



— THE —  
**GEORGETOWN**  
**PRESBYTERIAN**  
— CHURCH —

Annual Report  
2010

231st Annual Congregational Meeting

January 20, 2011

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## Vestry Letter

Jesus said, "To whom much has been given, much will be required." Georgetown Presbyterian Church has been truly blessed with many resources of facility, of faculty, and of faith. Here on P Street, we strive to respond to Christ's calling and use our gifts for God's glory. Each year at this time we reflect on the year behind us and all we have accomplished and then we look forward to the work that lies ahead.

The year gone past was one of transitions as Rev. Merritt Schatz and Rev. Dr. Eric Springsted moved to new ventures. With their solid groundwork the year was off to a good start. When I arrived in September, I received an extremely warm welcome to Georgetown and have been thoroughly captured by the sense of energy and optimism that surrounds the church. I have enjoyed getting to know the congregation and learning about your hopes and dreams for this congregation. It has been a pleasure working with the Session as we begin to see our new chapter together begin to take shape. I am confident our church will be enlivened by our new elders and deacons as well as the new members bringing their fresh insights and energy.

While the New Year brings exciting opportunities for our church community we are grateful for all those who have labored tirelessly to ensure the continuous ministry remains unbroken. Many hands have ensured the children are taught, the punch is served, the mission is lived, the worship is faithful, the bulletins are folded and the lights are on! The year has not been one of standing still but rather one of pursuing the continual mission to be Christ's body in the world.

In this document, I hope you will see your contributions of time, talent and treasure being put to good work. With your continued generosity and God's spirit among us, we have much to celebrate and must to anticipate. We pray that God will continue to bless this congregation and we will continue to grow in faithfulness.

On behalf of the congregation, I would like to extend our gratitude to those whose work lies behind this annual report and those who have worked tirelessly throughout the year to keep our accounts in order.

Respectfully submitted

*C. L. Cook*

Camille L Cook



## Session Mission Committee



*GPC Youth at the Children of Uganda Orphanage, our first Mission trip, and in Canton, Ohio on our second Mission trip, Summer 2010*

**How are we called to serve the Lord?** With a focus on God’s children in our community and around the world, GPC’s mission work is thriving. We aim to make a meaningful impact on the groups we support, and to establish closer connections between these groups and GPC members. We continue to fund and support traditional Presbyterian mission projects, but we have gone beyond the denomination to foster our own mission traditions. The Session Mission Committee focuses on national and international needs, while the Deacon’s Outreach Committee spotlights local needs. As a practical matter these two committees work together, along with our Youth Group and Adult Education Committee, to concentrate GPC’s efforts at home and abroad.

**Quiz Night for Mission--** In May we held Quiz Night for Mission, which raised \$4,000 for our first two mission trips—one to Uganda and one to Ohio. Kirk von Seelen was our talented and enthusiastic master of ceremonies. Anne King organized a delicious meal. Robert Bell donated the fine wine, and Team Marshall won with a sizeable lead! All mission trip expenses were covered by the funds raised at Quiz Night, which included sales of the beautiful floral arrangements donated by Elizabeth Fitchijian, numerous bake sales organized by Susan Bell, and parent contributions. Kudos to our many fabulous and organized bakers and vendors, including the Bell family, Pat Davies, the Schatz family, Elizabeth Fitchijian, Penny Farthing, Emma Marshall, Marissa and Jared Baly, and Betsy and Alex Ray.

**Uganda Mission Trip and Children of Uganda Orphanage--** Alice Bell, Betsy Ray, Pat Davies and Kara Vanderkamp traveled to Uganda for 10 days in June, where they lived, played and prayed among the children our congregation has supported for over a decade. They unpacked and shelved hundreds of books which GPC had gathered and shipped earlier this year (special thanks to John and Emma Marshall and Elizabeth Fitchijian). They read with the kids, played soccer and other games, and did art projects. They visited Phillip’s House, the home built especially for the handicapped. Our first Music for Mission fundraiser helped raise the money needed to build a bathroom there. This was GPC’s first Mission trip in our 230 year history!

For the third year, the Mission Committee sponsors two Children of Uganda (“COU”) kids, Bob and Jane (\$984/each). In addition to the mission trip and the sponsorships, the Committee donated \$10,000 to COU, which was matched by an anonymous donor! Our contribution allows sponsorship of 3 additional children, and purchased 70 school uniforms, 70 school sweaters, teacher training and textbooks. See [www.childrenofuganda.org](http://www.childrenofuganda.org). Pictures from Uganda can also be found

on GPC's website Mission page, [www.gtownpres.org](http://www.gtownpres.org) and GPC's Facebook page.

**Ohio Mission Trip**— Emma Marshall, Marissa and Jared Baly, Lizzie and Jacob Schatz, and a friend traveled to Ohio in July where they participated in a weeklong work session homebuilding and teambuilding. After long days pounding nails, hanging drywall and painting, the kids slept on the floor of a school gym for a week, but they were obviously much inspired by their labor, by the team's leadership, and by the Holy Spirit! Once back in Washington, Marissa and Jared performed in church a beautiful song they learned while in Ohio.

**Remember Niger**—The Committee allocated \$2500 to Remember Niger. These funds are to be used for student and teacher scholarships, computers, and training in the second poorest nation in the world. Kara Vanderkamp, who showed extraordinary leadership chaperoning the Uganda trip, chairs Remember Niger. This is our second year to support this group. [www.rememberniger.org](http://www.rememberniger.org).

**Grameen Foundation Scholarship**-- The Mission Committee donated \$1500 to set up a scholarship for a needy and promising child in Bangladesh. The scholarship is self-sustaining, using the interest from the money to pay the student's school fees and a small stipend. [www.grameenfoundation.org](http://www.grameenfoundation.org).

**Gifts for Christ Market**—Marlene Wright Cary and Ashley Mattison co-chaired this GPC annual traditional event which raised a record \$14,680! That is \$3,000 more than last year. Special thanks to Marlene and Ashley and their dedicated team of volunteers for their terrific shopping, organizing, selling and marketing efforts. Jewelry, home décor, colorful clothing, and Christmas ornaments are just a few things sold at the Christ Market, which is designed to coincide with the Christmas shopping season. We were delighted to meet Paul Olaja, a graduate of the COU orphanage, who showed his art work and played the drums during the market and during worship. Market dates were November 14 and 21. This was the first year that we sold chickens to benefit the kids at COU, a new sustainable project! Gifts for Christ Market proceeds benefit Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, SERVV, Heifer International, Martha's Table, COU, Remember Niger, and other charities.



*Buy a chicken for the Children of Uganda orphanage and you will be supporting a sustainable project that benefits the kids both nutritionally and financially.*

**Kiva**---In the past two years, we made 35 loans to third world entrepreneurs through Kiva, and all of the original loans of about \$1500 were repaid and reloaned, with our Youth Group deciding to whom we should lend. We have loaned to borrowers in Peru, Equador, Cambodia, Tajikistan, Kenya, Mongolia, Vietnam, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Liberia, Nicaragua and Colombia. These are

loans that change lives, and most of the recipients are women who use their savings to educate their children. See more at [www.kiva.org](http://www.kiva.org).

**One Great Hour of Sharing** An annual collection, taken during worship, through PCUSA which raised about \$8,000.

**Haiti**— After the devastating January 2010 earthquake, GPC had a special Sunday morning offering for the victims of the disaster, with additional fundraising efforts through the GPC website. Pat Davies organized an assembly of health kits for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and Church World Service.

**The 2010 Mission budget also included:** \$20,000 contribution to the Presbytery/General Assembly; \$4500 donation to the Theological Education Fund; \$2500 to the Reformed Institute.

**Mission Speakers at Adult Education**—Mission-related speakers at Adult Ed. have included: Kara Vanderkamp, Remember Niger; Church World Service Regional Director Ted Farrar; Sabrina Quareshi, Client Relations manager, Grameen Foundation and its subsidiary Bankers without Borders; David Roll, Director of Lex Mundi Pro Bono Foundation, with Betsy Ray sharing her Kiva experiences from Vietnam; Pat Davies and Jan Smart, COU, with an emphasis on perma-culture (sustainable agriculture); Kiva general counsel Austin Choi; Scott Schenkelberg from Miriam's Kitchen; Lee Watenpugh on a Darfur mission project; Lindsey Buss, President of Martha's Table; and the GPC youth who traveled to Uganda and Ohio gave a lively and colorful presentation on their trips.

**Prayers for Members' Mission Efforts**—Working with Rev. Merritt Schatz, we encouraged a sermon focused on mission, and requested that worshippers write down the various organizations that they were involved with in our community and abroad. The list was amazing, including over 120 organizations as varied as human rights work, food for the needy, and help to the aged, sick and disabled. We have requested prayers for each of those groups and the volunteers who serve them.

**2010 Committee Members:** Kent Stevens, Co-chair, Susan Bell, Pat Davies, David Roll, Elizabeth Fitchijian, Tyler McGreevey, Marlene Wright Cary, Betsy Ray, Alice Bell. 2009 Co-chair, Judi Crowson. 2008 Co-chair, Tyler McGreevey.

**Mission Volunteers** are a dedicated group, and space does not permit acknowledgement of them all, but special "shout-outs" go to committee members listed above, as well as to Ashley Mattison, Sharon Brooke, Jonda McFarlane, Katy McBride, Kara Vanderkamp, Nancy Roll, Steve Hopkins, Anne Hale Johnson, Terry Nagi, Susan Noble Jones, Robin Jones, Bells, Balys, Marshalls, Schatzes, and Rays, Bev and Andrew Jones, Regina Langton, and David Gray. Thanks also to Barbara McClure who has provided great support over the years.

And finally, let me say that it has been my great honor and pleasure to have served as Mission Committee Chairman for the past three years. Please join me, and the GPC Mission Team, in welcoming our incoming chairman for 2011, Susan Bell! Susan will provide exceptional leadership, dedication and love in this important job, and I urge you to lend your time, talent, resources and prayers to support GPC's on-going mission work! **Respectfully submitted,**  
Mary Beth Ray, 2008-2010 Mission Committee Chair, [marybethray@verizon.net](mailto:marybethray@verizon.net)

## Adult Issues Class

The Adult Issues Class is lecture-based and meets at 9:30 on almost every Sunday morning between early September and June. Topics and schedule are planned by a committee consisting of Judi Crowson, Traudi Downey, Grace and Phil Fleming, Judy and Steve Hopkins, Ann and Steve Hunt, Shelly and Tom Jennings, Cynthia and Steve Johnson, Anne Johnson, Alice Lucan, Nancy and David Roll, and Camille Cook (ex officio).

Its goal is to explore issues of concern to our faith and our community. An illustrative list of the general topics and a few of the specific subjects discussed in 2010 include:

- Bible Study. Professor Denise Hopkins, Wesley Theological Seminary, discussed *The Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus*.
- PC(USA). A series of six lectures in the fall explored the workings of the constituent elements of the Presbyterian Church (USA); its highlight was a talk by Cindy Bolbach, the newly elected Moderator of the General Assembly regarding her perceptions of the problems and opportunities facing our denomination.
- GPC's History and Mission Outreach. Elder Jill Fri presented a new analysis of GPC's history; and Gunther Stern, Director, Georgetown Ministry Center, updated on GPC's aid to the homeless through its participation in the Floating Shelter Program
- Social Justice. Rev. Dr. Henry Justin Ferry discussed *Racism and the Reformed Tradition: the Prophetic Ministry of Francis Grimke*.
- Public Policy. Drew Portocarrero, EVP, World Security Institute, discussed *Nuclear Weapons: Should They and Can They be Eliminated Globally?* Elder Susan Page, Washington Bureau Chief, *USA Today*, discussed *Tea Party Politics and President Obama's Future—the Mid-Term Election and What's Ahead*. Elder Dr. John Marshall discussed *Realities of American Health Care*.
- Religion and Society. Barbara Bradley Hagerty, NPR Religion Correspondent, discussed *What Science Has to Say About God*; and Dr. Bruce Douglass, Georgetown University, devoted four sessions to discussing *An Educated Laity: An Obsolete Idea?*

The class is consistently well attended and discussion is usually lively among the speaker and attendees. GPC is blessed to have access to the wealth of knowledge provided by our excellent speakers.

## Session Children's Ministries Committee

Members:

John Marshall (Chair), Seam Buckley (Co-Chair), Ginny Snider, Esther Wisdom, Tracy Davis, Liza Marshall, Natalie Von Seelen, Merritt Schatz

The committee met 7 times in 2010. Minutes and notes were forwarded to the Session for each meeting and are part of the Session minutes. The meetings focused on:

- Providing Christian education for our children and youth
  - o Curriculum selection
  - o Paid staff management
  - o Volunteer staff management
  - o Recruitment
- Special event organization (table of events below)
  - o Several events were skipped this year due to either lack of interest, volunteer or ministerial support, or financial support

Souper Bowl
Valentines
One Great Hour of Sharing
Palm Sunday
Easter
M4M2 Dinner
Youth Sunday
Mother's Day
Confirmation –not done this year
Last Day of Sunday School
Semi-annual French Maternal School walk through
Closet clean out
Vacation bible school- not done this year
First Day of Sunday School
Youth Retreat- not done this year
Communion Training- not done this year
Pumpkin Painting
Homeless walk
St Nick Dinner
Advent
Christmas Pageant

- Transition to Merritt Schatz's leaving
  - o Staffing
  - o Organization
  - o Recruitment

- Many other things

#### New Successes

1. 3 active Sunday School classes (up from 2)
2. New youth group leadership (Tim Ogino)
3. New 2-4 teacher (Keri Lartz)
4. New Bells Program
5. Youth led 2 Mission trips (Some support from CM)
6. Initiated recruitment for DCE/Associate Pastor
7. Improved communication with GPC families through e-mail list
8. Improved attendance

#### Challenges ahead

1. Budget limitations for second year
2. DCE recruitment likely not until second half of 2011
3. Will need new active committee members

## **Session Stewardship Committee 2010**

The Stewardship Committee was responsible for two major initiatives in 2010: the Time and Talent Fair, and the annual Pledge Campaign. Both efforts were successful engagements of the congregation focused on the understanding that a life of faith is one of giving of oneself: time, talent, and treasure. The GPC website was updated to reflect this emphasis.

### **Time and Talents**

Seeking to engage more members in the overall life of the church, a Time and Talent Fair was held in September, the beginning of the church activities year. The emphasis of this event is to make visible the many committees that facilitate church life and to encourage others to join in those activities where they have some interest. Each GPC committee sponsored a booth, most of which were filled with pictures, materials, and committee members describing their activities throughout the year. Time and Talent forms were circulated in the weekly church bulletin listing different skills and efforts needed around the church. Church members were encouraged to find ways to donate of themselves using these forms.

### **Financial Pledges**

The theme of the 2010 Pledge Campaign was “Energizing & Equipping the Servants of God”. A colorful brochure was developed and mailed to the congregation showing GPC members and friends at worship and engaged in the many activities sponsored by the Church. A major emphasis of the Pledge Campaign was asking members to “step up” their giving this year. A chart was developed and widely publicized showing the number of pledges at different dollar levels, which showed that more than half of GPC members made no pledge at all during the previous year. A Committee goal was to increase the number of members pledging for the coming year. To this end, the Committee sponsored four Minutes for Mission focused on the many ways GPC enriches the lives of those who attend. In addition, a variety of articles appeared in the weekly church bulletin as well as articles in the monthly GPC Memo focused on the theological basis for giving to the church. Following Stewardship Sunday, November 14, the number of pledges received-to-date was highlighted weekly in the church bulletin, and Senior High student Marissa Baly created and maintained a poster for the narthex displaying the weekly increase in pledges.

At the end of December 2010, 110 pledges had been received totaling \$460,676, a total dollar increase over the previous year, but not an increase in the numbers of members pledging. This amount represents an increase over the past few years. Pledges are continuing to come in as we move into the new year.

### **Memorials and Major Gifts**

Special gifts from members and friends of GPC play an important role in supporting the programs of the Church each year beyond those received through annual giving and during special events. In addition to our members, we are blessed to have a significant number of non-members who give generously throughout the year. Some of these gifts were designated for specific purposes such as the Music Fund and the Flower Fund, but many others were received for general purposes. The Memorial Fund received many small gifts in honor of loved ones who passed away during the year. It is our practice to memorialize special gifts in the January Session minutes and in the Memorial Book in the Georgetown room.

The 2010 Stewardship Committee comprised Judith Crowson, Chair, John Schuhart, Jane Lewis,

Mike Baly and Valecia Crisafulli.

### **Report of the Pastor Nominating Committee**

Throughout 2010 the PNC, which was established in February 2009, met to continue our search for GPC's new pastor. We conducted interviews with several candidates, reviewed applications, listened to sermons and thoroughly checked references. In April, we began serious discussions with Rev. Camille Cook, who was serving as the interim Head of Staff at St. Columba's Church of Scotland in London, England. She visited the DC area in May when we heard her preach in a neutral pulpit. All members of the committee were impressed by Camille's warmth, her intellectually-engaging preaching and her wide range of gifts of ministry. Following Rev. Cook's visit to Washington, the committee with great prayerful consideration, voted to extend a call to Rev. Cook. We worked with our Presbytery liaison Julia Schaeffer to ensure all proper steps were taken. Rev. Cook was presented to the congregation and preached in our pulpit on June 27, 2010. Following a 98% vote of approval by the congregation, and approval by Presbytery, Rev. Cook arrived in September to begin her tenure as our senior pastor. Her installation took place on November 7th, 2010. The PNC included: co-chairs Katy McBride and Lori Martens, Jill Fri, Suzanne Bush, Anna Schuhart, Karl Mattison, Stan Whatley, David Roll, and Winston Haythe. The Committee was formally dismissed following the vote of the congregation at the congregational meeting on June 27, 2010.

### **Flower Committee 2010**



The Flower Committee is a blossoming group! We decorated for Easter as a group and this Advent season we did our progression for preparing for the celebration of Christ's birth, by adding something new each week. We especially thank Clifford and Timmy for their help in hanging and taking down the wreaths over the front doors.

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 who rotate arranging the Sunday flowers are: Patricia Berl, Meredith Ferro, Grace Fleming, Hiroko Hersey, Judy Hopkins, Frank Johnson, Janet Lanman, Nancy Roll, Helen Romness, Jessica Staszak, Kent Stevens, Diane Whatley, Margaret Wisdom, and Marlene Wright. Thank you, all.

Jill Fri, Chair

## Session Membership and Evangelism Committee

The committee's objectives this year were 1) to continue its visitor tracking process, begun in 2009, 2) to educate and welcome spring and fall new members, 3) to host a new member dinner honoring both spring and fall new members—*special thank you to Gene and Nancy Bradley for their generosity*-- and 4) to continue after-worship greeting by session members, begun in 2009. We accomplished these objectives but also, due to the interest and involvement of Rev. Cook, made several other improvements:

We improved the **new member education and induction** process by consolidating what had been, for at least two previous years, a member class series requiring attendance on three consecutive Sundays. In place of this series of classes Rev. Cook organized a complete one-day conference, beginning with breakfast and ending with lunch, and included several Session members and Dr. Bruce Douglas speaking on the topics of Christianity, the Presbyterian denomination and Reformed faith, and details of GPC activities.

Rev. Cook improved communication to the GPC community by creating a new, contemporary-style, colorful, **weekly email** carrying activities, announcements and worship details.

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Membership Rolls: With Rev. Cook's input the Committee decided to postpone until 2011 making recommendations to the Session regarding member roll revisions.

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Respectfully submitted,

Jane Lewis (co-chair)  
Stan Whatley (co-chair)

*Membership & Evangelism Committee:*

Elizabeth Avery  
Nancy Bradley  
Gene Bradley  
Katherine Buckley  
Julie Goffe  
Anne King  
Joshua Pitcock  
Katie Seaman Pitcock  
Kent Stevens

## Session Nominating Committee

The 2010 Nominating Committee comprised: Session representatives Judith Crowson and Steven Johnson, Deacon representatives Anne King and Charles Schilke, and congregation representatives Catherine Holmes, Al Johnson, Alan Wisdom, Laura Speer and Russell Porter.

The Committee began its work in May, 2010 by acquainting the members with its responsibilities spelled out in the Book of Order and by reviewing the descriptions of the offices of Elders and Deacons. The timeline for this committee was discussed and members were asked to give prayerful consideration to developing lists of congregational members who might be considered for nomination.

Additional Committee meetings were held in September and October. A large number of declines from those asked to serve in the Office of Deacon, as well as concerns expressed by the Board of Deacons over the past few years, led the Committee to petition the Session to reduce the size of the Board of Deacons from 30 members to 21 members, to take effect on January 1, 2011. This was approved at the October 21 Session meeting. The following slate of officers was taken to the congregation in December 2010.

### The Session Class of 2013

Mike Baly  
Tracy Davis  
Katy McBride  
Karl Mattison.

### Deacon Class of 2013

Kit Braithwaite  
Claire Farver  
Gordon Grant  
John Struble  
Michele Wilson.

### 2011 Nominating Committee

Elissa Baly  
Katherine Buckley  
John Marshall  
Robert Sole  
Margaret Wisdom  
Stephen Hopkins –alternate  
Ian McDonald – alternate

Respectfully submitted  
Judith Crowson, Chair

## Deacon Outreach Committee

### Committee Members:

Juan Altamar  
Pat Davies (Chair)  
Kevin Holmes  
Anne King  
Ginnie Luster  
Betsy Ray



Local outreach provides valuable opportunities for GPC members to work together to serve the Lord and enjoy times of fellowship, while at the same time providing vital services to underserved members of their own community.

The Deacon's Outreach Committee members, along with many other members of GPC, worked hard in 2010 to continue to undertake local outreach activities with the same organizations, and at a similar level, as in previous years, but with a reduced budget (\$15,500 was allocated to the Committee in 2010, rather than the \$17,000 we received in the three preceding years).

The following organizations/projects were supported:

### **Georgetown Ministry Center Congregation Based Shelter**

Support consisted of a donation of \$5,000 and the hosting of the annual homeless shelter. The Congregation Based Shelter was established in 1991 through the Georgetown Ministry Center (GMC) in collaboration with several Georgetown congregations. The shelter serves 10-15 individuals who sleep on cots and can live with simple rules. The residents are usually the most vulnerable and resistant to other shelters, and each congregation involved hosts the shelter for between one and four weeks. The move-in occurs on Sundays at a time convenient to the two congregations involved in the handoff. The congregation passing off the shelter is responsible for moving the duffle bags and cots to the next host church. The shelter is in operation from November until the end of March.

GPC has hosted the shelter for many years and in 2010 John Schmidt did an excellent job of coordinating GPC's participation, which was for three consecutive weeks, from February 7 to 28. Since there was a major snow storm within this period, when Washington DC received about 3' of snow, providing meals each day became a little challenging, particularly when guests could not leave during the day, so additional food was required, and dinner volunteers could not get to church to provide meals. However many volunteers were able to walk to church, and GMC also coordinated assistance from other nearby congregations, so everything worked out well.

In 2011 GMC requested GPC to host the Shelter from January 2 to 9 and February 13 to 27, so the latter part of 2010 was spent in recruiting volunteers and purchasing supplies for the first week.

### **Easter Basket Project**

Once again GPC joined with Holy Trinity Catholic Church to provide Easter baskets for needy children of all ages in the DC area, and for the 10 residents of the Georgetown Aged Women's Home. The project was coordinated by Kevin Holmes and over 100 baskets were assembled, but it was disappointing that the congregation pledged and donated substantially fewer baskets than in the

past, and we had to solicit donations and purchase baskets and contents and assemble them ourselves in order to meet our commitment. This could have been because church attendance was fairly low during this period, but we might consider being cautious and committing to a lesser number of baskets this year, if we participate in the same project.

### **Central Union Mission**



We supported Central Union Mission with a donation of \$1,000 and, as in 2008 and 2009, participated in the Backpack project to provide backpacks filled with school supplies to underprivileged youth in the city. In 2010 the project was very efficiently organized and managed by Anne King, and on Sunday, July 25, a large crowd assembled in the Georgetown Room after the service to assemble a record number of 225 backpacks, which GPC members delivered to Central Union Mission the following week.

### **Marine Adopt-a-Family Project**

Ginnie Luster coordinated the Marine Adopt-a-Family project this year and recruited 12 members of GPC congregation to provide Christmas gifts for 12 Marine families whose children would otherwise not receive gifts due to financial hardship. In fact there were more members of the congregation willing to sign up to provide gifts than available Marine families, so maybe this bodes well for the next Easter Basket project! Ginnie Luster and Juan Altamar delivered the gifts to Henderson Hall in early December.

### **Martha's Table**

Martha's Table was sent a donation of \$500 and we also invited them to participate in Christ Market, where they raised additional funds. Betsy Ray organized a pre-Christmas Toy Drive and Mary Beth and Alex Ray delivered the toys to Martha's Table in time for them to be given out to needy families at Christmas.

### **Miriam's Kitchen**

Miriam's Kitchen was also sent a donation of \$500 and invited to participate in Christ Market, where they raised additional funds.

### **Georgetown Aged Women's Home**

As in the past, funds were allocated in the Deacon's Outreach budget to purchase Christmas gifts for the nine residents of the Georgetown Aged Women's Home. Juan Altamar kindly took on this project in 2010, and delivered the gifts on Christmas Eve. A nice note of appreciation was received from one resident saying *"To Church Staff & Members. Thank you so much for the lovely gifts. I really appreciated that you have taken your time to assemble all the items. Lovely and useful things. Again thank you all your angels on Earth."* Peggy Reimer

In conclusion I would like to thank all of the dedicated and hard working members of the Deacon's Outreach Committee who each played their part to ensure that we could continue to do God's work in our community, as well as all the staff and members of GPC who supported these activities.

Respectfully submitted by Pat Davies on behalf of the Deacon's Outreach Committee

## Heritage Committee Report

Members of the Heritage Committee focused on two major projects during the past year: (1) The Barbara Bowersox Memorial DVD project, and (2) preparation, editing, and organizing the nine oral history interviews with former GPC pastors in appropriate form to be published in early 2011 under the title "The View From the Pulpit".

The Bowersox family -- Jack and daughters Ann Gordon and Joan Jurenas -- came up with the idea that the best way to create a memorial to Jack's wife Barbara, who died in early 2009, would be to produce a short video depicting GPC's history and current programs that could be shown easily on a wall-mounted TV/DVD player in the Bride's Room. The six-minute DVD gives members, friends and guests a sense of who we are and how vital GPC is today, 230 years after its founding. A task force of the Committee worked with Alex Barker, who is a gifted ideographer and friend of the Bowersox family. Many members helped with photographs and suggestions. Ann Gordon, a writer, put together the script for the narrator, Susan Page.

Joan Jurenas served as project manger, and we were able to premiere the final DVD before Christmas, slightly under budget. The Session approved the use of the funds in the Barbara Bowersox Memorial Fund and additional contributions covered the cost of producing the DVD and purchasing a new TV/DVD player for the Bride's Room. The DVD is dedicated to Barbara, who grew up in our church and was a devoted member of it for nearly all of her 79 years. She was an ardent GPC historian who cherished the church's history and kept it alive through her monthly newsletter columns and her stewardship of the GPC Archives.

The DVD showcases the contributions of Barbara and the generations of members and preachers before her to GPC's rich and inspiring story.

The Committee has been collecting Oral History interviews with pastors, associate pastors, church leaders and long-time members since 1994. In 2006 the Committee published "Glimpses", life at GPC in the 20th century. Phase II began with interviews of former pastors in 2006, and the last of these pastor interviews was completed on January 2010. The nine interviews were transcribed, then carefully edited by Susan Page, and now a task force is fact-checking and considering how best to further edit and shorten the collection, which at present runs 95 pages. We hope to publish the shorter version of these interviews under the title "The View From the Pulpit," hopefully in March or April. This continuing project honors the long history of GPC, founded in 1780, the oldest church of any denomination with an unbroken ministry in the District of Columbia.

Doug McFadden has continued to prepare columns for Memo, sharing interesting glimpses of early history, as Barbara Bowersox had done for so many years. Jill Fri, Ann Hunt and Jolene Blozis have been collaborating on how best to prepare a finding guide to the several boxes of archival materials and records now in our Heritage Room, and work on this project will continue in 2011. The Committee ended the year under budget. Its members are Charlie Alexander, Jack Bowersoxl, Jolene Blozis, Jill Fri, Judy Hopkins, Ann Hunt, Peggy Garrett, Doug McFadden, Tracey Price, Phil Fleming, and Rev. Camille Cook. Ann Gordon and Joan Jurenas worked closely with the Committee on the DVD project.

For the Committee,  
Phil Fleming, Chair

### Session Worship and Music Committee

This past year was certainly quite a year of transition for GPC. Worship services were led up until the summertime by our Interim Pastor Eric Springsted and our Associate Pastor Merritt Schatz. Merritt departed at the end of May, preaching in one of her final sermons that “We can offer Christ . . . because God in grace has given Christ to and for us, and has given us the privilege and responsibility to share Christ with others.” Merritt certainly exemplified all of that. Fond memories of Merritt’s leadership of worship will linger long here at GPC.

Eric also left us in 2010 after seeing us through the transition to a selection of a new Senior Pastor. Eric will certainly be well remembered for his leadership of worship at GPC, particularly for his scholarly sermons, use of humor to make a point, and his absolute delight in directing the children through enactments of the stories of the Christmas season. (“It is time to now bring on the cattle, lowing of course, but let’s keep the wise men at a distance for this week.”)

The final phase of a long wait for a new Senior Pastor involved a six week period in the summer of 2010 without a Pastor or the choir. Guest preachers filled-in each week, with GPC member Susi Stoll serving as the liturgist and the sure calm voice of continuity. Soloists from the choir, which had been dismissed for two months for budget reasons, filled-in admirably for the full choir and attendance remained reasonably steady.

Of course the transition to new leadership ended with the arrival of Camille Cook in early September. Camille’s leadership of worship has obviously been *greatly appreciated* by longstanding members of the congregation and by all the newcomers who suddenly appeared in large numbers in the Fall. Indeed, by October a place to sit in the sanctuary was no sure thing.

Worship services in 2010 included Camille’s installation service in November – complete with bagpipes. At least twenty members of Camille’s former congregation, St. Columba’s of London, attended the service. The Reverend Dr. Fred R. Anderson of New York’s Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church preached the installation sermon; the Reverend Rebecca Messman, Camille’s classmate at Princeton, provided the charge – “she’s a heck of a water-skier . . . [but] she doesn’t walk on water” – and GPC Pastor Emeritus Campbell Gillon led prayer. Music at the service included the Processional for the Order of St John (Richard Strauss), an apparent longstanding favorite of the St. Columba’s contingent.

For 2010 a thank you is once again in order for our choir director, John Lintner, and the choir for providing magnificent music in 2010. We are truly blessed by the music they add to our worship. A special thanks is also in order for Alvin Carpintero and Robert Martinez for their vocal coaching and conducting talents.

A thank you is also in order for all the volunteers who participated in worship as readers, ushers, flower preparers, communion servers, greeters, soundboard operators (thank you Alex Ray for taking charge), advent liturgists, and, of course, Pentecost spirit “noisemakers.” A special thanks also to Jill Fri and Al Johnson for rounding up volunteers and taking care of the many details behind the scenes for formal worship at GPC in 2010.

On behalf of the Worship and Music Committee,  
Kent Stevens

## Buildings and Grounds Committee

The Buildings and Grounds Committee leveraged a \$34,000 budget for 2010 with the proceeds from concurrent storm damage insurance payments to effect a number of repairs and improvements to the physical plant and systems. The projects reviewed below have significantly reduced the effects of a number of years of deferred maintenance. The \$53,000 budget for 2011 signifies an additional commitment to current maintenance.

### Review of Projects Completed in 2010 (cost)

1. Removed and replaced snow-damaged boxwood bushes in front garden. (\$590)
2. Installed wrought iron railings at tree wells in front courtyard. (\$4060)
3. Removed and replaced ice-damaged compressor for Heritage Room (\$3925. Covered in full by insurance.)
4. Repaired ice-damaged air conditioning units in west alley. (\$2395. Covered in full by insurance.))
5. Replaced parts and adjusted plumbing in third floor restroom of Balch Hall and in women's restrooms of main building. (\$621)
6. Replaced entire ice-damaged west gutter of Sanctuary; repaired east gutter of Sanctuary, repaired east and west gutters of Balch Hall; repaired north gutter of building containing back hallway, restrooms, and Washington Room; replaced gutter at north end of courtyard columbarium; replaced gutter around bell tower; repaired/replaced roof slates where displaced by ice (\$8761. Covered in full by insurance.)
7. Redirected gutter downspouts from northeast corner of Sanctuary roof and from northwest corner of Balch Hall roof to better manage runoff. (Covered in full by insurance as part of # 6 above.)
8. Resurfaced the roof of the bell tower including the installation of a new membrane and removal/replacement of roofing stones. (Covered in full by insurance as part of # 6 above.)
9. Removed water-damaged wooden floor from east one-third of Washington Room, dried sub floor and adjacent wall, replaced wooden floor, patched and refinished wall, repaired leaks. (\$766. Covered in full by insurance.)
10. Repaired front entrance door to Balch Hall. Installed new threshold, kick plates, reinforcement to lower panels, and paint. (\$920.)
11. Patched and painted water-damaged, kitchen wall below the counter to the left of the back door which leads to the alley. (\$325.)
12. Removed and replaced degraded caulking around internal gutter at west roof pediment of Sanctuary building to resolve leak above Lintner office. (\$813. Covered in full by insurance.)
13. Installed closed display case in office lobby of Balch Hall for regulatory notices and announcements. (\$520)
14. Repaired thermostat in reception office. (\$353)
15. Weeded, pruned, mulched, and removed expired planting materials in front and courtyard gardens as necessary through the season and installed annuals and bedding materials in the gardens and associated planters. (\$1004)
16. Removed multiple layers of degraded paint on the exterior doors to the Narthex/Sanctuary. Primed and repainted the doors; sanded and repainted the white surrounds to the Narthex/sanctuary doors; sanded and repainted the 7 window frames on the exterior (South)

- front of the main building. (\$4628)
17. Installed new window blinds in the offices of the bookkeeper and DCE. (\$1350)
  18. Removed two layers of old flooring in the three restrooms on the third floor of Balch Hall (French Maternal School/Sunday School) in preparation for installation of new porcelain tile floors. (\$340) See #22 following.
  19. Identified and repaired a coolant leak in one of the air conditioning units in the West alley, recharged the system with coolant, and confirmed full efficiency of the system. (\$1907)
  20. Identified the source of a leak in one of the air-conditioning units serving the Sanctuary, cleared the plug in the condensate line which caused the leak, and relocated the overflow sensor in the drip pan to a more appropriate position where it is more likely to prevent future leaks. (\$303)
  21. Removed outdated and worn humidifier serving the Heritage Room and replaced it with a smaller, simpler unit sufficient for the demand. Replacement equipment came to market since the original installation and is more appropriate for the task, requiring less maintenance. (\$2650)
  22. Installed new porcelain tile floors and moldings in restrooms and janitor's closet on third floor of Balch Hall. Installed porcelain backsplash around lavatory and janitor's sinks in boy's and girl's restrooms. Repainted restroom walls and stall dividers and closet. Reseated four toilets on new flanges. (\$8600)
  23. Installed new gas burners (32) and electronic controls in heating boilers, replaced old pressure tank with new, variable-pressure tank, and repaired pumps for circulating system. (\$6500).

## **Deacon Hospitality Committee**

The Hospitality Committee was responsible for the following activities during the 2010 calendar year:

- \* Lunch Bunch/Punch Bunch - Provided lunch or light reception on a weekly basis following the Sunday worship service;
- \* Hosted New Member receptions in March and November
- \* Hosted Easter Brunch
- \* Hosted Merritt's farewell reception
- \* Hosted Camille's Introductory reception
- \* Hosted Eric's farewell reception
- \* Hosted Camille's "Welcome" reception
- \* Hosted Camille's Installation Dinner/Reception
- \* Hosted the Annual St. Nickolas Dinner
- \* Committee was responsible for assisting with funerals when necessary

It was decided that the annual Church Picnic should be held in the spring rather than in the fall

## **Administration and Personnel Committee**

Throughout our history, our Congregation has been blessed with leadership and guidance from a variety of ministers whose gifts were varied but who shared the mission of dedicated service. The year of 2010 saw the end of two such ministries at Georgetown Presbyterian Church and the beginning of another. In 1997, Reverend Merritt Schatz accepted a call from our congregation. During her thirteen years as Associate Pastor, Merritt worked tirelessly in a variety of roles, including preaching, pastoral care, leading the Deacons, serving as acting head of staff during two transitions, and providing a sense of continuity during periods of change. She performed all of these roles in an able and gracious manner, and serving as a reminder of our mission to seek to do God's will in our actions. We are grateful for her ministry and wish her well in her new ministry at Grove Presbyterian Church in Aberdeen, Maryland.

We are also grateful for the interim ministry of Reverend Eric Springsted. During two years in that role, Eric's preaching, teaching, and work with the Session provided our congregation with the leadership that prepared us for a new Senior Pastor. He led the Session's efforts to reorganize and reinvigorate the church leadership. In addition to his excellent preaching, we are grateful for Eric's gifts as a teacher, demonstrated through his classes on the Old and New Testaments which were widely and enthusiastically attended.

In September, we welcomed Reverend Camille Cook as our new Senior Pastor. Camille has brought a new sense of energy and vision to Georgetown Presbyterian Church and we look forward to learning from and working with her in the years to come.

Our worship continues to be enriched by the by the talent and enthusiasm and dedication of our director of music, John Lintner. His emphasis on the significance of sacred music as an important part of our worship service is a true blessing. Our bookkeeper, Barbara McClure, continues to provide dedicated service that has helped to keep our finances in sound condition.

Camille, our church staff, and the Session are grateful for the prayers and support of the congregation during our time of transition and we look forward to 2011 and the opportunities that we will have for renewal and revitalization.

Alex Bullock, Chair