



St. Anthony on the Desert Episcopal Church

**Mission Statement:
To Celebrate the Life-Changing Love of Christ through
Worship, Teaching and Outreach**

***Annual Meeting
January 25, 2009***

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2008 Annual Report

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- Endowment Committee



Meeting Minutes

At the opening of the meeting, Dr. Craig Westendorf led the parishioners in a hymn, "Jesus Christ Our Lord".

Fr. Harold Clinehens followed with Prayer.

The meeting was opened at 11:15 a.m. by Catherine Gilbert, St. Anthony's Senior Warden.

It was established that a quorum was present.

Catherine announced that our parish is going green in 2008, reflecting our new attitude toward expenses, and the Annual Report was not printed. It was posted on the St. Anthony Website and contains all of the latest reports on our ministries. For parishioners that do not have access to the web site, a sign up sheet was provided, and hard copies would be made available on a request basis.

Catherine moved that we dispense with the reading of the 2007 Annual Report and moved that the parishioners approve it. There was a unanimous vote to approve the Annual Report without review.

Stephanie Darkoch was installed as the Clerk for the 2007 Annual Meeting.

Catherine introduced Harry Boysen, a current Vestry member, to provide an overview of the new voting process that the Parish was introducing this year and the slate of nominated candidates. Previously St. Anthony had voted by a casting of lots.

Harry announced that six Vestry members are rotating off of the Vestry this year. Normally this many Vestry members do not rotate off at the same time; however, last year the Bishop requested that three stay on to sustain continuity.

A slate of candidates was identified by a nominating committee made up of Fr. Harold Clinehens, Chuck Bolte, Mike Galloway, and Catherine Gilbert. Seventeen candidates were contacted in early December to determine their level of interest in serving on the Vestry. Nominees for both three-year year and two-year terms were identified and slated on the ballot. In addition to voting in 6 new Vestry members, the position of Jr. Warden would also be nominated and voted upon.

Harry proceeded to explain how the voting process works. Parishioners age 16 and older, those who are contributing to the church and are actively attending qualified to vote for the new Vestry members. Harry presented the slate of candidates to be voted upon.

Slate of nominees for Jr. Warden included: Jonathan Bost.

Slate of nominees for the 3-year term included: Stephen Cihak, Jeanne Paige and Jeff Roberts.

Slate of nominees for the 2-year terms: Barbara Ells, Patricia Faiveley, Jack Meinert and Mario Vassaux.

Harry thanked the 6 retiring Vestry members for their commitment.

Catherine Gilbert then opened the floor for additional nominees. No additional nominees were presented. She announced that the elections were made by majority of votes. Candidates had to receive a majority of votes to become a vestry member.

Catherine also announced that six nominees were being presented as delegates to the Diocesan Convention in October. Five delegate positions are slated each year.

Catherine opened the floor for any additional nominees. There were none. It was also agreed that the delegates would be selected by majority motion, and the sixth candidate would become the alternate delegate.

Delegates nominated for the Convention were: Lorna Bennett, Karin Burklein-Rascona, Michael Everett-Patriquin, Barbara Guenther, Jill Kyler, Cyndi Sax.

As votes were being tallied, the following business reports were delivered

- Youth – Rite 13, J2A and Sr. High Group
- Search Committee
- Jr. Warden
- Sr. Warden & Budget

Rite 13

As a group, the youth that make up Rite 13 presented an update on their activities. Rite 13 is made up of 6th and 7th graders. It is a new program that started this year. Rite 13 focuses on celebrating the individuality of the children and their creativity. The children celebrate the gifts of manhood and womanhood with the congregation. They will stay together for two year. The first Rite 13 liturgy will be on February 24. Leaders are Jack and Melody Taylor.

J2A – Journey to Adult

Shane Taylor presented the update for the J2A group. J2A or Journey to Adulthood, is made up of 8th and 9th graders and is the next level of the Sunday School curriculum. They will stay together for two year and plan a pilgrimage trip in preparation for Senior High Group beginning in 10th grade. Leaders are Mike and Anita Terry and Steve and Samantha Jensen.

Sr. High YAC

Caitlin Gilbert presented the update for the Sr. High group. The Sr. High group is made up of high school students continuing their journey to adulthood. Each year this group goes on mission trips – in 2007 they traveled to Honesdale, Pennsylvania and this year they will go to Wheaton, Minnesota. They will have a fundraiser called Souper Bowl Sunday on February 4. Leaders are Cathy Gilbert, Beth Hammond and Jack Taylor.

Rector Search Committee

Hal Hunt, the Rector Search Committee chair, gave an update on the Rector Search. The rector search is on schedule, and we as a parish have accomplished a great deal in the last 12 months in this process. A search can take 9 to 18 months to complete, sometimes longer. The Parish Profile is complete and posted to our website for candidates to review. We are beginning to receive names of candidates, 10 to date. All candidate names come through the Bishop's office as the Bishop's office must approve candidates before coming to the committee to ensure we consider priests that meet our needs. We anticipate that we will select our next Rector in late spring or early summer.

Jr. Warden

Catherine Gilbert delivered Dan Roach's message as he was unable to attend the meeting. He thanked John Kyler and Cassidy Lovato for the repairs and maintenance of the church grounds. He also thanked the Men's Group and other volunteers for repairs. A special thank you went to the Courtyard Committee for completing the courtyard this year.

Sr. Warden Update

Catherine Gilbert, Sr. Ward, reviewed the Rector Search process and discussed how it has been a worthwhile process as it has helped us to discern who we are.

This year we celebrated two great events – St. Anthony's 20 year anniversary and the dedication of the Jerry Anderson Education wing. Secondly, we celebrated the completion of our church courtyard.

Catherine provided a Vestry year in review on the following topics:

Vestry Workshop – looked at purpose of Christian church

Finance Forums – with a focus on transparency.

Task force – reviewed Center of Health and Reconciliation, with a decision to disband.

Pledging Analysis – pledges have been a challenge this year with the many changes. Pledges to date are slightly increased over last year.

Online banking – moved to online banking to facilitate bookkeeping. Parishioners can also sign up to have funds withdrawn from their accounts for pledges. The benefit is improved cash flow.

Bishop Rector Search Visit – the Bishop visited the Vestry to discuss our process; he thinks highly of St. Anthony and thinks we are right on target with our search process.

Stewardship Campaign - Patty Counce recognized for fabulous job of stewardship campaign.

New Mission Statement Announced

Catherine announced our new Mission Statement that emerged from the Vestry's workshop this year. Our new Mission Statement is: To celebrate the life changing love of Christ through worship, teaching and outreach.

Catherine thanked the vestry for their dedication and work in creating the new mission statement.

Bylaws Amendments

By-Law Revisions were made this year regarding the composition, eligibility and selection of Vestry members.

Section 1. The Vestry will consist of Rector, two wardens and nine Vestry members. Beth Hammond, Youth Director, formed a youth council. The Vestry will meet with them for their input.

Section 2. To be eligible for election or appointment to the Vestry, the candidate must be a confirmed communicant in good standing for at least six months before an election or appointment. We will no longer be distinguishing Winter Residents as a representation on the Vestry. *Section 4.* A nominating committee consisting of three outgoing Vestry members, Sr. Warden and Rector will prepare a slate for approval. At the annual parish meeting members will elect by majority three vestry members for three-year terms.

2008 Budget Review

Catherine thanked Tom Cervino, Barbara Ells and Bob Blackburn for their service on the Budget Committee.

Catherine reviewed the 2008 budget. Many parishioners increased their pledges this year. However, we still are unable to meet our obligations, even though we decreased expenditures in 2007, including the reductions in salaries by 2 people. In 2008 there is no room to cut salaries. The Vestry discussed our budget with diocese treasurers. We did everything we could do. In addition, we have not made our diocese assessment based on our budget last year with a shortfall of \$21,000. We have to recognize we must make assessment. In conversations with Bishop, we will continue to be monitored on our status but to date we are not being asked to use our Line of Credit.

In addition, we cannot finance rector search and move. Catherine asked parishioners to contribute to funding the search and move. We will need \$25,000 to finance search, and we are setting up fund for search and relocation.

Due to the full Annual Parish Meeting Agenda and Vestry voting, it was decided to hold a separate Annual Financial Report meeting. It was scheduled for Sunday, February 3 after the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services.

Recognitions

Catherine recognized outgoing Vestry members for their service. They are: Harry Boysen, Chuck Bolte, Mike Galloway, Lorna Bennett, Patsy Lawrie, Sara Kyler and Caitlin Gilbert. Continuing as Vestry members are: Harold Aikins, Shelly Byrnes and Bill Counce.

Catherine also recognized the church staff for their dedication to our church. Staff did not receive increases this year.

Peggy Sands – Administrator and Director, Walking the Mourners Path

Cassidy Lovato – Sexton

Mary Hopeman – Treasurer

Craig Westendorf – Pastoral Musician

Beth Hammond – Director of Christian Formation

Jan Wilner – Deacon and handcrafted vestments for Christmas

Harold Clinehens - Interim Rector, an honor to have him

Jill Kyler – Minister for Evangelism

Harold Clinehens recognize Catherine for her leadership and tireless efforts as Sr. Warden

Fr. Harold also acknowledged individuals that have assisted as fellow clergy including Jan Wilner, Jean Welch and Fr. John Millar.

Caroline Welch spoke on behalf of Fr. Gene Welch as he was not able to attend the parish meeting.

Fr. Gene wished to thank the vestry, search committee, Catherine Gilbert and Fr. Harold for their service. He feels blessed and proud of all groups here at St. Anthony on the Desert.



Ministries Update

Small group Ministry was introduced this year at St. Anthony and is led by Cyndi Sax.

Welcome team is a ministry led by Jill Kyler and is the first face that newcomers see. It is a fun ministry of 20 people and they welcome more.

Jim Graves spoke about Cursillo, which has returned to the diocese. It is a short course that teaches what it means to be a Christian. There is a men's weekend on April 24-27 and Women's on May 1-4.

Vestry Voting Results

The votes were calculated and the results are as follows:

Jr. Warden - John Bost

Three Year Term: Stephen Cihak, Jeanne Paige, and Jeff Roberts.

Two-Year Term: Barbara Ells, Patricia Faiveley, and Mario Vassaux

Diocesan Convention Delegates: Karin Burklein-Rascona, Michael Everett-Patriquin, Barbara Guenther, Jill Kyler and Cyndi Sax. Alternate to Convention: Lorna Bennett.

New Vestry Members were sworn in by Fr. Harold Clinehens.

Catherine concluded the Annual Meeting, and Fr. Harold led the parishioners in a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Darkoch
Clerk

Rector's Report

Called to New Beginnings

Dear Friends in Christ,

Across the Mediterranean – in cities such as Galatia, Corinth and Thessalonica – followers of Christ gathered. At first they met secretly in the dark of night in homes, where over a meal of bread and wine they retold stories about a man who they believed was the Son of God. They spoke about his Passion – his death and resurrection – and also about his passion to tell others about God. These early followers were infused with Christ's Spirit and with this same passion. Others could not help but notice the vibrancy of life within these communities and in time their numbers grew. Never content to simply maintain an insular existence they pushed out into the world with a message that amazed the world with its incredible promise – and so the Christian church was born.

Over two thousand years later the question must be asked – where is the church's passion today? As followers of Christ we gather to share bread and wine and stories about a man we believe is the Son of God. But are we infused with Christ's Spirit and with his passion? Do we appear to possess a vibrancy of life that the Gentiles of our day cannot help but notice? Do we ourselves believe that the message we carry can transform the world?

These are the questions we must grapple with if we hope for a new beginning for Christ's church. If we do not find ways of pushing out into the world we will slowly become irrelevant. This past year has been a time of reflection as we have looked for ways to grow in our connection with God and with others. New ministries are beginning – Global Outreach to Takwe, Rwanda, pastoral care under the auspices of Open Hands and Open Hearts, and an exploration of ways to care for victims of domestic violence. Beyond these new ventures we continue to strengthen all the ministries at St. Anthony – through prayer and discernment and the recruitment and support of new leaders. Ministries at St. Anthony are grouped into five broad headings: Christian Formation, Outreach and Service, Stewardship, Worship and Parish Life. I encourage you to read the pages of this report to learn more about these ministries and to find your place among them.

The coming year will continue to build on our efforts. We will launch a capital campaign this year that will place us on a solid financial footing. By retiring our sizeable mortgage we will free up much needed funds to support our ministry expansion. But our capital campaign will hopefully accomplish more than fundraising. This program is designed to connect us in ways that build community and invite us to imagine and dream of our future together. Parish-wide participation will help form us in our faith and give us confidence to share that faith with others.

In the coming year I hope that everyone will join in some tangible ways to deliver the Good News of Christ. Remember, there can be no pew sitters if we truly hope to grow a church they cannot help but notice in Scottsdale, Fountain Hills, Mesa, Phoenix and beyond.

In Christ,
Dorian+

Sr. Warden Annual Report

Vestry Members:

Catherine Gilbert, Sr. Warden; Jon Bost, Jr. Warden; Jeanne Paige, Clerk; Barbara Ells, Treasurer; Harold Aikins; Shelley Byrnes; Stephen Cihak; Bill Counce; Patricia Faiveley; Jeff Roberts; and Mario Vassaux.

The Vestry is the fiduciary body of the church providing management and leadership to the congregation. At its core is the responsibility to be good stewards of the gifts given to St. Anthony while having vision to see where God is calling us as a parish. This includes the management of the financial resources and providing leadership in ministry framed around our mission statement.

2008 can be divided into two distinct periods. The beginning of the year was centered on the call of a new Rector. This included supporting all the efforts of the search committee and Vestry training on the process. The Vestry participated in the interview of candidates and made the selection of the Reverend Dorian Mulvey as our next Rector.

The second half of 2008 marked the beginning of the ministry of the Rev. Mulvey at St. Anthony. The Vestry and Dorian participated in a retreat in August to plan the remainder of the year. At that time we decided to be intentional in our support of the ministries of St. Anthony, to develop stronger leadership within the many ministries of St. Anthony and to increase the number of those involved in ministry and leadership. Ministries were divided into 5 groups: Music and Worship, Outreach, Christian Formation, Parish Life and Stewardship and Finance. Each Vestry member chose to work with a group to provide support and resources to the leaders. In October a Ministry Leader Development Workshop was held with great success.

Our financial picture continues to challenge us. We were again unable to fulfill our obligation to the Diocese in 2008. The mortgage payments of nearly \$120,000 put a significant burden on our resources. The Vestry recognized that until we are no longer burdened with this expenditure we will continue to struggle. Consequently it was decided to initiate a Capital Campaign in 2009. The firm Enrichment Ministries was selected to guide us through the process.

At the annual meeting we honor the service of outgoing Vestry members, Jon Bost, Harold Aikins, Shelley Byrnes and Bill Counce. Jeff Roberts will assume the role of Sr. Warden and a new Jr. Warden along with four new Vestry members will be elected. The new Vestry will meet on retreat February 6-8, 2009, to set goals for the year.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as Senior Warden at St. Anthony on the Desert.

Blessings,
Catherine Gilbert

Vestry Organization for 2008

Worship and Music

Vestry Team – Stephen Cihak & Catherine Gilbert

- Acolytes
- Chalice Bearers & Readers
- Choirs
- Eucharistic Visitors
- Altar Guild
- Flower Guild
- Wedding Guild
- Ushers

Christian Formation

Vestry Team- Shelley Byrnes & Bill Counce

- Adult Formation, New Member Classes & Sunday Café
- Children & Youth Ministry
- Chalice Players
- Education for Ministry
- Small Group Ministry

Parish Life

Vestry Team – Harold Aikins, Jon Bost & Barbara Ells

- Arts Council
- Avid Readers
- Desert Diners
- Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS)
- Prayer Chain
- Winter Residents & Seniors
- Hospitality
- Saturday Night Wine & Cheese
- Welcome Team
- Office Angels
- Parish Nurse
- Communications Committee
- Pastoral Care Team

Service & Mission

Vestry Team – Patricia Faiveley & Jeanne Paige

- Angel Tree
- Domestic Violence
- Habitat for Humanity
- Men of St. Anthony (MOSA)
- Order of St. Luke the Physician
- Vista del Camino
- Walking the Mourner's Path
- GO! Ministry

Stewardship

Vestry Team – Jeff Roberts & Mario Vassaux

- Building & Grounds
- Finance Committee
- Stewardship Team
- Memorial Garden
- Endowment Committee

Vestry Terms of Office

Class of 2009

- Harold Aikins
- Shelley Byrnes
- Bill Counce

Class of 2010

- Barbara Ells
- Patricia Faiveley
- Mario Vassaux

Class of 2011

- Stephen Cihak
- Jeanne Paige
- Jeff Roberts

Vestry Slate for 2009

Senior Warden – Jeff Roberts

Junior Warden – Jay Murrillo

3-Year Terms

- Claudia Johnson
- Jack Meinert
- Becky Pearson

2-Year Term

- Kit Wyper (to complete Jeff Roberts place on the Vestry)

Diocesan Convention Delegate Slate

(5 of the following 8 to be selected as delegates: 3 selected as alternates)

- Lorna Bennett
- Karin Burklein-Rascona
- Bill Ferris
- Catherine Gilbert
- Barbara Guenther
- Jill Kyler
- Leanne Murrillo
- Cyndi Sax

ATTENDANCE STATISTICS- ELEVEN YEARS

TOTAL ATTENDANCE ALL SERVICES

1998	15,176
1999	17,342
2000	18,817
2001	19,068
2002	18,568
2003	17,704
2004	19,683
2005	20,261
2006	19,319
2007	15,296
2008	14,421

AVERAGE SUNDAY SERVICE ATTENDANCE

1998	258
1999	290
2000	314
2001	321
2002	317
2003	306
2004	353
2005	307
2006	298
2007	258
2008	245

TOTAL ATTENDANCE ALL 3 SERVICES OF EASTER

1998	519
1999	726
2000	766
2001	866
2002	906
2003	762
2004	886
2005	928
2006	842
2007	739
2008	637

TOTAL ATTENDANCE ALL 4 SERVICES OF CHRISTMAS

1998	643
1999	763
2000	891
2001	768
2002	1028
2003	993
2004	1027
2005	859
2006	808
2007	646
2008	630

Ministry Reports

Worship & Music

Acolyte Ministry Report – submitted by Bill Ferris

Team Members: Katie Clark, Cameron Cordes, Christopher Counce, Sis, Connor Gadek, Aaron Graves, Bill Ferris, Stafford Gliva, Amy Holzer, Stephanie Stewart, Steven Holzer, Ted McNally, Dave Parton-Klataske, Stephanie Sheaks, Shane Taylor, Faith Taylor, Rosemary Viets,

In the Anglican/Episcopal Churches *Altar Servers* are also called Acolytes. Our Acolyte Ministry is made up of youth and adults who assist in worship by carrying a processional cross, lighting candles, holding the Gospel book, holding torches, handing the offering plates to ushers, assisting the deacon with set up and clean up at the altar, washing the priests hands during Holy Eucharist, swinging incense and carry the incense boat and many other tasks as directed by the priest. The Acolyte Ministry seeks to provide a program that involves all youth and adults that would like to be involved in many of the ceremonial aspects of our worship at the altar.

The 2008 Acolyte program at St Anthony has gained several new members and continues in a good position for continued growth of membership. A short training session was held in early fall for the newest members of the program. Although we did obtain new members in 2008, there are still not enough members to cover all functions that the Acolytes are responsible for i.e.; no Gospel Bearers being scheduled.

Chalice Bearers & Lectors

This ministry is an opportunity for lay persons to assist the priests and deacons of the church in administering the chalice at all church services as well as the opportunity to impart the word of God through the reading of assigned passages from the bible. Stretch Cole completed his second year of coordinating this ministry. Beginning 2009 the new ministry coordinators are Rob & Linda Nehrbus. We welcome all those who feel this is a calling for them. Contact Stretch Cole at 480-897-2710 for information.

Music Ministry – submitted by Joe Hacnik, Director of Music

Members include: Adult choir consisting of 23 members (vocal), a violinist, and myself on piano and organ. The Youth Choir consists of 9 members. The Bell Choir - 10 members (4 are currently not members of St. Anthony on the Desert.) An additional 8 member Bell Choir has been formed for our Christmas liturgies. All 8 members of the Christmas liturgy Bell Choir are members of St. Anthony on the Desert.

Music Ministry is a vital part of our worship, providing quality music for parish liturgies on a weekly basis, as well as special parish events scheduled throughout the year. In addition to the Sunday liturgy, music ministry volunteers participate in a weekly rehearsal.

In August of 2008, I responded to the call as Music Director for St. Anthony on the Desert. The music ministry has grown in just these few months. The Adult Choir is currently at 23 members. (8 members were under the direction of the previous director and 15 new members have recently come forward to join the music ministry.) We also have a violinist at the Sunday 10:00 a.m. liturgy. Our Bell Choir has three new members.

The Youth Choir is currently working on taking more of a leadership role in future Sunday liturgies in which the Youth Choir sings.

Plans for 2009 include welcoming additional members to the entire music ministry. With the addition of the "Christmas Bell Choir," I would like to combine the *Christmas Bell Choir* with the existing Bell Choir to make one larger Bell Choir. Not only would this give us a bigger group to ring with, we would also not have to rely on members schedules' who *are not* members of our parish community who have other commitments at their own parishes on Sunday mornings. After Easter, I plan to open up the Youth Choir to some younger members in the parish community. I hope to increase the size of the Youth Choir. Many parents have expressed an interest in their younger children being able to participate in music ministry and I feel that once the existing Youth Choir group grows in confidence and their leadership ability, it should be very easy to welcome younger choir members to the ministry. Our present Youth Choir would benefit from the mentor experience as well. As our Adult Choir continues to grow, not only would I like to add additional voices, I would like to add additional instruments as well. In 2009, I

would also like to implement a “*Music Ministry Day of Reflection*,” for all those involved in music ministry. This *Day of Reflection* would be made up of prayer, singing, and time for group and private reflection. This would include all members of our music ministry with my hopeful outcome of *singing “prayer”* as opposed to performing music.

Eucharistic Ministers & Visitors – submitted by The Rev. Jan Wilner, Deacon

There are twenty Eucharistic Ministers (chalice bearers) and eleven Eucharistic Visitors, with a new training class scheduled for January 24, 2009.

The Eucharistic Ministers include Lorna Bennett, Jeff Burch, Harriet Cole, Stretch Cole, Renz Edwards, Mike Galloway, Joyce Graves, Bob Groom, Barbara Guenther, Tom Lawrie, Olivia McFadden, Linda Nehrbas, Rob Nehrbas, Jack Pauly, and Cyndi Sax.

The trained Eucharistic Visitors include Jon Bost, Arlene Dahl, Leanne Murrillo, Jay Murrillo, Pat Schmid, and Art Wilner.

Those trained as both Eucharistic Ministers and Eucharistic Visitors include Bob Blackburn, Bill Ferris, Jim Graves, Susan McConnell, and George Mulvey.

With the ordination of Susan Cihak and Grant Gilfeather to the sacred order of Deacon on January 24th, 2009 there may be some changes in next year's Deacons activities.

Altar Guild – submitted by Sue Vold

Team Members:

Judy Abbott Carrington, Sally Allexan, Ruth Ann Burtner, Joan Carlson, Arlene Dahl, Kate Fauster, Bill Ferris, Debbie Fox, Aaron Graves, Aline Mankin, Peggy Sands (honorary member), Pat Schmid, Sharon Schulenberg, Joan Smallwood, Jane Stewart, Debbie Van Hoven, Mary Vanselow, Rosemary Viets, Sue Vold

The Altar Guild is a connecting ministry bringing the Christian community together through celebration by preparing the Lord's Table and Sanctuary for Eucharistic services, baptisms, weddings, funerals and memorial services.

The members of the Altar Guild have become more knowledgeable in the various responsibilities over the past year. We have a new member who joined the Altar Guild at Easter this past year. She is already confident enough in her skills that she has volunteered to cover in the event of my absence.

Plans for 2009 include Sue Vold, the current director, to mentor current members to be potential leaders in the ministry in the future. We discussed ways to increase membership at the Fall Gathering in November, 2008, and will work in that direction in the upcoming year.

Flower Guild

Members for 2008 were Patsy Lawrie – Coordinator, Cyndi Cordes, Jennifer Gadek, Joyce Graves, Gretchen Stephenson, and Mildred Wilson.

A six – session training was conducted during Lent after which the Flower Guild members began rotation of flower preparation for Sunday worship services.

Wedding Guild

Member for 2008 were Cyndi Cordes, Debbie Fox and Sue Vold. Members assist the Priest and Wedding Party by coordinating activities during wedding rehearsals and on the wedding day.

Ushers - submitted by Sam and Suzi Edmondson

Description of Ministry

Our connection to the church mission statement revolves around a warm and friendly welcome to all coming through the parish doors. The welcome will allow the worshipers to feel the spiritual communion of the congregation – the outreach will follow as they enjoy the warm feeling from the ushers initially and the congregation as they decide to participate in the church. We are also responsible to help those members that may be in physical need before, during, and after the service.

Growth of the Ministry

Our ministry is focused mainly on the various worship services on Saturdays, Sundays, Holidays, as well as special events such as funerals. Growth entails adding interested people to our usher team. Our own feelings of connection have grown through our interaction with other ushers as well as meeting people as they come through the doors of the parish. Most of the usher team shares the same feeling of connection.

Ministry Hopes for 2009

Our plan for 2009 is to encourage more of the congregation to be a part of our usher team.

Christian Formation

Adult Formation – submitted by Jill Kyler, Minister for Evangelism

Sunday Café

This interactive adult discussion and Bible study began in September with the series, *Jonah's Whale*, led by Pastor Dorian Mulvey. The new format of table discussions and fellowship has created avenues for participants to consider and put into action their interests and passions through new and existing ministries at St. Anthony. Some of the newest ministries at St. Anthony presented at the *Sunday Café* are the GO! Team (Global Outreach), the Domestic Violence Victim Support Group and Helping Hands and Hearts. *The Sunday Café* is in the Parish Hall after the 10 a.m. Sunday worship service. We'll save you a seat!

Belonging, Believing, Becoming – New Member Class

This fall a series was begun designed for those new to St. Anthony, to the Episcopal Church or those wanting go deeper in their spiritual walk. This six-session series included an introduction and history of St. Anthony, our rituals and worship, the history of the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion, the Bible, spiritual life and prayer and finding our own personal ministries. The sessions were all led by members of the St. Anthony congregation.

Upon completing this series, 8 people were welcomed as new members; and on January 11, 2009, four were confirmed, two were received and three were reaffirmed by the Rt. Rev. Kirk Smith.

Children's and Youth Ministry – submitted by Beth Hammond, Director of Christian Formation

A popular quote among children's and youth ministers is... "When the noise of the children is heard in church, the noise of the church will be heard in the children." Our children – and youth – celebrate the love of Christ through joyful voices! They are actively involved in all aspects of parish life and lend a vibrant presence to all we do.

In our Nursery our youngest members played and celebrated with their new program, *Seasons Growing Faith*. Our children's ministry programs continued to expand their *Workshop Rotations* experience by studying both Hebrew scripture and stories of Jesus. We added pledge cards and giving envelopes to our children's stewardship program and their giving resulted in the children donating two trios of rabbits through Heifer International as a Christmas outreach project. We added an exciting and active new program for sixth graders called *Grapple* which helps them make the important transition to youth ministry programs. While using this program the youth had access to a private website in order to stay connected with each other and their leaders during the week. Our J2A programs continued for youth in grades seven through twelve and our high school youth got busy planning next year's Mission Trip.

Our voices will continue to be heard in 2009 as we join with the grown up members of the congregation in worship, teaching and outreach. Programs for families will be added and we plan to expand our outreach programs. And watch for another exciting summer "Camp St. Anthony's"! In the words of one of our children as she guessed at the angel Gabriel's words to Mary, "God has a surprise for you!" There is no doubt that there will be surprises for us as learn together, love one another and live in God's way.

Chalice Players

The Chalice Players are a talented group of young people who dramatize our scripture readings on the third Sunday of each month. Their creativity brings the stories alive for both children and adults and allows us to see and hear and experience the word of God in a brand new way. Under the talented and dedicated leadership of Mr. Jack Pauly, the group has flourished as they grow and deepen their call to minister in this way.

This year the group has expanded their ministry even more. Following an invitation from Deacon Jan Wilner to offer their ministry to the residents at Westminster Village, the Players now participate in a monthly Sunday afternoon chapel service. Thanks, Deacon Jan, for this wonderful opportunity for outreach!

Education for Ministry

Education for Ministry (EfM) is a 4-year intensive study of Old Testament (Year 1), New Testament (Year 2); Church History (Year 3) and Theology (Year 4) to prepare the laity for non-clerical ministry. Classes run during the school year from September – May. In 2008, we continued to have three groups with 19 students. The mentors are Barbara Guenther, Sunday afternoons; Bill Garnett, Monday evenings; and Dan Roach, Kay Burrill, & Jeanne Paige Wednesday mornings.

Small Group Ministry

Parish Life

St. Anthony Arts Council

Team Members: Sally Allexan, Gratia Gibaut, and Claudia Smith.
(Sue McConnell and Carol Stewart have helped when able.)

The purpose of the Arts Council is to inspire and nourish spirituality and faith through the arts. Both artist and viewer travel this spiritual journey. By encouraging and giving individuals a chance to exhibit their God-given talent -- which originates from the soul -- beauty is produced and shared. In turn, this gift connects to the viewer's soul, giving them a glimpse of wondrous possibilities, including the healing powers of art, and an understanding of the mysterious unity and "Oneness" of all things. This chain of events helps fulfill God's purpose. All benefit.

For the past five years, the Council has been privileged to bring a variety of talented artists to St. Anthony. There have been watercolorists, pastel, acrylic gouache, and oil painters. There have been those who have worked in pencil, pen & ink, and calligraphy. And, there have been photographers, including one very gracious gentleman, who sent five large boxes, at his expense, all the way from Puget Sound Washington. We, at St. Anthony, have been truly blessed by these wonderful people.

As to what the future holds...we hope to continue on this path, but we want to see it "bloom." We want new artists and individuals involved. We want members of St. Anthony to meet the artists, to reach out, shake their hands, and say, "Thank you." We want to continue featured articles in the *F. H. Times*. We would like to see it grow to include other art forms, and eventually be connected to ECVA (Episcopal Church Visual Arts). Bottom line: We want it to be a *Celebration* of our Lord's love and bounty.

Avid Readers – submitted by Kay Burrill

Contact people: Kay Burrill, Grant and Susan Gilfeather, Eloise Crosman

Avid Readers, which meets monthly from September to June, is comprised of a group of people who love to read and discuss books. All people, whether or not they are members or attendees of St. Anthony on the Desert, are welcome. A group of about fifteen members, average attendance is anywhere from five to twelve individuals. In June of each year, the group meets to choose books for the upcoming year, with members sharing the leadership of each meeting. An attempt is made to include a wide variety of genres – fiction, non-fiction, biographies, best sellers, local interest, etc. Books with religious focus are usually chosen during Advent and Lent.

The group plans to continue to discuss of a variety of books in 2009 and to involve more people in their discussions. Both the teaching (learning) and outreach portions of our mission statements are met through Avid Readers, as well as the opportunity for fellowship with a group of people with similar interest.

Desert Diners – submitted by David Ells, convener

Desert Diners is a vehicle to provide parishioners with an opportunity to meet and get to know other parishioners in a small-group social setting.

Participants sign up every six months and are organized into groups of six to eight adults who generally have not previously participated with each other. Each group gets together three to five times during the next six months to share a meal – generally at the home of one of the group's participants. This current fall/winter cycle we have thirty participants comprising four groups. Each group was encouraged to invite one of the clergy as guests to one of their get-togethers as a means for the clergy to get to know us all better also.

While we change groups every six months so you get to know new people, many lasting friendships have evolved from the Desert Diner experience. One group of over eight parishioners continues to get together for dinner – five years after their initial meal. Desert Diners took a vacation during the spring/summer of 2008 but we plan to restart that cycle in 2009.

In 2009 we are looking for ways to increase the participation of couples with children at home and young professionals.

Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) – submitted by Karin Twibell, Coordinator

MOPS groups are communities that strive to meet the needs of every mom with children from birth through kindergarten. The MOPS program is built on several foundational principles: Community, Mentoring, Practical Instruction, and Leadership Development.

Our group consists of approximately twelve members (50% are parishioners) and our mentor mom, Beth Hammond. Karen Twibell is the group coordinator and Julie Fishback is the co-coordinator (both are St. Anthony parishioners).

Each year we follow a Christian based curriculum. This year our study and discussion is titled “Adventures in Mothering”. In addition to watching and discussing a six-part video series we have guest speakers to compliment our topics or enrich our lives. Each meeting involves discussion, fellowship and food. Childcare is provided. When everyone attends, we have 11 children who utilize the nursery during our meetings.

The speaker this semester was a self-defense martial arts instructor who spent an hour with us going over techniques to keep us as women safe.

We held two fundraisers in order to keep costs down for members as well as to cover additional speaker expenses and craft projects. The first was the sale of Entertainment Books. For our second event one of our own members, Lori Flannery, hosted a Homemade Gourmet party during one of our meetings. We were able to socialize, taste delicious food and learn how to prepare quicker dinners in order to spend more quality time with the family. Lori donated a portion of the profit from merchandise sales back to MOPS.

In addition to meetings held twice a month, we also have occasional play dates with our children and Mom's Nights Out (without children OR husbands). These additional events bring the group together in an informal setting where we can talk casually about our busy lives.

Our goal for the spring semester is to do an outreach project with a local non-profit group helping single moms who are battling cancer. We will also be having 2 more speakers on topics yet to be determined. Our last two goals include sending someone to the MOPS convention in the fall and working with St. Anthony's to update the nursery.

Prayer Chain

Eight members of the prayer chain pray daily for the concerns and needs of St Anthony members' families and friends. Many prayers have been answered. Prayers can be submitted to any members of the prayer chain or to Joyce Graves by calling 602-867-1842 or emailing the requests to JBJLGraves@Cox.net. Rather than calling the members the requests are sent out via email or in emergency situations we do call the members. We also like to have a monthly update on the requests to keep them on the list. If anyone feels the calling to pray for others they can join the team of pray-ers.

Winter Residents and Seniors – submitted by Barbara Ells, convener

The Winter Residents and Seniors initially started about nine years ago as a means for the Winter Residents to connect with each other. Since then we have expanded to include all Seniors of the parish.

We get together monthly during the “snowbird” season for a social gathering in either the parish hall, homes, or other locations such as a city park or dinner theater. Events are usually hosted by two couples with everyone bringing something. It has been a great way for newcomers of the parish to connect with others and for all to celebrate our love for Christ by reaching out to each other. We hit record participation at our events this year with the Christmas party topping 50 people!

In 2009 we look to expand our leadership to enable us to take on new activities. Watch the Service Bulletin and Desert Wind for our activities. We welcome all!

Hospitality Ministry - submitted by Leanne Murrillo

The Hospitality Ministry plans and arranges refreshments after the 8 am and 10 am Sunday services along with any events that may take place after the service in the Parish Hall. The Coffee Hours in the winter months for the 8 am service are held by David and Barbara Ells, in the summer months Jay and Leanne Murrillo coordinates the 8 am coffee hour. Leanne Murrillo assists with the coordination of the 10 am Coffee Hour by looking for volunteers to sign up for refreshments. The Coffee Hour changed in the fall when Adult Education started back up under the title of Sunday Café. The idea is to have everyone come inside of the Parish Hall for coffee and refreshments to participate in interactive discussions. The Hospitality budget is used to purchase coffee hour supplies such as cups, plates and coffee as well as food and decorations for other events held throughout the year. This year the amount of supplies increased with more items needing to be purchased with the Sunday Café along with the large coffee pots breaking down. I look forward to another exciting year with serving St. Anthony on the Desert in the Hospitality Ministry.

Saturday Night Wine & Cheese

The 5 pm Saturday worship service hosts a wine and cheese reception on the 2nd Saturday of each month to support fellowship and welcome visitors to the service. George Reece is the fellowship coordinator.

The Welcome Team – submitted by Jill Kyler Coordinator of Welcome Team

Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Hebrews 13:1-2
The Welcome Team is a group of energetic, highly-dedicated members whose purpose is to offer radical hospitality to those people who visit our campus. We believe as we welcome guests to share in our worship, teaching and outreach, we are each displaying the love of Christ. Additionally, Christian hospitality is to see Christ in every person we meet.

We are available to assist any guest, answer questions and most importantly create a welcoming environment so that people will feel comfortable and appreciated.

We maintain a Google Site at <http://sites.google.com/site/stanthonywelcometeam> where we post prayer requests, pictures, celebrate and honor the gifts of each member and publish our Welcome Team schedule. Everyone is invited to visit this site.

Plans for 2009 include a gathering of current and new team members to strengthen and expand the ways we reach out to those not yet a part of our faith community. The Welcome Team for 2009 will be commissioned by Pastor Dorian Mulvey in the early part of the New Year.

Office Angels – submitted by Peggy Sands, Administrator

The Office Angels support the office responsibilities of the Treasurer, Accountant, Walking the Mourner’s Path and the Parish Administrator. The office is open Monday – Thursday 9 AM– 4 PM and is closed on holidays. Summer hours are shorter due to fewer activities and less demand.

For all the help and dedication you have shared in 2008 -Thank You to the following dedicated volunteers!

Don Bennett	Weekly bulletin assembly & special projects
John Kendall	Weekly bulletin assembly
Trudy Elkhart	Weekly Walking the Mourner's Path & Church Record Assistance
Gratia Gibaut	Weekly office coverage
Bob Roe	Mailing of the <i>Desert Wind</i>
Helen & Cindy Reichenberg	<i>Desert Wind</i> assembly and preparation for mailing
David Ells	<i>Desert Wind</i> Coordinator
Joanne Phillips	Special projects
Gini Thomas	Special projects
Pat Schmid	Special projects
Leanne Murrillo	Weekly Friday projects
Jeannette Luke	Weekly counting the offering
Shirley Cadwallader	Weekly counting the offering
Bob Mitchell	Verify all bank deposits prior to making the deposits
Cindy Creamer	Verify all bank deposits prior to making the deposits
Susan Gilfeather	Posting contributions

We continue to welcome new volunteers into the office for special projects or regular weekly support.

Cassidy Lovato, our part time sexton, continues to do an excellent job of keeping our facilities and grounds clean. Cassidy sets up the parish hall for weekly events and gives additional assistance for Easter, Christmas, the spirit auction, the annual rummage sale, funerals and weddings in addition to other special events that occur. He is very watchful and takes great pride in his work here at St. Anthony's. John Kyler continues to donate many hours of time to maintenance, repair and special projects for the grounds and buildings. He and Cassidy are a great team and we are most fortunate to have their expertise.

Parish Nurse

Janelle Liffiton is the Parish Nurse for St. Anthony. She performs blood pressure checks after Sunday services once each month and coordinated the church's annual Flu Shot Clinic.

Communications Committee – submitted by Dick Carmichael

The newly organized Communications Team is comprised of four co-coordinators, Jill Kyler, Monica Gliva, Mark Muehleisen and Dick Carmichael. All bring a wealth of experience and expertise in communications to this team.

While we will seek to improve communications within our church our main thrust will be communications that make St. Anthony more visible to our community and thus be a beacon to light the way to St. Anthony and to Christ.

In this digital culture, the old ways such as yellow pages and newspaper advertising will be re-examined for their effectiveness and cost. If eliminated or revised the dollar savings will be reinvested into more effective methods of communicating with our local community.

Our website will be launched shortly with an entirely new look and feel as this is a primary way guests first "meet" us. Community news articles in local newspapers, local handouts, networking and mailings to new movers to our neighborhood are a few of the ways we are pursuing to make St. Anthony more visible in 2009.

Pastoral Care

A newly created Pastoral Care Ministry was formed the end of 2008 to provide care and support to parishioners. This ministry will begin active care in 2009.

Service & Mission

Angel Tree Prison Ministry – submitted by Barbara Guenther

Team Members: Barbara Guenther, Patricia Faiveley and Luann Schaffer

Angel Tree is an outreach ministry that partners churches with inmates to purchase Christmas gifts for their children. As we deliver the gifts we purchase on behalf of the inmates, we share the love of Christ with the children and their caregivers.

In previous years, we expanded the ministry to provide camping opportunities to children of inmates at Chapel Rock. Last year, all of the children were too young to go to Chapel Rock, so we have set aside money for camp scholarships and camping supplies that we hope to offer to five of the children we meet this year.

This ministry will end after this summer's camping activities. Although we asked Angel Tree Prison Fellowship for 25 families for the Christmas portion of the program this year, we were only sent ten families and were able to connect with only five of those. The good news is that several churches in Scottsdale began participating this year, and they are closer to most of the families in the East Valley than St. Anthony on the Desert. They can more easily reach out to these families and enfold them into the life of their churches. Throughout the year God will use them to help these children and their families grow in their faith, strengthen their relationships with imprisoned parents, and fulfill the purposes God has for their lives.

Additionally, there is no one at St. Anthony on the Desert who is interested in coordinating Angel Tree and fewer parishioners volunteered to assist this year. With all of the exciting new ministries being created, it seems that the Holy Spirit is guiding us to end this one to make room for others. It has truly been a blessing to be a part of this worthy ministry and we ask God to continue growing it in other locations.

Habitat for Humanity- Episcopal Habitat Coalition) submitted by Grant Gilfeather

St Anthony coordinators - Dave Tarry at dtarry@cox.net and Grant Gilfeather at g2feather@cox.net.

The Episcopal Habitat Coalition is made up of a group of 13 Episcopal parishes and missions that have been funding and building homes for the working poor since 1997. In 2008 St. Anthony's participated in three home builds.

Our first build assignment of the year, January 5, 2008, involved a very short punch list and a long day of landscaping at the Lopez home in Guadalupe. Twelve hardy volunteers helped including a visiting couple from the Chicago area. Thanks go to Carol Stewart, Joan Carlson, John Carlson, Norm Ernest, Dick Dale, Kate Fauster, Jay Murrillo, Grant Gilfeather, Gene and Dave Tarry.

Our second build assignment was March 8, 2008 involved dry walling and painting at the Salgado and the Reyak homes in Peoria. Twelve from St. Anthony's participated – Gene and Dave Tarry, Grant Gilfeather, Art Deiley, Rob Gotwals, Mickey Greene, Ruena Close, Claudia and David Johnson, Norm Ernest, Rodney Rascona and Stephen Cihak.

Our third build assignment on November 15, 2008 entailed dry wall lids (wall boarding the ceilings) at the Elham home in Peoria. Thanks go to the hard working thirteen volunteers – Dick Dale, Frank Brouwer, Ben Brouwer, Alex Brouwer, Mike and Stephanie Darkoch, Jay Murrillo, Gary Spedl, Mark and Kathy Phillips, Mario Vassaux, Norm Ernst, and Grant Gilfeather.

A typical build day starts with carpooling from St. Anthony's parking lot at 6:30 am. After a 7:30 am arrival on the work site, volunteers are oriented on safety issues and after a prayer, the on-site supervisors instruct volunteers on how to perform the duties for that day. Volunteers require no experience but simply a desire to help others. There are a variety of jobs to do on every build and a sense of accomplishment and fun is immeasurable. Snacks and lunch are provided by the church coordinators and about an hour or so after lunch it is clean-up time. Volunteers return to St. Anthony's at about 2:15 to 2:30 pm, tired but with a feeling each made a difference that day.

Men of St. Anthony (MOSA) – submitted by Jon Bost

The Men of St Anthony meet monthly for breakfast, prayer, and discussions on the last Saturday of the month at 7:30 in the parish hall. Activities include outreach programs as well as functions in support of the St. Anthony facilities.

Last year saw four trips to the East Valley Men's Shelter in Mesa to serve dinner to 85 men who are working to re-enter society. We also made sack lunches for the Shelter at several of our Saturday meetings.

In support of the parish grounds, we sponsored and conducted clean-up activities in the spring and the fall. Also, we re-painted the hallway in the parish hall, supported the youth rummage sale, set-up for the "Night at Tony's" dinner and assisted in other parish activities as necessary.

Attendance has increased significantly over the year, doubling the numbers seen in earlier years. We find that while supporting the church and the community we are really supporting ourselves as well. If you've never been to a MOSA meeting, give us a chance some Saturday morning. Please check the bulletin for details or leave info with the church secretary.

Order of St. Luke the Physician

Vista Del Camino Food and Clothing Bank - submitted by Grant Gilfeather

This year parishioners at St. Anthony's have generously given to Vista Del Camino, a division of City of Scottsdale Social Services. Non-perishable food donations have averaged three grocery bags per week. Food is picked up every Monday from the narthex and delivered to Vista. In 2008 four of St. Anthony's parishioners volunteered over 800 hours of time and labor at the food and clothing bank located in south Scottsdale – Matthew Cavolo, Bob Roe, Jeff Roberts and Grant Gilfeather. Vista Del Camino can always use more volunteers anytime of the year.

Items that are always needed by Vista Del Camino include peanut butter, canned fruit, dry beans, rice, paper towels and toilet paper.

More and more families recently are struggling to get by. The volume of food and clothing distribution has increased sharply since October. Vista is most thankful for your donations.

Walking the Mourner's Path – submitted by Peggy Sands, Director of Operations

Walking the Mourner's Path as a grief ministry at St Anthony on the Desert:

2008 was the 5th year that grief ministry at St. Anthony has included the Walking the Mourner's Path program. A Facilitator Training School was conducted which resulted in three more St. Anthony people trained in the program. In conjunction with St Anthony clergy, *Walking the Mourner's Path* continues to share the devotional "30 Days Toward Healing Your Grief" with parishioners who have recently experienced the death of a loved one. As part of the grief ministry at St. Anthony there is no cost to members of the church. Individuals who wish to have this resource sent to friends and family may purchase a booklet and the WMP staff is happy to mail the devotional directly. If you are not familiar with the book please call the staff at 480-657-8503 to review the booklet.

Walking the Mourner's Path as a national grief ministry headquartered At St Anthony on the Desert:

April 2008 saw the third full year of operation of the national Walking the Mourner's Path program by St Anthony on the Desert Episcopal Church. The primary focus for this year was to expand the number of trained Facilitators available to conduct groups and to revise the session workbook and the devotional "30 Days Toward Healing Your Grief".

2008 program highlights:

- 02 Facilitator Training Schools Conducted
- 01 Episcopal Convention attended with display booth
- 19 New Ministry Locations
- 47 New Group Facilitators
- 298 Group Facilitators

2009 plans include incorporating more people from St. Anthony into the ministry through a work task group and Advisory Group which will support the efforts of a revised business plan, marketing and ministry outreach both within the church and in the larger community.

GO! Ministry Global Outreach Ministry - submitted by Becky Pearson

Background

The GO! Ministry evolved from the work that we at St. Anthony have been doing to raise awareness about the Millennium Development Goals and what one person can do to end extreme poverty.

Our mission is to focus on what one *community*—the people of St. Anthony on the Desert-- can do to end extreme poverty. To that end, we have started to work with Food for the Hungry's Community to Community program. We will partner with the community of Takwe, Rwanda to support them on their journey to achieve their God-given potential. We have been asked for a 3-5 year commitment to the community. The Food for the Hungry organization plans to exit Takwe in 2014. Possible projects include training for discipleship, educational programs, health care, and access to clean water.

The GO! Ministry core team includes Barbara Guenther, Patricia Faiveley, Jeanne Paige, Jill Kyler, Rodney Rascona, Karin Burklein-Rascona and Becky Pearson. There will be many opportunities for our entire congregation to become involved, ranging from prayer to child sponsorship to supporting specific projects.

Accomplishments

- Selected partner community in Takwe, Rwanda
- Conducted information sessions about the GO! Ministry at four Sunday Cafes in November.
- Congregation members have sponsored 29 children from Takwe

Goals

Short-Term: We are planning our first trip to Takwe in July 2009 and would like to take a group of 10-12 people from St. Anthony. We envision this trip to combine a hands-on project with the people of Takwe and time for Core Team members to meet with FH field staff, church and community leaders to understand their prioritized needs. The trip will help us assess the prioritized needs of the Takwe community so that we can form tactical plans to support them. We will need to do fund-raising to pay for the project. Trip participants will be expected to raise funds for their own travel expenses.

Long-Term: Takwe has identified needs in the areas of education for children and adults, small business formation, clean water, and building a health clinic, classrooms and homes for orphans and widows.

Stewardship

Building and Grounds – Jr. Warden's Report – submitted by Jon Bost

The year of 2008 was a very busy one for buildings and grounds activities. We were blessed with several cash donations such as the Bessie Shields endowment and the Jane Loderhose donation which made possible addressing much of the overdue maintenance issues. The other half of the resource blessing was the physical donations of volunteers such as Bill Ferris, Jay Murrillo, the Men of St. Anthony, and the many others who quietly give of their time and talents to keep the parish running smoothly. Noteworthy in this category is John Kyler who gives up his Saturdays for the Church. His activity, in conjunction with the tireless work of our Sexton, Cassidy Lovato has kept up with problems and issues as quickly as they arise.

The combination of the above and other resources have allowed us to successfully complete the following activities during the year.

- Major landscaping improvement along the perimeter of the grounds
- Repair of glass door closers into sanctuary
- Cleaning of all carpeting in the buildings (should be done annually)
- Repair or bird damage to the office roof
- Repair of wind damage to the church roof
- Stripping and waxing of all the tile floors (should be done annually)
- Refinishing of the floors in the sanctuary and narthex
- Major overhaul of all the plumbing; repairing or replacing leaky or risky pipes and fixtures.
- Resurfacing of the parking lot
- Repair and remounting of the wooden cross in front of the church

- Cleaning out of eaves around the exterior walkway and lining with bird repellent spikes to keep away the pigeons.
- Emergency repair of leaky irrigation water valve and negotiation with the city of the resulting \$1,600 overage on the monthly water bill.
- Painting of the walls and cleaning and re-finishing of the doors in the hallways by the nursery and choir room.
- Emergency repair of leaky air conditioners in the school
- Emergency repair of narthex air conditioners
- Inspection and repair of all air conditioners and thermostats
- Completion of a detailed church asset inventory (should be updated annually)
- Development and monitoring of lock-up schedule during summer Sunday Sexton holiday
- Completion of Sexton job description
- Completion of Jr. Warden job description
- Monitoring on-going annual inspections
 - Back-flow valves
 - Fire code regulations

There were several projects in process that I am following for expected completion by the end of January

- Repainting (by vestry and MOSA) of sign wall at corner of campus
- Updating with permanent lettering of the worship hours on the sign
- Overview of Eagle Scout project on the Prayer Path
- Replacement of all the bulbs in the high chandeliers within the sanctuary and cleaning of the chandeliers as well.

Finally, there are several projects that we did not get to this year that should be key in the 2009 activities as resources permit

- Updating/replacement of the church lighting control system
- Updating of the PA system in the Sanctuary
- Installation of bird repellents in the bell tower
- Re-surfacing of all the flat roofs
- Other.....

Stewardship –submitted by Patti Counce

Team: Leanne Murillo, Bill Luke, Mario Vassaux, Sara Kyler, Kit Wyper, Pat Schmid, Mike Philipsen, Patti Counce

The stewardship ministry helps make other ministries possible by encouraging spiritual growth and faith based annual giving to accomplish God's work at St. Anthony and outside of the church as well.

Each year it is our mission to make our faith community financially strong through pledge commitments gathered in the fall. We then proceed to set our budget for the following year. This year the team communicated the stewardship message through sermon, personal faith stories that we shared during services and a series of mailings and articles in the Desert Wind. This concept seemed to resonate with our St. Anthony community but pledges came in well under expectations due to economic climate and other factors.

As we move into 2009 one of our goals is to communicate good stewardship practices throughout the year, not just during the fall pledge season. The ability to share generously what already belongs to God and convey that message as a way of life, not as part of our funding program. This can be done through sermon, Sunday Café, Desert Wind, and other programs that can be put in place during the year. I would recommend that we appoint a Stewardship Chair early in 2009 to see the ministry through the year to accomplish this task.

Another recommendation would be to include the stewardship message as a component in small group discussions throughout the year.....someone from the stewardship ministry team could visit with the group once a quarter and take a few minutes for prayer and discussion about faith giving. This small group focus can make a huge impact on the larger community later on!

Treasurer's Report

2008 Financial Highlights

- The year started off well with a great response to the request for donations to the Rector's Search and Relocation fund. We raised almost \$25,000 through gifts and the Kentucky Derby fundraiser and were well positioned for calling our new Rector.
- We started the year with a budget which anticipated a shortfall of approximately \$35,000; the single largest expense in our budget is our annual mortgage expense of \$116,671. Since not paying the mortgage is not an option, we had planned to have discussions with the Diocesan about some relief from our assessment due to the decline in our giving base.
- We then received a bequest from Jane Loderhose of \$258,000 – a blessed gift from someone who supported St. Anthony's in so many ways – even at death. The Vestry, with the guidance of her family, allocated \$35,000 of the bequest to our anticipated budget shortfall for the year. Of the remaining amount, \$100,000 was transferred to the Endowment fund, \$25,000 for Mission Work and Outreach, \$18,000 to capital improvements, and \$80,000 to pay down our mortgage.
- We had several members sign up for Automated Giving. Under this program, their gifts to St. Anthony's are deducted automatically from their checking account either monthly or semi-monthly. This was a win/win as they no longer had to remember to write their checks each week, and it was a tremendous help to our cash flow during the year. We also received \$19,088 in prepaid pledges which helped us meet expenses in the beginning of the year.
- Expenses (excluding the Assessment) for the year were under budget by \$6,933. However, Pledge income was under budget by \$32,510 and Other Giving was under by \$14,850. As a result, we were not able to pay \$44,667 of our Diocesan Assessment. In 2007 we had an unpaid assessment of \$21,095. These amounts are shown on our Dec. 31, 2008 balance sheet as a payable to the Diocesan.

It was a difficult year in the financial markets, and we especially want to thank those who were able to pay a little more than they had pledged since there were so many who were not able to pay their full pledge. While the year is over, we are still accepting payments of prior year's pledges.

2009 Budget

- The budget reflects pledge income of \$375,000 which is about 6% less than we received in 2008.
- For the third year in a row, the budget does not reflect any increase in salaries for our lay staff.
- We are refinancing our mortgage but it still remains the single largest budget expense – we anticipate that with our new interest rate the annual mortgage payment will be approximately \$109,000.
- The Diocesan assessment is \$74,437 which is down from \$94,359 in 2008.
- We have budgeted two fundraisers for a total of \$10,000. These fundraisers need to be identified and planned. We welcome your ideas.
- We now have 23% of pledge income paid by Automated Giving and received \$28,500 in prepaid pledges and a one-time gift.
- Before accounting for our annual mortgage expense, our budgeted cash receipts exceed our cash disbursements by \$33,772. Including the mortgage payment, our cash *disbursements* will exceed our *cash receipts* by \$65,369. Since our capital campaign is intended to eliminate our debt in the near future, the Vestry did not want to make any major cuts to our programs and ministries to balance the budget. Instead, the budget shortfall for 2009 will be paid from the Capital Campaign and any increases in giving that we receive throughout the year.

I want to give a special thank you to Mary Hopeman for all her work as our accountant. She not only is diligent in paying all our bills and keeping our financial records but is a tremendous resource for our financial history.