



— THE —  
GEORGETOWN  
PRESBYTERIAN  
— CHURCH —

# Annual Report 2008

229<sup>th</sup> Annual Congregational Meeting  
February 1, 2009

3115 P Street N.W. ✕ Washington, D.C. 20007  
202.338.1644 ✕ Fax 202.338.4797  
[www.gtownpres.org](http://www.gtownpres.org)

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## INTERIM PASTOR'S LETTER AND REPORT

Dear Friends,

As I have said many times to many people over the last few months, I am in a very unexpected place. Finishing an interim pastorate in New Jersey in April and May, I assumed a leisurely summer before settling into a new interim position. On June 2, I found myself in the pastor's office at GPC. It has been a wonderful experience even if it was a quick transition. The generosity and hospitality of this congregation has been wonderful. Even better than saying that it has made us welcome, it has made us feel a comfortable part of this community.

This has been a busy seven months. Everybody has been anxious to move towards the lengthy process of selecting an installed pastor. A great part of my efforts during the last few months have therefore been directing the ongoing Mission Study process. We received the report of the committee that has undertaken the study this morning. This is a process that is important for the Pastoral Nominating Committee and for the congregation. It sets out where the church believes Christ is leading it; it also gives the church a sense of who it is. Nothing is more important than this as one enters into a long-term relation with a pastor. For everybody concerned, it is crucial that we be honest about what our call is, and what we need to do to fulfill it. Everybody has put a lot of work into this. We have had numerous group meetings with the congregation, and the session has undertaken serious self examination as well. In addition, the session, as it looks to its future and to a healthy relation with its moderators, has made numerous changes that will help it fulfill its charge as the spiritual leadership of the congregation. It has reduced its size so that there may be a better sense of community and discussion; it has begun its meeting with a meal and a service of evening prayer; it is seeking to engage members of the congregation more fully in the work of its committees. All of these are positive things, and I encourage everybody to get involved.

The work of the last several months has been intense. As you elect a PNC this morning, I am looking forward to the tasks of a pastor in the next year. The beginning of a seventeen week course on the Old Testament has been truly auspicious; I look forward to doing further teaching as well. But in general, my concern in teaching, and in preaching, in administering the sacraments, and in working with members and with the session is really one thing only. In times of transition people get anxious. They worry about budgets and membership and whether this enterprise will be able to continue. What I hope to be able to accomplish during my time here is to be able to have the congregation have a sense that none of those things having to do with numbers is ultimately important. Rather, what is important is learning in this time to rely on God alone, and to use all that he has given us to grow in grace: his Word, his sacraments, and this community. If that is learned, if you are simply what the church is called to be, rest assured that God will take care of the rest, and that he will give you everything that you need, and that you will be a place where people and leaders of faith will want to be.

Peace,

Eric

## **ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

### **2008 Report**

Georgetown Presbyterian Church is blessed with outstanding pastors and staff, and in 2008 they performed in exemplary fashion as the church began the transition to new pastoral leadership. In particular, Dr. Springsted has ably guided the process of preparing the church mission study, and has led the session in making decisions about its own organization and operation. Rev. Schatz provided leadership for the staff and continuity for the congregation. At the national level, her contribution to disaster readiness was recognized as she became part of the denomination's disaster response team. John Linter continues his leadership of our extraordinary music program. Paula Thines and Barbara McClure have performed admirably in managing the office and administrative affairs of the church. David Gray served as designated associate pastor for the first half of the year and contributed in many ways to worship, congregational care, and youth programs of the church. We wish him success as the newly called pastor at Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church in Bethesda.

The Administration and Personnel Committee supports this staff in a variety of ways. In addition to handling the details of compensation and other routine personnel administration matters, in 2008 the committee also:

- Led in the development of expectations for both pastors and elders to set priorities for the church's leadership for the coming year.
- Developed and secured session approval of policies for reimbursing church-related business expenses of the pastors, and for the management of a pastors' benevolence account.
- Clarified policies related to gifts made to the church in appreciation for the pastors.

In addition, the committee addressed several administrative matters, the most important of which was the renewal of the property and liability insurance for the church and manse. In connection with this review, the insurance carrier was asked to conduct a review of facility and other risks. The review made several recommendations, and they are in the process of being implemented.

During its January 2008 meeting, the session authorized the Administration and Personnel Committee to form an "Interim Search Committee" for the purposes of identifying and recommending a candidate to serve as interim senior minister. The seven members of this committee were: Sherry Krokowski, Ashley Mattison, Russell Porter, Nancy Roll, John Stephenson, Kirk von Seelen, and Alex Bullock.

The committee revised Georgetown Presbyterian's "Church Information Form" and posted the document on both the PCUSA and National Capital Presbytery's respective websites. The committee received and reviewed personal information forms from more than forty qualified candidates. Among those submissions was an inquiry from Dr. Eric Springsted. Based upon his submissions and the strong recommendations from his references, the committee met with Eric in early May to discuss how his background and experience as an interim minister could help our congregation through this interim period. Following this meeting, the committee recommended Eric to the session by a unanimous vote. During its May meeting, the session voted to hire Eric as the interim senior minister.

The Administration and Personnel Committee thanks the members of the Interim Search Committee for all of their hard work during this process.

# BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

## 2008 Report

In 2008, the Buildings and Grounds Committee had a busy year. Many projects were completed, including the following major projects:

1. Replaced a condensing unit that serviced the chapel
2. Removed old air conditioning units in the choir loft and installed new units in the attic
3. Painted three sides of the church
4. Prepared the manse for rental
5. Purchased more energy-efficient light bulbs
6. Enlarged exterior drains

Our special thanks to Bill Krokowski for preparing the manse for rental, and to Terry Nagi for encouraging and assisting GPC to go “green.”

\* \* \*

This year promises to be as challenging as 2008. We are planning the following projects:

1. Implement further energy/environmental changes
2. Fix ceiling in the kitchen
3. Paint church offices and stairwells
4. Repair back door on northwest corner of the sanctuary
5. Other minor projects.

Our thanks to Merritt Schatz and Paula Thines, who were instrumental in identifying and securing a new cleaning service for the church, which should reduce our cleaning costs by about \$10,000 in 2009.

Tom Lotterman (chair)  
Russell Porter

# ADULT MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

2006-2008 Report

Acts 8: 29-31

And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and join [the man in] this chariot." So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet, and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" And he said, "How can I, unless some one guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

In January 2006, the session was re-organized and among several other changes, the former Christian Education Committee split itself into two committees, Children's Ministries and Adult Ministries. With the change in name, also came a change in concept. Adult Ministries is no longer dedicated solely to the planning for adult education classes, but also was charged to create ways to nurture to the "whole Christian." Giving substance to euphemism, this means the committee should be attentive and supportive of every aspect of the formation of a Christian, a process that addresses spirituality, mission, fellowship *and* education. That of course suggests cooperation and collaboration with several other committees of the session.

This very broad list of very broad goals emerged in January 2006:

- provide focused study and discussion with small groups
- find "Christian formation" resources outside GPC
- create new worship and study opportunities at GPC
- make the Library more central in the life of our church
- provide new studies and speakers for the Adult Issues class
- support, encourage on-going discussions about discipleship at GPC

The time since then has been spent in trial and error. Many different kinds of approaches were offered to the congregation. The following can be counted as **successful programs** or efforts that have a future at GPC with support and planning:

Adult Issues: Taking nothing away from deacons, this class is a kind of "social conscience" of GPC, in the sense that it helps participants focus on the troubling issues of the day with people who are out in the world, witnessing their beliefs. The class also encourages ecumenical study and has done a particularly good job in teaching about Islam. Favorite teachers instruct on Reformed theology and Bible study. Also, the class draws on members of the congregation to talk about issues and activities of more than routine importance.

It was believed that Mary Umbarger started up this class, but when we asked her, she said no. At the time, Mary wasn't able to tell us who did start the class, but she was certainly chair and the class has been in existence at GPC for many years. Anne Johnson has been a worthy successor to Mary. More recently, Anne has recruited the help of a committee, headed up by Steve Hopkins. As addressed below, this form of organization attests to the success of recruiting interested people for particular projects, rather than relying on one Adult Ministries committee to do everything.

Session Retreat at Meadowkirk Two nights away from home and from the church is very hard to arrange and to get full participation, but the result can be very, very good. The environment and buildings at Meadowkirk support groups who are trying to focus on spiritual and leadership topics, though there are other places in and around Washington that could be used instead. (Meadowkirk is a Presbyterian retreat center near Middleburg, Virginia.) When we did this in 2006, we invited Seattle-based UCC Pastor and author Anthony Robinson to be the facilitator of the retreat, so he spent considerable time immersed with the session. However, we also made sure he met with an invited group of church leaders before the weekend started and that he preached a sermon to the congregation when the session returned from the retreat. None of this was easy, but that usually means it is well worth doing.

A Book Discussion on *Simply Christian*, by Bishop N.T. Wright, led by two elders, Chuck Work and Ralph Voltmer, was well attended, but not well enough. There is much more potential here that would perhaps work better if discussion groups went in several different directions. Sunday morning is a good meeting time. The perfect setting for the class would be a nook set up on the stage in the Georgetown Room (fitted out properly with curtains), using comfortable chairs.

Monday Night Bible Study We can and should expand the work that the Adult Issues class has begun, in studying Reformed theologians. Bruce Douglass' Monday night class on Calvin was fascinating and well-attended. Notes on that class are available. Following that thought, planning has begun for classes about the reasons that Presbyterians are distinctive among Protestant churches. This is so essential at a church that pulls members from many different church backgrounds, from Roman Catholic to evangelical Presbyterian churches. Many of our members do not understand why we do the things we do or are not aware of the significance of governance practices and worship ritual. Interim Pastor Eric Springsted will begin a semester of study on the Old Testament, which will fill the Bible study gap left by the demise of the "old" Monday Night Bible Study that did so well for several years. (*See below.*) Bible study in our church should be taught by individuals who are both believers and scholars. Virginia Theological Seminary Professor John Yieh has been a huge success at GPC and should be regularly incorporated into our adult Bible study program.

Special healing services provide an opportunity for prayer aimed at particular concerns of the congregation. One such service started off the "Aging for All of Us" series and attracted 40 or more people. The second such worship service was not as well attended but should have been; it focused beautifully on holding our church together after the 2008 dissolution of the call of the senior pastor.

"Aging for All of Us" should be continued. This ambitious program, organized by Roni Haggart, began with a special healing service dedicated to the concerns of older congregants and was followed by six discussions with specialists on will drafting, retirement communities, and the like. These discussions were scheduled after church and would have been better attended had they been done during the 9:30 Adult Issues hour. There are myriad issues people must learn about, either to provide for themselves or for parents. Iona Senior Services is a ready resource, able to provide speakers and expertise on another six topics.

Marriage class, held as a Friday "date night" for couples, with dinner and a movie, was a big success. The series was based on an Alpha follow-up tape. Participants came to a nicely set dinner (wine was served), then watched the tape, after which couples discussed the issues with each other, carefully separated from other couples by distance and music. The concept was created by and set up by Mary Beth Ray. However, these "date nights" really wouldn't have to be serious discussions, nor confined to married couples, but could be carried on by leasing movies related to the season, Christian themes, classic romantic comedies, the kind of movie that makes people enjoy laughing together. Dinner could be catered or potluck, but catered is easier on working couples. *Child care would be essential.*

Environment programs can be coordinated with practical efforts by the church as an institution to make its existence as a building and as a community more friendly toward our own local environment. "Global warming" and related issues are matters of hot dispute, but we've handled it well and should try to work together more often to get more balanced information on more controversial topics.

Celebration of our ties to Judaism We celebrated a Passover supper with Rabbi Joue Hessel of Washington Hebrew Congregation and got a turn-out of upwards of 50 people. Rabbi Hessel is young, entertaining, knowledgeable and therefore hard to book, but there must be any number of rabbis who would be eager to share with us on topics like Yom Kippur, the life of Jesus as a Jewish boy, modern and ancient Jewish rituals that are sources for Christian rituals.

Lenten series GPC traditionally offers a special study program related to Lent, led by the senior pastor. This has been done on Monday nights, and also during the week at a Wednesday lunch prepared by a participant. Lent offers the opportunity to focus on the purpose of the Lenten season at a special healing service.

Small-group Bible study ought to work at GPC, but generally hasn't since the demise of the Disciple Monday Night Bible Study, variously led by Mary Hill, Bob Bell, Melissa Kirkpatrick, and Merritt Schatz. The class did well under these seminary-trained leaders, and members formed close bonds that last today, but then the class itself fell apart without an academically trained leader.

Advent Immersion Weekend was created to provide some Advent event that appealed to every person, not to provide an omnibus weekend in which everyone participates. On the weekend of December 7<sup>th</sup>, we scheduled New Testament Professor Sharon Ringe from Wesley to lead us through a study of the Gospel of Luke on Saturday morning and Sunday evening. The traditional St. Nick's dinner was on Saturday night. And on Sunday morning, Professor Ringe's co-author, Dorothy Sokolove, discussed their book *The Christmas Story and the Arts* with the Adult Issues class. In retrospect, the Sunday evening class was poorly timed simply because everyone was tired by then, and yet three hours on Saturday morning went very well. The concept, an intense Advent Immersion Weekend, should work well and opens up the possibility of a huge variety of activities.

Yoga This is a small class that has led to fellowship and friendships among the people who participate, to better health, and to another moment of contemplative quiet on Sunday. The class is small enough to meet in the Narthex on Sunday at the same time the Youth Group meets (5:00 - 6:30 pm), and it generally ends with an inspirational reading and rest. The exercises (known as "poses") are always offered in an easy form and sometimes also in a more advanced form, but participants always control their own limits.

Generally, **these approaches have worked well:**

There is *no formal Adult Ministries Committee*. It is difficult to persuade the busiest people to commit to long-term service on a committee that meets on a monthly basis. Furthermore, such meetings somehow get to be long and tedious. To counter that, we've tried to organize interested people in two types of groups: focus groups and groups to organize a particular effort. Meetings are mostly conducted as focus groups to draw out a discussion of ideas from people especially invited (though always announced and open to everyone). Organization has been conducted by e-mail for the most part, relying on the people most interested in the particular project.

Advertising any program should be begun *at least three weeks in advance* with short announcements submitted every Tuesday to the church secretary for the Sunday Bulletin. *List all offerings under the heading of "Adult Ministries"* so that congregants understand the source of the offer. Lengthier, more detailed announcements can go in the *Memo* also under the heading of *"Adult Ministries."* Maintain e-mail lists of people interested in different efforts. Letters to the entire congregation can be mailed, if the money and the planning are there. Sign letters as chair or co-chairs of Adult Ministries.

Furin's, in Georgetown at 28<sup>th</sup> & M, has catered for what seems to be an absolute minimum cost for a decent supper: hot casserole, salad, fruit and cookies.

Look for events outside GPC and post them in the Sunday bulletin and in the *Memo*. At a minimum, look for musical and lecture events at other churches in the Presbytery, look at the web sites for National Cathedral, the Smithsonian, Wesley and Virginia Theological Seminaries. Of course these sources can also lead to speakers for GPC. Be mindful of the opportunity for joint ventures with other churches, especially St. Mark in Rockville, Chevy Chase, and Church of the Covenant and Sixth Presbyterian on 16<sup>th</sup> Street.

Use the courtyard for reception-type events, but not for classes. It's too noisy and also uncomfortable for seating. *Persist in asking the session whether the manse garden could be made available for quiet outdoor study, prayer groups, small classes.* The patio in the manse garden has been expanded and could be furnished with comfortable outdoor tables and

chairs. A nook under the dogwood tree in the corner could serve for small prayer groups. The stage in the Georgetown Room presents another possible venue, assuming that sound-proof (and fire-proof) curtains are installed. If the space could be fitted out with comfortable chairs and decent lighting, that really might work very well at minimum expense. An estimate from Baron's Stage Curtain Equipment Company<sup>1</sup> in Baltimore is available.

Order copies of books that will be used for a discussion or study group well in advance and advertise the upcoming program by selling the books at Lunch Bunch. Use the Cokesbury charge account or open your own to get a discount, but watch Cokesbury orders carefully, they sometimes arrive incomplete. Coordinate Library purchases with study purchases. Use the library better than it has been used in adult programs. Consider using the lecture tapes that are there and adding Christian topic titles from The Teaching Company.

These are the programs and approaches that have enjoyed good response. On other hand, some of the new programs failed because they were ill-conceived or poorly timed. We've also learned that some approaches will not work well.

### **Beware of:**

Classes in the Colonial Room that are sometimes disrupted by foot traffic. Either schedule classes elsewhere or close the doors and post signs, asking people to go upstairs and around.

Conflict scheduling. Scheduling MUST BE DONE THROUGH THE CHURCH SECRETARY or your program will fall apart. This should be your first call. A conflict does not necessarily mean that the event should not be scheduled, but consider whether the same people will be interested in the same events. Considerable frustration has been expressed over conflict scheduling at 9:30 Sunday morning, a problem we have not solved. On the other hand, Yoga and Youth Group are complementary. (Parents attend Yoga; youth group members attend their own activities.)

Child care. This is a nightmare of coordination because you must have parents call you well in advance of the class in order to get the "child care" person there. We have not yet discovered the secret of doing this well, but suspect it will work after many weeks or months of repetition. If we are going to respond to the needs of young couples, young parents and parents of young children, we have to figure out how to do this.

Kitchen clean-up. Get people committed in advance to cleaning up after catered dinners. This can be simplified by using paper plates, etc., but someone has to go out and buy those in advance. Be sure you can leave the kitchen clean enough to avoid ants and be clear about whether the cleaning service will wash dishes for you. It is also IMPERATIVE that one person LOOK AT THE GAS STOVE to be sure all outlets are off.

Support from the session. Generally, and with notable exceptions, it is hard to get your fellow elders to attend Adult Ministries classes and discussions. Part of this is because active elders are terribly busy with their own programs and duties. Part of it is also because elder training is virtually non-existent at this writing. As a result, GPC elders are not persuaded of, or not aware of, their commitment to the spiritual leadership of the congregation, but would rather leave that challenging task to the pastors. Nonetheless, persist in asking your fellow elders to come to Adult Ministries programs, offer to be helpful in their programs and ask for suggestions and friendly criticism. It is consistent with the charge to Adult Ministries that this committee assume responsibility—or least some initiative—for elder training.

From all of these experiences, **we've learned:**

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<sup>1</sup>Baron Stage Curtain Equipment & Flame, 3218 Noble St, Baltimore, MD 21224  
(410) 537-1550

Two types of interest emerge from many different discussions, but often people have both types of interest: a *more academic study* of religious themes, especially Bible study, and a program that helps a person seek *the spiritual values in every day life*, especially Bible study. Somehow, Adult Ministries should strive to serve both interests. We are, after all, Presbyterians and charged by our friend John Calvin to maintain serious study of the Bible and to use that study to seek a spiritual life as well. It is always good to remember, however, that for most of us, especially cradle Presbyterians, it is much “easier” to pursue the academic, intellectual side of Bible study.

Time of day and time of the week are critical factors in getting to the intended audience. It is also essential to check with the church secretary to see what else is going on at the same time or surrounding the planned event.

The number of attendees is *not necessarily the critical measure of success*. If an effort works well for a handful of people, that’s a success. On the other hand, it is apparent simply from turnout, expert Bible study on Sunday morning is in high demand.

Monday night will also work, but will only attract people who do not have young children at home. GPC has not done well in providing child care for evening classes and there is no habit among parents to come on Monday nights.

Adult classes for parents generally do not work well, especially among a too-busy group who especially need spiritual support, parents of young children. Even when Parish Intern Amey Upton tried again, the response was high at first but actual turnout was very low.

Topics related to the management of one’s life seem to be helpful, as you will read below.

Special “healing” services can work, depending on timing. Also gatherings related to the spiritual side of one’s life can work, though it takes *a very special person to lead such gatherings in an inspirational way*.

Before I close this, I must make it clear that none of this would have been accomplished without the support of Nancy Roll, who was both critic and cheerleader. Nancy provided the gracious hospitality when it was needed, even holding a focus group in her (and David’s) living room. Nancy’s encouragement and reaction to ideas were always enabling. Furthermore, she and David put a valuable imprimatur on any class they attend.

This report is intended to serve as a guide and encouragement for the next chair of Adult Ministries. The monthly reports filed with the clerk of the session could also be very helpful in that they provide more detail on all of the programs offered over the last three years.

Respectfully submitted, and with prayer

Alice Neff Lucan  
December, 2008

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

## 2008 Report

The Children's Ministries Committee is responsible for education, worship, mission, fellowship, and evangelism to the youngest part of our congregation. The traditional Sunday School hour at 9:30, Children's Church and Welcome to Worship during the worship service on Sunday mornings, and youth group meetings on Sunday nights are the cornerstones of the program.

The committee was chaired by Elder Ashley Mattison, the vice-chair was Elder John Marshall, and it was enthusiastically supported by the Rev. Merritt Schatz. Committee members were: Ginny Snider, Mary Beth Ray, Liza Marshall, Josh and Katie Pitcock, and Esther Wisdom. They should all be commended for their work, ideas, and dedication to the children of GPC. **Thank You!**

### Overview of Children's Ministries Programs at GPC this Year

- The curriculum-based 9:30 Sunday School programs were faithfully offered this year. A concerted effort was made to have a consistent teacher through the year to increase the teacher/student bonding process. The Faithweavers curriculum was used. A big thanks to Esther Wisdom, Josh Pitcock and Katie Seaman Pitcock, Ashley Mattison, and all of the substitute teachers. A special thank-you to Ginny Snider who faithfully made sure there were snacks and library books every Sunday in the classrooms. We had an average attendance of about 5-10 per Sunday. Special activities included eating pancake breakfasts, painting pumpkins, walking for the homeless, making crismos, making valentines, collecting money for the Souper Bowl, walking in a Palm Sunday processional, hunting for Easter eggs, participating in Youth Sunday, being recognized with a special Bible for graduation, and eating donuts every Sunday morning! These things can't happen without volunteers. **Thank You!**
- At 11:00 a.m. on Sundays, we continued the nursery, the 2-4 year old class, Welcome to Worship, and Children's Church. The nursery was run by two paid caregivers (attendance: zero to 4). American University student Jackie Raseman coordinated and taught the 2-4 year olds class (attendance: 3-8). The Colcloughs and the Meyers taught Welcome to Worship as a transition for kindergarten and first graders (attendance up to 10). We had a schedule of rotating teachers for Children's Church, which focused on leading the second – fourth grade children in worship in the chapel after the children's talk in the main service (attendance: around 10). Amey Upton coordinated the teachers. Weekly praise singing was very well received by the children.
- Three youth groups met at our church. The senior highs met on Sunday mornings. Two youth groups also met on Sunday evenings at the church for dinner and fellowship. Rachel Nagel and Virginia Boyce were our leaders.

Additionally, CM supported the Children of Uganda with a pen pal program organized by John and Emma Marshall. We supported Amey Upton in her efforts to start a new mothers group, and we coordinated the crafts and one-rehearsal play at the St. Nicholas dinner. As usual, we cleaned craft closets, ordered supplies, worked with the French Maternal School and chose the curriculum.

Gratefully submitted by Ashley Mattison, Chair of the Children's Ministries Committee

# MEMBERSHIP AND EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

## 2008 Report

The Membership and Evangelism Committee (M&E Committee) continued to grow in its third year as a full committee. Highlights of our 2008 activities include:

- Member Outreach and Care:
  - The Committee assisted with new member classes and with preparing and participating in New Member Sundays. GPC welcomed new members in our spring and fall classes and the M&E Committee hosted a new member dinner at Nancy and Gene Bradley's house. The gathering was well attended by both new members and members of the congregation.
  - The Shepherding Program was launched by the deacons with guidance from the M&E Committee – each new member now has three shepherds (one from each deacon committee) so that they can learn of activities and opportunities at GPC.
  - On May 11, we held a long-term GPC member recognition ceremony during the service.
- Information:
  - Thanks to the great leadership of Ann Hunt and Stan Whatley and a set of volunteers they recruited, GPC printed a revised photo directory in the summer of 2008.
  - Ann Hunt also committed significant time contacting members and identifying necessary changes to our membership rolls. Per recommendations from the committee, the session has approved updates to the rolls and this effort will continue in early 2009.
  - Pamphlets relating to worship opportunities at GPC during Lent were again distributed through the Georgetown community with David Gray's guidance.
  - Efforts to upgrade and restructure the GPC website continued under the Website Sub-Committee. The M&E Committee and the GPC session recognize the importance of making our website a more effective outreach tool for our community and for members, and the Website Sub-Committee is working hard to move us in this direction.
  - The M&E Committee prepared a new write-up describing the committee's scope of responsibilities and work, and this was shared with interested members through outreach conducted at the Time and Talents Sunday.
- Particular efforts were made to make sure that GPC members look out for new faces on Sunday mornings and make newcomers to the church feel welcome. This effort will continue as part of a new Outreach Initiative that was developed this year and will be launched in 2009.
- The M&E Committee worked with GPC clergy on transitioning our campus ministry efforts (given David Gray's departure). We have focused our campus ministry efforts on Georgetown University and we have hired Wesley Seminary student Jennifer Thalman Kepler on a part-time basis to assist us. Jennifer is working with GPC member Sherry Krowkowski and with the Presbyterian Student Fellowship at GU in providing opportunities for spiritual growth, fellowship, and mission.

Thanks go to everyone on the Membership and Evangelism Committee for good work and to the members of Georgetown Presbyterian Church for making our congregation a welcoming one. The committee looks forward to further growing our list of volunteers in 2009!

In the service of Jesus Christ.

Respectfully submitted: Katherine Buckley (Chair)  
Nancy Kuhn (Co-Chair)

*Membership Committee:*

Elizabeth Avery  
Nancy Bradley  
Gene Bradley  
Julie Goffe  
Ann Hunt (Rolls/Roll Revision)  
Anne King (Website Sub-Committee)  
Susan Noble Jones  
Joshua Pitcock  
Katie Seaman Pitcock  
John Schmidt (Website Sub-Committee)  
Laura Speer (Website Sub-Committee)  
Kent Stevens  
Diane Whatley  
Stan Whatley

## MEMBERSHIP STATISTICAL REPORT FOR 2008

**Active Members 12/31/07** 456

### **Membership Gains in 2008**

Professions of Faith, Reaffirmation, and Restoration

17 and Under	0	
18 and Over	7	
Certificate Gains	0	
Other Gains	1	
Total Gains		8

### **Membership Losses in 2008**

Certificate of Transfers -Out	2	
Deaths	8	
Other Losses	22	
Total Losses		32

**Total Active Members 12/31/08** 432

**Total Inactive Members 12/31/08** 39

Affiliate Members 12/31/08 2

Robert Bell, Clerk of Session

# MISSION COMMITTEE

## 2008 Report

### Highlights of the Year:

- Set key goals:
  1. Narrow focus to children's charities.
  2. Develop relationships with those we support.
- Initiated sponsorship of Bob (age 10) and Jane (age 16) at Children of Uganda Orphanage (*see below*)
- Ongoing support of Children of Uganda, with funds for:
  - 71 school uniforms for boys
  - 76 school uniforms for girls
  - 100 pairs of shoes
  - solar system batteries and repair
- Initiated microfinance loan to Rosa, a Peruvian citrus farmer and single mother, through Kiva.org
- Gifts for Christ's Market (December 7 and 14, 2008)
- One Great Hour of Sharing
- Hands-on DC work day at Anacostia Senior High in April, attended by about 30 members, including a strong youth group showing, in coordination with the deacons' Outreach Committee
- Forge relationship with Remember Niger Exec. Dir. Kara Vanderkamp, and provide funds for:
  - student scholarships
  - teacher training
  - desks and supplies
- Stewardship Time and Talent presentation
- Led Adult Education class with update on Mission Committee work
- Drafted content for GPC website, including a new mission statement
- Use of charitynavigator.org to assess efficacy of potential beneficiaries
- Coordinate a book drive with Children's Ministries Committee and Columbia Episcopal Church for Children of Uganda
- Planning M4M2: An Evening of Music for Mission (May 2, 2009), a musical performance, dinner, and auction to raise funds for Children of Uganda and a local charity focused on children, to be determined

### Mission 2008 Overview

A key goal this year has been to identify how we can have the greatest impact with our limited resources (\$8,000 in discretionary budget). The committee agreed that we are more effective when approaching mission from a narrow and deep perspective, rather than broad and shallow. Our focus this year has been on children. We have actively sought creative ways to connect members with the charities we support, so that our work takes on a personal connection beyond just writing checks. Toward that end, we have "adopted" two children at the orphanage we support, Children of Uganda, with whom we will maintain contact through our sponsorship. Upon his departure, contributions were made honoring Rev. David Gray and his family totaling \$1650. David asked that this money be allocated to mission work, and that is what funded this project.

### **Bob Ssevubya – Primary 5, Children of Uganda**

Bob lost his mother to AIDS. His father lives in Kampala and does not provide care or support. On school holidays, Bob stays with his grandmother in Ssanje Village in Rakai District. His grandmother is a peasant farmer. GPC's annual sponsorship provides Bob with food, shelter, medical care, clothing, and a good education. By supporting his welfare and education, we are planting the seeds of recovery in a homeland troubled by war, poverty, and HIV/AIDS.



### Jane Nayiga—Secondary 3, Children of Uganda

Jane's parents both died from AIDS. After their death, Jane and her sister went to stay with their aunt, but she had six children herself and could not afford to care for the additional children. GPC's annual sponsorship provides food, shelter, medical care, clothing, and a good education. Our support gives her hope for her future and the opportunity to grow into a healthy, self-sustaining adult. For more information on our work in Uganda, see [www.childrenofuganda.org](http://www.childrenofuganda.org).



Our budget currently includes a \$30,000 contribution to the Presbytery/General Assembly in undesignated funds. Next year we will be assessing this contribution to determine how this money is allocated and whether some portion of this amount should remain discretionary in order to enhance our effectiveness. The Mission Committee budget also allocates \$4,500 to the Theological Education Fund and \$2,500 to the Reformed Institute.

Finally, the Mission Committee drafted our **Mission Statement** as follows:

The objective of GPC's Mission Committee is to spread the good news of the Bible through word and deed. We aim to help God's children in need, whether that need is local\*, national, or international. Needs include, but are not limited to, food, shelter, clothing, education, and disaster relief. Whenever possible, we aim to send members to help first-hand. Otherwise, we send money, supplies, and prayer. The Mission Committee should also:

- Serve as GPC's experts on mission
- Elevate GPC members' awareness of mission need and current events
- Encourage members' participation in mission
- Stimulate prayer for mission
- Encourage pastor involvement in mission
- Correspond with missionaries
- Prepare a thoughtful mission budget to present to elders
- Update elders to maintain dialogue and interest

\* local projects in conjunction with the deacons' Outreach Committee

Respectfully submitted, GPC Mission Committee: Chair, Mary Beth Ray;  
Co-Chair, Tyler McGreevy; Members, Susan Bell, Judi Crowson, Pat Davies, Rev. David Gray, Regina Langton,  
Terry Nagi, Nicole Rice, Kent Stevens, John Stephenson

## **HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE**

### **2008 Report**

The hospitality committee has had a busy year serving its members! From January through May we entertained with lunch bunch every Sunday, or a member would volunteer and serve a hardy lunch for about 40 in the Georgetown Room.

This year we gave a brunch for the choir, clergy, and Sunday school teachers on Easter Sunday. We had a feast of a buffet and all the tables were decorated in the colors of the spring season! In June, we entertained with Punch Bunch every Sunday for the summer season and in the middle of June we had a grand reception for David Gray, our youth pastor, who left our church after several years of diligent service. Throughout the year we have had about 2 or 3 receptions involving a member's passing, or celebration of new members.

Lunch Bunch was served again starting the first Sunday in September by a member of the Hospitality Committee or a member of the church who volunteered. Saturday, September 20th, we planned and executed a delightful picnic of about 40, at Glen Echo Park. We had delicious barbeque from Rockland's and the children enjoyed riding the old carousel at the park. Some members took a planned tour of a historic home on the grounds.

In November, on the Thursday before Thanksgiving, our committee hosted around 35 people from churches in Georgetown. GPC has hosted this group at Thanksgiving for many years. We served a delicious traditional Thanksgiving feast. Many women in our congregation cooked and served food to the large crowd. We all enjoy this yearly fellowship!

The Hospitality Committee's final big event was the St. Nick's dinner, on Saturday, December 6th. We decorated the tables with green and white table cloths, magnolia leaves, pine cones and candles! The meal was delicious beef tenderloin provided by the committee and the members brought a fabulous array of holiday vegetables and desserts! After the meal the members were entertained by our Sunday School children with a wonderful play about the origin of the poinsettia plant. We all ended the joyous night singing carols by candlelight! All in all, 2008 has been an eventful year of careful preparation, serving with joy, and reaching out to others visiting and in the congregation.

Thank you,  
Susan Noble Jones

## WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE

### 2008 Report

The session's Worship and Music Committee is dedicated to facilitating a meaningful worship experience for all who choose to come to services at Georgetown Presbyterian Church to worship God. This year, Tom Jennings from the session, Jill Fri from the Flower Committee, and five volunteers from the congregation – Bob Davis, Al Johnson, Ian McDonald, Anna Schuhart and Mary Kay Spink – composed the committee. One of the ministers and the director of music usually attend meetings.

The committee makes recommendations to the session on the number of services, the order of worship, special music, who will preach and the celebration of the sacraments. Greeting, ushering, the sound system and hearing aids, appearance of the sanctuary, and the bringing of the Bible to the pulpit before each service also are the responsibility of the committee. The preacher prepares the sermon and chooses the hymns. A coordinated effort among the preaching ministers, the music director and the committee contribute to the worship experience each and every Sunday.

Communion was served at eight Sunday services and at other special worship services during the year. We also celebrated several baptisms. The choir provided special music at the two Easter services and at the December 14th Advent service. Soloists, duets and instrumentalists provided beautiful music throughout the year. Our children provided special music on Youth Sunday.

Thanks to generous donations, new pew Bibles were dedicated so that worshipers can follow the minister's readings in the same new standard revised Bible. The committee also authorized repairs to the organ consoles and reservoir cover, a new conducting platform for the choir director, and a new choir music case. With special thanks to the efforts of Sean Fri, the sound system controls now are housed in a structure that occupies a smaller space and complements the sanctuary's furnishings.

The committee strives to work with the pastors and the director of music to make each aspect of every worship service appropriate for that service. Activities that are less observable include the following: ongoing improvements in our ushering and greeting practices; again ringing the church bell to call members to each worship service; and revising and updating policies and procedures for weddings and memorial/funeral services at the church. If any member wishes to contribute to making worship services meaningful to all, please contact a committee member about joining the Worship and Music Committee.

## FLOWER COMMITTEE

### 2008 Report

This was a very good year for the Flower Committee. We have one new member who joined just because he wanted to, and at the Stewardship Time and Talent Fair we got four more volunteers who will have some training and then become full-fledged members.

As a group, we decorated for Easter, and this Advent season we did our progression for preparing for the celebration of Christ's birth by adding something new each week. This year the Building and Grounds Committee bought a ladder tall enough that with Manuel's help we hung the wreaths over the doors in front of the sanctuary ourselves.

We welcome any who would like to join us. A new member will always work with an experienced arranger until they are comfortable doing it on their own. Let the church office know if you are interested or call Jill Fri directly.

Members of the committee are: Patricia Berl, Grace Fleming, Hiroko Hersey, Judy Hopkins, Virginia Howard, Frank Johnson, Janet Lanman, Nancy Roll, Helen Romness, Margaret Wisdom, Kent Stevens and Marlene Wright. Our new volunteers are: Elizabeth Avery, Meredith Cracraft, Elizabeth Jackson and Beth Sanner. Thank you, all. - Jill Fri, Chair.

# HERITAGE COMMITTEE

## 2008 Report

The Committee is pleased to report progress on the following matters during 2008:

### (1) The Balch Memorial Project

A handsome memorial plaque was appropriately framed and installed near the original Balch gravestone on the first floor of the Balch Building. If you haven't seen it, pause the next time you come by or exit the elevator and have a look.

After innumerable delays, with thanks to Charlie Alexander's sustained pursuit of our stone mason, the new pale pink marble gravestone has been properly set on its base stone at the Oak Hill Cemetery at the proper spot. What remains to be done is to get the plaque erected, and the estimated cost of getting that done (\$500.00) has been retained in the Balch Memorial Fund after paying our stone mason the \$5,300 balance remaining of the total project price of \$6,800, which was largely paid from the fund. When that has been completed, the committee will coordinate a date when an appropriate ceremony commemorating the new gravestone can be held.

### (2) Oral History Project, Phase II

Transcripts of oral histories from five former pastors: Richard Oman, Clarence Ammons, John Ackerman, Dana Leigh English and Simmons Gardner, have now been completed, and the originals have been copied onto acid-free paper and put in an acid-free file folder in our Archives Room. Interviews and transcripts for both Campbell Gillon and Robert McClure were conducted and transcripts prepared earlier, and excerpts from those interviews appeared in the booklet "Glimpses" prepared by the committee and made available to the congregation earlier. Our thanks to Barbara Bowersox who prepared four of the transcripts, to Peggy Garrett who assisted in proofing and preparing several of them and to Susan Page and her son Ben Leubsdorf, who burned CDs from the recorder so that the transcripts could then be completed. The committee will arrange for an oral history interview with Richard C. Austin, who was associate pastor from 1963-66. Then work will begin on preparing an appropriate booklet with excerpts from all the pastor interviews.

### (3) Records Retention

At a committee meeting in July the committee discussed what records should be retained relating to the dissolution of GPC's call to Richard Sheffield, and after review it was decided that while one fundamental purpose of the Heritage Committee is to preserve documents, we should only retain those documents that were part of the official record -- i.e., session meeting minutes, session letters to the congregation, including the agreement between GPC and Dr. Sheffield, etc. We decided not to retain the several other communications from members to the session, many of which were submitted in confidence.

Similarly, only official Session records have been retained relating to the dissolution of the GPC call to Dr. Oman in 2007.

### (4) General Matters

(a) The committee ended 2008 under budget, and has reduced its budget request for 2009 by half.

(b) The committee purchased and installed two fire-resistant file cabinets, so that most of the vital records of GPC can be preserved in the event of a major fire.

(c) The committee has begun its work on re-organizing the materials in the Archives and Records room, but looks forward to working with any volunteer archivists or historians who would like to help.

Heritage Committee; Charles Alexander, Barbara Bowersox, Jill Fri, Peggy Garrett, Ann Hunt, Judy Hopkins, Susan Page, Price and Phil Fleming (chair).

## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

### 2008 Report

During 2008, we have sought to expand the concept of stewardship and develop it into a true ministry at Georgetown Presbyterian Church.

The Stewardship Committee was responsible for three major initiatives at GPC in 2008: Planned Giving and Major Gifts, Time and Talents, and the annual Pledging Campaign. Additionally, the committee has sought to keep the congregation informed by publishing “Session Notes” in the bi-weekly *Memo*, which highlights key actions at monthly session meetings.

Within the context of these activities, the Stewardship Committee has sought to achieve the following:

- Encourage giving from a sense of joy, thanksgiving, and praise
- Facilitate understanding of the role that stewardship and giving plays in one’s spiritual journey and in Christian transformation
- Begin a discussion with both GPC leadership and the congregation about the “theology of money”

The 2008 Stewardship Committee members are: Lori Martens, Chair and John Schuhart Vice Chair; Roni Haggart, Jennifer Hillman, Steve Hopkins, Karl Mattison, Valencia Cristafulli, and Cassie Schurtz.

#### PLANNED GIVING AND MAJOR GIFTS

The Committee continued to encourage planned giving by GPC members this year. The Committee again highlighted Wills Sunday in May with a moment for mission and a special insert which was also sent to members through the *Memo*. At least one new family joined the Balch Society.<sup>2</sup>

Special gifts from the congregation play an important role in supporting the programs of GPC, beyond contributions received through annual giving and planned giving. These gifts meet specific needs and often are given in memory of a loved one. The generosity of the congregation in making these gifts is a blessing to GPC, for which we all owe the donors a debt of gratitude.

In 2008, special gifts were given in support of the General Fund, the Memorials Fund, and the Mission Fund. It is our practice to memorialize special gifts in the January Session minutes and in the memorial book in the Georgetown Room.

#### TIME AND TALENTS

This year, in accordance with plans to expand the concept of stewardship beyond church fund-raising, the Stewardship Committee resumed responsibility for Time and Talents – a program designed to encourage non-financial support of the church and its activities. The committee held the inaugural Time and Talents Fair on September 28<sup>th</sup>. The idea is to create greater excitement about the giving of one’s time and talents, as well as facilitate interaction and fellowship among our congregation. Each committee of the church sponsored a booth which described the activities of that committee, and offered opportunities for members to sign up and become involved in the work of that committee.

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<sup>2</sup> Established in 2006, the Stephen Bloomer Balch Society recognizes members who have remembered GPC in their will or estate plans and encourages others to do so, as well.

The Time and Talents Fair was a great success and generated a lot of positive energy. Every committee represented at the event gained new participants.

## PLEDGE SEASON

Using the theme “Funding Christ’s Mission in the World,” the Pledging Campaign this year encouraged proactive stewardship in the face of uncertainties arising from the economy as well as the transition period of GPC pastoral leadership. The kick-off was held on October 19, culminating in Stewardship Sunday on November 9<sup>th</sup>.

To encourage stewardship during this challenging period, a four-part series discussing common concerns regarding the concept of giving ran in the bulletin. Several articles were also published in the *Memo*. Moments for Stewardship were presented to the congregation on October 19<sup>th</sup> and November 9<sup>th</sup>. This year, pledge letters were tailored to three groups: those who pledged in 2008; those who pledged in 2007, but not in 2008; and those members who have not pledged for the last several years. Additionally, pledge forms have been available on the GPC website and also in the pews.

The Committee has continued to provide weekly updates to the congregation tracking upcoming year pledging relative to the past year’s pledge levels. In December, a follow-up letter was mailed to individuals who pledged in 2008, but not yet in 2009. In January, further follow up is planned through personal outreach.

To encourage our church officers to take a leadership role in pledging, the Stewardship Committee held the inaugural “Leadership Challenge” – a friendly competition between the elders and the deacons to see which leadership body attained the highest percentage of pledges submitted before Stewardship Sunday. This year the elders won handily, with 61% pledging in advance of Stewardship Sunday versus 28% of the deacons. For their efforts, they were given a party at their year-end meeting courtesy of the Stewardship Committee. Results were announced in the bulletin and *Memo*.

As of January 1, 2009, we have received 128 pledges totaling \$436,724. Twenty-eight (28) pledgers thus far have increased their pledges over 2008 and 11 pledgers have made first-time pledges to GPC. A small number of households continue to provide disproportionate financial support of GPC. Eight member households provide almost a third of total pledge income (32%). Nonetheless, the total amount pledged (\$436,724) and number of pledgers (128) to date are below last year’s totals in both categories.

**BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
**2008 Budget Summary**  
**2009 Budget Introduction**

**Budget Summary: 2008**

The past year has been tumultuous, with Wall Street upheaval, bank failures and a sputtering economy. In spite of all of this, GPC managed to turn in superior results compared to its budget projections. As we turn our attention to 2009, we will seek similar results. We remain mindful of the position of trust we occupy and the need to be faithful stewards of the church's resources.

The Session went into the year anticipating a deficit budget of \$43,000, with income of \$813,000 and expenses of \$856,000. Budgeted expense growth was 3.4% over 2007 and was heavily influenced by the severance package awarded to the former senior pastor. Nevertheless, actual expenses were approximately \$40,000 less than budgeted figures and were approximately \$11,000 less than spending in 2007. The emphasis though must be placed in the revenue side. Despite the difficult economic backdrop, GPC's congregation gave generously and largely met their pledged commitments.

A number of expenditures were made from the invested funds, with approval from Session. For 2008, capital expenditure approvals totaled \$ 198,410 and actual capital expenditures totaled \$199,965. These included the pastor emeritus stipend of \$20,000, \$67,555 for painting and misc. repairs, \$6,654 for drain repair, \$44,756 in severance costs and various other items and \$61,000 for Operating Fund Support.

Over the years, GPC has been fortunate that investment income and capital appreciation derived from the investment strategy has allowed us to supplement our operating budget. For 2008, with withdrawals of \$253,000 from the invested funds, the balance of the investments at the end of the year was down \$410,565 from the \$1,552,357 million beginning balance. The net overall return for the year was -18.2%, relatively good performance in a volatile and declining market environment.

**Budget 2008**

Income from all sources for the year was \$817,000, up from the \$749,000 in 2007 budget and higher than anticipated by \$4,000. Pledged income was \$518,000, higher than the figure in the budget that was accepted by the congregation, but approximately \$6,000 less than the final pledged amount. Non-pledged income and plate collections were down by approximately \$29,000 and rentals were up by an immaterial amount.

As a reminder, we have generally expected that the GPC operating budget is funded from three sources of revenue:

1. The pledges and contributions of the congregation;
2. A specified percentage of the income earned from GPC reserves (pursuant to a multi-year funding formula);  
and
3. Rental income from the French Maternal School tenant that uses GPC's facilities during the week, and other rentals (i.e. weddings).

In summary, in 2008, these revenue sources exceeded our expenses by \$267.

For 2009, we add another category, rental income derived from the manse. Income from this category will add \$84,000 to total income.

## Budget 2009

For 2009, the session has approved an operating budget slightly in excess of \$800,000, a reduction of \$50,000 from 2008. To date, income for 2009 is anticipated to be \$786,000, which, if realized, would still result in a deficit of \$19,000. It should be noted that the reduction in spending is directly attributable to the completion of the severance package granted to Dr. Sheffield. Other expenses have been largely held in check, or reduced, while the anticipated level of income has been adjusted to be more realistic of what we expect to attain, based on recent history.

As last year, this budget is, in the opinion of the Session, an “operating” budget. It accurately reflects the very significant costs of running the programs of the church, paying the staff, maintaining the buildings, and belonging to Presbytery. We do stray from the preferred form by not capturing the annual stipend paid to Campbell Gillon, Pastor Emeritus.

Our budget does not reflect any capital expenses proposed for major renovations or systems replacement. These are now presented independently in a separate report. They will be funded directly from reserves or from special contributions. To date Session has not approved any capital expenditures. Session has approved \$57,000 Operating Fund support \$20,000 for the pastor emeritus stipend.

Ideally, our operating budget would be funded entirely by current income from pledges and contributions, income from rentals and fees, with income from the earnings on investments as needed. 2008 ended on a better note than was anticipated and 2009 brings fresh challenges as we struggle to stay within our means. We offer our thanks to Ralph Voltmer for his service on this committee for the past two years. Finally, the Finance Committee is grateful to staff, session and congregation, all committed to making GPC a priority in their lives and a beacon in our community.

Respectfully submitted,

John Schuhart, Chairman, and Kirk von Seelen

## **PASTORAL REPORT FOR 2008 FROM REV. MERRITT N. SCHATZ**

How should we characterize the year 2008 at Georgetown Presbyterian Church? In some ways it was an ordinary year: the Gospel was preached; glorious music enhanced our worship; officers were trained and led the congregation in a wide variety of ministries; children and adults participated in a range of educational and fellowship opportunities; weddings and funerals were held; and baptisms and communions were celebrated with joy.

Yet in many other ways 2008 was not ordinary. Some familiar faces were missing because they could not make sense of the turmoil of the previous year; others faced the challenges with renewed commitment and service. The Stewardship campaign yielded its best results ever. Session held a fruitful retreat led by the Rev. Jon Smoot in the presence of newly arrived interim pastor the Rev. Eric Springsted. Among the memorial services held were a higher than average number for long time and very active members whose absence will be greatly noticed. A revised but energetic campus ministry led by Jennifer Thalman Kepler and Sherry Krokowski was built on the foundation laid by the Rev. David Gray.

David Gray's departure at the end of June was both expected and lamented. David's presence for the past three years as Associate Pastor for Youth, Young Adults and Campus Ministries was a tremendous blessing for this congregation – exceeding by a year his contracted term and exceeding even the high expectations we had placed on him when he began his ministry here. David was indispensable in his support and ministry during my seven month term as acting Head of Staff. We shared worship responsibilities, committee resourcing, and pastoral care. David demonstrated great maturity and grace in a difficult time, as well as sharing his innumerable gifts and abilities with this congregation. We give thanks to God for the blessing of having David on our pastoral staff, both as Associate Pastor and earlier as intern. We rejoice with David and his family – Bridget, Andrew, and newborn Brendan – in his new call to Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church which he will begin in February, 2009.

Thanks are also due to our current intern, Amey Upton, who is serving her second and final year with us. Amey has assisted in worship, coordinated the Children's Church program, worked with the youth, and provided a calm and hope-filled presence.

On the first of June, Eric Springsted began his ministry with us as Interim Senior Pastor. It is with confidence and some relief that I handed over the reins of Acting Head of Staff to him as Head of Staff. In addition to being able to resume with more energy some of my usual responsibilities, I have been freed to pursue some ministries which have long been of interest to me – joining the National Response Team (disaster response team of the PC (U.S.A.)) and the Board of the InterFaith Conference of Greater Washington, DC. I am truly grateful to the Session of GPC for allowing me up to four weeks of additional leave to serve on the National Response Team.

### **CAMPUS MINISTRIES**

#### 2008 Report

Georgetown Presbyterian Student Fellowship has been meeting twice a month on Monday evenings for fellowship, bible study and prayer. In the fall 08 semester, our bible study theme was Social Justice in the Bible. We will kick off the Spring Semester with a retreat in Fort Valley, Va., where we will explore different types of prayer and how to sustain our prayer life in the midst of busy college schedules. We plan to continue our bi-monthly meetings in the spring.

Jennifer Thalman

## GPC BOARDS FOR 2009

### CLASS OF 2009

#### ELDERS

Nancy Kuhn  
Lori Martens  
Russell Porter  
Ralph Voltmer  
Kirk von Seelen

### CLASS OF 2010

Alex Bullock  
Anne Hale Johnson  
John Marshall  
Mary Beth Ray  
John Schuhart

### CLASS OF 2011

Judi Coates-Crowson  
Sherry Krokowski  
Kent Stevens  
Stan Whatley

#### DEACONS

Susan Hobbs  
David Howe  
Amy Kudwa  
Terry Nagi  
John Schmidt  
Jimmy Wilson  
Wendy Wilson  
Alan Wisdom

Erika Chan  
Elizabeth Fitchjian  
Paul Nazarenko  
Nicole Rice  
Ginny Snider  
Robert Sole

Juan Altamar  
Meg Bender  
Scott Burrell  
Meredith Cracraft  
Pat Davies  
Nicholas Gray  
Beverly Jones  
Eric Meyers  
Chuck Schilke