

The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church



Annual Reports for 2014

Prepared for the Annual Congregational Meeting
February 22, 2015

1313 New York Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20005-4790

Telephone: 202-393-3700
Email: nyapc@nyapc.org

✚ Fax: 202-393-3705
✚ Website: www.nyapc.org

Cover photo by Tyler Feret
November 20, 2014
Church Lighting Ceremony

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GENERAL

Mission Statement

The following is the mission statement of The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, Presbyterian Church (USA):

In thankfulness for God's infinite love, we, the members of The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church (NYAPC), 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

<u>Pastor</u>	<u>Associate Pastor</u>	<u>Church Staff</u>
Leads the ministry of the church.	Guides the congregation in areas of nurture and Christian Education.	Performs the daily activities necessary to keep the church operational.

Elected Boards

<u>Session</u>	<u>Board of Deacons</u>	<u>Board of Diaconal Ministers</u>	<u>Board of Trustees</u>
Has overall responsibility for mission and government; coordinates cluster/committee work; receives members; and maintains relationships with higher church 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"> * Christian Learning Cluster -- Education for children and adults -- Sizoo Library -- History Committee -- Cuba Working Group * Congregational Life Cluster -- Evangelism -- Nurture and Fellowship -- Worship and Music * Funds Development Cluster -- Finance -- Stewardship -- Planned Giving/Special Gifts -- Capital Campaign * Administration Cluster -- Personnel -- Columbarium National Capital Presbytery Relations Commissioners Benevolence Committee Nominating Committee Medcalf/Edgington Fund 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * World: -- Haiti – Rural Development -- Njoro Orphan Program -- Presbyterian Church of Columbia -- Peace builders in the Philippines -- Iraq Partnership Network - PC(USA) * Youth in Community: -- CAIR –Immigrant Children -- Reach Inc. -Literacy * Adults in Community: -- ONE DC –homeless women -- Open Arms Housing -- Heeding God’s Call – gun violence -- Young Playwrights Theater * Congregational: -- Radcliffe Room -- Washington Interfaith Network (WIN) -- 7-2-9 Club -- Triangle Park Group * Service on Session clusters and committees * Other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Visits and calls * Notes and cards * Sunday bouquets and flower arrangements by season * Help and assistance to those in need * Preparation of the elements for Communion * Assistance with memorial services * Planning of receptions * Service on Session clusters and committees * Other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Administration * Audit and accounting * Budget * Capital improvements and property management * Investments * Service on Session clusters and committees * Other

THE NEW YORK AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Church Directory Information

Church Office Address:	1313 New York Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC -- 20005-4790	Phone:	202-393-3700
		Fax:	202-393-3705
		Email:	NYAPC@nyapc.org
		Web Site:	www.nyapc.org

The office is open Monday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each week
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>
Pastors: The Rev. Roger Joseph Gench, Ph.D., Pastor The Rev. Alice Rose Tewell, Associate Pastor The Rev. Linda LeSourd Lader, M. Div., Pastoral Associate The Rev. Ann Rose Davie, M. Div., Parish Associate for Visitation	x225 x221	Food Service Staff: Evelyn McMillan, Manager	x227
Parish Associates: The Rev. Beth Braxton, M. Div., MRE, D. Min The Rev. J. Gary Campbell, M. Div., M.A. The Rev. Frances Taylor Gench, M. Div., Ph. D.		Custodial Staff: Lamont Brown, Building Superintendent/Engineer David Smoot, Custodian Barry Wright, Custodian	x230 x230 x230
Music Staff: Stanley P. Engebretson, D. M.A., Director of Music Whitney McColley, Choral Associate (soprano) Manuel J. Melendez, Choral Associate (tenor) Nathan Moon, Choral Associate (bass) Chantel Pomerville, Choral Associate (alto) * Rhianna Cockrell, Choral Scholar, (Mezzo Soprano) * * Purev Arslanbaatar, Choral Scholar, (Baritone) * * John Kim, Associate Conductor		Receptionists Evelyn McMillan Mary Newman Sherry Brown Cheria McMillan	x216 x216 x216
Administrative Staff: Judith McGovern, Church Administrator Catherine Schultheis, Director of Planned Giving Jasmine Jowers, Office Assistant ** Cierra Mooney, Office Assistant *** Cheria McMillan, Interim Office Assistant * Angela Armstrong, Church Financial Officer *	x219 x215	Volunteer Office Staff: James Davidson Jay Davenport	x214 x214
Hotline -- 202-393-3702: Information Line	Press #2	Volunteer Financial Staff: Eleanor Pratt Barbara Dornan John Schultheis	x231 x231 x231
* Service Ended in 2014 ** Service Began 2014 *** Service Began and Ended in 2014			

Board Members Serving in 2014

Session

Class of 2014

Matthew Asada
Rachel Browning
Bonnie Davis
Martha Davis
Leonard Shabman
Mary Spatz
Tony Wagner

Class of 2015

Miriam Dewhurst
Paul Dornan
Kevin Guy *
Bernice McIntyre **
Carol Shannon
Michael Smith
James Spearman

Class of 2016

Elizabeth Winn Bowman
Leigh Hildebrand
David Inoue
Benno Lauer
Douglas Porter
Brian Schimming
Elizabeth Sciupac

Board of Deacons

Class of 2014

Cristina Ashworth
Kathy Doan
Kimberly Johnson
Adam McColley
Joe Riley
Todd Ruhkamp
Sarah Williamson *

Class of 2015

Hal Davis
Elizabeth DuMez
Megan Erb
Bonita Pennino
Richard Snyder
Kathryn Sparks
Courtney Spearman

Class of 2016

David Clark
Jack Gillies
Aryn Myers
Doug Norwood
Koloina Randrianarivony
James Turner
Steve Yu

Board of Diaconal Ministers

Class of 2014

Mary Danewitz
Helen Joseph
Marie Meka
Carrie Schenkel Reasonover
Melissa Jane Taylor
Lenora Thierry
Shirley Yoder

Class of 2015

Melissa Campbell
James Davidson
Dianna English
Glory Eyong
Kenneth Garnes
Alison Kootstra Nowak
Whitney McColley

Class of 2016

Barbara Dornan
Gwenn Gebhard
Susan Grooters
ShuXian McKenna
Kay Meek
Margaret Myers
Cecelia Porter

Board of Trustees

Class of 2014

Hal Hiemstra
Michele Holland
Edith Snyder

Class of 2015

John Quinn, Jr.
Mark Sproles
Matthew Wieseler

Class of 2016

John Courson
Rebecca Davis
Caroline White

* Elected in February 2014 to fill vacancy ** Resigned in 2014

Board Members Elected to Serve in 2015

Session

Class of 2015

Miriam Dewhurst
Melanie Dann *
Paul Dornan
Kevin Guy
Carol Shannon
Michael Smith
James Spearman

Class of 2016

Elizabeth Winn Bowman
Leigh Hildebrand
David Inoue
Benno Lauer
Douglas Porter
Brian Schimming
Elizabeth Sciupac

Class of 2017

Will Ashworth
Laura Asiala
Rachel Browning
Catherine Cannon
Tyler Ferret
Adam McColley
Mary Spatz

Board of Deacons

Class of 2015

Hal Davis
Elizabeth DuMez
Megan Erb
Bonita Pennino
Richard Snyder
Kathryn Sparks
Courtney Spearman

Class of 2016

David Clark
Jack Gillies
Aryn Myers
Doug Norwood
Koloina Randrianarivony
James Turner
Steve Yu

Class of 2017

Ian Elder
Karen Milam Feret
Betsy Merritt
Marcia Renwanz
Joe Riley
Todd Ruhkamp
John Yoder

Board of Diaconal Ministers

Class of 2015

Missy Campbell
James Davidson
Dianna English
Glory Eyong
Kenneth Garnes
Alison Kootstra Nowak
Whitney McColley

Class of 2016

Barbara Dornan
Gwenn Gebhard
Susan Grooters
ShuXian McKenna
Kay Meek
Margaret Myers
Cecelia Porter

Class of 2017

Mary Danewitz
Helen Joseph
Esther Moring
Janet Shabman
Stephanie Simpson
Leonora Thierry
Chuck West

Board of Trustees

Class of 2015

John Quinn, Jr.
Mark Sproles
Matthew Wieseler

Class of 2016

John Courson
Rebecca Davis
Caroline White

Class of 2017

Hal Hiemstra
Michelle Holland
Edith Snyder

* Elected December 2014 to fill vacancy

THE NEW YORK AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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REPORTS OF NYAPC PASTORS 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, and the formation of two groups for spiritual conversation and formation.
- Participation on the McClendon Scholar-in-Residence Program Committee.
- Leadership in the Race and Poverty Lenten discussions of Taylor Branch's book *The King Years*. Leadership in hosting the Taylor Branch lecture in May.
- Participation on National Capital Presbytery's Clearance Team.
- Participation on the Strategy Team of the Washington Interfaith Network (WIN).
- Participation as an Elected Member of the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board of the PC(USA) and the Meeting of the PMAB in February 2014.
- Served as Vice Chair of the Compassion, Peace and Justice Committee of the PMA Board.
- Participation in the March Advocacy Days of the Presbyterian Office of Public Witness.
- Attendance at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Christian Ethics,
- Wrote three essays for *Lectionary Homiletics* (a journal for preaching).
- Completed *Theology from the Trenches: Reflections on Urban Ministry*, published in September 2014 by Westminster John Knox Press.
- Participated in a book talk on *Theology from the Trenches* at Union Presbyterian Seminary on November 18, 2014.
- Began work on the political spirituality of the cross, new directions in contemplative spirituality.
- Participated in a study seminar with Frances Taylor Gench at Ring Lake Ranch in Wyoming.
- Preached at the installation of Alice Rose Tewell and the ordination of Sam McFerran.
- Continued reading in theology and ethics as time allows.
- Hiked 100 or so miles in the Shoshone National Forest and Rocky Mountain National Park.

At the conclusion of 2014, I find myself grateful once again for the ministry of The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church and the good folk who do it!

Alice Rose Tewell, Associate Pastor

I began as your Associate Pastor on July 1, 2014. By the National Capital Presbytery, I was officially installed as Associate Pastor on Sunday, October 26, 2014. As Associate Pastor, I serve in a “Generalist” capacity, meaning that I serve in most areas of church life, including worship leadership, pastoral care, and ministry participation. Within that “Generalist” framework, I am especially called to work with the Christian Education cluster, the Nurture Committee, the Young Adults, Community Club, and the Benevolence/ Metcalf-Edgington funds. In addition to those clusters and ministries, in the fall I also took up the role of being the staff liaison to the Administration Cluster and the Peace and Justice Committee. Senior Pastor Roger Gench and I share responsibilities to the Diaconal Ministers, Deacons, and the Evangelism Committee.

Pastoral Responsibilities:

Pastoral Care and Relational Meetings: Thank you for letting me into your lives during my short time thus far at NYAPC. I appreciate your warm welcome to me as one of your pastors.

Worship:

- I participate in worship leadership each week, including writing or finding liturgy. I preach in worship about once a month. When not preaching, I usually lead the Children’s Time, time of Care and Concerns and Prayers of the People. Most weeks, along with another adult (often Karen Dunlap), I also lead Worship Play, a time for those ages approximately four to ten come into my office to learn and listen to the story for the day in a way especially for children.
- For National Mental Health Awareness Week, spearheaded by Sarah Hoffman, we led a Worship Service of Healing and Wholeness.
- For Advent, along with the children’s choir leadership of Molly Wagner, I helped the children and youth to lead worship through the annual Christmas pageant on December 14, 2014.
- I was able to help plan and represent the church with the National Coalition of Homelessness for the Longest Night Memorial Service on December 21, 2014.
- I was honored to participate in Lois Steffey’s Memorial Service on December 21, 2014, my first at NYAPC.

Ministry/Cluster Responsibilities:

Christian Education:

- I felt called to NYAPC in large part to work with children, youth and families, particularly in helping discern the connections between Sunday School ministry and being an urban church. Most of my first few months with the children-youth-family group has been getting to know names, stories, and stories of the church in the past that inspire stories for the future. In an effort to improve communication, I started a weekly (or bi-monthly depending on the season) newsletter.
- Like my Associate Pastor predecessors, I help lead the nursery through youth Sunday School ministry, which includes: 1) Administering the child-protection policy, 2) Working with Sunday School and nursery school teachers, and 3) Leading *Gathering Time* each week. Gathering Time begins the Sunday School hour when those infant age through parents gather for 15 minutes to share in a short activity and prayers. During that time, I was pleased that all present were able to engage in two mission opportunities: one in September to package and send school kits to unaccompanied children crossing the US-Mexico border through Church World Service and another in November to create fabulous Christmas cards as requested by the Peace and Justice Committee to send to children in Iraq and Syria.
- Each Sunday School class continues to be led by an excellent team of teachers using (mostly) the *Feasting on the Word* curriculum. They are truly a dedicated and creative bunch!
- I worked with the Adult Education Committee to plan classes for the fall of 2014 and 2015. I also help lead the Bible-study portion of the monthly Presbyterian Women’s study.
- In addition to Sunday morning offerings, the Christian Education Cluster worked to create a few new events and ministries for the fall: a Northern Virginia park meet-up day, a start of the year Sunday School picnic, and a new group for parents, babies, and their siblings that meets the first Saturday of the month at the church. We have now met three times.

Nurture:

- My primary contributions to the nurture life of the church were helping with the *All-Church Retreat* November 15-17, 2014 and the *Congregational Sunday* November 30. For the All-Church Retreat, I planned the children’s programming, the Sunday morning worship service, and worked extensively with the very dedicated retreat committee. It is a great committee to serve on, especially since we always meet over a meal!

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- On November 30 for the Congregational Sunday event, I contributed an Advent calendar craft for the children and, as it turns out, many adults participated in the craft as well.
- I was very appreciative of the Nurture Committee, the Associate Pastor's Nominating Committee, and the Diaconal Ministers for organizing the receptions for my introduction and installation at NYAPC.

Young Adults:

- I feel so blessed to be serving at NYAPC with its vibrant young-adult group! Working with Rev. Gench, Rev. Lader, Megan Erb and Susan Grooters, we put on two *Faith on Tap* events, the first focusing on Faith and Technology (I led) and the second on Faith and Salvation (led by Pastor Roger).
- Working with an enthusiastic group of Young Adults, I have attended or helped "sponsor" about one fellowship event a month, including brunches and weeknight evening gatherings. I look forward to more ministry with this group in 2015!

Community Club:

- I serve as Chaplain to Community Club. *What does that mean?* I spent most of the fall and the early winter pondering this question. For a straightforward answer, this means I administer the child-protection policy, run background checks, and serve as a connection between the church and this vital ministry. In a less straightforward way, I hope to see things that need doing or fixing, people that need some assistance, or people that need a listening ear.
- This ministry has been a blessing to my whole family. Instead of spending another night away from family life, my husband now tutors a 9th grader, and our son helps me greet and meet.

Benevolence/ Metcalf-Edgington Funds:

- It is humbling to be the pastoral liaison for these funds. Through these funds, I hear the stories of wonderful people in the DC region who have fallen on hard times, often resulting from the loss of employment or because a grandmother takes on grandchildren. While the Benevolence fund did run out of money in the fall, because of generous *Birthday Fund* giving, on New Year's Eve, we were able to pay one family's rent and keep them in their home.

Communication:

- As Rev. Lader traveled more in 2014, I took on her responsibility as staff liaison for the *Administration Cluster*. Most of our work focused on the communication efforts of the church. This conversation is also being spearheaded by the *Evangelism Committee*.

Linda LeSourd Lader, Pastoral Associate

This has been an exciting year of transition at NYAPC, as it has been for me as well. At the end of 2013, in consultation with Rev. Gench and the Session, I did not seek to renew my part-time Associate Pastor contract for 2014. My commitment to and passion for NYAPC remain strong, but returning to the unpaid position of Pastoral Associate has provided greater flexibility of time and responsibilities. Moreover, with the wonderful addition of Rev. Alice Tewell as Associate Pastor in July, parts of my former job description have happily been transferred to her (incidentally saving the church \$30,000).

In proposing my position to Presbytery in 2012, Session noted that *“The scope of this position is broad... The job is designed to be one which helps plan, inspire, and guide others to take leadership on the various tasks, not to implement them all.”* Some ways I have sought to fulfill that in the past year:

Worship and pastoral care

Though less frequently than in 2013, I continued to assist in planning worship services and with preaching—joyous privileges of ministry for me at NYAPC. In a wide variety of one-to-one meetings and conversations, I have, prayerfully, tried to provide encouragement, pastoral care, and spiritual direction, both spontaneously and when it was requested. I led women’s Bible studies and coordinated young adult events until Rev. Tewell was able to assume those responsibilities in the summer.

Strategic Vision and Capital Campaign

The Vision2020 planning group continued, as we shepherded the work of the Ministry & Mission Task Force, researched campaign consultants, and recruited leadership. Last summer David and Amy Gillies agreed to serve as the initial co-chairs of the Vision2020 Capital Campaign; together with them in November we selected Bob Connolly and The James Company as campaign consultants. Facilitation of Vision2020 will remain a primary responsibility of mine in the year ahead.

Community building and congregational life

Representing the pastoral staff on the Trustees, Finance Committee, and Funds Development Cluster, I attended their meetings, sought to assist and encourage them, and served as their communications and information link to the pastors, other lay people, and the church staff. Working with Trustees, I helped organize the November 20 celebration of the completed exterior renovation of the church.

Communication, operations, and technology

Through much of the year I continued to coordinate the Administrative Cluster and trouble-shoot communication issues, keeping various committees, staff, and interested parties informed and involved with the website and other technological issues. In November, Rev. Tewell was ready and more than able to assume such responsibilities, and thus I passed this “baton” to her. However, I remain available and am involved informally in these matters as needed.

McClendon Scholar-in-Residence (MSIR)

With Paul Dornan and others on the MSIR council, I helped plan and oversee our programs throughout the year, especially the Lenten studies and joint worship service with Emory Methodist, Mt. Lebanon Baptist, and Luther Place churches. Surely my greatest contribution, however, was connecting the MSIR council with Theo Brown, as he gave us invaluable help in planning, training facilitators, and providing materials for the meetings with Taylor Branch in May. In September Theo was hired as the first Director of the McClendon Scholar-in-Residence program; through his efforts the work has deepened and expanded, with increased congregational engagement in race and poverty issues. He is enabling the MSIR program to have a greater “transformational role in the spiritual and intellectual life of the congregation”—precisely what I had been tasked to do by Session. Thus I have passed that “baton” to Theo Brown, though I remain active with MSIR and its programs.

Stanley P. Engebretson, Director of Music

In 2014, the Sanctuary Choir provided music ranging from the traditional repertoire of English cathedrals to spirituals, contemporary anthems, and more, all of which mirrored the varied interests and backgrounds of our congregation. We also increased the opportunities for solo and instrumental music, which is of great interest to the soloists within the choir and our congregation.

Special choir events included singing Bob Chilcott's **Requiem** with members of the local professional group, Choralis, during Lent, conducted by former NYAPC associate conductor and now colleague Gretchen Kuhrmann, Music Director for both Choralis and the Fairfax Presbyterian Church. It was an amazing piece that highlighted the choirs with orchestra, organ, and our own soloists, including well-set texts in both English and Latin that were very moving emotionally.

After a beautiful Holy Week in music, our Easter services rang out with joy with the Sanctuary Choir and the NYA Brass Quartet, together presenting challenging Easter anthems, including the traditional *Hallelujah Chorus* from **Messiah** and Eugène Gigout's virtuosic *Toccata for Organ*.

In addition to Sunday services, the Choir sang for other activities such as Katie Cashwell's farewell and Alice Tewell's welcome/ordination. A Baroque ensemble was added with our own David Brown on violin as leader to present Vivaldi's *Laudate Pueri*, a multi-movement work that featured soloists, strings, and the Herz harpsichord. Having the harpsichord available is a treasure for us and continues to assist both in services and in external performances, where it recently was rented out to the New Dominion Chorale for one of their fall concerts. Continuing in the Baroque vein, during Advent, the Sanctuary Choir, soloists, and orchestra presented selections from J. S. Bach's **Magnificat**, a jubilant piece that heralded the beginning of Christmas through the Song of Mary, including poignant solos as well as jubilant choruses featuring festival trumpets and organ.

We continue to build a noon concert series when we can, including one of our most exciting visiting guests, the US Army Band (Pershing's Own) Brass and Percussion sections who first appeared in 2013, but returned this year to NYAPC for a Christmas recital during December. They are a delightful professional group and above all peers in their abilities to perform amazing brass music.

Throughout the year, many guests presented instrumental solos, including flautists Beth Law, Margaret (Meg) House, Margaret (Meg) Neill, and David Mannes; David Brown on violin; saxophonists Stephen Dunlap and David Clark; Adam McColley on trombone; organist Daniel Stokes; and pianists Samantha Scheff and John Kim. The guitar ensemble, including Pastor Gench, now plays more often, leading Taize services, Ash Wednesday, Easter sunrise, and Christmas Pageant services. They are always a delight to hear and a welcome addition!

Choir president Margaret (Meg) House continues her wonderful leadership, aided by members of the choir council and other volunteers. Choral Associates Whitney McColley, Manuel Melendez, and Nathan Moon along with John Kim as our assistant conductor all help guide music in addition to their active professional engagements throughout the area. We were happy to add Rhianna Cockrell and Purev Arslanbaatar to our choir this year as Choral Scholars and appreciate their many solos and other gifts. Continuing with us from last year is Samantha Scheff, whom we are delighted will be our new Organ Scholar. Samantha is a music education major at the University of Maryland, but also studies private organ there as well.

The vocal talents of many soloists enrich our offerings, including Margaret (Meg) Neill, Margaret (Meg) House, Martha Davis, Julia Vollmers, Tamara Saltman, Samantha Scheff, Eric Slaughter, Ian Elder, David Williams, and Molly and Tony Wagner. There is also an ad hoc NYAPC gospel quartet in summer worship that appears from time to time and is always met with great appreciation by the congregation.

We are very grateful for Daniel Stokes who plays for services, weddings, and memorials while also leading the Bell Choir. His talents, stewardship, and care for the music program in so many ways, are all greatly appreciated.

The Organ and Keyboard Instruments

Our A. E. Schlueter pipe organ is now five years old and is holding up beautifully, with continued maintenance by the parent organ company. We are grateful for James Davis who maintains the sanctuary Steinway and the Herz harpsichord with very fine care. Regarding the other keyboards, the aging 6' green Steinway in Peter Marshall Hall

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still needs a restoration. The old electronic organ in the Lincoln Chapel has deteriorated and is not worth repairing, so there have been discussions whether to try to find money for a new organ or just move the 5' grand piano down from Peter Marshall to the chapel to serve as the keyboard instrument for memorial services and other events in the interim.

From the Director

Every day I am grateful and count my blessings to be surrounded by such truly fine musicians, parishioners, pastors, staff, and friends in this wonderful church, where so many great things are possible. Making music in our “new” sanctuary with now our “new” external view to Washington is a privilege and honor. I know that 2015 will be a banner year as we continue to be a “Light in this City!”

REPORTS OF THE NYAPC ELECTED BOARDS

The Session

The following persons were members of the Session in 2014:

Class of 2014

Matthew Asada
Rachel Browning
Bonnie Davis
Martha Davis
Leonard Shabman
Mary Spatz
Anthony Wagner

Class of 2015

Miriam Dewhurst
Paul Dornan
Kevin Guy *
Bernice McIntyre **
Carol Shannon
Michael Smith
James Spearman
Susan Wherley***

Class of 2016

Elizabeth Winn Bowman
Leigh Hildebrand
David Inoue
Benjamin Lauer
Douglas R. Porter
Brian Schimming
Elizabeth Sciupac

* Elected in February to fill vacancy ** Resigned in 2014 *** Resigned to enter medical school

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, Nurture and Fellowship, Planning and Theological Interns. These functions are organized into Clusters; Christian Learning, Congregational Life, Funds Development and Administration. A Session member sits on the Peace and Justice Committee. Members of Session also serve as Commissioners to National Capital Presbytery.

In 2014, under the leadership of the Board of Trustees, the church undertook a substantial effort to repair and renovate the church building. The Session authorized the Trustees to borrow up to \$4 million, through a line of credit, from the BB&T Bank. The work on the exterior of the building was successfully completed, and the building has been transformed, such that the church has received an award from our local Business Improvement District. The Trustees are to be commended for their hard work on this project. The Session also received the report of the Ministry & Mission Task Force, which had collected information through listening sessions where participants were guided through a visioning exercise in which they were asked to picture the ideal church without regard to logistical or financial obstacles. There was a good response to this exercise, and the findings will be used as further plans are made for renovation of the building.

Other actions by the Session in 2014 included approving a revision to the Confidentiality Policy, adding the Chair of the Finance Committee to the small number of people allowed access to members' giving information. The Child Protection Policy was also slightly revised.

Currently, the Book of Order defines marriage as between a man and a woman. An amendment to the Book of Order was passed by the General Assembly this year, which will define a marriage as between two people if a majority of presbyteries agree. After considerable discussion, the Session voted to allow same-sex weddings to be held at NYAPC. As with any wedding, pastors do not need approval from the Session to officiate at a same-sex wedding.

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. Equally enriching was the sharing of Elders' experiences with spiritual disciplines that was a feature of our meetings in 2014.

The Session is continually grateful for 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 2014

Baptisms:

Infant Baptisms	7
Adult Baptisms	0

Changes in Membership:

GAINS:

By Profession of Faith	1
By Reaffirmation of Faith	11
By Letter of Transfer from Other Churches	9
By Restoration to the Active Roll	0

Total Added to Active Membership Roll	<u>21</u>
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Affiliate Membership	1
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LOSSES:

Deceased	8
By Letter of Transfer to Other Churches	5
By Deletion from the Active Roll	1
By Adjustment to the Active Roll	0

Total Removed from Active Membership Roll	<u>14</u>
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Affiliate Membership	2
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NET CHANGE IN MEMBERSHIP:

Church Membership: December 31, 2013	697
Affiliate Membership: December 31, 2013	15

Church Membership: December 31, 2014	704
Affiliate Membership: December 31, 2014	14

National Capital Presbytery Commissioners

NYAPC is a member of the National Capital Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church (USA), which is the 8th largest of the 172 Presbyteries in the denomination and is comprised of 108 congregations with 31,325 members located in DC and six adjacent counties each in Maryland and Virginia at the close of 2013. NCP calls Stated Meetings six times a year (all held at National Presbyterian Church in 2014) for the purpose of either conducting business or reporting on business that has been conducted within the Presbytery 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 2014 business are noted below.

At its January 28 Stated Meeting, NCP installed Rev. Diane Hutchins (At Large) as 2014 Moderator and Ruling Elder Rudy Cohen (Burke PC) as 2014 Vice-Moderator. The outgoing Moderator, Rev. Larry Hayward (Westminster PC, Alexandria), conducted the installation. The Commission on Preparation for Ministry reported that Candidate Sam McFerran (NYAPC) had successfully completed the final assessment process and been certified ready to be examined for ordination pending a call. Overtures on Marriage Equality and Authoritative Interpretation of Statements on Marriage Quality were approved, and proposed changes on NCP Financial Policies were received for first reading.

At its March 18 Stated Meeting, NCP approved an Overture to the General Assembly on Maternal and Child Nutrition being submitted by the Church of the Pilgrims, approved concurrence as requested by the Session of St. Marks PC in an Overture being submitted to the General Assembly by the Presbytery of Hudson River on Gun Violence Prevention, and deferred for further consideration a request submitted by the Session of Rockville United Church for concurrence in an Overture to the General Assembly being submitted by Grace Presbytery on Engaging Presbyterians to Witness for Palestinian Human Rights and for Ending the Occupation of Palestine.

At NCP's May 20 Stated Meeting, Rev. Wilson Gunn's 10 years as General Presbyter was recognized, and he expressed appreciation for the recognition and the privilege of serving the presbytery. The Committee on Ministry presented a motion, endorsed by the Leadership Council and approved by the meeting attendees, to establish an Administrative Commission for Wheaton Community Church (Wheaton) to address financial and leadership issues, including directly overseeing every aspect of the search process for an interim pastor, a stated supply pastor and/or an installed pastor, with authority to assume original jurisdiction to accomplish these goals if it judges that action is advisable. At the close of the meeting, Rev. Gunn called forth NCP's Commissioners to the 221st General Assembly (2014) for a commissioning service; participants included Matthew Asada (NYAPC) as an Alternate Delegate.

At NCP's June 24 Stated Meeting, status of Moderator Rev. Diane Hutchins was noted as changing from At Large to Interim Pastor United Christian Parish, Reston, and new terms of contract as approved by The Committee on Ministry were announced. The Committee on Ministry's approved terms of call for Alice Rose Tewell, Associate Pastor NYAPC, were also announced. The main focus of the meeting was sharing information regarding the 221st General Assembly, recently concluded in Detroit. Proposed and approved changes to NCP Financial Policies were also discussed.

At NCP's September 23 Stated Meeting, The Committee on Ministry announced receiving Alice Rose Tewell, NYAPC Associate Pastor, as Minister Member of NCP and approving validation of Specialized Ministry for Sam McFerran at Christ House. Presbytery re-elected Sara Coe as Stated Clerk. Motion for first reading was received of a governing provision applicable when a congregation sells the building in which worship has been conducted but is

THE NEW YORK AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

not dissolved. Presbytery received for first reading the 2015 Mission Budget of \$692,869.59 and approved the 2015 Operating Budget of \$1,045,632.50, setting a per capita rate of \$36.55.

At NCP's November 18 Stated Meeting, Presbytery approved the 2015 Mission Budget, along with the provision applicable when a congregation sells the building in which worship has been conducted but is not dissolved. After extended discussion of the troubled history of Trinity Presbyterian Church (Bethesda), the presbytery took steps to begin the dissolution process. Announcement was made of the installation of Alice Rose Tewell as Associate Pastor, which took place on October 26, 2014 at NYAPC. The Nominating Committee nominated Karl Hoffman (Layperson, NYAPC) as a member of the Investment Committee, Class of 2017. The Bills and Overtures Committee moved that the Belhar Confession be received for first reading. And the presbytery approved as 2015 Moderator Ruling Elder Rudy Cohen (Burke PC), current Vice-Moderator, and approved as 2015 Vice-Moderator Ruling Elder Therese Taylor-Stinson (Northwood PC).

NYAPC was represented at NCP's 2014 meetings by NCP's Pastors, Parish Associates and a balancing number of Elder Commissioners, including three elected by NYAPC's Session: Bonnie Davis, Robert Doan and Miriam Dewhurst, with Dan Stokes available as substitute. Miriam also served as a member of the NCP Committee on Preparation for Ministry and as a Commissioner from NCP to the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic; Dan Stokes served on the NCP Session Records Committee; and Robert Doan served on the NCP Administrative Commission on Congregational Property.

Robert Doan, Elder Commissioner

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PC(USA) Young Adult Volunteer Program (YAV)

For several years, NYAPC, under the leadership of Rev. Gench and former Associate Pastor Spuhler McCabe, has been actively supporting the development of a DC site for PC(USA)'s Young Adult Volunteer Program (YAV). The YAV program is a one year service opportunity for young adults from 19 to 30 years. YAVs live in Christian community, deepening and developing their faith while serving in communities of need. In 2014, the DC Young Adult Volunteer board, of which Elder Elizabeth Winn Bowman is a member and Rev. Gench, an advisor, applied to and was approved by PC(USA) to open a site in Washington, DC.

In September, the National Capital Presbytery welcomed five women as our inaugural group. They are living in intentional community in a house in Brightwood while serving at several placements sites: NEXT Church, Office of Public Witness, Miriam's Kitchen/Western Presbyterian, and Washington Seminar Center at Capitol Hill Presbyterian Church. In 2014, NYAPC continued its support of this mission through Session representation. We are exploring opportunities to deepen this partnership in 2015.

Elizabeth Winn Bowman, DC YAV Board Member

Nominating Committee

The 2014 Nominating Committee was formed at the end of September to fill the 24 positions needed for the Class of 2017, seven for the Session, seven for the Board of Deacons, seven for the Diaconal Ministers, and three for the Board of Trustees. One position also needed to be filled for the 2015 class of the Session. The 25 candidates nominated by the committee were elected at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation, Part I on December 28, 2014.

Due to the late formation of the Nominating Committee, the committee had to hit the ground running. The committee worked diligently through October and November selecting strong and diverse candidates characteristic of the NYAPC congregation to lead us for the next three years.

I would like to thank the members who went the extra mile so we were able to finish in a timely manner. The members of the Nominating Committee this year were Matthew Asada (Session), Michele Holland (Trustees), Megan Erb (Deacons), ShuXian McKenna (Diaconal Ministers), Catherine Cannon (congregation), Mary Nell Clark (congregation), Fred Dann (congregation), Karl Hoff (congregation), Judy Mize (congregation), and Kirsten Wall (congregation).

Mary Mace Spatz, Chair

Benevolence Committee

The Benevolence Fund was established in December 1968 to expand the church's capacity for service in providing assistance for "unbudgeted benevolences." In October 1978, the Session authorized the Benevolence Committee to make final decisions concerning the expenditure of the income from the Fund, which determined that the income was "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."

The Benevolence Fund was established to consist of designated gifts, including gifts through the Birthday Fund 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. Any gifts or bequests specifically made to the Benevolence Fund are restricted and can be used only for the purposes of the Fund.

In 2014, NYAPC again received a great number of requests for assistance – so many, in fact, that the Fund had to stop accepting applications in the fall because all of the resources available had been expended. In the past year, the church was able to carry out a ministry of service in the Washington, DC metro area by spending over \$16,739.36 on such assistance as housing payments, tools to help individuals get meaningful work and support themselves, and maintaining utility service.

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 request funds or interest-free loans to assist them in dire and emergency situations. Each application 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.

The 2014 Benevolence Committee consisted of Deacon Doug Norwood, Barbara Lancaster, Rev. Alice Rose Tewell, and the Session Treasurer as Chair.

Leigh G. Hildebrand, Treasurer of Session

Associate Pastor Nominating Committee

The Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC) was formed in March 2013 to nominate an Associate Pastor for the congregation to approve, which they did in June 2014.

The APNC consisted of a fantastic group of members representing all different aspects of the congregation. This group did an excellent job of listening to each other as we put together a Ministerial Information Form (MIF), which stated what we wanted in a new associate. This form was posted online by the main Presbyterian Church offices in Louisville to anyone interested in seeking an Associate Pastor position. We then began to receive applications from candidates, called Pastor Information Forms (PIFs). We received more than 125 of these.

To facilitate our work we divided into three groups, which we named Knox, Calvin, and Luther (in memory of Cindy Bolbach). These groups read their assigned candidates' PIFs and if they gave the PIF a high enough score, the PIF was then passed on to another group to grade as well. Through this culling process, we determined who our top candidates were. Our top candidates were then scheduled for a Skype interview. For these we met in the offices of David Hoff or Will Ashworth, where we could all see the candidates and they could see us. The cream of this group we then invited to visit us for a dinner interview and a chance to meet Roger and tour the church. This was a very busy time for us. We often had more than one meeting a week and a lot of snowy meetings. But our task was very important to us, and everyone tried hard to make the meetings.

When we analyzed our candidates, Alice Rose Tewell was always our top candidate. She seemed to have all the traits we were looking for in a candidate. Her experience with children and youth was strong and showed great creativity; her concern for social justice in an urban setting was also one of her strong features. Her administrative and organization skills seemed to be an excellent match for our needs, and her ability to lead worship and provide pastoral care was another of her strengths. The congregation voted to receive Alice as our Associate Pastor June 1, 2014, and she was installed on October 26, 2014.

At this time, we have had Alice with us for about half a year. She continues to surprise and bless us with her many gifts. I constantly have people come up to me and say "Thank you for bringing us Alice." I was blessed to work with such a fantastic committee and our prayers were answered in the person of Alice.

The members of the committee were Will Ashworth, Kathy Doan, Karen Milam Feret, John Gagosian (Vice Chair), Kevin Guy, David Hoff., Olivia Lewis, Meg Neill, Edith Snyder, and Mary Spatz (Chair).

Mary Mace Spatz, Chair

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Board of Deacons

The following people were members of the Board of Deacons in 2014:

Class of 2014

Cristina Ashworth
Kathy Doan
Kimberly Johnson
Adam McColley
Joseph Riley
Todd Ruhkamp
Sarah Williamson*

Class of 2015

Hal Davis
Elizabeth DuMez
Megan Erb
Bonita Pennino
Richard Snyder
Kathryn Sparks
Courtney Spearman

Class of 2016

David Clark
Jack Gillies
Aryn Myers
Doug Norwood
Kolina Randrianarivony
James Turner
Steve Yu

**Elected in February 2014 to fill vacancy*

The Board of Deacons is a dynamic ministry sanctioned and empowered by the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (USA.) 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.

In 2014, the Board of Deacons met eight times, carrying out NYAPC's commitment to outreach and mission through supporting local ministries and organizations in Washington, DC, and internationally. Drawing on both financial resources from our line item in the church operating budget as well as restricted funds managed by the Deacons, the Board provided financial support to the following organizations for 2014:

Organization	Location	Beneficiary Group	Program Supported
CAIR Coalition's Detained Immigrant Children's Project	Local - Washington, DC region	Immigrant Children	Legal Fees
Colombia Accompaniment Program – PC(USA)	International - South America	Homeless – Refugees	Peacemaking – Human Rights
IDEAS, International Healthy Communities and Peace Leadership Program	International - Philippines	Poor Rural Communities	Health Care, Peacemaking
Njoro Orphans and Vulnerable Children Program*	International – Kenya	Vulnerable children and orphans	Tutoring, food and support for children and families
ONE DC - Organizing Neighborhood Equity	Local - Washington, DC	Urban Communities	Affordable Housing General Program Support
Open Arms Housing, Inc.	Local - Washington, DC	Homeless – Women	Temporary Supportive Housing
Radcliffe Room**	Local - Washington, DC	Homeless people	Food and community
REACH Incorporated	Local - Washington, DC	Underperforming students	Literacy
Heeding God's Call of Greater Washington	Local- Washington, DC	Urban Communities	Gun Violence Prevention-Activism and Outreach
Young Playwrights Theater	Local – Washington, DC	At-risk students	Literacy and performance skills
Iraq Partnership Network – PC(USA)	International - Iraq	Presbyterians in the Middle East	General budget support
Roots of Development	International - Haiti	Impoverished communities	Rural Development

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**The Njoro program is an NYAPC-led initiative for which the Board of Deacons provides oversight. NYAPC is the primary fiscal sponsor of this organization.*

***Radcliffe Room is a core mission of NYAPC for which the Board of Deacons provides oversight. NYAPC is the primary fiscal sponsor of this organization.*

Other Board of Deacons activity in 2014 included:

- Supporting and improving the church's three primary mission programs: Community Club, 7-2-9, and Radcliffe Room. Each of the three mission programs has a Deacon liaison and is reviewed annually by the Deacons.
- Continuing to be involved with the Peace and Justice Committee and the Washington Interfaith Network, particularly around its green jobs project, supportive housing, and youth homeless initiatives.
- Providing advocacy backing to the McClendon Center in District of Columbia policy matters that impact access to mental health treatment.
- Exploring ways to increase volunteerism in the Radcliffe Room and ensure resources are targeted to meeting the needs of Radcliffe Room guests.
- Ushering at Sunday worship services and special services.
- Engaging directly with an organization we support, with a visit from Francis Muchemi, chair of the Orphans and Vulnerable Children Program Committee at PCEA Njoro and his wife, Jennifer. The Muchemis attended a potluck that the Deacons hosted in their honor and described the successes and challenges that the Njoro program faces, sharing beautiful photos of the program's families and their children learning and playing.
- Exploring spiritual development through prayer and the contemplative practice of Lectio Divina, reading the book *Soul Feast* and discussing the material together.
- Setting the tone of grant-making discussions and other Deacons business by beginning meetings with members of the Board leading devotions, including literary excerpts and meditative prayer.
- Supporting the Longest Night Homeless Memorial Service on December 20 and providing food for this and the Radcliffe Room through the Boyles Bequest.
- Spearheading NYAPC's Thanksgiving food donations to the DC Central Kitchen.
- Assisting the Peace and Justice Committee in staffing the Alternative Christmas Giving in Advent, with donations supporting a number of organizations the Board of Deacons supports, including Open Arms Housing and the Njoro, Kenya program for orphans and vulnerable children.

Kimberly Johnson, President

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, September to June, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. (which is how the club got its name). The membership consists of three primary groups: approximately 30 persons who currently reside 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 (mc'd by members of the Washington Gay Men's Chorus), have talent shows and celebrate various holidays throughout the year. After the program, light refreshments are served. . Last year, we were fortunate to receive an audio-visual cart on which to place our large flat screen TV used for movies and for karaoke.

This past year we lost our beloved Mary Prothro, the last surviving charter member who attended the first 7-2-9 meeting on Valentine's Day, 1979. She was a faithful friend, source of joy and an inspiring leader. We held a memorial service for her on the first meeting of 7-2-9 in the fall 2014.

We have also been working more closely with the St. E's staff, who recruit and train volunteers. 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. We also welcome visitors who can perform or entertain for 30 minutes or so. Individuals or small groups who sing, dance, or perform magic, etc. are a real treat for us. Please stop in for a visit and join the fun!

Spence Gibbins and Britton Walker, Coordinators

Community Club

2014 was a year of continued achievement for Community Club, which is a ministry of the church. The club 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 schools are in session.

Former student Shamika Bradley was reelected in spring 2014 as a co-director, joining Tom Karr, whose current term expires in June 2015. They are joined in leading the club by Chaplain Rev. Alice Tewell, who replaced Katie Cashwell this past June, and the rest of the Core Council. Core Council consists of club leaders and Deacon (and tutor) Megan Erb. Core Council and NYAPC member Amy Gillespie worked with then-senior class leader Molly Smith and the 2014 graduates of Community Club, 100% of whom were accepted to various colleges, including Georgetown, George Washington, George Mason, Davidson, and Wisconsin. Amy and class leader Katina Kypridakas are now working with this year's seniors. David Balan leads our Math and Science Zone, which provides additional help to students in those subjects, and former student and current tutor Titilayo Ogunyale leads the work with our current college students.

Enrollment peaked at 118 students last May. With the graduation of a large senior class, enrollment dropped, but is now back up to 100 students paired with tutors, with additional students continuing to flow into the program. They are supported by more than 125 active volunteers (including tutors, class leaders, librarians, food servers, etc). Roughly ten percent of our volunteers are church members. Community Club continues to do a great job recruiting new tutors, through Craigslist, VolunteerMatch.com, referrals by tutors, and promotion of the program by NYAPC. Over 40 new tutor-student pairs have been matched this year by our "registrar," Brendolyn McCarty-Jones.

Community Club continues to offer Stay-in-School Scholarships, monthly stipends for students with good grades and attendance. These stipends allow students to concentrate on their studies rather than work part-time jobs. In 2014, 40% of the students in the program received these stipends. Club alumni who are enrolled in college with good grades are eligible for semi-annual stipends from Community Club. In 2014, 45 such alumni received stipends from the club; in 2013, thanks to increased grants to Community Club, over \$35,000 in stipends were awarded.

The club also promotes students for outside college scholarships and helps them apply for those scholarships. Among our current collegians are five Posse Scholars (full tuition), one Gates Millennium Scholar (full tuition), two DC Achievers Scholarships (\$5,000/semester), and five New Futures Scholars (\$1,600 per semester). In addition, in spring 2014 four Community Club students in their last two years of college received Andrew Charles Dornan scholarships, and two high school seniors were awarded the Jennings Scholarship (started by the family of former pastor Mark Jennings) and the Norgrove Henderson scholarship (started by former student Jasmine Gooding), respectively. Further, 2013 saw six former Community Club students graduate from college.

In addition to the core Thursday night tutoring, the club hosted an overnight camp retreat at Prince William Forest Park near Triangle, Virginia. At camp, which this year attracted 85 students and tutors, 25 more than last year, participants braved the chilly autumn weather and helped prepare all meals and tried their hands at crafts such as carving pumpkins, fashioning bead bracelets and necklaces, baking cookies, and making caramel apples. They also played football and softball, and pitched horseshoes. On Saturday night, participants joined in a lively talent show, circled around a campfire to make s'mores, and made banners for each campground "unit" (cluster of cabins).

At Thursday night Study Hall, we maintain a library (directed by church member Mary Cousins and tutor Laura Dinardo) that provides study materials and books for students to use. We prepare nutritious meals in the hour before study hall and give awards to students with the best and most improved grades in each class. We also organize semi-annual roundtable discussions with club alumni now in college, and a well-attended graduation ceremony in May. For this past winter's Tutor Workshop, we were honored by Congressman (and civil rights legend) John Lewis, who came to the church and spoke to Community Club about his early efforts in the Civil Rights Movement.

To help fund its activities and the scholarships it provided in 2013, the club received several large donations, including continued major support from the New York Avenue Foundation, a \$25,000 grant and an \$8,000 grant, respectively, from two generous donors, along with a contribution from Bloomberg LP (on behalf of a Bloomberg employee who is a veteran tutor). The club's website, www.communityclub.org, is an excellent resource for those wishing to learn more about this program.

Shamika Bradley and Tom Karr Community Club Co-Directors

Radcliffe Room Ministry

Mission Statement: The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church is an inclusive and justice-seeking church that recognizes the challenges of homelessness in Washington. The Radcliffe Room (RR) expresses our faith through hospitality by seeking to fulfill the message of Matthew 25:35-36: *“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 RR brings together people who otherwise may never journey together.

Overview: For more than 30 years, 75-125 men and women who live on the street or in shelters have been visiting the Radcliffe Room on Sunday mornings. The RR is open to guests from 8:15 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. and provides a space for guests and volunteers to socialize. In 2014, we have:

- Established **an executive committee** of volunteers to streamline our decision-making.
- Partnered with **estate-sale service firms** that share unsold clothing with us.
- Partnered with **downtown hotels** to put boxes in their lobbies so departing guests can donate Metro fare cards with leftover balances for needed transportation for the homeless and poor. We are currently in the Hilton Garden Inn, the Grand Hyatt, the Renaissance, and the Mayflower hotels, and will be adding the Embassy Suites in early January 2015.
- Arranged **donations of produce** from WashingtonsGreenGrocer.com, a food delivery service, which will begin in early 2015. (Providing healthful food options is always a challenge.)

We have continued to partner with area restaurants, which donate leftover food that volunteers pick up on Fridays and Saturdays. The current lineup is Bean & Bite, Bruegger’s Bagels at 21st and L, NW, Heidelberg Pastry Shoppe, Panera and Einstein Bagels in Falls Church, and Peet’s at the corner of 15th and M, NW. Evelyn McMillan supplies drinks, condiments, and utensils made possible by the Deacons from the Broyles Bequest. The Clothing Closet provides clothing and toiletries to guests. The church provides funding for wholesale sock and underwear purchases, which are augmented by donations from individuals and organizations. On Sunday mornings, volunteers play the piano and join guests in singing hymns. On the first Sunday of the month, communion is served. The RR also distributes bus tokens, which are paid for by the church, and donated Metro cards; identifies resources for guests; and provides books and magazines donated by Books of America and church members. The RR hosts an annual Super Bowl party, which has become an eagerly anticipated event for guests and volunteers. This year, we were able to include two sets of thermals and two pairs of heavy socks in Christmas care packages thanks to a huge donation from Gifts for the Homeless. Volunteers again served food (beautifully prepared by Evelyn) at a reception for the Longest Night homeless people’s memorial service at NYAPC.

Almost everything that happens in the Radcliffe Room is made possible – or made better – by the work of the church staff, who treat our guests and volunteers with respect and patience. Mary Newman, Barry Wright, and David Smoot are capable and caring ambassadors for the church most Sunday mornings. Donations by members and friends of the church continue to make it possible for us to offer orange juice, clothing, and much more to our guests. Desperate need is a constant, but we are thankful for many blessings as we try to share a life of abundance.

Initiatives and Goals:

- Working with church staff, we are launching a **“warming center”** on Thursday mornings during the winter.
- Increased involvement from members of the church and community so every RR guest feels personally welcomed.
- Develop a network of volunteers to make clothing pickups.
- Find ways to make the Radcliffe Room more environmentally friendly and cost-effective.
- Revive and grow the religious discussions for guests who want them.
- Expand our efforts to provide access to mass transit, including off-site volunteers to help collect Metro cards at hotels and register them online in the Radcliffe Room’s account.

Radcliffe Room volunteers and friends: Rev. Beth Braxton, Bob Braxton, Diane Brown, Chess Campbell, Rev. Gary Campbell, Carol Casperson, Bonnie Davis, Hal Davis, Beth DuMez, Tyler Feret, Spence Gibbons, David Inoue, Virginia Jurika, Sandra McLean, Betsy Merritt, Doug Norwood, Jill Norwood, Elie Robins, David Snyder, Richard Snyder, Larry Socha, Courtney Spearman, Jim Spearman, Steve Yu Suarez, Phil Telfeyan, Barry Tindall, Sam Waltzer, Suzie Waltzer, Rosemary Segero, Blonnie Thompson, Jim Wall, Chuck West, and Helen Williams.

Submitted by: the Radcliffe Room Leadership Team (POC: Doug Norwood)

Washington Interfaith Network (WIN)

Washington Interfaith Network (WIN), founded in 1996, is a broad-based, multi-racial, multi-faith, non-partisan, District-wide citizens' power organization, rooted in local congregations and associations. WIN is committed to training and developing neighborhood leaders, to addressing community issues, and to holding elected and corporate officials accountable in Washington, DC. WIN's 48 dues-paying members represent 25,000 families in every section of the District and reflect its theological, racial, geographic, and economic diversity.

NYAPC members actively supported WIN's new and ongoing initiatives in 2014. Support came through:

- 1) Financial support in the form of dues and donations
- 2) Rev. Gench's time as a member of the WIN Strategy Team
- 3) Engagement with several other congregations on issues of race and poverty through the McClendon Scholar-in-Residence Program
- 4) Participation of NYAPC members in WIN actions and meetings.

WIN focused on three main issues in 2014:

Housing

WIN is organizing for thousands of units of affordable housing by engaging with elected officials to dedicate resources to affordable housing construction, by advocating for the dedication of public land for affordable housing, by building housing on land owned by its members, and through WIN's development arm, Urban Matters.

Homelessness

WIN leaders have mobilized over 30 congregations to stand with homeless families and residents at DC General, engaged in face-to-face conversations with more than 250 residents of the shelter, developed an advocacy agenda, testified at DC Council and Interagency Council on Homelessness hearings, and met with DC council members and candidates for mayor.

WIN leaders also organized with its community partners to pass legislation to address youth homelessness, which included: funding for additional emergency beds for youth that could serve an estimated 150 youth per year, funding for ten additional long-term transitional placements, the right to hypothermia shelter for youth, coordinated intake, and enhanced street outreach.

Jobs

In 2014 WIN leaders organized for increased local hiring in living wage jobs, green jobs, and ban-the-box legislation for returning citizens.

WIN also undertook major actions to strengthen the collective political power of its members. In March, more than 650 WIN members, mostly young adults, gathered to demonstrate to politicians that young adults are involved in local politics, vote, and care about social justice issues.

In October and November, WIN conducted extensive voter outreach and get-out-the-vote (GOTV) efforts. Several NYAPC members participated in WIN's early voting rally, where WIN members called hundreds of DC voters and voted on the first day of early voting.

In December, NYAPC members who are engaged with WIN held their first core team meeting. Participants discussed their interests and started planning for a new year of organizing and social justice action.

At the end of the year, WIN continues to focus on finding living-wage jobs for DC residents, pushing for the development of more affordable housing and ending homelessness. WIN also wants the District of Columbia to become a leader in the fight against dangerous illegal guns.

Ian Elder

Njoro KENYA PC Orphan and Vulnerable Children (OVC) Program

"Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress" James, 1:27

The Orphan and Vulnerable Children program is a ministry of the Njoro PCEA Church in which NYAPC has partnered to provide support, care and enrichment for extremely poor children and youth of the Njoro community. This program, which NYAPC has been supporting since its inception in January 2007, is now serving 35 orphans who gather at the Njoro Church each Saturday for a full day's program of activities, which includes worship and fellowship, study and homework time and instruction, recreation, sports, and singing, and two hearty meals with bags of maize meal to take home for their guardians. The children experience the joy of being together and are lovingly encouraged by the staff and volunteers. Each student gets support for their education with gifts of school uniforms, shoes, and necessary supplies. The children who have attained high school age have been helped with test preparation and school fees.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2014:

Beth and Bob Braxton returned to Kenya in February to attend the joint Kenya Mission Network Conference of the PC(USA) and the PCEA being held in Nakuru, Kenya. Since Nakuru is only about 15 miles from Njoro, they were able to pay a visit and observe a Saturday program in action. And more importantly they met with OVC Committee of the Njoro Church and **officially signed the 4-year Memorandum of Agreement** that each committee had drafted and approved by email. The MOA outlines our relationship to grow in prayer and faith as we care for the vulnerable children in need of our care. It indicates we will share in prayers, financing, and visits between our churches.

This year, in addition to the salaries of two cooks and two teachers, **a Director/ Social Worker of the program came on board** in February. Her name is Cathy Wambui, and she has been doing a terrific job of visiting homes of the students and their various schools. She is able to keep records on how the students are doing and assess the particular needs of each child. The committee has been very pleased with her reports and communication. Ms. Wambui has completed a booklet with each student's biography, and we are anxiously awaiting our hard copy.

The Chicken Project, begun in 2011, continues to provide improved nutrition and increased income to the families caring for the orphans. Each year, 10 families were provided with chickens, including a cock; now all the families of orphans in the program have chickens. This allows them to improve the family's nutrition and earn some much-needed money. The chicken project has attained the status of a Community Based Organization (CBO), which allows it to get some help from the Kenyan government. In 2014 we provided funds to Elder Jeremiah Nduyu who set up **three training programs** for the parents and guardians to learn better poultry maintenance skills.

Sad news is that **four of the teenage boys were dropped from the program**. They had quit attending the program on Saturdays and had been truant from school and gotten in trouble with officials for stealing. This saddens us, but makes us even more resolved to support our social worker who can now give more support and help to the students as needed. The Njoro OVC committee chose five new students to take the places of these students in the program.

Money for this Njoro orphan program is given primarily by the Deacons, but also from other churches in the National Capital Presbytery, as well as from individuals during the Alternative Christmas Giving. Contributions to the program are welcome at any time and can be made through the NYAPC **website** www.nyapc.org, or by check to NYAPC, with "Kenya Orphans" on the memo line.

The Njoro Steering Committee includes:

The Rev. Beth Braxton – Chair, Bob Braxton, Karen Milam Feret, Molly Lauer, Marsha Renwanz, Jim Turner -- Liaison with the Board of Deacons, Fritz Von Fleckenstein – Treasurer, and Sarah Williamson.

Rev. Beth Braxton, Chair

Peace and Justice Committee

"In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage . . . to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace." Presbyterian Church (USA) Brief Statement of Faith

The Peace and Justice Committee seeks to explore opportunities for advancing the causes of peace and justice in the world, nation, city, community around us, church, and family. We seek to help members and friends of The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church (NYAPC) work with and through the Presbyterian Church (USA), the National Capital Presbytery, the Presbyterian Church (USA) Washington Office of Public Witness, local ecumenical and secular organizations, and like-minded individuals to increase our effectiveness and broaden our horizons.

In 2014, the committee:

Organized NYAPC participation in:

- Global Mission Prayer Sundays (throughout the year).
- The Capital Pride Parade (June 7), representing NYAPC in the More Light Presbyterians contingent.

Organized the following special offerings:

- The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering (Lent).
- The Peacemaking Offering (October).
- The Alternative Christmas Giving for three weeks in December (including seven programs: DC Geriatric Day Care Center, Open Arms Housing for Women, Cuba Partners, Iraq Presbyterian Churches, Presbyterian Church in Homs, Syria, Kenya Orphans and Vulnerable Children, and the International Medical Corps in Sierra Leone and South Sudan. Also on sale: Palestinian farmers' olive oil.)

Disseminated information about and participated in demonstrations for good causes:

- The Second Tuesday Sessions at the Presbyterian Church (USA) Washington Office of Public Witness.
- The work of Greater Washington Interfaith Power and Light (GWIPL), including demonstrations at FERC and in Maryland opposing the proposed Cove Point Fracked Gas export facility, and participation in the People's Climate March in NYC, which drew 400,000 people. (NYAPC is a member of GWIPL.)
- The work of Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP). (NYAPC is a member of CMEP.)
- The work of Heeding God's Call, in which Rev. Jack Mathison and Anne Laroche have been particularly active, and support for sensible gun regulation.
- The fight to protect the Affordable Health Care Act.
- Many other opportunities to promote peace and equity.

Provided funding, materials and Christmas letters and cards for:

- Iraqi and Syrian Presbyterian churches to support their work for war-displaced Christians and other refugees and their churches damaged by bombing.
- Heeding God's Call, both local and national.

The amount that the committee can do, of course, depends on the number of people who wish to join in our efforts. The committee welcomes the prayers, ideas, efforts, and participation of all. Contact Marilyn Seiber at mjs1wan2@bellatlantic.net.

*Fritz von Fleckenstein, outgoing Chair
Marilyn Seiber, incoming Chair*

Board of Diaconal Ministers

The following were members of the Board of Diaconal Ministers in 2014:

Class of 2014

Mary Danewitz
Helen Joseph
Marie Meka
Carrie Schenkel Reasonover
Melissa Jane Taylor
Lenora Thierry
Shirley Yoder

Class of 2015

Melissa Campbell
James Davidson
Dianna English
Glory Eyong
Ken Garnes
Alison Kootstra Nowak
Whitney McColley

Class of 2016

Barbara Dornan
Gwenn Gebhard
Susan Grooters
ShuXian McKenna
Kay Meek
Margaret Myers
Cecelia Porter

The Board, founded in 1949 as the Board of Deaconesses and changed in 2010 to its present name to reflect a more diverse membership and mission, provides care for members and friends of the congregation. Members of the Board began being ordained as Deacons in 2011. The Board attends to congregational needs by visiting the sick, the elderly, and those confined at home or in care facilities; giving aid and comfort to the bereaved; and helping, so far as possible, those in need of special care. We also arrange for and facilitate geriatric counseling when needed. In addition, the Board: obtains and prepares the communion elements and arranges the communion table; coordinates and provides hospitality at memorial and funeral services held at the church; orders the Sunday Sanctuary flowers and seeks donations in memory or honor of an individual or event; delivers arrangements of those flowers each Sunday to about six individuals or families in need of care or celebrating a special event; orders and decorates the Sanctuary with plants of the season for Easter and Christmas, and delivers these plants to those unable to attend worship; to celebrate the birth of a child into the church family, orders a single rose to be placed on the communion table, then delivers the rose to the child's family; and performs other duties as requested by the Session. The Board serves under the general supervision of the Session.

This has been a very busy year for the 21 Diaconal Ministers in our role of providing care to our members and friends of the church. A very rough estimate shows we made over 300 visits with flower arrangements from the Sanctuary flowers. Also, hundreds of cards were sent out, including a beautifully designed, hand-constructed Easter card by Carrie Schenkel Reasonover. Most flowers and cards go to our members, who are unable to get to church, but we also honor the church committee members with flowers and notes, recognize staff birthdays, and acknowledge family members who are grieving.

We have had special learning sessions to help us when we visit some of our elderly. Rev. Ann Davie led us in discussions regarding how to visit those afflicted with Alzheimer's and/or dementia. On this subject we read the book, *No Act of Love is Ever Wasted*, which we found very helpful. There is a copy in the church library for anyone to borrow. We also got instructions and help from Rev. Roger Gench on how to conduct a relational meeting.

We are often called upon to provide or help with church receptions. We happily helped welcome Rev. Alice Tewell and later celebrated her installation and worked on the reception honoring Rev. Héctor Méndez on Worldwide Communion Sunday. On a sad note, we were very busy planning and executing receptions after Memorial Services for Glenn Myers, James Hazlett, Gladys Rigsby, Mary Prothro, and Lois Steffey.

Happily, we welcomed 13 new babies to our congregation and honored them with a special red rose on the Sunday after their birth.

I wish to thank Marie Meka, Melissa Jane Taylor and Shirley Yoder who are going off the Board in January and especially thank Carrie Schenkel Reasonover, who is also leaving the Board after two three-year terms. They were all very valuable members and will be missed. We look forward to working with the new Class of 2017.

Helen Joseph, President

Board of Trustees

The following were members of the Board of Trustees in 2014:

Class of 2014

Hal Hiemstra
Michele Holland
Edith Snyder

Class of 2015

John Quinn, Jr.
Mark Sproles
Matthew Wieseler

Class of 2016

John Courson
Rebecca Davis
Caroline White

During 2014, the Board of Trustees focused its work in four major areas.

- Trustees managed the exterior renovation and restoration of The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church.
- Trustees continued investigations into the design and costs associated with installing a new heating and air conditioning system in the church and recommended a modified way forward in 2015.
- Trustees coordinated an extensive evaluation of the investments, financial reporting, and auditing procedures in place at NYAPC, and recommended significant changes that are now being implemented.
- Trustees participated in interviewing and selecting a consultant who will design and advise the congregation on a Capital Campaign that will be formally kicked off in 2015. As part of this initiative, Trustees also interviewed and selected an architectural firm that will work with the congregation to develop a long-range Master Plan that will guide future phases of all interior renovations and restorations.

Exterior Renovation and Restoration

Following years of planning, investigation, design, and preparation, restoration and renovation of the exterior of our 63-year-old church began in earnest in late May 2014. Restoration involved the installation of scaffolding to clean, repair and guild portions of the historic steeple and clock tower. Restoration also included deep cleaning of all exterior brick and lime stone, repointing of significant portions of the brick façade and all of the exterior limestone, hazardous materials abatement, iron railing replacement, foundation stabilization, restored signage, and the replacement of all exterior Sanctuary windows. Further, restoration included the installation of architectural lighting to highlight the portico, east side columns, steeple, and other architectural elements of the church. Lighting installation also included the new Sanctuary lighting that enables—for the first time ever—nighttime viewing of stained glass windows from outside of the church. Exterior restoration activities were largely completed by early December 2014. A few final restoration exterior efforts (such as gilding of the finale and ball at the top of the steeple, and additional exterior lighting) will be completed in the spring of 2015.

Interior HVAC Replacement

Phase II of the anticipated three-phase renovation and restoration effort of NYAPC was expected to include the complete replacement of the church’s HVAC system—beginning in the summer of 2014. However, following extensive engineering studies, project bidding, and then various efforts to value engineer the HVAC replacement effort, it became apparent to the Trustees by the summer of 2014 that the HVAC project had grown in scope and cost to the point that it needed to be reconsidered. That effort was undertaken during the second half of 2014 and a revised Phase II is now expected to move forward by the late winter or early spring of 2015. The first phase of a revised HVAC replacement plan involves the replacement of all HVAC systems on the 5th floor of the church, along with the installation of two high-efficiency boilers in the sub-basement. A subsequent HVAC system phase (dubbed Phase II(b)) will replace and renovate the heating and air conditioning systems from the Park Level through the 4th floor. The timing for moving forward on Phase II(b) will be influenced by the overall cost of the 5th floor HVAC and sub-basement boiler installation, and the success of the Capital Campaign that will be initiated in 2015.

Financial Management

A less visible, but no less important part of the Trustees work during 2014 involved hiring outside financial consultants and advisors to analyze the church’s financial systems and procedures and assist with the preparation of the 2013 audit. Findings from this extensive analysis led the Trustees to make recommendations to the Session in late 2014 that have now been adopted and are leading to a restructuring of the financial staffing of the church. This effort incorporates, for the foreseeable future, the hiring of an outside financial adviser who will take on a variety of accounting, financial, consulting, and “controllship” services. A reorganized financial management structure now being put into place at NYAPC, anchored by a full-time church staff accountant and enhanced by the consulting

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comptroller, should add considerable depth to our reporting capabilities and lead to more timely and clear financial reporting and a streamlined audit process.

Capital Campaign and Long Range Master Planning

The urgent nature of the needed exterior renovations led Trustees to secure a line of credit from BB&T Bank to enable renovations to move forward expeditiously. A portion of that line of credit was used to pay for the Phase I exterior renovations and is also being used to finance Phase II(a) HVAC improvements. Funds needed to retire those borrowed funds and to finance subsequent building renovations and improvements will be raised through a Capital Campaign that is now being finalized and will be officially initiated in the spring of 2015 as the “Vision 2020” Capital Campaign.

To build on congregational input offered during a series of earlier Listening Sessions and elaborated on in a Mission & Ministry Task Force Report written last year, Trustees have hired an architectural firm to lead the congregation in the coming months in a Long-Range Planning process. This planning effort will develop a Master Plan for future interior renovations and improvements designed to respond to our programming needs now and well into the future.

While all Trustees have been engaged and particularly helpful throughout the year, Trustee Michele Holland was particularly helpful in guiding the exterior renovation efforts and helping to scope the next project phases. It is also important to acknowledge the work of John Courson in securing the line of credit, and the tireless work of John Quinn and Edith Snyder in guiding the review of the existing financial procedures and recommending a new financial management structure. Further, we acknowledge the extraordinary architectural and engineering assistance offered throughout the year by Session Member Jim Spearman, Deacon Hal Davis, and NYAPC Member Kendrick McCabe. Finally, Trustees are particularly appreciative of continued input and support offered by many members of the congregation, and we also wish to express our most sincere gratitude to early contributors to the Vision 2020 Capital Campaign.

Hal Hiemstra, President, Board of Trustees

Investment Committee

NYAPC's investment portfolio is managed by Ariba Asset Management, which has managed the investment portfolio since April 2006. The custodian for NYAPC's accounts is UBS. NYAPC holds five accounts with UBS. The proceeds of the four investment accounts are actively invested and allocated, in aggregate as of 12/31/2014, between stocks (70% in value) and bonds (30% in value). The operating account (the fifth account) is comprised of cash and not currently invested. The total value of these five accounts, as of December 31, 2014, was **\$9,941,783.77**, an increase of \$592,481.71 since December 31, 2013. Capital gains, dividends and interest on our investments returned in aggregate almost \$900,000 for 2014.

Two events were noteworthy in 2014. First, a collateral account as security for our BB&T line of credit was created and a portion of our equity securities were transferred into this account. This collateral account will continue to have its equity investments actively managed by Ariba, but will be subject to market volatility. As BB&T requires the maintenance of a minimum balance of \$4 million in the account at all times, we have over-collateralized the account with rebalancing occurring periodically as circumstances dictate. Secondly, due to the strong positive performance in our equity account over the last couple of years, our portfolio balance between equity and bonds exceeded investment policy. As a result, we took advantage of the strength in the equity market in 2014 to rebalance the investment portfolio to our 70/30 policy. While the outlook for bonds remains modest at best, we believed this to be a prudent decision, especially in light of our 2013 decision to increase risk in our equity portfolio as well as the continued low-risk position of our bond portfolio.

Overall, the U.S. equity and bond markets continued to show strong performance in 2014, rewarding risk. In light of this strong performance over the last five years, we believe continued high returns in the near term could be challenged as markets will eventually revert to their long-term averages. Overall, on a relative risk-adjusted return basis, NYAPC's equity portfolio has performed well compared against the KLD 400 Social Index, which better reflects the types of limitations on the NYAPC investment portfolio. Much of NYAPC's equity underperformance for the three-year period is explained by the conservative positioning of this portfolio between 2009 and mid-2013 against a strong market. It is worth stressing that our equity portfolio has exceeded the KLD 400 Social Index over the last five years, while subject to significantly less volatility than both it and the S&P 500 Index.

A review of our equity returns over time is presented in the table below.

<i>As of Dec. 31, 2014</i>	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years
NYAPC Equity Acct	11.77%	15.24%	12.45%
KLD 400 Social Index	10.62%	17.82%	12.35%
S&P 500 Index	13.70%	20.42%	15.41%

NYAPC's fixed income portfolio is primarily comprised of short duration, high quality bonds. This intentional, lower risk tilt in bonds was not rewarded in 2014, as longer duration and higher risk bonds significantly outperformed. We remain comfortable, however, with this portfolio's positioning in anticipation of expected interest rate increases in 2015. The table below presents our bond returns over time.

<i>As of Dec. 31, 2014</i>	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years
NYAPC Bond Acct	2.07%	4.06%	5.38%
Barclays Capital Aggregate Bond Index	5.97%	2.66%	4.45%

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A review of the change in value during 2014 for our five UBS accounts in aggregate is presented below.

All UBS Accounts (Investment and Operating)

Opening Acct Value (12/31/2013)	\$9,349,302.06
+ Deposits*	+1,701,937.31
- Withdrawals/fees*	-2,002,557.18
+ Dividends/Accrued Interest	+251,253.32
+ Change in Market Value	+641,848.26
Ending Acct Value (12/31/2014)	\$9,941,783.77

*Omits transfers between accounts

The other members of the Investment Committee are: Hal Hiemstra, Edith Snyder, and Matthew Wieseler.

Mark Sproles, Chair

REPORTS OF NYAPC SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Cuba Partners Committee

The Cuba Partners Committee met quarterly to discuss and plan the visit of Rev. Héctor Méndez, pastor of First Presbyterian-Reformed Church of Havana; to review the NYAPC visit to First Havana and procure t-shirts for the baseball teams and tai chi classes; to host members of the Cuban Council of Churches; and to decide policy issues related to PCUSA Cuba Network attendance, support for travel visits to First Havana, and new initiatives for communication with First Havana.

Rev. Méndez visited NYAPC October 4-6, 2014 and preached on World Communion Sunday, October 5. This was his fourth visit since 1998. Steve Yu served as translator. It was also the 49th anniversary of his ordination to the Word and Sacrament, and the committee planned and organized a surprise party for him in Peter Marshall Hall after the 11:00 a.m. service. Participation and planning was church-wide, along with Church of the Pilgrims, with decorations, a banner, pot-luck food, and gifts. Photos of the event were on First Havana's Facebook page the next day. Rev. Méndez was surprised and pleased, and the event was deemed a success.

A delegation of 16 participants visited First Havana in February 16-24, 11 of whom were from Leesburg Presbyterian Church with the intent of exploring a partnership with a small Presbyterian Church in Havana Presbytery. A result of the trip was a request from First Havana for 93 t-shirts for four baseball teams and 70 t-shirts for the expanding tai chi classes. Because of a newly organized National Capital Presbytery Cuba Partners Network, the committee applied to the Network and received a \$1,000 grant for the t-shirts. The shirts were shipped to a Presbyterian Church in Winnetka, IL, traveling to First Havana in July, and the delegation delivered the shirts.

On February 25-28, NYAPC hosted six members of the Cuban Council of Churches with Beth DuMez and Marilyn Seiber housing three each. Church of the Pilgrims hosted a pot-luck reception for the guests. It is expected that members of the Council will again meet in Washington, DC in June 2015.

The committee decided to encourage greater participation in the annual meetings of the PC(USA) Cuba Partners Network by paying registrations fees for NYAPC participants. The next meeting will be in New Orleans, October 14-17, 2015. The committee also agreed to pay for luggage costs to carry greater quantities of medicines and similar needs that First Havana requests us to bring on our visits. Aryn Myers continued writing the "Know Your Sister Church in Washington, DC" series, with Sonia Wall translating to Spanish, for First Havana. This year's issues featured President Lincoln at NYAPC, the Library/Docherty Center, and the Radcliffe Room Ministry for the homeless.

In 2015, we expect a delegation of 16 from NYAPC, including Rev. Roger Gench, to travel in April to visit First Havana, the tenth anniversary of our formal partnership. Changes in US-Cuba policy announced in December 2014 will make this trip interesting and exciting!

Participants on the committee include Alison Arrington, Beth DuMez, Spence Gibbins, Anne Laroche, Betsy Merritt, Aryn Myers, Cecelia and Doug Porter, Marilyn Seiber, Jim and Sonia Wall, Evelyn Ying, and Steve Yu.

Marilyn J. Seiber, Coordinator

Triangle Park Committee

The Triangle Park Committee continued its efforts to maintain and improve the planting beds along the front church wall; work with the National Park Service on issues pertaining to the park; and resolve continuing challenges on rodent, upkeep, and homeless issues. Members of the committee are Robert Doan, Beth DuMez, Mary Krug, Marilyn Seiber, Courtney and Jim Spearman, and Barry Tindall. Bob Doan and Mary Krug, respectively, resigned and joined the committee mid-year.

The committee met twice during the year to discuss and analyze issues regarding the park including rodent infestation, H Street trees and tree wells, the homeless use of the park, and the effect of the church building renovation on plants and Park Committee recommendations. Otherwise, all committee business and decisions were accomplished via email. The most challenging issue has been the increased infestation of rats, including dead rats found in the Park Level and in heat ducts. Barry Tindall observed that rodents seem to come and go via underground utility pipes and the sewer system. To address this issue, two meetings were notable.

First, the committee met with U.S. National Park Service personnel in May, the Supervisor for Grounds Maintenance and the new Maintenance Worker Supervisor for the Reservation 172 area. (Triangle Park is officially designated by NPS as Reservation 172.) Both were encouraging in their acknowledgment of the rodent problem and that NPS would seek greater support from the NPS persons responsible for rodent control, suggesting that any work on this directed to the park should also include the planting beds next to the church. In addition to the rodent issue, the NPS Supervisor for Grounds Maintenance reported that tight staffing issues at NPS are being resolved and, as a result, more frequent maintenance of the park should now be taking place. This should include pruning trees and bushes, repairing and power washing benches and fencing, trash pick-up and sweeping, mulching, weed control, and raking.

Second, in September the committee met with representatives of the Downtown BID (Business Improvement District), Megan Kanagy, Capital Projects Manager, and Ellen Jones, Director of Infrastructure and Sustainability. The committee had worked with BID in the past, and Ms. Jones and Kanagy's willingness to support and revitalize the park were most welcome. They agreed to help with sustainable rat eradication in the park. BID will also seek to work with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) that now has a member on the BID Board of Directors. It will also encourage NPS to be more pro-active with needs of the park. Jones and Kanagy promised to get back to the committee with proposals. In December Ms. Kanagy reported that the IDB's Office of External Relations is interested in helping with the park and that BID had been in touch with the NPS person on rodents who will be helping and will meet with the DC Department of Health on the rodent situation.

In addition to difficulties with rodents, the park is in bad condition with large food trays left in the park and homeless urinating and defecating in the park—Barry Tindall and staff cleaned up the mess. The good news is that the Trustees and building renovation project have provided improved lighting; the Trustees and contractor are working to design and install fencing around the planting beds and tree wells. And with a wonderful donation from the Braxtons for plants and the Trustees for planters, Barry Tindall and Beth Braxton planted beautiful new plants and bushes by the Entryway. Barry Tindall and Jim Spearman planted a new “Cuba” spruce tree to replace the bush that died from the plastic covering placed over it during the church's exterior renovation.

The Park Committee and the Cuba Partners Committee sponsored the most well-attended “Cuba Coffee in the Park” in August.

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

REPORTS OF NYAPC CLUSTERS

Christian Learning Cluster

The Christian Learning Cluster oversaw the continuing evolution of our child, youth, and adult education offerings. We also were closely involved in the transition of Interim Associate Pastor Rev. Katie Cashwell to Associate Pastor Rev. Alice Tewell. We are grateful for the leadership Pastor Cashwell provided during her brief time here, and are excited by the energy that Rev. Tewell has brought to the church in her time here so far.

In 2014, the cluster accomplished the following:

- We planned and implemented a varied and challenging set of adult church school electives under the able and dedicated leadership of Paul Dornan. Attendance on any given Sunday is typically 30 people.
- With initiative from church members, a weekly prayer group “Adventures in Prayer” was added to the Sunday School hour offerings that meets every Sunday at 10:20.
- Our partnership to instruct a Bible study class continued with Howard University Divinity School student instructor Tarra Taylor in the spring semester and introduced a summer session. Rev. Paula Hall continued the relationship leading a class in the fall 2014 semester.
- Children’s Sunday School classes continue to be well attended, particularly as we see growth in the Pre-K and lower elementary classes.
- The introduction of intergenerational Sunday School classes was successful with the Adult CE offering a hand bells class that included the youth Sunday School class for those weeks.
- The children and youth led Youth Sunday service and the Christmas pageant. Thank you to the Nurture Committee for providing breakfast to the children and youth on Youth Sunday.
- A consistent group of parents continues to gather in fellowship following the family gathering time during the Sunday School hour.
- Thank you to Paul Dornan for painting the Pre-K classroom this year.
- The nursery also replaced broken furniture and toys and is considering further improvements in the coming year as the number of infants and toddlers continues to increase.
- We celebrated the service of instructors for adult, children, and youth Sunday School classes with a Teacher Appreciation luncheon in June.
- The annual assessment of the Child Protection Policy was completed with modifications and recommendations approved by the Session. Particularly of note, in absence of a church alcohol policy for events outside the building, an alcohol policy was created.
- In collaboration with the Nurture Committee, we planned the farewell luncheon for Interim Associate Pastor Rev. Katie Cashwell.
- The cluster hosted an all-church picnic at Watkins Regional Park in Prince George's County. Thank you to Tina Ashworth and Elizabeth Winn Bowman for their roles in planning this event.
- Rev. Tewell has initiated regular parent gathering/play dates for the families of children in the nursery.

The cluster held a joint meeting with the nurture committee to discuss opportunities for collaboration and cooperation. We want to acknowledge the wonderful work of three groups within the church that fall under the auspices of the cluster, but report separately in the Annual Report: the History Committee; the McClendon Scholar-in-Residence Council; and the Sizoo Library.

Finally, I would like to thank all those who participated in cluster meetings this year: Tina Ashworth, Rev. Katie Cashwell, Paul Dornan, Kathryn Doan, Karen Dunlap, Sam McFerran, Elizabeth Sciupac, Melissa Jane Taylor, and Rev. Alice Tewell.

David Inoue, Chair

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 more than 1,749 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 Diaconal's Care Collection. Books may be checked out for a month or longer by members of the congregation.

The bibliographic database of the Sizoo Library is on the NYAPC website. All records can be downloaded, and one may search it by author, title, date, or subject headings. Anyone who wants to can have an electronic copy of the Sizoo Library catalog on their home computer. To do so, log on to the church website (NYAPC.ORG), select the Resources button on the top bar. Under Resources, select Library. On the Library screen, go to the bottom and click on SizooCatalog_in_MSW.doc button. The catalog (1.8 MB) will be downloaded to your computer as a PDF file.

In 2015 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 11:00 a.m. service. Suggestions for new books are always welcome.

The Sizoo Library Committee includes: Louise Berman, Paul Dornan, Thomas Dunlap, Kris Golden, John Quinn, and Dewey Wallace.

Thomas Dunlap, Librarian

McClendon Scholar-in-Residence Program

The McClendon Scholar-in-Residence [MSIR] Program stands in the place where faith, intellect and justice meet. The Scholar-in-Residence Program was established through the insight and generosity of the late Rev. Dr. Jack E. McClendon, 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 here. 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 and equipped to grapple with profound issues and to engage in a deepening of faith.

One major departure in 2014 was our engagement of Theo Brown, a seminary-trained community organizer and activist, as our Executive Director. In that capacity, he will help the MSIR Council bring more energy, organizational know-how and imagination to our efforts. Theo has held that position for the last five months of the year and has already brought a positive new direction to our efforts.

We continued our collaboration with Mt. Lebanon Baptist, Emory United Methodist, and Luther Place with Lenten Discussions on Taylor Branch's summary volume of his three-volume magnum opus, *The King Years*; our weekend event with Taylor Branch in our midst; and a beautiful common worship service in which choirs from all four congregations sang. This grace-filled collaboration around issues of race and class in Washington will continue, but will likely evolve into a somewhat different partnership. In 2015, we are anticipating a joint Good Friday service, a play staged by members of the four churches, ongoing relational meetings, and invited participation in the events surrounding our new scholars in residence.

Another new initiative reflected our hope and expectation that action should issue from the witness and learning derived from the Scholar-in-Residence program. Based on the entreaties of many of those who had attended Scholar-in-Residence programming in recent years, we decided to invite members who had expressed interest in moving further as individuals and as a congregation into issues of race and class in Washington to form an ongoing group that would meet regularly and consider new ways in which NYAPC could engage the issues surrounding race and class. So far, we have had two meetings; we do not yet know what actions we might undertake, but there is certainly energy around the possibilities.

Finally, of course, we have the contributions of our two scholars in residence during 2014. Taylor Branch, the eminent journalist and Pulitzer Prize-winning author of the history of the Civil Rights Movement, was asked to come and discuss with us the future of American society and politics in light of the lessons of his work on the Civil Rights Movement. Mr. Branch's capacity to draw powerful implications from his work and to illumine them with just the right illustration was both mesmerizing and meaningful. In December, Dr. Harold Dean Trulear, Professor at the Howard Divinity School and Executive Director of Healing Communities, Inc., offered a personal and social context within which to consider how the church should respond to people leaving prison and jail and returning to a community that too often will reject them or ignore their presence. He also commented on his recent fact-finding trip to Ferguson, Missouri. The crowd of 100+ who attended, generationally and racially diverse, was offered contextual information and personal witness, providing, again, a potentially transformative experience.

The council is currently preparing for a new year of learning, reflection, and action. In addition to the four-congregation collaboration and the evolution of the NYAPC Race and Poverty group, we are looking forward to the coming of Professor Norman Wirzba in early February. Dr. Wirzba is Research Professor of Theology, Ecology and Rural Life at Duke Divinity School, and he will be opening our eyes to the theological and ethical implications of what we eat, from whence the food comes, and with whom we eat it. Rev. Gench will lead an adult church school series in late January on Dr. Wirzba's book on food and faith. We are planning other learning experiences for the spring and fall.

I want to extend my gratitude to the members of the MSIR Council for their manifold contributions: Rev. Beth Braxton, Rev. Ann Davie, Nancy Dickinson, Paul Dornan, Dianna English, Rev. Roger Gench, Wilson Golden, Linda Lader, James Martin, John Quinn, David Snyder, and Whitney Washington. Throughout the year the council has also been the beneficiary of gracious and effective advice and assistance from Rev. Karen Brau of Luther Place Memorial Church, Rev. Lionel Edmonds of the Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church and Rev. Joseph Daniels of Emory United Methodist Church. We thank them all for their vision and passion.

Paul B. Dornan

History and Archives Committees

Committee members engage in presentations, preservation activities, and preparation of articles that enhance appreciation of the NYAPC story within the congregation and throughout the larger Washington community.

Archives. Financial records from as early as the 1940s were sorted and organized. Interesting and useful information, such as lists of staff members and how much they earned (some kitchen workers were paid the minimum wage of \$.75 an hour back in the 1950s) were noted. The church continues to respond to outside requests for information about marriages and baptisms that have occurred over the years. The Archives Center Working Group renovation and upgrade plan was accepted by the Trustees as part of the planning for building renovation. The working group expects to consult with the Trustees as plans go forward for the building renovation.

Oral History Project. In 2014, the Bicentennial Interviews Project under Marilyn Seiber and Edith Snyder, conducted oral histories with long-time NYAPC members, including John and Roberta Lentz, Charles W. West, Louise M. Berman, and Rev. Dr. Héctor Méndez, pastor of NYAPC's partner church, First Presbyterian-Reformed Church of Havana, for publication in *AVENEWS* and retention in the archives.

Tour Guide Program. The committee recruits leaders for tours offered following all regular worship services. In addition, during 2014 there were several specialized tours offered to Historical Society of the District of Columbia, the Lincoln Group of DC, the Smithsonian Institution, the Professional Tour Guides of Washington DC, as well as neighborhood businesses, wedding parties, colleges, and church groups.

NYAPC Lincoln Legacy. On January 18 National Public Radio included a feature presentation on the church's copy of the compensated emancipation document. On February 12, Lincoln's 205th birthday, John O'Brien represented NYAPC in the annual Lincoln Memorial wreath-laying organized by the National Park Service. On February 21 a book presentation on the Gettysburg address was co-hosted by NYAPC and George Washington University's Center for Public Leadership. In August 44 people attended the seminar on "Lincoln's War on Slavery in 1865", co-sponsored by the NYAPC History Committee and Lincoln Group of DC, in the Radcliffe Room. Among the presenters was John O'Brien from NYAPC.

Several activities are planned to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, ending slavery in the United States, the end of the Civil War, and the second inaugural and death of President Lincoln. NYAPC will host the celebration with the Lincoln Group and several of our neighboring churches that have history from that period. In addition, a full day of events will commemorate the 150th Anniversary of Lincoln's Second Inauguration, and the day will conclude at NYAPC with an evening of Civil War era music by Bobby Horton, creator of the sound track for the Ken Burns Civil War documentary. We will join with other downtown churches to toll our bells at 8:00 a.m. on April 15 to remember the hour of the death of our 16th president. Finally, a full-day symposium with a panel of the best-known Lincoln scholars and authors discussing "The Legacy of Lincoln," will be held on May 16 at NYAPC. .

New Activities. 2015 aspirations include posting of an entryway timeline, preparation of new material (perhaps a video as well) for tour guides, contributing to neighborhood outreach, modifications to the display of historic memorabilia in the Lincoln Parlor and John Quincy Adams Room, and reviewing the history page on the new website, and hosting events related to Lincoln's Second inaugural and the assassination.

Appreciation. In 2014 Wilson Golden, who had served as history programs coordinator for many years, stepped aside and Len Shabman assumed the coordinator role. Wilson's commitment and contributions during his tenure have enhanced the congregation's and the larger Washington community's appreciation of the NYAPC story. His work has included the major effort to motivate and then co-edit *Capital Witness* in addition to being responsible for outreach, tour guide scheduling, making presentations and many other activities too numerous to mention. Sincere thanks are offered to Wilson for his leadership and for making the history programs of the church what they are as we end 2014.

Len Shabman, History Programs Coordinator, and Dan Stokes, Archives

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

The committee is charged with assisting the pastors to offer meaningful worship opportunities for the congregation. NYAPC is blessed with outstanding Sunday preaching and music as a mainstay of our worship experience, and we worked at enhancing this further through two initiatives in 2014:

In the spring we introduced a monthly Taize prayer service (every 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m.) to create additional worship opportunities outside of the Sunday service, which has attracted a small but steady number of participants. In the future we hope this can benefit those beyond our membership, by attracting more neighbors, newcomers or passersby as we build up better advertising of the service. Huge thanks go out to those who lead these services: Rev. Beth Braxton, Rev. Roger Gench, Benno Lauer, Bob Braxton, and Eric Slaughter.

Secondly, we worked with Kathryn Sparks to establish a pilot Dance Ministry program for Fall 2014-Summer 2015, aiming to incorporate liturgical dance, movement and body prayer more frequently into our worship. Success for this effort would be counted as: the congregation's appreciation of movement as a part of its spiritual experience; attendance at classes on liturgical movement; and some expanded participation in dance presentations during worship. The committee and Session will evaluate the ministry after the initial program year.

The committee continued its normal work of coordinating communion service with the help of Diaconal Ministers, and recruiting worship greeters and liturgists. Greeters are no longer stationed inside the sanctuary doors but rather outside the sanctuary where visitors may need direction and welcome, though our recruiting no longer yields greeters for every Sunday. We welcome suggestions from the congregation about our worship, both Sunday services and special services.

Thanks go to all the 2014 committee members: Susan Grooters, Benno Lauer, Adam McColley, Douglas Porter, Jim Turner, and Chuck West, with able guidance from Rev. Roger Gench.

Martha Davis, Chair

Evangelism Committee

Hymn #721 in our new hymnal is certainly one of the most beautiful hymns that we have adopted from the world outside English and American hymnody. Its refrain: *“O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me, and while smiling have spoken my name; now my boat’s left on the shoreline behind me. By your side I will seek other seas.”* That, in short, is our evangelical calling, yet it’s so hard to leave our boats of comfort and convention to venture with God into the future. We as a committee have done some good things in 2014, but the larger challenge is certainly before us.

In 2014, we implemented the design, production and installation of banners on both the New York Avenue and H Street sides of the church. The installation of the banners, in effect, stamped an exclamation point on the outside renovation. The committee also produced a supplement to the pictorial directory that added the pictures of new members and updated contact information for new and existing members and distributed the supplements to the congregation. The committee produced a postcard to publicize the Lighting Ceremony, the design of which we may adapt to other publicity purposes. One of our members has assumed the responsibility to organize and update the church bulletin boards. The committee supported advertising in various print and online versions of the Post for Easter and Christmas. As the reconsideration and redesign of the NYAPC website continues, the committee has been active in the consideration of alternatives and the provision of guidance. This fall, members of the committee contributed to the work of the Communications Coordination Working Group, which is attempting to view systemically the way we communicate, both among ourselves and outside the church.

The committee has also shepherded 23 new people into NYAPC membership during 2014. In order to do that, we track new and returning visitor worship attendance weekly and contact all new visitors by email and, based on that information, invite 30+ frequently returning visitors to the inquirers sessions, usually scheduled for three or four times a year. The next series of inquirer classes are scheduled to begin on January 11, 2015.

In 2014, we will continue to seek out ways to increase the church's visibility electronically. We will also be following through on making sure that information about NYAPC is incorporated into recruitment of tenants for the new housing development blocks from the church at City Center. We intend to institute the use of permanent nametags for all members in the new year. We will be encouraging and supporting the young adults as they try in various ways to engage young adults currently outside the church community.

We are grateful for the efforts of **all** church members to make NYAPC a welcoming place for new visitors, travelers, new and current members. In addition, we are especially grateful for the dedicated work and tireless enthusiasm of Laura Asiala, Rev. Beth Braxton, Tyler Feret, Rev. Roger Gench, Jack Gillies, Rev. Linda Lader, Alison Kootstra, Anders Larsson, Jenean McKay, Joe Riley, Rev. Alice Tewell, and ShuXian on the committee this year.

Paul B. Dornan, Chair

Nurture and Fellowship Committee

The Nurture and Fellowship Committee works to provide opportunities for members to connect with one another. Each year, members of this committee coordinate weekly coffee fellowship, Ash Wednesday and Holy Week meals, retreats, potlucks, Advent and Lenten Devotional Books, care packages for college students, and other fellowship and nurture projects. We have also partnered with other groups in the church—the choir, young adults, Deacons, Cuba Partners, and would be interested in doing more partnership projects. Here are some highlights from 2014.

Women's Retreat

Rev. Frances Gench led a **Women's Retreat** April 26 at the Falls Church Presbyterian Church, focusing on passages from the letters to Timothy.

All-Church Retreat

The committee organized the All-Church Retreat that took place at Meadowkirk November 15-16, focusing on the parable of the talents. The retreat was a truly intergenerational event, attended by people of all ages from 2 years of age to 80-something.

Coffee Fellowship

Coffee and other refreshments are served after each service. The committee is grateful to the many volunteers who make this fellowship time possible.

Dinners for Nine

A group of more than 60 people participated in this year's Dinners for Nine. Participants rotated between attending and hosting meals every two months for a different group of nine. Interested? You can sign up for 2015. Contact miriam.dewhurst@gmail.com.

Games Night

In March, Nurture sponsored a games night at the church. Twister was a big favorite, especially with the children. Other games such as Scattergories and Chronology were enjoyed as well. There was even a four-some for bridge.

Congregational Sundays

Congregational Sundays are held between the services in months where there is a fifth Sunday. This year Congregational Sundays occurred in March, June, and November. The June event, which followed the single service, was a farewell party for Rev. Katie Cashwell, sponsored jointly by the Nurture Committee and Christian Learning Cluster. The November event featured several Advent-related activities.

Other 2014 Events

Nurture hosted a waffle breakfast for children, youth and their parents on Youth Sunday, May 18. We partnered with Christian Learning to host a potluck lunch in August to welcome Rev. Alice Rose Tewell, and with the Nominating Committee in October to host a taco lunch before Rev. Tewell's installation service. Partnering with the Deacons, we hosted a cookies and wrapping event following the Christmas pageant, wrapping presents for our guests in the Radcliffe Room.

We meet on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., either in the Lincoln Parlor or via conference call. If you are interested in joining, please contact one of us. The committee includes Miriam Dewhurst, Karen Dunlap, Paul Gebhard, Meg House, Esther Moring, Carrie Schenkel Reasonover (Diaconal Minister representative), Cathy Schultheis, Kathryn Sparks (Deacon representative), Mary Spatz, Courtney Spearman, Molly Wagner, and Associate Pastor Tewell.

Miriam Dewhurst, Chair

Funds Development Cluster

The Funds Development Cluster serves as an umbrella group encompassing the church's Finance, Annual Stewardship, Planned Giving, and Vision 2020 Capital Campaign Committees. It is composed of members representing all the church boards and the general congregation. The cluster's primary responsibilities are to:

1. Coordinate the various financial committees and activities of NYAPC in cooperation with the church staff accountant and outside controller.
2. Make recommendations to the Session on the disposition of undesignated gifts or bequests of \$50,000 or greater.
3. Provide guidance and oversight to the work of the Director of Planned Giving/Special Gifts.
4. Coordinate all NYAPC fundraising efforts, serving as a clearinghouse for ideas, providing help and support to efforts throughout the church, and formally recommending approval of specific initiatives to the Session.

Effective accomplishment of these tasks requires all of the people involved to talk with each other, because the work of each of these committees directly impacts the others.

This year we had mixed results on financial communications in terms of the timing and content of reports at all scales, including the overall quarterly church financial updates that are normally published with the individual members' quarterly statements. In the fourth quarter we restarted an old conversation about using consistent language from all financial committees to directly connect spending with results. And the Accounting Task Force is working toward improved reports, among other important goals. Hopefully this will all bear fruit in 2015.

This year Laura Asiala, Rachel Browning, John Courson, Miriam Dewhurst, Steve Dewhurst, Rev. Roger Gench, Amy Gillies, David Gillies, Susan Hesser, Rev. Linda Lader, Whitney McColley, Jenean McKay, John Quinn, Cathy Schultheis, John Schultheis, Carol Shannon, Mike Smith, Edith Snyder, and Courtney Spearman, as well as other special guests, all generously gave their time and talent to many Cluster activities. Angela Armstrong served on the cluster in her role as Church Financial Officer. We all owe these members, staff, and friends much thanks for the work they do for our church.

James Spearman, Chair

Finance Committee

Purpose

The Finance Committee performs two primary functions related to the church's annual, general fund, operating budget. First, the committee monitors execution of the current year's budget. Second, the committee coordinates development of the next year's budget and proposes that budget to the Session. The committee's activities in 2014 supported those two functions.

2014 Activities

The church's general fund spending deviated from the 2014 budget in three notable respects. First, the church incurred lower-than-anticipated interest expenses on the building project. This happened because the adjustable interest rate on our line of credit was lower than we budgeted, and most of the HVAC-related spending that we expected was delayed to 2015. Second, the church spent unbudgeted money on services supporting our financial staff and preparing financial statements for the 2012 and 2013 audits. These financial services were not part of the 2014 budget, but our continued dependence on them is included in the 2015 budget. Third, our income from month-to-month tenants was less than expected because the Gay Men's Chorus terminated their lease. Although we hope to add new tenants in the near future, we based the 2015 budget on our current tenants.

In addition to the items noted above, the committee developed the 2015 budget using estimates derived from nine months of 2014 expenditures and a survey of the church's other groups to understand their anticipated spending. This year we timely proposed a 2015 budget to the Session in December, and the Session approved a budget on December 9. The budget approved by the Session increases general fund spending in 2015 to \$1.54M.

People

The following volunteers served on the Finance Committee in 2014: John Courson, Dianna English, Rev. Linda Lader, John Quinn, Koloina Radrianarivony, Len Shabman, Mike Smith, and Jim Spearman. Angela Armstrong served on the committee in her role as Church Financial Officer. In addition to its members, the committee depended on the church's finance-related volunteers, including the weekly counters and the office volunteers who processed incoming financial statements and accounts payable. The committee is particularly grateful for extraordinary contributions from the following office volunteers when the church was without full-time financial staff: Barbara Dornan, Eleanor Pratt, and John Schultheis.

For Additional Information

The following items are available, or will be available when completed, by contacting Mike Smith or the church office: the 2015 operating budget and the 2014 financial statements.

Mike Smith, Chair

Stewardship Committee

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind....and your neighbor as yourself. (Matthew 22:37-39)

This verse, calling into mind once again the “three-legged” stool, was the centerpiece of our annual stewardship campaign, in which we asked people to pledge not only their financial resources, but their prayers as well. We wanted to provide *every member* with an opportunity to make a meaningful and joyful pledge.

To date, we have received pledges of \$706,569.68, which is 3% shy of the \$728,301 pledged in 2013 for 2014. However, we still have some 30 individuals or families active in our family of faith, who have not yet taken the opportunity to record their commitment for 2015. We are grateful to those who have pledged this year, both to those who continue to pledge and those who are new pledgers this year. The pledges are essential in order to best develop and steward the church’s resources to carry out our ministry.

We had a small, but mighty, committee. Rev. Roger Gench set the scene early and provided direction and support. Many thanks to Jim and Courtney Spearman who produced the beautiful and insightful inserts for the bulletin every Sunday during the campaign, including the week that their son Sylvan arrived! Wilson Golden lent his years of experience, and Carol Shannon did a fantastic job in lining up a series of diverse voices to tell their stories and encourage commitment to our mission, including several of our children and youth. I also sincerely appreciated the strong support of the leaders of our governing organizations to encourage widespread and early commitments.

A special thank you to Judith McGovern – Church Administrator, Paul Dornan, and Cathy and John Schultheis for ensuring that the mailing list was correct, and giving us the best possible chance of a signed personal letter to each member family in our congregation at the start of our campaign. Each individual or family who pledged during the campaign received a lovely thank you note, featuring a specific piece of art which graces our church.

We were not without our challenges. Our online pledging application proved to be problematic. We have an opportunity to better understand and recognize the non-financial pledges and contributions as well as help to remove the barriers to people who are unable or unwilling to make an annual commitment. These are all areas that we look forward to improving, and we welcome—with open arms—individuals who would like to help us become even better individual and congregational stewards.

It was a privilege to serve as the chair of the Stewardship Campaign. Thank you for your support and confidence.

Laura Asiala, Chair

Director of Planned Giving/Special Gifts

The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church's program for endowment, planned giving, and special gifts has resulted in a significant increase in funds supporting the church's missions. The congregation continues to respond positively and generously to planned giving communications and programs.

Planned Gifts. I work closely with the Planned Giving Committee whose report can be found elsewhere in this Annual Report. Our job is to inform members and friends of the stewardship opportunities available as each of us lives our daily life and of legacy opportunities for the future. On Legacy Sunday, May 4, 2014, we helped coordinate worship services and an adult church school class on the importance of legacies for individuals, the church and society. Karl Mattison, Executive Director of the Presbyterian Endowment Education and Resource Network (PEER), taught the class. On All Saints Sunday, November 3, 2014, I participated in the Time with the Children, talking about the saints of the church—young, old, not so young and not so old—past, present, and future. I have shared planned giving resources with members who wanted to include NYAPC in their wills or estate plans. A list of "Legacy Giving Options" is posted on the planned giving page of the church's website. An important part of my work is visiting with church members, informally and formally, to hear their faith journeys and share information on various alternatives in making legacy gifts. As members share their love of NYAPC and the reasons they are making gifts and bequests, I become increasingly mindful of their generosity and faithful ministry.

The Birthday Fund. Members and friends participate in NYAPC's Birthday Fund launched on Legacy Sunday 2012. The Birthday Fund offers a special way to acknowledge and celebrate life while enhancing the church's missions. Gifts to the Birthday Fund can benefit the church's Endowment Fund established over 100 years ago and which helps sustain the church's missions in perpetuity, and increase the reach of the Benevolence Fund used primarily for direct and immediate emergency aid to individuals in our community. We keep this program before the congregation on a quarterly basis by providing each member and visitor a Schultheis homemade decorated cupcake packaged "to go"--approximately 350 cupcakes per annum--along with wishes from the Planned Giving Committee members for a Happy Birthday. An exciting development this year has been the receipt of Birthday Fund gifts celebrating the birth of babies in the congregation. This started with a gift from visiting grandparents honoring their yet-to-be-born grandson.

Beyond the Budget Challenge List. In collaboration with church staff, boards, and leadership, I provide the congregation with Session-approved items and capital expense needs that are not funded by the current operating budget. Generous donors made significant contributions to fund various items on the list. This list will be updated in the spring of 2015 after determining items that should either be deleted or added as a result of the upcoming Vision 2020 Capital Campaign.

Other Special Gifts. I worked with the Fund Development Cluster, the Stewardship Committee, and the Vision 2020 Capital Campaign, as well as with individual church leaders, to encourage a variety of special gifts to NYAPC.

Learning from Others & Building Relationships. I am a member of the National Capital Gift Planning Council, attending monthly seminars and an annual conference on fund raising and ethics for nonprofit organizations. NYAPC is a member of PEER (see above), and I attended their national Kaleidoscope conference for church staff, clergy, and officers. Our Presbytery sponsored, in connection with PEER, two excellent local workshops dealing with capital campaigns, the relationship of church buildings to mission and worship, and the role of the church in meeting the needs of up to five different generations of worshipers in a congregation. I prepare articles for the AVENEWS on topics relative to planned giving, legacies, and financial matters.

Catherine E. Schultheis, Director of Planned Giving/Special Gifts

THE NEW YORK AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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.

2014 was the eighth year that the committee has functioned and the first full year that Cathy Schultheis has served as NYAPC's Director of Planned Giving/Special Gifts.

We celebrated Legacy Sunday on May 4. During worship Rev. Roger Gench's sermons, Jim Martin's Minutes for Mission, and Rev. Katie Cashwell's Time with the Children emphasized the importance of legacies: past, present, and future. Karl Mattison, Executive Director of the Presbyterian Endowment Education Resource (PEER) Network, led a well-attended church school class dealing with the role of legacies in the church and in our lives.

On one Sunday in each calendar quarter, the committee hosts the Birthday Fund program birthday celebration. Cathy, with the assistance of John, makes delicious homemade decorated cupcakes (candles included) packaged "to go" for each church member and child celebrating a birthday during the three-month period being recognized. Members and church friends pick up cupcakes as they leave worship and they are wished a Happy Birthday by committee members. Birthday Fund envelopes and other materials for making Birthday Fund gifts are available in the Sanctuary and at the entryway desk. We encourage members and friends to use the Birthday Fund as a way to honor others or to celebrate their own birth by giving thanks for the blessing of another year of life. In so doing, their gift adds to the NYAPC's Benevolence or Endowment Funds per their designation.

Committee members write articles for each AVENEWS issue on planned giving-related subjects, including stories of church members who remembered NYAPC with gifts through their estate plans. Members also attended National Capital Presbytery-sponsored workshops on stewardship, capital campaigns and planned giving.

We celebrated All Saints Sunday on November 2. A bulletin insert developed by committee members acknowledged persons for whom memorial gifts were given, bequests received, gifts from trusts and proceeds from endowment funds for the past year and identified those current and former members who died since the prior year All Saints Sunday, along with their dates of death.

During 2014, many endowment and memorial gifts were received, but three warrant special notice. An additional \$60,000 was received from the estate of Gilbert and Beulah Anderson. In 2013 the Andersons gifted \$100,000. The entire \$160,000 bequest was unrestricted. Mary J. B. Lee, a former Deacon and dedicated usher, willed the church \$10,000 with the provision that it be used for benevolent or religious purposes as determined by the Session and Board of Trustees. Also, we have been notified that former Deaconess, Vernona Turnbull, who died on February 12, 2014, has included NYAPC in her estate plan.

The committee's 2014 budget funded many activities designed to accomplish the objectives of planned giving. This included expenses for Cathy to attend the PEER-sponsored "Stewardship Kaleidoscope" in St. Louis, MO as NYAPC's representative. This conference educates pastors, elders, professional and lay stewardship leaders, and church, presbytery, synod and General Assembly staffs on matters relating to stewardship and planned giving in churches. Cathy has shared the knowledge she acquired at "Kaleidoscope" with the Stewardship, Finance, and Planned Giving Committees, as well as other members of the Funds Development Cluster.

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 at the conclusion of 2014 were Carol Casperson, James Martin, Kay Meek Brian Schimming, Cathy Schultheis, John Schultheis, and Edith Snyder.

John Schultheis, Chair

Administration Cluster

2014 served as a year of reflection and transition for the Administration Cluster. Elder Kevin Guy joined the group and assumed co-chair responsibilities as Bernice McIntyre transitioned off the group. Rev. Alice Tewell also joined the group as co-chair and assumed Rev. Linda Lader's responsibilities. Through the course of these transitions the cluster had many opportunities to evaluate its role in the church. It was determined that the two primary areas of focus are Information Technology and Communication Coordination.

Information Technology:

Infrastructure and the church website were priorities in 2014. Highlights from the past year include:

- Website redesign featuring mobile friendly layout and additional features such as live streaming
- Data cleansing of the ACS (church management) system and strengthening underlying security
- Improved web integration with email and other technology components

Communication Coordination:

As a new initiative, the cluster identified a need to evaluate and facilitate various communication efforts. Two meetings were held in late 2014 with representatives from Administration and NYAPC Staff. Participants included: Rev. Alice Tewell, Rev. Beth Braxton, Rev. Roger Gench, Judith McGovern, Jasmine Jowers, Tyler Feret, and Kevin Guy. Discussion items from these meetings included:

- Physical Information: improving interior signage, bulletin board maintenance, developing a church map
- Branding: Evaluating logos and maintaining consistency across materials
- Website: Content maintenance and integration with other functions such as email

Looking ahead to 2015 the cluster will continue to focus on strengthening information technology capabilities while leveraging the communication coordination initiative to cultivate new ideas and address ad-hoc requests.

Elder Kevin Guy and Rev. Alice Tewell, Co-Chairs

**The Personnel Committee and Columbarium Committee fall under the Administration Cluster according to NYAPC official cluster organization. Through 2014 these committees operated autonomously, and separate reports are provided.*

Columbarium Committee

The Columbarium in the Lincoln Chapel has become a meaningful part of family planning for the resting place of ashes of members, and as a place to honor the memories of those who have been members but are buried or remembered elsewhere. Several services have been held to place ashes in niches during 2014. Some were planned by the person themselves, others arranged after a death by family or their representative. The Columbarium Committee urges families looking ahead to think through their wishes with those lovingly concerned and to contact one of the following persons to make arrangements for future use: John Schultheis, Jim Davidson, Kay Meek, Dan Stokes, or Rev. Ann Davie.

Personnel Committee

Staffing Changes

At the beginning of the year, the church filled the new part-time office assistant position. Cierra Mooney served in this position until late spring when she left NYAPC to take a job in her chosen field. The staff and Personnel Committee used the opportunity to tweak an already good job description, and subsequently hired Jasmine Jowers in this role. Jasmine is currently pursuing her master's degree at the University of Maryland.

Changes to NYAPC Financial Management Staffing

In early fall, the Personnel Committee and the Trustees began discussing ways to improve church financial management staffing. The Accounting Task Force was formed and joined the conversation that led to a proposal recommending a new structure that replaced the church financial officer with a church staff accountant and an outside controller. The staff accountant is responsible for daily oversight of church financial matters, while the outside controller provides strategic guidance, oversight, and audit support. Session approved the new structure. The firm, Your Part-Time Controller (YPTC), has been serving in the role of outside controller since summer 2014. (As of January 2015, interviews for the staff accountant role culminated in the hire of Janet L. Mahares, who is scheduled to begin work in late January 2015.)

Employee Handbook

The Personnel Committee continues to work on a revision of NYAPC's Employee Handbook, which has not been updated since 2004.

The Personnel Committee members in 2014 were: Tony Wagner – Chair (Session), James Davidson (Diaconal Ministers), Bryan Schimming (Session), Edith Snyder (Trustees), and Courtney Spearman (Deacons). Church staff who participated with the committee were Rev. Roger Gench and Judith McGovern.

Tony Wagner, Chair

REPORTS OF NYAPC COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMS

McClendon Center Mental Health Rehabilitation Services Program

McClendon Center continues to enjoy a close working relationship with The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. Our Day Program operates from offices and rooms on four floors of the church, providing therapeutic mental health recovery groups for more than 70 individuals each day. Our clients appreciate being within the safe and supportive environment provided by the church.

McClendon Center serves more than 800 individual clients each year, most of whom are served at our North Capitol location. We are in our sixth year of hosting third- and fourth-year psychiatry residents from George Washington University, and for the first time one of them spends one day each week at the Day Program. This sort of coordination has been very helpful for clients seen at both locations. We also started a social work internship program with Catholic University of America and the University of Maryland; two interns are at the North Capitol office and one intern is located at the Day Program. The Day Program completed its first year of hosting a volunteer from the Jesuit Volunteer Corps, and a new volunteer began her year with us in August.

McClendon Center hosted two DC Councilmembers in 2014. At-Large Councilmember David Grosso visited twice, once at the Day Program and another time at the North Capitol office. He has voiced his support for McClendon Center and the work that it does. Brianne Nadeau, the newly elected Councilmember from Ward One, visited the North Capitol office shortly after her election and was briefed on the work done by the Center at both locations.

Many changes are in store for 2015. At the North Capitol office, we are on the verge of providing hospital discharge services for one of the District's managed Medicaid programs. It is also possible that McClendon Center will open a third office to provide outpatient therapy at a reduced cost for people who would otherwise be unable to afford such a service. Later in 2015, the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) hopes to implement a new service called Health Homes. This is a provision of the Affordable Care Act that would mandate much more medical follow-up with mentally ill individuals. Much of the work would be done at our North Capitol office, but some of our groups are already being restructured at the Day Program to focus on clients who are dealing with chronic health conditions. DBH has announced that it will revisit how it funds Day Programs. McClendon Center may ask the church to once again intervene on its behalf if these changes would mean that fewer clients would have access to the services we provide at NYAPC.

The Center's Board of Directors, two of whom are members of NYAPC (Sarah Barclay Hoffman and Kim Johnson), continues to advocate for the clients served by McClendon Center. The Board meets the second Wednesdays of January, March, May, July, September, and November, with its five committees meeting the months between Board meetings. Please feel free to ask any of our Board members, especially Sarah and Kim, or myself, for a tour of McClendon Center, and feel free to contact me at any point if you'd like to find out more about the work that we do.

Please feel free to call or visit the program any time. You can reach me, by calling 202-997-0193 or emailing dhobb@mcclendoncenter.org.

Dennis Hobb, Executive Director

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, DC. 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 the foundation's 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. A volunteer Board of Directors conducts the work of the foundation without any monetary compensation. As a result, almost all 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 has a long-standing relationship with the Community Club, which brings DC public high school students together with concerned local professionals for one-with-one tutoring and mentoring throughout the school year.

In 2014, the Foundation invested in the following organizations and programs:

Community Club	\$45,000
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The other local organizations that received grants from the NYA Foundation in 2014 are:

Live It, Learn It (boosting performance in Title I DC public schools through academically focused trips to DC's world class resources)	\$4,000
Kid Power (tutoring, leadership training, elementary-high school)	\$4,000
Free Minds (literary arts program for juvenile offenders)	\$4,000
Project Create (arts programs for youth)	\$4,000
Resources for Inner City Children (tutoring and education support programs)	\$4,000

We greatly appreciate the support of all the foundation's donors. We frequently hear from our grantees about the difference these donations have made to the success of their programs. In 2014, the foundation held an appreciation breakfast at which current and former grantee organizations had an opportunity to network with their peers.

The current Board members are Brian Schimming (Chair), Mary Cousins (Secretary), Miriam Dewhurst (Treasurer), Teresa Crane, Sarah Gillespie Ellis, Amy Gillies, Tom Karr, Anne Laroche, Molly Lauer, Jennifer McIver, Catherine Neale, Michael Pete, and Evelyn Ying. Thanks to all these talented Directors for their leadership and support as we move forward to grow and expand the breadth and depth of the foundation's mission.

Special thanks to Teresa Crane for her work in preparing the foundation's grant application, Mary Cousins for her work as Secretary and for preparing the foundation's letters and mailing labels, Amy Gillies for all of her work organizing the foundation's extensive donor records in a new database and organizing this year's grant applications, Molly Lauer for establishing an online system for evaluating grant applications, Jen McIver for preparing an AVENEWS article, John Courson for his guidance and service as Chair, and Miriam Dewhurst for all of her hard work as Treasurer.

Brian Schimming, Chair

NYAPC Committee of Ingleside Presbyterian Community Women's Board

NYAPC's Ingleside Women's Board Committee is dedicated to serving the needs of the residents of our local Presbyterian retirement community. We are grateful to other NYAPC members, staff, and friends: for Jay Davenport for visiting residents and assisting in so many ways; for participants in Sunday chapel services (clergy, Dan Stokes with organ and piano accompaniment, and several vocal soloists); and for all who contributed to our major fundraising effort at the Board's 108th Annual Silver Tea in May. Donations given at the Silver Tea as well as income from the Ingleside Women's Board Clothing and Treasures Shop are used to meet the needs of the residents.

Members of the Women's Board, along with the NYAPC's Board of Diaconal Ministers, regularly visited NYAPC members and friends residing at Ingleside: Vernona Turnbull, Gladys Rigsby, Lynn Crandall, and Bill McAfee (who will celebrate his 105th birthday on January 25, 2015.) It is a joy to bring the love of our church to them with visits and the delivery of flowers from our Sunday services. It should be noted that Vernona, Gladys, and Lynn all passed away in 2014.

The Women's Board decorates Ingleside at Christmastime. Over a matter of days Ingleside is decorated from the Chapel to the Health Center, colorfully transformed to the delight of the Ingleside residents and staff. The Board hosts a festive Christmas party, a highlight of the year for the residents. Kay Meek chaired the event this year. Board members baked cookies, welcomed and assisted residents in singing carols and enjoying the musical entertainment provided for the party.

Jim Davidson and John Schultheis are regular volunteers at the Variety Store maintained for the convenience of the residents. Many come to purchase needed items; others come to visit.

John Schultheis (Board Treasurer) and Kay Meek (Assistant Treasurer) serve on both the Board's Executive and Finance Committees. The Board uses its funds and endowment resources to support residents in need, make decorative improvements and fiscally assist Ingleside on special projects.

Ingleside at Rock Creek continues its effort to implement a major capital initiative. This project will replace the current assisted living and health care facilities with more modern structures and add more independent living apartments. The construction is scheduled to be conducted over a 30-month period, with assisted living residents being provided with short-term alternative living space and health center residents not needing to be moved until their new facility is ready for occupancy. The NYAPC Board members will keep you informed of how this effort is progressing.

Those who served on the Board in 2014 included Marcia Kozub and Kay Meek (NYAPC Co-Chairs), along with Jim Davidson, Glory Eyong, Bernice McIntyre, and John Schultheis. Emeritus members were Toni Davenport, Beatrice Fuller, Gladys Rigsby, and Vernona Turnbull.

Please take the opportunity to visit Ingleside at Rock Creek during 2015.

Kay Meek, Co-Chair, NYAPC Committee

REPORTS OF NYAPC 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 (USA). 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 Administrator.

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 September we began a new study, *Reconciling Paul, A Contemporary Study of 2 Corinthians*, by Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty. This study was put together by a Church-wide Coordinating Team of Presbyterian Women and is used by women across the nation. Rev. Linda Lader and Rev. Alice Tewell have lead us in our monthly Bible study.

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 \$1800.00 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, and One Great Hour of Sharing.

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.

Barbara Dornan, Administrative Liaison

Thursday Morning Prayer Group

The Thursday Morning Prayer Group generally meets on the second and fourth Thursday mornings of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Docherty Center. The group originated with people interested in participating in exercises in contemplative prayer, based on a discipline developed by St. Ignatius of Loyola. The exercises involve prayerful meditation upon a series of scripture passages.

In 2014, the group read *Pastrix* by Rev. Nadia Boltz-Webber; *Daring Greatly* by Brene Brown, and *What We Were Made For* by Sharon Wheeler. *Pastrix* is a wonderful account of the spiritual journey of Rev. Boltz-Webber and her planting a church in Denver, the membership of which largely consists of individuals who are uncomfortable or made to feel uncomfortable in traditional churches. The subtitle of *Daring Greatly* is *How the Courage to be Vulnerable Transforms the Way We Live, Love, Parent and Lead*. The book is about the importance of engaging with our vulnerabilities rather than protecting ourselves from being vulnerable and leaning into difficult situations rather than running from them. *What We Were Made For* is an exploration of love: God's love for us; our love for God and others; and whether we can even be able to love the way God demands. The conversations engendered by these books have been rich and thought-provoking, and every once in a while one can recognize part of a conversation in a Sunday sermon.

The group sponsored two silent retreats at the church during the year and plans to sponsor others in 2015, including one on February 28. These retreats take place on Saturday mornings in the church, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and include labyrinth walking in the Peter Marshall Hall, lectio divina scripture reading in the sanctuary, art reflection in the Radcliffe Room, and spiritual conversation in the Chapel.

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. Current participants include Rev. Roger Gench, Louise Berman, Miriam Dewhurst, Tom Dunlap, Peggy Evans, Helen Joseph, Margaret Myers, Marilyn Seiber, and Elizabeth Young.

Miriam E. Dewhurst

Young Adult Group

The NYAPC young adults in 2014 continued their multifaceted participation in the life and activities of the wider congregation, and also gathered amongst themselves in various settings to deepen their own relationships and their understanding of the faith.

An experiment in on-campus lunch gatherings after the second Sunday service transitioned back to a pattern of frequent excursions to nearby brunch spots mid-way through the year. Meanwhile, almost-monthly happy hour gatherings and women's Bible studies as well as roughly quarterly pastor-led Faith on Tap discussions and other events continued to bring us together in various configurations.

Throughout the year, we welcomed newcomers and bid fond farewell to those taking their leave. In some cases, life circumstances brought newly active participants to us and took them back within the same year. Some of the more established young adults are also quite active on boards, on committees, or in various ministries of the church, and indeed our informal, decentralized group often serves as a way station on the road to other ways of interacting with NYAPC. The group, in practice, attracts mostly 20- to 40-year-olds, and welcomes visitors and members alike to take part in its activities.

After young adults Kevin Guy and Karen Milam Feret, serving as members of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee, helped find the Rev. Alice Tewell to succeed our interim Rev. Katie Cashwell and before her the Rev. Tara Spuhler McCabe, the Rev. Linda Lader passed the torch of primary pastoral responsibility for our group to Alice as part of her portfolio of duties. The Rev. Roger Gench additionally remains a fixture of pastoral support for the young adults. We thank all our pastors for their care for us this past year.

Benno Lauer

NYAPC 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 seven 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. Dorman

Community Club College Scholarship Fund

The year 2014 was another active one for the Community Club scholarship fund. The fund gives two types of scholarships: stay-in-school scholarships for high school students and partial scholarships for college students.

Stay-in-school scholarships are given monthly to current Community Club high schools students who maintain at least a 2.5 GPA and regular attendance at Community Club, with the amount increasing by grade and attendance. The amounts range from \$12.50 (for ninth graders) to \$25.00 (for seniors) for each week attended during the month. In 2014, Community Club gave more than \$18,500 to 54 students.

Community Club also gives partial college scholarships to alumni currently enrolled in college with at least a 2.0 GPA who keep in touch with Community Club and attend semi-annual college meetings. In 2014, Community Club gave more than \$35,000 to 45 Community Club collegians, aided by the remaining \$5,000 of a \$10,000 grant from the Rust Family Foundation, and an \$8,000 grant, earmarked for college scholarships, from a generous donor. Scholarship amounts ranged from \$300 to \$800 per semester, with amounts varying by GPA and by overall scholarship funds allocated for that semester.

Shamika Bradley and Tom Karr, Community Club Co-Directors

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.

In 1991, a special Kathryn G. Heath Scholarship Committee developed procedures for the awarding of scholarship grants, approved by the Session. The first scholarships went to four young women for spring semester 1992. Since then, more than 125 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 at least 2.75 on a 4.0 scale, demonstrate financial need, show 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.

For the 2014-2015 academic year, the committee recommended scholarship awards to five women:

Fidelia Igwe	Virginia Commonwealth University (VA)	\$3000
Esohe Irabor	Rhode Island College	\$2000
Bre'Anna James	Trinity Washington University (DC)	\$3000
Rian Matthews	Dennison University (OH)	\$1000
Jordan Washington	Delaware State University	\$ 700

Members of the scholarship committee in 2014 were: Thelma Leenhouts-Chair, Anna Davidson, Stacy Gogosian, Amy Garrou, Amy Gillespie, and Mary Spatz.

Thelma Leenhouts, Chair

Andrew Charles Dornan Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Andrew Charles Dornan Memorial Scholarship Fund was established seven years ago as a memorial to our son, Andrew. In 2008, the Core Council of Community Club established the Upperclassman Scholarships to help former students in the Community Club program as they completed their college careers. Four years ago, the remainder of the Bruce Davie Memorial Scholarship funds, given in memory of a saint of this church and constant supporter of Community Club, was combined with the Dornan funds to support the Upperclassman Scholarships. The scholarships are open to any college student who graduated from Community Club, has completed at least 70 college credits and has maintained at least a 2.0 grade point average in his/her institution of higher education. The scholarship responds to a reality of college financial aid: that colleges tend to reduce and withdraw aid from upperclassmen as they focus aid attention on incoming freshmen. As a result, college juniors and seniors must identify new sources of aid or assume additional student debt as they move on to graduate degrees or out into the working world. The Upperclassman Scholarships are intended to alleviate some of that burden of debt and the anxiety that accompanies it. The Upperclassman Scholarships do not replace the regular Community Club College Scholarships, but are intended to supplement them. So far, more than \$41,500 has been awarded to worthy students.

As of December 2014, 26 of our college students have received Upperclassman Scholarships over the seven years of their existence. Twenty of those students have now graduated: three from Trinity University (Washington); two each from North Carolina A&T, and Temple University, and one apiece from Benedict, Bennett, Cheyney State, Tuskegee, Grinnell, Lafayette, Morgan State, North Carolina Wesleyan, Norfolk State, Virginia State, Princeton, the University of Pittsburgh, and the University of Maryland.

The Upperclassman Scholarship requires applicants to maintain at least 12 credits per term in the year for which the student requests assistance. That requirement speaks to a reality for our Community Club students: lower income students do not have the luxury of dawdling through their college years. Schools are just too expensive, and the statistics seem to suggest that, if you can't complete your schooling within four to five years, then you are simply not going to finish it. And, based on the recent record of our students, most of them are completing school within four years.

In May 2014, four students, Jonnetta Bratcher of Howard University, Adrienne Fenton of Penn State University (Harrisburg), Esobe Irabor of Rhode Island College, and Alexis Obodo of Trinity University (Washington), received Upperclassmen Scholarships totaling \$8,500. At the end of 2014, there was approximately \$43,000 available for future allocation to worthy students. Andrew and Bruce's families want to thank all those who have given so graciously to help our young people in Community Club and to remember Andrew and Bruce.

Paul B. Dornan

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. 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. Despite several discussions, no use was found for the Hanson Trust funds in 2014.

The assets of the Trust at the close of 2014 were approximately \$184,000. In 2015, the Trust will more actively seek to partner with Christian Education and Personnel Committees to uncover opportunities to use Trust funds to the benefit of both grant recipients and the church.

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; to relieve 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: Rev. Alice Rose Tewell, as designated by the Session Moderator; the Treasurer of Session, Leigh Hildebrand; and the Clerk of Session, Miriam Dewhurst. All funds are gifts and repayment is not expected. All requests and expenditures remain confidential.

In 2014, the Metcalf-Edgington fund provided over \$3,626.32 in total financial assistance, which primarily included support for medical expenses.

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.

Leigh G. Hildebrand, Treasurer of Session

Other Funds

Many dedicated funds that 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. Diaconal Ministers Fund. Supports the activities of the Board of Diaconal Ministers, 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 care from the Diaconal Ministers.
6. Joseph Sizoo Library Fund. Uses gifts to purchase books and materials for the Joseph Sizoo Library in the Docherty Center.
7. 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. Presbyterian Women's Fund. Supports the world-wide mission efforts of the Presbyterian Women.
4. Peace and Justice Fund. Supports the work of the committee responsible for the national and world-wide mission of the church.
5. 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 of school; 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.
- 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.

THE NEW YORK AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

- G. Organ and Musical Instrument Endowment Fund. Provides funds for maintenance and repairs of the church's pipe organ and other musical instruments.
- H. Diaconal Ministers Fund. Supports the activities of the Board of Diaconal Ministers, 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.

Appendix A – Audit Report for 2012 and 2013

A copy of the Audit Committee's report is available on request at the church office.

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The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church would like to express sincere gratitude to Judith McGovern and Kathryn Walter for production of this document, and to the authors of each individual report. We also thank Edith Holmes Snyder who assisted in reviewing and proofreading.

