

2008 Annual Report

October 1, 2007- September 30, 2008

Approved by Session on December 14, 2008



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Our Mission Statement

We are a community of covenant people of God in the Reformed Tradition who are empowered by Christ and the Holy Spirit to be faithful through worship, by listening for God to speak; through fellowship and nurture by sharing life's joys and sorrows; through education by teaching, questioning, and growing in Biblical understanding; through service by reaching out to a voice in need; through stewardship by realizing that all we have belongs to God. Our Mission is to live in such a way that all we do and say is for the glory of God.

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From the Pastor

You as a church member have in your hands the 2008 Annual Report for First Presbyterian Church of Smithfield, North Carolina. This document is more than mere facts and figures. You have in your grasp the story of the life, mission, and the future of the Church as we express it in our community. To what ends are we the Church of Jesus Christ?

Christ calls the church into being, giving it all that is necessary for its mission to the world, for its building up and for its service to God. [Book of Order G-1.0100]

The new reality revealed in Jesus Christ is the new humanity, a new creation, a new beginning for human life in the world: Sin is forgiven. Reconciliation is accomplished. The dividing walls of hostility are torn down. [G-3.0200].

The Church is challenged to be Christ's faithful evangelist...participating in God's activity in the world through its life for others by healing and reconciling and binding up wounds, ministering to the needs of the poor, the sick, the lonely, and the powerless, engaging in the struggle to free people from sin, fear, oppression, hunger, and injustice, giving itself and its substance to the service of those who suffer, sharing with Christ in the establishing of his just, peaceable, and loving rule in the world. [Book of Order G-3.0300].

The challenge is demanding: The church is called to undertake this mission even at the risk of losing its life... [Book of Order G-3.0400].

When I arrived on January 28, 2008, I began to share with you that our journey of faith would be a period during which we would get to know one another, learn to appreciate one another's gifts and strengths while also beginning to look to our future together. I am keenly aware that the church has journeyed through a time of significant change in recent years. It is not our own will in this matter but it is our calling as members of the living body of Christ in the world to be guided by the Holy Spirit. Our faith journey is also an inward transformation of our mutual church life that becomes an outward or visible *icon* or image of Christ to the world. This new image is demonstrated through the welcome we offer to our visitors and extend to the newcomer in our community. This transformation is also reflected in the ways we work together to develop and implement new dreams and visions of God's kingdom. We must remain open through prayer to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We recognize that it is not our own will we seek but we pray that God's will is accomplished through our gifts and labor. Above all, we are called to be faithful to one another in our relationships as Christ's disciples just as God is always faithful to us.

This annual review is our 'report card' of how far along this faith journey we have come in a year's time. The various reports from church members attempt to recognize our gains and our losses with honesty and integrity; to remember this past year's joys and tears as we sought to proclaim God's Good News in Jesus Christ. You will find reports from many corners of the church



describing the rich life and ministry of First Presbyterian Church of Smithfield. Also, you will find as an appendix to this report the new *Gifts and Donations Policy* introduced by your Finance Committee and approved by the Session earlier this year. In the pages of this document we can discern together our commitment to the Great Ends of the Church.

*It is to these "Great Ends" of the Church that we commit ourselves to
"...the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind
the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God
the maintenance of divine worship
the preservation of the truth
the promotion of social righteousness
and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to world." - Book of Order G- 1.0200*

Many volunteer hours are given to this church by members. It is right to acknowledge the labor of staff members, the elders of Session, the Board of Deacons, our committees, and church teachers and members who volunteer and dedicate a significant amount of their time to support our community of faith in all of our areas of ministry. I affirm the constructive ministry offered by the Rev. Mary Banner who served as interim head of staff and pastor for four months of the period covered in this annual. Also, in meetings, in hospitals, in class settings, in social gatherings you have reached out to me and demonstrated the gift of Christian hospitality as your new pastor. I offer my thanks to each of you who have welcomed me as your new minister and assist me in so many generous ways and enrich my life at First Presbyterian Church.

This document is intended to keep you abreast of the work and new ideas and visions that are alive and well within our church community. This report is an opportunity to share your thoughts and visions as well; to stimulate dialogue and action in our midst. It is not a story's ending but serves as a place of rest and reflection as we begin to understand who we are and discern our destination in a new year. Prayerfully and joyfully consider the offerings shared within these pages and consider the words of the prophet Isaiah,

*I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. -Isaiah 43:19*

The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be among you all,

Joseph Hester, Pastor
All Saints Day, November 1, 2008



Church Staff

Pastor/Head of Staff	Rev. Joseph L. Hester, Jr.
Director of Christian Education	Cameron Womack
Director of Choirs	Camille Boone
Director of Preschool	Melissa Pilkington
Organist and Secretary	Myra Wallace
Custodian	Thad McCrae
Clerk of Session	Ann Huckenbeck
Treasurer	Beth Osborne
Church School Superintendent	Beth Osborne
Asst Superintendents	Sue Avera Booker and Anita Liverman

Church Committees and Chairs

Building	Eddie Foy
Christian Education	Joy Worsham (Debbie Jacobs/elder)
Evangelism and Outreach	Eve Creech
Personnel	Jim Henderson
Property	Gregory Knoll
Nominating	Tom Howerton
Finance	Tom Howerton
Worship and Fellowship	Sandra Johnson

The Session

Class of 2008	Class of 2009	Class of 2010
Eve Creech	Jim Henderson	John Booker II
Tom Howerton	Debbie Jacobs	Evans Horne
Clara Scouten	Sandra Johnson	Greg Knoll
Joseph Hester Moderator		Ann Huckenbeck Clerk of Session



From the Clerk of Session - Ann Huckenbeck, inactive elder elected by Session for one-year term

Stated Responsibilities: Accurate and complete recording of minutes of Session and congregational meetings; preserving rolls and registers of the church; maintaining relationships and communications within the church and between governing bodies; being knowledgeable of the Book of Order. The accuracy of church records is the responsibility of the Clerk, not the secretary. (From *Handbook for Clerks of Session, Presbytery of New Hope*).

Implied Responsibility: The clerk should serve as a support person to the pastor of the church and as a communication link with the Session, pastor, church secretary and the congregation.

Other responsibilities within the church: Serve as an officer of the corporation and as co-signatory as needed for disbursement of the church's Emergency Discretionary funds (previously known as the Pastor's Discretionary Fund) maintained by the pastor. Conduct email or phone ballots of issues when necessary; compile minutes of those results for church records. Respond to communications when appropriate.

Accomplishments during the year:

- Recorded minutes of all stated and called Session meetings.
- Recorded minutes of all congregational meetings.
- Recorded results of all email or phone ballots.
- Convened meeting of appropriate churches within our Presbytery cluster.
- Presbytery accepted review of church's rolls and registers and minutes without exception.
- Worked with next year's Clerk of Session, Debbie Jacobs, to familiarize her with procedures and responsibilities.
- Wrote monthly column for *ICHTHUS*.
- Coordinated Avera Southerland Scholarship modifications and candidate selection for 2008.
- Served on Presbytery's Sessional Records Committee.

Goals:

- To prepare a monthly calendar of duties for succeeding Clerk.
- To design a computer template for recording rolls and registers information on an ongoing basis.
- To serve the church honorably on Presbytery's Committee on Ministry.
- To streamline Avera Southerland Scholarship Selection.
- To participate in the life of the greater church to the best of my abilities.

Significant Congregational Actions 10/01/07-9/30/08:

- Elected the Rev. Joseph Hester as the new pastor at congregational meeting held December 23, 2007. He started January 28, 2008 and was installed by the Presbytery of New Hope on April 21, 2008.

Significant Session Actions 10/01/07-9/30/08:

- Approved 2008 Church Budget.
- Appointed a Building Committee as recommended by the Long-Range Planning Committee.
- Approved Wedding Guidelines, with amendments, for the church.



- Approved the content/design of a new Worship and Fellowship brochure for inclusion in the church's Visitor Packets.
- Approved establishment of the JOY Connection, a ministry for Older Adults
- Approved a mission trip to Hayesville, NC
- Approved the installation of lights in the church parking lot
- Approved new flooring for the Preschool classrooms

Church Rolls and Records Data from 10/01/07-9/30/08

Births	3 (Mira Delaney Gorman, Hugh McArtan Booker, Addison Kelly Coats)
Weddings	4 (Jennifer Osborne/Patrick Templeton; Eddie Foy, Jr./ Jamie Lane; Emily Page Watson/R. Mattison Morgan;) Courtney Lynch/Daniel Scott)
Baptisms	3 (Mira Delaney Gorman, Abriel Gorman, Philip Ziady)
New members	7 (Stan Coats, Shirley Sharek, Juanita Schulz, Abriel Gorman, Phil Ziady, Rebecca Ziady; Mary Moody)
Accepted by transfer	2 (Gregory and Ruth Bell)
Transferred out	4 (Ross and Pam Hailey; Carrie Dale Avera; Sandy Mashburn)
Moved to Inactive	18 (review of membership rolls)
Deaths	4 (Nuit Edgerton, Billie Wright, Gen. James K. Durham, Kenneth McNeill Taylor)*

*Memorial Services were held also for Lucy Lewis Overton and Sue Ennis Foote

Submitted by Ann Huckenbeck, Clerk of Session
September 30, 2008

From The Board of Deacons- Jake Jacobs

Class of 2008: Billy Duncan, Jake Jacobs, Joyce Lee, Lucy Watson
Class of 2009: Eddie Hairr, Susan Hill, Anita Liverman, Ann Ragland
Class of 2010: Tommy Boone, Dot Ellmore, Benny Pope, Jeremy Thompson*

The Ministry and Gifts of Deacons "The office of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of sympathy, witness, and service after the example of Jesus Christ. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, warm sympathies, and sound judgment should be chosen for this office." - *Book of Order, G-6.0401*

Responsibilities of the Deacons

"It is the duty of deacons, first of all, to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress both within and beyond the community of faith. They shall assume such other duties as may be delegated to them from time to time by the session, such as leading the people in worship through prayers of intercession, reading the Scriptures, presenting the gifts of the people, and assisting with the Lord's Supper."
- *Book of Order, G-6.0402*



The scope of this report is from 1 October 2007 – 30 September 2008 unless significant events take place out of this time-frame. In any such cases the date will be annotated.

- July 2007 – Gerald “Jake” Jacobs (who had previously served as a Deacon at FPC) speaks to Rev Banner about filling the unexpired term of Deacon Ross Hailey who is moving to the beach. She brings this matter up to the session, who approves it, Jake is installed and is present at the August meeting.
- October 2007 – Joint office meeting on the 14th
- December 2007 – The Deacons hold a lunch time meeting on the 2nd to elect the moderator, vice-moderator, and secretary for the 2008 term. Jake Jacobs is elected moderator, Joyce Lee vice-moderator, and Eddie Hairr continues as secretary. Also new care groups are assigned.
- January 2008 – Rev Mary Banner officiates her final meeting of the Deacons Board. Members are assigned to various committees within the church for the upcoming year.
- February 2008 – Rev Joe Hester attends his first meeting of the Board of Deacons
- . Jake and Benny cook pancakes for the Shrove Tuesday meal, several other members assist with serving, preparation, and cleanup.
- March 2008 – Benny Pope had knee surgery, several deacons are present for the annual Easter Egg hunt on the 9th.
- April 2008 – Rev Hester suggests a new older adult fellowship group (this will become the JOY Connection)
- May 2008 – Gen Jim Durham passed away on the 27th
- June 2008 – The deacons provide one meal during VBS, several members are present for the whole of VBS in various duties.
- July 2008 – Because of the 4th of July Holiday, no meeting was held.
- August 2008 – Billy Duncan will represent the Deacons on the Nominating Committee for election of the new Elders/Deacons who will be installed in January 2009; Anita Liverman will serve as an at-large member of the committee. First meeting of Joy Connection on the 7th, Lucy Watson & Ann Ragland will be assisting Rev Hester with planning and coordination.
- September 2008 – Rev Hester notifies Jake that due to personal concerns Jeremy Thompson* will be submitting his resignation as a Deacon and will be transferring to 1st Baptist Church in Smithfield. Plans are made to nominate someone to fill his unexpired term.

Respectively submitted for the Board of Deacons the 1st Day of October 2008 by:

Gerald “Jake” Jacobs
Moderator



New Ministry Highlight

THE JOY CONNECTION submitted by Lucy Watson

The JOY Connection is a new outreach ministry for older adults in our church and in our community. The goal of this ministry is to provide an opportunity once a month for food, fun, and fellowship for people age 55 and older. The JOY Connection involves people of all ages in giving back to those who have been so faithful in their service to the church and to Christ. The Presbyterian Preschool children have made table decorations, and community members, as well as church members, have prepared food for the lunches. There is an entertaining or informative program following the meal and fellowship time before and afterwards. The JOY Connection is a time for seniors to get together, visit with one another, and share in the Lord's blessings.

From the Presbyterian Women - Bonnie Hooks

Presbyterian Women's Stated Purpose:

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves

- to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study;
- to support the mission of the church worldwide;
- to work for justice and peace;
- to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (USA) and witnesses to the promise of God's Kingdom.

Coordinating Team Members:

Moderator – Bonnie Hooks

Moderator Elect – Mary Miller

Vice Moderator – Miriam Lore

Secretary – Bonnie Hooks

Treasurer – Ellen Adams

Historian – Joy Worsham

Mission Communicator – Sandra Lester

Spiritual Nurture Communicators – Mary Miller & Susan Hill

Creative Ministries Communicator – Camille Boone & Marie Gupton

Search Committee Communicator – Lee Johnson

Nursery Coordinators – Joyce Knoll & Shannon Gooding

Life Membership Moderators – Betsy Olive & Jean Worley

Flower Committee Communicator – Nancy Lee

"PALS" Moderator – Mary Miller

Special Meals Moderators – Shirley Booker & Joyce Lee

Bereavement Meals Moderator – Sandra Johnson

Circle Moderators – Bernice Johnson, Jean Worley, Lee Johnson, Helen Flint and Maxine McFayden



Membership Information:

Three Circles meet monthly September through May
135 members on roll with 50 active members

Responsibilities:

The Women of the Church are an important factor to the activities within the church. As our purpose states we are the nurturing to our memberships needs. Through our work one of our primary goals is to provide the "I belong" feeling to our members.

Activities for the Year:

1. 15 Bereavement Meals were prepared and served
2. 18 Christmas Care Packages were sent to our College Students
3. 1 Christmas Care Package was sent to our Military Member
4. Weekly flower arrangements and seasonal decorations were coordinated with members
5. Weekly Lenten Service refreshments were provided
6. Hosted Maundy Thursday's Cover Dish Supper
7. Refreshments for Christmas in the Barn
8. Provided meal for Joint Officers meeting
9. Ensured coverage of Nursery during weekly Worship service
10. Provided items of need for Harbor (Domestic Violence Refuge)
11. Yearly donations to Least Coin, Birthday and Thank Offerings to support Presbyterian Missions
12. Gift Baskets for our shut ins
13. Monthly Circle Bible Study

Goals for 2009:

1. Increase active membership within the Circles
2. Support our college students and military members
3. Support the families dealing with bereavement
4. Support our ministries/missions as required
5. Support our Pastor and DCE as needed
6. Increase community mission involvement



From the Director for Christian Education- Cameron Womack

The past twelve months have been exciting and full of changes and new beginnings at First Presbyterian Church. My office has been busy as well. Below I have listed some of the accomplishments I have made as Director of Christian Education and some future plans for 2008-2009.

Accomplishments

- Led Disciple IV with 12 participants
- Led Wednesday Morning Bible Study September – March; average of 18 participants
- Taught and organized the Young Adult Sunday school class
- Helped to implement the “Girls Night Out” monthly event
- Organized a Young Adult Trip to *A Christmas Carol* in Raleigh
- Organized PYC retreats to Presbytery Retreats, Ski Trip to Boone and Montreat Youth Conference
- Served as Preschool liaison during renovations and at board meetings
- Organized the lay reader, time with children and trinity ringer schedules
- Completed course work for my Masters of Arts in Christian Education and graduated from Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education
- Planned and led a Christian Education retreat
- Organized a successful Adult Mission Trip to Hinton Rural Life Center, with 7 adults participating
- Organized and served as director of Vacation Bible School, Rainforest Adventure
- Participated in the Community Lenten Unity Service
- Provided monthly worship leadership; preached on three Sundays
- Organized an Adult trip to Raleigh to visit the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit at the NC Museum of Natural Science; 18 adults participated
- Recruited Sunday school teachers for 2008-2009, ordered curriculum and provided training opportunities
- Organized the PYC Youth Advisors for 2008-2009
- Organized childcare, catering and team of volunteers for NHP Growing Together education event at Johnston Community College
- Served as resource for the following boards and committees: Session, Board of Deacons, Christian Education, Worship and Fellowship, Evangelism and Outreach, Building

Future Goals

- Establish a Visitation Team and procedures to better serve our visitors and new members
- Organize the community’s involvement in Bridges of Faith
- Continue to teach Disciple and Wednesday Morning Bible Study
- Organize more Young Adult fellowship opportunities including family and couples events
- Organize and Plan retreats for the PYC
- Attend APCE in San Antonio in January 2009
- Serve as a small group leader at the 2009 Montreat Youth Conference
- Serve as a Bible Study leader at Camp Albemarle



From the Director of Choirs – Camille Boone

Beginning in October 2007 – the choir director and choir were very busy! Choir practice was held each Wednesday night and the choir sang anthems each Sunday.

- Egg Shakers were purchased, as well as an African drum and shekere. We used these with our responses for the children to accompany the choir as they sang Halle, Halle, Halle.
- Handbells began practice in October. The handbells had been sent back to the company to be refurbish after 7 years of use.
- On Sunday mornings at 9:30, interested youth were introduced to the new choir chimes.
- Orff Instruments were use with the children who attended Kicks.

- PreSchool children were sung with, led by Camille Boone and Sandy Perkinson.
- In November, the choral introit was We Gather Together. A traditional Thanksgiving Hymn of Dutch origin. The youth played the choir chimes playing this melody.

- Throughout December, Soloist, duets, handbells, choir anthems and choir and congregation hymns were used. The congregation was invited to go caroling with the choir director and other choir members.

- Our January began with ordination and installations of officers – special music was prepared for that event. With our interim minister leaving, we prepared special music for her last Sunday as well as music for a social given in her honor.
- During the month of February, we welcomed our new minister with music. The handbells played on Feb. 24. The choir began the Lenten season with appropriate songs and responses.

- In March, Tom Howerton and Thomas helped the choir with a choral arrangement of Wayfarin' Stranger. Brandon Allen (the grandson of a church member) played the flute with one of the choral anthems.
- Special music was ordered for Palm Sunday and Easter.

- This year more music was purchased because our choir size has increased. Music that was already owned by the church needed to be added to – so that each choir member could have a copy. Extra folders were ordered and 3 new robes were purchased. We plan on a 25 member choir.

- In April – the choir director got sick. I was out 4 weeks. Thanks to Judy Daniels who filled in for me – the choir did an excellent job. They not only sang on Sunday mornings but also sang for Pastor Joe's Installation Service.

- Our final weeks of choir practice before summer vacation went well. During the summer various church members sang specials. Choir members sat in choir loft to sing familiar responses.

- Bible School was a success. The children learned We Are Marching In the Light of God, All Things Bright and Beautiful, Who Built the Ark?, Rise and Shine. They played



instruments. They reviewed songs they had learned the previous year. Those included Dona Nobis Pacem.

- There were 4 from our church who attended the Montreat Music Conference. Maxine McFadyen, Clara Scouten, Joe Hester, and Camille Boone. We had a wonderful time. We learned so many new pieces. The theme for the conference was Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany.
- Purchases were made. A second African drum (there were a lot of drums used at the conference and we were shown how to use them in varied ways). A few percussion instruments were purchased and a lot of solo and duet music was purchased. We have so many members in our choir who would like to do special numbers.
- Choir practice began again in late August. New books were purchased for innovative responses. Handbell practice resumed. The handbells played in September. Both African drums were used on Rally day with the children processing playing percussion instruments.

From the Church Secretary and Organist – Myra Wallace

As secretary of First Presbyterian Church, I have many duties.

- Creating bulletins for Sunday worship, funerals, and special services
- Creating inserts for bulletins
- Creating postcards for mailings
- Serving as editor for the ICHTHUS, editing, formatting, printing the articles; gathering information to be included. We mail 280 copies each month, reaching every church household, local churches and organizations, and friends of the church. We also send copies to college students. It is an excellent outreach of the church, and the feedback is always positive.
- Publishing, collating and stapling the Presbyterian Women's handbook
- Creating mailing labels for Presbyterian Women for their Thank Offering and for care packages to college students
- Keeping the Session Minutes book updated and in good order for the annual audit
- Supplying minutes and agendas monthly to all elders
- Helping to complete reports for New Hope Presbytery
- Producing a list of all past and present elders and deacons of our church and their years of service
- Producing brochures for committees
- Calling repairmen, Property Committee members, deacons, committee chairs, the Clerk of Session as the need arises to take care of the general business of the church
- Purchasing office and kitchen supplies
- Verifying purchases and submitting correct forms, bills and invoices to church treasurer
- Keeping the Prayer Chain and appropriate Deacons' ministry group head notified of hospitalizations or illnesses of church members and friends
- Setting up for Music for the Lunch Bunch
- Attending and keeping minutes of staff meetings
- Making sure pew envelopes are in place
- Ordering seasonal bulletins



- Keeping the Members and Friends Directory updated. I only publish new ones once a month because they go like hotcakes, and many of the same people get a new one every time one is published, whether or not there are changes. I'm trying to conserve.
- Producing an Order of Worship for each Mid-week Lenten Service
- Updating church calendar and lists of duties, birthdays and anniversaries, etc., for each month
- Scheduling and helping to set up for meetings
- Serving as something of a liaison between church and leasers of rental property
- Supplying audiotapes, name tags, postcards, duty cards, etc., for deacons
- Keeping a record of each Sunday's attendance at worship and Sunday school
- Picking up mail each day
- Picking up supplies from Whitley's when necessary
- Picking up office supplies from Office Max
- Mailings for Joe, Cameron, Stewardship Committee, Building Committee, etc.
- Calling reminders to those responsible for sanctuary flowers each week
- Helping purge church rolls – a major undertaking that spread out over two years, which required hours of pouring over session records, creating several mailings and keeping a record of responses – in other words, updating church records
- Creating an informational insert for Nominations of Church Officers and ballots for their election
- Acknowledging memorials and honorariums to both donors and recipients
- Helping to create bulletin boards for hallways and for Sunday school classrooms
- Keeping Concern Board updated

Being our church secretary is a job I love. I feel that it is somehow my mission, my outreach. I enjoy the interaction with church members. I like being able to help our older members and spoil our younger ones. I like knowing that business at FPC is conducted in an orderly, professional way.

From the Christian Education Committee - Cameron Womack

John Booker; Jennifer Foy; Debbie Henderson; Debbie Jacobs; Jake Jacobs; Robin Malphrus; Beth Osborne; Ann Ragland; Cameron Womack, D.C.E.; Joy Worsham, chairperson

Purpose of the Christian Education Committee at First Presbyterian Church:

Christian Education at FPC, Smithfield, NC is all programs and activities of this church, which teach the Christian story, thereby promoting individual and corporate Christian growth. It is also the purpose of the CE to uphold the adoption of the "Commitment to Peacemaking" of the PC (USA), which affirms that people of faith engage in peacemaking, not as a peripheral activity, but as an integral part of their congregational life and mission.

Responsibilities

1. Recommending to Session appropriate Sunday school teachers and curriculum for all age groups in the congregation
2. Oversight of the Presbyterian Youth Connection (PYC); including advisor selection and training, curriculum selection, off campus trip approval
3. Recommending to Session appropriate short term and long term bible studies that nurture the congregation's spiritual growth
4. Oversight of the annual Vacation Bible School



5. Promotion of retreats, camps, and continuing education events
6. Upholding the congregation's Commitment to Peacemaking
7. Oversight of the "Kids in Christ Keeping the Spirit" program (KICKS); including leader selection and training and curriculum selection
8. Oversight of the Infant/Toddler nursery
9. Responsible for Rally Day each September
10. Act as a Preschool liaison
11. Organize and maintain the church's library
12. Presbyterians Today distribution

Goals Accomplished

1. New Wednesday Morning Bible study format with three short-term studies; "The Parables of Jesus"; What's So Amazing About Grace by Philip Yancey; The Last Week, by Marcus Borg.
2. New team of Youth Advisors: Ken Allen, Kelly Coats, Evans Horne, Shelley Thompson
3. Successful Vacation Bible School; Rainforest Adventure
4. Increasing the number of our Sunday school teachers, including new teachers
5. Disciple IV class met and completed the course.
6. Young Adult ministry grew to include "Girl's Night Out" each month.
7. PYC: Participants went on a ski trip; New Hope Presbytery retreat and 5 youth attended the Montreat Youth Conference.
8. Seasonal events were held: Advent Workshop, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Rally Day, Teacher Breakfasts
9. Held High School Graduate recognition
10. Easter Egg Hunt for children and friends of the church
11. 18 Adults visited the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit in Raleigh.
12. Organized a successful Wednesday Nigh supper event on September 17

Future Goals

1. Expand the Young Adult activities to include quarterly family/couples activities.
2. Attend a continuing education event.
3. PYC: Send youth and adults to Montreat Youth Conference; Hold a talent show to showcase the talent in the congregation; add service projects to the schedule
4. Provide confirmation classes
5. Continue the 3rd Wednesday Night Suppers – "Wonderful Wednesdays"
6. Support the youth trip to Faith in 3D in January
7. Organize the pilgrimage mission trip
8. Offer a Women's weekend retreat
9. Begin establishing a core curriculum



From the Evangelism and Outreach Committee - Eve Creech

Members: Sunnie Chance, Eve Creech-chair, Dot Ellmore, Tony Liverman, Lucy Watson; Cameron Womack and Joe Hester, ex-officio members

The Book of Order states in G-10.0102a that the session of the church is to provide opportunities for evangelism to be learned and practiced in and by the church, that members may be better equipped to articulate their faith, to witness in word and deed to the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and to invite persons into a new life in Christ, in accordance with G-3.0300. This committee promotes the following commitment:

Bonds of service, **Bridges** for connection,
Required by God's commandment that we Love One Another.

Responsibilities:

1. Bridging/welcoming/incorporating people into our church
2. Spreading the Gospel throughout the world
3. Outreach at home and abroad

Accomplishments:

1. Young adult ministry
2. Evangelism Sunday
3. Visit with missionary, Jim McGill
4. Crop Walk (CWS)
5. Tools of Hope and Blanket Offering (CWS)
6. Operation Christmas Child
7. Relay for Life
8. Mission Serve participation
9. Name tags for staff, officers
10. Continued work on website for FPC
11. New church directory published
12. Page in Selma News church directory to be placed in motels, Chamber of Commerce, etc.
13. Mission Trip to Hinton Rural Life Center, Hayesville, NC
14. Participation in Magnetic Church Conference
15. JOY Connection

Future Goals:

1. Visitation team in motion
2. Greeters' ministry
3. Roadside signs directing visitors
4. Mission trip with increased numbers
5. Continue outreach programs which are established
6. Completion of website for FPC, Smithfield, NC

Continued participation in evangelism conferences/workshops



From the Finance Committee - Eddie Foy

Members: Tom Howerton, Chairman, Tony Liverman, Jimmy Hooks, Beth Osborne, Pam Pope, Billy Duncan, Shirley Sharek, Eddie Foy, Steve Chance, and Joe Hester, Pastor.

Purpose

The Finance Committee is charged with managing the Church's financial affairs including developing budgets, administering our stewardship program, approving expenditures, and determining long term financial needs of the church and how to meet them. In doing so, the Committee will be cognizant of the desires of the congregation and will manage our financial assets to meet the Missions of the Church.

Responsibilities

1. To discern the short term and long term financial needs of the Church and develop budgets and recommendations to meet those needs.
2. Communicate with the congregation on the financial condition and needs of the Church.
3. To manage the financial assets of the Church.
4. To guide the process of fund raising through Stewardship programs and other efforts to meet the Church's financial needs.

Goals Accomplished

1. Continuing the development of budgets to fully understand the current and long term financial needs of the Church, including the largest budget ever undertaken by our church which fully funded the indicated needs of the various church committees.
2. Developed goals for the long term management of the Church's assets.
3. Approved and implemented guidelines for the management of Church foundations.
4. Managed our Stewardship program to meet the current fiscal year financial needs of the Church.

Future Goals

1. To continue to manage a budget which will better guide us to understand our financial needs.
2. To work with the building committee to secure assets to build for our future needs.
3. Continue to develop plans to better manage our financial assets.
4. Establish regular communications with the congregation to make sure everyone fully understand our financial situation.
5. Recommend a Stewardship program than is ongoing rather than just a way to meet budget goals.



From the Personnel Committee - Jim Henderson

Members: Ellen Adams, Eve Creech, Billy Duncan, Bonnie Hooks, Shirley McNeill, Jim Henderson-Chair, and Joe Hester, ex-officio member.

The **Book of Order** states in G-10.0102 that the session is responsible for providing *for the administration of the program of the church, including employment of non-ordained staff, with concern for equal employment opportunity, fair employment practices, personnel policies, and the annual review of the adequacy of compensation for all staff, including all employees.* This committee functions to address in an orderly, consistent manner the policies, procedures and practices of the church as they relate to personnel. This committee provides the avenue in which employees can present concerns and/or problems for discussion and resolution.

Responsibilities

- Recommend position descriptions for all staff
- Review and recommend to session compensation packages for all staff
- Recommend personnel policies to the session
- Encourage professional growth and development for all staff
- Provide for a review process to assist in work planning
- Act as a support group for the pastor and other members of the staff
- Confer with the pastor on any important issues of concern

Accomplishments

- Completed staff reviews
- Modified job descriptions for the custodian and DCE
- Developed a formula for employee Christmas gift
- Modified wording in the personnel manual in order to give each employee a floating holiday
- Reviewed and clarified DCE dental insurance
- Reviewed church employee sick leave policy
- Reviewed Church Secretary position and made recommendations to Session concerning work hours and salary.
- Reviewed and clarified terminology in the church personnel manual
- Reviewed church vacation and sick leave policy

Future Goals

- Continue to meet regularly to ensure personnel guidelines within the Presbyterian Church USA are continuously reviewed and updated as required.
- To be available as requested to support the minister and staff of First Presbyterian Church, Smithfield, N. C.



From the Preschool Director- Melissa Pilkington

First Presbyterian Preschool

Staff:

Melissa Pilkington	Director/Teacher
Bethany Chapin	Teacher
Sheree Murray	Teacher
Susan Reynolds	Teacher
Lori Vendel	Teacher
Jennifer Jackson	Teacher Assistant
Judy Lee	Teacher Assistant
Pam Vickery	Teacher Assistant
Lynn Johnson Smith	Music Teacher

Highlights from October 1, 2007-September 30, 2008

October

Field trips to the Smithfield Fire Station and Wilson's Family Market included children and family members.

School pictures were taken.

Some topics the children learned about were fire safety, fall, and pumpkins.

Our Preschool rallied around Alina Wolfe, a four year old student in Mrs. Pilkington and Mrs. Lee's class, and her family with prayers and love after Alina suffered a stroke at the end of October.

Families enjoyed Open House which gave them an opportunity to visit preschool one evening and "walk through" a day with their child

Financial Report: \$23,501.76

November

Students learned about Pilgrims, Native Americans, and Thanksgiving.

Students helped prepare costumes and food for our Thanksgiving feasts. Families were invited to join us in our celebration.

December

The children enjoyed many activities celebrating Christmas and the birth of Jesus.

Each class made sweatshirts using each child's painted hands and/or feet to wear for our Christmas Programs.

The Preschool hosted our first "Milk and Cookies" with Santa—families enjoyed goodies with their preschoolers and the children visited with Santa and had their picture made.

We helped with a toy drive collecting toys for sick children in children's hospitals for "The Dancing Butterfly Foundation". This foundation is in memory of former preschooler

Lyndsay Brewer who passed away at age 5 from cancer.

Financial Report: \$19,835.40



January

Winter presents many learning activities for our preschoolers: magical snow pictures, snowmen – both “real” and invisible -, migrating and hibernating animals
Financial Report: \$19,968.97

February

Mid-year conferences were held during February to share each child’s growth and progress.
Love was in the air on Valentine’s Day!
Themes some classes learned about included the circus, nocturnal animals, and outer space.
Financial Report: \$20,316.72

March

Registration was held the first two weeks of March.
Easter parties and candy hunts followed learning about Easter.
Springtime brings learning about the farm and baby animals.
Financial Report: \$19,132.81

April

Fun Fair is a fun time for preschoolers and their families to enjoy games, food, a Cake Walk, and a mini raffle. This is our one big fundraiser for the year. Each family is asked to sell raffle tickets for gift cards before Fun Fair.
We celebrated our third Preschool Sunday. Families were invited to attend First Presbyterian Church and to enjoy fellowship and light refreshments after the service.
We learned about growing plants and flowers. Many children took home beautiful flowers they grew for their moms for Mother’s Day in May.
Financial Report: \$22,605.45

May

May brought several field trips the children enjoyed. The 4 year old classes went to Pullen Park in Raleigh. We rode the train and the carousel and had snacks. Several families packed lunches and stayed to enjoy a full day at the park.
The 3 year old classes went to a miniature horse farm and to a strawberry field. Yum! The strawberries were wonderful!
Beach day was lots of fun! The children enjoyed our water slide, small pools, and sprinklers.
Our End of Year programs are so special. Our 4 year olds received certificates celebrating their time at First Presbyterian Preschool. Everyone enjoyed pictures we took of the children throughout the year on a power point presentation.
Financial Report: \$17,803.49



From the Property and Administration Committee - Greg Knoll

Billy Best, Tommy Boone, Evans Horne, Rich Huckenbeck, Greg Knoll (Chair), Anita Liverman, James Malphrus, Frank Olive and Benny Pope and Joe Hester, Pastor.

Good Christian stewardship includes maintaining the physical properties entrusted to the congregation. To that end the Property and Administration Committee seeks to care for the Church building, the grounds and the house next to the church which houses the Smithfield Florist. Both buildings are over 50 years old and need care. The committee has contributed a significant amount of time to this care.

Responsibilities

1. Building Maintenance
2. Utilities Maintenance and costs
3. Special use of Buildings
4. Insurance Coverage
5. Columbarium Committee
6. Rental Properties Management
7. Computer and Office Equipment
8. Custodian Management
9. Building Officer duties
10. Property Inventory

Accomplishments

1. The church sign was updated.
2. Pastors office
 - a. Painted the pastors office.
 - b. Removed unused radiant heating units.
 - c. New desk and credenza.
 - d. New office chair.
 - e. New computer for the Pastor.
 - f. Window blinds installed.
3. New lighting has be installed in the parking space at the rear of the church.
4. Strip and polish floors in the education wing of the church.
5. Cabinets were constructed and installed in the Choir room.
6. Preschool
 - a. Rooms were painted.
 - b. Carpet in the rooms was removed and replaced with new tile.
 - c. Stained ceiling tiles replaced.
 - d. Replaced all ceiling light fixtures due to ballast issues.
7. Purchased commercial vacuum cleaner for Janitor to replace broken vacuum.
8. Painted and organized classrooms off the fellowship hall.
9. Installed mailbox on outside of the church.

Challenges

1. Restroom facilities
 - a. Restroom facilities that are handicapped accessible.
 - b. Restroom cleanliness.
2. New Audio system



- a. New recorder for the audio system. Cassette tapes are getting difficult to purchase.
 - b. The Audio system is very outdated. Operating the equipment is problematic.
3. The Carpet in the Narthex is puckering and needs to be stretched. However due to the pattern, stretching may ruin the carpet.

Future Goals

1. Establish a service contract to have all heating and air conditioning units checked twice a year: at the beginning of the heating season and at the beginning of the cooling season.
2. Install emergency lights in several places where lighting is not adequate when power is out.
3. Attend to the parking lot needs across Church Street.
4. Establish a lease on a copier for the church office.
5. Repair or replace the chairs in the parlor.
6. Replace half the tables in the Fellowship halls with newer easier to handle tables.
7. Remodel/repair the Bell Tower Room for use as classroom or meditation room.

From the Building Committee - Eddie Foy

Members: Dr. John Booker; John Booker II; Eddie Hairr; Bonnie Hooks; Rich Huckenbeck; Harold Langdon; Joyce Lee; Anita Liverman; James Malphrus; Bill Sharek; Shirley Sharek; Eddie Foy, Chairperson; and Joe Hester, (ex officio) Pastor.

Purpose

The Building Committee is charged with analyzing the Church's current facilities to determine what changes are necessary to ensure that we are providing for the future facilities needs of future generations. In doing so, the Committee will be cognizant of the desires of the congregation and will target changes that are necessary to meet the Mission of the Church.

Responsibilities

1. To discern the short term and long term facilities needs of the Church and make recommendations to meet those needs.
2. Communicate with the congregation on the progress of the building projects.
3. To exercise fiduciary responsibility to ensure the best use of the Church's assets.

Goals Accomplished

1. Established monthly meetings with group discussions about where the Church is headed.
2. Visited area churches that have completed building projects or renovations. These visitations provided insight into how other churches accommodated their needs, what works and what doesn't work, and how satisfied the churches were after completion of their projects.

Future Goals

1. To have an assessment made of the preschool program to determine it's viability and whether it continues to meet the objectives of the church. This assessment is necessary in order to address the present and future classroom needs.
2. To obtain a Priority List from the Session that will enable the Committee to move forward with the physical improvements of the Church.



3. Establish communications with the congregation to facilitate information about the progress of any building projects.
4. To develop a better understanding of the Mission of the Church in order to better understand and accommodate the physical needs of the Church.

RECEIVING TREASURER'S REPORT – Beth Osborne

FUND	09/30/2007	09/30/2008	CHANGE
Capital Building Fund	\$238,126.31	\$253,647.28	\$15,520.97
Reserves	\$55,464.51	\$52,336.88	-\$3,127.63
Memorial	\$110,884.06	\$114,346.89	\$3,462.83
Property	\$30,610.31	\$14,597.58	-\$16,012.73
Wilson Compassion Trust	\$13,703.09	\$13,776.16	\$73.07
Holding Scholarship Fund	\$3,782.54	\$3,795.72	\$13.18
Lampe Trust	\$35,081.40	\$18,962.89	-\$16,118.51
Endowment	\$51,805.94	\$46,565.17	-\$5,240.77
Martin Youth Fund	\$18,341.41	\$14,888.68	-\$3,452.73
Avera Scholarship	\$44,311.86	\$43,967.81	-\$344.05
Total	\$602,111.43	\$576,885.06	-\$25,226.37

GENERAL FUND BALANCE

As of September 30, 2007: \$ 223, 849.61
As of September 30, 2008: \$ 215, 208.73

