engage in our dedication of time and talents.

We find spirit and growth in the above principles even when they challenge popular church theories. May God bless us in our ministry.

*The Entire Congregation, The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church*

THE NEW YORK AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**How We Serve**

The basic structural organization of The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church is described below:

**Church Staff**

<b><u>Pastor</u></b>	<b><u>Associate Pastor for Congregational Life</u></b>	<b><u>Director of Social Ministries</u></b>	<b><u>Church Staff</u></b>
Leads the ministry of the church.	Guides the congregation in areas of nurture and Christian Education.	Guides congregation, Deacons, and organizations in social ministry programs.	Performs the daily activities necessary to keep the church operational.

**Elected Boards**

<b><u>Session</u></b>	<b><u>Board of Deacons</u></b>	<b><u>Board of Deaconesses</u></b>	<b><u>Board of Trustees</u></b>
Has overall responsibility for mission and government; coordinates cluster/committee work; receives members; and maintains relationships with higher governing bodies.	Coordinates outreach, social education and action ministry.	Ministers to members through visits and calls to the sick, elderly, bereaved, confined, in trouble or in need of special care; attends funeral and memorial services.	Manages the building, investments, and operations.
Clusters:	Outreach and Action:	Helping Ministry via:	Church Management:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Christian Learning Cluster                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-- Education for children and adults</li> <li>-- Docherty Center</li> <li>-- Sizoo Library</li> <li>-- History Committee</li> <li>-- Cuba Working Group</li> </ul> </li> <li>* Congregational Life Cluster                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-- Evangelism</li> <li>-- Nurture and Fellowship</li> <li>-- Worship and Music</li> </ul> </li> <li>* Funds Development Cluster                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-- Benevolence</li> <li>-- Finance</li> <li>-- Stewardship</li> <li>-- Planned Giving</li> <li>-- Organ Committee</li> <li>-- Capital Campaign</li> </ul> </li> <li>* Administration Cluster                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-- Personnel</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* World:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-- Haiti - Water Purification</li> <li>-- Cuba – Mission Co-worker</li> <li>-- Njoro Orphan Program</li> <li>-- Presbyterian Church of Columbia</li> <li>-- Zimbabwe, Foster Children</li> <li>-- New Orleans Rebuilding</li> <li>-- Peace builders in Philippines</li> <li>-- Keep Hope Alive, Palestine and Jerusalem</li> <li>-- Solar Cookers, Africa</li> <li>-- Mid-East Peacekeeping</li> </ul> </li> <li>* Youth in Community:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-- NYAPC Mission Intern</li> </ul> </li> <li>* Adults in Community:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-- Help the Homeless Walkathon</li> <li>-- Christ House</li> <li>-- Geriatric Day Care Center</li> <li>-- National Capital Food Bank</li> <li>-- Open Arms Housing</li> </ul> </li> <li>* Congregational:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-- DC Habitat for Humanity</li> <li>-- Radcliffe Room</li> <li>-- Downtown Cluster of Congregations</li> <li>-- Washington Interfaith Network (WIN)</li> <li>-- 7-2-9 Club</li> <li>-- Triangle Park Group</li> </ul> </li> <li>* Service on Session Clusters and Committees</li> <li>* Other</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Visits and Calls</li> <li>* Notes and Cards</li> <li>* Sunday Bouquets and Flower Arrangements by Season</li> <li>* Help and Assistance to Those in Need</li> <li>* Preparation of the Elements for Communion</li> <li>* Assistance with Memorial Services</li> <li>* Planning of Receptions</li> <li>* Service on Session Clusters and Committees</li> <li>* Other</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Administration</li> <li>* Audit and Accounting</li> <li>* Budget</li> <li>* Capital Improvements and Property Management</li> <li>* Investments</li> <li>* Service on Session Clusters and Committees</li> <li>* Other</li> </ul>
National Capital Presbytery Relations Commissioners			
Benevolence Committee			
Nominating Committee			
Medcalf/Edgington Fund			

THE NEW YORK AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Church Directory Information**

<b>Church Office Address:</b>	<b>1313 New York Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005-4790</b>	<b>Phone:</b> <b>Fax:</b> <b>Email:</b> <b>Web Site:</b>	<b>202-393-3700</b> <b>202-393-3705</b> <b>nyapc@earthlink.net</b> <b>www.nyapc.org</b>
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The church office is open Monday through Friday each week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
In case of emergency, the ministers may be reached by telephone at their residences.

<u>Role</u>	<u>202-393-3702, Extension...</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>202-393-3702, Extension...</u>
<b>Pastors:</b> The Rev. Roger Joseph Gench, Ph. D. The Rev. Tara Spuhler McCabe, M. Div., Associate Pastor for Congregational Life Linda LeSourd Lader, M.Div., Pastoral Associate **	x225 x221	<b>Food Service Staff:</b> Evelyn McMillan, Manager	x226 or x227
<b>Parish Associates:</b> The Rev. Peter Boeve, M. Div. The Rev. J. Gary Campbell, M. Div., M.A. The Rev. Ann Rose Davie, M. Div. The Rev. Frances Taylor Gench,, M. Div., Ph. D. The Rev. John T. Mathison, M. Div. The Rev. J. Riley McDonald, M. Div. The Rev. Judith E. Michaels, D. Min., Ph.D. The Rev. Glenn Myers, M. Div., M.A.		<b>Custodial Staff:</b> Raymond Newman, Building Superintendent/Engineer David Smoot, Custodian Lawson James, Custodian Derek Coats Willey Sligh	x230 x230 x230 x230
<b>Pastors Emeriti:</b> The Rev. Jack E. McClendon, Ph.D.		<b>Receptionists</b> Evelyn McMillan Benjamin Knotts Mary Newman	x216 x216 x216
<b>Music Staff:</b> Stanley P. Engebretson, D. M. A., Director of Music Nathan Moon, Choral Associate (baritone) Cathy Carlin, Choral Associate (soprano) Chantel Pemerville, Choral Associate (alto) ** Manuel J. Melendez, Choral Associate (tenor)		<b>Volunteer Office Staff:</b> James Davidson Pierre Moye	
<b>Administrative Staff:</b> Kathryn B. Smith, Manager, Finance and Administration Judith McGovern, Manager of Office Operation ** Tiffany Dougall, Office Assistant Evelyn Ying, Director of Planned Giving **	x232 x219 x215	<b>Volunteer Financial Staff:</b> Jenean McKay Eleanor Pratt	
<b>Hotline -- 202-393-3702:</b> Information Line	Press #2	<b>Volunteer Entry Receptionists/Hall Monitors:</b> Elaine Brown Jay Davenport Thomas Dunlap Pierre Moye Blonnie Thompson	
** Service Began 2009			

**Board Members Serving in 2009**

<u>Session</u>		
<u>Class of 2009</u>	<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>
Adlai J. Amor Louise M. Berman Mary M. Krug Judith L. Mize Robert B. Neill Catherine K. Schultheis Kathryn Sparks	Mary Nell Clark Margaret (Meg) House Beth L. Law Sam McFerran Bernice McIntyre James D. Rhodes Edith H. Snyder	Martha Davis Rebecca L. Davis Karen O. Dunlap Karl Hoffman Jeff G. Moore Marilyn J. Seiber Leonard Shabman
<u>Board of Deacons</u>		
<u>Class of 2009</u>	<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>
Margaret (Chess) Campbell Deborah D. Dimon Diane Douglas Molly D. Smith Barry Tindall Fritz von Fleckenstein James T. Wall	Kathryn M. Doan Brian Finlay Scott Fulton Lauren McFerran Elizabeth (Betsy) Merritt Marsha E. Renwanz Sarah Whitlow	Laura Casperson Spencer Gibbins Barbara Lancaster Pierre E. Moye* Aryn Myers Michael Pete Eleanor Robbins
<u>Board of Trustees</u>		
<u>Class of 2009</u>	<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>
Norman Y. Herring Hal Hiemstra Daniel A. Stokes	Cynthia L. Dickinson John Gagosian Joseph Thierry	Paul Gebhard Kim Webster Janet A. Wessling
<u>Board of Deaconesses</u>		
<u>Class of 2009</u>	<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>
Glenn Davis Barbara A. Dornan Beatrice C. Fuller Kris Golden Anne Harris Laroche Kay Meek Margaret L. Myers	Carol Casperson Bonnie Davis Joyce Herring Eleanor J. Pratt John F. Schultheis Lenora M. Thierry Shirley M. Yoder	Youngmin Chang Glory Eyong Yomi Faniyi Alison Kootstra Nathan Moon Carrie Schenkel Janet Shabman

\* Resigned during 2009

**Board Members Elected to Serve in 2010**

<u>Session</u>		
<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>	<u>Class of 2012</u>
Mary Nell Clark Margaret (Meg) House Beth L. Law Sam McFerran Bernice McIntyre James D. Rhodes Edith H. Snyder	Martha Davis Rebecca L. Davis Karen O. Dunlap Karl Hoffman Jeff G. Moore Marilyn J. Seiber Leonard Shabman	Mary M. Krug Paul Dornan Miriam Dewhurst Karen Mills Michael Smith Charles W. West Jim Spearman
<u>Board of Deacons</u>		
<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>	<u>Class of 2012</u>
Kathryn M. Doan Brian Finlay Scott Fulton Lauren McFerran Elizabeth (Betsy) Merritt Marsha E. Renwanz Sarah Whitlow	Laura Casperson Faith DeVeaux * Spencer Gibbins Barbara Lancaster Aryn Myers Michael Pete Eleanor Robbins	Molly D. Smith James T. Wall Ruth Von Fleckenstein Richard Snyder Courtney Spearman Elizabeth DuMex Hal Davis
<u>Board of Trustees</u>		
<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>	<u>Class of 2012</u>
Cynthia L. Dickinson John Gagosian Joseph Thierry	Paul Gebhard Kim Webster Janet A. Wessling	John H. Quinn, Jr Amy Garrou Thomas Ingledue
<u>Board of Deaconesses</u>		
<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>	<u>Class of 2012</u>
Carol Casperson Bonnie Davis Joyce Herring Eleanor J. Pratt John F. Schultheis Lenora M. Thierry Shirley M. Yoder	Youngmin Chang Glory Eyong Yomi Faniyi Alison Kootstra Nathan Moon Carrie Schenkel Janet Shabman	Anne H. Laroche Kay Meek Glenn Davis Eric Slaughter Helen Williams Jill Norwood Shu Xian Li

\* Elected Fall 2009

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## REPORTS OF THE NYA PASTOR AND STAFF

### Roger Joseph Gench, Pastor/Head of Staff

My weekly responsibilities have regularly included pastoral duties, preaching and worship leadership, baptisms, weddings and funerals, adult education, cluster committees and sub-committees, staff meetings, oversight of church staff and the varied church ministries, and administrative duties. In addition, I have also engaged in the following work:

- Participation in The NYAPC Prayer group on Thursday mornings.
- Individual Spiritual Direction with members of NYAPC.
- Participation in the January trip of The NYAPC delegation to Cuba and the First Reformed Presbyterian Church of Havana, where I preached on Sunday morning January the 11th.
- Participation in the laying of the NYAPC wreath at the Lincoln Memorial on the occasion of the Lincoln Bicentennial on February 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Giving of the Invocation and Benediction at the Rededication Service of the Lincoln Memorial on May 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Participation on the McClendon Scholar-in-Residence Program Committee and in the planning and implementation of Charles Swezey's tenure as our SIR.
- Participation in the McClendon Scholar-in-Residence weekend with Lincoln scholar, Ron White.
- Service on the Capital Campaign Committee of The NYAPC and the Committee that has oversight on the renovation of our sanctuary.
- Leadership of a Lenten Book Study of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's Life Together.
- Participation on National Capital Presbytery's Clearance Team.
- Participation on the planning committee of NYAPC War, Peace, and Justice Forum.
- Participation on the Clergy Leadership Team of the Washington Interfaith Network (WIN).
- Participation in a diverse clergy group of National Capital Presbytery engaging in conversation related to furthering of the "peace, unity, and purity" of the PC(USA).
- Publication of four theological essays in Lectionary Homiletics (a journal for preaching).
- Publication of three theological essays in The Festival of Homiletics (a publication of John Knox Westminster Press).

THE NEW YORK AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

- Participation as an Elected Member of the General Assembly Mission Council of the PC(USA) and Meetings of the GAMC in March and October.
- Participation as the representative of the GAMC to the Committee for Theological Education of the PC(USA) and attendance at the May meeting of COTE.
- Participation on a task force evaluating the work of the Washington National Office of the PC(USA).
- Participation on a review team evaluation the relationship between the GAMC and the GACER (General Assembly Committee on Ecumenical Relations of the PCUSA).
- Attendance at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Christian Ethics in Chicago, Ill, where I served on a panel discussion of the Church and the Academy.
- Continued reading in theology and ethics as time allows.
- Preached for chapel services at Ingleside Retirement Community.
- Hiked 100 or so miles in the Rocky Mountain National Park.

At the conclusion of 2009, I find myself grateful once again for the ministry of The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church and the good folk that do it!

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Joseph Gench

## **Tara Spuhler McCabe, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life**

A quick year in review has us all moving all over the place. I would consider reading this like going on a Disney ride. I would consider this not a scary ride but definitely an adventure. What is before you is a re-cap from the months.

March – Returning from Maternity Leave: birth of Evelyn Blair McCabe and the death of Shirley Spuhler, my stepmom after a 5 year battle with ovarian cancer. Then we celebrated the 65 year anniversary of my grandparents. This maternity leave was one of a full life cycle that took a lot of prayer and support from my husband and from this congregation. Much gratitude goes to all who shared your food, time, and offered your prayers. The Spuhler McCabe family is ever-grateful.

Lent-came back to work in the middle of Lent. Just in time for preparation into Holy Week. Wow, going through the pilgrimage of Holy Week in the Peter Marshall Hall! Easter Vigil- with Linda LaSourd Lader here at the church was absolutely wonderful. Easter in the Peter Marshall Hall-worship was amazing, breakfast was full and enjoyable, much thanks to the nurture committee and by the 11am service I was able to utilize skills from way back when in days of being an usher!!!

A Women's Retreat with Rev. Dr. Frances Taylor Gench and Linda LaSourd Lader on Eve: all that she is and should be for our faith! If you are interested in an exciting read, please pick up Texts of Terror by Phyllis Tribble. An oldie but goodie in my theological training!

Into the Spring - Another amazing Community Club Graduation and another new experience in having the graduation in the Peter Marshall Hall instead of the Sanctuary. The journey of this program and the success of our students is always inspiring.

Thanks to Nurture for another fun filled Bike to Church Sunday and we capped it all off with a picnic in Franklin Park. And then our great move back into the Sanctuary. The Worship committee worked so hard at preparing our place in the Peter Marshall Hall and bringing us back to the Sanctuary. Much credit goes to all who worked on the entire transition as we find ourselves missing something from the Peter Marshall Hall.

June “plunge” into the Radcliffe Room with the families of our Sunday school Community: many thanks to Pierre and Elie for their support into this 3 week opportunity for sharing cookies and communion. The children and parents went through a training on how to participate in a conversation with someone new. They offered faith stories that turned into new experiences and authentic conversation.

Leaving for another Presbyterian Home in July and August: North Carolina

We took our Annual Family Vacation in Banner Elk with Kendrick's family for July. Then our family submerged into the tradition of Montreat. I was part of the Leadership Team at week 5 and 6 at the Montreat Youth Conference. My role was to integrate the theology and play of the theme: hospitality and immigration, through energizers and recreation events.

Found ourselves in desperation for youth and children Sunday school Teachers as we came to the end of August: not actually a bad thing. It is not that we have a huge new number of families, although we are strong and growing in that area. The span of ages are so vast at times that we are always needing to re-organize the groupings. This is very common in many churches. So, the dilemma became an opportunity to create different models of classes:

Pre K and a crazy vibrant group!

Mega Class of our middle Elementary students

Jr. High that we grouped with our Sr. High

Confirmation class (in their last year of a two year journey)

The teachers are amazingly flexible and vigorous in providing the best in presence and education for our kids. The teams are the best, in my opinion!

Still blown away with the weekend of Ron White: whatta a church guy as he accepted my very last minute invitation to do the Time with Children in church. He is a very intelligent person but huge props goes out to his storytelling skills!

## THE NEW YORK AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

I took a Study Leave to Seattle, Washington, and gathered with my annual Presbyterian Urban Clergy Group. We looked into the urban maze of Seattle and Tacoma through poetry while facing homelessness and a rise in teenage dropout rates. Incredibly humbled by the work clergy are doing in this area and by the witness NYAPC congregation is for so many others! I wish there could be a place of hope, like Community Club, in Tacoma!

November came with another collection of deep Memorial Services for many of us in the congregation and Community Club. We found ourselves ever vigilant in preparing for Advent in our renovated sanctuary, “make is work”! The Confirmation class embarked on a Urban Plunge with the Church of Pilgrims and the Radcliffe Room.

December: This is when the snow haze began: Advent Retreat had to end sooner, but the hard core Adventors who made it offered new inspiration to the Christmas Pageant Story with Zachariah and the Inn Keepers wife! We did have to postpone the Christmas Pageant...it did happen but that will be in next year's report!

The areas in the congregation that I pay particular attention to are, but not exclusive to:

1. Youth and Children Sunday school
2. Sunday school Teachers
3. Community Club Chaplain
4. Diakonal Ministers (formerly known as Deaconesses)
5. Nurture
6. Worship and music
7. Session
8. National Capital Presbytery Commitments: Christian Educators monthly meetings, clergy prayer group, Mission Coordinating Committee

Last but not least, my supervision of our newest position: Social Justice Mission Assistant. This has been a coordinated effort from Community Club and the Board of Deacons. Recognizing that there are key areas of communication, administration, and hopefully integration that another person can focus on. We have been blessed with Jessica Gebhard, as the “guinea pig” for this position. As she is a child of the church she knows deeply about the Social Justice witness of this congregation. With her position we have been able to relieve our volunteer directors at Community Club from some of their more time consuming administrative duties and we have utilized her role in integrating some future volunteer experiences for the congregation in the Radcliffe Room.

Looking forward to another fun filled year, without maternity leave!  
Peace and love, Tara

## **Stanley P. Engebretson, Director of Music**

The year of 2009 was a fine year for music within our congregation, singing a variety of traditional anthems and music representing many styles and traditions. It was an exciting time for our worship space as well, as we continued meeting “in exile” in the Peter Marshall Hall followed by the transition back into our new sanctuary in June and the addition of the new organ for Christmas.

### **Choral Ensembles**

While holding services in the PMH, the Sanctuary Choir continued their regular commitments of singing two anthems plus introits each Sunday throughout the year, except during their summer holiday. Highlights included Easter with our fine NYAPC Brass Ensemble and Sanctuary Choir and presentations of special music within services. In the spring, the choir held a very successful Ice Cream Social, a fun congregational talent show event organized to raise money for the organ and its programs. Throughout the year, many guests joined us to present instrumental solos including Kenneth Law - cello, Beth Law - flute, Margaret (Meg) House – flute, Meg Neil – flute, Stephen Dunlap – saxophone, Daniel Stokes – organ, and Kylie Hiemstra – piano.

The choir also presented music from different cultures, including music from Cuba and Africa, in addition to American and European works. Although not in 2009, the groundwork for the Music Mission trip to Cuba was laid in 2009 to support the actual journey from January 1-7, 2010, to join in Christmastide celebrations in Havana. Also, selections from Bach’s Christmas Oratorio scheduled to be presented with the new organ in December was postponed by a 20 inch snow-storm, so it was performed with choir, soloists, and orchestra on January 10 in the new year to great acclaim.

### **Youth Music Programs**

We are fortunate to have the leadership of Rev. Tara Spuhler McCabe and Linda LeSourd Lader with the youth, as they both have invigorated the educational program with the Youth Pageant for the Christmas presentation, an Epiphany Festival, and other opportunities.

### **Administration**

We wish to thank President Tamara Saltman and the Choir Council, who, with other volunteers from the choir, have led us through this transitional year, contributing hours of time and resources to manage the choir and the music program overall. We would especially like to thank Lucile Beaver and Kathryn Walter, who have organized and maintained the choral library and personnel roster, an immense job. Special honors to Lucile, who retired this year as our librarian and is one who will be sorely missed! The Music Director’s office, now on the second floor in the pastor’s suite, continues to be a great advantage to fostering communication, and has centralized the music program, its libraries, and resources with the pastoral staff needs. Also sincere appreciation to Tamara and Eric Slaughter who have spent many hours accomplishing this move, as well as helping to procure new risers for the choir room and other structural needs.

### **Choral Associates and Other Contributors**

The Choral Associates continued their excellent leadership within the choir. Cathy Carlin – soprano, Chantel Pomerville – mezzo soprano, Manuel Melendez – tenor, and Nathan Moon – bass all continue in their faithful participation with us, in addition to their active professional singing engagements throughout the area as featured soloists for oratorio and opera performances. This fall we added a Conducting Intern, a student position filled by Dominick Izzo, who will assist with the services during the academic year, and serve as an assistant conductor, singer, pianist, and organist. Their leadership, combined with other members and friends, including Margaret Anne Butterfield, Margaret (Meg) McCully Neill, Margaret (Meg) House, Martha Davis, Nancy Coleman, Tamara Saltman, Eric Slaughter, David Williams, Molly and Tony Wagner, have provided additional solo music enriching our offerings throughout the year. Tamara, Molly, Tony, and Eric also continue as a NYAPC gospel quartet and spearheaded the organization and talent for the Ice Cream Social.

## THE NEW YORK AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church continues to be a popular home for touring guest choirs while they are in Washington, DC. Last year we hosted a few choirs from church, high school and college venues, but in the coming year, with completion of the sanctuary and organ, we already have several reservations from visiting groups including the University of Virginia Glee Club along with the Washington Men's Camerata, and a combined concert of Stanford University with the Singers from George Mason University.

### **The Organ and Keyboard Instruments**

The organ is here! It seems like it's been a long process, but in reality it has been very quick, from dismantling the old organ when the renovations began, to the point where the new 62-rank Schlueter organ has been built and installed. Work on the instrument's voicing and regulation will continue into the spring of 2010. Dedication recitals to showcase it and also rededicate our new sanctuary will occur in late January and February. Our new organ will be featured in the American Guild of Organists' National Convention to be held in Washington on the July 4 weekend of 2010, so this will be an exciting and proud event for our church.

As wonderful as the new organ is, we still need new or at least better pianos. Donald Chandler, our piano tuner, continues to provide excellent maintenance for the tuning and repair of the pianos, but it is getting extremely expensive to try to keep the broken pianos running (especially in Peter Marshall Hall). One only has to sit in our fifth floor now to hear the sound of that piano and realize how much we need a better instrument up there, not only for our needs, but for the other chorus rentals who use our space. We aren't really providing what they are paying for, and we should send this one out to be rebuilt (at a cost of \$10,000-12,000). If possible, it would help if we can find more donations or trade possibilities for some of the other older instruments replacing those that we need on a regular basis in church. The Park Level continues to have no piano that is accessible for the youth Sunday school, for example.

\* \* \*

### **From the Director**

In 2009, I completed my 18<sup>th</sup> year as director of music at NYAPC. It remains a tremendous opportunity for me to celebrate God within our midst with such talented musicians, in a congregation that appreciates high-quality music. As always, I would like to express my personal appreciation for all of the warm support that the music program receives during the year. Thank you all for sharing your lives with us as we celebrate our services at NYAPC. The future will see a tremendous change within our congregation as we celebrate our new space in special events such as the dedicatory recitals or concerts, and above all, in worship!

**Kathryn B. Smith, Manager of Administration and Finance (MAF)**

It is a sacred honor to serve as The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church's Manager of Administration and Finance.

This year contributions to the church totaled \$1.92 million. That includes \$169 thousand to undesignated bequests, \$345 thousand for the Building Connections Capital Campaign, and \$515 thousand to our permanent endowment. The Sanctuary has fresh paint, new floors, lights, and sound system for the remodeled chancel. The pews are reconfigured and our magnificent organ is now at the center of worship. Many long-time dreams for the sanctuary have come true this year. God has richly blessed this congregation, not only with the vision of what mission should be in this city, but has enabled us to fulfill those dreams while remaining financially sound. Proudly we can say that all of the \$2.475 million price tag for the sanctuary renovation is paid and we have no debt!

Mission expenditures this year are again impressive. In these hard economic times, NYAPC contributed \$41.4 thousand to International and National Mission. Local Mission endeavors totalled \$172.5 thousand. We sadly had to say goodbye to one of our most beloved ministries, Meals on Wheels. Because of the number of subsidized patrons to that program and the fact that finding volunteers was ever more challenging, the Board of the Meals on Wheels Fund faithfully decided to transition from daily meal delivery to fund other meal programs.

I could not accomplish all that I do without the assistance of members and other staff who devotedly help on a regular basis. Jenean McKay and Eleanor Pratt process bills and cut checks weekly; Judith McGovern – Office Manager of Office Operations; Tiffany Dougall --Office Assistant; Evelyn McMillan -- Receptionist, and our beloved Office Volunteers, Jim Davidson and Pierre Moye. The following volunteers have assisted throughout the year as counters: Martha Davis, Barbara Dornan, Nancy Dickinson, Amy Gillespie, Phil Hanna, Jim Martin, Meg and Rob Neill, Virginia (Ginge) Peddle, John Schultheis, Daniel Stokes, Ruth and Fritz von Fleckenstein, and Janet Wessling.

*Kathryn B. Smith, Manager of Administration and Finance*

## REPORTS OF THE NYA ELECTED BOARDS

### The Session

The following persons were members of the Session in 2009:

#### Class of 2009

Adlai J. Amor  
Louise M. Berman  
Mary M. Krug  
Judith L. Mize  
Robert B. Neill  
Catherine E. Schultheis  
Kathryn Sparks

#### Class of 2010

Mary Nell Clark  
Margaret (Meg) House  
Beth L. Law  
Sam McFerran  
Bernice McIntyre  
James D. Rhodes  
Edith H. Snyder

#### Class of 2011

Martha Davis  
Rebecca L. Davis  
Karen O. Dunlap  
Karl Hoffman  
Jeff G. Moore  
Marilyn J. Seiber  
Leonard Shabman

*The Session has overall responsibility for NYAPC's mission and government; coordinates cluster and committee work; receives members; and maintains relationships with higher governing bodies. Session responsibilities include: Christian Education, Membership, Publicity, Finance, Worship and Music, Personnel, Annual Stewardship Campaign, Special Gifts and Memorials, Benevolence, Nominating, Peace and Justice, Nurture and Fellowship, Planning and Theological Interns. These functions are organized into Clusters; Christian Learning, Congregational Life, Funds Development and Administration. Session members sit on committees of other boards and on the Peace and Justice Committee. Members of Session also serve as Commissioners to National Capital Presbytery.*

One of the recommendations of the Theological Task Force on the Peace, Unity and Purity of the Church was that judicatory bodies in the Presbyterian Church find ways of doing business that focus more on listening and less on debate. The National Capital Presbytery has taken this recommendation to heart and restructured itself so that Presbytery meetings focus more on worship and discussion, with necessary Presbytery business being attended to within a worship format. Rev. Gench was interested to see whether NYAPC Session meetings could also be made to accommodate time for theological reflection. Accordingly, Session members read Dietrich Bonhoeffer's Life Together and several chapters in Practicing Our Faith, by Dorothy Bass. Twenty to thirty minutes of each Session meeting was devoted to a discussion of these readings. Many Elders found this time to be very valuable. At the same time, Elders found themselves tired after a day at work and concerned with attending to Session business without delay. There was also concern that business matters were getting short shrift. In recognition of the importance of theological reflection and spiritual discernment in decision-making, a subcommittee was formed to explore other ways of incorporating such time into the Session's schedule.

Session actions in 2009 included authorizing the Trustees to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Miriam's Kitchen concerning the possible operation of a dinner program for homeless people, in the Park Level; joining the Greater Washington Interfaith Power and Light organization as we look for ways of saving energy in the building; endorsing two overtures to the 2010 General Assembly regarding ordination of gay Presbyterians and the definition of marriage; writing to District Council members in support of the stand the Council had taken regarding gay marriage; approving the use of the Radcliffe Room on alternate Saturday mornings by a suburban Coptic church as they attempt to reach out to adherents in the city; approving Sam McFerran for Inquirer status as a first step toward ordained ministry; and voting to recommend to the congregation that the relationship with Tara Spuhler McCabe as Designated Associate Pastor for Congregational Life be renewed for two years.

Session meetings were enriched throughout the year by conversations with new members, as we shared faith stories and talked about important elements of our faith. The Session witnessed again the creativity, dedication and generosity of the congregation.

*Miriam E. Dewhurst, Clerk; Daniel A. Stokes, Assistant Clerk*

THE NEW YORK AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Statistical Report of the Clerk of Session for 2009**

**Baptisms:**

Infant Baptisms	5
Adult Baptisms	2

**Changes in Membership:**

GAINS:

By Profession of Faith	2
By Reaffirmation of Faith	13
By Letter of Transfer from Other Churches	17
By Restoration to the Active Roll	0
	-----
Total Added to Active Membership Roll	32
Affiliate Membership	1

LOSSES:

Deceased	6
By Letter of Transfer to Other Churches	4
By Transfer to the Inactive Roll	0
By Deletion from the Active Roll	10
By Adjustment to the Active Roll	0
	-----
Total Removed from Active Membership Roll	20
Affiliate Membership	22

NET CHANGE IN MEMBERSHIP:

Church Membership: December 31, 2008	665
Affiliate Membership: December 31, 2008	28
Church Membership: December 31, 2009	677
Affiliate Membership: December 31, 2009	7

## National Capital Presbytery Commissioners

NYAPC is a member of the National Capital Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), which is the sixth largest of the 173 Presbyteries in the denomination and is comprised of churches in DC and six adjacent counties in Maryland and Virginia. NCP calls Stated Meetings six times a year for the purpose of conducting business regarding Minister members (all pastors are members of a Presbytery even though they pastor or attend particular churches), inquirers and candidates enrolled in preparation for ministry, mission interpretation, camp and retreat ministries, new church development, judicial business, stewardship, business transactions, bills and overtures directed to the General Assembly, and actions of the General Assembly requiring Presbytery approval. Some specific items of business are noted below.

In September of this year, NCP began a year long journey of doing its work in a “new way”. Endeavoring to restore emphasis on things that would strengthen ties within this connectional body, the worship of God, study of scripture and the heritage of Reformed theological tradition and establishment of bonds of fellowship would no longer be things worked into the business at hand but, would become the context in which required business was conducted. A substantial amount of business previously conducted on the floor at Presbytery meetings would be assigned to Committees and other bodies, who would simply report their actions to Presbytery.

At its January 27 meeting, NCP installed Rev. Timothy Cargal (Northwood PC) as 2009 NCP Moderator and Elder Doris Mabrey (First PC, Arlington) as 2009 Vice Moderator. A resolution giving the Committee on Ministry (COM) limited power to call a session or congregational meeting in the event of a disaster, such as Katrina, was given a first reading as was a proposed resolution covering NCP’s financial relations with Meadowkirk. Five proposed amendments to the Book of Order were voted on, with three approved and two disapproved.

At its March 24 meeting, NCP approved the resolution giving the COM the limited power described in the previous meeting with a minor modification and approved four ecumenical statements proposed by the General Assembly involving various agreements with the Roman Catholic Church, Episcopal Church, Korean PC of America and the Moravian Church.

At a special meeting held on April 21, NCP approved an amendment of the Book of Order that would replace the narrow “fidelity and chastity” standard for ordained service with a more comprehensive and Reformed language asking all officers to strive to live “obedient to Jesus Christ the Head of the Church.”

At its May 19 meeting, NCP approved a revised version of the January 27 resolution on Meadowkirk.

At its June 23 meeting, held at NYAPC, NCP received a report of the Administrative Commission for United Korean PC and extended its term until the end of the year. Resolutions were adopted granting broad powers to the Committee on Ministry with respect to the reception, ordination and installation of Ministers of the Word and Sacrament and to the Committee on Preparation for Ministry with respect to inquirers and candidates for ordination, in advance of the new way of being presbytery that would begin in September.

At a special meeting held on August 22, NCP approved the terms of interim financing being extended by United Bank to Meadowkirk.

At its September 22, meeting, NCP began its year long journey of doing work in a “new way” with Brian Blount, recently installed president of Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Richmond, facilitating a study and discussion of Mark 14:12-26, and then preaching on that passage as a lead-in to a midday communion around tables set for food and fellowship. After lunch, the 2010 NCP Operating and Missions Budgets were presented and approved.

Finally, at its November 17 meeting, NCP elected Elder Doris Mabrey (First PC, Arlington) as Moderator for 2010 and Rev. Yena Hwang (Associate Pastor, Wheaton Community Church) as Vice Moderator, endorsed Elder Cynthia Bolbach (First PC, Arlington, former NCP Moderator and former member and Stated Clerk of NYAPC) to stand for election as Moderator of the 2010 General Assembly and elected her

## THE NEW YORK AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

as Elder Commissioner to that GA to assure eligibility. Four additional elders and five clergy were also elected as Commissioners to the 2010 GA and will join the 2010 NCP Moderator and Vice Moderator, who are automatically appointed under NCP policy.

NYAPC was represented at NCP's 2009 meetings by its pastors and parish associates and three Elder Commissioners elected by the Session (the number varies between three and four year-to-year, depending on how NCP balances Minister Members and Elder Commissioners for a particular year). To facilitate full coverage at each meeting, six Elder Commissioners had actually been elected by the Session by year's end: Adlai Amor, Miriam Dewhurst, Robert Doan, Kirsten Kingdom, Marilyn Seiber and Kathryn Sparks, though no more than three would vote at any particular meeting.

*Robert Doan, Elder Commissioner*

## Nominating Committee

The 2009 Nominating Committee worked through the summer and fall of 2009 to identify and secure a slate of candidates to fill the various church boards. The Committee nominated and the congregation approved the following individuals:

### **The Session**

#### *Class of 2012*

Mary M. Krug  
Paul Dornan  
Miriam Dewhurst  
Karen Mills  
Michael Smith  
Charles W. West  
Jim Spearman

### **Board of Deacons**

#### *Class of 2012*

Molly D. Smith  
James T. Wall  
Ruth Von Fleckenstein  
Richard Snyder  
Courtney Spearman  
Elizabeth DuMex  
Hal Davis

### **Board of Deaconesses**

#### *Class 2011*

Faith DeVeaux

#### *Class of 2012*

Anne H. Laroche  
Kay Meek  
Glenn Davis  
Eric Slaughter  
Helen Williams  
Jill Norwood  
Shu Xian Li

### **Board of Trustees**

#### *Class of 2012*

John H. Quinn, Jr  
Amy Garrou  
Thomas Ingledue

Sincere thanks to the Nominating Committee members who worked hard to secure such a fine slate of candidates; Judith Mize, Spencer Gibbins, Janet Wessling, Carol Casperson, Melanie Dann, Tamara Saltman, Michael Smith, Evelyn Ying, and Courtney Spearman. Thanks also to Reverend Roger Gench for his guidance and support.

On behalf of the committee, let me also thank each and every nominee. Your service to The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church is as vital as it is appreciated. Thank you for your leadership, your willingness to serve and your commitment of time. Blessings to each of you in your work.

*Jeff Moore, Chair*

## **Benevolence Committee**

The Benevolence Fund was established in December 1968 to expand the church's capacity for service beyond funds in the current budget. The Session resolved that expenditures from the Fund only be for "unbudgeted benevolences". In February 1978 the Session established a committee of four elders and three deacons to develop methods for managing this fund and for supervising the expenditures. In October 1978 the Session authorized the Benevolence Committee to make final decisions concerning the expenditure of the income from the Fund. Committee guidelines for the expenditure of the income were "to be used basically for direct aid for emergencies such as catastrophic illness, evictions, lack of tuition to complete a year, etc., and for financial support of projects or individuals in need."

In 2009, Washington, DC, felt the impact of the national economic recession. The recession seemed to have the hardest impact on the most vulnerable DC residents. The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church received more requests for assistance than we could help. However, the church was able to carry out a ministry by spending over \$4,747 on housing payments, tools to help individuals get meaningful work and support themselves, payment of kitchen charges for the Sunday Radcliffe Room ministry, transitional housing, and maintaining utility service.

The total financial assistance provided from the Fund in 2009 was \$21,165. The fund received interest income and begins 2010 with a balance of \$40,764.

The committee follows a process that was handed down to us and continues to be revised to best fit the needs and available resources. Individuals, whether or not they are members of the congregation, are able to confidentially ask for funds or interest-free loans to assist them in dire and emergency situations. Each request is reviewed by the Committee, weighing the need, the potential to achieve a more stable situation, and with priority for the DC community.

The committee has found that offering a personal interview with either the person in need or the service provider allows an opportunity to delve beyond the immediate circumstances to work toward a long-term solution to the need. We have also been very thankful for the work of the Downtown Cluster of Congregations, which has been essential in providing for both emergency and long-term needs of some recipients.

Any gifts or bequests specifically to the Benevolence Fund are restricted and can be used only for the purposes of the Fund. The Fund will not be used to make up budget shortages or for staff salaries. Keep in mind that this Fund was established to consist of designated gifts and bequests from individuals who wish to make a substantial gift to the church beyond their annual contributions to the church budget in order to expand the church's capacity for service.

The 2009 Benevolence Committee consisted of Deacon Debbi Dimon, Rev. Tara Spuhler McCabe, and Session Treasurer as Chair, Sam McFerran. Finally, special thanks are owed to Kitty Smith, the Manager of Administration and Finance (MAF) for helping organize the logistics and disbursements of all payments.

Sam McFerran, Treasurer of Session

THE NEW YORK AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Board of Deacons**

The following persons were members of the Board of Deacons in 2009:

**Class of 2009**

Margaret (Chess) Campbell  
Deborah D. Dimon  
Diane Douglas  
Molly D. Smith  
Barry Tindall  
Fritz von Fleckenstein  
James T. Wall\*

\* Elected in 2009 to fill vacancy

**Class of 2010**

Kathryn M. Doan  
Brian Finlay  
Scott Fulton  
Lauren McFerran  
Elizabeth (Betsy) Merritt  
Marsha E. Renwanz  
Sarah Whitlow

**Class of 2011**

Laura Casperson  
Spencer Gibbins  
Barbara Lancaster  
Pierre E. Moyer  
Aryn Myers  
Michael Pete  
Eleanor (Elie) Robins

*The Board of Deacons is a dynamic ministry sanctioned and empowered by the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the bylaws of The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church (NYAPC) to work in partnership with the Session, the Peace and Justice Committee, the congregation, and other bodies to fulfill its calling, which is to forward a just and Christ-like outreach ministry in the church, the neighborhood, metropolitan Washington, DC, the nation and the world by 1) discerning the theology of mission outreach that is relevant to the world and empowers all of God's people, 2) upholding that theology as it relates to internal affairs of NYAPC and its work beyond its doors, 3) helping the congregation to think and act theologically as the Board invites it to take part in opportunities for mission outreach, and 4) participating in the hands-on ministry of NYAPC while inviting others to join in.*

The Board of Deacons met nine times in 2009, and additionally as the following panels. Each panel reviewed all funding requests within their purview, and also actively researched new organizations that board members wished to learn more about and become involved with. The hard work and dedication of each panel resulted in expenditures to assist the following organizations with their outreach missions:

**Beyond the Local Community/World:**

Njoro Orphans and Vulnerable Children Project, Kenya  
Haiti-Gran Sous Cooperative Water Purification Project  
Plan USA Foster Child Support, Zimbabwe  
Rev. Tricia Lloyd-Sidle, PCUSA Mission Worker for Cuba & Carribean  
Rebuilding Together, New Orleans  
Peacebuilders Community, Mindanao, Philippines  
Keep Hope Alive, East Jerusalem YWCA and YMCA of Palestine  
Solar Cookers for Africa  
Presbyterian Church of Colombia  
Peacekeeping in the Middle East

**Children/Youth in the Community:**

NYAPC Mission Intern

**Adults in the Community:**

Christ House  
Washington Interfaith Network (WIN)  
Geriatric Day Care Centre  
Help the Homeless Walkathon  
Open Arms Housing

**Congregational:**

Downtown Cluster of Congregations-Annual Dues  
Habitat for Humanity

Other work of the Board of Deacons in 2009 included:

1. Continued efforts to support and improve the church's four mission programs, Meals on Wheels, Community Club, 7-2-9, and Radcliffe Room. A new annual review form for each of the four NYAPC missions shepherded by the Deacons was initiated.
2. Ongoing responsibilities regarding ushering at NYAPC services.
3. Working with the National Park Service in the "Adopt a Park" initiative to improve the Triangle Park.
4. Working more closely with WIN (Washington Interfaith Network) to work for DC fair housing.
5. Responsibility for collecting food for the National Capital Food Bank each fourth Sunday.

In the coming year, among other activities, the Board will continue its work in finding new ways to support the four missions of NYAPC and is designing better vehicles for communicating volunteer needs for mission to the congregation.

*Spencer Gibbins, President*

## Radcliffe Room Ministry

The Board of Deacons established the Radcliffe Room Task Force in March of 2009 to evaluate the leadership needs of the Radcliffe Room ministry and report was approved November 2009. Implementation of the report began January 3, 2010. The first portion of this year's Radcliffe Room Annual Report is excerpted from the Radcliffe Room Task Force Report.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the Radcliffe Room Task Force report is to provide The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church (NYAPC) Board of Deacons, pastors, Session, and congregation with an overview of the work of the Radcliffe Room Task Force.

**MISSION STATEMENT:** The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church is an inclusive and justice seeking church that recognizes the challenges of homelessness in Washington, DC. The Radcliffe Room Ministry expresses our faith through hospitality by seeking to fulfill the message of Matthew 24:35-36: "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." The Radcliffe Room brings together people who otherwise may never journey together. In this place all may enjoy refreshment, fellowship, and a safe and comfortable environment.

**RADCLIFFE ROOM LEADERSHIP TEAM:** After assessing the current activities to support the Radcliffe Room, Task Force determined the Radcliffe Room ministry would benefit from a permanent leadership team to divide current responsibilities among more individuals, to plan for the future of the Radcliffe Room, and to coordinate with Miriam's Kitchen as they establish a site at NYAPC.

External Outreach: To build relationships with people and organizations external to NYAPC

Congregational Outreach: To encourage NYAPC congregation to volunteer with the Radcliffe Room

Guest Outreach: To get to know the guests who come to the Radcliffe Room and learn how they are doing

Food Pick-up: To coordinate the food pick up for Sunday mornings

Clothing Closet: To manage the Clothing Closet.

### RADCLIFFE ROOM 2009

The Radcliffe Room guests who slept at the Franklin Shelter (located at 13th & K Streets NW) and enjoyed the Sunday morning hospitality of the Radcliffe Room no longer come to the Radcliffe Room. In the Spring of 2009 the city government closed Franklin Shelter and transferred residents to shelters in Anacostia, New York Avenue NE and 2nd & D Streets, NW. This past year saw an increase in the number of Spanish speaking guests, some of whom speak no English. Chess and Gary Campbell graciously translate for the NYAPC volunteers who speak no Spanish. There are still too many people sleeping outside even on bitter cold nights. The very popular Clothing Closet, staffed by Suzie & Sam Waltzer and Doug Norwood, is always in need of seasonal clothing and blankets and sleeping bags. One-hundred-twenty-five Christmas packages of scarves and warm, waterproof gloves were given to guests the Sunday of the big snow by Dave Snyder, (who made it into church from Falls Church!) and other wonderful stalwart NYAPC people who provided hospitality to our guests. The Radcliffe Room continues to distribute 20 bus tokens per week to people going to medical appointments, to look for work, going to their job or to see their probation officer. The piggy bank on the entryway desk is a source of funding for tokens and used metro cards. When possible, we direct people to needed services; this is especially important to people new to the city. The most dramatic incident of the year occurred when Radcliffe volunteers helped a mentally ill elderly woman missing from a group home in Montgomery County. In February a woman who was obviously distressed told three volunteers she had spent the night before outside and showed her picture ID when asked her name. An item in the newspaper the following day gave the name of the missing woman. The Montgomery County police were called; the entryway desk staff was alerted to be on the look-out for her and when she returned to the church, Emily called the detective who contacted the group home. Another Sunday a grief stricken Spanish woman who spoke no English came with her teenage grandson who told a volunteer the reason they had been directed to our church for help. Her husband had been burned over most of his body in a horrific automobile accident and was in critical care in the burn unit of the Washington Hospital Center. They were totally without funds and in danger of losing their apartment. We were able to give them transportation money and direct them for additional help. "This is the church that helps people."

*Eleanor Robins, Coordinator, Radcliffe Room*

THE NEW YORK AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Board of Deaconesses**

The following were members of the Board of Deaconesses during 2009:

<u>Class of 2009</u>	<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>
Glenn Davis	Carol Casperson	Youngmin Chang
Barbara Dornan	Bonnie Davis	Glory Eyong
Beatrice C. Fuller	Joyce Herring	Yomi Faniyi
Kris Golden	Eleanor Pratt	Alison Kootstra
Anne Laroche	John Schultheis	Nathan Moon
Kay Meek	Lenora Thierry	Carrie Schenkel
Margaret Myers	Shirley Yoder	Janet Shabman

*The Board of Deaconesses ministers to members and friends of the congregation by visiting the sick and those confined at home or in nursing centers; giving aid and comfort to the bereaved; and helping those in need of special care. They are responsible for Communion preparation and coordinate hospitality at memorial services. The Board serves under the general supervision of the Session.*

Since the founding of the Board of Deaconesses in 1949, the men and women who have served have shared time and loving care with our members and friends who are ill, hospitalized, lonely or grieving. We work with the ministers to identify those who need special attention and to provide contact with the church. The Board meets monthly and is represented on most church committees.

Flowers from the sanctuary were distributed each Sunday with visits to assisted living facilities, hospitals, retirement residences and private homes. Special flowers were delivered at Easter and Christmas. Hundreds of telephone calls, notes, cards, and errands were reported by Board members during the course of the year in addition to the visits. The Board prepared Communion monthly for the worship services and also for Maundy Thursday and Christmas Eve services.

Deaconesses attended memorial services at NYAPC and at other locations. When requested by the family, the Deaconesses hosted receptions following memorial services held at the church. In 2009, memorial services were held for Betty Jackson, Garnet Whitney Talley Cass, Billie Dees, Bob Wilden, Jack Carroll, Jaques Kozub, Rebecca Porter, Ray Wiley, Richard Steffey, Nancy Doan and Jean Karr. A funeral service was held for Florence Marvil. The Deaconesses provided hosts/hostesses for the families as they gathered and also hosted receptions following each of these services.

In March, Anne Warshauer, a parent educator and mediator, spoke to the Board on the challenges of facing change. At our April meeting, Jennie Lietch, President of the Women’s Board of Ingleside Retirement Home spoke about changes occurring there. Cindy Dickinson, a Trustee gave an update on the Columbarium project at our May meeting asking the Deaconesses to help disseminate information when requested. In December, Frances Taylor Gench led us in a study of the use of the word “Deaconess” as it appears in the Bible and various historical documents.

Because of generous endowments from the estates of Marcelle Festor and Katherine Perry, the Board of Deaconess is self supporting. This has been a year of disappointing earnings for investors, and this Board was no exception. However, we have been able to offer access to geriatric counseling to several members, provide Care Notes during our visits and in the reception area of the church, and donate \$15,000 to the Capital Campaign to support an upgrade in the sanctuary audio system during the renovation.

At the December meeting, a motion was made to change the name of the Board of Deaconesses to the Board of Diaconal Ministers to reflect the inclusive nature of our membership. This motion was adopted at the January 2010 meeting.

*Kris Golden, President*

THE NEW YORK AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Board of Trustees**

The following persons were members of the Board of Trustees in 2009:

Class of 2009

Norman Y. Herring  
Hal Hiemstra  
Daniel A. Stokes

Class of 2010

Cynthia L. Dickinson  
John Gagosian  
Joseph Thierry

Class of 2011

Paul Gebhard  
Kim Webster  
Janet Wessling

*The Board of Trustees manages NYAPC's building, investments, and operations. Trustee committees include Capital Improvements and Property Management, Investment, and Audit and Accounting. Trustees also administer the Endowment Fund and sit on several Session clusters.*

By far the most significant effort faced by the Trustees was the completion of the sanctuary renovation, including the installation of the new pipe organ. Norman Herring continued to serve as the primary point person for the project and, through his constant vigilance, the project was successfully completed within the established schedule. Doug Porter and other members of the Organ Committee assisted with decisions relating to the installation of the pipe organ, and a design committee helped with details such as paint colors, floor surfaces, etc. Joe Thierry handled many issues relating to the installation of the sanctuary's sound system when it became clear that there was not sufficient money in the budget to have a system installed for us.

Other building issues were also addressed. These included looking at ways to develop a cost-effective strategy for the design and implementation of a more energy-efficient HVAC system, the refinishing of two pairs of doors on the New York Avenue side of the building that were showing wear due to the harsh elements to which they are exposed, and possible uses of our roof.

Cynthia Dickinson has continued to head efforts to install a Columbarium in the Lincoln Chapel. Her committee has been addressing issues related to design and funding, and has continued to meet with the Session regarding progress.

Hal Hiemstra continued his excellent work with the church's investment advisors. A quarterly review of all investment performance is now conducted through regular meetings with our investment counselors. Like everyone else, the church experienced a serious loss in the value of its investments in 2008 and early 2009, but rebounded as the year progressed. John Gagosian served as the Board's representative to the church's Finance Committee and assisted with the monthly review of the financial statement, calling our attention to both positive indicators, and causes of potential concern.

The Trustees continued to work with Miriam's Kitchen, a program that provides breakfast and access to social services at Western Presbyterian Church, who hope to expand their efforts by providing a similar dinner program utilizing a portion of the Park Level. Hal Hiemstra has continued to serve as the primary contact for this potential new program and was authorized by the Session to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Miriam's Kitchen. Preliminary drawings have been created for remodeling the Park Level and were used to illustrate an article in the February issue of the AVENEWS. Miriam's Kitchen is currently undertaking the fundraising necessary to pay for the renovations and fund an endowment to help support the program. If the required funding is secured, and the church provides final approval to house the program in the Park Level, remodeling could take place during the summer of 2011.

The possibility of renting the Park Level sparked an interest in evaluating all of the church's space needs. A Task Force was created and began to look at the building and how it is utilized by our programs. A space inventory was completed which identified the rooms on each floor of the building, the users of these rooms, which spaces are rented and/or shared, and potential future uses.

Kitty Smith continued to provide invaluable assistance to the Trustees by bringing important issues to our attention, identifying potential sources of income or spending reductions, and providing updates of the status of capital campaign income and expenditures. She also provided assistance to our auditors, resulting in another clean audit of the church's finances.

*Janet Wessling, President*

## Investment Committee

In the individual and corporate view of NYA's investment advisors, Peter Ladd Gilsey, CIC, and John C. Feketekuty, CFA, principals with Ariba GLB Asset Management, Inc., 2009 was probably the most challenging year they had ever experienced, with no real visibility in the first quarter as to what policies or programs initiated by the federal government would be most likely to succeed in stabilizing our financial system. Fortunately, the timely and remarkably innovative Federal Reserve mix of quantitative easing and zero-interest rates, likely to be continued in the latter case for another year, brought sufficient liquidity relief to the nation's financial sector to enable essential business transactions to proceed with a much needed modicum of normality that established a base that will broaden over time to restore confidence in the gradual recovery now occurring among all segments of our society.

During this most challenging period, the portfolio actions taken by Ariba in the first and second quarter of this past year established the basis for an exceptionally positive portfolio performance, as statistically shown in the figures and charts below. These actions resulted in a year-end NYA Equity portfolio balance of \$1,772,384.

Despite the severe economic down turn of 2008 and the uncertainty that gripped the investment community during the first quarter of 2009, because of the investment decisions made by the NYA Trustees on the advice of NYA's investment advisors, since inception (April 30, 2006), the Church's total portfolio has returned a positive 9.38% with stocks alone producing 9.99% or about 10% versus -7.96% for the stock market as measured by the S&P 500 peer group index. For the last three years NYA's fund registered -0.87%, with our stocks producing a positive 0.36% versus -15.98 for the S&P 500. For the year just ended, the good news is that New York Avenue's portfolio registered a 39.57% return, with stocks alone returning 41.26% versus 26.50% for the S&P 500. And finally, the final quarter of the year was positive at 11.78%, stocks at 11.89% versus 6.01% for the S&P 500. It is also worth noting that the mix and complexion of NYA's portfolio, in terms of volatility, was only 0.70 versus 1.0 for the market, so NYA was able to achieve great results at low risk.

The remarkable recovery of the stock market in the fourth quarter of 2009 clearly helped to reverse many of the losses NYA's portfolio had suffered during the last half of 2008 and the first quarter of 2009. However, NYA's ability to benefit fully from this positive run in the market was tempered by the need for Trustees to withdraw \$267,521 from our investment portfolio to pay the remaining costs associated with the renovation and upgrade of NYA's sanctuary. As successful and remarkable as the Capital Campaign has been at NYA, the Campaign is still approximately \$250,000 shy of meeting its goal. Because contracts had been signed, final invoices had to be paid and NYA's Trustees had two options – borrow money commercially, or borrow from our own investment portfolio. NYA's Trustees, with the consent of the Session, chose to borrow from our own resources, with the understanding that those funds would be fully repaid – with interest – once the Capital Campaign meets its final fundraising goal. Admittedly, it will be especially challenging to repay these funds since it will be hard to sustain the momentum of the Capital Campaign now that the sanctuary and elevator renovations are complete and the new organ has been installed.

In addition to NYA's Equity Portfolio, NYA Investment Committee also manages a Fixed Income Portfolio and monitors NYA's always changing Operating Fund. NYA's Fixed Income Portfolio balance as of December 31, 2009 was \$659,335 with a yearly investment gain of \$151,869.

NYA's Operating Fund fluctuated dramatically throughout the year as Capital Campaign funds were transferred in and then spent on sanctuary renovation and upgrades. With an annual investment gain of \$28,924 the Operating Fund balance for the quarter ending December 31, 2009 was \$789,311.

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The tables below show the total composition and yearly change in NYA's Equity Investment Portfolio. Note in particular, that despite the withdrawal of \$267,521 from our equity holdings, because of the rebound in the stock market the yearly change in NYA's portfolio grew from \$1,503,876 to \$1,772,384.

<b>Equity Fund</b>			
<b>PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION</b>			<b>QUARTERLY CHANGE IN PORTFOLIO</b>
	<b>Market Value</b>	<b>Percent Assets</b>	<b>Current Yield</b>
Cash & Equivalents	\$ 7,124.61	0.40%	0.00%
Fixed Income	\$ 1,765,259.40	99.60%	3.20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,772,384.01</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>3.19%</b>

  

<b>Beginning Value</b>	<b>\$ 1,652,682.55</b>
Net Contributions	-68,090.79
Capital Appreciation	175,896.59
Income Received	14,994.44
Management Fees	-3,098.78
Other Expenses	0.00
<b>Ending Value</b>	<b>\$ 1,772,384.01</b>

<b>TIME WEIGHTED RETURN</b>				
	<b>Current Quarter</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>Last 3 Years</b>	<b>Since Inception *</b>
Account	11.78%	39.57%	-0.87%	9.38%
Equities	11.89%	41.26%	0.36%	9.99%
S & P 500 Index	6.01%	26.50%	-15.98%	-7.96%

<b>YEARLY CHANGE IN PORTFOLIO</b>	
<b>Beginning Value</b>	<b>\$ 1,503,876.41</b>
Contributions	0.00
Withdrawals	-267,521.93
Capital Appreciation	481,769.85
Income/Expenses	54,259.68
<b>Investment Gain</b>	<b>\$ 536,029.53</b>

\* (04/30/06)

Charts showing yearly changes in the Fixed Income Portfolio and the Operating Fund are below:

<b>FIXED INCOME FUND</b>	
<b>YEARLY CHANGE IN PORTFOLIO</b>	
<b>Beginning Value</b>	<b>\$ 714,713.23</b>
Contributions	22,124.82
Withdrawals	-229,371.78
Capital Appreciation	142,307.74
Income/Expenses	<b>12,297.50</b>
Change in Accrued	<b>-2,736.47</b>
<b>Ending Value</b>	<b>\$ 659,335.02</b>
<b>Investment Gain</b>	<b>\$ 151,868.77</b>

<b>OPERATING FUND</b>	
<b>YEARLY CHANGE IN PORTFOLIO</b>	
<b>Beginning Value (12/31/08)</b>	<b>\$ 1,559,832.38</b>
Contributions	115,579.58
Withdrawals	-915,025.07
Capital Appreciation	11,079.70
Income/Expenses	17,844.31
Change in Accrued	0.00
<b>Ending Value</b>	<b>\$ 789,310.90</b>
<b>Investment Gain</b>	<b>\$ 28,924.01</b>

When considered as a whole, as of December 31, 2009, total funds held among NYA's three primary investment accounts equaled \$3,221,030.

*Report respectfully submitted by Hal Hiemstra, Investment Committee Chair, 2009*

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## REPORTS OF NYA SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

### Njoro Orphan Program

In January 2007, in partnership with the Njoro Presbyterian Church of East Africa (P.C.E.A.), NYAPC embarked on a program to support orphans living with relatives or family friends in Njoro, Kenya. Support through the Alternative Christmas Store made it possible to assess the need, identify possible actions and design a program. The last three years of operation also have been supported by contributions from the Deacons, who are responsible for oversight of this program. Additional funding has come from a National Capital Presbytery grant in 2007 and from contributions from Lewinsville PC (McLean, VA) and Trinity Herndon PC (VA) in 2008, and Laurel PC (MD) and the Old Presbyterian Meeting House (Alexandria, VA) in 2008 and 2009. In 2010, the budget for the program will increase because the drought and famine in Kenya is causing food prices to rise, so the Deacons and the NYAPC Alternative Christmas Store have increased their contributions to cover this shortfall.

NYAPC receives monthly financial reports from our friends in Njoro, and they have also sent us pictures, CDs and DVDs showing various activities and field trips. They were excited to hear that our Sunday School classes learned about the program in the spring of 2008, and are eager to get to know our church members better. Beginning in 2008, the Alternative Christmas Store offered the opportunity for people to write emails, Christmas cards or letters to the children. A number of NYAPC members participated in this activity, and one member has written many letters to the children throughout 2009. (To participate in the letter-writing program, contact one of us for more information.) The latest DVD, made during a field trip to Nairobi, was available for viewing at the Alternative Christmas Store. This video featured an interviewer, and it was interesting to see how well prepared some of the children were for the sights they would be seeing. When they visited the parliament, they were able to sit in the front benches usually occupied by the party leaders!

An even better way to get to know the wonderful Kenyan Presbyterians who have designed and are implementing the program will be available in February 2010 when we, in conjunction with others supporting the orphan program, are planning a trip to visit Njoro. As well as participating in activities with the 29 orphans who are in the program, we will have the opportunity to see other projects in the area being supported by NYAPC and other churches in our presbytery. Our friends have much they want to share with us. Details are available from either of us.

The Saturday program includes a complete breakfast and lunch, clothes, school and OVC uniforms, shoes, schoolbags, books, writing materials, school fees, physical fitness materials, sports shoes, educational and recreational programs for the children (including tutoring), and corn flour for the very poor relatives and foster families who are caring for them.

The need for this program – 701 orphans in a town of about 25,000 people -- was identified in a needs assessment and feasibility study that was designed and conducted by the Njoro P.C.E.A. in 2005 as an outgrowth of conversations begun when a work group from National Capital Presbytery visited Njoro in 2003. Once the church members saw the extent of the need, they set about enthusiastically to plan the program to serve the neediest of the children. The church members have taken the program to heart, and are using the resources of their church, including a pre-school facility, a hospital and an HIV/AIDS testing and counseling center in addition to the very active Boys and Girls Brigade and Women's Guild. In fact, the costs of the program for the first year were less than budgeted because of the help volunteered. In 2008 the program has been expanded to include field trips to some of the natural and man-made wonders accessible from Njoro.

Pictures of the children are posted near the elevator on the first floor, and brochures are available in the front entryway. Copies of the financial records are available from Fritz von Fleckenstein. Contributions to the program can be made at any time by writing a check to NYAPC with "KENYA" in the memo field.

*Fritz von Fleckenstein* ([fritz@alumni.reed.edu](mailto:fritz@alumni.reed.edu) or 202-832-4275)  
*Kirsten Kingdon* ([kkingdon@starpower.net](mailto:kkingdon@starpower.net) or 202-797-7335)

## McClendon Scholar-In-Residence Program

The McClendon Scholar-in-Residence Program stands where faith, intellect and justice meet. The Scholar-in-Residence Program has been established through the insight and generosity of Rev. Dr. Jack E. McClendon, Pastor Emeritus and Associate Minister of NYAPC from 1957 to 1991. Dr. McClendon's enduring passion for social justice and confidence that the local church must be a place where faith, intellect, and commitment to justice issue forth in service remain abiding legacies of his ministry to and with The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. The Scholar-in-Residence Program is only the latest fruit of Dr. McClendon's conviction that justice, service and action can only be sustained for the long haul when a congregation is encouraged to grapple with profound issues and be equipped to engage in a deepening of faith. To this end, he hopes to bring to the church and the larger Washington community noted scholars whose unique gifts, knowledge, and lives will inspire both ongoing reflection and action.

In May 2005, the Session passed a motion to accept with its gratitude what would be a posthumous gift from Rev. McClendon to establish the McClendon Scholar-in-Residence Program. Subsequently, Dr. McClendon came to the realization that he would prefer to experience a glimpse of the Scholar-in-Residence Program before his demise. As a result, he generously offered to fund a smaller version of the program as soon as it could be implemented. The Planning Group, named by Rev. McClendon to establish and administer the program, decided to initiate the program in late 2006 and to invite Dr. Walter Brueggemann, Professor Emeritus at Columbia Seminary and one of the foremost Old Testament scholars of our age, as the first Scholar-in-Residence. In 2007, we hosted the tenures of two outstanding scholars-in-residence: New Testament Scholar Dr. Frances Taylor Gench and Christian Ethicist Dr. Larry Rasmussen. The fourth scholar-in-residence, Professor Emeritus of Social Ethics Charles M. Swezey of Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education (Union-PSCE), helped us to grapple with the political and religious thought of Reinhold Niebuhr, one of the most preeminent American theologians and political theorists of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Dr. Swezey's monthly forays, both lectures and a reading seminar, into the challenging depths of Niebuhr's thought have introduced a new dimension to discourse within the NYAPC. Professor Swezey began his monthly visits in September 2008 and continued into the Spring of 2009. Dr. Swezey's program generally had 35 to 60 people attending each of the challenging lectures.

Ronald White, seminary professor, ordained Presbyterian minister and Lincoln scholar, was named fifth McClendon Scholar-in-Residence during the fall of 2009. Dr. White brought deep substantive knowledge, formidable storytelling skills and theological discernment to his subject for the weekend of September 18-20, the theological and ethical lessons surrounding Abraham Lincoln's personal and public struggles with the devastation and suffering of the Civil War. Among other things, he explicated the remarkable and previously underappreciated role of Dr. Phineas Gurley, pastor of the NYAPC, as the President sought meaning in the enormity of the great conflagration. For the Gurley lecture alone, 110 members and visitors attended with interest and appreciation.

We hope that the congregation senses the thread running through the Scholar-in-Residence tenures so far – being a disciple in the world, or, in Dr. Jack McClendon's words, "standing in the midst of time and in the presence of eternity." The Planning Group will be continuing to consider, recommend, and implement ways in which the NYAPC community can prepare for, and follow up on, the messages of our Scholars-in-Residence. We invite the congregation to contact any member of the Planning Group with possible nominees for future scholars.

We lost a dear friend of active mind and great caring spirit this year, Bob Wilden. Bob had contributed to the Scholar-in-Residence program in every way possible – through wise counsel, rich imagination and hard work. More than anyone else, he consistently challenged the planning committee to connect what we learned through the presence of our scholars-in-residence to life in the real world. Bob seemed to breathe the maxim of one poet: "Oh abstractions are just abstract until they have an ache in them."

I thank the members of the Planning Group for their manifold contributions: Louise Berman, Brian Blount (President of Union-PSCE), Peter Boeve, John Davies, Nancy Dickinson, Paul Dornan, Aaron Frank, Roger Gench, Wilson Golden, Raymond Gooch, Wilson Gunn (National Capital Presbytery), James Martin, Jack McClendon, John Quinn, David Snyder and Sarah Whitlow. In addition, I would also like to thank all of you who contributed your time and energy to make the tenures of our 2008-09 and 2009 Scholars-in-Residence so enriching.

*Paul B. Dornan*

## Triangle Park Working Group

The *Ad Hoc* Triangle Park Working Group met throughout the year to continue making improvements to the park, to maintain cleanliness and upkeep, to encourage neighborhood involvement in its use and maintenance, and to plan activities for the park's use.

The Working Group planned and held a candlelight prayer service in the park on Sunday, January 18, to celebrate and pray for the Inauguration of President-elect Obama and his Administration; the birthday of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and the bicentennial birthday of President Abraham Lincoln.

With continued communication with the National Park Service, we are pleased that park benches have been repaired and cleaned, trees pruned, trash cans replaced, and brickwork repaired and replaced. We remain encouraged that the NPS will do additional maintenance and repair work as necessary. The rodent problem was reduced during the year, but only temporarily. We have tried interim strategies and have worked with the city government on this issue, but will take other measures in the spring to lay mesh to inhibit rodent digging.

In April the Working Group, in conjunction with the Cuba Working Group, prepared planting beds and planted a bush for the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Presbyterian Women. We also planted other summer flowers and bushes, and developed a watering and maintenance program through the summer. In the fall, new flowers were planted as well as hundreds of spring bulbs.

On Earth Day we rededicated the park and celebrated Earth Day—in the rain!!—with “Earth Day in the Park—Renew and Celebrate!” and had guest speakers, great food, and neighborhood participation. The Acting Regional Director and Community Liaison for the National Park Service spoke, as did the Vice President of the Inter-American Development Bank and the Executive Director of Downtown BID (Business Industrial District). Mozart's Café donated sandwiches, and the IDB provided desserts and beverages.

During the summer and into the fall, we had “Coffee in the Park” after the 10:00 a.m. worship service in conjunction with the Nurture Committee. These were well attended, but we agreed we need to continue such coffees so the congregation will become accustomed to having coffee in the park.

The Working Group was involved in Miriam's Kitchen deliberations to ensure that the potential impact on the park was considered in the overall planning. In addition, Jim and Courtney Spearman submitted possible lighting plans to the Trustees for the park and sidewalk for incorporation into the Miriam's Kitchen project.

Rick Reinhard, Deputy Director of Downtown BID, met with the Working Group in September to brief on BID's longtime park activities in the District. We hope to continue consultations with BID. We also expect to have another major clean-up and planting in the spring along with new activities which might include music and church programs.

*Marilyn Seiber, Beth DuMez, Barry Tindall, Co-Chairs*

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## REPORTS OF NYA CLUSTERS

### Christian Learning Cluster

#### Adult Christian Education

The Adult Christian Education year that began in September 2008 continued in 2009 from January through August. In keeping with the 2008-2009 theme of Christian Life in Literature, Dr. Dewey Wallace led a five-week series that looked at the book, *The Pilgrim's Progress*. Gwen Gebhard taught a three-week series, "Modern Poets Writing on Spirituality," and Jack Lentz led a four-week series called "Listening for God in Literature: Short Stories, Major Authors".

Classes were offered that encouraged us to look with fresh eyes at the Bible. Rev. Frances Taylor Gench led a three-week series entitled "Arguing About Scripture: Presbyterians and Dirty Laundry," and Rev. Peter Boeve looked at parables and lectionary readings in an ongoing series "Puzzles and Tidbits." *A Theological Introduction to the Book of Psalms*, by T. McCann, was the basis of a four-week series by Tom Dunlap called "Psalms for Everyone". In addition, Rev. Frances Taylor Gench led a three-week Cuba Partners Bible Study, a twice-a-year Bible study open to everyone with comments mutually shared among several churches in the United States as well as with our sister church in Havana.

The NYAPC pastors led a five-week Lenten book study. Rev. Tara Spuhler organized a "Soldiers of Conscience" series of movie excerpts and discussions, and Rev. Roger Gench led occasional Round Table discussions. McClendon Scholar-in-Residence Dr. Charles M. Swezey spoke on "Recovering Politics for Mainline Christians: Legacy of Reinhold Niebuhr," recapping his fall lectures.

On the practical side, the NYAPC Columbarium Committee presented "The Columbarium Choice," and John Quinn led a two-week series on estate planning. Initially targeting new members, Paul Dornan and Miriam Dewhurst co- led a series of classes based on Rowan Williams' book *Tokens of Trust*, which drew in older members as well. The classes focused on tenants of faith from the perspective of Rowan Williams, an Anglican bishop and theologian currently serving as Archbishop of Canterbury.

A series of classes entitled "Discerning Our Callings" was also offered, to help us live into being who God calls each of us to be. In July, there was a three-week series on the Israel-Palestine dialogue that included looking at Jimmy Carter's role, sojourners' stories, and the PC(USA) General Assembly's stand. Rounding out the year, August offered a reprise of classes offered throughout the year so that those who had to make a choice between two (or three) choices offered each Sunday had another chance to visit a class they had missed.

The 2009-2010 Adult Christian Education year began with a new chair but with former chair, Marilyn Seiber, agreeing to stay on in the critical role of making contacts and getting things done. The theme for the 2009-2010 year was Christian Perspectives on Immigration. The theme each year is woven intermittently throughout the year and allows for a perspective from various points of view or vantage points. The 2009-2010 theme was chosen in response to a PC(USA) General Assembly initiative on immigration policy.

The first task seemed to be to address our understanding of government policy in September 2009 and what our response as Christians should be, or what a possible Christian response might be. The kick-off speaker was Donald Kerwin, vice president for programs at the Migration Policy Institute. His kick-off class was followed by and continued throughout the fall by Kathy Doan, a long-time NYAPC member and immigration attorney who spoke from the immigration realities she sees every day.

Ms. Doan began with a two-part viewing of the movie, "The Visitor," an accurate representation of immigration policy from her perspective. She scheduled a luncheon discussion following the second part of the screening to discuss the movie and the realities of immigration. In November she spoke on "Immigration Detention: Myth and Reality." PC (USA) pastor Rev. Noelle Damico, who coordinates PC(USA)'s Campaign for Fair Food, taught about PC(USA)'s efforts with grassroots groups to establish purchasing practices within the retail food industry to ensure fair wages and other human rights for tomato pickers who work at the base of corporate supply chains.

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Carlos Gonzalez from Just Coffee, an initiative founded by a mission co-worker with one of the bi-national Presbyterian Border Ministries, brought video images and some of the stories behind Just Coffee. Just Coffee goes beyond fair trade in allowing local growers to participate in and benefit from the entire coffee-making, marketing, and profit-making sales, providing more local jobs in management, production, processing, and transportation.

McClendon Scholar-in-Residence Ronald C. White, Jr. led a class on President Lincoln and Pastor Gurley in conjunction with the celebration of the Lincoln Bicentennial. PC(USA) missionaries to Taiwan, Choon and Yen Hee Lim, spoke, and Rev. Barbara Wheeler, one of the co-authors of the PUP Report and former president of Auburn Theological Seminary in New York, led a discussion in October on "Who Marries?," which looked at gay and lesbian issues in the church.

Interwoven with these classes were Rev. Peter Boeve's ongoing series "The Gospel of John: A New Look," Miriam Dewhurst's ongoing series "Adventures in Prayer," and Rev. Ann Davie's leading of fall's two-part Bible Study with Cuba Partners.

*Bonnie Davis, Chair*

## Cuba Working Group

The Cuba Working Group met five times to plan activities and discuss ways to strengthen and deepen our Cuba Partners program, and specifically to enhance our 'partnership in mission' with the First Presbyterian-Reformed Church of Havana.

Revs. Roger and Frances Gench led a seven member NYAPC group on January 10-16, to visit with our partner church, First Presbyterian-Reformed Church of Havana. Rev. Gench preached in First Havana's pulpit with the presence of the U.S. Chief of Mission (Ambassador-rank) and a filled sanctuary. The group had the opportunity to worship with the house mission in Cojimar, and to have two sessions discussing theology with the directors of the Institute of Biblical and Theology Studies in Havana.

Following the January trip, Rev. Frances Gench and the Working Group sent books on theology, respectively, to the director of the Institute and the former Moderator of the Presbyterian-Reformed Church in Cuba, both of whom are writing dissertations and requested our help finding research materials. The package also included copies of NYAPC's *Advent Meditation* booklet distributed to our friends at First Havana and the seminary.

On June 30-July 6, NYAPC hosted Rev. Francisco Marrero, General Secretary of the Presbyterian-Reformed Church in Cuba and Dean of the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Matanzas. Marilyn Seiber arranged for him to give an interview to PBS *Religion & Ethics Newsweekly* which was televised, and Rev. Frances Gench hosted him at Union Seminary where he met with the Dean. He also met with National Capital Presbytery's General Presbyter, Rev. Wilson Gunn, who has previously visited Cuba with NYAPC. He led a discussion for the Adult Christian Education class.

Marilyn Seiber attended the PC(USA) Cuba Partners Network meeting, October 20-22, held in conjunction with PC(USA) *Mission Celebration '09*. The Moderator of the Presbyterian-Reformed Church in Cuba attended, and Marilyn led a workshop on *Partnership in Mission: A Fresh Look*. The Network agreed that the next meeting should be held in Washington, DC at NYAPC.

Two sessions of "Bible Study with Cuba Partners" was held in the spring and fall with Rev. Frances Gench and Parish Associate Rev. Ann Davie planning and leading the studies, respectively. The studies are provided to First Havana and to other Cuba partner churches in the U.S. and we do the Bible studies simultaneously.

In January, the NYAPC mission delivered \$500 from NYAPC's Peace and Justice Committee from Peacemaking donations to help with hurricane relief, as well as Alternative Christmas Store donations of \$400. Marilyn Seiber submitted grant requests to the Presbytery's Global Mission Network and \$400 for First Havana and \$350 for the Synod (national church) were approved in December.

Finally, in conjunction with the *Ad Hoc Triangle Park Working Group*, a bush was planted in front of the church on April 10 with Rev. Gench giving a prayer to honor the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Presbyterian Women in Cuba celebrated on April 13, 2007.

*Marilyn J. Seiber, Coordinator*

## **Sizoo Library**

The mission of the Sizoo Library is to enrich and expand the life of the NYAPC congregation, spiritually, intellectually, and compassionately. The library has over 1700 books on topics of Bible study, Christianity, faith journeys, church history, Reformed theology and social/justice ministry. The collection also includes books written by our pastors and members, reference books, as well as the Lincoln Commission Collection and the Deaconesses' Care Collection. Books may be checked out for a month or longer by members of the congregation.

This year the Sizoo Library purchased 10 new books; 61 books were donated by members. Adlai Amor, who is on the editorial review board of Westminster/John Knox Press, donated over 50 new books from our Presbyterian publishing house. There are 1546 bibliographic records in the updated Sizoo Library electronic database, and one may search by author, title, date or subject headings. This database is available in MS Word format for members who want a copy of the Sizoo Library catalogue on their home computer. This electronic database is also searchable on the new computer in the Docherty Center.

Donation of needed books is encouraged, as well as contributions for memorial gifts. (For details contact Thomas Dunlap.)

In 2010 the library plans to continue to develop the collection to make it more useful to the whole NYAPC congregation. Volunteers are always welcome, especially someone to help members find books after the 11 a.m. service. Suggestions for new books are always welcome.

The Sizoo Library Committee includes: Louise Berman, Miriam Dewhurst, Paul Dornan, Thomas Dunlap, Kris and Wilson Golden, Leonora Marquis, Kay Meek, Edith Snyder and Dewey Wallace.

*Thomas Dunlap, Librarian*

## History Committee

2009 was literally a “banner year” for the NYAPC History Committee, sitting squarely as it did at the intersection of American history and NYA history. Such a glorious place to be! As always, we focused our efforts on the dual goals of enhancing the congregation’s appreciation of NYAPC storied heritage and highlighting NYAPC role as a leading faith institution in the nation’s capital since 1803.

**Obama Inauguration Hospitality.** First in 2009 was NYAPC role during the inauguration of President Barack Obama. The History Committee joined with Evangelism and other groups as the church kicked off the year with a very hospitable pair of open houses celebrating the historic inauguration of the nation’s 44<sup>th</sup> President. We sought to make this an open house to remember and the result exceeded our highest hopes.

NYAPC hoisted street banners and bunting as we threw open our doors (New York Avenue *and* H Street!) to the nation and the world. People came in droves to Washington--nearly 3 million of them--to personally participate in the inauguration of America’s first African American President.

Many Inaugural visitors rejoiced in experiencing this house of worship frequented by Lincoln and his family beginning when the NYA church was less than six months old the first Sunday following his March 4, 1861, inauguration and continuing through the remainder of his life.

Nearly a century and a half after Lincoln’s death, President Obama’s widely-recognized admiration of the first Illinois occupant of the White House was reflected in his taking the oath of office on the Bible used by Lincoln in 1861 and quoting in his Inaugural from Lincoln’s Second Inaugural Address.

On Inauguration Day 2009 and the Sunday preceding, we estimate that more than 1,000 of the excited, chilled, and weary visitors found their way to NYAPC to enjoy our members’ and building’s warmth, refreshments, Radcliffe Room treats and TVs, and a special opportunity to “sit where Lincoln sat” in the Lincoln pew and view his emancipation document and other Lincoln memorabilia on display in the Lincoln Parlor and JQA Room.

Docents offered mini-tours of the ground floor and reported being struck by the solemnity even tears of visitors whose reverential yet jubilant mood reflected that of the entire nation at this very special moment in American and world history. On this day, NYAPC hospitality embraced them and shared their pride.

**Role in Lincoln Bicentennial.** Then, on February 12--Lincoln’s 200<sup>th</sup> birthday--only three weeks following the Obama Inauguration, the nation launched its official observance of the Lincoln Bicentennial with a wreath-laying ceremony at the Lincoln Memorial and a Lincoln birthday address by President Obama before Congress gathered in the Capitol Rotunda. Pastor Roger Gench and others from NYAPC fully participated in the day’s festivities, including a special birthday dinner hosted by the Lincoln Group of the District of Columbia in the former Willard Hall at the Willard Hotel (once home to our predecessor F Street Church only two blocks from the present church), with Pastor Gench delivering the invocation.

Other NYAPC Bicentennial-related events included a special April 19 visit by nearly 80 Abraham and Mary Lincoln Presenters in town for their convention, and the May 30 rededication of the Lincoln Memorial. At the original 1922 ceremony, the invocation was given by then NYAPC Pastor Wallace Radcliffe, an honor performed this year by Pastor Gench with several thousand onlookers and distinguished platform guests, including the Secretary of the Interior, senior National Park Service officials, and other dignitaries.

On September 18-20, NYAPC presented our own Lincoln Bicentennial tribute with *Abraham Lincoln 2009—Wisdom for Today*, a series of insightful, inspiring presentations by Lincoln biographer Ronald W. White, Jr. under the sponsorship of the McClendon Scholar-in-Residence program (discussed in greater detail in the McClendon Scholar-in-Residence planning group report).

**Publication of Church History.** At long last, we are nearing the culmination of nearly 20 years of planning, scholarly research, and superb writing by a panel of distinguished historians. Initiated by the committee in the early 1990s to commemorate the bicentennial of the church, the history will trace our modest roots from the formation of the F Street Associate Reformed Church in May 1803.

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Under the skillful editorial guidance of Dr. Dewey Wallace and Dr. Elaine Foster, both contributing authors, substantial progress has been made in chronicling the history of our church's illustrious first two (plus) centuries. Manuscript submissions or writing commitments in advanced stages of completion offer unique insights into the various periods in the development of the church's history along with such subjects of special interest as our musical heritage, Sunday school program, and the evolving architecture of the church's four buildings since 1803. Twelve of 15 planned chapters are now in hand with a target publication date of fall 2010 to coincide with the sesquicentennial of the 1859-60 founding of The New York Avenue Presbytery Church.

**Other Projects.** As in past years, in October the committee participated in the annual Mission Fair, encouraging interested volunteers to become active in the work of the committee, including service as history tour docents, work on the Oral History Project, church archives, and Web site history links, participation in neighborhood or Smithsonian Lincoln history walking tours, along with the many activities associated with the publication of the church history.

Committee members continued to work on interviews with longtime NYAPC members for the Oral History Project to preserve recollections of our rich and varied history. Those who have recorded oral history contributions in past years or for other NYA-related organizations such as the Community Club were also encouraged to contribute. In 2010, we will continue interviewing members and friends to preserve treasured recollections in a yet-to-be-determined format.

Tara Spuhler McCabe, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life, and intern Jessica Gebhard are planning to lead a personal history writing project for Sunday school youth based on the National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo). Participants, including interested adults, will be encouraged to write "unselfconsciously" in this communal project, drawing on details from their personal experiences at NYAPC as a starting point to enliven their narratives. This rich NYAPC folk history will be shared with the entire congregation and preserved in the church archives.

In 2010, as a part of the observance of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the American Civil War, the History Committee will join in instituting a five year series of symposia in collaboration with the DC Lincoln Group focused on scholarship-driven discussion around the events highlighting the presidency of Abraham Lincoln. The first programs are planned for February and May 2010.

We offer sincere gratitude to all who volunteer and participate in our various activities for your dedicated service in preserving and telling the NYAPC story as a vital part of our nation's history. Our warmest welcome is extended to all interested members and friends to become part of our work as we go forward with these and many other exciting and challenging activities in the coming months and years.

*Wilson Golden, Chair*

## **Congregational Life Cluster**

The Congregational Life Cluster consists of three separate committees: Evangelism, Nurture and Fellowship, and Worship and Music. The three committees meet concurrently, with committee chairs meeting at the end of the evening to share information about the committees' work.

### **Worship and Music Committee**

The primary function of the Worship and Music Committee is to consider the way we worship and to make recommendations for improving that experience. Our main activities in 2009 revolved around helping the congregation worship comfortably in Peter Marshall Hall and then transition back to our refurbished sanctuary.

What became clear during the sanctuary renovation time period was how much we all enjoyed sitting close together in Peter Marshall Hall. The sense of community was heartfelt and as the time drew near to transitioning back to the sanctuary, the committee brainstormed about how to keep this sense of community in our new space. Roger, Tara and Linda made announcements during services in the weeks leading up to the transition about how we could continue sitting close together to keep the sense of community in our new space. In early June we experienced a special worship service of festivity to mark the move to the new sanctuary.

Near the end of August the choir hosted a cabaret ice cream social in Peter Marshall Hall to raise money for working on chairs for the choir. This event was a huge hit!

Early in the fall, installation of the new organ began and the process was finally completed in December. Our committee continued to help with logistics of worship in the new space, like implementing a new configuration for serving communion and placement of the choir. Mary Anne Davis continues to be a great help in filling in the gaps for recruiting servers for communion each month.

In early November we celebrated the new space again with a “homecoming” service which brought together regularly attending, local members with some members who came from farther away.

Our worship committee meets on the third Wednesday of the month each month and we meet regularly with the pastors. We are interested in growing this committee and having input from the congregation. If you have a concern or idea about how to improve worship, we would love to hear from you!

*Barbara Dornan, Tamara Saltman, and Kathryn Sparks (Chair)*

## Evangelism Committee

Jesus commissioned his followers to “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the son and of the Holy Spirit.” The Evangelism Committee sees its purpose to grapple on an ongoing basis with a question of profound importance: How can The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church and its individual members most truly and effectively share the Good News of God’s Love for all creation in the incarnation, crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus, the Christ? Here is the way we tried to answer that in 2009. Since Rev. Roger Gench became our Senior Pastor in February 2002, 238 adults have joined the congregation. Thirty-one adults joined our number in 2009. We welcomed a particularly large class in February.

The committee continues to call local visitors who sign the hospitality pads, track those who return and invite them to join us in membership. We then host the new member classes and shepherd new members into the larger NYAPC community. The committee hosted four new member classes during 2009. The classes are structured to give prospective members a good idea of who we are and what we believe. The first week of classes, we all share something of our individual journeys of faith; the second we review or introduce what it means to be part of the Reformed faith tradition; the third we explore some of the ways in which we practice the faith.

Other ongoing committee tasks include: ongoing ads in the *Washington Post*; sending out Lenten postcards announcing our special church season schedule to members, recent visitors and others throughout the city; improvements in outside signage; occasional notification to hotels in the area about church events and scheduling; occasional use of nametags so that both members and visitors can bind name to face; and general oversight of the NYAPC website, making specific recommendations for its use as a tool for evangelism.

The committee sponsored an Inauguration Open House on Sunday, January 18, and Inauguration Day, January 20. We opened our doors so that those visitors streaming to Inauguration events could experience the warmth of our building and of our hospitality. Since we had several doors open and much of our hospitality was outside, we did not get a good count of how many people found us, but it was certainly many hundreds. Over the two days, more than 30 members of our church volunteered for the Open House, and another 20 offered them moral support by stopping by. Many, many people thanked us for our generosity and hospitality.

Another action this year was for the committee to continue to host open houses at the homes of committee members. Jenean McKay graciously hosted a July 4<sup>th</sup> Open House to introduce new members to the congregation in a different kind of social setting. In December, we sponsored a Christmas caroling event. On November 7, the Evangelism and Nurture Committees jointly sponsored a Homecoming/Housewarming Sunday to celebrate our return to the renovated sanctuary and to welcome former active members to worship with us. It was a lovely occasion. Worship Services were attended by 364 and over 100 came to a delightful potluck lunch in the Peter Marshall Hall hosted by Cathy and John Schultheis. The committee is considering it as an annual or biennial event for the future.

We launched the NYAPC facebook fan page in 2009 and now reach 102 local and far-away fans with updates about the church. In addition, the NYAPC blog continued at [nyapcblog.wordpress.com](http://nyapcblog.wordpress.com) and we used this tool to post all of the Lenten meditations in 2009. We look forward to the organ recital and sanctuary rededication in January and February 2010. We will also be looking for creative ways to incorporate the completed sanctuary renovations and new organ into our outreach efforts.

The Committee wants to thank publicly the Board of Trustees for underwriting the cost of and undertaking the replacement of one of the banners damaged early in the new year. The passage from Micah 6 continues to welcome and challenge everyone who passes by the church on New York Avenue.

The following people contributed as members of the committee throughout 2009: Pastor Roger Gench, Peter Boeve, Youngmin Chang, Rev. Ann Davie, Martha Davis, Paul Dornan, Diane Douglas, Wilson Golden, Jenean McKay, Linda Lader, Carrie Schenkel and Rebecca Davis (Chair). We thank each one for the important work and for the consistent enthusiasm in the work of the committee. In addition, Tiffany Dougall has served as our office support in 2009, and we are very grateful for all the production of weekly call lists for new and returning visitors.

*Paul B. Dornan*

## **Nurture and Fellowship Committee**

The Nurture and Fellowship Committee works to provide opportunities for members to connect with one another. The committee is especially interested in helping new members connect into the life of the church. We meet on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:45 p.m. in the Lincoln Parlor. If you are interested in joining, please drop by or contact one of us. The committee includes Meg House, Cathy Schultheis, Miriam Dewhurst, Karen Dunlap, Anne Laroche, Rob Neill, Pastoral Assistant Linda Lader and Associate Pastor Tara Spuhler McCabe.

Here's some of what happened in 2009:

### ***Soup Suppers***

On Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday, the committee organized soup and bread suppers before evening worship. 20-30 people shared in these meals.

### ***Easter Breakfast***

The committee organized Easter Breakfast in the Park Level this year, due to the fact that our usual venue, Peter Marshall Hall, was being used for worship.

### ***Bike to Church Day***

Nurture held the second annual Bike to Church day on June 21. Those who cycled to church stored their bikes in room 127, and we joined together in a potluck picnic after the service in Franklin Square Park.

### ***“Social Sunday” Summer Potluck***

Over 80 people came to our Hawaiian-themed summer potluck July 26. We plan to make this an annual event. It's a perfect time to get a large group together after our one service during the summer.

### ***Homecoming Potluck***

The November 2009 Homecoming Sunday was a terrific success, and Nurture worked with the Evangelism Committee on publicity and the potluck lunch. Over 120 people attended the potluck.

### ***2009 Coffee Hour***

The committee was pleased by how many people enjoyed coffee and treats after the first service when we were worshiping in the Peter Marshall Hall. To continue this tradition, the committee now hosts coffee hours in the back of the sanctuary after the first service. We are gauging interest in offering coffee before the second service as well.

### ***Church Communications***

During the year, we began working with the church office in figuring out how to streamline email communications. To this end, the church has now moved email off of Earthlink and onto its own server at nyapc.org.

### ***Retreats***

The All-Church Advent Retreat was held on a snowy Dec. 5 at Meadowkirk in Loudoun County. Roger, Tara and Linda led an intergenerational group in contemplating gifts – Christmas gifts, how characters in the Christmas story receive gifts, and the gift of the incarnation.

### ***Advent and Lenten Meditation Books***

Miriam Dewhurst solicited contributions for and coordinated publication of our annual Advent and Lenten Meditation Books.

The committee wants to continue looking for ways for members to connect to each other. Some new initiatives include resuming Dinners for Nine and hosting meals to help new members meet longer-term members. We look forward to the coming year!

*Meg House and Cathy Schultheis, Co-Chairs*

## Funds Development Cluster

The Funds Development Cluster is an umbrella group encompassing the church's Finance, Stewardship, Capital Campaign, and Planned Giving Committees. Two new committees—Friends of NYA and Grants—took initial organizational steps in 2009. The cluster's primary responsibility is to coordinate the various financial committees and activities of the NYAPC in cooperation with the Manager, Administration and Finance (MAF) and to make recommendations to the Session on the disposition of undesignated gifts or bequests of \$50,000 or greater. The cluster also provides guidance and oversight to the work of the Director of Planned Giving/Special Gifts in conjunction with the MAF and the Senior Pastor in his capacity as head of the church staff.

Detailed reports from these groups follow, along with reports of the Benevolence Committee and NYAPC Memorial and Scholarship Funds. However, highlights of 2009 in Funds Development are:

- ▶ **Finance:** Chaired by Miriam Dewhurst with able assistance from Steve Dewhurst, this committee worked diligently to manage a 2009 budget and build a 2010 budget while minimizing the impact of church operations on a long-standing deficit. The church received \$33,576 in contributions specifically aimed at reducing the deficit as well as a payment of \$25,000 from NYAPC's insurance company on a claim for the theft of nearly \$30,000 from the church in late 2008.
- ▶ **Stewardship:** Courtney and Jim Spearman led the annual effort to generate operating funds for the new year, producing a booklet describing how monies raised are used to finance the many missions of the church. As of this writing, the Committee had raised \$643,269, exceeding the 2010 pledge goal of \$635,000. Every dollar pledged over our goal helps greatly in offsetting our operating deficit. If you have not yet pledged, please do so.
- ▶ **Capital Campaign:** With the conclusion of 2009, the *Building Connections* capital campaign saw the completion of the elevator modernization project as well as the sanctuary renovation and building and installation of the new organ. Well-managed by the Trustees as a group, and specifically by Bob Doan (elevators), Norm Herring (sanctuary), and Doug Porter (organ), the campaign ultimately cost \$2.475 million, of which more than \$2 million has been raised, thanks to the ongoing generosity of NYAPC members and friends. With the Session's approval, the Trustees borrowed from NYAPC's unrestricted endowment to cover the bills associated with the sanctuary renovation and the organ, in particular. The capital campaign will continue until we have reimbursed the endowment the remaining \$317,606 due, plus the interest this money would have earned had it remained in this fund. Wilson Golden continues his devoted chairmanship of the Capital Campaign Committee and, with Pastoral Assistant Linda LeSourd Lader, is coordinating a rededication worship service of the sanctuary, organ, and missions of the NYAPC for February 7, 2010.
- ▶ **Planned Giving:** This dedicated committee, co-chaired by John and Cathy Schultheis, oversaw Legacy Sunday and All Saints' Sunday in addition to a mid-November mailing to members and friends. In the middle of the year, Parish Associate Rev. J. Riley McDonald retired from his work guiding our endowment and other long-range fundraising efforts in collaboration with the Planned Giving Committee, and Evelyn S. Ying became the church's new Director of Planned Giving/Special Gifts. We are grateful to Riley for his four years of service in this important role and to Evelyn for taking it on. During 2009, the church received several generous bequests from former members, including Carol Adsit (\$10,000 to the choir fund), Charlotte S. Smith (\$1.2 million to the restricted endowment), and Gloria Francke (\$165,569 in undesignated funds).

Following up on a March 2008 congregational discussion to explore ways in which the church might increase its income, the cluster formed a Grants Committee and a Friends of NYAPC Committee. The Grants group, chaired by Susan Hesser, is already pursuing funding for a possible revamping of the church's energy systems, and the Friends of NYAPC group is looking for a dedicated chair and members. Please let me know if you are interested in participating. The focus of the cluster for the coming year will be to pursue targeted grants, develop the Friends of NYAPC, and work on fundraising activities aimed at retiring the remaining debt from the capital campaign and reducing the operating deficit.

*Edith Snyder, Cluster Chair*

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**Finance Committee**

Detailed financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2009, and the 2010 budget schedule can be found in the appendices to this Annual Report.

**2009 Financial Activity/Results**

The Session approved a budget for 2009, which was balanced by including \$97,125 from the Operating Reserve Fund, which is an account in which we have stored funds to cover our budget deficits. The General Fund accounts for 2009 ended the year with an increased deficit of \$4,583, and are summarized as follows:

	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Difference</i>
<i>Revenues:</i>			
2009 Pledge Envelope Receipts	\$ 586,194	\$ 620,000	\$ (33,806)
Other Revenues	371,607	348,460	23,147
Operating Reserve Fund	97,125	97,125	0
Funds from Reserve Accounts	48,007	39,100	8,907
<i>Total Revenues</i>	<u>\$ 1,102,933</u>	<u>\$ 1,104,685</u>	<u>\$ (1,752)</u>
<i>Expenses:</i>			
Expense Accounts	\$ 1,113,141	\$ 1,110,485	\$ 2,656
Expense Transfers	(37,054)	(30,400)	(6,654)
Expenses paid from Reserves	31,429	24,600	6,829
<i>Net Expense</i>	<u>\$ 1,107,516</u>	<u>\$ 1,104,685</u>	<u>\$ 2,831</u>
<i>Net Result</i>	<u>\$ (4,583)</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ (4,583)</u>

The \$4,583 deficit to budget was the result of revenues falling short of the budget by \$1,752 and expenses exceeding budget by \$2,831. Although, 2009 was a challenging year for the church's budget, \$25,000 of the \$29,725 in bad checks written against the church's account in the fall of 2008 was recovered from the church's insurance company. The person responsible for the theft pled guilty to stealing \$12,000. He has been sentenced to sixteen months in prison, with three years probation, and ordered to make restitution of the \$12,000.

Significant deviations from the 2009 budget estimates for expenses include:

- \$15,000 overage in electricity costs which totaled \$105,000. This total is \$5,000 less than the amount spent for electricity in 2008. The largest component of the church's electricity usage continues to be the HVAC system, which has to be run 24 hours a day. Turning the system off and on results in system failure with attendant large repair bills.
- \$6,000 in increased costs for the church's audit.
- \$12,000 in increased personnel expenses due to the need for additional help in the music ministry and a shortfall in reimbursement for staff overtime.
- An offsetting \$4,000 in savings realized by rental agreements on new office equipment.

Pledge receipts fell short by \$33,806 and interest income from General Fund Reserves fell short by approximately \$6,000, understandable in a difficult economy. More than balancing these shortfalls, however, was an outpouring of generosity on the part of the congregation. More than \$33,000 was contributed directly to the budget deficit, and receipts from other unpledged offerings were nearly double what had been anticipated. If the McClendon Center had been able to complete the payment of its 2009 building use fees (delay due to slow reimbursement by the District of Columbia), the church budget would have ended the year substantially in balance.

**NOTE:** All numbers are the best work of MAF Kathryn Smith, and the church's financial volunteers: Jenean McKay, Eleanor Pratt, and Jacques Kozub, whose death in May is deeply mourned. The results are unaudited and subject to minor revisions.

*The Committee met regularly to monitor the church's financial condition and coordinated with the Stewardship Committee to establish the 2009 pledge goal. The 2009 budget process included a budget presentation to the boards at the joint boards meeting in December 2008. In December 2003, the Session mandated that the deficit in*

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*the budget proposed by the Finance Committee plus the Committee's best estimate of deficits for the following two years (three years total) could not be greater than the funds available in the Operating Reserve Fund. This mandate was waived for the first time for the 2008 budget, and was waived again for the 2009 budget. A combination of generous giving on the part of the congregation and friends of NYAPC, increased building use fees, two generous bequests, and careful attention to expenditures and ways to save money, has resulted in maintaining sufficient funds in the Operating Reserve Fund to again fund two years of deficits. The Funds Development Cluster, of which the Finance Committee is a part, continues to work to discover ways to bring the church's budget into balance.*

### **2010 Budget Formulation**

The 2010 Budget contains an operating deficit of \$81,997. While still very high, this deficit is substantially lower than last year's budgeted deficit (\$97,125). The 2010 budget anticipates pledge receipts of \$640,000 (an increase of more than \$50,000 over pledge income in 2009) and \$30,000 in contributions toward the deficit, as well as increased revenues from an increase in building use fees and a slight decrease in interest income from previous years..

The estimates for church expenses include:

- An increase of \$13,000 in the personnel budget to cover a 3% raise for staff members currently earning less than \$15/hour. No other raises are contemplated in 2010.
- The budget for electricity costs has been increased by \$15,000, reflecting the history of expenditures over the past two years.
- A decrease of \$8,000 in administrative costs, achieved by trimming costs and taking advantage of warranties on new equipment.
- Ministries are generally held to 2009 levels. The Whitaker Fund is used to help fund the Community Club. Deacons outreach is reduced from \$17,500 in 2009 to \$15,000 in 2010 to reflect actual 2009 usage.
- An increase of \$800 in the Nurture budget to reflect actual costs for congregational coffee, and \$200 in planned giving to cover increased expenses for planned giving.

We began 2009 with enough funds in the Operating Reserve to cover the estimated budget deficits in 2009 and 2010. Largely due to increased giving in 2009, the wonderful response to the 2009 stewardship campaign, and the very generous bequest of Gloria Francke, the Operating Reserve Fund will cover the estimated budget deficits in 2010 and 2011. We remain in the woods. Many people are working hard to find the resources we need to balance our budgets. We welcome suggestions from the congregation on ways of increasing revenues and decreasing expenses. We welcome even more the participation of members in the work of the Funds Development Cluster.

### **Acknowledgements**

I would like to thank my fellow Finance Committee members for their hard work over the past year: Steve Dewhurst, John Gagosian, Bernice McIntyre, John Schultheis, Leonard Shabman, Edith Snyder (Funds Development Cluster Chair), Jeffrey West, and Kathryn Smith (NYAPC Manager of Administration and Finance). And last, but not least, none of this would be possible without the hard work of our volunteers: Jacques Kozub, Jenean McKay, and Eleanor Pratt.

*Miriam Dewhurst, Chair*

## **Stewardship Committee**

The 2010 Annual Stewardship Campaign ran from October 4 to November 15, 2009. The theme for the campaign was “Stepping Up,” both encouraging people to increase their pledge from years past and referencing the grand steps that led to the newly renovated sanctuary. Considering the challenging financial year that so many people in the region and in the church have had, the goal was set to \$635,000. With great joy we report that the goal has been exceeded by over \$5,000 and the 2010 pledge total is now over \$640,000. Thank you to everyone who has pledged this year!

The Stewardship Committee interpreted the “Stepping Up” theme literally, and worked hard to reach our campaign goal. With input from a large group of church leaders, we created a booklet describing the range and diversity of NYAPC’s missions and how annual giving supports those activities. Further illustrating the church’s diverse missions, we held the fifth Annual Mission Fair on October 18 in the back of the sanctuary, with a great response from organizations and the congregation alike. We also “went digital,” with a new portion of the church website dedicated to annual giving, including downloadable pledge cards and the “Stepping Up” booklet.

The Campaign’s success would not have been possible without the support of dedicated church staff, particularly Kitty Smith, Judith McGovern, and Tiffany Dougall. The Finance Committee, including Steve Dewhurst, Miriam Dewhurst, Evelyn Ying and Edith Snyder, put great effort into goal setting and the budget information in the Stepping Up booklet. Many thanks also to the Stewardship Committee members, whose hard work was absolutely essential and made the campaign a collaborative effort: Wilson Golden, Evelyn Ying, Edith Snyder, David and Amy Gillies, Louise Berman, Jenean McKay, Lauren McFerran, Carrie Schenkel, John Schultheis, and Karen Dunlap.

*Courtney and Jim Spearman, co-chairs*

## Capital Campaign Committee

In 2009, the dream of a new organ, modernized elevators, and renovated sanctuary—the first such upgrade since the late 1960s—was finally realized as the building portion of the multi-year capital project was completed.

The Capital Campaign Committee continued its work of raising the remaining funding for the project.

- In March, a comprehensive briefing was provided to an open congregation meeting, and Meg and Doug House hosted a wine tasting for members who had made significant contributions to the campaign where an update on the status of the sanctuary renovation and a review of naming/giving opportunities were provided.
- In April and May, letters were mailed to members who had joined the church during the last two years, giving them background on the campaign and encouraging them to pledge. We also sent letters to current and former choir members providing an update on the campaign, encouraging them to pledge or fulfill their current pledges, and offering opportunities to give toward particular aspects of the sanctuary renovation, such as organ pipes or choir chairs.
- In late August, the choir hosted a wonderful “ice cream social,” celebrating the choir’s 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary and raising over \$2,000 for the capital campaign.

Work on the sanctuary renovations was completed in time for the congregation to relocate from Peter Marshall Hall in June, just as the on-site construction of the organ was beginning. Details of the sanctuary renovation and organ construction are contained in other reports in this Annual Report, but seeing this work unfold over the months of 2009—at a state of near completion by year’s end—was a sight of great inspiration to the many who had worked so hard for so many years to upgrade the elevators and sanctuary chancel and to acquire a new organ for NYA.

In celebration of our accomplishment, members of the Committee joined others from the pastoral staff and congregation at large to plan a reconsecration and rededication ceremony for early February 2010. While all details of these events are not complete as of this writing, the plan is to begin with an organ recital featuring noted organist Dr. Douglas Major on Sunday, January 31. The recital will be followed by a rededication service to be held on February 7, welcoming all members, friends who have worshipped and held various ceremonies here over the years, and the entire Washington area faith community to share this special moment with us.

The rededication of the renovated sanctuary, new organ, and many ministries of NYAPC will also commemorate the church’s 150 years as a congregation and 60 years in the current building. Timed to coincide with the conclusion of the nation’s celebration of the bicentennial of Abraham Lincoln’s birth, we hope to alert the wider public to NYAPC history and ties to President Lincoln, while reasserting our church’s witness and leadership in the nation’s capital.

The Committee is filled with gratitude for the response of so many of our members and friends over more than a decade of planning, discerning, fundraising, and finally construction dust as this wondrous renovation to our sanctuary finally took place. What has been accomplished is nothing less than a transformation of our worship experience, connecting the elements of the worship service—preaching, singing, and enacting the Word through the sacraments—between ourselves and our work in the world around us, and between us and the living God.

Our final goal of raising \$2,475,000 when all the bills are in is 91% complete as of December 31, representing one hundred and forty four families and individuals. That said, we still have \$317,600 yet to be raised, including approximately \$48,561 in outstanding pledges.

Every member and friend is encouraged to search your hearts and stretch your pocketbooks one last time to help us reach the campaign’s finish line early in 2010. Your continued prayers are requested as we conclude the Capital Campaign canvass. Please consider completing your pledge, or increasing it to the most generous level possible.

*Wilson Golden, Chair*

## Director of Planned Giving/Special Gifts

Inspired by visionary plans, the NYAPC leadership has supported a farsighted program of planned gifts development, which has made a significant and crucial difference in providing funds for the church's ministries, especially during difficult economic times such as we experienced this past year.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve NYAPC in its planned and special gifts program as a consultant beginning in June 2009, following the retirement of Reverend J. Riley McDonald. We give heartfelt thanks for the four years of dedicated service that Riley gave to the church as Director of Planned Giving, and I personally thank him for his guidance and role as a mentor earlier this year. During his tenure, Riley has helped to identify future bequests and gifts to the church and establish a strong Planned Giving Committee that has provided inspiration and information on planned giving as an opportunity for Christian stewardship.

**Information and Celebration of Planned Gifts:** Under the leadership of Cathy and John Schultheis, the Planned Giving Committee helped to coordinate several special observances, Legacy Sunday and All Saints' Sunday, at NYAPC this past year. In conjunction with Legacy Sunday, the Committee sponsored three Adult Christian Education classes on the theme "Creating a Lasting Legacy." On All Saints' Sunday, we celebrated the legacies of many saints of our church. On both occasions, letters were mailed to the congregation with brochures and inserts developed by the Committee. The Committee also increased the visibility of planned giving by creating informational posters and including regular articles in the *AVENEWS* and inserts in the church bulletins. It has been a great pleasure to consult and work with such dedicated and effective Planned Giving Committee members.

Consistent with the understanding that all financial stewardship in the church is interrelated, I also worked with the NYAPC leadership, including Edith Snyder as Chair of the Funds Development Cluster, in supporting the annual stewardship campaign and capital campaign, and in encouraging special gifts, including memorial gifts, to the church. Desiring to provide more information to members and friends of the NYAPC on giving opportunities, we now have a "Giving" section on the NYAPC website, which includes an updated section for planned giving. We continue to explore new ways for individual members and friends to support financially the church's missions.

**Generosity of NYAPC Members and Friends:** During the past six months, I have had the opportunity to visit with a number of NYAPC members and friends. How deeply grateful I am for those who have shared their lives with me and this congregation. I am truly inspired by the strong commitment to the church and its ministries and the level of generosity shown by so many individuals. This past year, I have also provided information to attorneys and other advisors in support of major bequests made to the NYAPC. Information sharing and consultations with individual church members, along with their families and advisors, on their charitable planned gifts are an important part of my work. We understand that there are many commitments in place for gifts to the NYAPC in the future, and we are exploring ways to acknowledge and show our gratitude to those who have remembered the church in their estate plans.

**Networking and Discovering Other Possibilities:** As we build our planned and special gifts programs, we continue to explore and learn from other churches and organizations. In March 2009, I attended the "Stewardship Kaleidoscope" conference in Kansas City, Missouri, sponsored by a number of Presbyterian organizations and returned with many creative ideas for our stewardship programs at NYAPC. This past year, John Schultheis, Phil Hanna, and I attended "Planned Giving and Endowment Roundtables," where area Presbyterian churches exchange their best ideas and practices with others. I also participated in monthly programs sponsored by the National Capital Gift Planning Council and periodically met with representatives of the Presbyterian Foundation, Presbyterian Endowment Education Resources Network (PEER), and the National Capital Presbyterian Stewardship Committee.

**Legacy Gifts:** Sharing our accumulated resources is an important element of Christian discipleship. Donors who have included the NYAPC in their estate plans in the past have made a significant difference in the ministries that our church offers today. If you have questions about giving opportunities and how your planned gifts might help the NYAPC, please contact me and I will be delighted to talk or meet with you without any obligation on your part.

*Evelyn S. Ying, Director of Planned Giving/Special Gifts*

## **Planned Giving Committee**

The purpose of the Planned Giving Committee is to further the mission, witness and work of The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church through a sustained program of giving by members and friends of long term accumulated assets in the form of stocks, bonds, real, estate, life income plans or other estate planning instruments. 2009 represented the third year the Committee has functioned.

The primary activities of the Committee during 2009 are described in the planned Giving/Special Gifts Director's report.

In the latter portion of 2009, we learned of two major bequests from recently deceased saints of the church whose combined gifts to NYAPC total nearly \$1.4 million. Details regarding these generous, thoughtful and much needed contributions will be shared with the members and friends of the NYAPC in 2010.

We wish to thank Rev. J.Riley McDonald for his guidance, wisdom, inspiration and participation in all of the Committee's endeavors over a two-and-a-half-year period which ended with his retirement in June 2009.

We are most fortunate that the Session approved the selection of Evelyn Ying (a former Committee member) in June 2009 to the position of Planned Giving/Special Gifts Director. Evelyn brings a wealth of knowledge and considerable enthusiasm to her new responsibilities. The Committee looks forward to the future with Evelyn's inspiration and insights.

The Committee and the Director of Planned Giving/Special Gifts are actively recruiting church members to serve on our Committee. If asked, please consider joining us in this very important effort which will help to sustain God's house of worship well into the future.

As Rev. Roger Gench has stated: "We do not give to The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church simply because we love our church and its ministry (although I hope we do), but because we desire to orient our hearts and our lives towards God."

The Committee members during 2009 included Carol Casperson, Margaret (Peggy) Evans, Amy Gillies, G. Phillips (Phil) Hanna, Eleanor Pratt, Cathy Schultheis, John Schultheis and Evelyn Ying.

*Catherine and John Schultheis, Co-Chairs*

## **Administration Cluster**

The past year has been a quiet one for the Cluster. The primary focus of the Cluster has been exploring the impact on the building and how it is used if Miriam's Kitchen decides that it would like to use the Park Level for an afternoon/evening feeding program and social services.

We also welcomed a new regular tenant in the Fall. The Washington area's only Coptic Church began holding alternating weekly services on Saturday mornings as outreach to young adults worshippers.

The Personnel Committee, a standing committee under the Administration Cluster, has a separate report detailing their activities.

*Karl Hoffman, Administration Cluster Chair*

## **Personnel Committee**

2009 was another challenging year for the church staff, with another significant staff change and the pressures of the congregation's temporary exile to the Peter Marshall Hall and the on-going construction work. It would be no exaggeration to say that our wonderful employees, with extraordinary dedication, flexibility and good nature, more than rose to the challenge.

The Personnel Committee in 2009 continued its prior year focus on two main priorities, evaluations and staff appreciation, in addition to the transition from Valerie McCray to Judith McGovern as Manager of Office Operations, and some new faces at the front desk. Primary among the evaluations was a long-overdue evaluation of Pastor Roger Gench, facilitated by the committee and conducted by the chairs of all church boards and Session clusters, with input and comments submitted by congregation members. In addition, a new schedule for individual staff evaluations was adopted, moving from a year-end evaluation for all staff to evaluations on each member's employment anniversary date, to allow for a less-compressed process.

Custodial staff was particularly challenged this year, with the public hospitality on both the Sunday before and the day of the Presidential Inauguration, dealing with construction work on weekdays, and setting up and taking down of Sunday worship arrangements in Peter Marshall Hall, and all was performed well and cheerfully. Although there was no flexibility in the church budget to give bonuses for the exceptional work, the Committee arranged for a letter of thanks from the Session to each member of the building maintenance staff, along with a small cash stipend from the Pastor's discretionary account supplemented by some private contributions. As an additional "staff recognition" thank-you, members of the committee prepared and served a holiday-week Christmas luncheon for the staff and office volunteers. Sam McFerran, who is not a member of the committee, volunteered to man the entry and phones so that all staff could attend together, and Rev. Gench made his debut as guitarist to accompany carol singing.

On a more serious note, the committee addressed the issue of back-up preparation for key employees in the event of a prolonged illness or other absence. Hospitality and security were identified as training priorities for all, and further engineering and maintenance training were encouraged for custodians to back up Raymond Newman and to prepare for his eventual retirement. The Committee also fulfilled its role of reviewing the staff budget and recommending salary levels for 2010, and terms of call for the pastors. Because of the tight budget, no raises were recommended except for 3% increases for full-time staff earning less than \$15 per hour.

The committee consists of two Session members, Beth Law and Mary Krug, Deacon Spencer Gibbins, Trustee Norman Herring, Deaconess Lenora Thierry, elected staff representative Raymond Newman, and congregation representative Elizabeth (Beth) DuMez, along with Rev. Roger Gench, and MAF Kathryn Smith.

*Mary Krug, Chair*

## REPORTS OF NYA COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMS

### 7-2-9 Club

The 7-2-9 Club was started on Valentine's Day 1979 as an outreach project for the recovering mentally ill. This was the beginning of one of the most unique, gratifying, and intellectual experiences that we have had here in the church. The club meets every Wednesday night from 7:00 to 9:00 (which is how the club got its name). The membership consists of three primary groups: approximately 30 persons who currently reside at and are being treated at St. Elizabeth's Hospital; about 20 persons who have been discharged from the hospital and come on their own from community residence facilities and their own apartments; and four to six volunteers from the church and community. All these persons come to be with each other, share experiences both good and bad, to discuss problems, and to exchange ideas.

Each week the volunteers plan a fun program. The first Wednesday of the month is bingo night and is by far the most popular. Other weeks we play games, sing karaoke, have talent competitions and celebrate various holidays throughout the year. After the program, light refreshments are served.

More volunteers are always needed and welcome. A volunteer staff of six to eight is ideal, so presently we are two or three volunteers short each week. Even volunteers who can commit to just once or twice a month would be helpful. Please stop in for a visit and join the fun!

*Spencer Gibbins and Britton Walker, Coordinators*

## Community Club

2009 was a good year for Community Club, a ministry of the church since February 1962 which brings DC public and charter school students together with concerned local professionals for one-with-one tutoring and mentoring in Peter Marshall Hall every Thursday night when D.C. schools are in session.

Enrollment for the 2009-2010 school year is up a bit from the last, to about 110 student-tutor pairs, plus approximately 20 additional adult volunteers who serve as class leaders, librarians, food servers, etc. Approximately ten percent of the program's volunteers are NYAPC members. Community Club continues to do a great job recruiting new tutors, primarily through the Craigslist website. Over 40 new tutor-student pairs have been matched this year, and at the end of 2009, there were no students waiting to be matched with a tutor.

In 2009, Susie Campbell completed three years as volunteer director of the club, passing the directorship baton to long-time tutor Tom Karr. He is assisted by another new addition, NYAPC social justice mission assistant, Jessica Gebhard. Helping too are the Core Council, which consists of Club leaders, NYAPC chaplain (Tara Spuhler McCabe), and a member of the Deacons (currently Molly Smith). Tom and the Core Council have done a great job of delegating tasks, both to Jessica, and to volunteers. A valuable addition to Community Club has been church member Amy Garrou, who is providing college counseling to club juniors and seniors, and a dedicated French and Spanish tutor (in addition to our Math Zone specialists).

Community Club continues to offer Stay-in-School Scholarships, monthly stipends for students with good grades and good attendance at Community Club. The stipends allow students to concentrate on their studies rather than work part-time jobs. Approximately one-third of the students in the program receive these stipends. Community College alumni who are enrolled in college with good grades are eligible for biannual stipends from Community Club. Nearly 40 such alumni presently receive stipends from Community Club. The club also continues to promote students for outside college scholarships and to help them apply for those scholarships. In May 2009, three graduating high school seniors earned New Futures scholarships, worth up to \$12,000 for college. In this year's senior class, two seniors have been awarded Posse Foundation Scholarships, which offer full tuition waivers at prestigious universities, and a third senior earned a DC Achievers Scholarship, which provides \$10,000 per year for four years of college.

In addition to the core Thursday night tutoring, in 2009 Community Club tried out a new version of our popular camp: a single day at George Washington University SUMMIT low ropes challenge course, together with football and crafts activities from the traditional camp experience. We continue to have a library that provides study materials and free books for students to read over the summer and during winter break, as well as nutritious meals in the hour before study hall, awards to students with the best and most improved grades in each class, semi-annual round-table discussions with Club alumni now in college, a tutor workshop in February and a well-attended graduation ceremony in May.

Community Club's Web site, [www.communityclub.org](http://www.communityclub.org), is an excellent resource for those wishing to learn more about this program.

*Jessica Gebhard, NYAPC Member and Social Justice Mission Assistant*

## **McClendon Center Mental Health Rehabilitation Services Program**

The McClendon Center, an independent 501 (c) 3 non-profit corporation, continues to serve the needs of the mentally ill in the District as it has done since its founding as a mission of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, more than twenty nine (29) years ago. The Center is housed on the both fourth and fifth floors of the church as a tenant, maintaining a mission relationship by means of church members who serve on the Board of Directors. Our current by-laws require two board members to be nominated by the church. Currently, the following church members are serving as Directors: Jenean McKay, Sarah Barclay, Sarah Steverman, John Schultheis, and Ken Carpenter (emeritus).

In 2009 the McClendon Center, now funded primarily through the DC Department of Mental Health (DMH) and the D.C. Department of Health (DOH) and administered under the auspices of the McClendon Center Board of Directors, initiated many program activities to meet the diverse needs of its participants, adult DC residents diagnosed with mental illness. Center mental health rehabilitation services focus upon the promotion of a self-empowerment philosophy with primary emphasis on personal responsibility, independence, accomplishment, friendship and creativity. We continue to host a foundation funded, consumer-driven, consumer-managed Best Health Project that is oriented towards consumer education and empowerment. This project utilizes a variety of expressive therapies and other treatment modalities to support the accomplishment of mutually determined consumer goals. Emphasis upon group psychosocial/psycho educational therapeutic activities enhanced the achievement of goals such as personal development, emotional integration and recovery. The purpose of this recovery approach is to build consumer confidence, improve competence and increase self-esteem, while developing the maximum potential for self-expression.

Group sessions included art therapy, stress management, pathways to recovery, problem solving, health and wellness, current events, Tai'Chi exercises, dietitian/nutrition and anger management. Activities such as Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP) and Action for Personal Choice were continued in 2009. In addition to therapeutic and recreational activities, information and referral services were available to all participants at the Center. The Center has affiliation agreements with several local universities, and plans to maintain these academic "intern" relationships. In 2009 we continued to host MSW interns from George Mason University, and Art Therapy interns. Also in July of this year, we commenced an exciting psychiatry resident program through an affiliation with the George Washington University medical school, whereby third and fourth year residents are placed as interns at our Core Services Agency.

The Center takes pride in its professional commitment and approach, and was accredited for an initial three-year period beginning March of 1999 by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. The Center was most recently surveyed in January of 2008 and received renewal of the Joint Commission accreditation for another three-year period. The Center was also re-certified as a Specialty Provider of Rehabilitation/Day Services, and a Sub-Provider of Medication/Somatic Treatment Services, Diagnostic/Assessment Services and Community Support Services by the DC Department of Mental Health. All these DMH-certified mental health rehabilitation services were provided at the Center in its Joint Commission accredited behavioral health care outpatient setting. In addition, having received approval as a Core Service Agency in 2006, the Center continued to expand both its scope of services and number of individuals served at our auxiliary location on North Capitol Street. The CSA continued to be fully operational in 2009, with over twenty CSA community support workers serving more than 500 consumers in our community based setting.

The Center maintained operation as a Medicaid Day Treatment Program, under the administrative auspices of the DC Department of Health, continuing the employment of a full-time certified addiction counselor. This specialty allows the Center to provide substance abuse services for individuals with an addiction problem. Because of our treatment expertise, we were selected by DMH in 2008 to serve individuals from St. Elizabeth's Hospital in our day program, located here at NYAPC, and in 2009 we continued to serve over fifty individuals daily.

This year we continued our innovative cooperative program with Unity Health care to provide physical health care services to our consumers. This program is especially effective because our community support case managers accompany their consumers to the clinic ensuring that appropriate medical services are provided.

## THE NEW YORK AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

In accord with our wish to support the general mental health community, we continue to host the Consumer Leadership Forum, a local association of mental health consumers. We provide office facilities and space for their meeting. See [www.clfofdc.org](http://www.clfofdc.org) for more information.

The Center ends the year fiscally sound but because of the uneven nature of government funding, we still need to look for additional support to provide all the services deemed essential. For instance, we believe our consumers should have access to board-certified psychiatric services, but this is not fully compensated by DMH. Or, if a person needs treatment hours over and above what the District allows, we continue to serve this person without compensation. For reasons like this, the Center, with the full support of the McClendon Center Board of Directors, submitted foundation grant applications to supplement the DMH/DOH funds. We are thankful to have received generous foundation funding in 2009. We have also received support from numerous individual donors for which we are grateful.

In 2008 we launched our new web site [www.mcclendoncenter.org](http://www.mcclendoncenter.org) to inform the community of our mission and programs and encourage everyone to visit the web site and read more about what is happening at the Center. This site also includes an easy way for visitors to make a donation to the Center, and we are happy to report that we have already received generous gifts from friends of the McClendon Center via the web page.

Late in 2008 we learned that we needed to prepare for dramatic changes here at the McClendon Center. As a result of a long-standing court initiative, a major realignment of the DC mental health system was announced that has exciting implications for private providers like the McClendon Center. In 2009 we responded to the challenge and drafted a business plan that could expand our current reach to a level of more than 800 consumers. Central to our plans was the formulation of an expansion program that retained the core McClendon Center philosophy of individual treatment and concern for every person served. If these plans come to complete fruition, we foresee opening an additional CSA office as well as another Day Treatment site outside our current locations. Our presence here at NYAPC expanded this year by adding office spaces on the fourth floor to our lease beginning April of 2009. This was an exciting opportunity for the McClendon Center, and helped greatly.

As always, the Center staff genuinely appreciated the support of the NYAPC membership. The continued involvement of the McClendon Center Board of Directors, with representation from NYAPC members, was tremendously beneficial. This support assists the Center in providing a “home away from home” for our mental health service consumers so that the McClendon Center will continue to enrich the lives of current and future participants. Thank you.

*Richard E. (Dick) Davis, Executive Director*

## Meals on Wheels -- 1970-2009

As you have already heard, NYAPC MOW ministry of nearly 40 years came to an end on December 31, 2009. The decision was not easy nor was it without a great deal of sadness for the MOW task force, consisting of Joyce and Al Schuman, Jay Davenport, Gerald Moody, Nathan Moon, Fritz Von Fleckenstein, Kitty Smith, and Margaret Myers, to make this decision. However, our numbers continued to decline as they had been for many years and our remaining clients were all at least partially subsidized, and most fully subsidized, so it meant that we were just spending down the Boyle's bequest. With very little interest and no other income to speak of, we would have ceased to exist in another couple of years, without any resources left to help support the other ministries of our church: the community club, 7-2-9, and the Radcliffe Room.

The Deacons agreed to our decision. We pray that the congregation, especially all of you who have been involved directly and without whom we could not have served so many over the years, understand and support our decision. We especially owe Joyce Schuman a tremendous debt of gratitude for working *many* long hours determining which of the District's Office on Aging agencies would serve our seniors, giving these agencies the appropriate clients' names to contact, and preparing personal letters to inform our clients of our decision and what we had done on their behalf for the future. We could not have made this transition without Joyce's expertise and determination.

In addition, those in the support group who were volunteers for many years and are listed above, contributed hundreds and even thousands of hours for some years during our existence.

We pay tribute to the following past and present volunteers:

- **Jeanette Cohen (30 years being scheduler of volunteers from the beginning and after continuing to hold our ministry in her heart)**, Carl Dees, Roger Dixon, Miriam Dewhurst, Barbara Dornan, Beth DuMez, Tom Dunlap, Sally Davis, Frances Gray, Helen Hanna, Anne LaRoche, Amy McKee, Jenean McKay, Jack Mathison, Kelsay Meek, Ginge Peddle, Ellie Robins, John Schultheis, Leonora Thierry, Jim Wall, Sonia Wall, Elizabeth Young, and Mark Zaineddin. (I apologize if your name is not on this list; please let me know!)

We are also grateful to the many volunteers from the community who were necessary from the beginning to make our ministry possible.

*Margaret Myers*

## New York Avenue Foundation

*The mission of the New York Avenue Foundation (NYAF) is to be a catalyst of educational advancement for youth in need throughout Washington, D.C. Founded in 1984 as a nonprofit, 501(c)(3), charitable organization, the Foundation seeks to promote a Nation's Capital that empowers each and every young person to realize his or her potential and become a productive citizen.*

The NYAF financially supports, through grants, non-profit programs in the District of Columbia aimed at achieving its mission. The Foundation also provides supplementary funds for children who need incentives to stay in school and scholarship funds for additional education.

We raise money through letter solicitations, fundraising events, and other sources. In support of this effort, we receive assistance from Katha Kissman, an experienced grant writer. A volunteer Board of Directors conducts the other work of the Foundation without any monetary compensation. As a result, most of the money raised is passed through to our grantees to help achieve the Foundation's mission.

The NYAF also participates in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC #25839), which allows donors to designate funds to the Foundation on a year-round, regular basis or with a single donation. We are also listed on "Network for Good," a national, online, charitable giving website that enables supporters to donate online to support our work.

*The Foundation also has a long-standing relationship with the Community Club, which brings DC public high school students together with concerned local professionals for one-on-one tutoring and mentoring throughout the school year.*

In 2009, the Foundation allocated funds to the Community Club: \$18,000.

The other local organizations that received grants from the NYA Foundation in 2009 are:

Life Pieces to Masterpieces (arts-based youth development for African American males)	\$ 4,000
Word, Beats and Life (college preparation through the hip-hop arts)	\$ 4,000
DC Creative Writing Workshop (dramatic arts and creative writing programs)	\$ 2,500

We appreciate the service of Jennifer McIver, who began serving as the Chair of the Board in March of this year. We also thank Evelyn Ying for her leadership as Chair and for her continuing service as Secretary. We are fortunate that Gwenn Gebhard continues on the Board as Treasurer. We also wish to thank Adlai Amor and Caroline Donovan-White, who stepped down this past year, for their commitment and many contributions to the Board. In turn, we welcome Miriam Dewhurst and John Courson as new Board members. Finally, we gratefully remember and celebrate the life of Jacques Kozub, former Treasurer and retired Board member, who passed away earlier this year.

We greatly appreciate your continued support of the NYA Foundation. Even in these difficult economic times, our donors have been truly generous this year. Their investment in the Foundation's mission is, indeed, an investment in the future of this city's youth. We are always looking for new members for the Board, a majority of whom must be members of The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church.

Current Board of Directors: Mary Nell Clark, John Courson, Miriam Dewhurst, Gwenn Gebhard - Treasurer, Tom Karr, Anne Harris Laroche, Jennie Leitch, Jennifer McIver – Chair, Michael Pete, Janet Wessling, and Evelyn Ying – Secretary.

*Jennifer McIver, Chair*

## **NYA Committee of Ingleside Presbyterian Retirement Community Women's Board**

Beginning in the early 1900's, the Presbyterian Home, now known as the Ingleside Presbyterian Retirement Community at Rock Creek, and situated in an upscale area in northwest Washington, DC, has provided a comfortable, convenient, and caring place for hundreds of senior people to live. There are various levels of care provided, including apartments, independent living, assisted living, health care, rehabilitation, physical therapy and, in an area known as the Gardens, a place for patients with Alzheimer's.

The Women's Board is comprised of representatives of the churches in the National Capital Presbytery. Each participating church is allowed a complement of 15 members. The 2009 committee included Mary Anne Davis (Chair), Toni Davenport, Gloria Eyong, Beatrice Fuller, Marcia Kozub, Jennie Leitch, Bernice McIntyre, Sally Molenkamp, Gladys Rigsby, and Vernona Turnbull. Kay Meek joined in November 2009 and Cecelia Porter will join at the February 2010 board meeting.

Each Board member participates in a variety of services, giving assistance to the administration and staff of the Home. One project was decorating the halls and corridors with art work. Countless hours of service are provided by those who bake cookies for many events, maintain the Shops, furniture sales, and Variety Shop. Mary Anne Davis is the telephone coordinator which augments the e-mail notification system. Other activities included word games, discussion groups, listening to music, and occasional bus trips to see such things as the Cherry Blossoms and the Mormon Tabernacle Christmas display. The Board financed the purchase of the grand piano in the Chapel which had been owned by the late Blanche Zwingle, a member of the NYA Church and also a Board member. A project which has been planned for 2010 is to improve the Tea Room facility on the first floor level of the Suites.

Instead of the traditional Fashion Show, the Board sponsored a musical gala presenting a young musical group from Rockville featuring dancing and songs from Broadway, which was extremely entertaining and enjoyable. At the Christmas Party a group of children from a sister church provided a well received concert of Christmas music.

Our committee is proud of the fact that Jennie Leitch has been elected to serve her fourth term as President of the Women's Board. Marcia Kozub has been the chairperson of the Christmas Party for many years and also is the pianist for the Board meetings.

It is deeply hoped that the four vacant positions on the committee can be filled in 2010. Please speak to Mary Anne Davis or any current member of the Women's Board to let them know of your interest. You will be warmly welcomed.

*Mary Anne Davis, Chair*

## **War, Peace and Justice Friday Forum Planning Team**

The Friday Forum on War, Peace, and Justice was organized in 2002, in anticipation of the United States' invasion of Iraq. The purpose of the occasional forums has been to recognize NYAPC's geographic proximity to the halls of government and the church's history of articulating moral and ethical imperatives. During 2009, four forums were held on the following topics and by the presenters that follow:

- Economic Justice – Walter Owensby
- Immigration Detention Policy – Kathy Doan
- Keeping Faith with Martin (MLK) – Alton B. Pollard, III
- It's Hard to Make War When You're Broke – Col Lawrence B. Wilkerson

The Forum Planning Committee's work was interrupted because of circumstances beyond control. The Committee will convene early in 2010 to determine its course of action.

Members of the Planning Committee include: Chair: Barry Tindall, Gary Campbell, Martha Davis, Elizabeth DuMez, Rev. Roger Gench, Eleanor Robins, and Marilyn Seiber

*Barry Tindall*

## REPORTS OF NYA FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

### Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women of The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church are affiliated with the national organization of Presbyterian Women of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Our purpose is to nurture faith, support missions, work for justice and peace and build community. Currently, Barbara Dornan serves as Administrative Liaison and Lenora Thierry serves as Financial Liaison.

In Circle meetings held at member's homes on the first Tuesday of each month, we join together in Bible Study to deepen our faith and understanding of God's will for our lives. This year we are using the 2009-2010 Horizons Bible Study guide, Joshua, A Journey of Faith, by Mary Mikhael. We have been studying the text, as well as looking at the meaning of this book for the people and countries of the Middle East today, and for us in this world. Tara Spuhler McCabe is our study leader.

With regular offerings and the giving of the "least coin", a special offering of pennies based on the parable Jesus told of the woman who gave all she had, we follow the tradition of 200 years of Presbyterian Women supporting missions. This past year, our circle contributed \$1565.20 directly to mission. We pledged quarterly support to the missions of the national Presbyterian Women of the Presbyterian Church. We also contributed to our Alternative Christmas Store projects, the Peacemaking offering, One Great Hour of Sharing, and to disaster relief in the Philippines.

We would welcome other interested women to join us on our faith journey as we study and pray together, have a good time, and share ideas, concerns, and joys during the New Year ahead.

*Barbara Dornan, Administrative Liaison.*

## Young Adult Group

This year was a quiet one for organized Young Adult activities. Happily, like the overall church population, we received many new members.

The core activity of Young Adult events is our monthly second Sunday dinner. The February dinner saw Carrie Schenkel win the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Iron Chef Presbyterian competition. Her Savory Cheese Cannoli deliciously incorporated the theme ingredient, cheese.

Outside of the dinners, several bible study groups are actively providing Young Adults with spiritual fulfillment. Young adult members of the church can be found in a variety of leadership positions and missions of the church including McClendon Center, Board of Deaconesses, and Board of Deacons, to name a few areas.

We conclude this report with thank yous. Thank you first to Ann Davie for continuing to host the Young Adult dinners. Thank you to the congregation as a whole for the time, energy, support, and resources that you have provided to us. And, finally, thank you to all the members of NYAPC, past and present, which have provided us with a place to worship, to grow, to love, to share, and to build our relationship with God.

*Karl Hoffman*

## St. Ignatian Prayer Group

The St. Ignatian Prayer Group meets on alternate Thursday mornings at 10:00 am in the Docherty Center. It originated with people interested in participating in exercises in contemplative prayer, based on a discipline developed by St. Ignatius of Loyola. The exercise involves prayerful meditation upon a series of scripture passages.

In 2009, the group studied and prayed through Paul's letter to the Philippians, using Stephen E. Fowl's Philippians. The group will begin the New Year with Thomas Merton's Contemplative Prayer, praying and meditating on selected psalms. Participants gather every other Thursday to discuss the reading assignment and share reflections on the scripture passages. The conversations usually include reflections on how the chapter or the sermon relate to the spiritual challenges of living as Christ's followers in the world.

In November, the group engaged in a silent retreat at Meadowkirk, the Presbytery's camp and retreat center in Aldie, Virginia. Participants gathered at noon on a Tuesday, had lunch together and then did not speak again until a brief meeting the following morning. The rest of the morning and the noon meal was spent in silence and the retreat concluded with a brief gathering after lunch. Many people chose to spend much of the time outdoors and reported seeing deer, eagles and other wildlife. Another silent retreat is being planned for March 2011. The group is always pleased to welcome new members, and one need not be a member of the prayer group to participate in the retreats.

*Miriam E. Dewhurst*

## **Alexandria Parish Group**

Currently the Alexandria Parish Group is the only active parish group that survives from an ambitious initiative begun in the 1990s to organize The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church congregation along geographical lines. The idea was to nourish the entire NYAPC community by promoting parishes that would meet regularly to nurture each of their participants socially, pastorally, spiritually.

The Alexandria Parish currently meets one evening a month from September through May at the home of one of our members. We have been reading or listening to sermons and discussing them among ourselves over the last couple of years. Our “preachers” this year have been Peter Gomes, William Sloane Coffin, Jr. and the pastors, past and present, of The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. The sermon format permits us to share some of our deepest thoughts and concerns with members of our faith community whom we have grown to know and trust. After our conversation, we retire to snacks and more relaxed conversation.

We meet, we eat, we talk, we occasionally argue and we support one another in need. We continue to commend the parish concept to the rest of the NYAPC community.

*Paul B. Dornan*

## REPORTS OF NYA MEMORIAL AND SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

### Virginia L. Cochran and David S. Brown Fund

In May 1983, the Session established the Virginia L. Cochran Memorial Fund to commemorate Virginia's commitment and service to the educational development of young people in the inner city and to perpetuate the types of programs and activities that she fostered in the Community Club.

"Virginia L. Cochran's shadow enriched the individuals and institutions upon which it fell during her 74 years. Her all-embracing spirit enabled her to see the strengths of each person she knew, and her creative affirmation of those strengths nurtured self-confidence and the ability for greater service. She was dedicated to opening opportunities which could make a positive difference in the lives of others."

In May 1985, the Session added monies provided to the church from the Cochran estate to the corpus of the fund and decided that the fund would be administered by the Board of Deacons. Income from the fund, as invested by the Board of Trustees, is made available consistent with the guidelines established for the Fund. These guidelines provide that income is to be used to:

- Provide scholarship grants to assist Community Club students in post-secondary education or training;
- Purchase uniquely beneficial educational materials for the tutoring program, such as historical materials on black history, encyclopedias and training aids;
- Offer grants for the development of special talents in young people seeking ways to serve others.

The name of the fund was changed three years ago to the Virginia L. Cochran and David S. Brown Fund to commemorate Dave Brown's nearly 43 years as Director of Community Club, of which the first 21 years were shared with Virginia as Co-Directors. As a jointly-named fund, it honors two great friends who were (and Dave remains) stalwart members of The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church community and the founding mother and father of the Community Club mentoring program. Those of us who have been blessed to know and love Virginia and Dave and to witness their ongoing gift to the children of this city hope this fund continues to materially support the work to which Virginia and Dave committed so much of their time, energy and selves.

*Paul B. Dornan*

## **Community Club College Scholarship Fund**

2009 was a fine year for the Community Club scholarship fund. The fund gives two types of scholarships: stay-in-school scholarships and partial college scholarships.

Stay-in-School scholarships are given monthly to current Community Club students with a GPA above 2.5, with the amount varying by grade level and attendance. The amounts range from \$12.50 to \$100. In 2009 Community Club gave \$16,050 to over 40 students.

Community Club also gives partial college scholarships to alumni currently enrolled in college with a 2.0 or greater GPA, provided that they keep in touch with Community Club, and attend meetings, including those for high school seniors. In 2009, Community Club gave \$25,500 to over 45 Community Club Collegians, in amounts varying from \$150 to \$700.

*Tom Karr, Community Club Core Council Member*

## Kathryn Heath Memorial Scholarship Fund

Dr. Kathryn G. Heath, a member of The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church for 59 years and a trustee, was interested in the church's outreach programs and equality for women in the workplace. She left a bequest of \$100,000 to the church to form the basis for a fund to further the higher education of women. Under the terms of Kathryn Heath's will, one-half of the annual earnings from the bequest is to be made available for scholarships. The other half is to be reinvested so that the corpus of the fund will grow. Contributions in memory of Dr. Heath or in support of the goals of the fund are always welcome.

During 1991, a special Kathryn G. Heath Scholarship Committee developed procedures, approved by the Session, for the awarding of scholarship grants. The first scholarships went to four young women for spring semester 1992. Since then, 105 scholarships, ranging from \$200 to \$2250, have been awarded. The recipients are distinguished by their academic ability, vision, dedication, and financial need. They must have and maintain a grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale, demonstrate financial need, an intention to pursue a program of studies leading to a professional or para-professional career, and be admitted to a recognized post-secondary institution.

The Session approved scholarship awards for the 2009-2010 academic years to the following seven women as recommended by the Heath Scholarship Committee:

<b>Brittany Carroll</b> Junior, Elon University, Elon, NC Major: International Studies and Political Science Previous Heath Scholarship recipient	<b>\$500</b>
<b>Emma DeLaCruz</b> University of Oklahoma, Tulsa, OK Major: Liberal Studies Previous Heath Scholarship recipient	<b>\$250</b>
<b>Stephanie Gibson</b> Junior, Trinity University, Washington, DC Major: Economics Community Club participant	<b>\$750</b>
<b>Bre'Anna James</b> Freshman, Trinity University, Washington, DC Major: Pre-Med Community Club participant	<b>\$500</b>
<b>Alexis Johnson</b> Junior, North Carolina Wesleyan College, Rocky Mount, NC Major: Justice Studies and Psychology Previous Heath Scholarship recipient Community Club participant	<b>\$750</b>
<b>Tiashea Jones</b> Freshman, Philander Smith College, Richmond, VA Major: Forensic Investigation Community Club participant	<b>\$250</b>
<b>Natasha Rodriguez</b> Junior, University of Maryland, College Park, MD Major: Foreign Languages Previous Heath Scholarship recipient, Community Club participant	<b>\$1000</b>

Members of the scholarship committee in 2009 were: Thelma Leenhouts--Chair, Mary Cousins, Anna Davidson, Stacy Gogosian, Amy Gillespie, and Mary Spatz.

*Thelma Leenhouts, Chair*

## **Elmer L. Hanson Testamentary Trust**

Elmer L. Hanson, a long-time devoted member of The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, bequeathed a portion of his estate to NYAPC for the creation of an endowment fund. The income from the fund is to be used for “educational scholarships to be awarded to undergraduate or graduate students who are enrolled in seminary or otherwise studying Christian Education or training to become missionaries.”

The will provides that the Board of Trustees shall oversee the investments of the endowment fund while the Session shall select the scholarship recipients. In the past, the Trust provided partial support for Tara Spuhler McCabe’s participation in the Christian Education program of the church when she was Pastor in Training.

From 2008 onward, the Session has appointed the NYAPC’s pastors as grant coordinators for the Hanson Trust, with pastors submitting grant requests to Session for approval.

The assets of the Trust at the close of 2009 were approximately \$136,000.

*Douglas House, Fund Trustee*

## **Metcalf-Edgington Trust Funds**

The generosity of William P. Metcalf and Frank Edgington continue to enable this Church to reach out to many in need. At the time of their deaths, these two loyal members set aside funds from their estates to create certain trust funds. Mr. Metcalf’s fund was established as a memorial to his parents, William E. and G. Helen Metcalf. Mr. Edgington did not specifically dedicate his trust fund. The income from their trust funds is used for the following purposes and in set proportions as specified in their wills: to provide medical care and nursing care for needy and deserving persons; relieving cases of special need or distress for deserving persons; and to aid those studying for the ministry or preparing for missionary work. Requests are approved by a committee composed of the following: the Session Moderator has delegated his authority to the Director of Social Ministry, Rev. Tara Spuhler-McCabe; the Treasurer of Session, Sam McFerran; and the Clerk of Session, Miriam Dewhurst. All funds are gifts and repayment is not expected. All requests and expenditures remain confidential.

In 2009, the Metcalf-Edgington fund provided over \$21,165 in financial assistance: \$5,008 for medical support; \$7,992 for Seminary education; and a grant of \$xxx to the 7-2-9 program. The seminary is currently supporting seminary students at both Princeton Theological Seminary and Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education.

In 2009, the Metcalf-Edgington Fund established a unique partnership with N Street Village, an outstanding non-profit that helps poor and homeless women on their paths to recovery and self-sufficiency. The Metcalf-Edgington fund created a fund at a local pharmacy where clients of N Street Village could receive free or reduce-priced medication. New York Avenue Presbyterian Church is very glad to be able to help these women, and proud to be in partnership with such a great non-profit as N Street Village.

We continue to be grateful for the generosity of both Mr. Metcalf and Mr. Edgington, and the ways in which their largesse allows us to conduct our ministry of assistance to those in need. Finally, special thanks are owed to Kitty Smith, the Church’s Chief Financial Officer, for helping organize the logistics and disbursements of all payments.

Sam McFerran, Treasurer of Session

## Other Funds

Many dedicated funds which support the missions of The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church are described on the previous pages. Separate reports on each fund would be repetitive. A summary of receipts and expenditures from each fund is included in the Designated Accounts section of the Treasurer's Report at the end of this document.

A brief description of the funds established by the church to receive gifts from members and friends follows. Other endowment funds of the church do not provide for additional contributions.

A Gift Acceptance Policy has been adopted by the Session; copies are available in the church office.

### Funds supporting current operations of the church:

- A. To serve and support the congregation:
  1. Capital Improvements Fund. Finances improvements, enhancements, and repairs to the church building, its equipment, or its furnishings.
  2. Choir Fund. Helps support the activities of the choir and the music program of the church.
  3. Christian Education Fund. Helps support the Christian Education program of the church.
  4. Deaconesses' Fund. Supports the activities of the Board of Deaconesses, including caring for the congregation and ministering to the sick, homebound, and bereaved.
  5. Flower Fund. Provides Sanctuary and Chapel flowers for worship services and for distribution to those receiving Deaconesses' care.
  6. Goodpasture Class Fund. Accumulates collections taken during the church school class for use as decided by the class.
  7. Joseph Sizoo Library Fund. Uses gifts to purchase books and materials for the Joseph Sizoo Library in the Docherty Center.
  8. Organ Fund. Provides for additions and improvements to the Sanctuary pipe organ.
- B. To serve the church's mission to the local community, the nation, and the world:
  1. Community Club Fund. Helps support the activities of the Community Club tutoring program.
  2. Deacons' Community Fund. Supports programs and projects of the Board of Deacons serving those in need in the community served by The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church.
  3. Meals On Wheels Fund. Helps the Meals On Wheels program deliver meals to those who otherwise could not afford them.
  4. Presbyterian Women's Fund. Supports the world-wide mission efforts of the Presbyterian Women.
  5. Peace and Justice Fund. Supports the work of the committee responsible for the national and world-wide mission of the church.
  6. 7-2-9 Program Fund. Supports the program helping those released from mental institutions develop social skills.

### Endowment and other funds -- only earnings spent:

- A. Endowment Fund. Supports all programs and missions of the church through the annual operating budget.
- B. Benevolence Fund. Expands the church's capacity for service; spending is currently for direct aid for such emergencies as catastrophic illness, evictions, lack of tuition to complete a year; and for support of projects or individuals in need.
- C. Mary and Mairi Docherty Memorial Fund. Supports purposes and causes reflecting the life interests of Mary Shirlaw Docherty, wife of Pastor Emeritus Dr. George M. Docherty. The fund currently provides college scholarships for graduates of the Community Club tutoring program.
- D. Virginia L. Cochran and David S. Brown Memorial Fund. Provides scholarship grants to assist Community Club students in post-secondary education or training; to purchase uniquely beneficial educational materials for the tutoring program such as historical materials on black history, encyclopedia, or training aids; or to offer grants for the development of special talents in young people seeking ways to serve others.
- E. Peter Marshall Scholarship Fund for Inner-City Students. Provides college scholarships for graduates of the Community Club tutoring program.

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- F. Music Endowment Fund. Supports the choir and the music program of the church and includes the following: a general portion, a memorial to Dr. Arthur George, a memorial to James E. Davis, and a bequest from Ruth Bergquist.
- G. Organ and Musical Instrument Endowment Fund. Provides funds for maintenance and repairs of the church's pipe organ and other musical instruments.
- H. Deaconesses' Endowment Fund. Supports the activities of the Board of Deaconesses, including caring for the congregation and ministering to the sick, homebound, and bereaved.
- I. John McAfee Memorial Fund for Community Service. Supports the outreach projects and programs of the Board of Deacons.
- J. Stevens Memorial Fund for Child Welfare. Provides funds for the Board of Deacons to be used for the welfare of children of The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, the community in which it is located, and for national work in which it may be interested.
- K. Robert A. Wood Memorial Fund. Supports the Christian Education program of the church.
- L. Memorial Scholarship Fund of the Women's Association. Provides college scholarships for members and friends of NYAPC. Currently, most of the income is used for graduates of the Community Club tutoring program.
- M. Dr. James D. Bryden Memorial Fund for Scholarships. Provides income that is used with the part of the Memorial Scholarship Fund of the Women's Association that is to be spent.

*Edith Snyder, Cluster Chair*

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