

The Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church

Annual Report 2011



**Christ our
Center**

Pastor's Report

The Rev. Molly Blythe Teichert

As I enter my third year of ministry at CCPC, I am incredibly grateful for this community of faith. Grace abounds. This is a church of passion and compassion. We are passionate about worshiping God and serving the people of God. Here we have compassion for each other, for the child, the youth, the elderly, and for the poor and needy. The Spirit of God is alive and leading us into the future.

This past year we have redesigned the church website and opened a CCPC Facebook account. We are preparing a Twitter account for use in 2012 to help people be spiritually connected to God throughout their day. We converted a secretarial position into a Communications Coordinator to manage our web and print communications. In doing so, we freed up a member of the clergy staff to focus more on pastoral care and mission. All of this is part of looking to the future.

The Visioning Report of 2011, "Dreaming a New Day" is a seminal document. As a congregation we asked for the Spirit's presence to help us. We listened hard for the core values of this congregation. We dug deep to learn more about our immediate context and neighborhood. We prayed for God's guidance as we look to the future and CCPC's unique contribution to the building of God's kingdom here and now.

We identified our vision as: *God is calling CCPC to make Christ the center of our lives, to equip the youngest generation of our church to do the work to which Christ has called us all; and to work in the world for justice.* **Christ our Center. Children our Blessing. Justice our Passion.**

With God's help and the Spirit's guidance, we have laid a strong foundation for building up of our ministry. As we face the challenges that lie ahead and the decisions that must be made, we have a solid sense of identity and purpose.

As a church we are committed to being faithful and relevant to the times in which we live. We are ready to meet the future with creativity, imagination and sound judgment. And above all else, Christ walks with us every step of the way.

God's Blessings,

The Rev. Molly Blythe Teichert

Session Report

Norman L. Stant, Clerk of Session

This has again been a year of good-byes and welcomes for The Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church. We said farewell to Associate Pastor Steve Robertson in July; and were delighted to welcome Interim Associate Pastor Jane Duffield in September. Jane was ordained as a Teaching Elder (also called Minister of the Word and Sacrament) on January 15, 2012. We are pleased to now have a full-time *Communications Coordinator* and a part-time *Interim Youth Ministries Associate*. As you read the following reports from various committees of Session, you will see just how active and on-going the work of the church is.

After auditing the Membership Rolls, the hard copy membership book, the database CMS, the monthly Session minutes, and the annual Presbytery Report all sources are in agreement. The Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church began 2011 with 732 members. During the year we received 31 new members by Profession of Faith or Reaffirmation of Faith (this included 6 new Confirmands), 14 by Certificate of Transfer, and 4 members were reinstated to full membership. We lost 9 members to death, 2 members requested letters of transfer to other church in and out of the area, 35 asked to become inactive or wanted to have their names deleted from our rolls. We ended the year with 735 members. The database shows that our membership is made up of 437 females (59%) and 298 males (41%). This year the General Assembly asked that the breakdown of membership include age, gender, and ethnic background. The results appear in the table below. During the year there were 13 baptisms of infants and children and 1 adult baptism. There were 3 marriages (all of non-members.) The average attendance at worship for the year was 359 per Sunday.

Session Report *(continued)*

2011 Membership Information

Membership 01/01/11	732	Age/Gender	Male	Female	Total
GAINS					
<i>Prof/Reaf of Faith (18 & over)</i>	25	<i>25 & Under</i>	46	40	86
<i>Confirmands (17 & under)</i>	6	<i>26 - 45</i>	58	101	159
<i>Certificate of Transfer</i>	14	<i>46 - 55</i>	62	63	125
<i>Other</i>	4	<i>56 - 65</i>	49	83	132
2011 Total Gains	49	<i>Over 65</i>	83	150	233
LOSSES		TOTAL	298	437	735
<i>Death</i>	9				
<i>Certificate of Transfer</i>	2	Race/Gender	Male	Female	Total
<i>Inactivity/Deletion</i>	35	<i>Asian</i>	9	18	27
2011 Total Losses	46	<i>African American</i>	8	13	21
Membership 12/31/11	735	<i>Hispanic</i>	4	1	5
		<i>Middle Easter</i>	5	10	15
		<i>White</i>	272	395	667
		TOTAL	298	437	735

2011 Christian Education

<i>Birth - 3</i>	25	<i>Age 4</i>	14	<i>Kindergarten</i>	27	<i>Grade 1</i>	19
<i>Grade 2</i>	17	<i>Grade 3</i>	22	<i>Grade 4</i>	13	<i>Grade 5</i>	15
<i>Grade 6</i>	11	<i>Grade 7</i>	15	<i>Grade 8</i>	14	<i>Grade 9</i>	14
<i>Grade 10</i>	10	<i>Grade 11</i>	11	<i>Grade 12</i>	21	<i>Young Adult</i>	5
<i>Over 25</i>	182	<i>Teachers</i>	54			TOTAL	489

Administration and Finance Committee Report

The Support Services Committee

Richard A. Riegel, chair

The Administration and Finance and Support Services Committees are charged with oversight of the financial operations of the church, the maintenance and safety of the building and grounds, and the overall support of the other committees charged with carrying out CCPC's mission in the community and the world. Having addressed many safety issues in recent years, the past year focused on several areas of deferred maintenance and/or capital improvement of our aging physical plant.

Most of this year's improvements to the physical plant are less visible than in prior years, but no less important in terms of protecting the building structure and in increasing staff working efficiency. Work was completed on a major contract that replaced the education wing roof, the roofing on the dormers around the entire structure, the flat roof adjacent to the parking lot and repaired the internal plaster and drywall damage caused by numerous leaks. This project has stopped our various roof-based leaks. During the year, we also installed two additional downspouts near the parking lot entrance to better facilitate draining of large sections of the roof toward the rear of the church; this low-cost improvement has eliminated further threat of large-scale storm water intrusions we had experienced in the past. Additionally, we completed replacement of the existing telephone phone system with new, more efficient technology to better serve staff and members. And finally, we replaced the aging – and dysfunctional – copy machine with a state-of-the-art model capable of handling our diverse printing tasks far more efficiently. The cost savings for this new machine are such that we expect to fully amortize its purchase price within six years.

As we enjoy the benefit of these improvements, it is important to recognize that all of these projects were funded from CCPC capital accounts. The operating budget, (primarily funded by annual member pledges), is separate from the capital accounts. Having capital accounts for major maintenance and long term capital improvements – and having the means to systematically replenish them - is critical to the ongoing financial health of the church.

As you can see from the annual budget information that follows, CCPC came in on target in 2011. In light of our increasingly tight financial condition, this represents quite an achievement. Careful management of expenses by committee chairs and staff members, sound planning practices and a little good fortune are responsible for achieving this result. Additionally, we were able to add almost \$3,100 to our General Reserve Fund bringing our year-end balance to just over \$39,600. Our Operating Reserve account remains significantly short of the objective established by Session a number of years ago (10% of the Operating budget).

As of this writing, the 2012 Operating Budget has been approved by Session. This budget reflects minimal overall spending increases; most notable, however, is a conscious effort by Session to continually increase our General Reserve Fund toward the Session goal of a 10% reserve balance as discussed above.

Administration and Finance Committee Report *(continued)*

Annual Operating Budget Summary

INCOME	2010 ACTUAL	2011 BUDGET	2011 AC-TUAL
Undesignated Giving	\$1,146,092	\$1,153,669	\$1,157,707
Investment Income	\$10,503	\$20,000	\$5,720
Use of Facilities	\$17,057	\$13,000	\$16,121
Other Income	\$57,687	\$53,727	\$55,289
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,231,339	\$1,240,396	\$1,234,837
EXPENSES			
Connections	\$3,421	\$4,150	\$4,034
Christian Education	\$9,995	\$11,125	\$9,953
Worship & Music	\$26,935	\$26,950	\$28,512
Mission	\$100,683	\$102,400	\$101,684
Stewardship	\$6,628	\$5,000	\$2,430
Support Services	\$190,829	\$194,000	\$199,082
Administration & Finance	\$70,258	\$70,750	\$78,786
Personnel	\$814,668	\$823,212	\$806,591
Deacons	\$815	\$1,000	\$674
Y-E to Reserves	\$7,108	\$1,809	\$3,091
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,231,339	\$1,240,396	\$1,234,837
BALANCE	\$0	\$0	\$0

Y-E to Operating Reserves to General Reserve Account in accordance with Session policies.

Christian Education Committee Report

Britt Reynolds and Linda Ertz, co-chairs

CCPC offers an active and varied program of Christian Education to children, youth, and adults. Sunday morning Church School provides a significant opportunity for learning and is a reason that many new young families join CCPC. More than sixty dedicated volunteers teach about the Bible and the Christian faith. To put their faith into action and to help the community, our children/youth participated in a number of activities, including great support of the One Great Hour of Sharing offering and a bake sale to fund a purchase through Heifer Project International. The children's music program enjoys strong leadership under Joann Moorner, and remains a vital part of Christian Education for grades K-3 in Sunday School music. The Carol and Junior choirs regularly participate in leading worship, and combined with a few adults for a wonderful music at the 4:30 and 7:30 Christmas Eve Services. The choirs and Sunday School children joined together to produce, reported by many in the congregation, one of the best Christmas Pageants EVER!

Opportunities for Sunday morning adult education include "The Bible in Context", "Faith Trek", and the "Open Forum". Other adult programs are available through our FOCUS offerings on Thursday evenings and included sessions on "Restorative Justice," "I Love to Tell the Story," "A Marriage Enrichment Workshop," "An Environmental Film Festival," "Families and Faith Play-Reading," "A Discussion of Same Sex Marriage" and "Understanding the Language of Faith." More than 175 members of the CCPC Community and neighborhood have benefited from this opportunity for study, worship and fellowship since it began in the fall of 2008. The Wednesday Bible Study welcomed new members and enjoyed studies of the Revelation to John and the Minor Prophets in 2011.

Our weekday programs also encompass children of all ages. The After-School program continues to provide a safe, caring, and creative place for 70 K-6th graders supervised by a staff of 10. The children enjoy a variety of enriching experiences, including performing community service. The Weekday Nursery School provides a hands-on play-based program for 175 1-5 year olds under the guidance of 28 staff members. Many CCPC families use these programs, and they witness to CCPC's ministry to the children of our community. The "Green" Committee of the nursery school continues to be active in encouraging paper recycling in the classrooms, recycling crayons, and other creative ways to honor the earth.

Youth activities continue with strong leadership provided by Becky Wood, assisted by a team of dedicated adult volunteers from the congregation and parent support. The Hearthstones and Firesides weekly meetings average 25-35 middle and high school students. Youth programs also included a great retreat to launch the year and monthly service projects (clean-up day at a DC school, Saturday help at the Capital Area Food Bank, etc.) They began their year in September with a welcome retreat at Summit Lake Camp. In July, 13 CCPC Senior Highs and 3 adults attended the Montreat Youth Conference in Montreat, NC. The church also celebrated the confirmation of 6 young people on Pentecost Sunday.

Deck the Halls attracted 180 children, youth, and adults who crafted ornaments based on the characters from the Nativity and decorated our sanctuary tree. The 6th Annual Easter Festival was attended by more than 100 children, youth and adults. In October, we held a second Fall Festival designed for children in 2nd grade and younger. We played many fun games decked out in Halloween costumes and gathered for a family style potluck dinner for 50 parents and children. We look forward to providing even more events and experiences in 2012 to continue to encourage fellowship and nurture all those who are making CCPC their church home.

Connections Committee Report

Dennis Wood and Kevin Berry, co-chair

In September 2010, the Community Life and Outreach and Discipleship Committees merged and became the Connections Committee. The Committee's scope has grown over the year to meet its mission: The Connections Committee seeks to enhance our congregation's spiritual growth by encouraging all members to recognize, nurture and utilize their gifts, both in their daily lives and in service of God's purposes in the wider world. Because the church community is a vital resource fueling our spiritual growth, the committee will help members participate in the life of the church, sponsor church events to share bread and fellowship, and assist visitors to become members of this particular church.

During 2011, 22 adults and 6 Confirmands became members of CCPC through Sunday Inquirers' Classes, special meetings or one-on-one session, when necessary. One New Member Wine and Cheese Party (Roots and Shoots) hosted by Chuck Alston and Susan Dentzer brought together new members, Session members, and longer-standing members of the congregation for a delightful social evening.

The committee facilitated the following events:

The Annual Congregational Brunch prior to the Annual Meeting on February 27

Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday, March 8

Assisted with details for Session Retreats in April and October

The Pentecost Picnic on June 12

Homecoming Picnic on September 11

The second annual Stewardship Luncheon on November 6

Deck the Halls on December 2

Julia Freeman did yeoman work in 2011 coordinating the photography, layout and design for a new church pictorial directory which will be distributed at the Annual Meeting in 2012. The committee worked to design and implement new sign-up sheets for the pew registers to enhance our record-keeping, and updated the Time and Talents and Member Information forms to record current information and interests of our members during the photography sessions in the fall of 2011.

The committee continues to be grateful for Marye Cotton's work in organizing Soup, Salad, Sandwich and Sweets after 11:00 worship on the first Sunday of the month throughout the year. We are also grateful to Rebecca Iverson-Hunter (September through May) and Connie Rhind Robey (September on) for organizing the 10:30 Brunch schedule, and to the Deacons for contributing to our Sunday morning fellowship with monthly birthday cakes. Connections also assisted in funding and acquiring 16 new, light-weight oblong tables for Chadsey Hall plus 2 table dollies, new stacking chairs for the Library and the Conference Room, 4 new coffee pots and 2 lemonade dispensers.

The committee also supported the organizational work of the Rev. Ed White (assisted by Dennis Wood) in the creation of 3 Men's Spirituality groups at CCPC. These groups (consisting of 15 men, ages 24-80) agreed to meet in homes for 6 months to discuss *From Wild Man to Wise Men: Reflections on Male Spirituality* by Richard Rohr, and then to consider future meetings.

Board of Deacon's Report

Emily White, moderator

The Board of Deacons is called to lead the congregation in caring for our church members and the larger community. The Deacons, working closely with Rev. Jane Duffield, fulfill this responsibility in a variety of ways.

Every week, Deacons provide rides to and from church worship services for those needing assistance. They also visit congregants at times of illness, birth, adoption, death, birthdays, and other occasions. The visiting Deacon often brings along flowers from the worship services, casseroles from the casserole ministry, or prayer shawls from the Needlework Group. The Deacons also lead the congregation in the delivery of Christmas poinsettias and Easter lilies to our homebound and other members.

The Board of Deacons greatly appreciates the work of the CCPC members who provide the casseroles, the Flower Committee members who convert the sanctuary arrangements into smaller bouquets for delivery, and the Needlework Group members who provide the beautiful prayer shawls and baby blankets that we deliver and mail on behalf of this congregation. In October, Deacon Kristen Best began managing the Casserole Ministry, with excellent results.

In March and November, the Deacons led the other officers in providing the sacrament of Holy Communion to our homebound members and others unable to attend worship services regularly. The Deacons also continue to lead the Church Neighbors Ministry, seeking to nurture personal ties with homebound and elderly church members and to help them feel connected with CCPC even when they are unable to attend worship and other events.

To encourage fellowship and personal connections across the congregation, the Deacons engage in other ministries of compassion, care, and celebration for major life milestones of church members. On the second Sunday of each month, the Deacons provide and serve cake following each service of worship. The names of members having birthdays in a given month are displayed on a poster in Chadsey Hall.

In the spring, the Deacons hosted and served two special meals: the annual luncheon honoring 50-year members of the church and the annual dinner for confirmand youth, their families, and mentors (at which the confirmands were examined by the Session). Christy Schmidt led the kitchen team at both celebrations, which have become a tradition of the Deacons. Many Deacons also assisted at the annual meeting and stewardship brunch.

The Board of Deacons occasionally hosts guest speakers to discuss topics related to congregational care. For example, Rev. Bob Angus and Derek Hawver led an informative discussion of compassionate visitation. The Board will continue to explore ways to involve the whole congregation in the ministry of congregational care in order to best meet church members' needs. We welcome the suggestions of the congregation in providing this ministry.

Mission Committee Report

Noni Lindahl and William Minor, co-chairs

CCPC's 2011 Visioning Report captures our congregation's commitment to Justice, our Passion:

We hear and respond to Jesus' call to serve "the least of these" in our neighborhoods and in the wider world. Through many and various outreach projects in the church, all people, young and old, busy and not, have the opportunity to engage in advocacy and hands-on mission work in addition to practicing the discipline of charity. In our neighborhood, city, nation and world, we work with partners in mission and service to multiply our efforts to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, give voice to those who are oppressed, practice peace, and restore the health of creation.

Mission brings members of our church family closer together and links them with the needs of our community, our nation, and our world. A great many members of our congregation are involved in mission through projects funded through the Mission Committee, volunteer efforts organized through the church, and their own calls to service as engaged Christians.

In 2011, the Mission Budget of \$101,684 represented 8.25% of the annual church budget, which was comparable to 2010 expenditures. With the addition of Special Offerings, Gifts of Hope, and other special giving opportunities, total funding directed to mission efforts was \$185,695. In 2012, the Mission Committee is committed to increasing the amount and effectiveness of our outreach, consistent with our commitment to Justice, our Passion.

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In addition to overseeing the diverse mission projects and efforts described in this report, the Mission Committee also undertakes the following each year:

Organize and conduct special services focused on our mission efforts.

On January 30, 2011, we celebrated Justice Sunday and welcomed the Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II, who serves as a the Director of Public Witness for the Washington Office of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Dr. Nelson described with passion the denomination's historic role in shaping public policy, which dates to the 1940s, and his ongoing efforts to ensure that the church is an advocate for policies that serve those in need.

Coordinate and oversee Special Offerings and CCPC's own Hunger Offering.

The Pentecost Offering this year was given to the Transition Assistance Program (TAP), an outreach mission of CCPC that provides direct services to working and unemployed, often homeless, individuals who come to the church for assistance. The Peacemaking Offering was collected on World Communion Sunday and 50% of the offering was directed to the Washington Interfaith Network's Green Team Campaign, a highly-successful workforce development program. Our congregation also generously supported the One Great Hour of Sharing and Christmas Joy Offerings, both of which are distributed to worthy projects affiliated with our denomination. In addition, every third Sunday, CCPC collects a special Hunger Offering. In 2011, more than \$11,000 was raised through this offering. Funds placed in the milk jugs here at CCPC are divided equally to support hunger ministries through TAP, Shepherd's Table in Silver Spring, and the Shitoli Solid Rock Orphan and Feeding Program in Shikokho, Kenya.

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On October 2, 2011, the Mission Committee sponsored a **Mission Fair** in Chadsey Hall after both services which afforded members of the congregation an opportunity to hear about the diverse mission

Mission Committee Report *(continued)*

opportunities supported by the church and to consider personal volunteer opportunities. Youth participated through a questionnaire that led them from table to table where they learned about the ways in which our congregation is involved helping our community.

In 2011, CCPC was thrilled to be certified by Presbyterian Church (USA) as an **Earth Care Congregation** through the hard work of the Earth Stewards, partnering with the Mission Committee. Earth Care Congregations are those that have committed to the “Earth Care Pledge” and accomplished a specific number of actions toward caring for God’s earth in four categories: worship, education, facilities, and outreach. This accomplishment was celebrated at a special service in May.

In October, the **Re-Entry Task Force** sponsored a FOCUS series which highlighted issues faced by the reentering population. Speakers included: Councilmember Phil Mendelson, who chairs the Judiciary Committee and has sought a more fair judicial system; Courtney Stewart, a community leader within the returning resident community; Stefan Lobuglio, who oversees community-based re-entry programs in Montgomery County; Rev. Elenora Ivory who spoke of global justice issues; and Rev. James Atwood, who addressed the issue of gun proliferation.

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Finally, the Mission Committee works throughout the year to allocate the Session-approved Mission Budget. We partner with those who lead some of the long-standing programs of the church, and we help identify new efforts and initiatives that have identified needs in our community and captured the interest of church members.

Approximately one third of CCPC’s mission expenditures each year help to underwrite the important national and international mission activities of the Presbyterian Church (USA). The remaining two thirds of our mission budget is allocated by the Mission Committee among the many worthy local, national, and international mission projects and efforts to which we are dedicated. Many of these organizations also benefit from the time and talents of CCPC volunteers.

Our two largest recipients of funding are signature projects of CCPC: the Transition Assistance Program and the Shikokho Mission Partnership, each of which received more than \$30,000 in CCPC funding during 2011.

CCPC’s own **Transition Assistance Program (TAP)** serves indigent men and women who are striving to make positive transitions in their lives. TAP has 40 active volunteers and one part-time paid worker who run the program on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings. In 2011, TAP served 861 clients who made 1,437 visits to TAP’s office at CCPC. The program helps clients in a variety of ways, mostly aimed at improving their chances for employment. Last year, this included assisting with 288 D.C. photo IDs, 652 birth certificates, 627 SmarTrip farecards and bus passes for travel to interviews and to the early weeks of a new job, 163 police clearances, and work-appropriate clothing for 420 clients.

The village of **Shikokho** in Western Kenya, CCPC’s primary international mission activity, continued to receive support from the annual mission budget, Gifts of Hope market, and the monthly Hunger Offering for health, education, orphan feeding, and other community development projects. One highlight of the year was the beginning of a new micro-loan program – with the approval and funding of the first 20 women’s small businesses – which will enable the women of Shikokho to improve the health, education, and well being of their families. This initiative is in 50/50 partnership with the Bethesda-based Women’s

Mission Committee Report *(continued)*

Microfinance Initiative, which has a strong track record in East Africa. Over time, the program will become self-sustaining. In July, Pastor Molly Blythe Teichert led a CCPC mission to Shikokho in support of our ongoing efforts in and partnership with the village.

Other significant Mission commitments of our congregation include:

Transition Assistance Program – A minimum of 9 volunteers per week serve 3 hours per day on 3 days per week, while others work behind the scenes including the CCPC After-School Program, making sandwiches for TAP weekly.

Re-Entry Task Force – CCPC has urged the City Council to support legislation to remove the mandate that job applicants disclose their incarceration and has pressed for reactivating the Corrections Information Council.

Miriam's Kitchen – Volunteers prepare and serve breakfast on the first Tuesday each month. (10-12 volunteers monthly) and collects cereal, coffee and other items throughout the year.

Dinner Program for Homeless Women – Volunteers prepare and serve dinner on the fourth Monday each month. (3-4 volunteers monthly)

Habitat for Humanity – Members of CCPC have participated in building days with both the Washington, D.C. and Montgomery County Habitat affiliates in recent years.

Interfaith Works Community Based Shelter – Volunteers provide meals for the Montgomery County Shelter for one week each year. (25-30 volunteers)

English as Second Language – Volunteers teach English classes weekly on Sunday afternoons. (6-8 volunteers serve 30-plus enrolled students weekly)

Earth Stewards – Earth Stewards advocate and educate within the congregation on environmental concerns related to global warming, water and energy use, and recycling.

Washington Interfaith Works – CCPC participated in a number of WIN efforts in 2011, partnering with other communities of faith to advocate for just policies from our city government.

Gifts of Hope Alternative Gift Market – Each year, Gifts of Hope offers the opportunity for people to contribute to many of the mission projects which CCPC supports in lieu of other Christmas gifts. *(Those contributions are reflected throughout this report.)*

CCPC Confirmation Class – Members each participated in their personal service project.

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All are welcome to attend Mission Committee meetings, which are scheduled for the fourth Tuesday of each month.

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Mission Contributions 2011 **Summary of What We Contribute**

Denominational Mission Contributions	\$ 59,448
Local and National Mission Contributions	86,860
<u>International Mission Contributions</u>	39,387
Total Mission Contributions	<u>\$ 185,695</u>

Mission Committee Report *(continued)*

Denominational Mission

General Benevolence Support to the Presbyterian Church (USA) <i>(Unrestricted donations to support local, national, and international mission program)</i>	\$ 25,000
Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA)	
Peacemaking Offering <i>(dedicated on World Communion Sunday)</i>	3,596
Christmas Joy Offering <i>(dedicated the Sunday before Christmas)</i>	8,293
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)	
One Great Hour of Sharing Offering <i>(dedicated on Palm Sunday)</i>	12,106
Japanese Earthquake and Tsunami	3,420
Haiti Earthquake	200
US Storm Relief	1,790
Somalia/African draught relief	3,993
PCUSA disaster assistance <i>(Gifts of Hope)</i>	1,050

Local & National Mission

Transition Assistance Program <i>(including Hunger and Pentecost Offerings)</i>	\$ 31,828
Interfaith Works <i>(multiple programs)</i>	9,360
Habitat for Humanity <i>(Washington, D.C. and Montgomery Co.)</i>	5,000
Community Council for the Homeless at Friendship Place	5,000
Washington Interfaith Network	5,000
Washington Interfaith Network Green Team <i>(Peacemaking Offering)</i>	3,596
Jubilee Jobs	4,000
Shepherd's Table <i>(Hunger Offering)</i>	3,828
IONA Senior Services Center	3,000
Bread for the City <i>(Gifts of Hope)</i>	2,462
Capital Partners for Education	2,000
Re-Entry Network	1,500
Our Place DC	1,500
Missing Link Ministry	1,500
Free Minds Book Club and Writing	1,500
Youth in Mission	1,000
Downtown Cluster of Congregations	1,000
Bread for the World	1,000
Miriam's Kitchen	1,000
Sunday Evening Meal Program at Our Lady of Lourdes, Bethesda	656
Project Homecoming <i>(Gifts of Hope)</i>	650
CCPC's ESL Program	480

International Mission

Shikokho Mission Partnership in Western Kenya <i>(including Hunger Offering and Gifts of Hope)</i>	\$ 32,814
Heifer Project International <i>(Gifts of Hope)</i>	3,738
Medical Benevolence Foundation <i>(Gifts of Hope)</i>	2,835

Personnel Committee Report

Bill Leahy, chair

As we prepare the 2011 report to the Congregation, we are meaningful of the constant, continuous and dedicated staff of our church community.

In 2011 members of the Personnel Committee itself had little turnover. Current Elder Bill Leahy, serves as chair. Continuing to serve are Greg Fudge, Carol Tucker-Foreman, Jim Hamill, and Deborah Kelly. The Committee benefitted greatly with the addition of new member, Tamera Luzzatto.

The Personnel Committee has three main tasks: a. to meet monthly with the Head Pastor to discuss and advise on personnel matters, b. to meet in the fall with each staff member to assist in a dialogue between staff and the head Pastor, and c. in late spring to conduct performance evaluations of all staff.

During the past year, we said goodbye to our Associate Pastor Rev. Steve Robertson who moved to Minneapolis to serve as associate pastor to a large and growing community life-care center. Jane Duffield is now serving as Interim Associate Pastor.

We have had the good fortune to introduce Becky Wood as our Interim Youth Ministries Associate.

In the spring, 2011 a search committee convened to fill the Interim Associate Pastor position vacated by Steve Roberts. As the personnel committee looked forward to the completion of the search, all ministerial positions were reviewed and new duties and responsibilities were assigned.

Katie Mattern, our Communications Coordinator moved on to graduate school and we now have Megan Fillebrown in that position.

At the time of this publication, the annual budget for 2012 remains unclear. Projected figures, however, have allowed Session to prioritize dollars. Most likely a 2% COLA will be granted to some of the non-ministerial staff. Ministerial salaries/benefits will remain unchanged. There is an obligatory increase in the health insurance premium.

The year 2012 will also require a thorough review of staff positions as we define and establish the recommendations of the Vision Task Force.

Program Staff including Sr. Pastor Rev. Molly Blythe Teichert, Associate Pastors Rev. Lynn Jostes, Rev. Jane Duffield, Director of Music Julie Evans, Assistant Director of Music Joann Moorer, Church Administrator Ian Richardson, as well as administrative and facilities staff including Louise Trent and Orlando Restrepo, continued to give tirelessly of themselves. They deserve our thanks and our prayers.

Stewardship Committee Report

Sally Cox and Jim Sandman, co-chairs

This year's Annual Giving Campaign theme was "Extravagant Generosity: The Heart of Giving." We asked members and friends to contemplate and celebrate God's love for and generosity and to consider their estimates of giving for 2012 in a spirit of gratitude and prayer.

We kicked off our efforts in mid-October with a series of weekly communications to all church members. Each communication included a scripture passage concerning God's expectations of us, a reflection on the passage, questions for consideration, a prayer, and a request that members and friends submit "Heart Cards" describing what they love about our church. We received many cards and posted them in different locations around the church as testimony of God's love for us at CCPC. We involved our youth groups, Hearthstones and Firesides, and our children, in the effort. On each of the last three Sundays in October, we had Minutes for Mission, with members describing how they have experienced God's love at work in our church.

On November 6, 2011, we celebrated Commitment Sunday. The Rev. Molly Blythe Teichert delivered the Meditation, and members and friends were asked to come forward to present their 2012 estimates of giving during the service. The service was followed by a delicious and celebratory brunch prepared by Jerry Gudis and a great team of volunteers led by the Rev. Lynn Jostes, Linton Wray and Emily White.

As of February 7, 2012, we have received commitments from 322 households, 33 of which are from new members. Commitments and additional gifts for 2012 currently total \$1,108,646.20. Forty percent of those making pledges, or 130 households, increased their commitments over 2011. We have heard from enough members to be able to maintain the church's ministries at the same level as in 2011 and are following up with those who have not yet made a commitment for 2012.

Additionally, under the leadership of committee member Ann Sowder the stewardship committee is working to develop a long term giving program that will encourage members to include CCPC in their estate planning. It is our hope that this will lead to a long term endowment that can be used for building and grounds maintenance. On April 15th we will have a guest speaker to preach at both services to initiate the program.

We are grateful to all those who have given and committed so generously. Many thanks to the other members of the Stewardship Committee— the Rev. Molly Blythe Teichert, Allen Blakey, and Ann Sowder— and to the Elders who made follow-up calls in our effort to contact all members. Thanks also to Ian Richardson for his continued assistance.

Worship and Music Committee Report

Fred Atwood, chair

The Music and Worship Committee plays a vital role in organizing essential elements of the worship experience at CCPC: liturgy, music, communion, flowers, ushers, sound, and lighting. The committee's work is accomplished through sub-committees for (with their selfless leaders): Ushers (Howard Davis); Flowers (Marjorie Cashion and Chris Leahy); Communion (Grace Hyslop); and Sound and Lighting (Don Avery). Other supporting committee members include: Brad Hunter, Tamera Luzzato, Meg Artley, Melissa Jordan, Catherine Triantis, Elizabeth Hendon, Ron Wick, and Youth Elder, Emily Williams.

We continued to be blessed by a professional staff that work together to form the core of our CCPC worship experience; Pastor Molly Blythe Teichert continues to preach inspired and inspiring sermons. Director of Music Julie Vidrick Evans and Assistant Director of Music Joann Moorer provide diverse and appropriate music for worship, using the Memorial Organ, vocal groups, and handbells. Each of these professionals contributes their talent and energy to create a truly special and blessed worship experience.

Key committee accomplishments for 2011 included the establishment of the Marriage Task Force, and its subsequent report to the session on the issue of same sex marriage. While their initial report provides a strong theological foundation for establishing a policy on same sex marriage, additional congregational education on this topic will continue this year and in the future. Another initiative was the Committee's response to CCPC's designation as an "Earth Care" Congregation. From a worship perspective, the Committee assessed our Communion process with the result of eliminating use of plastic, non-recyclable Communion cups. Now, Communion is primarily by intinction, with additional washable, glass Communion cups for those members who prefer to receive Communion at their pew. Also, Committee members Meg Artley and Chris Leahy led our first CCPC "Open House" in an effort to attract potential new members. By all measures, the event was a success.

Throughout the year, the Committee has also worked to embody and act on the new Vision Statement, particularly "Children Our Blessing"; the Committee has proposed new ideas to involve the Congregation's children in our worship. Look for more youth as Liturgists, Minute for Mission speakers, additional youth choir performances, and as participants in other elements of worship.

As we close the year, the Committee would also like to publicly recognize Grace Hyslop's leadership over the years; she has worked tirelessly to organize and staff Communion servers. She was also the driving force behind the Lenten Devotional booklets. Effective this coming March, Grace has asked to retire from the Committee; please join us in commending her work – "Well done, good and faithful servant." (Matthew 25:23)

The year ahead will be shaped by many of the same realities in 2011: limited budgets, a multitude of new work, and above all, the need to maintain the highest quality in our worship and music experience. In particular, limited budgets prevent the Committee from fully honoring the recommendations of the Music Task Force report. The Committee will continue to work diligently within these constraints to provide the best possible worship and music experience at CCPC.

As always, if you, the members of our Congregation, have suggestions or ideas about our CCPC Worship and Music experience, please feel free to bring them to any of the Committee members.

Visioning Task Force Report

In the Spring of 2010, the Session formed a Visioning Task Force to lead the congregation in discerning God's call to our church at this time in history. The Session took this as a new opportunity to seek the Holy Spirit, to look for a new way forward, to listen again to God's call to CCPC, to ask "How will CCPC be relevant in demonstrating God's love for humanity?"

Members of the Task Force: Meg Artley, Greg Fudge, Michael Huerta, Tracy Hadden Loh, Beth Mullin, Dick Riegel, and Rev. Molly Blythe Teichert

The Session received the Report in 2011 and will continue its interpretation and implementation in 2012.

* * *

Today, Christianity is no longer the dominant religion in our culture. We live in an increasingly pluralistic and secular society. Many more people are agnostic or "spiritual" rather than professing to a particular faith tradition. The ways of "doing church" that many of us remember from our younger days no longer work to bring people to church or call children to faith.

Many churches of mainline denominations have lost their way and no longer know their mission. We often practice a "feel good" faith that teaches us how to get along with others, strive for happiness and keep God at a distance, neither expecting nor asking anything of God. In some cases, we have lost Jesus to extreme religious factions that practice more hate than love.

The Task Force began a systematic data collection project to provide a picture of CCPC, our neighbors and our area at this moment in time. The Task Force also employed a variety of ways to listen to and learn from as many people in the congregation as possible.

A vision for the church describes our current situation and our aspirations. It is grounded in who we are but also reflects our hopes and dreams for humanity. A vision answers "What is CCPC's piece of God's imagination?" A vision is not static. It is a journey through which we strive for constant betterment of ourselves our community and the world. For churches in the reformed tradition, the vision for a community captures the "reformed and always being reformed according to the will of God" theology we embrace.

Our Core Beliefs and Values

We value hospitality, and we welcome and include people of a wide spectrum of perspectives, ages, family configurations, sexual orientations, ethnic backgrounds, and economic circumstances.

We value a strong sense of belonging to this family of faith; we support and care for one another throughout our lives in the church, from birth until death. Our caring ministries ensure that people who are grieving, ill or homebound are involved as integral members of our congregation.

We value our Reformed faith in the Presbyterian tradition. Our theology is grounded in grace and centered in the Bible. We value solid teaching, authentic preaching, vibrant worship, and transcendent music.

We believe God calls us to put our faith into action to work for peace and justice.

Visioning Task Force Report *(continued)*

WHAT IS GOD CALLING US TO DO?

As busy people pulled by the competing demands of contemporary life, we are called to make Jesus Christ the center of our lives.

Pulled by the often conflicting stresses of daily living, we seek to center our lives in the Spirit of God and the ways of Jesus Christ. Through worship, study, prayer, community life, and pastoral care we seek to deepen our relationship with Jesus. Centered in the love of God we welcome a broad spectrum of perspectives, ministry interests, and strengthen our bonds of faith and friendship. We support each other as we grapple with the everyday choices we must make to keep Christ at the center of our lives.

As a church blessed with the vitality of children, youth, and young families, and we are called to receive the riches of this blessing and to nurture and equip the next generation of the faith.

While most Presbyterian churches are rapidly aging, CCPC is an exception. We have been given a special gift in the sheer number of young people in our congregation. We have a special calling to nurture the faith of children and youth. We are called to include children and youth in every aspect of our church life for the benefit of everyone in the congregation. We envision opportunities for people of every age to participate in acts of service and mission, and to focus on opportunities to work across the generations. We are called to reach out and invite the young families in our neighborhood who have no faith affiliation to come to CCPC. We envision equipping and supporting parents, grandparents and mentors in raising spiritually healthy children and youth.

As people blessed with education, access to power, and financial resources we are called to work for justice.

We hear and respond to Jesus' call to serve "the least of these" in our neighborhoods and in the wider world. Through many and various outreach projects in the church, all people, young and old, busy and not, have the opportunity to engage in advocacy and hands-on mission work in addition to practicing the discipline of charity. In our neighborhood, city, nation and world, we work with partners in mission and service to multiply our efforts to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, give voice to those who are oppressed, practice peace, and restore the health of creation.

God is calling CCPC to make Christ the center of our lives, to celebrate and equip the youngest generation of our church to do the work to which Christ has called us all; and to work in the world for justice.

**Christ our Center
Children our Blessing
Justice our Passion**

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