

# Annual Report ~ 2011



## St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church

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The Rev. Canon J. Philip Purser, Rector



St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church  
Annual Report 2010

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**St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church**

Annual Parish Meeting  
Sunday, December 4, 2011  
10:30 a.m.

**AGENDA**

- I. Opening Prayer
- II. Approval of Annual Parish Meeting Minutes from 2010
- III. Presentation of Vestry Nominees
- IV. Elections
  - A. Vestry
  - B. Treasurer
  - C. Diocesan Convention Deputies/Alternates
  - D. Cemetery Committee
- V. Rector's Report
- VI. Budget Presentation
- VII. Questions and Discussion
- VIII. Closing Prayer

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**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
PROPOSED ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MINUTES**

**December 13, 2009**

**9:30 a.m.**

**Present:** Reverend Canon Phil Purser and vestry members: Sandy Whiting, Senior Warden; Rick Scollon, Junior Warden; Gary Turner, Treasurer; John Carpenter, John Harr, Grace Keller, Christina Miller, Steve Neubeiser, Caroline Parker, Phil Pickard, Phil Steude, Toni Sylvester; Bertina Floyd, Clerk; and approximately fifty-four parishioners.

Father Purser began with opening prayer and welcome. Fr. Purser announced the election on December 12th of the Reverend W. Andrew Waldo as the eighth bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina.

The Annual Report for 2009 was distributed. After reading by the Clerk, a motion was made to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2008, Annual Parish Meeting, seconded, and approved.

Phil Pickard presented the nominees for five vestry positions as Gene Brooker, Janice Bryan, Harvey Coleman, Bev Collom, Judi Neubecker, Karen Owens and Tom Williams. A motion was made to close the nominations, seconded, and approved. A ballot election was held. Phil Pickard presented nominees for two delegates to the Diocesan Convention as Carl Saalbach and Susan Spencer. A motion was made to close the nominations, seconded, and approved. A motion was made to move for acclamation, seconded and approved. Phil Pickard presented nominees for two alternate delegates to the Diocesan Convention as Chuck Neubecker, Carolyn Reed and Haley Spearman. A motion was made to close the nominations, seconded, and approved. A ballot election was held. Phil Pickard presented Dan Spencer as nominee for Treasurer. With no further nominations, a motion was made to move for acclamation, seconded and approved. Phil Pickard presented nominees for the Cemetery Committee as Roy Crabb, John Dickerson, James Bryan, and Jeff Lovett as secretary. A motion was made to close the nominations, seconded, and approved. A motion was made to move for acclamation, seconded and approved.

Father Purser commented on the Rector's Report for 2009, advising that 75% of Episcopal churches meeting on Sundays are smaller than St. Francis. The capital campaign is moving along, following the prioritized list established by the vestry. A growing point in the future will be inclusion on committees, listening to everyone and working for unity with one another. Father Purser explained the reason for the proposed bylaw change for the Thrift Shop. He thanked everyone for their contributions, including the vestry and the staff. Father Purser recognized and thanked Sandy Whiting, Sr. Warden, and Rick Scollon, Jr. Warden, for their assistance during the year, and thanked the retiring vestry members: John Carpenter, Steve Neubeiser, Phil Pickard, and Rick Scollon. Member Keren Pickard thanked Father Purser for his leadership.

The Proposed Operating Budget for 2010 was presented and explained by Gary Turner, Treasurer, and Grace Keller, vestry liaison to the Finance Committee. An explanation was provided for a balanced budget vs. a deficit budget. The vestry wants to support all committees and staff, since there have been no raises in two years. The reserve is made up of \$30,922 from the Diocesan Fund plus \$18,000 auction proceeds if not needed. After an inquiry, it was clarified that any auction funds not needed will be designated for a special purpose. The budget has been prepared on money we have, and it is the desire of the vestry to support the ministries of the church. Jan Ferguson requested that church members see the balance sheet. Father Purser responded that any member can request to see the financial statements at any time. Cynthia Dickerson challenged the parish members to "give till it hurts." Thanks were expressed to retiring treasurer Gary Turner and prayers were requested for his wife, Anne.

Results of the ballot elections were announced. Elected to the vestry were Gene Brooker, Janice Bryan, Harvey Coleman, Karen Owens, and Tom Williams. Elected as alternate delegates to the Diocesan Convention were Chuck Neubecker and Carolyn Reed.

Sandy Whiting moved adoption of the proposed addition of the Thrift Shop to the By-Laws of St. Francis of Assisi, as presented on page 11 of the Annual Report. The motion was seconded and discussed. There was a move for the question. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

It was explained that any suggested changes or additions to the By-Laws should be presented at least 30 days prior to the 2010 Annual Meeting.

John Carpenter noted that in the Pastoral Care Report on page 20 of the Annual Report, under Hospitality/Receptions, the number of funeral receptions should be amended from three to five.

Father Purser announced that Christmas Eve Services will be held this year at 5 P.M. and 10:30 P.M.

Rev. Jim and Mary Nichols were thanked for their ministry to St. Francis.

Attendees were encouraged to come to the staff about anything and bring your suggestions.

Both new and outgoing vestry members were reminded to attend the vestry meeting set for December 15, 2009.

Father Purser adjourned the Annual Parish Meeting with prayer at 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bertina Floyd, Clerk

## Annual Report of the Rector 2010

*Then you will know that I am in Israel, and that I am the LORD your God, and there is no other; never again will my people be shamed. And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.”* Joel 2:27-29

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I feel we have accomplished much in this last year but that we are at the edge of living into the dreams and visions of our leaders. We have been determined in this last year to stay focused on our mission and ministry to, “love, nurture and affirm others through serving God”. The economic times and challenges of the Larger Church did not keep us from our ministry. We have been challenged to structure ourselves so a few are not the ones doing all the ministry. Your vestry has tried to have a vestry person be the Commission’s (formerly committee) liaison, have a chairperson for each commission and commission members. It is hoped the involvement of others will help us grow our vision, give added support of the ministry and instill in us a commitment of service to our Lord, through St. Francis of Assisi. I hope each of you will keep challenging our commissions to structure themselves for growth.

We have continued to see changes in our facilities with the gifts of those to our Capital Campaign, hard work of your Jr. Warden, the Buildings and Grounds Commission and many others. We will continue to work on the list of priorities for our Capital Campaign. I am always amazed at the number of programs and ministries which are part of the life of St. Francis of Assisi on a daily bases, our weekly and monthly *Grapevine* make us aware of many of these ministries. We have enjoyed the many ministries of our children and youth. Those over thirty continue to be involved in our programs and to contribute to many ministries both within and beyond our congregation. We are still, like many other churches challenged by our ministry to and with those nineteen to twenty-nine.

We have been blessed with thirty-nine new families since 2008. We will continue to need to welcome and include them and all the members of our congregation. One of the ways you can help is by just saying “hello” to those you do not know. It is my hope that a friendly greeting will bring us into deeper relationships with one another and we will want to include others in our commissions, committees, guilds and organizations. A friendly welcome goes a long way in helping others become involved in the life and ministry of the church and in your life.

Your vestry continues to look at strategies which will help us live into being the body of Christ, which we are. Your vestry is working hard at not being the ones who make all the decisions about our ministry. They are looking to the commissions, committees, guilds and organizations to take the lead and when necessary to ask for decisions from the vestry. The way your vestry is organized is for leadership and discipleship as a congregation. They are in the process of reorganization at this time. They are creating new models of ministry to help us live into our vision as a congregation. They will need your prayers as they continue to develop in their own leadership styles and become more responsive to the needs of our congregation and those needs beyond us.

When you were asked to “wish” by the Stewardship Commission your wishes were big and helpful. Many of the wishes of the congregation are things we can do in our relationship with one another. Some of the wishes will require not only our relationships, but also planning, time, and money. One of the wishes was a “bigger Parish Hall”. Your vestry during its regular vestry retreat, January 21-23, 2011 will be looking closely at our Wish List and how we can best live into those wishes, visions, and dreams in the future.

We have this year received the largest one time gifts for our congregation, a gift of half a million dollars. This gift was given by a family, members of our congregation, for the buying of land and building of a new Thrift Shop. We are blessed to have members of the Thrift Shop Management team heading committees to help procure the land and plan for a building. There are a number of you involved in this vision and we hope that within the next two years we will see the dream come true.

We are continuing to grow in our thoughts about ministry. We no longer are satisfied to do, without a better understanding of discipleship and what that means for us and our ministry with others. Those who are part of our education and formation are constantly searching for ways to help our work be understood as ministry, our education to be understood

as part of formation, and our spiritual life deepened by our understanding of being a disciple of Christ Jesus. We have been blessed this year by the leadership of our Senior Warden, Sandy Whiting, who has been involved in many tasks which has supported you and your rector. Our Junior Warden, Harvey Coleman, who has been constant in his work, and with others, to respond to many building and ground needs. Your Vestry has worked hard to increase our ministry. We welcomed Nick Anderson as our new Director for Youth Ministry. I appreciate his dedication to be there for our youth and to build our youth community with the Biblical Story. Laurel Larsen our Musician/Choir Director has involved our voice and instruments of all ages. Cindy Derrick, our Parish Administrator has given time and effort to help us do what we are doing with coordination and direction. Kathy Petit, our St. Francis of Assisi Thrift Shop Manager, has helped us reach new goals, given us leadership in service, and taken on more than she ever thought with this “new Thrift Shop”. Deanna Boyle, our Nursery Care Provider, has become “the other mother” to many children and done so with commitment to our children. Kathy Elkin, our Sexton, is helping us be a good steward of our building. Let me also thank two volunteers, Bert Floyd who faithfully and thoughtfully plays the piano at the 8:30 Sunday Eucharist and Janice Bryan who has volunteered to coordinate our Children’s ministry with commitment for a good program. Every one of you are to be thanked for all you think, pray, give, and do for the ministry of St. Francis of Assisi. It is not true of this congregation that twenty percent of the people do all the work. Each of you, by taking your time, being present to and for the needs of others, both within and beyond this congregation, is truly appreciated. Let us all make a commitment to be in church every Sunday and to work together to become a stronger body of Christ.

We, as of the end of November, have recorded the following: our average Sunday attendance is 166; we have transferred in 9 Baptized Members and have transferred out 6; we have baptized 3; confirmed 2 youth and 3 Adults and buried 5 persons; and we have 530 baptized members according to our records.

I thank you for the call to serve you at St. Francis of Assisi and look forward to the years as we continue to be the body of Christ “loving, nurturing and affirming each other by serving God.”

Faithfully and in Christ’s love,

The Reverend Canon J. Philip Purser

## 2011 Proposed Operating Budget

	<b>2011 Budget</b>	<b>2010 Budget</b>	<b>2009 Budget</b>
<b>Revenues</b>			
<b>4000 - Contributions</b>			
4001 - Annual Pledges	<b>276,929</b>	290,088	274,100
4001A - Estimated Pledge Shortage	<b>-13,846</b>	-14,504	-13,705
4003 - Gifts - No Pledge	<b>40,000</b>	30,000	24,000
4004 - Loose Offering	<b>2,100</b>	3,600	3,600
4006 - Flowers	<b>3,200</b>	3,200	3,200
4042 - Buildings & Grounds Imp Campaign	<b>0</b>		
<b>Total 4000 - Contributions</b>	<b>308,383</b>	312,384	291,195
<b>4300 - Activities</b>			
4301 - All Saints Auction	<b>15,000</b>	15,000	13,530
<b>Total 4300 - Activities</b>	<b>15,000</b>	15,000	13,530
<b>4400 - Other Revenue</b>			
4401 - Interest Income	<b>0</b>	0	0
<b>Total 4400 - Other Revenue</b>	<b>0</b>	0	0
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>323,383</b>	327,384	<b>304,725</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>5000 - Building and Grounds</b>			
5001 - Electricity	<b>16,000</b>	12,500	12,100
5002 - Water & Sewer	<b>1,200</b>	1,200	1,000
5003 - Insurance	<b>16,228</b>	14,000	12,000
5004 - Building Repairs/Maintenance	<b>8,990</b>	8,000	4,000
5005 - Grounds Maintenance	<b>6,400</b>	5,000	3,750
5006 - Housekeeping Supplies	<b>1,000</b>	1,000	500
5007 - Mortgage Loan Interest	<b>8,350</b>	8,350	8,249
5009 - Equipment Repair	<b>2,000</b>	2,000	0
<b>Total 5000 - Building and Grounds</b>	<b>60,168</b>	52,050	41,599
<b>5100 - Ministry Development Expenses</b>			
5101 - All Saints Auction	<b>1,500</b>	1,000	1,000
5104 - Christian Education	<b>11,500</b>	8,000	4,500
5105 - Diocesan Convention	<b>100</b>	100	100
5106 - Growth & Development	<b>1,200</b>	1,000	700
5107 - EYC/Youth Ministry	<b>16,000</b>	9,650	3,550
5108 - Fellowship Program	<b>2,800</b>	1,800	1,200
5109 - Flowers	<b>3,200</b>	3,200	3,200
5110 - Pastoral Care	<b>5,106</b>	1,400	700
5111 - Music Program	<b>2,500</b>	2,000	2,000
5113 - Stewardship	<b>1,000</b>	1,000	800
5114 - Vestry Workshop	<b>2,720</b>	2,250	0
5116 - Worship/Altar Supplies	<b>2,000</b>	2,000	1,000
5119 - Communications	<b>6,350</b>	3,020	2,000
<b>Total 5100 - Ministry Development Expenses</b>	<b>55,976</b>	36,420	20,750

<b>5200 - Administrative Expenses</b>			
5202 - Internet Service	1,400	1,200	1,200
5203 - Office Supplies	4,000	4,000	4,000
5204 - Office Equipment Maintenance	7,000	5,000	5,000
5205 - Office Equipment/Tech Purchases	3,800	2,000	700
5206 - Telephone	3,600	4,500	3,800
5207 - Wireless Telephone	800	800	650
5208 - Postage	2,500	2,500	1,400
5209 - Audit Fees	3,000	3,000	3,000
5210 - Bank Charges	500	500	0
5211 - Accounting Fees	5,880	5,700	5,700
<b>Total 5200 - Administrative Expenses</b>	<b>32,480</b>	29,200	25,450
<b>5300 - Church Affiliation Expenses</b>			
5301 - Diocesan Pledge	53,122	50,225	55,442
5302 - Theological Education	400	400	400
<b>Total 5300 - Church Affiliation Expenses</b>	<b>53,522</b>	50,625	55,842
<b>5400 - Ministry Personnel Expenses</b>			
5401 - Rector Stipend/ Allowances	79,700	79,200	77,446
5403 - Rector Pension	14,346	14,256	13,940
5404 - Rector Continuing Education	1,000	800	600
5404A - Rector Travel	4,000	4,000	2,400
5405 - Secretary Wages	26,208	25,200	24,408
5406 - Secretary Pension	2,359	2,268	2,197
5407 - Secretary Continuing Education	500	500	360
5410 - Organist Salary	15,850	15,240	14,784
5412 - Organist Continuing Education	1,427	360	360
5414 - Sexton Salary	6,240	6,000	5,793
5417 - Nursery Worker	3,744	3,600	3,500
5419 - Director of Youth & Children's Ministry	20,790	18,900	18,349
5419A - Director YCM Pension	1,871	1,701	1,651
5420 - Payroll Taxes	5,618	=	5,113
5430 - Christmas Bonuses	600	600	0
5435 - Workman's Compensation Ins	1,500	1,500	1,500
<b>Total 5400 - Ministry Personnel Expenses</b>	<b>185,752</b>	174,125	172,401
<b>5500 - Misc Personnel Expenses</b>			
5502 - Supply Clergy	1,200	1,200	1,200
5503 - Supply Organist	500	1,000	500
<b>Total 5500 - Misc Personnel Expenses</b>	<b>1,700</b>	2,200	1,700
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>389,598</b>	344,620	317,742
<b>Net before Debt Service &amp; Capital Expenses</b>	<b>-66,215</b>	-17,237	<b>-13,017</b>
Debt Service	-5,200	-5,200	-5,200
From Reserves		22,437	
<b>Net Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>-71,415</b>	0	<b>-18,217</b>

## Committee Reports 2010

### Fellowship

Vestry Liaison: Christina Miller

Committee Chair: Diana Powers

#### Mission Statement

The mission of the Fellowship Committee is to create and execute events throughout the year that welcome all members and their guests to celebrate our lives together. These events provide us the opportunity to reinforce the bonds that unite us and to celebrate and grow our relationships with each other in Christ.

#### Fellowship Events of 2010

***Epiphany Supper*** January – this event consists of a potluck chili supper and a bonfire of the season’s holiday trees following an Epiphany worship service. It’s a fun tradition and a great way to begin a new year.

***Shrove Tuesday*** February – held annually the day before Ash Wednesday. Again the vestry and Father Phil sponsored this year’s Shrove Tuesday pancake supper which included biscuits, ham, juices, milk, coffee and a King cake.

***Maundy Thursday*** March - What a unique and family oriented event! Jim and Mary Nichols coordinated the Holy Thursday Seder / Passover dinner with food and activities for approximately 100 participants of all ages.

***Easter Brunch*** March - This year’s brunch was a delightful meal of casseroles, biscuits, fresh fruit, mimosas, and various breakfast drinks that 120 of us enjoyed.

***Pentecost Reception*** - Lots of terrific food!

***Annual Parish Picnic*** July - Diana Powers and Phil Pickard coordinated this mid summer event. Diana hosted the lake-side picnic and provided the perfect setting to enjoy fried chicken, delicious side dishes and numerous desserts. Next year it is recommended that Diana do something about the Carolina heat!

***Summer Share*** August - Father Phil organized this new covered dish dinner. Many people attended and shared of their summer vacations, experiences and their not so glamorous home renovations. Lots of laughs and great food were enjoyed.

***Annual All Saint’s Auction*** November - “Boots, Blue Jeans and Bar B Que” was the theme for this years fundraising evening. Carolyn Evans and Grace Keller coordinated a lively evening serving over 110 people a full meal and fabulous desserts. Children were again invited to the auction, with provided childcare. This year’s auction offered three avenues to make purchases. They included a fixed price area, silent bidding and of course a live auction. Half of the \$16,000 raised will be used to kick start the kitchen renovation with the remaining going into the general operating budget.

***Games & Fellowship and Men’s Group*** Monthly - These gatherings are held in different parishioner homes and continue to be a favorite for many. Providing a host sponsored meal, casual card games and lively banter. These time-tested groups continue to provide fun evenings for all.

***Church Chicks*** Monthly – Chicks has really grown this year! We enjoy dinner in various restaurants or in parishioner’s roosts. Lively clucking and good times are enjoyed by the gals of our parish.

This report gives a brief description of the 2010 Fellowship events at St Francis of Assisi. Unfortunately it doesn’t show the time, talent and dedication of the numerous people who make them possible by cooking, decorating, ironing, cleaning and providing childcare. Without these volunteers none of these events would take flight. I am grateful to Diana Powers for serving as my chairperson, Cynthia Dickerson as the un-official church event decorator, Cindy Derrick for always accepting a last minute announcement, and Deanna Boyle for making the Fellowship activities into family activities by providing consistent childcare.

It has been a fun year as your Fellowship Liaison and I truly appreciate the help I received in sponsoring these activities.

*Christina*

## **Cemetery**

Harvey Coleman, Jr. Warden, Vestry Liaison  
Alice Brooker, Chairman

This has been a very productive year for the Cemetery Committee. Our new gate has been installed, a gift from Cynthia and John Dickerson in memory of their son, Eric Geiger. New fencing has been installed on the east side of the gate. The drainage issues have been addressed and corrected, with the exception of catch basins.

Work days were successful: vines were pulled down, small dead trees and limbs were removed, debris was hauled off or burned. A small area near the road still needs to be cleared. There are several dead or dying trees that will need to be removed in the near future. The problem of erosion at the end of the driveway near the road is being addressed. Rye and carpet grass seeds were planted in cleared off areas to help prevent erosion. Live oak trees have been planted along the driveway.

Marble slabs were ordered and we have a total of 6 pink and 11 blue.

Sadly, St. Francis of Assisi has had four funerals this year: Paul Dewey, Ann Turner, Gene Brooker, and Bill Scollon. The marker for Ann Turner has been installed. Still to be ordered are markers for Frank Smith, Paul Dewey, Gene Brooker, and Bill Scollon

There have been some questions and concerns about money that was designated for paving the cemetery driveway. Evidently the money was deposited into the wrong account. At this time, The St. Francis of Assisi Cemetery has sold 93 of 170 plots, or 55%. 41 plots have the remains of 47 individuals.

A columbarium is the next major step for the cemetery. A site has been tentatively agreed upon as well as the basic design. It is now time to meet with an architect about the foundation.

Alice Brooker, Chairman

## **Buildings & Grounds**

Harvey Coleman, Jr. Warden  
Chuck Brunell, Chairman

### Mission Statement:

To implement the maintenance, repair, development and construction of physical properties of St. Francis of Assisi Church.

### Vision Statement:

Coordinate with Jr. Warden on projects and maintenance. Establish short and long range plans for projects and budget input. Establish sub-committees and responsibilities for specific areas. Coordinate work days.

Assist with Outreach projects.

2010 Committee members: Chuck Brunell, John Harr, John Dickerson, Tom Williams, James Bryan, Paul Miller, Grace Keller, Harvey Coleman.

### 2010 Accomplishments:

Ongoing maintenance including

HVAC repairs

Plumbing repairs

Electrical repairs

Yard care

Hung Stations of the Cross

Fire & safety inspection repaired drinking fountain

Paved gravel parking lot paved walkway to outdoor chapel

Oversight of Scout Building and Grounds

Installed new closures on all doors

replaced two doors

painted stripes and installed handicapped signs in parking lots

painted Parish Hall

Repaired kneelers in church                      completed playground  
 Installed new telephone system

Worked with cleaning company to repair damage to upstairs classroom after vandalism  
 Worked with HVAC company to clean ductwork and coils  
 Had a very successful Work Day where 35 members showed up to paint and clean up. Hamburgers and drinks provided.

## **Spiritual Growth and Discipleship**

Judi Neubecker, Vestry Liaison

### Mission Statement

We wish to provide an open, accepting atmosphere of participation in all activities at St. Francis of Assisi to visitors and existing members of all ages. Growth and Development (G&D) helps the church grow within its walls and match talents and needs.

### Vision Statement:

As part of our mission we will continually welcome new ideas for the continued growth of our parish. Furthermore, we will provide communication to both visitors and members in the community about available activities at St. Francis of Assisi. Finally, we will focus on developing the Greeter's skill at our church.

This year has been an active one for our committee as we have supported a number of events and programs to support spiritual growth and discipleship within our parish. We have focused on maintaining existing programs, re-establishing some that had been inactive and establishing new ones to engage St. Francis members and people in the greater Chapin community as we strive to meet our church's mission to affirm, love and nurture others through serving God.

Under the leadership of Amy Warren, this committee has continued to nurture the Coffee Hour fellowship that occurs after Sunday services. Many generous volunteers within our parish family have provided food to support this vital ministry. Some highlights have included a Surprise Baby Shower for organist Laurel Larsen, several baptism celebrations, and an Outdoor Coffee Hour on the deck for the Blessing of the Animals service.

Feast Groups started the year with a kick-off event at the home of Karen and James Owens, and there are six active groups gathering to share dinner and fellowship as part of this ongoing ministry.

Greeters continue to play an ongoing role in welcoming visitors and newcomers to our church. We provided new training materials for greeters this year and began the process of updating our parish nametags. Steps were also made to make name tags more accessible in the Narthex and we continue to push for getting more people to use them as we build greater awareness within our church community.

Working with the Communications committee, we helped coordinate the development of a new Parish Pictorial Directory in 2010. Pam Steude took family and individual photographs of most of our parish members in the late spring. Then Cindy Derrick organized the updated information provided along with photos to develop spiral-bound copies that have been distributed to all the members of our church. Special thanks to all who helped on this vital project: Charlie Carpenter, Pam Steude, Cindy Derrick, Susan Spencer, Kathy Elkin, Anita Anderson, and Jean Coleman.

One of the ministries that had been neglected was welcoming newcomers into the parish, and this year the committee coordinated a welcome dinner for families and individuals that had joined our church during the last two years. According to church records, 37 new "units" or almost 80 new people (adults and children) have joined St. Francis of Assisi since the fall of 2008, and we were happy to host 40 people for dinner in the parish hall on October 12. Spiritual Growth and Discipleship Chair Carl Saalbach welcomed all attendees, and everyone was given the opportunity to introduce themselves to the larger group. Members of the Vestry and Father Phil also shared information about various opportunities to get more involved in the life and ministry of St. Francis of Assisi.

In an effort to reach out to those in the larger Chapin community, the committee was involved in a number of activities, often coordinating with other ministries in the church, to encourage others to visit and potentially join St. Francis of Assisi.

For example, the Blessing of the Animals service is often mentioned as a popular service by parishioners and guests, so the committee decided to help promote the service by developing a postcard that could be distributed throughout the community. Members of the church's youth program distributed 500+ postcards with its St. Francis-themed parade float at Chapin's Labor Day Parade. Additional postcards were provided to area vet clinics and animal boarding businesses to let animal lovers know about the service and encourage their participation. Some 200 people and pets attended the annual outdoor worship service.

The committee also made a conscious effort to connect with the Chapin community by not only renewing its membership with the Chapin Chamber of Commerce but also acting as a host site for the Chamber's annual business meeting in October. Approximately 50 members of the business community attended a breakfast hosted by the Spiritual Growth and Discipleship Committee that included delicious food provided by ladies of the church. It was a wonderful opportunity to share gracious hospitality with our community and offer a quick overview of the various ministries St. Francis of Assisi provides the Chapin community.

The committee remains committed to identifying new opportunities to help church members and those in the community enhance their spiritual journeys and offer activities to grow discipleship as we strive to serve others like Jesus and the Apostles did during their lifetime.

## **Finance**

Grace Keller, Vestry Liaison  
 Sandy Whiting, Senior Warden  
 Harvey Coleman, Junior Warden  
 Phil Steude, Stewardship Chair  
 Father Phil Purser, Rector  
 Dan Spencer, Treasurer  
 Elizabeth Thames, Accounting

### **Mission Statement**

The Finance Committee will make decisions on an informed basis to make the best use of the financial resources, physical facilities and the people resources that God has provided to St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church.

### **Vision Statement:**

(Taken from bylaws) This committee shall be charged with the responsibility of determining fiscal policy of the Parish, of preparing the Annual Budget, and of exercising general supervision over financial affairs of the Parish.

2010 has been a year of growth and changes for St. Francis of Assisi. We were able to maintain our faith-based budget, and hope to present another balanced budget again for 2011. Also, coupled with the Buildings and Grounds Improvement Campaign, we have been able to complete most of the items on the needs list in 2010 -

new emergency lighting  
 retiled the Narthex of the Sanctuary  
 installed and blessed of a new playground  
 repaired and replaced all the doors and locks in the Parish Hall and Sanctuary  
 paved the new parking lot  
 paved the walkway to the Outdoor Chapel

For 2011, we hope to renovate the kitchen, replace the sound system in the sanctuary, pave the driveway in the cemetery, and cover the walkway from the Church to the Parish Hall. We could not have done any of these amazing renovations without the dedication and pledges of our membership.

Unfortunately, Elizabeth Thames, our Bookkeeper, will be leaving St. Francis of Assisi in December to move back to Texas. We will truly miss her. The quest for a new bookkeeper will begin in full in December 2010.

Grace D. Keller

## **Stewardship**

Phil Steude, Vestry Liaison

Cynthia Dickerson, Chair

### Vision & Mission Statement

To enable members to grow in their understanding and practice of Stewardship. Focusing on recognizing all of God's gifts, our responsibility as Christians for using those gifts, and the ultimate reward of stronger self, family, and church through aggressive/enlightened practices.

Over the past year, stewardship has focused on a year-long effort to emphasize time and talents as well as the usual emphasis on treasure. Currently, the proposed budget exceeds proposed income by a significant amount. Hopefully, the Vestry will not have to cut the wished-for program excessively and the congregation will be able to rise to the challenge, even as it is appropriate at times to pass a faith-based budget, as we have successfully done in the past anticipating that God will bless us with continued growth in both people and income.

The effort on the commitment sheets over this past year has been more successful than in past campaigns. We currently have approximately 90% of family units indicating to us their planned giving for the year (which includes a few people that prefer not to "pledge" but also includes people that, in the past, were not comfortable with pledging that pledged this year). This has been very helpful, as the finance committee has dealt with where we are.

There have been many, many hours of volunteer labor going into church functions and maintenance this past year. We should be appropriately prideful of our efforts and hopefully this positive feeling will spur us evermore onward to do God's work.

Finally, the "wish list" that we undertook did reveal three distinct areas, one being a number of things which have already been instituted that are relatively cost-free. Another area is the area that would cost financially on an ongoing basis. The biggest area was an interest in one-time cost needs such as fixing the kitchen, the parish hall, obtaining more space for youth, obtaining more space for social gatherings, etc. This has been brought to the Vestry. The Vestry is of one accord that we are approaching a time to build on an addition to the parish hall to accomplish these goals and to possibly be able to have a new kitchen space rather than just fix the current space. This will probably be looked at as a feasibility issue in the next year. Additionally, due to your stewardship efforts, we have been able to designate half of this year's auction money to fixing the kitchen, a trend that hopefully will continue. We have negotiated with a sound engineering person to evaluate the sound system needs and current status that was also high on the "wish list."

Respectfully Submitted,

Phil Steude, Vestry Liaison

Cynthia Dickerson, Chair

Carolyn Evans

Charlie Carpenter

Watson Johnson

Craig Maylath

## Christian Education

Janice Bryan, Vestry Liaison

Staci Gregg, Chair.

### Mission Statement:

Our mission at St. Francis of Assisi is to assist people at all age levels in providing opportunities to learn about the faith in a loving and encouraging environment.

### Vision Statement:

The task of Christian Education is to create settings and processes that initiate people to journey together exploring, reflecting, experiencing, and acting in and toward faith. Religious education at all levels is about learning and sharing stories; about talking together; listening, and making connections; about promise, obedience, and mystery; about sharing hope for the future and seeking peace. We will invite all, teachers as well as learners, to journey together knowing, loving and serving the living God. It is a journey toward wholeness.

Janice Bryan: Vestry Liaison

Staci Gregg: Committee Chair

Carl Saalbach: Secretary

Janice Bryan: Children Ministries Coordinator

The Christian Education Committee has many programs under its umbrella. We thank all parishioners who guide these programs and those who participate in them.

Sunday School: ages 2 to Adult classes

Elizabeth Chapman

Janice Bryan

Kim Scollon

Richard Broad

Cynthia Dickerson

Marty Owen

Craig Maylath

Fran Lowman

Nick Anderson

Janet Jendron

Phil Pickard

Lynn Carpenter

Karen Owens

John Carpenter

Carl Saalbach

Fr. Phil Purser

Charles Wilbanks

Stephanie Anderson

**Vacation Bible School:** June, 2010, 3 nights

Directors: Staci Gregg & Christina Miller

Theme: Dare to be Different

All those who did crafts and games, provided snacks, worked in the kitchen, provided food, and the youth who did more than we can name.

**Nursery:** Kim Scollon: Director

Deanna Boyle: Nursery Care Provider

Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings

### **Thank you to:**

Janice Bryan

Elizabeth Chapman

Jean Coleman

Amy Warren

Staci Gregg

Susan Eckhart

Christina Miller

Angie Owen

Veronica Porter

Ibby Harr

Kim Scollon

Peggy Williams

And to all who volunteer to assist Deanna each Sunday morning

Tuesday morning Bible study: Cindy Derrick  
 Wednesday night Adult Class: John Carpenter  
 Education for Ministry on Monday night: Carl Saalbach  
 Education for Ministry for Graduates on Thursday night: Carl Saalbach  
 Confirmation Classes: Fr. Phil Purser and Cindy Derrick  
 Library: Sandy Whiting  
 Discovery Weekend: Sandy Whiting  
 Gifts of the Spirit Workshop: Carl Saalbach  
 Lenten Series on Wednesday night: Speakers lectured on the Prayer of St. Francis.

### **Children's Ministry:**

Volunteer Coordinator: Janice Bryan

The youth and children were divided into two separate groups during 2010. The children ministry is for children up to fifth grade. This ministry falls completely under Christian education. All participating families have a chance to create and coordinate events. This year the families took turns hosting an monthly event. This year's activities included a pool party, cookouts, Halloween party, and playing on our new playground. We also went to York Place to bring donations and play games with their children. We have many families participating in this ministry. It is a great way for the families of children to get to know one another.

The families decided on the below mission statement:

***Embrace, Cherish and Nurture Children; through service, education and worship***

Thank you to all the families that have hosted an event, plan to host an event, or come to these events. We look forward to having new families join in 2011.

The Christian Education Committee meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month in the Library at 7 p.m. Anyone interested in Christian Formation is welcome.

Janice Bryan

## **Outreach**

Caroline Parker, Vestry Liaison  
 Susan Eckhart, Committee Chair  
 Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month, 20 members

### Mission Statement:

The mission of Outreach is to assist the church in responding to needs within the community and the world in order to strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being so that Christ may be made known. Our God-given abundance allows us to provide time, talent and treasure to those in need.

### Vision Statement:

Where there is despair, let us provide hope

### Guiding Principles:

Give in the community to support those ministries that provide for the greater good of Chapin and the surrounding communities. Give with heart, mind and funding. Give in the U.S. to those in crisis. Give in the world to those who seek to provide basic food, water, shelter, clothes and religion.

With many thanks to all who volunteer at the St. Francis Thrift Shop, and those who donate items, for without them we would not be able to help so many.

Our Summer Camp for at risk children this year served 21 community children. We also keep in contact with them throughout the year by purchasing their school supplies, Valentines, Easter, & Halloween goody bags, and a Christmas party.

**Among those Outreach has assisted so far this year:**

- Chapin Interfaith Outreach Association – aka We Care – we also have 2 church members on the board
- HUB – community center
- Christgate – women’s homeless shelter in Chapin
- Spend the night summer camps for needy children
- Sistercare
- Mission trip to Mississippi
- Christian Children's Fund
- HomeWorks
- Newberry Boys Farm Thanksgiving
- Angels House - residential home for women serving in the Armed Forces
- Crooked Creek Meals Program
- St. Francis youth Ecuador mission trip
- Tuition help
- Haiti – School and Bread & Water projects and vocational/agricultural school
- Episcopal Relief & Development
- School trips for needy area children
- Honor Flight
- York Place
- Various crisis needs

This year the Outreach Committee worked on procedures to help the committee run smoothly and so all members would be familiar with how the committee runs.

**Thrift Shop**

From January through the month of November this year, more than 70 different volunteers at the Thrift shop have spent more than 8,000 hours in sorting and sales for the shop. Donors who have received tax receipts for goods donated include 80 members of St. Francis of Assisi and 839 members of the community who do not attend our church. In addition to the outreach projects listed in the outreach report, donations from the shop have included the Fort Jackson phone program, Stepping Stones ministry, Disabled Veterans of Newberry Christmas project, Ken McKellar’s program for clothing to Afghans, clothing for a family of Russian missionaries, items for the Lowman Home, clothing for the Alternative Academy, eyeglasses for the Lion’s Club, a bookcase for We Care, a chair for There’s Room non-profit, St. Francis of Assisi for the Annual Auction, as well as needed furniture and kitchen supplies. Emergency items for victims of fire and tragedy have also been provided to our neighbors in need.

Ongoing efforts are being made to increase display areas, to maximize every part of the store. Maintenance has been required and accomplished, often through volunteer efforts.

Just as important as the thousands of hours and hundreds of thousands of items sold, are the countless hours spent by volunteers who nurture and listen to members of our community in crisis who share their stories with shop workers. Every effort is made to ensure that the shop is one of the paths by which St. Francis members and community volunteers live out their Christian faith in the community.

## **Pastoral Care**

Tom Williams: Vestry Liaison

John Carpenter, Chair

### Mission Statement

The ministries of the Pastoral Care Committee exist to comfort and console those suffering mentally, physically, emotionally and spiritually.

A special thanks to all who give their time and talents to PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY St Francis of Assisi is honored for your commitment:

**TO LOVE, NURTURE, AND AFFIRM OTHERS THROUGH SERVING GOD**

New Ministries for Calendar year 2010

Sympathy Cards– include parishioner's love ones, friends and neighbors.

Handy Helpers – assist those in need around their home.

Get Well Card – you are in our prayers and encouragement

### Ministry Activities for 2010

**CRISIS MEALS MINISTRY**- Charlie Carpenter chairs this ministry. This Ministry provides meals for individuals and families who are sick; undergoing surgery, experienced a death in the family, or other distressed circumstances. Our parishioners are divided into twelve Neighborhood Groups, each with a co- chair person who is responsible for seeing that a meal is delivered to those in need. The groups have been realigned this year for efficiency with consideration to minimize travel for each chair person. In the event you have a need for a CISIS MEAL –contact Charlie Carpenter or St Francis of Assisi secretary.

**PRAYER SHAWLS MINISTRY** – PEGGY WILLIAMS chair this ministry. As the name implies they are PRAYED over by the Prayer group multiple times then Father Phil blesses them at Sunday Services. They are given to individuals on the St Francis of Assisi prayer list and other special request. The Ministry of knitting shawls has grown significantly as a result of offering class one night a week to all who are interested. This year to date sixty-five prayer shawls have been knitted, thirty-six given to those with special needs with a reserve of twenty nine.

**TOUCH BASE- MINISTRY** – SUE HODGES & MARY EVELYN OLTMAN chairs this, visiting with those who are shut in and deliver Sunday altar flowers to them.

**BIRTHDAY CARD MINISTRY** – NANCY DEMUTH chairs this sending birthday cards to parishioners averaging 35-40 per month mailings. The card art work is created by the children of St. Francis of Assisi.

**GET WELL CARD** –NANCY DEMUTH chairs this sending cards of encouragement, rejoicing, and get well to those who share their situation with a St Francis of Assisi member.

**SYMPATHY CARD MINISTRY** – CHARLIE CARPENTER chairs this sending a card with a sketch of the sanctuary and a hand written note.

**HOSPITALITY/RECEPTIONS MINISTRY**-DIANA POWERS chairs this ministry and CYNTHIA DICKERSON is co-chair person; they coordinate receptions for funerals and those celebrating 50<sup>th</sup> (and every 10 years after that) wedding anniversaries. Several church members routinely assist with food donations, decorating, serving (The Ladies in Black Aprons) and clean-up.

**HANDY HELPERS MINISTRY**- CHUCK NEUBECKER chairs this ministry to do light carpentry, plumbing, electrical, yard work, etc. projects. For church members who may not have the where withal to do such tasks for themselves.

**PARISH CHAPLAINS MINISTRY**- CINDY DERRICK chairs this ministry. Parish chaplains serve as volunteer support staff to the Rector allowing him to focus on a broader ministry to the congregation. They are considered a support for all committees as they see a need for expanded activities or services. One of the prerequisites for a parish chaplain is complete nine months of training for pastoral care at the School for Ministry in the Diocese of Upper South Carolina. They have been commissioned by the Bishop and are equipped to serve in the parish in order to provide Christ's ministry of presence to others. Parish Chaplains are: Cindy Derrick, Carl Saalbach, Martha Taylor, Roger Banta, Judi Neubecker, Charles Wilbanks, and Toni Sylvester.

## **Youth Ministry**

### **(Grades 6-12)**

Carolyn Reed, Ministry Chairperson

Nicholas Anderson, Director of Youth Ministries

John Harr, Vestry Liaison

Mission Statement:

**One Body, One Mission, Changing Lives.**

2010 has been an exciting year for St. Francis' Youth ministry. We've had some great events and service projects, we've laughed and we've cried, we've played and we've worked, but most of all we've felt the love of Christ in our midst. In July we were blessed to welcome our new Youth director Nicholas Anderson and his wife Stephanie to St. Francis of Assisi from Michigan. Nick has acclimated to his new position well and our youth are happy to have him with us. We look forward to being a part of his ministry. As we look forward to a new year we're happy to be continuing some of our traditions and we're excited about exploring new opportunities to share the love of Christ with each other.

Below are some of the many events that we are proud for our Youth to participate in during the year:

#### **Fellowship Events-**

Ski retreat to WV

Fifth Sunday Bowling

End of School and Start of Summer Lock-ins

#### **Church Events-**

Baby shower for Laurel Larson

Shrove Tuesday

Easter Egg Hunt

#### **Diocesan Youth Events-**

*Diocesan Youth Leadership*

Happening #63

Retreats at camp Gravatt

Consecration of the Bishop

#### **Outreach Events-**

Mission Trip to Quito, Ecuador July 2010

Adopt-a-Highway

Midlands Convocation EYC Outreach

American Cancer Society's Relay for Life

Outreach Summer Camp

Labor Day Parade

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Trick or Treat bags for the Outreach kids

Christmas Caroling

Vacation Bible School

Thanksgiving dinner to Boy's Farm in Newberry

Spring mission trip to Jacksonville, FL –April 2011

Mission trip to Calais, Maine July 2011

The Youth ministry would like to thank the congregation for its support of this program. If you are interested in participating or helping this rewarding ministry please contact the Youth Ministry director, Ministry chairperson, or Vestry liaison.

## Scouts

Troop Committee:

Committee chair Bill Barton,

Secretary Elizabeth Hinen,

Treasurer Herb Harrison,

members Susan Baker, Wes Curtis, Steve Follman, Gerald Meetze, Kevin Pasciak, David Tevepaugh.

Scoutmaster, Neal R. Hinen,

Assistant Scoutmasters, Steve Suber, William Gregg,

Advancement Chair and assistant Scoutmaster, Troy McNall.

So far we have been rafting on the Tuckasegee and Nantahala rivers and camped at Mistletoe St. Park in Georgia and attended the Council Camporee at Richland Creek farms in Saluda Sc. Our future activities for the year consist of the Lutheran Scout Retreat, Scouting for Food, Scout Sunday, service projects as they arise and several camping trips involving climbing, back-packing and possibly canoeing.

## Worship

Toni Sylvester, Vestry Liaison

Marsha Duncan, Chairman

### Mission Statement

To create a spiritual environment which enhances the liturgy of the Episcopal Church and supports a meaningful worship service for all members of St. Francis.

### Vision Statement

To advise the Rector in canonical responsibilities for the conduct of worship services of the church, in order to unite ourselves with others to acknowledge the holiness of God, to hear God's Word, to offer prayer and to celebrate the sacraments so that we may know the fullness of corporate worship.

The Worship Committee includes a representative or leader of the following groups: worship leaders/lectors, Eucharistic ministers/visitors, Altar guild, flower guild, choirs, acolytes, ushers.

The committee meets regularly to plan worship for upcoming seasons of the Church, activities, special worship services, and needs with regards to acolytes, ushers, readers, etc. We determine the needs for our worship space and approve the purchase of appointments. This year we were fortunate to receive a new set of red Altar hangings for Pentecost hand-made by Susan Spencer and Lillian Lester. We also received a chalice given in memory of Betty Davis's brother and a chalice given in memory of Paul Dewey.

Marsha Duncan

Worship Committee Chairman

## Communications

The Communications Committee began the year with a goal of building up the committee to create a larger team of volunteers as it worked to enhance the church's overall communications. Initially led by Gene Brooker, the committee included Carolyn Evans, Bert Floyd, John Harr, Judi Neubecker, Karen Owens and Dwight Underhill. Carolyn Evans became chair of the committee in June.

The cornerstone project for the committee was revamping the church's website (stfrancischapin.org). The committee hired a local web developer with experience in building church websites, Kim Buchanan. Choosing to focus on the Prayer of St. Francis, the site features a natural look while it provides updated information on the various ministries. The site also strives to include new photographs and updates on church events. Work began in February to develop an action plan for revising the website and many people helped in providing pictures and content. The new site was presented to the congregation in September as part of the Christian Education Kick-off Sunday.

Karen Owens approached the *Chapin Times* about submitting a weekly update of activities much like other churches in

the area provide and has actively submitted articles for its use since February. In addition, she helped develop and distribute more than a dozen press releases on church events and noteworthy accomplishments during the year. There is a scrap book available that recaps the releases and news articles that have appeared in *The State*, *Lake Murray News* and *Chapin Times*.

In addition to revamping the website, the committee has also worked to update the Google Groups pages which have provided an opportunity to share “congregation only” news in a protected online forum. Unfortunately, some changes being made by Google may require the church to move this functionality to the St. Francis site and the committee is currently in the process of collecting bids and evaluating the best steps for moving forward. Dwight Underhill works in concert with Carolyn Evans, the various vestry liaisons and church staff to update information on the website.

We are very grateful for the leadership of Gene Brooker who passed away this spring. Gene was an ardent supporter of St. Francis of Assisi and he developed the church’s initial website. The committee put a great deal of effort into developing a site that Gene would not only like but also find useful to our congregation and hopefully we accomplished that task on his behalf.



## **St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church**

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Website: [www.stfranschapin.org](http://www.stfranschapin.org) ~ E-mail: [stfrchapin@stfranschapin.org](mailto:stfrchapin@stfranschapin.org)

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### **Those Serving:**

**The Rev. Canon J. Philip Purser**, Rector  
**Dr. Laurel Larsen**, Organist/Choir Director  
**Mrs. Cindy Derrick**, Parish Administrator  
**Mr. Nick Anderson**, Youth Director

**Mrs. Kathy Elkin**, Sexton  
**Mrs. Kathy Pettit**, Thrift Shop Manager  
**Mrs. Bertina Floyd**, Pianist at 8:30 Worship  
**Mrs. Deanna Boyle**, Nursery Care Provider  
**Mrs. Janice Bryan**: Children's Ministry Volunteer  
**The Rev. Jim Nichols**, Assisting Clergy

