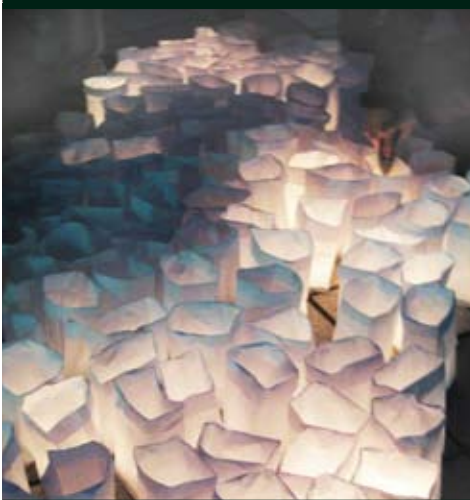


# 2010-11 Annual Report



NASSAU  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH





September 2011

To the Body of Christ at Nassau Presbyterian Church,

In the pages to follow you will find the 2010-2011 Annual Report of Nassau Presbyterian Church. This booklet of staff and committee narratives, summary statistics, and general information has been prepared in advance of the annual meeting of the congregation. It is intended for your review and for your preparation. A second booklet of full financial statements and information for the fiscal year June 1, 2010 to May 31, 2011 will also be available at the meeting. The report in its entirety is posted on the church web site as well.

The congregation's life is not adequately summarized in a report format like this. One cannot really sum up lives touched, hearts cared for, relationships deepened, praise and thanksgiving offered week in and week out. You can, however, see from a close read of these pages that Nassau Presbyterian Church continues to thrive in ministry. We are a congregation that seeks to engage all ages in the ministry of Jesus Christ. Thanks to the generosity of so many who support this ministry with their pledge, Nassau is a financially stable church that continues a legacy of strong outreach. Nassau continues to bear the fruit of several years of stable leadership with a staff that is working well together and exploring new opportunities for program and ministry in our midst.

So please take the opportunity to explore this Annual Report. While we will have the chance to ask and answer questions at the meeting, every member of the church staff is available to respond to any questions or concerns that may arise when you have the chance to sit with this report for a while.

The annual meeting of the congregation will be held on September 18, 2011 after the 11:00AM worship service in the Assembly Room.

With grace and peace

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David A. Davis'.

David A. Davis  
Pastor

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## *From David A. Davis, Pastor*



For this year's annual report I would like to offer a bit of a behind the scenes look at how I have spent my time this year as your pastor. Much of what I do is visible and obvious to members of the congregation. A large part of my time is spent in preparation for preaching and leading worship. You see me there in the chancel most Sunday mornings. Many will know that I also moderate the monthly meeting of the Session and work very closely with the committees of finance and stewardship, personnel, mission, and nominating. I have the privilege of working with a very competent church staff and you can easily imagine our time together in weekly staff meetings, supervision, and planning retreats.

However, a further glimpse of my calendar takes you into things like hospital visits, service to the presbytery, and my own volunteer work in the community. A quick check of my own records shows that in the months covered by this report I officiated at eight weddings and nine funerals. Two different couples renewed their vows. I led a small group on Monday nights in the fall in our home. I met regularly with the committee that has been working to design and install a memorial garden at Princeton Cemetery. Quite a bit of time has been spent with the ongoing work of the Building Master plan group (see separate report).

Beyond the life of Nassau Church, I preached in the summer of 2010 at the Massanetta Springs Bible Conference and at a conference of the Presbyterian Association of Musicians conference here in Princeton. I also taught a Presbyterian worship class in January 2011 at Princeton Seminary and was invited to participate in panel discussions in three other class offerings throughout the year. At the presbytery level, my work on the presbytery's personnel committee led to my participation in the Regional Executive Search Committee that met monthly for a full year. And at for the national church, I attended three board meetings of the Presbyterian Foundation and attended the General Assembly in Minneapolis in June of 2010.

In the Princeton community, I continue to serve on the Board of Directors of the Princeton YMCA and as a leader in the Princeton Clergy Association. For my own professional growth and support I continue to see a spiritual director monthly. My prayer group of twenty three years continues to meet regularly. The twenty five member continuing education peer group of Presbyterian pastors from around the country met this last year in Jacksonville, FL and in Scottsdale, AZ.

My writing projects have included sabbatical follow up articles published in the journal *Reformed Worship* and on Duke Divinity School's *Faith and Leadership* website. I have also had the chance to edit several Sunday morning sermons for blog posting on *The Huffington Post*. In the coming months I will be writing an essay for an upcoming volume of *Feasting on the Word* and I am preaching a week long revival in September at the Euclid Avenue Church of Christ in Cleveland.

I am thankful to God for the prayers and support of the congregation, staff, and friends of Nassau Presbyterian Church.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David A. Davis'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

David A. Davis  
Pastor

## From Lauren J. McFeaters, Associate Pastor

*I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.*

For ten years I have had the pleasure of serving beside you



as your Associate Pastor. The compassionate and caring people of Nassau have made the congregational ministries of Nassau for which I am responsible a joyous endeavor. My call to Nassau is to provide spiritual leadership, pastoral care, counseling, evangelism, teaching, and preaching. As I begin my 11<sup>th</sup> year, my hope

is that those ministries will endure to develop and grow. A highlight of the past year has been the collaborative effort of deacons, youth, membership and mission committees to develop our Weekend of Mission to celebrate the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. in January. We experienced an evening with Tony Campolo, a Church-Wide Celebration of Mission & Ministries Fair, a Day of Mission with Church World Service, and an Interfaith Service of Worship in Celebration of Martin Luther King Jr.

***The Lord will not let your foot be moved; the Lord who keeps you will not slumber. The Lord who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.***

With the Deacons, 61 strong, we have worked actively to minister to God's people from birth to death. Deacons offer pastoral ministries as our congregation prepares for births and adoptions, and experiences crisis, illness, and bereavement, as well as Sunday morning hospitality. Our Moderator, Joanne Ofgant, leads us with a depth of purpose and compassion. This year I have introduced the Deacons to Richard Foster's *Celebration of Discipline: the Path to Spiritual Growth*. We have been greatly blessed. Outcomes have been the strengthening of relationships, a commitment by the Deacons to study wholeness and healing; participation in the NAMI Mercer Walk (National Association on Mental Illness), and the support of Woman's Space in Trenton with the lighting of hundreds of luminaries for the county-wide Communities of Light. The lighting of candles on the front steps and portico of Nassau are powerful symbols of hope for all those who struggle with violence in their homes.

***The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.***

Our Membership Committee devotedly searches for ways to offer the love of Christ to church members, friends, visitors, and seekers. Led by Bruce Heagstedt, the committee reaches out to inactive members, hosts our Fall Kick-Off, the *Church Fair*, supervises our Sunday morning greeters and hospitality to new church visitors, and organizes our church membership rolls, hospitality pads, name tag project, the *Opportunities Guide*, and membership directories. David Mulford and Judy Matthies lead the Inquirers Classes for Prospective Members classes with diligence and wisdom and David Prince leads our Small Groups for New Members. We continue to be dedicated to an inclusive welcome and outreach to all and shepherd the congregation in discovering God's will.

***The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.*** Psalm 121

Having returned from sabbatical on August 1, I want you to know how grateful I am to be offered time for renewal and reflection. I feel refreshed and restored and thankful to have returned to my beloved congregation. I spent my three-month sabbatical and one-month vacation traveling in Scotland (Edinburgh, Glasgow, Iona, Mull, and Arbroath); visiting with family in Pittsburgh; gathering with friends in Ocean City NJ; seeing family in Spokane WA; and roaming throughout the Columbia River Gorge in Washington and Oregon. Thanks go to the Lilly Foundation Inc.'s Clergy Renewal Program that awarded a sabbatical grant to me and the church. David Mulford and David Prince were able to step in and provide a breadth of pastoral care in my absence. I am grateful to them both and to the staff who covered many of my duties. I was able to travel with Josie and Michael and on my own. Along the way I made new friends and strengthened old friendships. I walked, hiked, read, and enjoyed a considerable amount of quiet time.

I am extremely grateful to the congregation for this sabbatical opportunity and for the opportunity to spend so much time with my family. I return with a heart full of thanks and soul full of hope for the things we will be able to do together in the years to come. Together we are called to take our everyday life—our sleeping and eating, our going to work and walking around life, and place it before God as an offering. This will surely make our hearts sing.

Peace to you in Christ our Lord,

*Lauren*

## Report from Minister of Education

Joyce MacKichan Walker

It continues to be my great privilege to serve the Nassau Presbyterian Church community as Minister of Education in my 23rd year. In the coming program year I am excited to begin to work with our new Christian Education Associate for Children's and Family Ministries, Corrie Berg, who officially began her duties on August 1, 2011.



Nassau's commitment to children and their families is unwavering, and I am grateful to the Reverend Molly Dykstra who filled this half-time staff position for eighteen months, from summer of 2009 through January of 2011. Her focus became providing high-quality church school experiences for children as she worked with the Children's and Family Ministries Committee to support and empower faith in families.

I have enjoyed continuing to develop the fairly new Small Groups initiative, which plans and administers a set of small groups in the fall and in the spring. A significant percentage of the congregation participate in small groups for study, fellowship and prayer and these additional groups engage an additional 100 persons in small groups. Jane Maggard served as the moderator of the Small Groups Coordinating Team for two years, doing an outstanding job and enriching and enlivening the process and the product during that time.

My work with the Adult Education Committee continues to be blessed by its leadership by Larry Alphs and the energy of committee members for careful planning of Sunday morning programming and additional events. This past year the committee held a retreat to consider the new shapes and forms adult faith formation is taking in the church and in culture. This conversation will continue to inform our planning and new initiatives. The summer 2011 adult education series, Surprising Christian Themes in the Arts, drew an average of forty participants each Sunday, and reinforced Nassau's interest in being stimulated, challenged, and enlightened by the arts.

A smaller but no less intrepid group participated in this year's partnership with the Stony Point Presbyterian Center in New York in mid-July, 2011. Stony Point is living into its new vision of developing an intentional community dedicated to the study and practice of nonviolence in solidarity with partners of other faith traditions. With a focus on spiritual disciplines, vocational commitment to seek peace with justice, direct action, radical hospitality and solidarity, and just and sustainable living, Stony Point intends to make a difference in the world. Their "Community of Living Traditions" hosts Jewish, Islamic and Christian religious leaders and a developing multi-faith discussion of faith in the world. Nassau worked on a number of projects over the course of five days, with a particular focus on a hermitage we began in 2010 that is nearing completion. The directors of Stony Point continue to be available to Nassau as it shapes its future mission directions.

Highlights of the past year include:

- The Adult Lecture Series in September 2010 featuring the Rev. Dr. Brian Blount, President of Union Presbyterian Seminary, who explored and interpreted the mysteries of The Revelation of John. A large crowd from Nassau and Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Churches attended, as well as many from Princeton Theological Seminary and the community at large.
- Leading an adult mid-week Bible study from September to May, a 32-week, two-hour Thursday morning class on wisdom literature in the Old Testament and selected epistles in the New Testament.
- The Children's Sabbath, under the direction of Marcia VanDyck, Shannon Daley-Harris, and Ali Stevenson in October, with a focus on registering non-insured families for health care.
- Leading a newly "open-invitation" monthly Bible study on the Book of Revelation, using the Presbyterian Women's Bible study resource. Bible study leaders from other churches in the presbytery are welcomed and about six other Presbyterian congregations are represented.
- A Women's Retreat from March 4-6, 2010, offering the superb leadership of Kathie Sakenfeld and Carol Wehrheim on the book of Esther.
- The annual All-Church Retreat on Memorial Day weekend in May, 2010, which was held in a lodge and cabins at the Johnsonburg Presbyterian Center. Beautiful

*continued on page 6*

ful weather, phenomenal planning and execution around meals by the Olsen family, and the new innovation of daily participation resulted in a very successful and enjoyed weekend.

In 2010 my service to the Presbytery of New Brunswick and the larger church included:

- Serving as Moderator of the Personnel Committee for the Governing Board of the Johnsonburg Camp and Conference Center in Johnsonburg, NJ. A number of Nassau's children attend this camp each summer and this site has hosted various Nassau events over the years.
- Member of the Board of the Horizons Magazine, the denominational magazine of Presbyterian Women, which

courageously and over many years advocates for justice, peace, inclusion, meaningful participation in God's mission in the world, and faithful service in witnessing to the promise of God's kingdom.

- Member of the Governing Board of the Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, VA.

With gratitude for the honor and pleasure of serving among you,



Joyce MacKichan Walker

## Adult Education Sub-Committee Report

Larry Alphs, Moderator

During this year, the Adult Education Sub-Committee has planned and implemented various classes meant to increase our knowledge of the church and the world, to broaden our outlook through discussion and exchange of ideas, and to deepen our faith. Our aim is to educate, challenge and inspire.

Some of the year's highlights have been:

*A number of series on the following topics:*

- Updates on the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: Diplomatic, Political, and Theological Middle Eastern/Arab Christianity
- A series on "Translating the Bible"
- A series on aging, including psychological tasks of aging, diseases and aging and a dialogue about aging
- Lenten Series 2011: The Six Great Ends of the Church

- Surprising Christian Themes in the Arts
  - Science and Religion
- Speakers dealing with:*
- Christian themes in poetry
  - The Fukushima Nuclear disaster
  - Christian ethics
  - Presbyterian missions

On-going classes also included the Sojourners fellowship and a study of the Acts of the Apostles continued on Sunday evenings.

Our committee would very much like to hear comments from the congregation – suggestions on topics, format and schedule are all welcome. We are eager to provide classes that are stimulating and helpful and we invite all to join with us as we explore the meaning of our faith and how to embody it in our lives.

## Children's and Family Ministries Report

Corrie Berg, Christian Education Associate for Children's and Family Ministries

"God's Courageous People," our June 2010 Vacation Bible School program, was a wonderful week with 87 children attending and an especially good turn-out of Middle School Youth Helpers. The summer programming continued with Molly Dykstra and Joyce MacKichan Walker leading the Family Mission Trip to Stony Point, NJ. 17 adults and children participated in this week of work and fellowship. Also, from June to August, the C&FM Committee supported our Summer Church School program

for three-year-olds to rising 2nd Graders.

The fall programming year began with this committee continuing its support and oversight of Sunday morning Church School for children, ages 2 - 6th Grade, Sunday morning nursery care, and the Worship Explorer's program. Two new programs were begun this past fall. "Partnering with Parents" is a Sunday morning Adult Education designed to support, educate and minister to parents. Several sessions were held throughout the academic year.

“Walk Talk Pray” is an exercise, fellowship, and prayer group, targeting mothers with children at home, which met every Tuesday morning during the school year. Special fall and winter events included 2nd Graders receiving Bibles, Wee Christmas, two sessions of our Advent Craft Fair, and selling Advent calendars and Advent devotional books in December.

In the winter and spring months, our committee assisted in the distribution of Hymnals to 5th graders, provided a variety of age-appropriate Lenten Devotionals to children and their families, and participated in One Great Hour of Sharing during Lent. Additional projects included organizing and inventorying our curriculum library and beginning the process of moving and reorganizing the Children’s Library from room 204 to 206. The

C&FM Committee also oversaw the formation of a new Nursery Task Force whose goals are to assist and supplement our paid-child care workers and create handbooks for parents and nursery staff. Club 3-4-5 continued to meet throughout the year. Events were held in the fall and spring. This group also participated in the MLK Mission Weekend by assembling hygiene kits for Church World Service. Red Wagon Sunday was also a continued initiative this year.

Finally, the C&FM Committee was grieved to have Molly McNellis Dykstra resign her position as Christian Education Associate for Children’s and Family Ministry in January 2011. We are so grateful for her faithful service to our church and its families.

## Worship & Arts Committee Report

Jeff Ward, *Chair*

The Worship and Arts Committee has continued this year to seek out and develop opportunities to enhance and enrich the worship experience for the whole church family here at Nassau. We have a creative and dedicated group of committee members, who brainstorm, plan, and implement programs for all ages and all interests. Members of the Committee this last year included: Mary Brown, Christianne Lane, Deb Moses, Sarah Parker, Sue Rodgers, Jeff Santoro, Colin Van Sickle and Lori Woods. Noel Werner, Sue Ellen Page, and John Baker are the staff members who sit on the committee. We anticipate welcoming several new members in September.

I would like to specifically thank Elem Eley for his leadership of the committee over the last few years and in the first 4 months of 2010. Elem’s sensitivity to the needs of both the congregation and of committee members provided an excellent model for committee leadership. Elem left the committee to enjoy a sabbatical in Austria and his contribution was sorely missed for the remainder of the year.

Noel Werner and Sue Ellen Page contribute extensively to our committee. Their experience, guidance and talents provide the committee with leadership and input from the staff’s perspective. Both Noel and Sue Ellen have included reports below.

The committee has continued to work within the framework of the 3-year plan developed 2 years ago. During our annual retreat in March and under the facilitation leadership of Kristen Ward, the committee refreshed, added and brought more clarity to the original plan. The

committee’s work is gathered around these three goals:

- to broaden arts activities at Nassau,
- to systematically develop lay participation and leadership in worship, and
- to build a framework for music internships and artists-in-residence programs.

In addition to the programs and events that you will learn about in Noel’s and Sue Ellen’s reports below, here are a few highlights this past year that our committee has helped to bring about:

- Jake Willard-Crist, Poet in Residence, Sept 2010 to March 2011. Jake provided a strong literary presence and contributed greatly to Nassau throughout his residency. He wrote and presented poems in worship on a monthly basis that supported the worship themes. He participated with the youth in CAYA. Jake conducted a “Writer’s Workshop” for writers of all levels in January. In the spring, Jake compiled a book of his poems for church members to use for personal devotions and spiritual needs. The book, entitled “Pulpit Poems,” is available through the church office.
- Tevyn East, “Leaps and Bounds” – October 2010. A solo dance/drama recital and workshop which helped participants explore the mandates of faithful living in a world of economic and ecological challenges.
- Under the leadership of Sue Rodgers, creative gifts are celebrated by a new art show in the Conference Room. Artists come from both within the church family and from members of the community.

## Music Ministry Report

Noel Werner, *Director of Music*

This past year has brought many changes in our music staffing as well as a renewed commitment to instrumental music, an exciting conference, some wonderful guest artists, and a number of marvelous collaborations.

After twenty years of service to Nassau, our very talented soprano section leader, Patty Holmes, stepped down, and we had a chance to thank her in worship in October, looking forward to her return to us as a volunteer choir member in the future. We welcomed our new soprano section leader, Carlensha Grady, and have enjoyed hearing her in recital and in weekly services as she adds her beautiful voice to the choir. We were graced with the voices of a number of students from Westminster this past year, including altos Nerissa Thompson and Amanda Abdil, and tenors Joe Alden-Sawtelle and Ricky Valle. I know that the fifty dedicated and talented volunteers in the Adult Choir appreciate the leadership of our sections leaders, including Bill Walker and Carol Fagundus. Our assistant handbell director, Thomas Simpson, is leaving after two years of service to work in television in Los Angeles, and we wish him well in this new endeavor. I am grateful for all of the volunteers and the paid staff who make music possible at Nassau, and I am honored to lift up these few names during this year of many transitions.

Chamber musicians from our congregation continue to contribute regularly to worship, and through the efforts of Jeff Santoro and Thomas Simpson, we invited youth instrumentalists to take part in a January workshop and play in church the following Sunday, leading our congregational singing as a mini youth orchestra. We hope to build on the success of these ventures and discover more musicians in our midst who would like to share their gifts. We are blessed with many fine instruments in our church, and from time to time they need attention and even restoration. Underwriting from the estate of Allen Bigelow, Jr. and from the Frances Clark Fund have enabled us to fully restore the Steinway grand piano in the choir room and the Mason & Hamlin piano in the assembly room. Both of these pianos are currently at A.C. Pianocraft in



Brooklyn and should return in the early fall.

In February, Princeton Theological Seminary and Nassau joined together to host the annual Professionals Conference of the Presbyterian Association of Musicians. This three-day conference drew in eighty attendees from across the country, clergy and musicians, and featured faculty, worship leaders, and recitalists from the seminary, Princeton University, Westminster Choir College, and Nassau. Our theme was "Servants of the Word: Creating Spaces for Transformation," and focused on the collaborative role of clergy and musicians in shaping the worship life of their congregations, work that is anchored in attentiveness to God's Word and commitment to the proclamation of the gospel.

We have been blessed with a number of guest artists this year. In November, we welcomed the Keystone State Boychoir in leadership of our worship services and as our guests and impromptu performers at the Fifty-Year Member Brunch. Church member, James Schure, is a member of the ensemble, so we were glad to welcome his friends to our church. In March, the Hamilton College Choir presented a free concert to the community as part of their spring tour, bringing many folks, alumni and friends, to our church for an impressive concert. And in May, concert organist Robert Ridgell was our guest organist in worship, and presented a recital of organ music, including a number of spectacular improvisations, undewritten through the generosity of the Albert Thompson and Laura Lee Thompson McClure Fund.

Finally, I would like to highlight three important collaborations. The Westminster Conservatory at Niles Series reached its tenth anniversary this year, and it is as vibrant as ever. These monthly faculty recitals in our chapel draw young and old from the Princeton community and showcase the spectacular talent we have right in our own backyard. This March, our Adult Choir and the Chapel Choir at Princeton Theological Seminary joined forces for a very moving evening service of prayer and song at Miller Chapel, the culmination of a month when I directed the Chapel Choir during a partial leave of absence by their director, Martin Tel. Finally, in November, the Chancel Choir of the Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church and our Adult Choir collaborated on a presentation of Handel's Messiah, accompanied by a community orchestra made up of members and friends of both congregations. It is wonderful to continue to build friendships with the seminary and the Witherspoon church.

## Choirs for Children and Youth Report

Sue Ellen Page, *Director*



**In addition to 186 weekly rehearsals in preparation for Sunday morning worship services, the following were highlights of the year:**

- The production of the chancel drama, "Table for Five... Thousand". Thirty-plus children, youth and alumni formed the cast, working with

Noel and Sue Ellen, arranger F. Thomas Simpson, PTS student Matt Ackerman (Bible study) and volunteers Mary Brown, Heather Riehl, Sandy Hove, Ben Johnson (and the "P.O.D" the Parent of the Day) during production week, the second week of August. The play, based on the story of Jesus feeding of the 5000 was presented in worship on Sunday morning, August 15, with bread, baked by the participants, served to the entire congregation as a part of the drama. Full loaves were sold following the service to raise funds for Crisis Ministry.

- The choir parents, led by Allen Olsen, re-evaluated the significant schedule change made for the program year just passed, and decided to continue with the revised model. The two youngest groups meet simultaneously on Wednesdays, just before the Middle School Choir. This allows expanded programming for children in grades 3-5 to include more focus on music reading and sight-singing.
- The youngest choristers, the Joyful Noise, were taught this past year by veteran teacher and church member, Susan Van Sickle.
- The first weekend in October we co-hosted with Princeton Theological Seminary, two performances of a one-woman show by actor/dancer Tevyn East, called "Leaps and Bounds". Tevyn also lead a workshop at NPC on Saturday morning, with the participants offering their work, along with Tevyn's dance in worship on October 3.
- The annual Christmas Pageants were staged as a part of the Gospel Players schedule, with direction by high school senior, Sarah Parker, a member of the Worship and Arts

Committee. Oversight for this long standing tradition is now fully in the domain of that committee.

- The Worship and Arts Committee commissioned an anthem for Christmas Eve 2010 by choir alum, now an instrumental music teacher and published composer, Carl Holmquist, with text by church member, Eliot Daley. Titled "The Gift We Get Tomorrow", it is based on a Norwegian carol and scored for mixed voices, piano and Hardanger Fiddle. It was offered at the 7:00PM service on Christmas Eve.
- In April, the grade 3-5 choirs had a Skype Birthday Party with Helen Kemp, on the occasion of her 93rd birthday. Mrs. Kemp is world famous as an expert in children's choirs, particularly in the church, and is Sue Ellen's long time teacher and friend. In addition to the Skype party, the choristers worked with Deacon Joanne Ofgant, making greeting cards for those members of our congregation who are unable to attend services due to mobility issues or illness.
- Veteran Choir Parent, Theresa Price, completed 16 years of service to the choir program with the graduation of her youngest child from high school.
- On Saturday, June 4, Boston-based song leader, Nick Page (who is no relation to SEP) led an event called "Sing With Us", with local musician and friend of Nassau Church, Philip Orr at the keyboard. About one hundred singers from community choirs and houses of worship in the area joined NPC youth grade 6 – 12, for an afternoon of learning music from around the world, followed by an audience participation concert in the NPC sanctuary that evening for the public. Following a video presentation, a free-will offering was taken to benefit CASA Mercer – Court Appointed Special Advocates and the youth raised over \$2100. The youth very much wanted to repeat this in 2012 as did CASA, thus plans are underway, led by representatives from NPC, Princeton Methodist Church, Princeton Area Homeschool Choir, Trenton Children's Chorus, and Princeton Girlchoir for June 10, 2012.

## Youth Ministry Report

From Matt and Elizabeth Schultz, Associate Pastors

It has been a wonderful year for youth ministry at Nassau Presbyterian Church. We are, again, abundantly thankful for all with whom we work. Our colleagues on staff, our administrative support team, our talented and passionate youth committee, our volunteers, our Confirmation Class mentors, our Sunday School teachers, and our Senior High Advisors to the Middle School program all serve as a cloud of witnesses who minister to our youth daily.



We are also constantly blessed by the youth of this community. We learn so much from their faithfulness, their honesty, their intelligence, their passion and their compassion. Thank you to each and every family at Nassau Church and beyond that participates in this program, making it richer and deeper with each added gift.

Our Senior High Fellowship and Middle School Fellowship groups continued to meet weekly (Sunday and Wednesday, respectively). Under the guidance of the adult and youth volunteers, we ate together, played some games, had discussions or guest speakers that focused on God, shared about our lives, and prayed. We place a high priority on relationship-building, in a Christ-centered context, knowing that these friendships last a lifetime when built on this firm foundation. Throw in Youth Sunday, the occasional lock-in, movie night, impromptu lunch, and other fun gatherings, and it's a year full of bonding and faithful friendships.

Highlights of this past year included hosting Tony Campolo, who was the keynote speaker for our Weekend of Mission over MLK weekend in January. Tony's stories, passion, and faith captivated all of the youth and adults who attended, inspiring us all to grow deeper in our lives of mission. Throughout the weekend, youth of all ages gathered to compile Hygiene and School Kits for Church World Service, a mission partnership that will be continuing. We also adopted the Mitten Tree this past year, coordinating the collection of many hats, mittens, gloves, and scarves for Women's Space. It was a joy to host a representative of this organization who attended our Christmas Pageant when she came to pick up the donations, remarking that attending this event will now be added to her holiday traditions. The youth hope and plan to expand the "Mitten" tree this next year into the "Mission" tree, collecting items for several worthy causes.

Look for updates on this in the fall. Additional mission partnering continued with our work with the Crisis Ministry; organizing the Red Truck Food Drive in November and making plans with them for regular home food deliveries in this upcoming year.

In August, twenty-seven youth and six adults descended upon the Montreat Camp and Conference Center in Montreat, North Carolina to attend a fantastically energetic and inspiring youth conference. This annual trip serves to build relationships and strengthen young people's relationship with God, while also introducing them to young Christians from around the country. This also invigorates them to become more involved in the life of the church upon their return.

This past year saw big changes to our confirmation class. While this class typically runs on the same schedule as the regular Sunday School calendar, this year it began in January of 2011 and will continue on until October 2011. There were several reasons for this change. Each year we notice that there are many students who finish confirmation class but then do not stay active in the life of the church. This is true of each confirmation class in every church we have served, and from what we have heard from almost all of our colleagues in youth ministry. Reasons for this may include: a confirmation year that ends at the end of the school year naturally leads to the students seeing the END of confirmation as the END of something to check off "Confirmation done! Don't need to go back to that place again!"), and the very name of the class, Confirmation, is misleading in that it suggests a finality to a process...to confirm is to close and to end... not to begin and to "launch" into a continuing process of growth and discipleship.

Our hope is that by moving the "celebration of confirmation" to the early part of October, we will be confirming the students TO something, launching them into the program year and retaining their energy and excitement. This past year's class has been made up of both 8th and 9th grade students. We look forward to confirming 42 students in October.

We look forward to continuing to serve the youth of this church in the coming years, and doing so in partnership with you. Please don't hesitate to come share your thoughts, hopes and prayers for the youth of this church with us!

## Deacons Report

Joanne Ofgant, *Deacon Moderator*

According to the *Book of Order* (G-6.0400) the office of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of sympathy, witness, and service after the example of Jesus Christ. It is the duty of deacons, first of all, to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress both within and beyond the community of faith.

As ordained officers of the church, deacons are responsive to a variety of needs within our church family and they stand ready to minister in many of life's transitions, challenges and joys. All deacons receive training in a variety of areas including visitation, prayer, grief, listening skills, vocation and the diaconate. Our mission is to serve our church family in the spirit of our Lord's ministry of healing and compassion. At Nassau, deacons minister through Pastoral, Practical and Specialized Ministries teams. They are listed as follows:

### *Deacon Pastoral Ministries*

**At Time of Birth**

**At Time of Illness and Hospitalization**

**At Time of Later Life**

**At Time of Bereavement**

### *Deacon Practical Ministries*

**Office & Telephone Duty**

**Ushering**

**Sunday Coffee Fellowship**

**Visitor Bags**

**Sunday Flower Prep and Delivery**

### *Deacon Specialized Ministries*

**Senior Adult Ministries & Workgroup**

**The Jewel Leback Deacon Library**

**Health Care Ministries**

**Emergency Response Team**

**Card Ministry**

**Prayer Chain**

Highlights of our year include an introduction to Richard Foster's *Celebration of Discipline: the Path to Spiritual Growth*. We have begun to study the spiritual disciplines as a door to spiritual renewal and healing. Our study and experience will focus on Meditation, Prayer, Simplicity, Solitude, Mission, and Celebration. This seems a perfect fit for where God is leading us. We have, with the leadership of Bob Woods, participated in the NAMI Mercer Walk (National Association on Mental Illness), supported Woman's Space in Trenton with the lighting of hundreds of luminaries for the county-wide Communities of Light, and helped to develop the collaborative effort of deacons, youth, membership and mission committees for the January 2010 Weekend of Mission, celebrating the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. in January. We experienced an evening with Tony Campolo, a Church-Wide Celebration of Mission & Ministries Fair, a Day of Mission with Church World Service, and an Interfaith Service of Worship in Celebration of Martin Luther King Jr.

## Session Report

Carol A. Wehrheim, *Clerk of Session*

Much work of the Session goes on without much notice: the approval of baptisms and celebration of the Lord's Supper, the reception of new members and the confirmation class, the approval of the teachers for children and youth, the election of commissioners to the Presbytery of New Brunswick, the examination of elders and deacons before they are ordained and/or installed, the approval of the 2011-12 budget, and the approval of various fund raisers for mission projects by groups within the congregation. Since much of its work is through committees, you will find it reported elsewhere. However, each year some items deserve to be drawn to your attention:

- The reports of the mission trips by youth, all-church, and adult
- The approval of a policy related to mission partnership trips
- The development of the Nassau Fellows Program, with Liz Wall as the first Nassau Fellow
- The continuing development of a building master plan

Yet, the Session is more than a decision-making body. At each meeting it worships together. At many meetings, time is devoted to discussion of topics important to the congregation and the wider church.

## *Princeton Outreach Projects, Inc.*

David A. Davis, *POPI President*

The Crisis Ministry of Trenton and Princeton, the Trenton's Children Chorus (TCC), the Trenton After-School Program (TASP), and Housing Initiatives of Princeton (HIP) have been the member organizations of Princeton Outreach Projects, Inc. (POPI). For more than twenty years POPI provided 501(c)(3) status and administrative oversight. POPI has been jointly served by members from Nassau Presbyterian Church and Trinity Episcopal Church. In the last eighteen months we have seen significant changes to POPI's responsibilities and identity. Some of the changes come as a result of an increasingly complex non-profit world. Others come as the member organizations continue to revisit their core mission and sustainability.

Because of the unique challenges of landlord-tenant law, HIP established itself originally with its own legal status. Building upon that independence, HIP left the POPI group on January 1, 2011. HIP continues its work in transitional housing and operates with its own board structure.

In the summer of 2010, the TASP board approached the leadership of the two congregations for assistance in assessing the long term sustainability of the TASP program at the two existing sites in Trenton. In the fall of 2010 the TASP board voted to partner with the Boys Club and Girls Club of Trenton to operate the site at the Kilmer School and to close the site at the Trinity Cathedral as of January 1, 2011. That partnership continued

through the end of the school year (2010-11). Both congregations have committed to support the Kilmer School site to insure a full transition to the work of the Boys Club and Girls Club. It is expected that POPI will take action in the fall of 2011 to dissolve the TASP board. Nassau and Trinity churches remain committed to financial and volunteer support of after school education in the city of Trenton and are actively exploring the most effective ways to carry out that portion of mission.

In recent years, both the Crisis Ministry and TCC have found the complexity of the POPI identity challenging to grant writing and corporate donor solicitation. In light of the actions described above related to two of the four member organizations, the leadership of POPI approached both Crisis Ministry and TCC with the idea of splitting off permanently and forming their own individual legal entities. An action plan was developed and is in the process of being carried out.

The POPI Board of Directors expects to dissolve some time in 2012 as the legal process winds down and any remaining audit requirements are handled accordingly. While the back office and legal identities have changed, Crisis Ministry, TCC, and HIP will continue with their ministries in an even stronger way. POPI's founding congregations will continue to support the three organizations even as they explore fresh and sustainable ways to support after school education.

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## *Report from the Personnel Committee*

The Personnel Committee is charged with the oversight and professional care of Nassau Church's staff and pastors. We are blessed with highly-qualified and dedicated personnel working in the Lord's service. The Committee meets monthly and undertakes a conversation with each staff member and pastor annually to exchange ideas and to discuss job satisfaction and strategies.

The Personnel Committee is proud of the Church's ability to retain its staff. Over the past year only one programmatic position transitioned to a new staff member. After a careful search and interview process, Corrie Berg was hired to replace Molly Dykstra as the Family and Children's Ministry Consultant.

Another of the Personnel Committee's duties is to oversee pastor sabbaticals. This year, Reverend Lauren

McFeaters took her sabbatical. With the Committee's recommendation and support, Lauren successfully applied for a Lilly Endowment grant. Lauren's application explained the template for her sabbatical as the pursuit of Christian spiritual discipline in three phases: inward, outward and corporate. The grant funds helped the Church hire the Reverends Mulford and Prince to provide pastoral care in her absence and defrayed sabbatical expenses for Lauren and her family. We are excited to welcome her back this fall.

This past spring, the Personnel Committee worked closely with the Finance Committee to secure the first staff and pastor pay increases in two years. This effort included the review of salaries at comparable churches nationwide, which data clearly supported the need for the increases.

The Session approved a 1.5% retroactive increase for the 2010-2011 fiscal year, which was paid as a bonus without effect on base salaries. The Session also approved a 2.5% salary increase for fiscal year 2011-2012. The congregation approved identical increases for our pastors at a congregational meeting. At the meeting, the congregation also approved a change in Reverend Elizabeth Schultz's terms of call to reflect new duties she will undertake on behalf of the Mission Committee.

The Committee reluctantly accepted the resignation

of Louise Goss with great thanks for her many years of dedicated service. Similarly, after several years of able leadership, Jon Alger transitioned from chair to returning member of the Committee, which will now be chaired by Mark Leonard. Both Jon and Mark also serve on a special subcommittee of the Church charged with studying the current staff structure and making recommendations for a staff model to faithfully serve this congregation for many years to come.

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## *Report from the Mission and Outreach Committee*

### Elizabeth Schultz

#### **Financial Support**

As one expression of Nassau's deep commitment to mission and outreach, we continued to provide substantial financial support for mission work locally, nationally and around the world. The denominational shared mission for this past year was \$92,160. Of this total, \$12,000 was designated to support three mission workers: Elisabeth and Darren Kennedy at the Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Cairo, Egypt, and Karla Koll at the Evangelical Center for Pastoral Studies in Central America (CEDEPCA) in Guatemala and Bob Bronkema in Moscow Protestant Chaplaincy.

Nassau continued its strong support of Princeton Outreach Projects, Inc., a joint outreach effort with Trinity Episcopal Church. Its individual programs include Crisis Ministry, the Trenton After School Program, the Trenton Children's Chorus, and Housing Initiatives of Princeton. These programs received significant financial support for their core operating budgets through Nassau's mission and outreach budget, as well as through the generous direct contributions of Nassau members, some of which came through the Mission and Outreach Committee's popular Alternative Gift Program. Nassau continued its support for its many other mission partners (see website), this year adding the United Front Against Riverblindness to that list, in solidarity with the Nassau youth's action to support this effort.

Nassau's traditional Fourth Sunday Hunger Offering was received each month throughout the year with \$36,778.97 in total donations going to six program recipients, including the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen, the Cen-

ter for Christian Services (Guatemala), the Immaculada Concepcion Community Center (Manila, Philippines), the Patan Hospital (near Katmandu, Nepal), the Uniting Reformed Church of Stellenbosch (South Africa), and Women for Change (Zambia).

#### **Advocacy and Outreach**

Since its beginnings in 2006, Nassau's Anti-Torture Advocacy Group has evolved into the "Princeton Interfaith Anti-Torture Advocacy Group" in recognition of the growing participation by members of other Princeton area congregations. The group collaborates with the National Religious Campaign Against Torture (NRCAT), an organization of 250 religious institution members, of which Nassau is one. Our goals remain to increase public awareness of U.S. government policies which led to torture of "war on terror" detainees; to advocate for humane and morally acceptable standards for treatment and interrogation; and to grow a public consensus that torture is always wrong.

The Immigration Reform Advocacy Group continued to advocate for immigration reform at the national, state and local levels. Our education program was focused on making immigration presentations to 15 religious and secular groups and hosting an information table at Community. The Group continued their financial, spiritual and administrative support for an asylum seeker cared for by this congregation for years. It was with great joy that we were witness to this individual's safe passage from our immigration system into freedom through a move to Finland this past year. Committee members served as Co-

chair of the Presbytery's Immigration Task Force and on the Boards of the Latin American Legal Defense and Education Fund (LALDEF) and IRATE and First Friends, the organization that advocates for detention reform and provides visitors to detained asylum seekers. Members also continued to be part of the visiting program.

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict continued as a focus of the Committee with ongoing advocacy work via Nassau's membership in the Partner Program of Churches for Middle East Peace ([www.cmep.org](http://www.cmep.org)). Nassau was the first Presbyterian Church in the country to join this program and has given \$1,000 annually.

The Mission and Outreach Committee created a new opportunity for advocacy this year that reaches out broadly to the Nassau congregation. An Offering of Letters, which we hope will become a regular feature of worship and congregational life at Nassau, provides the format and materials for sending a handwritten letter to one's elected representatives, encouraging these individuals to act justly in their decision and policy making. Participants will find these materials available in the Assembly Room on designated Sundays. Our first letter campaign this past year focused on the allocation of relief and development funds to the nation of Haiti, which continues to struggle greatly as it recovers from the earthquake and subsequent outbreak of Cholera.

Nassau's support of affordable housing continued with its ongoing sponsorship of Princeton Community Housing via board membership and its annual donation. Begun in 1967 through the efforts of Ted Vial (a long-time Nassau member and still a member of the PCH Board) and other community members, PCH now owns and manages 463 affordable rental units for low and moderate income residents. Activities during the past year included the completion of 63 new one-bedroom units at Harriet Bryan House and major renovation efforts at Elm Court and Princeton Community Village.

The Princeton-Parramos Partnership, a joint project of Nassau Church and the Latin American Task Force of Princeton, continued its long standing commitment to the people of Guatemala. Members of the Nassau Church community and the Latin American Task Force of Princeton, co-sponsors of the partnership, provided tuition scholarships in 2011 for students at Valley of the Pines Educational Center, a parent-run private school for grades K-9, as well as free breakfasts for some 200 primary students. We also purchased textbooks for the school's

third and sixth grade classes; results have prompted the school board to provide adequate books for all middle school students. Plans were made for a trip to Parramos for July 2011. At the time of this writing, that trip had happened and was a wonderful experience.

The Refugee Resettlement Group continued to support an Iraqi Christian family of two young adult men and their parents, who have settled in an apartment in East Windsor. As this family gained more stable employment and stability throughout the year, The Refugee Resettlement group began the process of welcoming a new family in the 2011. Plans for this caring work are underway.

### **Nassau Fellows Program**

The Mission and Outreach Committee partnered this year with the PC(USA) Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) program to create a new mission opportunity for Nassau's young adults. The Nassau Fellows Program now exists to provide the funds and congregational support our young adults need in order to participate in the denomination's YAV program. Fellows will work closely with long-term PC(USA) mission workers for one year in countries around the world and at domestic sites across the U.S. We have selected Elizabeth Wall, a recent graduate of Wooster College and long-time member of Nassau Church, as the first Nassau Fellow in 2011-2012. Elizabeth will serve a Presbyterian mission in Northern Ireland that is seeking to facilitate reconciliation between ethnic groups who suffer from a long history of mistrust and violence. We look forward to supporting her during this year abroad and learning from her experience upon her return in July 2012.

The Mission Committee was again blessed with the work of our three dedicated Mission Chairs, Polly Griffin, John Thurber, and Bill Wakefield. Bill will be transitioning off of session, but staying deeply involved in the mission work of this church, specifically as chair of our Immigration Task Force. Joining our Mission Committee is David Pettit. For the fourth year, the Committee was assisted by Mission Intern, Daniel Stulac ("Stu"), a student at Princeton Theological Seminary.

## Building Master Plan Update

David A. Davis, Bill Wakefield, Stefan Moorhead, Mari Walthall

*Current Session leadership of the Building Master Plan*

Since June 2010, the Session has been moving forward on the Building Master Plan with steady, slow, persistence. In the spring of 2010, the Session received a significant report from Farewell, Mills, and Gatsch Architects. It was the fulfillment of a contract issued to develop a long range building master plan for 61 Nassau Street. In the summer and fall of 2010, a Task Force consisting of Corrie Berg, Kim Kleasen, Tom Shaw, Keith Mertz, Bill Wakefield, and Stefan Moorhead worked through the material to better understand it and to develop costs associated with the concepts. The Task Force also worked to interpret the material to the Session, the Deacons, and newly elected officers. The goal of this phase of the process has been to determine a reasonable expectation of how much money could be raised and what the best and most exciting first steps of the building master plan should be.

In the winter of 2011, the Session voted to empower the moderator to appoint a Capital Campaign Explorato-

ry Committee. This committee will report to the Session in the fall of 2011 with a recommendation related to a campaign consulting firm. At the same time, two other working groups were commissioned: a reestablished Design Build group and an organ group. The first group continues to work with the drawings and the architects. They are having initial conversations with design build consultants. The second group is looking into the Holtkamp organ and any related long term recommendations.

As the Session receives more recommendations and takes actions, the conversations about the long term care and renovation of our church building and a capital campaign will stretch into the congregation in various ways. We fully expect the pace of our work to pick up dramatically in the coming year.

Please see the companion Building Master Plan Vision Statement presented to the Session in September 2010.

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## Building Master Plan: Vision, Threads, and Themes

*Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it* I Corinthians 12: 27

Seeking to be faithful to the imprint of God's promise and the footprint of the ministry entrusted to us as we live as the body of Christ here and now, we commit ourselves to a life together

**that is pleasing to God in our worship,**

**discipleship, and stewardship**

**that nurtures belonging to God and one another**

**that inspires and provides for our serving of God, one another, and the world.**

The footprint of Nassau Presbyterian Church includes the building at 61 Nassau Street on Palmer Square. From this location a long history of the great cloud of witnesses has been called together and been sent forth by the Spirit of the Living God. As we discern God's future for us as a Body of Christ, we commit ourselves to the stewardship of 61 Nassau Street as it enables us to carry out the unique mission of God in the Princeton community. We believe ourselves to be called to live out the gospel in this place now and for generations yet to come.

The current draft of a Building Master Plan for 61 Nassau Street reflects the threads of our understanding of

who God is calling us to be here and now as the body of Christ, that the form of the space will follow the function of our ministry.

Therefore, we yearn for this portion of our footprint to offer...

- a space that offers a distinctive beauty and a high standard of function sustaining the breadth of our life together as we give glory to God and seek to **please** God with our sacrifice of praise and worship
- a space that communicates hospitality and nurtures community as we live each day by grace and celebrate a spirit of **belonging**
- a space that enables us to continue to **serve** the Princeton community that surrounds us.

And we intend to shape this footprint for generations yet to come in the body of Christ that is Nassau Presbyterian Church.

The vision statement of 1996 cites *vibrant worship, vigorous outreach, life-changing learning and care-filled nurture* as essential characteristics of our ministry. In the last fifteen years questions and concerns about space have

been continually raised in these aspects of life (worship, education, outreach, fellowship). The current master plan evolves out of three years of work that began with the Sacred Space Working Group and continues with the current effort of the Building Master Plan Task Force working with the firm *Farewell, Mills, and Gatch*. Significant effort has gone into information gathering related to current and future building use, space usage, and code and systems requirements. The fact finding process has run parallel to the ongoing vision and strategy work of the Session of the last ten years currently reflected in the 2010-11 vision statement.

We note the following ideas/categories/areas that continue to arise

- Priority of worship space and a theological symbolism that reflects tradition and practice (pulpit/font/table, accessibility, leader congregation relationship, sense of community)
- Flow and Flexibility that better serves sense of belonging and welcome to our community (people flow, choir loft, flexible use, office space, high traffic areas, signage)
- Practicality and necessity of building systems (HVAC, code issues, safety, long term life)
- Technology for the future (classrooms, worship space, computer)
- Hospitality and use of building in service to the wider community (narthex, gathering areas, bath rooms, office reception)
- Desire for dedicated space (youth ministry, children's education, nursery, Crisis Ministry, storage)
- Relationship to the community (visibility, relationship to Palmer Square, mission outside the door)
- Defining growth (variety of program, participation, membership, deepening discipleship)
- Commitment to outreach (advocacy/social justice/mission near/mission far)

\*\*While many details and themes could be highlighted in the current body of work represented by the building master plan draft drawings, we lift up the above few threads of vision as essential and reflective of the work.

## SOURCES

Nassau Presbyterian Church Mission and Vision Statements, 1996

Sacred Space Working Group, Theological Preamble, February 2008

Sacred Space Working Group, Congregational Handout, October 2008

Sacred Space Working Group, Congregational Responses, October 2008

Sacred Space Working Group, Report to Session, June 19, 2008

Sacred Space Working Group Annual Report, 2008

Session Power Point, Strategy and Vision 2000-2009, June 2009

Building Master Plan Church Wide Information Gathering Summary, February 2010

Session Vision Statement 2009-2019, June 2010

## *Reports from the Pastors of Visitation*

Reverend David D. Prince and Reverend David Mulford

When Dave Davis invited me to assume some of Lauren McFeater's responsibilities during her sabbatical leave and vacation, I said Yes after some prayerful reflection and conversation with my wife. I saw it as an opportunity to become better acquainted with the staff and congregation of Nassau Presbyterian Church and as a way to remain active in the ministry to which I was ordained more than fifty years ago. The experience proved to be more of a blessing than I could have imagined.

My service at Nassau consisted of regular attendance at staff meetings and staff worship, participating in Sunday worship leadership on Palm Sunday and Easter, providing guidance and leading devotions at the Board of Deacons' spring retreat, meeting with the cancer support group, visiting church members and friends in the hospital and in their homes, and offering support and pastoral counseling to individuals, couples, and families, some of whom knew of my personal experience in dealing with the effects of addiction.

I had the great privilege of officiating at the joyful marriage of a couple somewhat new to Nassau Presbyte-

During the four months of Lauren McFeater's sabbatical -April through July - two retired pastors, David Prince and I, were asked to serve, part-time, on the staff and to assume some of Lauren's responsibilities. Each of us was given specific assignments. Mine included the following:

- Review the fellowship pads each week and identify visitors who should be contacted and review other information shared by members.
- Provide leadership for the May Inquirers' Class series and participate in the worship service when these new members were publicly received.
- Work with the Membership Committee in arranging for the New Member Brunch, and preside at the event.
- Meet each Wednesday morning with Joanne Ofgant

rian Church, and I had a different kind of privilege in presiding at the memorial service of a former Nassau Church member who had been living in Texas for several years. Both occasions reminded me of what it is like to share sacred space (physical and spiritual) with people in moments of special significance. I continue to believe that connecting with people at a deep level is one of the great privileges of ministry, and, indeed, one of life's treasures.

After my four months as a pastor of visitation at Nassau Presbyterian Church, I have an even higher regard than I had before for the professional staff and the support staff of the church. They are talented and hard-working, and they relate well to one another. I have a deepened appreciation of the congregation's diversity, openness, and commitment to the mission Christ gives to his people. I am grateful for the opportunity to minister and be ministered to at Nassau Presbyterian Church.

David D. Prince

of the Deacons, and Reese Hansen, Administrative Assistant, to assess immediate pastoral needs and, in consultation with Dave Davis, pursue necessary follow-up.

- Visit members in the hospital, rehabilitation centers, retirement communities and nursing homes.
- Make home visits to church members as assigned.
- Conduct funerals or memorial services as requested.

No part-time staff member could possibly "fill" Lauren's shoes. However, we strove to meet immediate pastoral needs and then to extend the ministry of Nassau Church through home visits.

David Mulford

## Financial and Stewardship Report

Mari Walthall, *Moderator*

As of May 31, 2011, we completed our second year of operations on the June 1-May 31 fiscal year. The table below outlines historic results as well as the 2010-2011 budgeted and actual results and the 2011-2012 budget approved by Session in May.

### Operating Fund History

	Average 2005 - May 2010	2010-2011 Budget	2010-2011 Actual	2011-2012 Budget
<b>REVENUES</b>				
REGULAR GIVING	\$1,609,533.80	\$1,575,500.00	<b>\$1,564,294.60</b>	\$1,606,500.00
OTHER INCOME	\$91,794.77	\$113,600.00	<b>\$124,226.01</b>	\$111,750.00
ENDOWMENT INCOME	\$76,669.07	\$155,000.00	<b>\$155,000.00</b>	\$155,000.00
EMERGENCY FUND				
REVENUES	\$1,777,997.63	\$1,844,100.00	<b>\$1,843,520.61</b>	\$1,873,250.00
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
WORSHIP & CHURCH MANAGEMENT	\$310,107.69	\$323,000.00	<b>\$325,056.02</b>	\$330,095.00
PASTORAL CARE AND CONG. LIFE	\$164,393.67	\$185,900.00	<b>\$187,908.26</b>	\$190,656.00
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	\$166,100.71	\$168,500.00	<b>\$157,678.95</b>	\$173,989.00
YOUTH MINISTRY	\$114,191.61	\$142,020.00	<b>\$142,404.78</b>	\$142,345.00
MUSIC AND ARTS	\$295,621.95	\$306,950.00	<b>\$306,598.72</b>	\$313,210.00
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION	\$17,692.04	\$30,200.00	<b>\$30,994.40</b>	\$30,928.00
OUTREACH	\$312,602.53	\$321,000.00	<b>\$310,888.50</b>	\$321,000.00
FACILITIES	\$280,534.68	\$294,430.00	<b>\$288,071.38</b>	\$295,946.00
ADMINISTRATION	\$102,650.45	\$111,300.00	<b>\$89,088.10</b>	\$104,750.00
EXPENSES	\$1,763,895.32	\$1,883,300.00	<b>\$1,838,689.11</b>	\$1,902,919.00
<b>Net Total</b>	\$14,102.31	(\$39,200.00)	<b>\$4,831.50</b>	(\$29,669.00)

#### Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Year End Report:

As you can see from the numbers viewed side by side, on the Revenue portion of the table,

- The amount of money in Nassau's largest income category, "Regular Giving," declined last year approximately \$45,000 from the historical 5-year average. This category includes pledges and Sunday plate offerings and other direct unpledged giving.
- The amount of money in the "Other Income" portion of the revenue budget increased substantially in 2010-2011 over the historical average, and even more substantially in the actual funds collected by year end. Building rental,

interest income, unrestricted gifts, restricted grants and bequests, per capita contributions, and the like make up this category of revenue.

- The amount of money in the third revenue category, "Endowment Income" increased by a bit over \$80,000. This category represents the income from Nassau's endowment. This revenue category has increased in the last year and a half due to the creation of the 1757 Fund, an endowment fund for the maintenance of our building created from accumulated surplus funds from cemetery operations.

In the comparison of the numbers on the Expense portion of the table, you see evidence of consistent fiscal

discipline and stewardship on the part of the NPC staff. The actual dollars expended in 2010-2011 were ~\$50,000 less than the budget.

The most important year-end result for 2010-2011 is the Net Total on the final row of the table, third column. As you can see, the 2010-2011 budget projected a deficit of \$39,200, or .02% of the total expense budget. Due to the faithfulness of our church community and the stewardship of the entire church staff, we ended the year with a SURPLUS of \$4,831.50. This result includes a critical one-time payment to all Nassau Church staff members of 1.5%, as a token of our appreciation for their continuing commitment and hard work.

The 5-year historical average of the Net Total result shown in column one is a surplus of ~\$14,000. This has enabled Nassau to build an Emergency Fund, and it is this Fund that sustained us through two years of fiscal year-end deficits. We begin the 2011-2012 fiscal year with a small positive surplus. In the new budget, we project a year-end deficit, if nothing in our pledge or revenue projection changes, of approximately \$30,000. Nassau has had, historically, other periods of shortfalls at the end of the year. We will be keeping the congregation informed on a regular basis of our fiscal status, and we hope that members of the congregation will be able, as the economy improves, to increase their giving or share

one-time gifts that will reduce the deficit, or—best of all—eliminate it entirely.

### 2011-2012 Budget Highlights

The 2011-2012 budget projects revenue of approximately \$30,000 more than the 2010-2011 revenue, and expenses of approximately \$64,000 more than the 2010-2011 expenses. This budget projects a year-end deficit of approximately \$30,000, which will be covered by the Emergency Fund.

The Stewardship Campaign results were very encouraging, especially considering the continuing uneasy economic climate. Pledges for 2011 are \$1,436,552 - approximately \$26,000 more than for 2010, a 1.85% increase. The budget assumes we will receive new pledges for the remainder of 2011 and early 2011 of approximately \$9,000. The endowment draw continues to be 5% of the average value of the funds for the last 3 years in this budget.

We are very happy to report that the 2011-2012 budget includes a 2.5% increase to base salary for all Nassau staff members. This is the single significant increase to the expense budget, but we are also happy to report that mission spending remains stable in absolute dollar amount.

## Membership Statistics

<b>Total Membership - June 1, 2010</b> .....	1561
New Members	41
Losses:	
Deaths	25
Transfers	20
Moved to inactive roll	125
Moved to Associate Membership	142 *
Erased from roll	17
<b>Total Losses</b>	<b>(329)</b>
<b>Total Membership - May 31, 2011</b> .....	<b>1273**</b>
Baptisms:	
Adults	0
Children	17

\*142 post-college young adults who by their own request and Session action have been named Associate Members.

\*\*does not include 142 Associate Members

*2012-2014 Session Members****Class of 2012***

Polly Griffin  
David Kerschner  
Maureen Lort  
Jane Maggard  
Eugene McGuire  
Shelby Miller  
John Thurber  
Bill Wakefield

***Class of 2013***

Lynn Charles  
Kevin Gift  
Liz Hough  
Caroline Hoedemaker  
Mark Leonard  
Stefan Moorhead  
Claire Mulry  
Colin Van Sickle

***Class of 2014***

David Boyd  
Louise Eisenach  
BJ Katen-Narvell  
Allen Olsen  
Dave Pettit  
Ruby Schmidt  
Tom Shaw  
Mari Walthall

## *2012-2014 Deacons*

### *Class of 2012*

Martha Blom  
 Tim Brown  
 Karen Brown  
 Tom Forbes  
 Megan Charters  
 Tony Glockler  
 Julia Coale  
 Bill Katen-Narvell  
 Liz Forbes  
 Elizabeth Gift  
 Robert Murdoch  
 Bev Glockler  
 Tom Rohrbach  
 Joan Kettelkamp  
 Bob Woods  
 Debbi Roldan  
 Janet Roman  
 Susan Wara

### *Class of 2013*

Percy Carter  
 Andreas Christiansen  
 Ben Davis  
 Carol Hastings  
 Kara Kettlekamp  
 Nancy Mulford  
 Joanne Ofgant  
 Poppy Orrendorf  
 Ron Orrendorf  
 Stephanie Patterson  
 Tom Patterson  
 Rudy Pechter  
 Lynne Seidel  
 Mallory Rohrbach  
 Gordon Thomas  
 Deborah Toppemeyer  
 Jan Tregoe  
 Lauren Valvanis  
 Nick Valvanis  
 Susan Van Sickle

### *Class of 2014*

Marie Behnke  
 Jane Borns  
 Pat Burkle  
 Steve Burkle  
 Grace Coogan  
 Barbara Edwards  
 Ann Elmes  
 Brown Elmes  
 Todd Gerba  
 Rachel Gilmore  
 Zack Gilmore  
 Nicole Huckerby  
 Margaret Liffiton  
 Frank Llort  
 Debra Loupos  
 Peter Loupos  
 Judy Shakespeare-Siano  
 Barbara Stafford  
 Julia Tazelaar  
 Mary Anne Walker  
 John Weiss  
 Mary Wilde

## *Church Staff*

**David A. Davis**, Pastor

**Lauren J. McFeaters**, Associate Pastor

**Matt Schultz**, Associate Pastor

**Elizabeth Schultz**, Associate Pastor

**Joyce MacKichan Walker**, Minister of Education

**Noel Werner**, Director of Music

**Sue Ellen Page**, Director of Choirs for Children and Youth

**Corrie Berg**, Christian Education Associate for Children's and Family Ministries

**Janet Miller**, Organist/Accompanist

**Linda Gilmore**, Business Administrator

**Patrick Lyons**, Director of Communications

**John Baker**, Sound Room Engineer

**Reese Hansen**, Administrative Assistant for Pastors & Fellowship

**Susan Mathews**, Administrative Assistant for Business

**Lauren Yeh**, Administrative Assistant for Worship & Education

**Shannon Smythe**, Administrative Assistant for Worship & Education

**Edie Estrada**, Building Superintendent

**Verny Cano**, Custodian

**Cover photographs**, *from left to right, top to bottom*: Luncheon with Nassau staff and residents of Stonebridge; David A. Davis and Elizabeth Schultz in worship; participants at the Memorial Day Retreat; luminaries for the Communities of Light; Montreat Youth Conference participants; Dancer and worship leader Tevyn East, Fifty-year member luncheon; Middle School Fellowship



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